

DRAFT PROGRAMME



6th FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS PLATFORM MEETING

24-26 April 2013

Messe Wien Exhibition & Congress Center
Messeplatz 1, 1020 Vienna



FRA

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS



INTRODUCTION

The Fundamental Rights Platform meeting is one of the major events of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). The meeting of the platform, the FRA network for cooperation with civil society, brings together some 200 participants in Vienna.

OBJECTIVES

The Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) meeting aims to:

- encourage a European debate on fundamental rights among different civil society organisations;
- facilitate knowledge and exchange of good practices among FRP participants;
- inform the work of the FRA about challenges and promising initiatives on the ground;
- create opportunities for networking and further cooperation between civil society, the FRA and other actors.

THEMES

The diversity of the FRP provides a unique opportunity to exchange ideas and to discuss important fundamental rights issues from different perspectives.

In addition to interactive discussions at 'The floor is yours' and working groups with FRA experts, the 6th FRP meeting will focus on two overarching themes, which will be explored in the plenary discussions:

- Fostering anti-discrimination policies – tools and measures available to civil society;
- Victims of hate crime: challenges and promising practices for victim support.

FORMAT

The two day event will consist of:

- **plenary discussions** with policy makers, experts and practitioners;
- **'The floor is yours'**: knowledge and promising practice exchange at thematic workshops hosted by FRP participants and guests;
- **thematic workshops** with the FRA.

The meeting will be dynamic and interactive, including a number of opportunities for all participants to contribute to the discussions and to shape their outcomes.

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WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL (OPTIONAL)

14.30 – 18.00 **OPEN DAY AT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AGENCY**
(Schwarzenbergplatz 11)

This year for the first time the FRA would like to invite all FRP participants to visit its premises in Vienna, get an up-close look at its work and explore possibilities for cooperation. FRA thematic area experts and project managers will be available the entire afternoon to inform you about the agency's work and to answer any questions you may have.

18.00 **INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER**
Drinks will be served in the atrium of the FRA premises

THURSDAY, 25 APRIL

09.00 – 09.30 **Registration and welcome coffee**

Plenary session I

Chair: **Friso Roscam Abbing**, Head of Communication Department, FRA

09.30 – 10.30 **WELCOME and INTRODUCTION**
Maija Sakslin, Chairperson of the Management Board, FRA

'Fundamental Rights Agency: stock-taking and looking ahead'
Morten Kjaerum, Director, FRA

Questions and answers

10.30 – 11.00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
European Rights and Citizenship Programme: opportunities for civil society

Kinga Göncz, Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur on Rights and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020)

Questions and answers

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30 – 13.00

PANEL DEBATE

Fostering anti-discrimination policies in the EU – tools and measures available to civil society

Panel debate with policy makers and experts, followed by a discussion with the audience

This panel will explore how equality policies can be improved in the on-going absence of an anti-discrimination directive extending beyond the area of employment. Reflecting on the prospects for the draft ‘horizontal’ directive, the panel of policymakers and representatives of civil society will examine alternative ways to improve equality policies, focusing in particular on how civil society can contribute to fostering antidiscrimination policies at both the EU and the national levels.

Panellists:

- **Raül Romeva i Rueda**, Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur on the Horizontal Anti-Discrimination Directive
- **Deaglán O’Briain**, Chair of the Social Questions Working Party for the Article 19 Directive, Council of the European Union
- **Lina Papamichalopoulou**, Head of Unit Non discrimination policies and Roma coordination, DG Justice, European Commission
- Civil society organisation

13.00 – 14.30

LUNCH

Plenary session II

14.30 – 15.00

SOCIAL RIGHTS – THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Presentation on the European Committee of Social Rights (ECSR) system of collective complaint

Luis Jimena Quesada, Chair of the European Committee of Social Rights, Council of Europe

Questions and answers

WORKSHOPS

14.30 – 18.00 THE FLOOR IS YOURS

As in past years, 'The floor is yours' invites participants to discuss ideas, projects or issues that are important to the fundamental rights debate in the EU.

18.30 EVENING RECEPTION

FRIDAY, 26 APRIL

Plenary session III

Chair: **Massimo Toschi**, Head of Sector National Human Rights Bodies and FRP-Civil Society

09.00 – 11.00 PANEL DEBATE

Victims of hate crime: challenges and promising practices for victim support

Evidence collected by the FRA, and others, show that hate crime is a daily reality throughout the EU. Such violence and crimes can be motivated by racism, xenophobia, religious intolerance or by a person's disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and other biases. Hate crime harms not only those targeted; it affects entire communities, and hence strikes at the heart of EU's commitments to democracy and the fundamental rights of equality and non-discrimination.

Civil society organisations are uniquely positioned to provide first-hand support for victims of bias motivated crimes and monitor the situation on the ground. They play a crucial role, helping to bridge victims of hate crime with relevant institutions, building their trust in the police as well as providing essential medical, psychological as well as legal counselling. This panel debate will highlight some of the promising practices in the field and invite participants to explore together, how institutions on the national as well as EU level can best support the efforts of civil society providing help to victims of hate crime.

Panellists:

- **Joanna Perry**, Hate Crime Officer, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), OSCE
- **Harald Kröger**, Liaison Officer for LGBT-Issues – Central Office for Crime Prevention – Criminal Investigation Department, Berlin Police Department, Germany
- **Lisbeth Garly Andersen**, Project leader, Danish Institute for Human Rights
- **Judith Sunderland**, Senior Researcher, Human Rights Watch
- **Joanna Goodey**, Head of Department Freedoms and Justice, FRA

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**

Workshops

11.30 – 13.00 **THEMATIC WORKSHOPS WITH THE FRA**

This session will focus on current FRA fundamental rights projects. In total, the FRA will hold 12 workshops and invite FRP participants to provide feedback on its ongoing activities, exploring mutual synergies and finding new opportunities for cooperation.

13.15 – 13.30 **FRP ADVISORY PANEL – what has been achieved so far and next steps**

Dominika Bychawska, Member of the FRP Advisory Panel

Plenary session IV

13.30 – 13.45 **CLOSING REMARKS**
Morten Kjaerum, Director, FRA

13.45 **Lunch**

13.45 – 16.30 **Advisory Panel meeting**
(For Advisory Panel members only)



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