

PROGRAMME

5th ANNUAL MEETING  
**FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS  
PLATFORM**  
19-20 April 2012

Messe Wien Exhibition & Congress Center  
Messeplatz 1, 1020 Vienna



**FRA**

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS



The annual Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) meeting is one of the major events of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). Every year, the meeting takes place in Vienna and brings together participants of the Fundamental Rights Platform – the agency’s network for cooperation with civil society.

## OBJECTIVES

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The 5<sup>th</sup> FRP meeting aims to:

- encourage a European debate on fundamental rights among different civil society organisations;
- facilitate knowledge and exchange of good practices among Fundamental Rights Platform participants;
- inform the work of the FRA about challenges and promising initiatives on the ground;
- create opportunities for networking and further cooperation between civil society, the FRA and other actors, in particular national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and equality bodies.

## THEMES

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The diversity of the Fundamental Rights Platform gives a unique opportunity to exchange ideas and to discuss important fundamental rights issues from different perspectives. Therefore, the meeting will focus on two cross-cutting themes that will benefit from the various experiences and knowledge of the FRP participants:

- 1) cooperation between national human rights institutions, equality bodies and civil society, looking in particular at victims’ rights, access to justice and under-reporting;
- 2) multiple discrimination - mainstreaming intersectionality into fundamental rights work.

## PARTICIPANTS

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The meeting will bring together representatives of about 180 civil society organisations from across the European Union. This year, the meeting will also welcome for the first time participants from Croatia, who will be joining the FRP as observers. To encourage dialogue between different fundamental rights’ actors, representatives of national human rights institutions and equality bodies will also join the FRP meeting.

## FORMAT

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The FRP meeting will be dynamic and interactive, including a number of opportunities for all participants to contribute to the discussions and to shape their outcomes.

*Interpretation facilities will be provided in English and French during plenary sessions and in one of the working group rooms.*

# PROGRAMME

## THURSDAY, 19 APRIL

08.30 – 09.30 **Registration** and welcome coffee

Meeting chair: **Friso Roscam Abbing**, Head of Department Communication, FRA

### PLENARY SESSION I

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09.30 – 09.45 **WELCOME**

**Ilze Brands Kehris**, Chairperson of the Management Board, FRA

09.45 – 10.35 **FIVE YEARS OF CLOSE COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY: Stock-taking and the road ahead**

**Morten Kjaerum**, Director, FRA

*Interactive discussion in the plenary*

10.35 – 11.00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Ylva Tivéus**, Director Citizens, European Commission

*Questions and answers*

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break** | Presentation of the pilot mobile web tool on the Fundamental Rights Charter

11.30 – 13.00 **VICTIMS' RIGHTS AND UNDER-REPORTING: cooperation between national human rights institutions, equality bodies and civil society**

*National human rights institutions, equality bodies as well as civil society organisations play a vital role in protecting and promoting fundamental rights. How can we make the best use of synergies between their activities? Which are the possibilities to encourage cooperation in different areas of work? To open up new opportunities for cooperation, national human rights institutions and equality bodies will join the meeting. Drawing on the results of numerous FRA studies, the discussions will address common challenges and explore solutions related to the rights of victims, access to justice and under-reporting. Discussions will start with a panel debate with guest speakers and FRP participants, which will be followed by interactive discussions with the audience.*

Moderator: **Massimo Toschi**, Programme manager responsible for cooperation with civil society, national human rights institutions, equality bodies and ombudsperson, FRA

## Panellists:

**Jozef De Witte**, Chair of the Board of EQUINET and Director of the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism, Belgium

**Alan Miller**, Chair of the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions and Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission

**Joanna Goodey**, Head of Department Freedoms and Justice, FRA

**Alicja Gluszek**, La Strada, Poland

13.00 – 14.30 **LUNCH**

## WORKSHOPS

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14.30 – 17.15 **THE FLOOR IS YOURS**

*The 'Floor is yours' will invite participants to present ideas, projects or issues that are important to the fundamental rights debate in the EU and to discuss these with other participants. Representatives from national human rights institutions and equality bodies will also host a number of workshops.*

## PLENARY SESSION II

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17.15 – 18.00 **Presentation by candidates for the Advisory Panel of the FRP**

18.00 **EVENING RECEPTION**

## Friday, 20 APRIL

8.30 – 9.30 **ELECTIONS OF THE ADVISORY PANEL**

Registration for the elections

Voting

Welcome coffee

## PLENARY SESSION III

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9.30 – 11.00 **MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION - MAINSTREAMING INTERSECTIONALITY INTO FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS WORK**

*Discrimination all too often takes place on multiple grounds. However, so-called multiple discrimination is not recognised in legal provisions on either EU or national levels and is therefore difficult to address in practice. This session aims to raise awareness about the vulnerabilities resulting from the intersection of ethnic origin, age, gender, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation and religion. It will seek to explore the need for action from European to grassroots levels.*

*Discussions will highlight some practical challenges in providing adequate protection against discrimination. Furthermore, the panel debate will address existing legal gaps and ask how civil society organisations and other actors in the fundamental rights field can address the issue of discrimination on multiple grounds more effectively in their work.*

### **Testimony by a victim of multiple discrimination**

**Virginia Wangare Greiner**, Social worker in Health at Maisha e.V.-African Women in Germany

### **Panellists**

**Juan Gonzalez Mellizo**, Unit Nondiscrimination policies and Roma coordination, DG Justice, European Commission

**Anastasia Crickley**, Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) (tbc)

**Silvia Cutrera**, Women's Committee of the European Disability Forum

**Ludovica Banfi**, Programme Manager, FRA

**11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break** | Presentation of the pilot mobile web tool on the Fundamental Rights Charter

## **WORKSHOPS**

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**11.30 – 13.00 THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FRA**

*This session aims to offer participants an up-close look at the agency's work and invite civil society organisations to contribute to specific FRA projects. In total, twelve workshops will discuss on-going FRA projects and invite to provide feedback on future activities.*

## **PLENARY SESSION IV**

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**13.00 – 13.15 ANNOUCEMENT OF THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY PANEL**

**13.15 – 13.30 CLOSING REMARKS**

**Morten Kjaerum**, Director, FRA

**13.30 – 14.30 LUNCH**

Meeting of the new Advisory Panel 2012-2013

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