



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

Upholding the Principles of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination including in the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief

**1 – 2 April 2019
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, when required, other OSCE structures and institutions assist the Chairmanship-in-Office in preparing the SHDMs.

The Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on the topic of *Upholding the Principles of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination including Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief* will take place in Vienna from 1 – 2 April 2019. The meeting is organized by the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship with the support of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

The SHDM will focus on the following key areas:

- underlying root causes and consequences of racism, intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, particularly in relation to how manifestations of racism and intolerance affect women and men differently;
- implementation of a comprehensive approach to addressing discrimination, hate and violence against Christians, Jews, Muslims and other religious or belief communities especially in terms of security of communities, support to individual victims throughout the OSCE area, as well as challenges related to underreporting and under-recording of hate crimes, hate incidents, discrimination and intolerance;
- role of educational programmes and civil society initiatives in addressing negative stereotyping and stigmatization and in promoting mutual respect and understanding including State responses, coalition building and community resilience.

During the meeting, recommendations for the OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions, including the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE executive structures, other inter-governmental organisations as well as civil society actors can be identified and addressed. Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the annotated agenda, which will be made available in due course, can be found on the SHDM webpage at https://httpsosce.org/odih/shdm_1_2019.

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 through the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System at <https://meetings.odihr.pl>. Dates of registration period will be announced on the said webpage, as well as on the webpage of the Supplementary meeting at https://osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2019.

Important note: registration after the deadline will not be possible and registration on-site will not be available.

Registered participants will be able to **collect their badges at the meeting venue** as of Monday, 1 April 2019, from 9 a.m., at the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre. Participants experiencing issues with registration are requested to address their questions to anna.sierant@odihr.pl.

Participation in the meeting is free of charge, although all travel and accommodation costs should be borne by participants. Participants are kindly requested to make their own travel and hotel arrangements. A list of selected hotels in Vienna is available on the SHDM webpage.

4. Side events

The possibility to hold side events during SHDM will be provided. To book a side event, please register first through the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System (<https://meetings.odihr.pl>) and then proceed to side event booking. The opening and closing dates for side event booking will be announced on <https://meetings.odihr.pl> and on SHDM webpage. (*Detailed information on side event booking is available in the Side Events Information document.*)

Available slots for side events are: Monday, 1 April, between 13:00 and 14:45, and on Tuesday, 2 April, between 13:00 and 14:30. For details please check the Side Events Schedule on SHDM webpage, when available.

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 2nd floor.

Schedule:

The opening session of SHDM will start on Monday, 1 April, 2019 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 speakers 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.

At the closing session, starting on Tuesday, 2 April at 16:30, the moderators of the 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.

The meeting will end on Tuesday, 2 April 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 indicate this to the moderator 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, participants shall introduce themselves by providing their name, surname and the name of the 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. Participants shall refrain from presenting or shouting any slogans that might: a.) provoke or disturb order and safety, b.) likely to give rise to violence, c.) discriminate against others on the basis of their race, colour, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Maastricht 2003, Ljubljana 2005), d.) condone terrorism or the use of violence. Moderators are instructed to ensure that discussions are held in accordance with these principles.

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:

Program matters: Ms Dermana Seta at dermana.seta@odihr.pl

Organizational matters and co-ordination of the meeting: Mr. Martin Toplišek at martin.toplisek@odihr.pl

Coordination of side events: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at ireneusz.stepinski@odihr.pl

Registration of participants: Ms. Anna Sierant at anna.sierant@odihr.pl