



**OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting
Promotion of Freedom of Expression:
Rights, Responsibilities and OSCE Commitments
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Session III: The Roles of the OSCE and the Civil Society

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Thank you Ms. Moderator,

My name is Pervin Hayrullah (Chairoula) and I am representing Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association.

I would like to make a brief comment on the role of the civil society.

We all know that civil society's role is irresistible within the democratic values. However, in some Participating States of OSCE it is not possible to form Civil Society Organizations. States like Greece are intolerant the ethnic denominations of the Civil Society Organizations and restrict the fundamental freedoms. At this point it is possible to say that the freedom of expression and other fundamental human rights are interrelated and the ban of one effects the others consecutively.

Ms. Moderator,

While concluding I would like to highlight and recommend the OSCE Participating States:

to take necessary measures and to promote the full enjoyment of all types of human rights in particular the right to freedom of expression by amending their legislations or developing new standards, especially the States where vulnerable groups and minorities live in,

to take into consideration the Civil Society's demands during the legislation process,

to consider and eliminate the double standards within the OSCE region,

Thank you for your attention.