VOICES FROM CIVIL SOCIETY
Shaping Peace, Security and Stability Together

OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2026

2 December 2026
Lugano, Switzerland

CIVIC SOLIDARITY

# AGENDA

**8:00 - 9:00** — **Registration**

**9:00 - 9:05** — **Welcome Remarks**

Speakers

**Ignazio Cassis,** OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Federal Councillor and Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs *(time TBC)*

**Sybille Suter**, Swiss Helsinki Committee

**9:05- 9:45** — **Opening Session**

Speakers

**Arzu Geybulla,** Access Now (USA)

**Taciana Niadbaj,** PEN Belarus

**Kateryna Rashevska,** Regional Center for Human Rights (Ukraine)

Host

**Berenika Zeller,** Swiss Helsinki Committee

**10:15 - 12:30** — **A Tour of the OSCE Region**

Organised in a "speed dating" format

**Thematic Topics**

Political Prisoners & Civilian Detainees
Support for HRDs, and Environmental HRDS
Transnational Represssion
Peacebuilding

**Regional Groups**

Central Asia
Western Balkans

**Countries**

Armenia
Belarus
Georgia
Russia
Ukraine

**12:30 - 14:00** — **Lunch & Networking**

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**14:00 - 15:15** **Strengthening civic space at the OSCE**

Speaker — **Nadja Douglas,** German Institute for International Affairs

Panelists — **Michael Keating**, European Institute of Peace (Belgium)

**Mary Lawlor**, former UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders

**Márta Pardavi**, Hungarian Helsinki Committee

Moderator — **Laurent Goetschel**, Swisspeace

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**15:30 - 16:45** **Concurrent Sessions**

## Countering authoritarian narratives in the OSCE region

**Arsen Aubakirov,** REQUEST (Kazakhstan)

**Victoria Maladaeva,** Indigenous of Russia Foundation

**Baia Pataraia**, Union Sapari (Georgia)

**Jovana Spremo**, YUCOM (Serbia)

Moderator
**Jessica Ní Mhainín**, Index on Censorship (UK)

## Strengthening protection for HRDs and peace & environmental activists in the OSCE region

**Zsofia Farkas**, Minority Rights Group (Hungary)

**Murat Karypov,** Bir Duino (Kyrgyzstan)

**Vytis Jurkonis,** Freedom House (Lithuania)

**Maciej Nowicki**, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland)

Moderator
**Lisa Salza**, Amnesty International (Switzerland)

**17:00 - 18:15** **Closing Session**

Speakers
**Maria Dahle,** Human Rights House Foundation (Norway)

**Tetiana Pechonchyk,** HRC ZMINA (Ukraine)

Panelists
**Participating State representative 1**, *(invited)*

**Participating State representative 2,** *(invited)*

**Participating State representative 3,** *(invited)*

**Anu Juvonen**, Swiss Chairperson-in-Office's Special Representative on Civil Society

Moderator
**Stefan Schlegel**, Swiss Human Rights Institution

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**18:15 - 18:20** **Closing Remarks**

Speaker
**Oleksandra Romantsova**, Center for Civil Liberties & CSP Chair (Ukraine)

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**18:40 - 19:00** **Civil Society Solidarity Action**

More info

**Dave Elseroad**
Human Rights House Foundation
dave.elseroad@humanrightshouse.org

# A Tour of the OSCE Region
10:15 - 12:30

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| 9:45 - 10:15 | Set-up and Welcome |
| 10:15 - 10:30 | Round 1 |
| 10:35 - 10:50 | Round 2 |
| 10:55 - 11:10 | Round 3 |

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| 11:15 - 11:30 | Round 4 |
| 11:35 - 11:50 | Round 5 |
| 11:55 - 12:10 | Round 6 |
| 12:15 - 12:30 | Round 7 |

## Country Groups

**Group 1: Belarus**

Barys Zvozskau Belarusian Human Rights House, Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions, Belarusian Helsinki Committee, PEN Belarus

**Group 2: Georgia**

Georgian Young Lawyers' Association, Human Rights Centre, Rights Georgia, Sapari

**Group 3: Russia**

Agora, Civil Control, HRDC Memoria, SOVA Research Center, Public Verdict,

**Group 4: Russia** *(Indigenous Rights)*

Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Indigenous of Russial

**Group 5: Russia** *(LGBT+ Rights)*

Coming Out LGBT Group, Sphere Foundation

**Group 6: Ukraine (1)**

Human Rights Initiative, Institute Respublica, Media Initiative for Human Rights, Regional Center for Human Rights,

**Group 7: Ukraine (2)**

Almenda, East SOS, Regional Center for Human Rights

# Regional Groups

**Group 8: Central Asia (1)**

Bir Duino (Kyrgyzstan), Dignity (Kazakhstan), Turkmenistan Helsinki Fund

**Group 9: Central Asia (2)**

Bir Duino (Kyrgyzstan), Freedom Files, Human Rights Consulting Group (Kazakhstan),

**Group 10: South Caucasus**

Human Rights Club (Azerbaijan), Human Rights House Yerevan, Center for National & International Studies (Azerbaijan), Socioscope (Armenia)

**Group 11: Western Balkans**

Belgrade Center for Human Rights, Civic Initiatives (Serbia), Sarajevo Open Center, YUCOM (Serbia)

# Thematic Groups

**Group 12: Political Prisoners & Civilian Detainees**

Center for Civil Liberties (Ukraine), HRDC Memorial (Russia), Viasna (Belarus), ZMINA (Ukraine)

**Group 13: Support for Environmental Defenders and HRDs**

Center for Environment (Bosnia & Herzegovina), Freedom House (Lithuania), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland)

**Group 14 : Transnational Repression**

Access Now (USA), Index on Censorship (UK), Institute for Reporters' Freedom & Safety (Azerbaijan), Norwegian Helsinki Committee

**Group 15: Peacebuilding**

National Swiss Youth Council, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (Germany, Switzerland)