



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON CONFLICT SITUATIONS, INCLUDING PROTECTION OF JOURNALISTS AND REPORTING DURING ARMED CONFLICT

**27-28 October 2016
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 Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and other OSCE structures, when required, assist the Chairmanship-in-Office in preparing the SHDMs.

The second 2016 SHDM will take place in Vienna, on 27 and 28 October 2016 and is co-organized by the German OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). The meeting will address the following topic: “Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media with a Special Focus on Conflict Situations, Including Protection of Journalists and Reporting During Armed Conflict”.

The meeting will address the topic through the following three sessions:

- Safety of journalists in armed conflict;
- Media co- and self-regulation as an instrument to improve ethical standards and counter propaganda;
- The roles of the OSCE, governments and the civil society to protect media freedom in times of crises.

Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the annotated agenda, which will be made available in due course, can be found on the ODIHR website at http://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_2_2016.

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 are invited to 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

Participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register online at <http://meetings.odihr.pl> **latest by the deadline of Monday, 24th October 2016.** Important note: **registration after this date will be closed and registration on-site will not be available.**

Registered participants will be able to **collect their badges at the meeting venue** as of Thursday, 28 October 2016, 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).

Participants are also kindly asked to register for the **reception hosted by the German OSCE Chairmanship and the Swedish Delegation** that will take place on evening of 27 October, in the Schwedenhaus. Registration for the reception should be sent latest by 24 October to hdmeetings@odihr.pl, including indication whether you would like to take the shuttle bus. A shuttle will be leaving at 18:15 from Hofburg.

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

3. Side events

Side events (SE) may be held over the course of two days during the SHDM. To book a side event, please register first in the ODIHR Registration System (<http://meetings.odihr.pl>) and then proceed with the side event booking. The side events booking system is based on 'first come, first served' basis so participants are advised to enter the booking system immediately after the opening. **The system will be open from Wednesday, 12 October at 12.00 (CET) until Monday, 17 October 23:59 (CET).** No bookings will be accepted after this date. Additional information on the content and objectives of planned side events, timing and duration are available on SHDM website, in the 'Side Events Information' document.

4. 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 of the centre.

Schedule: The SHDM will start on Thursday, 27 October 2016.

The side events might take place on Thursday, 27 October 2016 between 13:00 and 15:00 and on Friday, 28 October between 12:00 and 14:00 – for details please check the Side Events Schedule on SHDM website, prior to the meeting.

The opening session of SHDM will start on 27 October 2016 at 15.00. During this session the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, ODIHR Director and key-note speaker 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:

- Working Session 1: **Safety of journalists in armed conflict;**
- Working Session 2: **Media co- and self-regulation as an instrument to improve ethical standards and counter propaganda;**
- Working Session 3: **The roles of the OSCE, governments and the civil society to protect media freedom in times of crises.**

At the closing session, starting on Friday, 28 October at 16:30, the rapporteur of the three working sessions 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 OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE, to make their closing remarks. Only the delegations of participating States have a right to speak during the closing session.

The meeting will end on Friday, 28 October at 17.30.

Please kindly note that on 26 October, OSCE premises will be closed.

Seating: 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.

Interpretation: The meeting will be interpreted into 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. To this end a speakers' list is not envisaged. Participants wishing to speak should attract the moderator's attention and to wait for the moderator to give the floor.

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.

To ensure a free and interactive debate, 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.

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:

Overall co-ordination of meeting: Ms. Kamila Czerwinska at kamila.czerwinska@odihhr.pl or +48 22 5200 657

Programme matters: Nora Isaac at nora.isaac@osce.org or +431514366805

Coordination of side events: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at ireneusz.stepinski@odihhr.pl or +48 22 5200 658

Registration of participants: Ms. Anna Sierant at hdmeetings@odihhr.pl or +48 22 5200 627

Registration of participants for the Reception on 27 October and use of shuttle bus: hdim@odihhr.pl