



Agenda

Civil Society Preparatory Meeting ahead of the High level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination

28 June 2010, Astana Kazakhstan

Purpose of the Preparatory Meeting

Civil Society Preparatory Meetings ahead of OSCE meetings aim at fostering the engagement of civil society within the OSCE fora and at increasing exchanges between participating States and civil society. Since previous meetings resulted in pertinent and constructive recommendations and since the OSCE has committed to strengthen the involvement of civil society at policy level, the High Level Conference on Tolerance and non Discrimination will also be preceded by a Preparatory Meeting for civil society.

The Preparatory Meeting will provide civil society with the opportunity to discuss current issues and priorities related to the topics of the conference, to share good practices and to engage in coalitions and networks across the region. The participants will also have the opportunity to elaborate concrete recommendations to be presented at the High Level Conference.

In this respect, the main aims of the Preparatory Meeting are the following:

- To provide NGOs with the opportunity to raise issues, exchange information, share good practices and formulate recommendations for the OSCE Conference on combating discrimination, promoting mutual respect and understanding;
- To explore the role of civil society in combating discrimination and hate-motivated violence, facilitating inter-cultural, inter-faith and inter-ethnic understanding as well as in promoting tolerance in public discourse;
- To facilitate coalition-building across diverse cultural and religious communities and civil society groups;
- To increase the ability of civil society to contribute toward the agenda of the OSCE and of participating States in the area of tolerance and non-discrimination.

8:30-9:00	Coffee
9:00- 9:30	<p>Opening session: Welcome and opening remarks</p> <p>Representative of the OSCE Chair-in-Office Representative of the ODIHR Keynote speaker 1: Ms. Saodat Olimova, Head of Public Opinion Service at the analytical centre Sharq, Tajikistan Keynote speaker 2: Mr. Paul LeGendre, Director of the Fighting Discrimination Programme at Human Rights First, USA</p>
09:30 - 11:00	<p>Session 1: Hate motivated incidents and crimes: the role of civil society in assisting implementation of OSCE commitments</p> <p>Speaker 1: Mr. Alexander Verkhovsky Director of the Centre for Information and Analysis SOVA, Russian Federation Speaker 2: Mr. Joël Le Déroff Policy and Programmes Officer at ILGA Europe Moderator: Ms. Floriane Hohenberg, Head of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR, Poland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends and issues of concern • Roles and expectations of State and civil society • Challenges faced by civil society • Cooperation amongst stakeholders and relevant actors
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 - 12:45	<p>Session 2: Promoting mutual respect and understanding</p> <p>Speaker 1: Mr. Tom Trier, Regional Representative in the Caucasus at the European Centre for Minority Issues, Georgia Speaker 2: Mr. Gidon Van Emden, Deputy Director at CEJI: A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe, Belgium Moderator: Mr. Stephanos Stavros, Executive secretary at Council of Europe ECRI: European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance, France.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and awareness raising initiatives • Intercultural, inter-religious and inter-ethnic initiatives • Coalition building to promote tolerance in multicultural societies
12:45-14:15	Lunch
14:15 - 15:45	<p>Session 3: Challenging intolerant discourse</p> <p>Speaker 1: Mr. Ivan Kuzminović, Executive Director at Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia Speaker 2: Mr. Dainius Radzevičius, President of the Lithuanian journalists association Moderator: Ms. Ženet Mujić, Senior Adviser to the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Austria.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends and issues of concern • Roles and responsibilities of politicians and public officials, monitoring and oversight bodies, and community leaders • Hate on the Internet: challenges and opportunities • Civil society initiatives and good practices
15:45-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-17:30	Closing session : Recommendations