



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ECONOMICS CRISIS

30-31 October 2014
Hofburg, Vienna

General Guidelines

1. Aim of the Meeting

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

The third and the last Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting in 2014 will address the topic of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Economic Crisis. The meeting will provide a forum for the discussion of how the economic crisis has impacted on the enjoyment of human rights in the OSCE area. The topics will include economic, social and cultural rights, the protection of vulnerable groups as well as rights and responsibilities in times of economic crisis. The discussion will focus on the role of the OSCE and other actors in safeguarding and promoting relevant OSCE commitments in the face of decreasing resources and competing demands.

Recommendations may be addressed to participating States, the OSCE at large, OSCE institutions, including the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE field operations, other inter-governmental or non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors in OSCE participating States.

Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including annotated agenda can be found on ODIHR website at <https://www.osce.org/odihr/124899>.

2. Participation

Representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions, and OSCE executive structures, representatives of inter-governmental organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations, and other civil society actors will participate in the SHDM. The Partners for Co-operation are invited to 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

On-line registration for all participants is available at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>. Participants are advised to register by Wednesday, 15th October 2014.

The registration will also be available online after the deadline and during the Meeting on the spot, however, to facilitate the preparation for the meeting, (e.g. preparation of badges and printing of sufficient amount of materials) the earliest possible registration would be highly appreciated. Registered participants will be able to collect their badges as of Thursday, 30 October 2014 from 09:00 in the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre. Those participants who experience problems with registration are requested to contact Ms. Anna Sierant (contact details below).

4. Modalities

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

The meeting will take place in the Hofburg Congress Centre. It will start on Thursday, 30 October, at 15.00 by an opening session and it will be followed by three working sessions. The closing session will finish on Friday, 31 October at 17.30.

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

5. Side events

Side events may be held over the course of two days during the SHDM. Participants wishing to organise a side event should send the side events' checklist by 17th October 2014 to Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski, ODIHR at Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl. Additional information on the content and objectives of any side event, as well as timing and duration are available on the SHDM website, in the 'Side events check-list' document.

6. Guidelines for the Debates

The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, panellists' inputs, discussions, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the SHDM. To this end, a list of speakers is not envisaged in the course of the SHDM and interventions in the form of prepared statements are discouraged. Prepared statements, background documentation, comments or written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre and hence can feed the discussion.

In case of any questions, please contact:

Substantive content matters: Ms. Irina Urumova, ODIHR at Irina.Urumova@odihr.pl or +48 22 5200 705

Organizational matters: Ms. Kamila Czerwinska, ODIHR at Kamila.Czerwinska@odihr.pl or +48 22 5200 657

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

Organization of side events: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski, ODIHR at Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl or +48 22 52 00 658