Invitation

OSCE Human Rights Commitments in Germany
Women, Peace and Security I Tolerance and Non-Discrimination

12 October 2016   12:15 am – 15:30 pm
Federal Press Office, Dorotheenstr. 84, 10117 Berlin (Close to Bhf. Friedrichstr.)

Agenda

11:45  Registration and light lunch buffet

12:15  Welcome / Findings of the report on the implementation of OSCE human rights commitments in Germany
Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf,
Director, German Institute for Human Rights
Ambassador Antje Leendertse,
Head of OSCE Task Force, Federal Foreign Office

12:40  Comments from the audience regarding topic selection and evaluation

13:00  Key Note:
The OSCE Human Dimension, its Contribution to Regional Peace and Security, and the Additional Value of Voluntary State Reporting
Minister Raphael Nägeli, Deputy Head of the Human Security Division, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Questions / Comments

13:30  Parallel Panel Discussions
Ambassador Miroslava Beham, OSCE Senior Advisor on Gender Issues, Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat, Vienna

Registration
Please use our online registration form:
http://tinyurl.com/jz54xne

Registration open until 07.10.2016

Conference Language
German / English with simultaneous interpretation

Accessibility
The event venue is suitable for wheelchairs. Please tell us, if you require special assistance. We endeavor to arrange appropriate provisions, if you let us know by 23.09.2016.

Information
Andre Klüber
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**Ambassador Dr. Patricia Flor,** Director-General for International Order, the United Nations and Arms Control, Federal Foreign Office

**Dr. Dieter Weingärtner,** Chief, Directorate-General for Legal Affairs, Federal Ministry of Defence

**Dr. Franziska Brantner,** Member of the German Bundestag, Chairwoman of Subcommittee on Civil Crisis Prevention, Conflict Management and Cross-Linked Action

**Elisabeth Henn,** Lawyer, German Women Lawyers Association

**Moderator:** Frauke Seidensticker, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

**Panel 2: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination: Human Rights Standards for a Comprehensive Strategy against Intolerance and Racism**

**Dr. Azra Junuzovic,** Deputy Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Warsaw

**Ulrich Weinbrenner,** Head of Directorate, Social Cohesion and Integration, Federal Ministry of Interior

**Petra Pau,** Member and Vice-President of the German Bundestag

**Tahir Della,** Initiative Schwarzer Menschen in Deutschland e.V. (Initiative Black People in Germany)

**Moderator:** Dr. Petra Follmar-Otto, Head of Department, Human Rights Policies Germany/Europe, German Institute for Human Rights

15:00 **Closing Remarks**

**Dr. Petra Follmar-Otto,** Head of Department, Human Rights Policies Germany/Europe, German Institute for Human Rights

15:10 **End of conference I Room for informal discussions**
BACKGROUND

On the occasion of the German chairmanship in the OSCE in 2016, the Federal Foreign Office commissioned the German Institute for Human Rights with evaluating the political OSCE commitments on human rights and democracy are being implemented in Germany. With this, Germany follows the examples of Switzerland and Serbia, who presented such “self-evaluations” for the first time during their OSCE chairmanships in 2014 and 2015. Such reporting is to become good practice for OSCE States on a voluntary basis to promote the effectiveness of the human dimension in the OSCE area and to strengthen the OSCE in its role as a regional actor for conflict prevention and resolution. The next OSCE chairmanship countries will be Austria (2017) and Italy (2018).

An English version of the German “self-evaluation” report will be available by mid/end September 2016.

Following the presentations of the report and the Swiss initiative to the reporting process at the Expert Meeting, two of the topics evaluated will be further discussed in parallel panels.

Women, Peace and Security
With the OSCE Gender Action Plan 2004, States have committed themselves to promote women’s equal participation in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict reconstruction by implementing the UN Security Council Resolution 1325. This requires a foreign, security and defence policy that is aligned with the gender equality provisions of the UN women’s rights Convention CEDAW. The experts of this panel will discuss how peace and security policies are to be planned, formulated and implemented in order to incorporate the gender equality provisions of UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW.

Tolerance and Non-Discrimination
OSCE commitments on Tolerance and Non-discrimination call upon participating States to combat racism in a comprehensive manner addressing society as a whole. This includes prosecution, data collection and monitoring, victim support, training for police and justice sectors as well as the exchange with civil society organizations. The experts of this panel will discuss current political and legal developments in Germany and whether they comply with the OSCE commitments.

Contacts
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VENUE:

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Dorotheenstraße 84
10117 Berlin
Close to S+U Bahn station Friedrichstraße (approx. 5 min. walk)

Simultaneous interpretation German-English /English-German will be provided throughout the conference.