Beyond jargon: Reframing our communication on human rights

Tuesday 6 March 2018
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m,
room XXIII, Palais des Nations in Geneva

A human rights vision has shaped policies and laws over the past 70 years and helped improve the lives of millions of people.

Yet, that progress was not enough to prevent retrogression. In times of increased populism and scepticism, what can we do to make human rights popular again?

A conversation moderated by Imogen Foulkes
BBC Correspondent in Geneva

A snack will be served.

Speakers:

Kate Gilmore
United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Nils Muižnieks
Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Michael O’Flaherty
Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Lora Vidović
Ombudswoman of Croatia and Chair of ENNHRI (European Network of National Human Rights Institutions)

Florence Simbiri-Jaoko
Special Envoy of GANHRI (Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions)

Bruno Stagno Ugarte
Human Rights Watch Deputy Executive Director for Advocacy

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bit.ly/BeyondJargon
Florence Simbiri-Jaoko is Special Envoy of Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). She is a Kenyan lawyer and lecturer at the University of Nairobi, School of Law. Previously, she was the Chairperson of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights and the Secretary of GANHRI.

Kate Gilmore is United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights since 1 December 2015. Previously, she was Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director for Programmes with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Previously she was National Director of Amnesty International Australia and then Executive Deputy Secretary General of Amnesty International.


Nils Muižnieks is Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights since 1 April 2012. Previously, he was Chairman of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (2010-2012), Latvian minister responsible for social integration, anti-discrimination, minority rights, and civil society development (2002-2004), and Director of the Latvian Centre for Human Rights and Ethnic Studies (1994-2002).

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Michael O’Flaherty is Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights since 16 December 2015. Previously, he was Established Professor of Human Rights Law and Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway; Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; and member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (2004-2012).

Lora Vidović is the Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia and current Chair of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI). Previously, she worked as the Head of the UNICEF Office in Croatia and as Deputy Ombudswoman for Children.

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Imogen Foulkes, a British and Swiss national, is BBC’s correspondent in Geneva since 2004, and also writes on UN and diplomacy issues for Swissinfo.