



Warsaw Human Dimension Conference 2023

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Conference Agenda

Monday, 2 October

11.00 Accreditation opens

14.00-15.00 Opening Session

Introductory remarks by:

Mr. Bujar Osmani, 2023 OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia

Mr. Zbigniew Rau, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Ms. Elina Maria Valtonen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland (pre-recorded)

Ms. Pia Kauma, a Member of Parliament from Finland and President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Mr. Matteo Mecacci, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Ms. Helga Schmid, OSCE Secretary General

Ms. Teresa Ribeiro, Representative on Freedom of the Media

Keynote speech by Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

Moderated by Ambassador Igor Djundev, Permanent Representative of the Republic of North Macedonia to the OSCE

15.00-17.00 Statements by participating States

18.00-19.00 Reception hosted by the 2023 OSCE Chairpersonship of North Macedonia

Hotel Sofitel, Civil Society Lounge

Tuesday, 3 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session I: Democratic Institutions

Democratic elections; democracy at the national, regional and local levels; Ensuring equal enjoyment of rights and equal participation in political and public life

Introductory remarks by:





Mr. Maarten Halff, Chief of Policy, UN Electoral Assistance Division

Ms. Božena Jelušić, Former Chair of the Gender Equality Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro

Mr. Dastan Bekeshev, Member of Parliament, Supreme Council of Kyrgyzstan

13.00-14.00 Networking event for all participants hosted by Ireland and Norway

Civil Society Lounge, light lunch will be served.

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Wednesday, 4 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session II: Fundamental Freedoms I

Freedom of opinion and expression, media freedom; Safety of journalists

Introductory remarks by:

Ms. Teresa Ribeiro, Representative on Freedom of the Media

Mr. Klaus Unterberger, Head of the public value department at ORF, Austria's public service media

Ms. Khadija Patel, Chairperson of the International Press Institute

Mr. Ilija Ponomarenko, Journalist, The Kyiv Independent

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Thursday, 5 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session III: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination I

Addressing racism, xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance

Introductory remarks by:

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism

Mr. Ilir Kulla, Former Minister of Interreligious Affairs Albania





Ms. Isabella Sargsyan, Program Director, Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Member of ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of religion or belief

Ms. Lisa Borden, Senior Policy Counsel, International Advocacy, Southern Poverty Law Center

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Friday, 6 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session IV: Fundamental freedoms II

Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief; Freedom of assembly and association; National human rights institutions

Introductory remarks by:

Mr. Michael Hamilton, Interim Chairperson of ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly and Association; Legal Advisor on the Right to Protest, Amnesty International

Mr. Clement Voule, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Assembly and Association (online)

Ms. Pauline McCabe, former Prisoner Ombudsman for Northern Ireland

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Monday, 9 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session V: Rule of Law I

Democratic law-making, Independence of the judiciary, Right to a fair trial

Introductory remarks by:

Ms. Lucie Potuckova, Czechia Member of Parliament and Chair of the Third Committee of the OSCE PA

Mr. Artur Lastayev, Commissioner for Human Rights in the Republic of Kazakhstan

Mr. Yves Doutriaux, French Counsellor of State

13.00-14.00 Lunch break





14.00-15.00 Side events on the days' topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Tuesday, 10 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session VI: Rule of Law II

Prevention and eradication of torture; Protection of human rights and fighting terrorism; Abolition of capital punishment

Introductory remarks by:

Mr. Krassimir Kanev, Co-founder and Director of the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee

Ms. Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans, Executive Director of the European Center for Not-for Profit Law (online)

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Wednesday, 11 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session VII: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination II

Rights of persons belonging to national minorities; Treatment of citizens of other States and human rights of migrants; Roma and Sinti issues;

Introductory remarks by:

Mr. Kairat Abdrakhmanov, High Commissioner on National Minorities

Ms. Regina Polak, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination

Ms. Andreea Cârstocea, Senior Researcher, Head of the Equality and Inclusion Cluster, Editor of the Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe

Ms. Gabriela Hrabanova, Director of the European Roma Grassroots Organizations Network (online)

Mr. Etinosa Erevbenagie-Johnbull, Managing Director of Generation for Change Cyprus

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics





Thursday, 12 October

10.00-13.00 Plenary Session VIII: Humanitarian Issues

Trafficking in human beings; Humanitarian challenges, including in the context of armed conflict; Freedom of movement; Refugees and displaced persons; Persons at risk of displacement

Introductory remarks by:

Mr. Ahmad Wali Ahmad Yar, President of the Umbrella Refugee Committee

Ms. Yuliia Dorokhova, Director of All-Ukrainian League Legalife

Ms. Silvia Bartolini, Professor, researcher on best interests of the child in EU law

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Side events on the day's topics

16.00-17.00 Side events on the day's topics

Friday, 13 October

10.00-13.00 Closing Session

Remarks by:

Ambassador Igor Djundev, Permanent Representative of the Republic of North Macedonia to the OSCE

Mr. Matteo Mecacci, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights