

Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media with a Special Focus on Conflict Situations, including Protection of Journalists and Reporting during Armed Conflicts

**27 - 28 October 2016
Vienna, Austria**

OVERVIEW OF SIDE EVENTS

As submitted by the organizers

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increasing the openness of OSCE activities and expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV the participating States decided to facilitate during CSCE meetings informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs, and to provide encouragement to NGOs organizing seminars on CSCE-related issues. In line with this decision, NGOs, governments, and other participants are encouraged to organize side meetings at the Review Conference on relevant issues of their choice.

The side events below have been exclusively organized and scheduled exclusively at the request of participants of the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting. The below descriptions have been provided by the organizers. They have been lightly edited by ODIHR for language but not for content. Responsibility for the content remains with the organizers. Neither the text below nor the events themselves necessarily reflect the views of the OSCE.

Thursday, 27 October

Time: **13:00-15:00**
Venue: **Segmentgalerie I**
Title: The war against free speech in Crimea and beyond
Convenor: Human Rights Information Center
Working languages: English, Russian, Ukrainian

Summary: Human Rights Information Centre invites all interested parties to participate in a discussion about the freedom of speech and situation with journalists in Crimea. Recently Russian authorities arrested Ukrainian journalist Roman Suschenko in Moscow charging him in espionage. This case shows that Russia has extended outside Crimea the practice of repression against the Ukrainian journalists. The repression against journalists which started during the annexation of Crimea are continuing. Russian authorities blocks independent media outlets, open criminal cases against Crimean journalists and attempt to limit freedom of expression in other ways. What is the current situation with media freedom in Crimea? How to protect Crimean journalists? The side event will look for answers to these questions. Participants will also discuss the problems with the access of foreign journalists to Crimea.

Refreshments will not be provided

Friday, 28 October

Time: **12:00-14:00**
Venue: **Ratsaal**
Title: Destruction of Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media for the Indigenous People in the Occupied Crimea
Convenor: Crimean Tatar Resource Center
Working languages: English, Russian

Summary: Issues of violations of the collective rights of the Crimean Tatar People and rights of its representatives on expression and own media by Russian occupation authorities in Crimea will be discussed. Aspects of hate speech as a permanent feature of Russian propaganda in Crimea, processes of the "prevention of extremism" as a form of censorship will be shown, threats and problems of Crimean Tatar journalists, TV and press media will be presented.

Refreshments will not be provided

Time: **12:00-14:00**
Venue: **Meeting room 201**
Title: Ethics and Self - Regulation in Times of Conflict: Case of Ukrainian Media
Convenor: OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine
Working languages: English, Russian, Ukrainian

Summary: The event will present the study conducted OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine jointly with Detector Media NGO, researching ethical dilemmas and stereotypes, as well as editorial and individual practices Ukrainian media apply when reporting on conflict and its repercussions, and also their readiness to participate in reconciliation processes. After the presentation of findings participants will be invited to discuss a role of self-regulation and co-regulation in improving ethical standards of the media in conflict and post- conflict societies. Key panelists: 1. Valery Ivanov, Academy of Ukrainian Press, president. 2. Oksana Romaniuk, Institute of Mass Information, chairwoman. Reporters without Borders Representative to Ukraine 3. Roman Shutov, Detector Media NGO, program director. Copies of the research and handbook "Conflict - Sensitive Journalism: best practices and recommendations" will be distributed during the event. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

Refreshments will be provided