



HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING
21 September to 2 October 2015
Warsaw, Poland

Updated Final Bios of speakers, introducers and moderators

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MONDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2015

OPENING PLENARY SESSION

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Mr. Michael Georg Link

Michael Georg Link (Germany) began his tenure as ODIHR director on 1 July 2014. Before joining the Office, he served from January 2012 to December 2014 as the Minister of State for Europe in the German government, responsible for OSCE, EU, Council of Europe and NATO affairs. He was elected to the German parliament in 2005, representing Heilbronn/Baden-Württemberg, and served through 2013. During that term, from 2006 to 2013, Link established a strong OSCE connection as a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

The ODIHR director is a past member of the boards of the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the German Foundation for Peace Research and the Foundation for German-Polish Cooperation, and remains active in international NGOs, including the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Association for Eastern European Studies, the Southeast Europe Association, and the German Atlantic Association.

Born in Heilbronn in 1963, Link studied Russian, French, Political Science, Public Law and Eastern European History at the University of Augsburg, the University of Lausanne and Heidelberg University.

Mr. Ivica Dačić

Mr. Ivica Dačić is the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and OSCE Chairperson-in-Office.

Born in 1966, Prizren. He received his BA degree from the School of Political Science, University of Belgrade.

He served on the Delegation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. He chaired his party's Parliamentary Group in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and in the Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. From 1992 to 2004 he was delegate in the Chamber of Citizens of the Federal Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Deputy of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, 2004 to present.

He was appointed Minister of Information in the so-called transitional Government of the Republic of Serbia, October 2000 - January 2001. He became the Leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia in December 2006. He was the President of the Basketball Club Partizan Belgrade and Vice President of the Yugoslav Olympic Committee.

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, July 2008 - July 2012. He was Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, July 2012 - April 2014.

On 27 April 2014, he was appointed First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

He is a recipient of The Best European award in 2009. Speaks English and Russian.

Mr. Grzegorz Schetyna

Mr. Grzegorz Schetyna is a Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland since 2014. In 2011 he became Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. From July 2010 to November 2011 he was Marshal (Speaker of the House) of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland. He initiated a reform of the Sejm Chancellery to make all legislative work in the Sejm fully transparent and to foster active forms of civic engagement. From 2007 until 2009 he was Deputy Prime Minister in Donald Tusk's government and at the same time Minister of the Interior and Administration. He was responsible for the last stage of Poland's accession to the Schengen Area.

Deputy to the Polish Sejm during its 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th terms of office. In 2001 he co-founded the Civic Platform party. Twice, in 2006 and 2010, he was chosen as Civic Platform leader in Lower Silesia; since 2010 he has been the party's First Deputy Chairman. From 2009 until 2010 Chairman of the Parliamentary Club of the Civic Platform. In 1990 became Director of the Provincial Office in Wrocław, and then Vice-Governor of Wrocław Province.

Activist of the Fighting Solidarity (Solidarność Walcząca) movement during martial law, he holds a Master's degree in history from the Faculty of Philosophy and History at the University of Wrocław.

Mr. Gernot Erler, Dr (h. c.)

Gernot Erler is a German politician and a member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), Germany's special coordinator for Russia policy and the Special Representative of the Federal Government of Germany for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2016.

He has been a member of the Bundestag for Freiburg since 1987. From 2005 until 2009 he served as the Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office. Prior to this, he was Chairman of the Disarmament and Arms Control Committee from 1994 until 1998. From 1998 until 2005, he served as Deputy Chairman of the SPD parliamentary group in the Bundestag, responsible for foreign, defence, development policy and human rights. He was reappointed to this post in 2009.

From 1 January 2015 Gernot Erler, assumed the new position of Special Representative of the Federal Government for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2016 in addition to his other responsibilities. The Special Representative, whose post is temporary and will run until 31 December 2016, is involved in planning and organising Germany's OSCE chairmanship and represents Foreign Minister Steinmeier in OSCE-related activities, such as the OSCE Troika.

Ambassador Lamberto Zannier

Ambassador Lamberto Zannier of Italy took up the post of OSCE Secretary General on 1 July 2011.

Zannier is an Italian career diplomat. From June 2008 to June 2011 he was UN Special Representative for Kosovo and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). From 2002 to 2006, he was the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE. Previous senior positions include Permanent Representative of Italy to the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague (2000-2002), chairperson of the negotiations on the adaptation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (1997-2000) and Head of Disarmament, Arms Control and Cooperative Security at NATO (1991-1997).

Ms. Dunja Mijatović

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She took over this post on 11 March 2010.

Mijatović is one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. Prior to this, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović is an expert in human rights; communications and media strategy; and regulatory and policy media framework. She has extensive knowledge of institution-building in transition states and many years' experience of issues related to journalist's safety and new technologies, with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and Internet technologies.

Mrs. Astrid Thors

Astrid Thors is the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Before beginning her mandate as High Commissioner on 20 August 2013 Mrs. Thors, a lawyer by education, was a Member of the Finnish Parliament from 2004 to 2013. She also served as Minister of Migration and European Affairs (2007–2011) and was a Member of the European Parliament (1996–2004). As High Commissioner she leads her Institution within the security dimension of the OSCE. In accordance with her mandate she identifies and addresses causes of ethnic tensions and conflicts. The High Commissioner addresses the short-term triggers of inter-ethnic tension or conflict and long-term structural concerns.

WORKING SESSION 1

3–6 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms I, including:

- **Address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**
- **Freedom of expression, free media and information**

Ms. Dunja Mijatović (Introducer)

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She took over this post on 11 March 2010.

Mijatović is one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. Prior to this, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović is an expert in human rights; communications and media strategy; and regulatory and policy media framework. She has extensive knowledge of institution-building in transition states and many years' experience of issues related to journalist's safety and new technologies, with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and Internet technologies.

Mr. Jacob Mchangama (Introducer)

Jacob Mchangama is the founder and executive director of Justitia, a Copenhagen based think tank focusing on human rights and the rule of law and the co-founder and co-director of The Freedom Rights Project. Jacob has a law degree from the University of Copenhagen and a master's degree from The European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation. He has worked as a corporate lawyer in a major Danish law firm and taught international human rights law at the University of Copenhagen. He has written and commented extensively on human rights in international media including Foreign Policy, Foreign Affairs, Wall Street Journal Europe, MSNBC, Al-Jazeera and The Times. He is the author and presenter of the 2013 short documentary Collision! Free Speech and Religion. He tweets @jmchangama.

Mr. Frane Maroevic (Moderator)

Recently appointed Director of the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Frane Maroevic previously held the post of Senior Advisor in the Office. He began his career at the OSCE in 2010 as the Deputy Head of Press and Public Information.

Before joining the OSCE he was the Director of Communications for the High Representative and EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the Spokesperson for the European Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina and a journalist with the BBC World Service in London.

TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 2

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Independence Challenges to the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and human rights in the age of new information and communication technologies, including the respect for privacy

Ms. Marietje Schaake (*short introductory video message*)

Ms. Schaake has been serving as a MEP for the Dutch Democratic Party (D66) with the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) political group since 2009. She is

the ALDE Coordinator of the International Trade committee (INTA). She is the spokesperson for the ALDE Group on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). Marietje additionally serves on the committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET), where she focuses on strengthening Europe as a global player. She works on the EU's neighborhood policy, notably Turkey, Iran and North Africa and the broader Middle East. In the subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) she speaks on human rights and coordinates the monthly human rights resolutions for ALDE. Her work has sought to include digital freedoms in EU foreign policy. Marietje has pushed for completing Europe's digital single market and copyright reform. She is strongly committed to an open internet in discussions about internet governance and digital (human) rights.

In addition to her parliamentary work, Marietje Schaake is, amongst others, Member of the European Council on Foreign Relations, a Commissioner on the Global Commission on Internet Governance and a WEF Young Global Leader in the class of 2014. She serves as vice-president of the supervisory board of Free Press Unlimited.

Ms. Katitza Rodriguez (Introducer)

Ms. Rodriguez is the International Rights Director of the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) based in the US. She concentrates on comparative policy of international privacy issues, with special emphasis on law enforcement, government surveillance, and cross border data flows. Her work in EFF's International Program also focuses on cybersecurity at the intersection of privacy, freedom of expression, and copyright enforcement. She is an advisor to the UN Internet Governance Forum (2009-2010), and a member of the Advisory Board of Privacy International. Before joining EFF, Katitza was director of the international privacy program at the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington D.C., where amongst other things, she worked on The Privacy and Human Rights Report, an international survey of privacy law and developments. Katitza is well known to many in global civil society and in international policy venues for her work at the U.N. Internet Governance Forum and her pivotal role in the creation and ongoing success of the Civil Society Information Society Advisory Council at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, for which she served as the civil society liaison while at EPIC from 2008 to March 2010. Katitza holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Lima, Peru.

Mr. Gert Vermeulen (Introducer)

Dr Vermeulen is Member of the Privacy Commission of Belgium. He is also Director General of Publications of the International Association of Penal Law (AIDP), Full Professor of Criminal Law at Ghent University, Head of the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law, and Director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP) at the same University. He is also extraordinary Professor of Evidence Law at Maastricht University. He conducted dozens of research projects, inter alia in the field of (international and European) criminal law and policy, organized crime,

trafficking in human beings, sexual exploitation of children, prostitution and data protection, and has published widely in these and other areas (over 650 publications). He has extensive consultancy experience, including for the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the UN.

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan (Moderator)

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan, the Head of ODIHR's Human Rights Department is responsible for formulating strategies, vision and direction for the Department, creating conditions for implementing the vision (structure, work plans, budgets) and managing staff. She advises ODIHR and governments on human rights matters, and develops and maintains relations with other OSCE structures and state and non-state partners.

Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan is an expert in management, strategic planning and capacity building, with thematic expertise in human rights and social welfare and more than 20 years of professional experience from Poland, the United States, Western Balkans, South Caucasus and Central Asia. Prior to her current appointment, she was responsible for developing and institutionalizing a system of project monitoring and evaluation in ODIHR and for setting up an ODIHR civil society program in Ukraine.

In 2003-2011, Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan served as the director of conflict resolution, human rights and social welfare reform programs in the South Caucasus, with advisory and capacity building roles in similar programs in Central Asia. In 2000 – 2002, she led programs focused on human rights, minorities and inter-ethnic dialogue in Western Balkans. Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan holds a Master's Degree in social sciences from the University of Gdansk, Poland.

WORKING SESSION 3

3–6 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Independence Challenges to the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and human rights in the age of new information and communication technologies, including the respect for privacy (continued)

Ms. Katie Morris (Introducer)

Ms. Morris is Head of the Europe and Central Asia Programme at ARTICLE 19, an international NGO promoting freedom of expression and access to information. Katie is responsible for managing ARTICLE 19's projects across the OSCE region, and has experience working on protection of journalists and social communicators, access to information, media pluralism and defense of civic space– both on and offline. Prior to joining Article 19 in 2015, Katie worked as Conflict and Security Advisor at Saferworld, a conflict-prevention and peacebuilding organization, where she gained experience working

on people-focused security sector reform in countries of the former Soviet Union. She has also worked with the Russia and Eurasia Programme at Chatham House and as an independent consultant on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. She has a B.A. in Russian and French from University College London, and an MA in European Political Studies from the College of Europe in Warsaw.

Ms. Valentina Pellizzer (Introducer)

valentina pellizzer (small letters as per bell hooks) is the president at OneWorld Platform, an organization that tackles and researches the intersection between Internet Rights, Women Rights and the Transformative power of technology. As activist she connects women rights, sexual rights, and the Internet politically and practically and advocate for the feminist principles of the Internet. She is also a facilitator on strategic use of ICTs in particular free and open source software, citizen journalism, digital security and privacy, as well as a facilitator of visual methodology for social change (digital storytelling, and participatory video, methodologies that combine feminist solidarity with digital technology and its powerful peer-to-peer co-production, distribution and outreach). She is a passionate writer, since 2007 has contributed for Bosnia Herzegovina and Western Balkans for the Global Information Society Watch. Specialist of Western Balkan political and Civil Society environment from within, with more than 20 years spent working and living in the region. She is the vice-chair of the Association for Progressive Communication (APC) and Board Member at Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).

Ms. Tanya Karanasios (Moderator)

Ms. Karanasios is the Deputy Program Director of WITNESS In 2012, Tanya joined WITNESS after serving eight years as the Program Director of the Coalition for the International Court. In 1995, she worked to help establish the International Criminal Court (ICC) at Human Rights Watch and Parliamentarians for Global Action. Following the Diplomatic Conference that created the ICC treaty in Rome in 1998, Tanya served as a staff lawyer with the Human Rights Chamber in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She then served as head of the Ombudsperson Unit in the Human Rights and Rule of Law Division of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Kosovo. Tanya also previously worked with the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the protection of civilians in armed conflict at the UN Secretariat in New York.

WEDNESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 4

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms I (continued), including:

- **Freedom of peaceful assembly and association**
- **National human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights**
- **Human rights education**

Mr. Michel Forst (Moderator)

Mr. Michel Forst is the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders. He was appointed to his post by the President of the Human Rights Council as in June 2014, pursuant to Resolution 25/18. Mr. Forst graduated from the French National School of Public Health, and from the universities of Paris and Strasbourg. He has worked extensively in the field of human rights, including human rights defenders, the rights of children with disabilities, extreme poverty, and the elderly. From 2008 to 2013, Mr Forst was the UN Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, and from 2012 to 2013 he was Chair of the Coordination Committee of the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council. He has held a number of leading positions within the field of human rights since 1989, including the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights, the Cimade (Comité inter-mouvements auprès des évacués), UNESCO, the first World Summit on Human Rights Defenders (Paris), and Amnesty International (France). He is also a former member of the Board of the International Service for Human Rights (Geneva) and a founding member of Front Line Defenders (Dublin).

Dr. Anja Bienert (Introducer)

Dr. Anja Bienert has many years of work experience in the area of humanitarian assistance and security issues in various countries affected by non-international armed conflicts and other situations of violence: As an expert for the European Commission's Humanitarian Office (ECHO), she worked in Mali and Burundi and, as a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in Peru, Myanmar, South-Sudan and Zimbabwe. From 2008-2011, Dr. Bienert acted as a Geneva-based ICRC advisor for headquarters and ICRC delegations worldwide on issues related to police and security forces. Since March 2011, she is in charge of the Police and Human Rights Programme of the Dutch Section of Amnesty International providing guidance, advice and training within Amnesty International on policing issues. Dr. Bienert regularly participates in international conferences and peer reviews (UN, EUFRA, OSCE) related to human rights and policing and is the author of several publications on these issues. She is also a Member of the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly.

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan (Moderator)

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan, the Head of ODIHR's Human Rights Department is responsible for formulating strategies, vision and direction for the Department, creating conditions for implementing the vision (structure, work plans, budgets) and managing staff. She advises ODIHR and governments on human rights matters, and develops and maintains relations with other OSCE structures and state and non-state partners. Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan is an expert in management, strategic planning and capacity building, with thematic expertise in human rights and social welfare and more than 20 years of professional experience from Poland, the United States, Western Balkans, South Caucasus and Central Asia. Prior to her current appointment, she was responsible for developing and institutionalizing a system of project monitoring and evaluation in ODIHR and for setting up an ODIHR civil society program in Ukraine.

In 2003-2011, Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan served as the director of conflict resolution, human rights and social welfare reform programs in the South Caucasus, with advisory and capacity building roles in similar programs in Central Asia. In 2000 – 2002, she led programs focused on human rights, minorities and inter-ethnic dialogue in Western Balkans. Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan holds a Master's Degree in social sciences from the University of Gdansk, Poland.

WORKING SESSION 5

3–6 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination I, including:

- **Address by the OSCE Special Representative/Senior Adviser on Gender Issues**
- **Equal opportunity for women and men in all spheres of life, including through implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality**
- **Prevention of violence against women and children**

Ambassador Melanne Verveer (Introducer)

On 9 April 2015, the Serbian Chairmanship appointed Ambassador Melanne Verveer as Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office on Gender Issues. Ambassador Verveer was appointed to be the first ever US Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues at the Department of State in 2009 by President Obama. Ambassador Verveer spent the past four years working with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to co-ordinate foreign policy issues and activities relating to the political, economic and social advancement of women. She is also the Director of Georgetown University's Institute for Women, Peace and Security.

Ambassador Miroslava Beham (Introducer)

Ambassador Miroslava Beham took up her present function as the OSCE's Senior Adviser on Gender Issues on 15 December 2011. Ms. Beham began her diplomatic career when she joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro in March 2005. She was appointed Deputy Head of the Serbia and Montenegro Mission to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna in July 2005, and was Chargé d'Affaires of the Mission after Montenegro left the State Union with Serbia in May 2006. Subsequently Ms. Beham was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Serbia to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna and stayed in the post until December 2011.

Ms. Beatriz Balbin (Moderator)

Beatriz Balbin joined the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in September 2013 as First Deputy Director. Previously, Ms Balbin joined the United Nations in 1997 and served in different capacities with the UN for over 16 years in Africa, South East Asia, Latin America and the Balkans. She has worked for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as well as for the UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Department of Political Affairs. Her last assignment was as Head of the Human Rights Component of the UN Mission in Sierra Leone, where she also doubled as the Country Representative for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Previously, she served in different electoral observation and human rights assignments, including as member of Commissions of Inquiry mandated by the UN Secretary General and other UN bodies. She holds a law degree from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 6

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Independence of the judicial system, with a particular focus on accountability and integrity of judges and prosecutors

Ms. Nina Betetto (Introducer)

Ms. Nina Betetto (Slovenia), graduated from the Faculty of Law, where she earned a Master's degree. Since 2006, she is a supreme judge in the civil division of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, since 2011 she is also the Vice-President of the Supreme Court. She is the author or co-author of numerous articles and several books on civil law and alternative dispute resolution in Slovenia and abroad. She has participated in several international expert missions and working groups of the Council of Europe and the EU, inter alia, on the harmonization of national legislation with the *acquis communautaire*. She is also

the representative of Slovenia in the Consultative Council of European Judges of the Council of Europe.

Mr. Ruben Melikyan (Introducer)

Mr. Ruben Melikyan (Armenia) has been the First Rector of the newly established Armenian Academy of Justice since November 2013, a training institution for judges, prosecutors and investigators. From January 2012 to November 2013 he served as Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Armenia as well as Deputy Agent for the Armenian Government before the ECtHR. From 2007 to 2012 he worked as Advisor to a Judge, Advisor to the Chairman of the Criminal Chamber and Advisor to the Chairman of the Armenian Court of Cassation.

Ms. Tina Gewis (Moderator)

An Austrian lawyer by education, Ms. Gewis has extensive experience in the areas of human rights and rule of law, mostly in post-conflict and transitional settings. This includes assignments with the OSCE field operations in Albania and Georgia, and with the UN OHCHR/DPKO in Burundi and UNDP in Afghanistan, and, more recently, with the Norwegian Refugee Council in Georgia. Since January 2014, Ms. Gewis works at the OSCE/ODIHR in Warsaw as the Chief of the Rule of Law unit.

WORKING SESSION 7

3–6 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Independence of the judicial system, with a particular focus on accountability and integrity of judges and prosecutors (continued)

Mr. James Hamilton (Introducer)

Mr. James Hamilton (Ireland), is a former member of the Venice Commission in respect of Ireland, and was the Director of Public Prosecutions at the Irish Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions from 1999 to 2011. He also served as President of the International Association of Prosecutors from September 2010 to September 2014. Before becoming Director of Public Prosecutions, James Hamilton was a practicing barrister and was head of the Attorney General's Office in Ireland from 1995 to 1999.

Ms. Nadejda Hriptievschi (Moderator)

Ms. Nadejda Hriptievschi (Moldova) is a founder and Director of Programs at the Legal Resources Centre from Moldova (LRCM – www.crjm.org). In this capacity she is engaged in research, advocacy, fundraising, planning and management of the organization. Ms. Hriptievschi is a member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) since September 2013 (www.coe.int/ecri) and a member of the Bar Association of Moldova since June 2011. She serves as consultant for different national and international

organizations. Her primary areas of expertise include the judiciary, legal aid and non-discrimination.

FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 8

10 a.m.–

1 p.m.

Rule of law, including:

- **Prevention of torture**
- **Exchange of views on the question of abolition of capital punishment**
- **Protection of human rights and fighting terrorism**

Mr. Jens Modvig (Introducer)

Jens Modvig (Denmark) is the Director of DIGNITY, the Danish Institute against Torture, a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen and a member of the United Nations Committee against Torture. Mr Modvig's prior assignments include being the Director of the UN Office in Belgrade (2007-2008), the Deputy Head of Mission of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (2004-2007) and the Secretary General of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT, 2000-2004). Since 2009 Mr Modvig has been a member of the Advisory Board of Torture – Journal on Rehabilitation of Torture Victims and Prevention of Torture and a participant in the build-up and implementation of the Danish National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture. He is the author of several publications, including Violence, torture and sexual abuse in prisons (in: Health in Prisons. WHO Europe region, 2013 (in press)) and Torture and Refugees (in: Uma A Segal and Doreen Elliott (eds.) Refugees Worldwide Volume 3: Mental Health p. 33–48. Praeger 2012). Mr Modvig holds a PhD in Public Health Epidemiology from the University of Copenhagen.

Mr. Omer Fisher (Moderator)

Omer Fisher joined OSCE/ODIHR in 2010 as Human Rights Advisor, working mainly on freedom of peaceful assembly. He is currently Deputy Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Human Rights Department. Between 2003 and 2010 he worked at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International in London as Researcher on the Balkans and as Senior Research Policy Advisor. Omer Fisher holds a PhD in Politics from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, and a degree in Economics from Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

WORKING SESSION 9**3–6 p.m.****Democratic institutions, including:**

- **Democratic elections**
- **Democracy at the national, regional and local levels**
- **Democratic law-making**
- **Citizenship and political rights**

Ms. Vilija Aleknaitė-Abramikienė (Introducer)

Ms. Vilija Aleknaitė-Abramikienė (born on 4 May 1957 in Lithuania) has been elected to the Seimas (Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania) for the 5th term in 2012. She is an active member of the Committee on European Affairs and of the Committee on Legal Affairs of the Seimas. She is as well Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and a leader of a Women's branch of the Homeland Union – Lithuanian Christian Democrats.

Ms. Vilija Aleknaitė-Abramikienė used to be a member of the Lithuanian reform movement Sąjūdis from 1988 onwards and worked as a lecturer-musicologist for an Academy of Music and Theatre of Lithuania until 1992. Her professional way was then followed by law studies at Mykolas Romeris University in Vilnius and her position in the Parliament.

Mr. Pietro Ducci (Introducer)

From September 2001 he served in the European Parliament - Directorate General for Internal Policies, as the Head of the Legislative Coordination Service.

Since 2007 Mr. Ducci has headed the Election Observation Unit, in European Parliament - Directorate General for External Policies, which in 2014 became Democracy and Elections Actions Unit. This Unit is in charge of developing and structuring EP election observation activity, organising EP election observation delegations and developing inter institutional and international relations in this field.

Since July 2015 Mr. Ducci has been working as the Acting Director of the Directorate for Democracy Support, in addition to his tasks as Head of the Democracy and Elections Actions Unit.

Dr. Beata Martin-Rozumilowicz (Moderator)

Dr. Beata Martin-Rozumilowicz is currently the Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Department in Warsaw. In the past, she has worked for the OSCE and the ODIHR in various capacities. From 2009 to 2011, she served as Deputy Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Department. From 2005 to 2009, Beata worked on dozens of ODIHR election observation missions across the OSCE participating States as Deputy Head of Mission or as Political Analyst. In 2005, she served as Election Adviser at the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, and from

2003 to 2005 was Political/Media Officer at the OSCE Centre in Almaty. From 2000 to 2001, Beata acted as Human Dimension Officer at the OSCE's Advisory and Monitoring Group in Minsk. She has also consulted for IFES in Armenia and Kyrgyzstan on various aspects of electoral reform.

Dr. Beata Martin-Rozumilowicz holds a D.Phil. (Ph.D.) and M.Phil. (Masters) in Politics from the University of Oxford and a B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers College (Phi Beta Kappa). She has specialized in political party and electoral development in post-communist countries, in Latin American transitions, and in political theory.

From 1999-2000, she was research fellow for Oxford's Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy, publishing a book on media law reform in transitional democracies. She has also published various articles on political party and electoral development, media freedom, and political party and campaign finance issues.

MONDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 10

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms II, including:

- **Freedom of movement**
- **Treatment of citizens of other States**
- **Migrant workers, the integration of legal migrants**

Mr. Gil Arias-Fernández (Introducer)

Mr. Gil Arias-Fernández serves as the Deputy Executive Director at FRONTEX (the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union). He has dealt with the management of strategies in the fight against the trafficking of human beings, irregular immigration and the management of borders at both the national and European levels over many years. He served as a police inspector in Barcelona, and also as Head of the Spanish Delegation in various Working Groups of the Council of the EU, becoming the Chairman of these Working Groups in the years when Spain took over the Schengen Presidency as well as the Presidency of the Council of the EU. He was also deeply involved in Schengen evaluations. Gil Arias-Fernández has worked as Senior Executive Advisor for international matters in the Cabinet of the Minister of Interior of Spain. He holds several University Degrees in: Law from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Tax Law from the Complutense University of Madrid, Police Science from the University of Salamanca, and European Union Law & Policies.

Mr. Marcin Walecki (Moderator)

Dr. Marcin Walecki currently serves as the Head of the Democratization Department at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR). He possesses almost 20 years of democracy assistance and governance experience working in more than 40 countries around the world. He is a former Executive Director of the European Partnership for Democracy in Brussels. A Polish citizen, Walecki holds a doctorate of philosophy in politics from St. Antony's College at Oxford University and a master's in Law (Hons, Class I) from the Department of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw.

WORKING SESSION 11

3–6 p.m.

Humanitarian issues and other commitments, including:

- **Address by the OSCE Special Representative/Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**
- **Combating trafficking in human beings**
- **Refugees and displaced persons**

Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova (Introducer)

Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova of Kazakhstan is the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, and represents the OSCE at the political level in anti-trafficking issues. She took office in September 2014.

From June 2012 to August 2014 she served as the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. She was Ambassador-at-Large for Kazakhstan from 2009-2011, including during Kazakhstan's Chair-in Office in 2010. Previously, since 2008, she represented the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States at the SOS Kinderdorf International Senate in Vienna. She also previously was a member of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) Advisory Board and a member of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

From 1999 to 2003, she was her country's Permanent Representative at the United Nations. Prior to this, from 1998 to 1999 she served as the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Ambassador Jarbussynova speaks English, Russian and Kazakh.

Ms. Jyothi Kanics (Introducer)

Ms. Jyothi Kanics, Research Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Lucerne, has studied Russian & East European Studies, International Relations & International Human Rights Law. For the past 20 years she has been active with NGOs and international organisations

(including UNICEF, Save the Children, OSCE ODIHR and the Irish Refugee Council) advocating for the rights of vulnerable migrants such as separated children, trafficked persons, undocumented migrants and stateless persons. She is currently working on a project on the situation of undocumented migrants in Switzerland and completing a PhD in Law with a focus on the possibilities for a Best Interests Determination in Switzerland for at-risk migrant children. She is also an active member of the European Network on Statelessness and involved with two EU funded projects on best interests and durable solutions for vulnerable migrant children.

Mr. Zekarias Kebraeb (Introducer)

Mr. Zekarias Kebraeb (Eritrea/Germany). was just seventeen when he fled his home in Eritrea in 2002 to escape his impending forced military service and his journey lasted four years. He is the author of the book “Paradise Denied: How I survived the Journey from Eritrea to Europe”. His book gives a personal account of the situation of thousands of refugees who have no choice but leave behind their homes and risk their lives while hoping for a better destiny for themselves and their family.

Ms. Ruth Freedom Pojman (Moderator)

Ruth Freedom Pojman is the Deputy Co-ordinator, OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings since 2008.

Prior to this, Ms. Pojman worked as a Senior Anti-trafficking Advisor at the Europe and Eurasia Bureau at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) assisting in designing anti-trafficking programs and strategic approaches, as well as to conduct assessments, research and training. For the past 15 years, she worked in Eurasia developing technical assistance and democracy/human rights programs.

She formerly worked as Officer-in-Charge and Chief Programme Specialist for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on programs assisting in the development of migration policy, border control and management, NGO-government cooperation and anti-trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic. Prior to that, she worked on public information, raising awareness of refugee, political asylum and tolerance issues for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in the Kyrgyz Republic, and in media relations for Mobil Oil in Kazakhstan.

In the mid-90s she worked on civil society and democratization issues throughout the former Soviet Union for World Learning (based in Moscow) and in conflict resolution through citizen diplomacy on US-USSR exchanges in the late 80s and early 90s. She was a co-founder and Eurasia Editor of the journal Demokratizatsiya. She lived and worked in Central Asia and the Russian Federation for a total of eleven years. She speaks fluent Russian.

Ms. Pojman has a M.A. in Russian and Central Eurasian Studies from The American University. She also studied Documentary film at George Washington University in 2006 and has contributed to film, especially documentaries on human-trafficking, organized crime and migration in the Europe and Eurasia region.

TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 12

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Combating hate crimes and ensuring effective protection against discrimination

Mr. Hilary O. Shelton (Introducer)

Hilary O. Shelton, presently serves as the Director to the NAACP's Washington Bureau/Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy. In this capacity, Hilary is responsible for advocating the federal public policy issue agenda of the most widely recognized civil rights organization in the United States to the U.S. Government. Prior to serving as director to the NAACP Washington Bureau, Hilary served in the position of Federal Liaison/Assistant Director to the Government Affairs Department of The College Fund/UNCF. He was also working as the Federal Policy Program Director to the 8.5 million-member United Methodist Churches' social justice advocacy agency, The General Board of Church & Society. Hilary serves on a number of national boards of directors including, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, The Center for Democratic Renewal, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and the Congressional Black Caucus Institute among many others.

Ms. Anne Gaspard (Moderator)

Anne Gaspard was appointed Executive Director of EQUINET – the European Network of Equality Bodies in February 2008. Anne has been working in the field of equality and non-discrimination at a European level following her graduation in European studies and political science from University College London and Berlin Humboldt University. Starting with the European Year against Racism in 1997 for the European Parliament and a subsequent stage experience within the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) at the Council of Europe, Anne then joined the UK-based secretariat of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) from 1998 to 2000. In recent years, Anne has been responsible for various European anti-discrimination and equality projects for a European diversity management consultancy until taking up the position of EQUINET executive director in 2008.

WORKING SESSION 13**3 p.m.–6 p.m.****Specifically selected topic: Combating hate crimes and ensuring effective protection against discrimination (continued)****Ms. Julie Pascoet (Introducer)**

Ms. Julie Pascoet holds the position of Senior Policy Officer in ENAR - the European Network Against Racism. Julie joined the ENAR team in April 2010. She has been trained in human rights education and non-formal education by the Council of Europe. She has also collaborated on different projects dealing with social inclusion of Muslims, at European, national and local level. Previously, she worked as communication and advocacy assistant for the humanitarian and development NGO Islamic Relief Worldwide and for the Assembly of European Regions, in their Brussels offices. She studied European Politics and International Relations at Paris 8-Saint-Denis University (France) and Southampton University (UK), with a focus on cultural policies and intercultural dialogue.

Lieutenant Colonel Stefano Chirico (Introducer)

Mr. Stefano Chirico (Italy), Lieutenant Colonel of the Italian National Police, is responsible for the Secretariat of OSCAD (“Observatory for Security Against Acts of Discrimination”), the operational tool set up within the Italian Department of Public Security in order to prevent and combat hate crimes. Since 2010 he has been responsible for hate crime and anti-discrimination training within the Italian Department of Public Security. He is responsible of the Department of Public Security for the implementation of the “National LGBT Strategy” and for the Italian participation in the “Working Party on Hate Crime”, established by FRA. From 2003 to 2010, chief of the unit dealing with personnel management and operational offices organization and trainer for senior officers on the organization of the Italian Public Security Administration. From 1995 to 2002, in Milan, at National Police Headquarters at provincial level, deeply engaged in operational activities “on the field” (political extremism, group violence, including violence at sports events, street crimes, public order). Born in Rome in 1972, Chirico achieved a degree from the National Police Academy for Senior Police officers and a degree in Law from University of Rome “La Sapienza”.

Dr. Azra Junuzovic (Moderator)

Dr. Azra Junuzovic is the Deputy Head of the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE/ODIHR. Since 2002, Dr. Azra Junuzović has held various positions in the OSCE working for both ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina working on issues of non-discrimination. In her daily work, she consults and trains government officials, law enforcement and civil society organizations on how to recognize and address hate crimes, and how to combat intolerance and discrimination. She has written articles on the topics of hate crimes, OSCE’s involvement in non-discrimination issues, education access in post-conflict environments and ethnicity and modern identities,

including a book “Sarajevo Roses – Towards Politics of Memory”. During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the 90s, she worked on humanitarian issues with the Danish Save the Children. She holds the Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Sarajevo and the M.A. in Sociology from the Bosphorus University in Istanbul, Turkey. She has also studied at Rutgers University in the United States.

WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 14

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including:

- **Combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance and discrimination against Christians and members of other religions**
- **Combating anti-Semitism**
- **Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims**

Mr. Alexander Verkhovsky (Introducer)

Mr. Alexander Verkhovsky is director of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis since 2002. SOVA Center is conducting monitoring on ultra-nationalist activities, hate crimes, hate speech in mass media, public actions and legal measures against these, misuse of anti-extremism legislation and also on various issues related to religion in contemporary Russian society. SOVA Center publishes current news on these issues on their website on a daily basis and also publishes books as well as quarterly and annual reports. Mr. Verkhovsky was an editor-in-chief of samizdat independent newspaper Panorama in Moscow (1989-1991) and a vice-president of Panorama Information and Research Center (1991-2002). Since 1994, Mr. Verkhovsky’s main area of research has been political extremism, nationalism and xenophobia in contemporary Russia as well as religion and politics in contemporary Russia. He is an author or co-author of a number of books, reports and articles on these issues.

Ms. Cristina M. Finch (Moderator)

Cristina M. Finch is the former managing director for the Identity and Discrimination Unit at Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) and adjunct law professor at George Mason University School of Law. At AIUSA, Ms. Finch focused on women’s and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) human rights; economic, social and cultural rights; and multilateral issues. Prior to joining AIUSA in October 2009, she served as senior counsel to the Human Rights Campaign where she focused on the issue of hate violence. Before HRC, she served as legislative counsel to U.S. Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL); as house legal counsel to the National Congress of the Republic of Palau; and as a litigation associate practicing contract and tort law at a law firm focusing on civil claims. She has testified on

legal and policy issues before the UN Human Rights Council, World Bank and the U.S. Congress and is a featured expert on the Women's Media Center's SheSource. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Finch worked for U.S. Congressman Jim Barcia (D-MI). She holds a JD from George Mason University, and a BA from the University of Michigan.

WORKING SESSION 15

3–6 p.m.

Working session 15: Fundamental freedoms II (continued), including:

- **Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief**

Dr. Renata Treneska – Deskoska (Introducer)

Dr. Renata Treneska – Deskoska is a professor of Constitutional Law and Political System at the Law Faculty – Skopje. She obtained doctoral degree at the Law faculty-Ljubljana, Slovenia. She was consultant in many international and national projects funded by UNDP, OSCE, NDI, DIFID and others. She has published over 100 books and articles in the field of constitutional law, human rights and political system. Since 2012 she has been Member of the ODIHR Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

Dr. Ringolds Balodis (Introducer)

Dr. Ringolds Balodis is a Professor of Law, Head of the Department of Constitutional Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Latvia. With a focus on Law and Religion, he served as Director of the National and Religious Affairs Department for the Latvia Republic Ministry of Justice (1996-1999). He later held the position of Head of the Board of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Latvia (2000-2004). In this capacity, he was a Member of the Traditional Confession Consultative Board. He served as President of the Latvian Association for Freedom of Religion (1999-2000). Following this, he served as a legal expert for the Council of Europe on the draft constitutional agreement between the state of Georgia and the autonomous Apostolic Orthodox Church of Georgia. In March 2001, Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Aleksey II awarded Ringolds Balodis with the 2nd grade Holy Rodonjezh Cross for his special contribution in strengthening of the relationship between the Christian religions and the state. Dr. Balodis' publications include those in civil ecclesiastical law, constitutional history and Constitutional law written in Latvian, as well as many in Russian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Polish, English and Italian.

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan (Moderator)

Ms. Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan, the Head of ODIHR's Human Rights Department is responsible for formulating strategies, vision and direction for the Department, creating conditions for implementing the vision (structure, work plans, budgets) and managing staff. She advises ODIHR and governments on human rights matters, and develops and maintains

relations with other OSCE structures and state and non-state partners. Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan is an expert in management, strategic planning and capacity building, with thematic expertise in human rights and social welfare and more than 20 years of professional experience from Poland, the United States, Western Balkans, South Caucasus and Central Asia. Prior to her current appointment, she was responsible for developing and institutionalizing a system of project monitoring and evaluation in ODIHR and for setting up an ODIHR civil society program in Ukraine.

In 2003-2011, Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan served as the director of conflict resolution, human rights and social welfare reform programs in the South Caucasus, with advisory and capacity building roles in similar programs in Central Asia. In 2000 – 2002, she led programs focused on human rights, minorities and inter-ethnic dialogue in Western Balkans. Ms. Jarosiewicz-Wargan holds a Master's Degree in social sciences from the University of Gdansk, Poland.

THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 16

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination I (continued), including:

- **Roma and Sinti issues, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti**

Ms. Sarita Friman-Korpela (Introducer)

Ms. Sarita Friman-Korpela is a Ministerial Adviser in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health of Finland, having a proven expertise in national and international Roma politics. She holds several national and international expert positions: she has been Secretary General of the Advisory Board on Roma Affairs and Health in the Government of Finland since 2002, and Finnish representative and rapporteur on gender equality in the CAHROM committee of the Council of Europe.

Her special interests are political participation of Roma and rights of Roma women. She defended her PhD in Political Science in 2014, with the dissertation titled From the Roma Policy to the Politics of the Roma: The change in the political agenda and political agency during the second half of the twentieth century. Ms. Friman-Korpela has written a number of publications and articles in the field of Roma and Sinti, human rights and social equality. In 2013, she received the State Award for Public Information for the book of History of Roma in Finland.

Mr. Atanas Stoyanov (Introducer)

Mr. Atanas Stoyanov (28) was elected as Municipal Councilor in Strazhitsa, Bulgaria, for the period 2011-2015. Coming from a traditional Roma family of the Burgudzhii group

(knife-makers and smiths) Mr. Stoyanov is the first Roma man from this group to accomplish university education, with Bachelor in Public Administration and in Primary Pedagogy with English from the Veliko Tarnovo University, Bulgaria, and Master in Public Policy from the Central European University, Hungary. Co-founder of the Alumni Club of the Roma Interns in the Bulgarian Parliament and founder of the Center for Community Development 'Vrastiri', Atanas has NGO experience from several Roma organizations in Bulgaria, as well as international organizations related to Roma. His experience includes working with the Center for Interethnic Dialogue and Tolerance Amalipe, Arete Youth Foundation - Bulgaria and the Phiren Amenca Roma Youth Network.

Ms. Mirjam-Angela Karoly (Moderator)

Ms. Mirjam-Angela Karoly is Chief of the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues (CPRSI) and Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues since 5 December 2013. Ms. Karoly, political scientist by education, joined ODIHR in November 2009. In her professional career Ms. Karoly focused in particular on human and minority rights. From 2007-2009 she served as Senior Communities Adviser at the OSCE Field Mission in Kosovo with a focus on communities and particularly the situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians and on return and reintegration of refugees and displaced persons. Prior to this she was active member of Austrian Roma civil society with work experience in the civil society sector and the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Karoly is member of the Austrian Ethnic Council for Roma and Sinti at the Federal Chancellery of Austria and board member of the non-governmental organization Romano Centro, Vienna.

WORKING SESSION 17

3–6 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), including:

- **Address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities**
- **Rights of persons belonging to national minorities**
- **Preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism**

Mrs. Astrid Thors (Introducer)

Astrid Thors is the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Before beginning her mandate as High Commissioner on 20 August 2013 Mrs. Thors, a lawyer by education, was a Member of the Finnish Parliament from 2004 to 2013. She also served as Minister of Migration and European Affairs (2007–2011) and was a Member of the European Parliament (1996–2004). As High Commissioner she leads her Institution within the security dimension of the OSCE. In accordance with her mandate she identifies and addresses causes of ethnic tensions and conflicts. The High Commissioner addresses the short-term triggers of inter-ethnic tension or conflict and long-term structural concerns.

Mr. William Romans (Moderator)

William Romans, a British citizen, has worked as Senior Legal Adviser to the High Commissioner on National Minorities in The Hague since February 2013. From 2010 to 2013 he worked in Pristina, Kosovo, first as Chief of the Human Rights Section in the OSCE Mission, and subsequently, as Human Rights Expert with the EU Rule of Law Mission. From 2002 to 2009, Mr. Romans worked in legal advisory positions in the United Nations, first with the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, based in Arusha, and then with the UN-supported Special Court for Sierra Leone, based in Freetown. He commenced his career in Kampala, Uganda, providing legal counsel to refugees and asylum seekers. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in law from universities in Scotland and South Africa, respectively, and is appointed as an attorney-at-law in the State of New York.

FRIDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2015

WORKING SESSION 18

Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

Presentation of activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in the relevant OSCE decisions and other document

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

**CLOSING REINFORCED PLENARY SESSION
(reinforced by the participation of human rights directors, OSCE ambassadors and heads of OSCE institutions)**

Working session 18: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

Ms Serani Siegel (Introducer)

Ms. Serani Siegel is the Senior Evaluator at OIO. She has 14 years of experience in conducting, designing and leading evaluations. Ms Siegel joined the OSCE as a Senior Evaluator 6 years ago, leading or contributing to some 20 evaluations and supporting the development of the evaluation function in the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO). Her specialties include thematic, country- and project-level evaluations, organizational development, outcome mapping, results oriented monitoring systems as well as theory of change and contribution analysis. Her thematic expertise covers capacity building,

democratization, gender, human rights and civil society. Before joining the OSCE, Ms Siegel worked with the European Commission's EuropeAid Evaluation Unit, the Council of Europe, as well as several NGOs to develop and implement evaluations across a number of sectors and topics. Ms Siegel also supported EuropeAid in the coordination and methodological development of the Results-Oriented Monitoring System of the EC's external assistance projects and programmes. Before working as an evaluation consultant, Ms Siegel worked for the OSCE in Kosovo and Montenegro.

Mr. Luc Lietaer (Moderator)

Luc Lietaer joined OSCE/ODIHR as Project Coordinator in the summer of 2013. He held several positions in the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina between 2006 and June 2013, the last one as Deputy Director for Operations in the Human Dimension Department. He worked extensively on strategic planning and was strongly involved in the Mission's transition to a more project management-based approach. Before joining the OSCE, Luc Lietaer worked for the Belgian NGO Balkanactie in Bosnia and Herzegovina focusing on capacity building of civil society and local government. He had an earlier career as a journalist in Belgium.

Lietaer, born in 1969 in Bruges, holds a degree in Communication Sciences from the University of Leuven.

**Closing plenary session reinforced by the participation of human rights directors,
OSCE ambassadors and heads of OSCE institutions**

CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Michael Georg Link

Michael Georg Link (Germany) began his tenure as ODIHR director on 1 July 2014. Before joining the Office, he served from January 2012 to December 2014 as the Minister of State for Europe in the German government, responsible for OSCE, EU, Council of Europe and NATO affairs. He was elected to the German parliament in 2005, representing Heilbronn/Baden-Württemberg, and served through 2013. During that term, from 2006 to 2013, Link established a strong OSCE connection as a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

The ODIHR director is a past member of the boards of the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the German Foundation for Peace Research and the Foundation for German-Polish Cooperation, and remains active in international NGOs, including the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Association for Eastern European Studies, the Southeast Europe Association, and the German Atlantic Association.

Born in Heilbronn in 1963, Link studied Russian, French, Political Science, Public Law and Eastern European History at the University of Augsburg, the University of Lausanne and Heidelberg University.

Ambassador Vuk Žugić

Ambassador Vuk Žugić holds the position of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE. During his career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Žugić has served in various capacities, among them: Permanent Representative of Serbia to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and other International Organizations in Vienna (2012); Assistant Foreign Minister/Director General, Directorate General for Multilateral Cooperation (2009-2012); Ambassador to India (2004-2009); Assistant Foreign Minister, Head of Sector for Multilateral Cooperation (2001-2004); Minister Plenipotentiary, Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Acting Head of Sector for Multilateral Cooperation (2000-2001); First Counsellor, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) to Belgium and Luxembourg (1997-2000); Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the FRY, Directorate for UN and other International Organizations (1995-1997); Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY)/FRY to the UN in New York (1990-1995); and Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SFRY, Directorate for Planning and Analysis (1988-1990).

Mr. Žugić holds a Master's degree in International Law and Relations from the University of Belgrade. He is married and has two children.