FRP SESSION – REPORTING BACK

<table>
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<th>TITLE</th>
<th>FRA’s Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP): “Joining forces – why and how?”</th>
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<tr>
<td>HOST AND CO-HOST ORGANISER(S)</td>
<td>FRA FRP Team</td>
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<td>DATE AND TIME</td>
<td>26 SEPTEMBER 2018, 18H</td>
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WHAT WERE THE 3 KEY MESSAGES OF YOUR OPEN SESSION? WHICH CONCLUSIONS WERE DRAWN?

- FRP is a helpful tool, and much appreciated.
- FRP should be used even better for exchange of knowledge, peer learning, strengthening CSOs, and feeding into FRA work.
- FRA should continue working on civil society space issues.

WHAT ARE THE KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND WHICH NEXT STEPS ARE PROPOSED?

Platform building
- Knowledge, exchange, diversity (items, size, geography)
- Make engagement path for CSOs clear
- Online platform: database, list serve (thematic)
- Online option to access contact-info of other CSOs in similar work areas, linking the right kind of NGOs on the same kind of topics across the EU, look for project partners (matching service), creating online space on thematic topics to exchange informally (Facebook, etc.)
- Being on the mailing list but what else?
- Structure the Advisory Panel according to European organisations / national organisations levels or topics in order to reinforce the exchange between CSOs
- Surveys to grasp NGO input are very welcome
- How to voice feedback in a way that feeds into the structural planning of FRA work? Use the opportunity of the FRA Forum to make CSOs voice concerns & input regarding FRA’s work/mandate

Knowledge building and increasing (national) impact
- Offer information on the field of activities while registering for the FRA NGO platform
- Use FRP to identify gaps in FRA’s work and address them
- Consult CSOs regarding the data collected (diverse sources / 2 different stories)
- Use the platform as a resource for research and advocacy for policy reforms at the national level
- Highlight national fundamental right concerns, discuss national challenges
• Inputs to the UN monitoring system or at least connect to these monitoring processes to 1) build evidence on similar issues and 2) bring evidence to relevant UN bodies (UN rapporteurs)
• Use research capacity to shed light on issues that are overlooked
• Impact assessment of reports and research on the EU + national institutions → dialogue with civil society
• Highlighting the shortcomings of individual Member States in some areas of rights protection may be very useful for the media
• FRA should produce national fact sheets in the context of publishing EU thematic studies and reports, national NGOs can make use of these to undertake national activities and advocacy

**Network building / convening and connecting**
• Build more networks at the national level
• “FRA family” at the national level which clusters national stakeholders linked to FRA and/or representing FRA structures - all FRA contacts (Board members, advisory panel member, NLO, contractors, etc. should link up)
• A regional exchange (Baltics, Scandinavia, etc.,) should be considered (meetings of some form could be envisaged)
• Whenever FRA staff is in a country aim to meet with civil society groups.
• Make connection with UN on civil society level

**Capacity and support, including on civil society space**
• More capacity building
• Ideas: tools + support mechanisms for funding/fundraising (advice, best practices, proposal writing, information on funding opportunities, etc.)
• Promote meaningful participation of CSOs, including through addressing the funding gap which limits the ability to participate
• FRA’s civic space report is excellent. A follow up report would be most welcome to illustrate developments
• Support NGOs under threat
• Look for good practices
• Rights awareness, raise the gender issue
• Complaint mechanism → regular
• Article 13 of the EU Charter: need for a monitoring system of the implementation of the Charter
• Use the monitoring capacity of the UN
• Promotion of EU values, its role, its institutions