



**Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting  
28 – 29 March 2022  
(Vienna)**

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE**

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES**

**1. Aim, dates and venue of the meeting**

According to the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002), each year, the Chairpersonship-in-Office organizes three informal Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings (SHDMs), in the framework of the OSCE Permanent Council, in order to discuss key substantive concerns raised at previous Human Dimension Meetings or Review Conferences. The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and, when required, other OSCE structures and institutions assist the Chairpersonship-in-Office in preparing the SHDMs.

The first Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) of 2022 will be held from **28 to 29 March** on “International co-operation to address violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law” in Vienna (Hofburg, Heldenplatz 1010 Vienna Wien, Austria).

The meeting is organized by the Polish OSCE Chairpersonship with the support of OSCE ODIHR.

During the meeting, recommendations for the OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions, including the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE executive structures, other inter-governmental organisations as well as civil society actors can be identified and addressed. Additional information relevant to the SHDM, including the agenda, is available at [https://www.osce.org/odihhr/shdm\\_1\\_2022](https://www.osce.org/odihhr/shdm_1_2022).

**2. Participation**

Representatives of OSCE participating States and OSCE executive structures, representatives of inter-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and researchers having interest in the topic can participate in the SHDM. The Partners for Co-operation can attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field. Civil society organizations can find more information below, in the *Information for Civil Society* section.



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### **3. Registration**

Participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register at <https://meetings.odihr.pl>.

**Important note:** Please note the registration deadline, indicated on this webpage. Past-deadline registration is not possible.

Please allow sufficient time for the self-registration process, in particular if you are a first time user of the ODIHR Conference and Event Registration System, as you will have to start by creating a profile. First time users are encouraged to sign up for the event as soon as possible after creating an account. Please note that the registration system requires individual registration and uploading of your ID photo.

Registered participants will be able to **collect their badges at the meeting venue** as of Monday, 28 of March 2022, from 10 a.m., at the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre.

Participation in the meeting is free of charge, although all travel and accommodation costs should be borne by participants.

A list of recommended hotels in Vienna offering OSCE discounts is available for signed up participants at: <https://meetings.odihr.pl/resources> (please make sure you are logged in in order to access the list).

In order to obtain a discount, participants should quote either a contract number or a booking code, included in the table.

### **4. Modalities, Schedule and Logistics**

**Modalities:** The modalities of the meeting are set out in accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002).

**Venue:** The meeting will take place in the Hofburg Congress Centre, **at the Neuer Saal**, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. A listening room in Bibliotheksaal will be provided.

**Schedule:** The opening session of SHDM will start on Monday, **28 March** at 13.00. During this session, the representatives of the OSCE Chairpersonship and OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) as well as the key-note speakers will present their opening remarks. No comments or statements are foreseen from participants due to short time of the opening session.

Three working sessions will follow:

- Session I: Requirements and application of international humanitarian law and international human rights law



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- Session II: Investigation and documentation of international humanitarian and human rights law violations
- Session III: Digital technologies that support human rights defenders

All participants will have the right to request the floor during the working sessions by raising a hand.

At the closing session, starting on Tuesday, 29 March at 16.30, the moderators of three working sessions will present the reports from the working groups. There will be time for delegations of participating States to voice their comments and, finally, for the representatives of ODIHR and OSCE Chairpersonship-in-Office for their closing remarks. Only the delegations of participating States have a right to speak during the closing session.

The meeting will end on Tuesday, 29 March at 17:30.

**Interpretation:** Interpretation will be available in the six official OSCE languages: English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

**Guidelines for the debate:** The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, panelists' inputs, discussions, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the SHDM. For topic and composition of each panel, please consult the agenda and annotated agenda at [https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm\\_1\\_2022](https://www.osce.org/odihr/shdm_1_2022).

The moderator will help to ensure that the participants engage in a constructive debate aimed at achieving the meetings' objectives, improving the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments and formulating recommendations.

**Right of reply:** At the end of working sessions, as well as at the opening and closing plenary, participating States will have the possibility to exercise their right of reply. Participating States should indicate this to the ODIHR staff seated behind the head table early enough before the end of the session of their wish to exercise their right of reply, so sufficient time is allocated.

Participants should wait for the moderator to give them the floor. When taking the floor, participants shall introduce themselves by providing their name, surname and the name of the organization they represent. Participants should keep their comments short and to the point and speak only within the time frame allotted to them.

Interventions should be relevant to the topic of the session and contain specific recommendations. Participants have a right to express their opinions freely, while respecting human rights and the principle of non-discrimination.

Participants shall refrain from presenting or shouting any slogans that might: a.) provoke or disturb order and safety, b.) likely to give rise to violence, c.) discriminate against others on the basis of their race, colour, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Maastricht 2003, Ljubljana 2005), d.) condone terrorism or



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the use of violence. Moderators are instructed to ensure that discussions are held in accordance with these principles.

**Distribution of documents:** Any registered participant present at SHDM may also submit documents for distribution by sending their documents (maximum 3 pages in length) to the Document Distribution Centre at [documents@osce.org](mailto:documents@osce.org). Participants should mention in their message when submitted documents are intended for distribution or to facilitate interpretation.

There are no translation services available.

**Filming in plenary hall:** Filming with cameras and video cameras will only be permitted by accredited journalists, and only during the opening and closing sessions. No other audio-visual recordings should be undertaken inside the plenary.

**Livestreaming:** livestream will be available in English and Russian on the website of the event.

**Limitations due to Covid-19 pandemic: Requirements to enter Austria**

Persons wishing to enter Austria will be requested to provide proof of low epidemiological risk, such as:

- proof of vaccination\*, *or*
- proof of recovery, *or*
- negative PCR test (valid for 72 hours) or a negative antigen test (valid for 24 hours)

\* with a vaccine which has been authorized by the European Medicines Agency or which has completed the World Health Organization's Emergency Use Listing Procedure. (Two-dose vaccinations: valid for 270 days after the second dose. There need to be at least 14 days in between the first and second dose. Booster jab: valid for 270 days after the booster. There need to be at least 90 days between the second and third dose)

**Measures inside Hofburg:**

The organization of conferences in Austria is subject to a list of limitations due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The organizers are committed to comply strictly with the required limitations:

- Distancing at the venue. All seating available to participants will be organized in line with this limitation.
- All participants will also be required to cover mouth and nose with a FFP2 mask.

Persons wishing to enter Hofburg will no longer be requested to provide proof of low epidemiological risk before entering the premises, however it is recommended to comply with the regulations of the Austrian authorities,



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Persons vaccinated with a vaccine which is not recognized by the EU, who enter Austria to participate in ODIHR meeting, are not subject to a mandatory quarantine and do not have to register online through the Pre-Travel Clearance system. However, they are required to produce a valid PCR-Test and may be asked to show documents proving the professional purpose of their entry.

For the latest list of limitations in Austria, applicable in various settings, please consult <https://www.sozialministerium.at/en/Coronavirus/Information-in-English.html>

## **II. INFORMATION FOR CIVIL SOCIETY**

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increased openness in OSCE activities and for expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV, the participating States agreed to facilitate during OSCE meetings “informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and NGOs”.

As per Chapter IV, paragraphs (15) and (16), of the Helsinki Document 1992, the provision of making “open to NGOs [...] human rights implementation meetings” does not apply to “persons or organizations which resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence.”

In line with these provisions, the OSCE welcomes participation by civil society organizations at the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting.

## **III. CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Meeting co-ordination:** Mr. Martin Toplišek, at [martin.toplisek@odihr.pl](mailto:martin.toplisek@odihr.pl)

**Registration enquiries:** [hdmeetings@odihr.pl](mailto:hdmeetings@odihr.pl)