

Social Media: Challenges and Ways to Promote Freedoms and Protect Activists

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
QATAR-DOHA

16-17 FEBRUARY 2020

Day One (16 February 2020)

09.00-10.00

Session 1: Opening plenary

“Social Media: Challenges and Ways to Promote Freedoms and Protect Human Rights Defenders and Professional Contents Creators”

Speakers:

H.E. Mr. Ali bin Samikh al Marri, President of the National Human Rights Committee of Qatar, Vice-President and Secretary General of GANHRI.

H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR, **(Video Address)**

H.E. Ms. Georgette Gagnon, Director Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR.

H.E. Mr. Eamon Gilmore, European Union Special Representative for Human Rights.

H.E. Mr. Younes Mjahed, President of the International Federation of Journalists, IFJ.

H.E. Mr. Carlos Negret Mosquera, President of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, GANHRI.

10.00-10.30

Coffee Break

10.30-12.30

Session 2: Interactive plenary debate

“Creating an enabling environment for online civic space: Legal and institutional perspectives”

Moderator: Mr. Mohammad Ali Alnsour, Chief Middle East and North Africa Section, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Speakers:

Mr. Joe Cannataci, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, UN, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Mr. Gilles de Kerchove, European Union Counter – Terrorism Coordinator, EU, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Ms. Alessandra Moretti, Member of the European Parliament, EP, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Ms. Olena Cherniavska, Senior Advisor, OSCE office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Mr. Peter Freitag, Deputy of the Journalists union Deutsche, Chairman of the Digital Expert Group, European Federation of Journalists, BERLIN, GERMANY

12.30-14.30

Lunch Break

14.30-16.00

Session 3: Interactive plenary debate

“Responses by social media companies to protect civic space”

Moderator: Ms. Eva Kaili, Chair of the Science and Technology Options Assessment Panel, European Parliament, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Speakers:

Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos, Former European Commissioner for Migration, GREECE

Ms. Shahed Al Hindi, Public Policy Manager, Human Rights, MENA, Facebook, Dubai, Arab Emirates

Mr. Peter Micek, General Counsel, Access Now, NEW YORK, USA

Ms. Dragana Kaurin, Executive Director of Localization Lab, BOSNIA, HERZEGOVINA

Mr. Anthony Bellanger, General Secretary – International Federation of Journalists, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

16.00-18.30

Parallel working groups

Participants will attend one of the following working groups:

Working Group A: Legislative frameworks regulating freedom of expression and social media

Chairperson: Ms. Dima Jweihan, International Centre for Not-for Profit Law, AMMAN, JORDAN

Rapporteur: Ms. Ines Osman, MENA Rights Group, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Speakers:

Mr. Tim Dawson, Chair of International Federation of Journalist Surveillance of journalists group, IFJ, LONDON, UK

Mr. Simon Adam, Executive Director of Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, NEW YORK, USA

Mr. Nasser Abu Bakar, President of Palestinian Journalists Syndicate, RAMALLAH, PALESTINE

Mr. Aymen Zaghdou, Legal Adviser Mena, Article 19, LONDON, UK

Mr. Nidal Mansour, Executive President of the Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists, AMMAN, JORDAN

Working Group B: Human rights implications of blocking access to communications and social media

Chairperson: Mr. Branislav Marelic, National Institute for Human Rights of Chile, SANTIAGO, CHILE

Rapporteur: Ms. Yasmine Abou Mansour, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Speakers:

Mr. Gustavo Gomez, Executive director OF OBSERVACOM, MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

Ms. Christy Hoffman, Secretary General of Union Network International UNI, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Mr. Adam Shapiro, Head of Visibility and communications in Frontline Defenders, DUBLIN, IRELAND

Ms. Stephanie Chaban, Regional Advisor on gender equality and women's empowerment, ESCWA Centre for Women, Beirut, Lebanon

20.00 Dinner

Day Two (17 February 2020)

9.00-11.00 **Parallel working groups**

Participants will attend one of the following working groups:

Working Group C: Regulating Big Tech – Transparency and accountability in content moderation

Chairperson: Ms. Nazila Ghanea, Professor in University of Oxford, UNITED KINGDOM

Rapporteur: Ms. Iris de Villars, Head of Tech Desk, Reporters Without Borders, PARIS, FRANCE

Speakers:

Mr. Fernand de Varennes, UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issue, UN, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Ms. Anne- Cécile Robert, Director of international relations in “Le Monde Diplomatique”, PARIS, FRANCE

Mr. Jerald Joseph Jerald S JOSEPH, Commissioner of National Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Ms. Jillian York, Director for international Freedom of Expression, Electronic Frontier Foundation, SAN FRANCISCO, USA

Ms. Matilda Sisättö, Senior Political Advisor Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, EU, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Working Group D: Can established news platforms survive social media?

Chairperson: Ms. Dominique Pradalié, Secretary General of the National Journalists Union, PARIS, FRANCE

Rapporteur: Mr. Jeremy Dear, Deputy General Secretary in International Federation of Journalists, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Speakers:

Mr. Larry Goldbetter, President of National Writers's Union, NEW YORK, USA

Ms. Elena Perotti, Executive Director, Media Policy and Public Affaire WAN-IFRA, PARIS, FRANCE

Mr. Paul Murphy, CEO of Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance MEAA, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

Ms. Zuliana Lainez, Chair of the IFJ regional group in Latin America and General Secretary of the National Association of Journalists of Peru, PERU

11.00-11.30

Coffee Break

11.30-13:30

Session 4: Interactive plenary debate

“Identification of future activities to broaden civic space in the social media”

Chairperson: Mr. Livingstone Sewanyana, UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, UN, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Speakers:

Ms. Lena Slachmuis, Senior Vice President, Programs Search for Common Ground, NEW YORK, USA

Ms. Rita Izsak-Ndiay, Rapporteur of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Ms. Nighat Dad, Executive Director of Digital Rights Foundation, ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

Mr. Martin O’Hanlon, President, CWA Canada, The media Union, Ottawa, Canada

13.30- 14.30

Session 5: Closing Remarks and Conclusions

Chaired by H.E. Ali bin Samikh al Marri, President of the National Human Rights Committee of Qatar.

14.30

Lunch Break

18.00

Tour visit

20.00

Dinner at the National Museum of Qatar