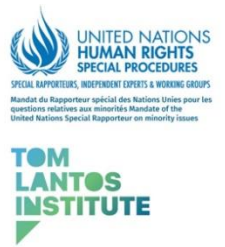




European Regional Forum on conflict prevention and the protection of the human rights of minorities

12-13 October, 2021 | ONLINE MEETING



Statements

The views and/or opinions expressed in the contributions listed below are those of the contributing organizations and do not reflect in any way the views and/or opinions of the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, the Tom Lantos Institute or cooperating organizations. Neither are they responsible for the content of the organizations' views and/or opinions. The use and posting of the contributions do not provide any legal and/or other status to the contributing organizations or association with the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, the Tom Lantos Institute or cooperating organizations.

Tuesday, 12th October 2021

Session 1: Opening Remarks

Ambassador Helmut Tichy	Legal Adviser of the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria
Kairat Abdrakhmanov	OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities
Ryszard Komenda	Regional Representative, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office for the Central Asia
Armands Pupols	Political Affairs and Human Rights Officer, UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia
Paulo David	Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Fernand de Varennes,	United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
Chair: Anna-Mária Bíró,	Director, Tom Lantos Institute

Thematic Session 1: Substantive root causes of contemporary conflicts involving minorities

Invited Speakers

Neil Clarke (Moderator)	Head of Legal Programmes and EU Advocacy, Minority Rights Group International
Jonathan Cohen	Executive Director, Conciliation Resources
Karena Avedissian	Fellow, Royal Society of Arts
Natalia Mirimanova	Senior Political Adviser, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

List of participants who took the floor

1. Catalan National Assembly
2. Azerbaijan
3. Legal Information Centre for Human Rights
4. Ferenc Rakoczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College of Higher Education
5. Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe
6. Anti-Discrimination Centre Memorial Brussels
7. Armenia
8. Ukraine
9. Hungary
10. Ecumenical Federation Of Constantinopolitans
11. Общественная организация "Dignity and Conscience"
12. David Babaev
13. Cultural Center of the Caucasus Yezidis

14. Institute Of Legal Policy And Social Protection Named In Honor Of Iryna Berezhna
15. North Macedonia
16. Genoveva Sotirova

Thematic Session 2: Normative framework: the human rights of minorities and conflict prevention

Invited Speakers

Erzsébet Sándor-Szalay (moderator)	Deputy Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, Ombudswoman for the Rights of National Minorities
Francesco Palermo	Comparative Public Law, University of Verona and Director of the Institute for Comparative Federalism, Eurac Research
Nurcan Kaya	human rights lawyer and researcher
Urko Aiartza Azurtza	Senior Advisor, European Institute of Peace
Irina Vlah	Governor of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia, Republic of Moldova

List of participants who took the floor

1. Dungan Association of Kazakhstan
2. Helsinki Committee for Human Rights Skopje
3. Catalan National Assembly
4. Roma Women Fund "Chiricli"
5. Andrea Bocskor, Member of the European Parliament
6. Cultural Alliance of Hungarians in Sub-Carpathia
7. Interregional association of Meskhetian Turks "Vatan"

8. European Center for Development of Democracy
9. Anti-Discrimination Centre Memorial Brussels
10. International Human Rights Committee
11. OHCHR Field Presence in the Republic of Moldova
12. Ukraine
13. Legal Information Centre for Human Rights

Wednesday, 13th October 2021

Thematic Session 3: Obstacles to implementing the rights of minorities and early effective conflict prevention

Invited Speakers

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Vello Pettai (Moderator) | Director, European Centre for Minority Issues |
| André Fazi | Lecturer in political science, University of Corsica |
| Salpy Eskidjian | Executive Director of the Religious Track of the Cyprus Peace Process |
| Damir Kapidžić | Associate Professor of Comparative Politics at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Sarajevo |
| Amalur Alvarez | Researcher, Eusko Ikaskuntza |

List of participants who took the floor

1. Catalan National Assembly
2. Huaizu
3. Rina Muhaj
4. Constantinopolitan Society
5. Democratic Union Of the National Greek Minority "OMONIA "

6. Armenia
7. Mikó Imre Association for the Protection of Minority Rights
8. Plataforma per la Llengua Europe
9. Ukraine
10. Regional public organization "Ukrainian Community of Crimea"
11. Azerbaijan
12. Information group on crimes against the person

Thematic Session 4: Ways forward towards addressing gaps in human rights mechanisms to protect minorities and prevent conflicts

Invited Speakers

Anina Ciuciu (Moderator)	Lawyer, Author and founder of The Collective # EcolePourTous
Marina Elbakidze	Project Coordinator, Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development
Sardorbek Abdukhalilov	former OHCHR Minority Fellow and lawyer, Spavedlivost Human Rights Organization
Petra Roter	Professor of International Relations at the University of Ljubljana
Vincze Loránt	President, president of the Federal Union of European Nationalities

List of participants who took the floor

1. Association of Lawyers of Russia
2. Federal national and cultural autonomy of Belarusians of Crimea
3. Catalan National Assembly
4. Roma Women Fund "Chiricli"

5. Ukraine
6. Jeroen Zandberg
7. Ukraine
8. Armenia
9. Interregional association of Meskhetian Turks “Vatan”
10. Farkhat Ibragimov
11. Roundtable of Hungarians in Slovakia
12. OHCHR Field Presence in the Republic of Moldova

Presentation of Recommendations

Fernand de Varennes	UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
Marcus Oda	Programme Manager, Tom Lantos Institute
Anna-Mária Bíró (Chair)	Director, Tom Lantos Institute

Concluding Remarks

Fernand de Varennes	UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
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