



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

Upholding the Principles of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination including in the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief

1 – 2 April 2019
Hofburg, Vienna

INFORMATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increased openness in OSCE activities and for expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV, the participating States agreed to facilitate during OSCE meetings “informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and NGOs”.

As per Chapter IV, paragraphs (15) and (16), of the Helsinki Document 1992, the provision of making “open to NGOs [...] human rights implementation meetings” does not apply to “persons or organizations which resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence.”

In line with these provisions, the OSCE encourages participation by civil society organizations at the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) to be held on the subject of “Upholding the Principles of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination including in the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief”.

The meeting will take place on 1 – 2 April 2019, in Vienna, at the Hofburg Conference Centre.

Participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register online through the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System at <https://meetings.odihr.pl>. Dates of registration period will be announced on the said webpage, as well as on the webpage of the Supplementary meeting at https://osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2019.

Important note: registration after the deadline will not be possible and registration on-site will not be available.

Civil society organizations are also encouraged to organize **side events**. The opening and closing dates for side event booking will be announced on https://osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2019. Booking of side events is done on a ‘first come, first served’ basis so participants are advised to enter the booking system immediately after the opening. Further information will be made available in the Side events information document.

Participation in the meeting is free of charge, although all travel and accommodation costs should be borne by participants. Civil society organizations are kindly requested to make their own travel and hotel arrangements. A list of selected hotels in Vienna can be consulted on ODIHR SHDM webpage.

For organizational modalities, please refer to the General Information document, available on the SHDM webpage.

Contact information:

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Registration of participants: Ms. Anna Sierant at anna.sierant@odihr.pl