

Friday 24 May 2013

**Morning (09:00-12:30)**

ICEC (Lütfi Kırdar International Convention & Exhibition Centre)

**09:00-10:30**

**Panel 1. Individual liberties, equal rights for all and their role in the strengthening of the Rule of Law**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Marmara Room

Moderator: Dan Van Raemdonck, *FIDH Vice President (Belgium)*

**Introductory addresses**

- Religion, the public sphere and the Rule of Law, Asma Jahangiri, FIDH Vice President (Pakistan)
- Women driving transition: for what rights? Sophie Bessis, FIDH Deputy Secretary General (Tunisia/France)
- Minority rights: universalism or communitarianism? Nancy Yanez Fuenzalida, Observatorio Ciudadano (Chile)

**Debate, with presentations from the floor**

- Strategies to defend minorities in Egypt (EIPR)
- Litigation for Roma and Travellers' rights in Belgium (LDH)
- Discriminatory governance in Mauritania (AMDH)

**10:30-10:45 / Coffee Break**

**10:45-12:30 / Participants split into three workshops to discuss experiences on building democracy**

**FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1**

**Ensuring respect of freedom of thought, conscience and religion**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Turkish*

Dolmabahçe A Room

Moderator: Haris Azhar, *Coordinator of Kontras (Indonesia)*

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Presentations:

- Religion and the public sphere in the USA (CCR)
- Freedom of expression and religion (LDH, France)
- Religion and conflict in the two Sudans (ACJPS)
- Freedom of religion and laicism in Turkey, Prof. Dr. Bekir Berat Özipek, Lecturer, International Relations Department, İstanbul Commerce University

**FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 2**

**Women as drivers of transition**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Marmara Room

Moderator: Guissou Jahangiri, *Director of Armanshahr/OpenAsia (Afghanistan)*

Presentations:

- Women's representation in the peace process in Turkey, İlknur Üstün (Women's Coalition, Turkey)
- Women's participation in transition institutions in Tunisia (ATFD, Tunisia)
- Women's access to justice in Guatemala (Guatemala)
- How to work with conservative sections of society to promote women's rights in Ireland (FLAC)

**FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 3**

**Promoting the rights of minorities and fighting discrimination: the way forward**

Interpretation: *English, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Dolmabahçe B Room

Moderator: Alice Mogwe, *Director of Ditswanhelo (Botswana)*

Presentations:

- Promoting the rights of Roma people in Eastern Europe (ADC Memorial, Russia)
- Democracy and Plurilingualism: the Turkish Experience, Levent Korkut, Member of the Steering Committee of Human Rights Joint Platform (IHOP, Turkey)
- The experience of indigenous people's rights in Ecuador (INREDH)
- How to promote LGBT rights in Senegal (LSDH)

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**Afternoon (14:00-18:30)**

ICEC (Lütfi Kırdar International Convention & Exhibition Centre)

**14:00-15:30**

**Panel 2. The role of civil society: legal framework, partnerships for action**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Marmara Room

Moderator: Karim Lahidji, *FIDH Vice President (Iran)*

**Introductory addresses**

- What legitimacy for limits to freedom of expression in a democratic society?, Vincent Berger, Former juriconsult with the European Court of Human Rights (France)
- The experience of trade unions on alliances and partnerships, Alison Tate, Director for External Relations, International Trade Union Confederation - ITUC (Australia)
- Exposing gongos or (un)civil society, Adilur Rahman Khan, Secretary of Odhikar (Bangladesh)

**Debate, with presentations from the floor**

- Freedom of expression in the US (CCR)
- The experience of alliances concerning Uzbekistan (Fiery Hearts Club)

**15:30-15:45 / Coffee Break**

**15:45-17:15 / Participants split into two workshops to exchange about concrete experiences on building democracy**

**FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1**

**Ensuring respect of freedom of expression**

Interpretation: *English, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Marmara Room

Moderator: Sheila Nabachwa Muwanga, *FHRI (Uganda)*

Presentations:

- When IT companies serve censorship: Nokia in Iran (DHRC)
- The experience of GNI/Google in China (HRIC)
- Freedom of expression and film broadcasting (Human Rights Movement Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan)
- The fight against terrorism and freedom of expression in Turkey, Fikret İlkiz, Bianet Legal Advisor (Turkey)

Friday 24 May 2013

**FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 2**

**New tools, new partnerships and the promotion of convergences for universal rights**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Turkish*

Dolmabahçe B Room

Moderator: Ezzedin El Asbahi, *HRITC, (Yemen)*

Experiences presented notably by:

- Alliances with social movements (Justiça Global, Brazil)
- Using social networks to document human rights violations (Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, SCM)
- Using social networks for alerts and advocacy in Bahrain (BCHR)
- The role and responsibility of the media during transition, Nadire Mater, Chair of Bianet (Turkey)

**17:15-17:30 / Break**

**17:30-18:30**

**Forum closing session highlighting the main lessons learned from the Forum**

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

Marmara Room

- H.E Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey
- Driss El Yazami, President of the National Human Rights Council (Morocco)
- Nazan Üstündağ, Associate Professor of Boğaziçi University
- Souhayr Belhassen, FIDH President
- Şebnem Korur Fincancı, Chair of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT)

The program is available at



FIDH 38<sup>th</sup> Congress  
**POLITICAL TRANSITION FROM A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES**

Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Centre  
**23 - 24 MAY 2013**

fidh



## Political Transition From a Human Rights Perspective: Experiences and Challenges

This Forum takes place within the framework of FIDH's International Congress, a major event, bringing together human rights defenders from FIDH's 164 member organisations and other partners from all over the world, every three years.

FIDH has chosen to hold this event in Turkey, and dedicate it to the issue of viewing political transition from a human rights perspective. Turkey is currently at a crossroads, with peace negotiations under way with representatives of the Kurdish people, after many years of bloody conflict. Turkey is also closely observed by governments in Middle East and North Africa, who have themselves only recently assumed power and are currently undergoing the process of political transition.

Thursday 23 May 2013

The Forum will foster exchange between human rights defenders and organisations from over one hundred countries. Participants will debate challenging impunity, strengthening justice, supporting institutions and NGOs, the place of religion, the role of women as drivers for transition, the rights of minorities, the promotion of economic and social rights, and the role of private businesses and international financial institutions in transition periods. Alliances will be developed and strategies for action identified on these key challenges.

### Morning (09:00-12:00)

#### Plenary session

Cemal Reşit Rey Concert Hall

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Kurdish, Russian, Spanish, Turkish*

### 08:00 / Registration

#### 09:00-11:00 / Opening session

- Beşir Atalay, *Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey*
  - Souhayr Belhassen, *President, FIDH*
  - Öztürk Türkdoğan, *Chair, IHD, Turkey*
  - Sang-Hyun Song, *President, International Criminal Court*
  - Shirin Ebadi, *Nobel Peace Laureate (Iran)*
  - Stavros Lambrinidis, *European Union Special Representative for Human Rights*
- Moderator: Feray Salman, *General Coordinator, IHOP (Turkey)*

#### 11:00-12:00 / New power balance: actors for the future and challenges ahead

- Ahmet Insel, *Political Scientist, Galatasaray University, Istanbul*
- Fatou Bensouda, *Prosecutor, International Criminal Court*

Thursday 23 May 2013

### Panel 1. Institutional reforms as a condition for the Rule of Law

Interpretation: *Arabic, French, English, Spanish, Turkish, Russian*  
Marmara Room

#### SESSION 1

##### Institutional reforms for the Rule of Law

Moderator: Mabassa Fall, *FIDH Permanent Representative to the African Union (Senegal)*

#### 14:30-15:15 / Introductory addresses

- Priorities for establishing long-lasting Rule of Law in countries in transition, Luis Guillermo Perez Casas, *FIDH Secretary General (Colombia)*
- What leverages there are in encouraging reforms in repressive contexts, Toleskan Ismailova, *Chairperson of Human Rights Movement Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan*
- Elections during transition: the Tunisian experience, Kamel Jendoubi, *Former President of the High Authority for Elections (Tunisia)*

#### 15:15-16:00 / Debate, with presentations from the floor:

- Strategies for working under severe restrictions in Belarus (Viasna)
- How to support forces for change inside China (HRIC)
- The role of sanctions in the transition in Zimbabwe (Zimrights)

#### 16:00-16:15 / Coffee break

#### SESSION 2

##### Reform of Justice for the Rule of Law

Moderator: Amina Bouayach, *FIDH Vice President (Morocco)*

#### 16:15-17:00 / Introductory addresses

- From transitional justice to justice in transition, Sidiki Kaba, *FIDH Honorary President (Senegal)*
- What guarantees for an independent judiciary?, Gaston Chillier, *Director, CELS (Argentina)*
- How to reform the security sector, Navaz Kotwal, *Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (India)*

#### 17:00-18:30 / Debate, with presentations from the floor

- Transition in Peru, obstacles and good practices (APRODEH)
- Transitional Justice in Tunisia: overview and perspectives (FIDH Tunis)

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**Afternoon (14:30-18:30) Two Parallel panel sessions**  
ICEC (Lütfi Kırdar International Convention & Exhibition Centre)

### Panel 2. Economic and social rights, and the role of economic and financial actors

Interpretation: *French, English, Spanish, Turkish, Arabic*  
Dolmabahçe Room

#### SESSION 1

##### Economic and social rights in political transition

Moderator: Debbie Stothard, *FIDH Deputy Secretary General (Malaysia/Burma)*

#### 14:30-15:15 / Introductory addresses

- Social protest as a force for change, Cai Chongguo, *Deputy Director, China Labour Bulletin (China)*
- Human rights, a tool for social demands, Jacob van Garderen, *National Director, Lawyers for Human Rights (South Africa)*
- The impact of the economic and financial crisis in Europe on human rights and democracy, Dimitris Christopoulos, *Vice-Chairperson, Hellenic League for Human Rights (Greece)*

#### 15:15-15:45 / Debate, with presentations from the floor

- Ecuador: the role of peasants and indigenous people in the transition (CEDHU)
- How to promote the economic and social rights of migrants in Russia (ADC Memorial)

#### 15:45-16:00 / Coffee break

#### SESSION 2

##### The role of economic and financial actors during political transition

Moderator: Yusuf Alataş, *FIDH Vice President (Turkey)*

#### 16:00-16:30 / Introductory addresses

- Foreign investments and international trade: obstacle or force for political transition, Olivier de Schutter, *United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (Belgium)*
- Bringing corporations to account, Alirio Uribe, *Colectivo de Abogados (Colombia)*

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#### 16:30-17:00 / Debate, with presentations from the floor

- Land-grabbing in Cambodia and link with EU trade preferences (LICADHO)
- Kenya and economic partnership agreements (KHRC)
- The Amesys case (FIDH Litigation Action Group)

#### 17:00-18:30 / Participants split into two functional workshops

#### FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1

##### The human rights movement and marginalised or vulnerable communities

Interpretation: *Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Turkish*

Dolmabahçe B Room

Moderator: Raji Sourani, *FIDH Vice President (Palestine)*

#### Experiences:

- Mobilisation strategy against a hydropower plant project in Tajikistan (BHRRL)
- Forest exploitation and the rights of local communities in Congo Brazzaville (OCDH)

#### FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 2

##### Rights in times of economic and financial crisis: which human rights response?

*English only*

Dolmabahçe A Room

Moderator: Meriç Özgüneş, *Hellenic League for Human rights*

#### Experiences:

- Key human rights violations resulting from austerity policies, FLAC (Ireland) and APDHE (Spain)
  - Response from the human rights movement, ITUC and LDH (Belgium)
  - Looking back at the Argentinean debt crisis (CELS)
  - What alliances to develop (LDL, Quebec)
- Concluding remarks: Olivier de Schutter