



## Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

13 – 14 March 2023  
(Vienna)

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE

#### I. GENERAL INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES

##### 1. Aim, dates and venue of the meeting

According to the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002), each year, the Chairpersonship-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 first Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) of 2023 will be held from **13 to 14 March** on “*Media Freedom as a Central Pillar of Comprehensive Security*” in Vienna (Hofburg, Heldenplatz 1010 Vienna, Austria).

The meeting is organized by the OSCE Chairpersonship of North Macedonia and OSCE Representative of the Media with the support of OSCE ODIHR.

During the meeting, recommendations for the OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions, OSCE executive structures, other inter-governmental organizations as well as civil society actors can be identified and addressed.

Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the agenda, is available at [https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_1\\_2023](https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2023)

##### 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 below, in the *Information for Civil Society* section.



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### 3. Registration

Participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register at <https://meetings.odihr.pl>.

Please allow sufficient time for the self-registration process, in particular if you are a first time user of the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System, as you will have to start by creating a profile. First time users are encouraged to sign up for the event as soon as possible after creating an account. Please note that the registration system requires individual registration and uploading of your ID photo.

**Important note:** Past-deadline registration is not possible.

### 4. Accreditation

Registered participants may **collect their badges at the meeting venue** on Monday, 13 March 2023, between 11.00 and 17.00 CET, and on Tuesday, 14 March from 8.00 until 17.00 CET, at the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre.

Participation in the meeting is free of charge, although all travel and accommodation costs should be borne by participants.

A list of recommended hotels in Vienna offering OSCE discounts is available for registered participants at: <https://meetings.odihr.pl/resources> (please make sure you are logged in in order to access this list).

### 5. Modalities, Schedule and Logistics

**Modalities:** 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 (Heldenplatz 1010 Vienna), at the **Neuer Saal**, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**Schedule:** The opening session of SHDM will start on Monday, 13 March at 13.00. During this session, the representatives of the OSCE Chairpersonship of North Macedonia, ODIHR and OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will present their opening remarks, followed by keynote addresses by invited experts in the topic of the meeting. No comments or statements are foreseen from participants during the opening session due to time constraints.



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Three working sessions will follow:

- Session I: Why There Can Be No Comprehensive Security without Media Freedom
- Session II: How Media Freedom Impacts All Three OSCE Dimensions
- Session III: Media Pluralism as a Cornerstone of Democracy

All participants will have the possibility to request the floor during the working sessions by raising their hand.

At the closing session, starting on Tuesday, 14 March at 16.30, the moderators of three working sessions will present the reports from the sessions. There will be time for delegations of participating States to voice their comments and, finally, for the representatives of ODIHR, RFoM and OSCE Chairpersonship for their closing remarks. Only the delegations of participating States have the right to speak during the closing session

The meeting will end on Tuesday, 14 March at 17.30.

**Interpretation:** Interpretation will be available in the six official OSCE languages: English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

**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. For topics and composition of each panel, please consult the agenda and annotated agenda at [https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_1\\_2023](https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2023).

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.

**Right of reply:** At the end of working sessions, as well as at the opening and closing plenary, participating States will have the possibility to exercise their right of reply. Participating States should indicate their intention to exercise right of reply to the ODIHR staff seated behind the head table early enough before the end of the session, so sufficient time is allocated. Each participating state has the right to one Right of Reply per session.

Participants should wait for the moderator to give them the floor. When 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.



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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.

**Distribution of documents:** Any registered participant present at SHDM may also submit documents for distribution by sending their documents (maximum 3 pages in length) to the Document Distribution Centre at [documents@osce.org](mailto:documents@osce.org). Participants should mention in their message when submitted documents are intended for distribution or to facilitate interpretation.

Documents will be made available to meeting participants at <https://meetings.odhr.pl/resources>.

There are no translation services available.

**Filming in plenary hall:** Filming with cameras and video cameras will only be permitted by accredited journalists, and only during the opening and closing sessions. No other audio-visual recordings should be undertaken inside the plenary.

**Livestreaming:** livestream will be available in English and Russian on the website of the event.

### Limitations due to Covid-19 pandemic:

#### a) Requirements to enter Austria

Entry Regulation is no longer subject to 3G (proof of vaccination, recovery or a negative test result for SARS-CoV-2), registration or quarantine requirements.

For the latest update on limitations in Austria, applicable in various settings, please consult <https://www.sozialministerium.at/en/Coronavirus/Information-in-English.html>

#### b) Measures inside event venue

Persons wishing to enter Hofburg are not requested to provide proof of low epidemiological risk before entering the premises.

Inside the venue, the following applies:

- Social distancing is required and seating available to participants will be organized in line with applicable limitations,
- All participants are strongly encouraged to cover mouth and nose with a FFP2 mask.



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### **II. INFORMATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY**

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increased openness in OSCE activities and for expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV, the participating States agreed to facilitate during OSCE meetings “informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and NGOs”.

As per Chapter IV, paragraphs (15) and (16), of the Helsinki Document 1992, the provision of making “open to NGOs [...] human rights implementation meetings” does not apply to “persons or organizations which resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence.”

In line with these provisions, the OSCE welcomes participation by civil society organizations at the SHDM.

### **III. SIDE EVENTS**

Registered participants representing civil society organizations, international organizations, governments and other registered participants of SHDM are encouraged to organize side events on relevant human dimension issues. Side events are meant to facilitate less formal discussions among representatives of governments, civil society and international organizations. The side events provide an opportunity for the participants to discuss issues that have not been fully covered during the working sessions, since only limited time is assigned to each of the topics.

ODIHR’s role is to co-ordinate the organization of side events and make the necessary venue arrangements. Participants can book rooms dedicated for side events free of charge. The participants organizing a side event will be responsible for its logistics (catering, presentations and technical facilities, interpretation, financing etc.) and for its content.

Booking is organized on a first come first served basis via <https://meetings.odihhr.pl>. Please check this website regularly to check booking options.

*Schedule and Overview of Side Events* is posted at [https://www.osce.org/odihhr/shdm\\_1\\_2023](https://www.osce.org/odihhr/shdm_1_2023)

The views expressed during the side events do not necessarily reflect the views of the OSCE.



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### V. CONTACT INFORMATION

**Meeting co-ordination:** Ms. Aleksandra Lutostanska at [aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl](mailto:aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl) and Ms. Rita Stafejeva, at [rita.stafejeva@odihr.pl](mailto:rita.stafejeva@odihr.pl)

**Programme enquiries:** Ms. Deniz Wagner, at [deniz.wagner@osce.org](mailto:deniz.wagner@osce.org)

**Side events & venue:** Ms. Aleksandra Lutostanska, at [aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl](mailto:aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl)

**Registration, accreditation (badge collection), document distribution:** Ms. Paulina Wozniak, at [paulina.wozniak@odihr.pl](mailto:paulina.wozniak@odihr.pl)

**Other enquiries:** [hdmeetings@odihr.pl](mailto:hdmeetings@odihr.pl)