



## Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

26 – 27 June 2023  
(Vienna)

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE

#### I. GENERAL INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES

##### 1. Aim, dates and venue of the meeting

In accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002), the Chairpersonship-in-Office annually organizes three Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings (SHDMs), in the framework of the OSCE Permanent Council. These meetings serve to discuss key substantive concerns raised at previous Human Dimension Implementation Meetings or Review Conferences. The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and, when required, other OSCE structures and institutions assist the Chairmanship-in-Office in preparing the SHDMs.

The third Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) of 2023 will be held from **26 to 27 June** on *The Role of Civil Society in the Promotion and Protection of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination*.

The meeting will be hosted at the **Hofburg Congress Centre** (Heldenplatz 1010 Vienna, Austria). The conference will take place in the **Neuer Saal** conference room, situated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Centre.

##### 2. Participation

Participants in the SHDM include representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions and other structures, inter-governmental organizations, civil society and other stakeholders having interest in the topic. OSCE Partners for Co-operation can attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field. Civil society organizations can find more information below, in the *Information for Civil Society* section.

**Participants interested in attending human dimension meetings should register with ODIHR via the following link: <https://meetings.odihr.pl>.**

First-time users of the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System will need to create a user account. Hence, it is recommended to set aside sufficient time for the self-registration process.

Please also note that registration beyond the deadline cannot be accepted.



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### 3. Accreditation

Registered participants can collect their badges at the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre during the following times:

- on Monday, 26 June 2023, between 11.00 and 17.00 CET, and
- on Tuesday, 27 June from 8.30 until 17.00 CET.

Please note that while there are no fees associated with participating in the meeting, all travel and accommodation expenses are the responsibility of the participants.

### 4. Modalities, Schedule and Logistics

**Modalities:** Modalities: The meeting will proceed according to the modalities outlined in the Permanent Council's decision PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002.

**Schedule:** The SHDM will start with the opening session on Monday, 26 June, at 13:00. This session will feature opening remarks from the representatives of the 2023 OSCE Chairpersonship of North Macedonia and the ODIHR. These will be followed by keynote and introductory addresses from invited experts, focusing on the meeting's topic. Due to time constraints, no other statements are foreseen during the opening session.

Subsequently, three working sessions, each focusing on a specific topic as detailed in the meeting agenda, will take place. Each working session will begin with remarks from invited experts, intended to introduce the topic of the session. These remarks will be followed by a discussion from the floor. All participants will have the opportunity to request the floor during these working sessions.

The closing session will start on Tuesday, 27 June, at 16:30. During this session, the moderators of the three working sessions will present their reports. There will then be an opportunity for delegations of participating States to express their comments. Finally, the representatives of the ODIHR and the OSCE Chairpersonship will deliver their closing remarks. Only the delegations of participating States will have the speaking opportunity during this closing session.

The meeting will conclude on Tuesday, 27 June at 17.30.

**Interpretation:** Simultaneous interpretation will be available in the six official OSCE languages: English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish.



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**Guidelines for the debate:** The objective is to foster a dynamic and engaging discussion built upon keynote speeches, contributions from panelists, background information, and written statements distributed before or during the SHDM. For details regarding the topics and panel composition for each session, please consult the agenda and annotated agenda at [https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_3\\_2023](https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_3_2023).

The moderators will ensure participants engage in a constructive debate designed to achieve the meeting's objectives, enhance the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments, and formulate recommendations towards that goal.

Before speaking, participants should await the moderator's invitation to take the floor. Upon speaking, participants must introduce themselves by stating their first and last names as well as the name of the organization they represent. Participants are requested to keep their comments concise and focused, speaking within the time limit set by the moderator.

Interventions should remain relevant to the session's topic and include specific recommendations.

Participants are entitled to express their views freely, provided they respect human rights and the principle of non-discrimination. Participants are therefore asked to refrain from presenting or shouting slogans that may a.) provoke or disrupt order and safety, b.) likely to give rise to violence, c.) discriminate against others on the basis of their race, colour, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Maastricht 2003, Ljubljana 2005), d.) condone terrorism or the use of violence. Moderators are instructed to ensure discussions align with these principles.

**Right of reply:** At the conclusion of each working session and the closing plenary, delegations of participating States will have the opportunity to exercise their right of reply. Delegations of participating States intending to use this right should communicate their intent to the ODIHR staff situated behind the head table well before the session's end to ensure sufficient time allocation. Please note that each participating State delegation is entitled to exercise one right of reply per session.

**Distribution of documents:** All registered participants attending the SHDM can submit documents for distribution by sending them (up to a maximum of 3 pages in length) to the Document Distribution Centre at [documents@osce.org](mailto:documents@osce.org).

When submitting documents, participants should specify whether these are intended for distribution or solely to facilitate interpretation.



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Documents submitted for distribution will be made accessible to all meeting participants at <https://meetings.odihr.pl/resources>.

Please note that there are no document translation services available.

**Filming in plenary hall:** Filming with cameras and video cameras will be exclusively permitted for accredited journalists and only during the opening and closing sessions. All other audio-visual recordings within the plenary are not permitted, unless explicit consent has been obtained from the individuals being filmed.

**Livestreaming:** Livestreams will be available in both English and Russian on the event website.

### **Measures due to Covid-19 pandemic:**

#### **a) Requirements for entry into Austria**

Currently, there are no specific COVID-19 related restrictions on entering Austria.

For the most recent updates on limitations within Austria, applicable in various settings, please visit: <https://www.sozialministerium.at/en/Coronavirus/Information-in-English.html>.

#### **b) Measures at event venue**

At present, there are no specific limitations at the event venue.

However, individuals entering the event venue are encouraged to wear an FFP2 mask over their mouth and nose for their safety and the safety of others.



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### **II. INFORMATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY**

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increased openness in OSCE activities and for expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV, the participating States agreed to facilitate during OSCE meetings “informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and NGOs”.

As per Chapter IV, paragraphs (15) and (16), of the Helsinki Document 1992, the provision of making “open to NGOs [...] human rights implementation meetings” does not apply to “persons or organizations which resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence.”

In line with these provisions, the OSCE welcomes participation by civil society organizations at the SHDM.

### **III. SIDE EVENTS**

Registered participants, including those representing civil society organizations, international organizations, governments and others, are invited to organize side events that align with the SHDM's primary topic. Side events serve to facilitate more informal discussions and provide an opportunity for participants to explore issues not fully addressed during the working sessions.

The role of ODIHR is to coordinate the organization of these side events and manage necessary venue arrangements. Participants have the option to book rooms dedicated for side events at no cost. However, organizers are responsible for all other aspects, including catering, presentations and technical facilities, interpretation, financing, and content management. The views expressed during the side events do not necessarily reflect the views of the OSCE.

Room bookings are organized on a 'first come, first served' basis and can be completed at <https://meetings.odihr.pl>.

For details on booking a side event, as well as to view the schedule and overview of side events, please visit the event's webpage at [https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_3\\_2023](https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_3_2023).



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### **IV. CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Meeting co-ordination:** Mr. Martin Toplišek, at [martin.toplisek@odihr.pl](mailto:martin.toplisek@odihr.pl)

**Programme enquiries:** Mr. Kishan Manocha, at [kishan.manocha@odihr.pl](mailto:kishan.manocha@odihr.pl)

**Side events & venue:** Ms. Aleksandra Lutostanska, at [aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl](mailto:aleksandra.lutostanska@odihr.pl)

**Registration, accreditation (badge collection), document distribution:** Ms. Paulina Wozniak, at [paulina.wozniak@odihr.pl](mailto:paulina.wozniak@odihr.pl)

**Other enquiries:** [hdmeetings@odihr.pl](mailto:hdmeetings@odihr.pl)