

SCHEDULE OF SIDE EVENTS
to take place during the
SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS: LEGISLATIVE,
STATE AND NON-STATE ASPECTS

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increasing the openness of OSCE activities and expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV the participating States decided to facilitate during CSCE meetings informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs, and to provide encouragement to NGOs organizing seminars on CSCE-related issues. In line with this decision, NGOs, governments, and other participants are encouraged to organize side meetings on relevant issues of their choice.

The opinions and information shared during the side events convened by participants do not necessarily reflect the policy of the OSCE/ ODIHR.

Thursday, 30 March	Thursday, 30 March
<p><i>Title: Current situation and prospects of Kosovo Roma in a Human Rights framework</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: OSCE ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues/European Roma and Travellers Forum</i></p> <p><i>Time: 10.30-14.00</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Segmentgalerie I</i></p> <p><i>Language: Romani, English</i></p>	<p><i>Title: Human Rights Defenders in Crisis: Are International Organizations Doing Enough?</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF)</i></p> <p><i>Time: 12.30- 14.30</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Bibliotheksaal</i></p> <p><i>Language: English, Russian</i></p>
Thursday, 30 March	Thursday, 30 March
<p><i>Title: Current situation and prospects of Kosovo Roma in a Human Rights framework(continued)</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: OSCE ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues/European Roma and Travellers Forum</i></p> <p><i>Time 18.00-20.00</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Segmentgalerie I</i></p> <p><i>Language: Romani, English</i></p>	<p><i>Title: Presentation of the 2005 annual report of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, a joint programme of the FIDH and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT).</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)</i></p> <p><i>Time: 18.00-19.00</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Bibliotheksaal</i></p> <p><i>Language English (possible Russian)</i></p>
Friday, 31 March	Friday, 31 March
<p><i>Title: Freedom of Assembly in the OSCE region and implementation of pertinent laws: challenges and the role of human rights defenders</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: Institute for Conflict Research, ILGA</i></p> <p><i>Time: 12.00-14.00</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Segmentgalerie I</i></p> <p><i>Language: English, Russian</i></p>	<p><i>Title: Women Human Rights Defenders - Challenges in Defending Women's Rights</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: ODIHR</i></p> <p><i>Time: 12.00-14.00</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Bibliotheksaal</i></p> <p><i>Language: English</i></p>

OVERVIEW OF SIDE EVENTS
As submitted by the organisers
30 – 31 March 2006
Hofburg, Vienna

The side events below have been exclusively organized and scheduled at the request of participants of the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting. The content for each meeting was prepared by the organization convening the events and does not necessarily reflect the views of the OSCE, ODIHR.

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Thursday, 30 March

Time: 10.30-14.00
Venue: Segmentgalerie I
Title: Current situation and prospects of Kosovo Roma in a Human Rights framework
Convenor: OSCE ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues/European Roma and Travellers Forum
Language: English, Romani (simultaneous translation)

Summary:

The meeting aims to promote emerging of agreement and institutional mechanisms among the relevant organizations and institutions in view of ensuring proper consultation and active participation of Kosovo Roma representatives in the process of international talks /negotiations concerning the final status of Kosovo;

- To promote policies of long term and durable solutions for return and reinsertion of Roma in future society of Kosovo, taking in account their current status of living, such as:
 - Roma currently living in Kosovo;
 - Roma from Kosovo living in countries in South-Eastern Europe and in the EU as:
 - refugees;
 - asylum seekers;
 - IDPs (internally displaced person);
 - returnees.

The meeting proposes to advance urgent and viable solutions for the relocation to safer places of Roma and Ashkalia IDPs who are currently living in Northern Mitrovica in the lead contaminated camps.

Refreshments will be provided

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Thursday, 30 March

Time: 12.30-14.30
Venue: Bibliotheksaal
Title: Human Rights Defenders in Crisis: Are International Organizations Doing Enough
Convenor: International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF)

Language: English, Russian (consecutive translation)

Summary:

The IHF, in cooperation with its affiliates, has prepared a report for the SHDM entitled “*The Assault on Human Rights Defenders in the Russian Federation, Belarus and Uzbekistan: Restrictive Legislation and Bad Practices*”. Human rights defenders from these countries and others will discuss the difficult situation they are facing in their respective countries at the moment. The side event will also aim to formulate recommendations on how the OSCE should further protect human rights defenders.

Refreshments will be provided

Thursday, 30 March

Time: 18.00-20.00
Venue: Segmentgalerie I
Title: Current situation and prospects of Kosovo Roma in a Human Rights framework (**Continued**)
Convenor: OSCE ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues/European Roma and Travellers Forum
Language: English, Romani (simultaneous translation)
Summary: Continued, please see above.

Refreshments will be provided

Thursday, 30 March

Time: 18.00-19.00
Venue: Bibliotheksaal
Title: Presentation of the 2005 annual report of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, a joint programme of the FIDH and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)
Convenor: International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
Language: English (possible Russian consecutive)

Summary:

Presentation of the annual report of the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, which addresses the cases of 1,172 human rights defenders oppressed and obstacles to freedom of association in nearly 90 countries around the world. This report offers geographical analyzes and compilations of the cases of violations perpetrated against defenders.

This briefing will underline the situation of human rights defenders and freedom of association in the ICS.

Refreshments will be provided

Friday, 31 March

Time: 12.00-14.00
Venue: Segmentgalerie I
Title: Freedom of Assembly in the OSCE region and implementation of pertinent laws: challenges and the role of human rights defenders
Convenor: Institute for Conflict Research, ILGA Europe
Language: English, Russian (simultaneous translation)

Summary:

The aim of the side event is to discuss examples of law implementation practices in several OSCE participating States, with the special focus on challenges that organizers/participants of Pride Events often encounter.

Director of the Institute for Conflict Research will address the issue of permissible restrictions on freedom of assembly and importance of ensuring that not only national laws, but also law implementation practices fully uphold international standards. A brief overview of problems faced by

pride organizers in Eastern Europe will be given by the representative of ILGA-Europe. A role of human rights defenders in monitoring how freedom of assembly is maintained and protected in practice through observing the role of the state and police at public events will be examined.

OSCE/ODIHR representatives will make a brief presentation on relevant OSCE/ODIHR activities, in particular on the project proposal aimed at consolidating the OSCE/ODIHR Draft Guidelines for Drafting Laws Pertaining to Freedom of Assembly as well as on the Tolerance and Non Discrimination Programme. Participants of the side event are invited to make comments and recommendations on all issues on the agenda.

Two experts presenting at the side event are:

1. Neil Jarman, Director of the Institute for Conflict Research, Northern Ireland
<http://www.conflictresearch.org.uk>
2. Maxim Anmeghichean, Programmes Director at ILGA-Europe, Belgium
<http://www.ilga-europe.org/>

Refreshments will be provided

Friday, 31 March

Time: 12.00-14.00
Venue: Bibliotheksaal
Title: Women Human Rights Defenders – Challenges in Defending Women’s Rights
Convenor: OSCE ODIHR
Language: English

Summary:

As women human rights defenders stand up for women’s rights it can be considered traitorous and disruptive of societal norms and traditional values upholding society. The protection of women’s rights places women’s human rights defenders at risk of not only physical abuse and violence but also makes them vulnerable to being ostracized by the community and society as a whole. That is, on allegations of disrupting family structures and other societal structures building on stereotype expectations of women’s roles and status. The event highlights challenges and risks faced by women human rights defenders, and elaborates how the focus on women’s rights is in itself an obstacle in the work of a human rights defender.

Presentations will be made by the following three women human rights defenders:

- Ms. Enisa Eminova, Roma Women’s Initiative, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Ms. Zulfriya Tukhtakhodjaeva, Association of Women's NGOs of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan
- Ms. Gulnara Ibraeva, Social Technologies Agency, Kyrgyzstan

Refreshments will be provided
