



## Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

### Countering Violence against Women – Everyone’s Responsibility

2 – 3 July 2018  
Hofburg, Vienna

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

##### 1. Aim of the Meeting

According to the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002), each year, the Chairmanship-in-Office organizes three informal Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings (SHDMs), in the framework of the OSCE Permanent Council, in order to discuss key substantive concerns raised at previous Human Dimension Meetings or Review Conferences. The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and other OSCE structures and institutions, when required, assist the Chairmanship-in-Office in preparing the SHDMs.

The Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on the topic of *Countering Violence against Women – Everyone’s Responsibility* will take place in Vienna from 2 – 3 July 2018. The meeting is organized by the Italian OSCE Chairmanship with the support of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and in co-ordination with the Gender Section of the Office of the Secretary General (OSG/GS).

This Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) will provide participating States, OSCE structures, Partners for Co-operation and civil society with a platform to discuss how best to strengthen efforts, monitor and assess progress, as well as to promote good practices for preventing and combatting violence against women in the OSCE region. It will offer an opportunity to look into concrete actions to support the implementation of OSCE commitments and national legal and policy frameworks which aim to combat violence against women, as well as to explore how measures to empower women can reduce their vulnerability to all forms of violence. Participants will also discuss how participating States can further provide protection and assistance to women victims of violence.

This Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting will discuss best practices from across the OSCE area, with a focus on the following key areas:

- Addressing Violence against Women – the Responsibility of the State
- Countering Violence against Women in Public Space
- Protection from Violence and Empowerment of Women at Work and at Home

Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the annotated agenda, which will be made available in due course, can be found on the SHDM website at [http://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_2\\_2018](http://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_2_2018).

## 2. Participation

Representatives of OSCE participating States and OSCE executive structures, representatives of inter-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and researchers having interest in the topic can participate in the SHDM. The Partners for Co-operation can attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field. Civil society organizations can find more information in the document 'Information for Civil Society'.

## 3. Registration

Participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register online at <http://meetings.odihr.pl> latest by the deadline of Friday, 22 June 2018 (23.59 CET). Important note: **registration after this date will be closed and registration on-site will not be available.**

Registered participants will be able to **collect their badges at the meeting venue** as of Monday, 2 July 2018, from 9 a.m. in the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre. Those participants who experience problems with registration are requested to address their questions to [anna.sierant@odihr.pl](mailto:anna.sierant@odihr.pl).

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 is available on the SHDM website.

## 4. Side events

Side events may be held during the SHDM. To book a side event, please register first in the ODIHR Registration System (<http://meetings.odihr.pl>) and then proceed with the side event booking. The booking system will be open on Monday, 18 June from 9:00 to 23:59 (CET) at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>, and will be based on the *first come, first served* basis. If you do not manage to secure a slot, please send information about your proposed side event to ODIHR, [ireneusz.stepinski@odihr.pl](mailto:ireneusz.stepinski@odihr.pl), using the "Side Events Checklist" form available at the SHDM website, as some cancellations of pre-booked events may occur. More information is available in the "Side Events Information" document.

## 5. Modalities and Logistics

The modalities of the meeting are set out in accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002).

**Venue:** The meeting will take place in the Hofburg Congress Centre, **at the Neuer Saal**, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**Schedule:** The SHDM will start on Monday, 2 July, 2018 at 15:00.

The side events might take place on Monday, 2 July, between 13:00 and 14:45, and on Tuesday, 3 July, between 13:00 and 14:30. For details please check the Side Events Schedule on SHDM website, prior to the meeting.

The opening session of SHDM will start on Monday, 2 July, 2018 at 15:00. During this session the representatives of the Chairmanship-in-Office and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) as well as the key-note speaker will present their opening remarks. No comments or statements are foreseen from participants due to short time of the opening session.

Three working sessions will follow:

Working Session 1: Addressing Violence against Women – the Responsibility of the State

Working Session 2: Countering Violence against Women in Public Space

Working Session 3: Protection from Violence and Empowerment of Women at Work and at Home

At the closing session, starting on Tuesday, 3 July at 16:30, the moderators of three working sessions, serving as rapporteurs, will present the reports from the working groups. There will be time for delegations of participating States to voice their comments and, finally, for the representatives of the Chairmanship-in-Office and OSCE institutions for their closing remarks. Only the delegations of participating States have a right to speak during the closing session.

The meeting will end on Tuesday, 3 July at 17:30.

**Access to plenary and seating:** 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 with five or more registered participants will receive five transferrable special plenary access badges (floaters), to be added to the individual badge that grants access to the OSCE premises.

At the opening and closing session, the delegations of the participating States will be seated at the main, plenary table. During the working sessions the name-plates will be taken down and all participants can sit wherever they wish, including the main plenary table.

**Interpretation:** The meeting will be interpreted into the six official OSCE languages: English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

**Filming:** Only accredited journalists can film with cameras and video cameras. No other audio-visual recordings should be undertaken without the explicit permission of individuals being filmed.

**Nursing facilities:** Child nursing facilities and lactation room are available in the venue.

**Guidelines for the debate:** The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, panelists' inputs, discussions, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the SHDM. To this end a speakers' list is not

envisaged. Participants wishing to speak should attract the moderator's attention and wait for the moderator to give them the floor. A representative of a registered organization/institution/participating State can speak only once during a session. If there is time left before the end of the working session, it might be made available for questions or for other participants who have not had a chance to speak on a particular issue addressed earlier.

The moderator will help to ensure that the participants engage in a constructive debate aimed at achieving the meetings' objectives, improving the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments and formulating recommendations. To this end, moderators might decide about the order of speakers, ensuring that participants speak on the topic under discussion. The moderator might set a maximum speaking time.

Participants should wait for the moderator to give them the floor. When first taking the floor, they must introduce themselves by providing their name, surname and organization they represent. Participants should keep their comments short and to the point and speak only within the time frame allotted to them. Interventions should be relevant to the topic of the session and contain specific recommendations. Participants have a right to express their opinions freely, while respecting human rights and the principle of non-discrimination. Thus, the moderator will interrupt any speech that attacks a person or group on the basis of, e.g., race, religion, gender, sex or any other status.

ODIHR reserves the right, in case a large number of participants wish to speak, to introduce in the course of the session a list of speakers and a maximum speaking time.

**Right of reply:** At the end of working sessions as well as at the closing plenary participating States will have a right to exercise their right of reply. Participating States should indicate to the moderator early enough before the end of the session their wish to exercise their right of reply so sufficient time is allocated.

**Display and distribution of documents:** Participants may display information materials on the tables in the lobby of the main meeting room. They may also distribute documents during the SHDM by giving one copy of each document (maximum 3 pages in length) to staff of the Document Distribution Centre. There are no copying and translation services available at the venue.

**Contact information:**

**Programme matters:**

Mr. Omer Fisher at [omer.fisher@odihhr.pl](mailto:omer.fisher@odihhr.pl)

**Coordination of side events:**

Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at [ireneusz.stepinski@odihhr.pl](mailto:ireneusz.stepinski@odihhr.pl)

**Registration of participants:**

Ms. Anna Sierant at [anna.sierant@odihhr.pl](mailto:anna.sierant@odihhr.pl)