



Information on the OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2016

Hotel Radisson Blu, Room "Los Angeles"

Hamburg, 6 – 7 December 2016

The OSCE-wide NGO-network 'Civic Solidarity Platform'¹ (CSP) will hold its annual **OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2016** at Hotel Radisson Blu in Hamburg on 6 and 7 December 2016. At the conference, civil society representatives from throughout the OSCE region will discuss urgent human dimension issues and their impact on the OSCE comprehensive security concept.

The outcome documents of the conference – the Civil Society Recommendations to the OSCE Ministerial Council as well as the 'Hamburg Declaration on Protecting Civil Society Space' – will be handed over to OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, First Deputy Director Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and Dunja Mijatovic, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

The opening as well as closing sessions will be open to the media and OSCE Delegations upon showing OSCE accreditation and/or press identification at the registration desk:

Opening session: Tuesday, 6 December 2016 from 10.00 – 10.30

Closing session: Wednesday, 7 December 2016 from 16.15 – 18.00

The conference sessions include topics such as migration/ refugees, shrinking civil society space, protection of human rights defenders, prevention of torture and enforced disappearances, freedom of expression as well as human rights and security.

The event is supported by the German OSCE Chairmanship as well as the governments of Liechtenstein, the Netherlands and Sweden.

Please be informed that the Civic Solidarity Platform will also host an **event 'The Civic Solidarity Platform Meets the OSCE: Space for Civil Society and Human Dimension Recommendations'** in the so called 'mixed zone' of the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting at Hamburg Messe (Hall A3, Live discussion area) on Thursday, 8 December 2016 from 15:10 to 15:55. NGOs, media representatives as well as OSCE Delegations with accreditation to the OSCE Ministerial Council will be able to participate in the event.

For more information, please read the annex below and visit our website www.civicsolidarity.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter @CivicSolidarity.

¹ The Civic Solidarity Platform currently consists of 85 member organizations from 27 countries within the OSCE region.



ANNEX

Programme of the Opening and Closing sessions of the OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2016

Tuesday, 6 December 2016

10.00 – 10.30

Opening session

1. Welcome and introductory remarks by the moderator: goals, agenda and modalities of the conference
Brigitte Dufour, International Partnership for Human Rights/ Civic Solidarity Platform
2. The German OSCE Chairmanship 2016 and reflections on preliminary results
Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Head of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE
3. The outgoing Serbian OSCE Chairmanship 2015 and reflections on results
Representative of the outgoing Serbian OSCE Chairmanship 2015 (tbc)
4. The incoming Austrian OSCE Chairmanship 2017 and introduction to the Austrian priorities
Ambassador Clemens Koja, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE
5. Remarks on the OSCE priorities from the perspective of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
Min. Michael Link, Director of the ODIHR

Moderator

Brigitte Dufour, International Partnership for Human Rights/ Civic Solidarity Platform

Wednesday, 7 December 2016

16.15 – 18.00

Closing session

1. Presentation of the Civil Society Recommendations 2016
Yuri Dzhibladze, Civic Solidarity Platform
2. Presentation of the 'Hamburg Declaration'
Rasul Jafarov, Civic Solidarity Platform
3. Remarks from the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
Katarzyna Jarosiewicz-Wargan, First Deputy Director, OSCE ODIHR
4. Remarks from the OSCE Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media
Dunja Mijatovic, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
5. Remarks from the German OSCE Chairmanship 2016
Min. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office
6. Remarks from the incoming Austrian OSCE Chairmanship 2017
Dr. Michael Linhart, Austrian Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs
7. Questions and comments from the audience
8. Reactions from the Panel
9. Final remarks and conference closing by the Civic Solidarity Platform
Yuri Dzhibladze, Civic Solidarity Platform

Moderator

Caroline Kruckow, Working Group on Peace and Development/ Brot für die Welt