



## **Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting**

# **OSCE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**29-30 October 2015**

**Hofburg, Vienna**

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION & MODALITIES**

### **VENUE**

The meeting will take place in the Hofburg Congress Centre. It will start on Thursday, 29 October, at 15.00 with an opening session and will be followed by three working sessions. The closing session will finish on Friday, 30 October at 17.30.

### **REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS & BADGES**

On-line registration for all participants is available at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>. The registration will also be available after the date and on-site; however, participants are requested to register early to facilitate the preparation of the SHDM.

Registered participants will be able to collect their badges at the meeting's venue as of Thursday, 29 October 2015, from 9 a.m. 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).

Recommendations may be addressed to participating States, the OSCE at large, OSCE executive structures, other inter-governmental organizations, as well as civil society actors in OSCE participating States.

### **INTERPRETATION**

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

### **SIDE EVENTS**

Side events (SE) will be held over the course of two days during the SHDM. More information is available in the schedule.

### **SEATING & GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATES**

The opening session will consist of opening remarks of the Chair-in-Office, High Commissioner on National Minorities as well as ODIHR Director as well as key-note speaker. No comments or statements are foreseen from any participants due to short time of the opening session.

The closing session will consist of the reports from the moderators of the working sessions, remarks from the delegations of participating States as well as the closing remarks of High

Commissioner on National Minorities. Only the delegation of participating States have a right to speak during the closing session.

At the opening and closing session, the delegations of the participating States are 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.

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. Participants wishing to speak should attract the moderator's attention and to wait for the moderator to give the floor.

However, in case there is a large number of participants wishing to speak, the list might be introduced during the session to ensure fair access. In this case, the speaking time will be limited to a maximum time defined by the moderator and the moderators will be strict to keep it.

Participants are strongly discouraged from reading out prepared statements. Prepared statements, background documentation, comments or written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre and hence can feed into the discussion.

#### **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 signalize to the moderator early enough before the end of the session their wish so sufficient time is left for the right of reply.

Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the annotated agenda can be found on the ODIHR website at [www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_3\\_2015](http://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_3_2015).

In case of any questions, please contact:

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**Organizational matters:** Ms. Kamila Czerwinska at [Kamila.Czerwinska@odihr.pl](mailto:Kamila.Czerwinska@odihr.pl) or +48 22 5200 657

**Coordination of side events:** Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at [Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl](mailto:Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl) or +48 22 5200 658

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