

# Human Rights Defenders World Summit 2018

## The Summit

29, 30, 31 October 2018  
Espace Niemeyer  
2 Place du Colonel Fabien, Paris

## Closing ceremony

31 October 2018  
Palais de Chaillot, Paris  
1 Place du Trocadéro

# Agenda



## Day 1 – October 29th

### 9:30 – 12:15

#### Opening ceremony / looking back and ahead (plenary) – The Dome

The United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) recognises the crucial role that civil society actors play in defending all human rights. HRDs are essential actors upholding freedoms and human rights across the world and supporting their rights and protecting the space in which they live and work is one of the most critical ways to guarantee human rights for all.

#### Speakers:

- Introduction by Alice Mogwe – Secretary General of International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Director of Botswana Ditshwanelo - Botswana Centre for Human Rights (Botswana)
- Panel of HRDs:
  - Bochra Belhaj Hmida – Individual Freedoms and Equality Committee, Tunisia
  - Kirill Koroteev – Human Rights Centre “Memorial”, Russia
  - Vilma Núñez de Escorcía – Nicaragüense de Derechos Humanos (CENIDH), Nicaragua
  - Henri Tiphagne – People’s Watch, India
- Stavros Lambrinidis, Special Representative of the European Union for Human Rights
- Michel Forst, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders

**Facilitator:** Nawal Maghaf, BBC.

- Keynote speech by Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Conclusion by Kumi Naidoo – Amnesty International Secretary General

### 12:30 – 13:15 Press conference – Room 1

#### Speakers:

- Panel of HRDs
- Andrew Anderson – Executive Director, Front Line Defenders

### 12:30 – 14:45 Lunch

### 14:45 – 16:45

#### Regional issues / challenges and priorities (parallel sessions)

Throughout the world, conflict and fear are increasingly used to spread violence, division and silence civil society. Countries are turning their backs on solidarity and justice. These parallel sessions will address the situation of HRDs within their different regional contexts and the specific issues they are facing.

#### AFRICA REGIONAL SESSION – ROOM 1

#### Speakers:

- Asan Juma – HRD, Access for All, South Sudan
- Judith Ndukwu – HRD, Prisma Groep, Nigeria
- Remy Ngoy Lumbu, Special Rapporteur on HRDs at African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights
- Jonas Sibanyoni, Commissioner at the South Africa Human Rights Commission

**Facilitator:** Hassan Shire, Executive Director of the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (DefendDefenders)

**Rapporteur:** Pédan Marthe Coulibaly – HRD, Ivorian Coalition of Human Rights Defenders, Ivory Coast.

#### AMERICAS REGIONAL SESSION – ROOM 3

#### Speakers:

- Aura Lolita Chávez Ixaquic – HRD, Council of Kiché’s Peoples, Guatemala
- Eva Lewis – HRD, The I Project, United States of America
- Policarpo Sánchez Rodríguez – HRD, Federación de Comunidades Nativas del Ucayali y Afluentes, Peru
- Paulo Abrão, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States (IACHR/OAS)

**Facilitator:** Gustavo Castro – HRD, Otros Mundos Chiapas, Mexico

**Rapporteur:** Noira Candelo Riascos – HRD, Asociación de Mujeres Afrocolombianas Emprendedoras Asomamiwata, Colombia

#### ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGIONAL SESSION – ROOM 2

#### Speakers:

- Adilur Rahman Khan – HRD, Odhikar, Bangladesh
- Cristina Palabay – HRD, Karapatan, Philippines
- Shallah Shaiq – HRD, Heela Organization, Afghanistan
- Sopheap Chak – HRD, Cambodian Center for Human Rights, Cambodia
- Roberto Eugenio T. Cadiz, National Commissioner for Human Rights in Philippines

**Facilitator:** Sejin Kim, FORUM-ASIA

**Rapporteur:** Pranom (Bee) Somwong – HRD, Protection International, Thailand

#### EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL SESSION – THE DOME

#### Speakers:

- Nigina Bakhrieva – HRD, Nota Bene, Tajikistan
- Sophie Beau – HRD, SOS Méditerranée, France
- Raci Bilici – HRD, Human Rights Association (IHD), Turkey
- András Kádár – HRD, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Hungary
- Irina Maslova – HRD, Silver Rose, Russia
- Oleksandra Matviichuk – HRD, Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine

**Facilitator:** Matthew Caruana Galizia – HRD, Journalist, Malta

**Rapporteur:** Nurcan Baysal – HRD, Journalist, Turkey

#### MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGIONAL SESSION – ROOM 4

#### Speakers:

- Maria Al Abdeh – HRD, Women Now For Development, Syria
- Souhayr Belhassen – Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders, Tunisia
- Nassera Dutour – HRD, Collectif de familles de disparus en Algérie, France / Algeria
- Mohammed Hachemaoui, Algeria
- Bochra Belhaj Hmida – HRD, Individual Freedoms and Equality Committee, Tunisia
- Mahjoubia Hror – HRD, Morocco (TBC)
- Khalid Ibrahim – HRD, Gulf Centre for Human Rights, Iraq
- Khaled Abol Naga – HRD, Artist, Egypt
- Khammar (Driss) El Yazami – Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders, Morocco
- Camille Schmall, CEDREF, France

**Facilitator:** Khammar (Driss) El Yazami – Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders, Morocco

**Rapporteur:** Souhayr Belhassen – Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders, Tunisia

### 16:45 – 17:15 Break

### 17:15 – 18:30

#### Protecting Human Rights Defenders (plenary) – The Dome

Over the past twenty years, the world of support for HRDs has expanded profoundly and institutional space has been created to address HRD issues. This session will assess the effectiveness of protection mechanisms for HRDs at regional and international levels. Reporting from regional sessions and Q&A with HRDs and the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders.

#### Speakers:

- Nurcan Baysal – HRD, Journalist, Turkey
- Souhayr Belhassen – HRD, Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders, Tunisia
- Pédan Marthe Coulibaly – HRD, Ivorian Coalition of Human Rights Defenders, Ivory Coast.
- Noira Candelo Riascos – HRD, Asociación de Mujeres Afrocolombianas Emprendedoras Asomamiwata, Colombia
- Pranom (Bee) Somwong – HRD, Protection International, Thailand
- Michel Forst, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of HRDs

**Facilitator:** Chiara Adamo – Head of Unit “Gender, Human Rights and Democratic Governance”, DG DEVCO at European Commission

### 19:30 – 21:30 Dinner with HRDs delegation

## Day 2 – October 30th

### 9:00 – 10:00 Setting the scene (plenary) – The Dome

Twenty years since the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, despite the incredible expansion of human rights work, the increase in numbers of HRDs working around the world and their unprecedented achievements in some of the darkest corners, HRDs are increasingly the targets of attacks, harassment, intimidation, surveillance, censorship, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances and even killings - just for standing up for what is right. Testimonies of three HRDs.

#### Speakers:

- Maria Munir – HRD, Stonewall, United Kingdom
- Anielle Franco – HRD, Brazil
- Mudawi Ibrahim Adam – HRD, Sudan Social Development Organization, Sudan

**Facilitator:** Alice Mogwe – HRD, Secretary General of International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Director of Botswana Ditshwanelo - Botswana Centre for Human Rights, Botswana

### 10:00 – 10:30 Break

### 10:30 – 12:30

#### Building strategies for the future (morning parallel sessions)

#### Killings and violent repression of HRDs in the context of land rights, environmental rights & indigenous peoples' rights: Actual situation and main issues for next 20 years. - The Dome

Since the adoption of the UN declaration on HRDs, an estimated 3,500 HRDs have been killed. Of those killed in 2017, 67% were engaged in the defence of land, environmental and indigenous peoples' rights. By sharing the experiences of HRDs, this session will examine the root causes of killings and identify which issues need to be addressed in any strategy to achieve change and ensure effective action at the national and international levels to protect HRDs.

#### Speakers:

- Claudia Samayoa – HRD, Unit for the Protection of Defenders of Human Rights (UDEFEQUA), Guatemala
- Agnes Callamard, United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
- Geovani Krenak – HRD, Krenak People, Brazil
- Sibusiso Zikode – HRD, Shack Dwellers Association of South Africa (Abahlali baseMjondolo Movement), South Africa

**Facilitator:** Cristina Palabay, HRD, Karapatan, Philippines

**Rapporteur:** Sibusiso Zikode – HRD, Shack Dwellers Association of South Africa (Abahlali baseMjondolo Movement), South Africa

#### Making our space great again: Addressing shrinking space, restrictive laws and restrictions on funding. Actual situation and main issues for next 20 years – Room 1

Human rights non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in many parts of the world are today facing unprecedented threats to their existence as a result of increasingly repressive legal and policy frameworks in their country, often referred to as the 'closing' or 'shrinking' space for civil society. This session aims at providing an opportunity for HRDs to give a brief overview of the main restrictions they face in their country, how it affected civil society organisations' capabilities to work and how they expect the situation will develop in the future. Beyond "setting the scene" and discussing the actual situation and main issues, the session will also aim at mapping counter-strategies to be developed during the afternoon session.

#### Speakers:

- Rasul Jafarov – HRD, Human Rights Club, Azerbaijan
- Adilur Rahman Khan – HRD, Odhikar, Bangladesh
- Nedhal AlSalman – HRD, Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, Bahrain
- Clément Nyaletsossi Voule, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association
- Yared Hailemariam – HRD, Association for Human Rights in Ethiopia, Ethiopia

**Facilitator:** Henri Tiphagne – HRD, People's Watch, India

**Rapporteur** to be confirmed

#### Winning with hope: how to talk about human rights and change hearts and minds in the current context - Room 3

Governments are putting the human rights movement on the defensive by questioning the motives of the people who defend human rights and putting forward policies that force us to defend established positions rather than

move forward. We need strong new narratives to shift the debate. With the support of communications experts, the session will go back to basics and agree on what the important things are that we want our audiences to know.

**Speakers and Rapporteur** to be confirmed

**Facilitator:** Thomas Coombes – Amnesty International

#### Women Human Rights Defenders: Understanding our realities and imagining the future - Room 4

The goal of this session is to create a space for exchange between Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) working in different regions and contexts that allows building an analysis of the current challenges in advancing their agendas, their protection but also open the space for sharing positive and successful experiences on that regard. The session will also develop concrete suggestions, demands to the States and to regional, international human rights mechanisms, social movements and human rights organizations to advance in the realization of human rights, and protection mechanisms that take into account WHRDs' voices and needs.

#### Speakers:

- Phylesha Brown-Acton – HRD, Asia Pacific Transgender Network, New Zealand
- Lydia Alpizar, Costa Rica/Mexico
- Naghma Iqtidar – HRD, Pakistan
- Phumi Mtetwa – HRD, Just Associates, South Africa
- Georgina Orellano – HRD, Asociación de Mujeres Meretrices de la Argentina, Argentina

**Facilitator:** Cynthia Rothschild, International consultant on WHRDs and Verónica Vidal Degiorgis – AWID

**Rapporteur:** Marusia Lopez, Just Associates (JASS)

### 12:30 – 14:30 Lunch

### 14:30 – 16:00

#### Building strategies for the future (afternoon parallel sessions)

#### Killings and violent repression of HRDs in the context of land rights, environmental rights & indigenous peoples' rights: Strategies for the next 20 years – The Dome

The morning session looks at the general context and the key issues facing HRDs over the last twenty years. This session will build on that work by identifying those strategies which have worked well and also those strategies which were unsuccessful in responding to these issues and why

#### Speakers:

- Leticio Datuwata – HRD, MPPM, Philippines
- Sukhgerel Dugersuren – HRD, OT Watch, Mongolia
- Donny Reyes – HRD, La Asociación LGTB Arcoiris, Honduras
- Ana Zbona, Business and Human Rights Resource Center, UK

**Facilitator:** Cristina Palabay – HRD, Karapatan, Philippines

**Rapporteur:** Sibusiso Zikode – HRD, Shack Dwellers Association of South Africa (Abahlali baseMjondolo Movement), South Africa

#### Making our space great again: Addressing shrinking space, restrictive laws and restrictions on funding. Building protection strategies for the next 20 years – Room 1

This session will draw up from the morning session and discuss lessons learned from counter and protection strategies implemented to challenge the systematic shrinking space and legal crackdown on CSOs worldwide. It will also aim at empowering HRDs to be resilient and continue their essential human rights work in closing environments by identifying what should be the key elements of successful strategies to address these restrictions in the future.

#### Speakers:

- Ellecer Carlos – HRD, In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement (iDEFEND), Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA), Philippines
- Hina Jilani – HRD, President of OMCT, Pakistan
- András Kádár – HRD, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Hungary
- Mohamed Ali Mossaad – HRD, African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies, Sudan
- Sandra Lendenmann – Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Facilitator:** Henri Tiphagne – HRD, People's Watch, India

**Rapporteur** to be confirmed

## Day 2 – October 30st

### Winning with hope: how to talk about human rights and change hearts and minds in the current context – Room 3

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**Rapporteur:** Marusia Lopez, Just Associates (JASS)

### 16:00 – 16:30 Break

### 16:30 – 18:30 Solidarity networks (plenary) – The Dome

Regional and international solidarity has supported HRDs in amplifying voices, building campaigns, resource mobilisation and urgent actions. HRDs networks have been instrumental in mobilising strategies for resistance worldwide. While celebrating their work, this session will look at the current challenges in sustaining momentum and innovating for new realities.

**Speakers:**

- Hina Jilani – HRD, President of OMCT, Pakistan
- Miriam Miranda – HRD, IM-defensoras, Honduras
- Cindy Clark, AWID Co-Executive Director
- Ana Zbona, Business and Human Rights Center, UK
- Iva Dobichina - OSF

**Facilitator:** Phil Lynch, Director of International Service for Human Rights

### 19:30 – 21:30 Public event at “Bourse du Travail”

## Day 3 – October 31st

### 9:30 - 12:00

#### Discussion and adoption of the action plan (plenary) – The Dome

### 9:30 – 10:00: Reporting back from Day 2

**Facilitator:** Gerald Staberock, Secretary General, OMCT

### 10:00 – 10:30: Break

### 10:30- 12:00

#### Presentation, discussion and adoption of the Action Plan

**Facilitator:** Gerald Staberock, Secretary General, OMCT

### 14:00 – 15:00 Public visibility action

Stunt at Parvis des Droits de l'Homme – Paris

### 16:00 – 18:30 Closing ceremony at Palais de Chaillot

The closing ceremony will provide the HRDs with the opportunity to share the outcomes of their summit with high-level representatives of international institutions and governments.

**Speakers:**

- Welcoming by Didier Deschamps – Director of Palais de Chaillot, and Anne Hidalgo – Mayor of Paris
- Panel of HRDs presenting the outcomes of the summit
- Representative of the French government (TBC)
- Deputy Foreign Minister, Norway (TBC)
- Other representatives of world governments (TBC)
- Final words from HRDs

**Facilitator:** Sylvie Brigot Vilain, Director Amnesty International France.

**Singers / Musicians:**

- Christina Daletka – Classical music singer
- Sarah Nemtanu, first violin – French National Orchestra
- Greta Zucconi – Acappella singer

### 19:00 – 21:00 Reception at Palais de Chaillot

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