

fidh



PROGRAMME

Political Transition from a Human Rights Perspective: Experiences and Challenges

FORUM IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 38TH FIDH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
23 - 24 MAY 2013, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Thursday 23 May 2013

Morning (09:00-12:30) Plenary session

08:00 Participants' registration

09:00-11:00 Opening session

- Beşir Atalay, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey
- Souhayr Belhassen, FIDH President
- Öztürk Türkdoğan, Chair of the Human Rights Association (IHD)
- Abdou Diouf, Secretary-General of International Organization of La Francophonie (tbc)
- Sang-Hyun Song, President of the International Criminal Court
- Shirin Ebadi, Nobel Peace Prize (Iran)
- Stavros Lambridinis, European Union Special Representative for Human Rights

11:15-11:45 «New power balances: actors for the future and challenges ahead»

Ahmet Insel, Political scientist, Galatasaray University, Istanbul
Fatou Bensouda, International Criminal Court Prosecutor

11:45-12:30 Testimonies

Afternoon (14:30-18h30) Two Parallel panel sessions

PANEL 1. INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AS A CONDITION FOR THE RULE OF LAW

SESSION 1: Institutional reforms for the Rule of Law

Moderator: Mabassa Fall, FIDH Permanent Representative to the African Union

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)
- Which levers to encourage reforms in repressive contexts, Tolekan Ismailova, Chairperson of Human Rights Movement (Kyrgyzstan)
- Elections during transition: the experience of Tunisia, 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)
- Which guarantees for an independent judiciary?, Gaston Chillier, Director of 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 office in Tunis)
- Georgia: How to build an independent justice in times of transition (Human Rights Center)

PANEL 2. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS, AND THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ACTORS

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

15h45-16h: Coffee break

SESSION 2: The role of economic and financial actors during political transition

Moderator : Yusuf Alatas, FIDH Vice-President (Turkey)

16h00-16h30: Introductory addresses

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

16:30-17h00: Debate with presentations from the floor:

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

17.00-18h30 Participants split into two functional workshops

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1

The human rights movement and marginalised or vulnerable communities

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

Experiences:

- Mobilisation strategy against a hydro power 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)

Moderator: Meric Ozgunen, Hellenic League for Human Rights (Greece)

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 Argentinian debt crisis (CELS)
- Which alliances to develop (LDL, Quebec)
- Concluding remarks: Olivier de Schutter

Friday 24 May 2013

Morning (09:00-13:00)

9:00-10:30 Plenary Session

PANEL 1: INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES, EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL AND THEIR ROLE IN THE STRENGTHENING OF THE RULE OF LAW

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

Introductory addresses

- Religion, the public sphere and the rule of law, Asma Jahangir, FIDH Vice-President (Pakistan)
- Women drivers of transitions : for which 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) **tbc**
- Litigation for Roma rights in Belgium (LDH)
- Discriminatory governance in Mauritania (AMDH)

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45-13:00 Functional workshops

Participants split into three workshops to discuss experiences on building democracy.

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1

Ensuring respect of freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Moderator : Harris Azhar, Kontras (Indonesia)

Presentations:

- Religion and the public sphere in the USA (CCR)
- Freedom of expression and religion (EMHRN)
- Religion and conflict in the two Sudans (ACJPS)
- Freedom of religion and laicism in Turkey; Yilmaz Ensaroğlu (SETA)

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 2

Promoting women as drivers of transition

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

Presentations:

- Women's representation in the peace process in Turkey, Fatma Şahin, Ministry of Family and Social Affairs (Turkey) **tbc**

- Women's participation in transition institutions in Tunisia (ATFD)

- Guatemalan experience on women's access to justice (CALDH)

- Advancing women's rights in Ireland (CAJ or FLAC) **tbc**

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 3

How to promote the rights of minorities and fighting discrimination

Moderator : Alice Mogwe, Director of Ditswanhelo (Botswana)

Presentations:

- How to promote the rights of LGBT in Senegal (LSDH)

- Afro minorities in Latin America, speaker **tbc**

- Promoting the rights of Roma people in Eastern Europe (ADC Memorial, Russia)

- Democracy and Plurilinguism, Levent Korkut, Member of the Steering Committee of Human Rights Joint Platform (IHOP, Turkey)

Afternoon (14:30-19h00)

14:30-16:00 Plenary Session

PANEL 2: THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY: LEGAL FRAMEWORK, PARTNERSHIPS FOR ACTION

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

Introductory addresses

- What legitimacy for limits to freedom of expression in a democratic society?, speaker **tbc**
- The experience of trade unions on alliances and partnerships, Alison Tate, Director of External Relations, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- To expose gongos or (un)civil society, Adilur Rahman Khan, Secretary of Odhikar (Bangladesh) (**tbc**)

Debate, with presentations from the floor:

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

16:00-16:15 Coffee break

16:15-17:45 Functional workshops

Participants split into two workshops to exchange about concrete experiences on building democracy.

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 1

Ensuring respect of freedom of expression

Moderator: Sheila Nabachwa Muwanga, FHRI, Uganda

Presentations:

- When IT companies serve censorship: Nokia in Iran (DHRC)

- Freedom of expression and film broadcasting in Kyrgyzstan (Human Rights Movement)

- Fight against terrorism and freedom of expression in Turkey, Fikret Ilkiz, Bianet legal adviser (Turkey)

FUNCTIONAL WORKSHOP 2

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

Moderator: Ezzedin El Asbahi, (Yemen)

Presentations:

- Alliances with social movements (MNDH, Brazil)

- Using social networks to document human rights violations (Syrian center for media, SCM)

- Social networks as a tool to alert and mobilise in Bahrain (BCHR)

- Role and responsibilities of the media during transition, Nadire Mater, Chair of Bianet (Turkey)

- The experience of GNI/Google in China (HRIC)

17:45-18:00 Coffee break

Late afternoon (18:00-19:00)

18:00-19h00 Forum closing session

highlighting the main lessons learned from the Forum

- Driss El Yazami, President of the National Human Rights Council (Morocco)

- Leyla Zana, (Turkey) **tbc**

- Souhayr Belhassen, President of FIDH

- Şebnem Korur Fincancı, Chair of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT)

