



HUMAN DIMENSION
S E M I N A R

Rights of the Child: Children in Situations of Risk

11-12 October 2017
Warsaw, Poland

I N F O R M A T I O N F O R C I V I L S O C I E T Y

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 OSCE participating States agreed to facilitate informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and NGOs during OSCE meetings.

In line with these agreements, the OSCE encourages participation by civil society organizations at the 2017 Human Dimension Seminar (HDS) that will take place in Warsaw from 11 to 12 October 2017 at the **Sofitel Victoria hotel**, ul. Krolewska 11, 00-065.

Additional information concerning the modalities of the HDS and further documents related to the meeting are available on the HDIM website at http://www.osce.org/odihr/hds_2017.

Participants wishing to attend the Seminar are requested to register online at <http://meetings.odihr.pl> as soon as possible but not later than **12:00 p.m. (CET), Wednesday, 4 October 2017. Important note: online registration after this date will be closed. Registration on-site will not be available.** Registered participants will be able to collect their badges at the meeting venue as of 8:00 a.m. (CET), Wednesday, 11 October 2017.

ODIHR has introduced the following enhancements to the online registration system to facilitate the effective, meaningful, orderly and respectful participation of different stakeholders at human dimension events:

- a) Upon completing the online registration process, representatives will see a screen informing them that a response on registration will be received within two working days;
- b) Participants' badges will continue to be in different colours, depending on the type of entity (delegation, civil society, media etc.) the participant represents;
- c) Registered representatives who do not already possess a valid OSCE photo ID (used to access Hofburg conference centre in Vienna) will receive photo badges;

- d) To ensure the broadest possible civil society participation during the opening, closing and working sessions, and due to space constraint, access to the plenary hall will be permitted for up to five representatives at one time from each individual civil society organization. Civil society organizations registering five or more participants will receive five transferrable special plenary access badges;
- e) An additional field has been introduced in the online registration for civil society representatives, asking for information on their “relevant human dimension experience”, as per relevant OSCE documents.

Registered participants will be able to collect their badges at the Seminar’s venue as of Wednesday, 11 October at the registration desk which will be open during the Seminar:

- on Wednesday 11 October from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- on Thursday 12 October from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Those participants who experience problems with registration are requested to contact Ms. Anna Sierant (contact details below).

Participation in the Seminar is free of charge, although **all travel and accommodation costs should be borne by participants**. The *List of hotels*, *Hotel special rates* and *Booking Forms* can be found in the Resources section on the HDS 2017 webpage to facilitate the stay of participants in Warsaw.

Civil society organizations are also encouraged to **organize side events**. Participants wishing to organize a side event are requested to register first, and then proceed with an online booking at <http://meetings.odihhr.pl> at their earliest convenience, as the system is based on the “first come, first served” principle. **The booking period will be open at 12:00 p.m. (CET) Friday, 22 September 2017 and close at 23:59 p.m. (CET) Monday, 2 October 2017.** All bookings should be submitted during this period, and no bookings will be accepted after the final deadline. Additional information on the online booking system, including the terms and conditions, as well as instructions on how to book side events, is available in the *Side Events Information* and *Side Events Booking Instructions* documents.

Please also note that prior registration to the meeting is a condition to book a side event online.

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

The contact persons for the Seminar are:

Overall co-ordination: Ms. Saida Manieva at Saida.Manieva@odihhr.pl +48 22 5200 659

Co-ordination of side events: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihhr.pl or +48 22 5200 658

Registration of participants: Ms. Anna Sierant at Anna.Sierant@odihhr.pl or +48 22 5200 627