

Religion and Rights: Strengthening Common Ground

Geneva, Switzerland
16 February 2018

Friday, 16 February 2018

Location: Palais des Nations, Room XII, 3rd floor, Building A, Door A15

Please register online for your security pass to access Palais des Nations at:
<https://req.unog.ch/event/23349/overview>

09:30–10:00	Introductions, Objectives, and Overview of Agenda
10:00–11:30	<p>Session 1: Reconciling Religion and Rights: Perspectives and Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bridging Rights and Faith for the SDGs</i> – Dr Azza Karam, Coordinator, UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development • <i>Reconciling Religion and Rights to Promote Compliance with Treaty Obligations</i> – Ibrahim Salama, Chief, Human Rights Treaties Branch, OHCHR • <i>Civil Society Interventions to Reconcile Religion and Rights: Musawah Ways of Working</i> – Zainah Anwar, Executive Director, Musawah
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Session 2: Reconciling Religion and Rights – Initiatives by intergovernmental platforms</p> <p>Moderator: Ambassador Hans Brattskar (Norway)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Faith for Rights</i> – Michael Wiener, Human Rights Officer, Rule of Law and Democracy Section, OHCHR • <i>Religion and Gender Equality</i> - Lopa Banerjee, Chief, Civil Society Section, UNWomen • <i>Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that could Lead to Atrocity Crimes</i> - Simona Cruciani, Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, UNOGP • <i>Reconciling Religion and Rights through the CEDAW Process</i> – Nahla Haidar, CEDAW Committee member

13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	<p>Session 3: Reconciling Religion and Rights – Civil Society Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Countering Misuse of Religion, Culture, and Tradition to Undermine the Universality of Human Rights</i> – Naureen Shameem, Observatory of Universality of Rights (OURs)/ AWID Challenging Fundamentalisms programme • <i>Engaging the UN System to Reconcile Religion and Rights</i> – Bani Dugal, Faith and Feminism Working Group at the United Nations • <i>Faith-based engagement: Building partnerships with governmental, intergovernmental, and civil society sectors</i> – Rudelmar Bueno de Faria, General Secretary, ACTAlliance • <i>Forging an Overlapping Consensus between Muslim Legal Tradition and International Human Rights</i> – Dr Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Legal Anthropologist and Musawah Board Member
16:00-17:00	<p>Session 4: Reconciling Religion and Rights – Government Initiatives</p> <p>Moderator: Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin (Ambassador at Large for Freedom of Religion and Belief, Denmark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strengthening human rights compliance within the UN system through a feminist foreign policy</i> - Ambassador Dr Joachim Bergström, Swedish Representative to the OIC • <i>Implementing the Rabat Plan of Action and Beirut Declaration</i> - Dr Faouzi Skali, adviser to the Moroccan authority for audiovisual communication (HACA)
17:00-17:30	Next Steps and closing