

CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE OF INGOs

(Election 24 January 2018)



Presentation

Name:	SPRENG, Christoph
Date of Birth:	01/10/1942
Nationality:	Swiss
Working languages:	English, French, German
Position in the INGO:	Delegate to the Council of Europe, member of the IofC-International Review Group
Full title and acronym of the INGO:	Initiatives of Change – International (IofC)

Motivation

Seen through the Council of Europe Lens - the standards on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law - Europe has a lot of potential for improvement.

Civil society action is a vital element in tapping this potential and the INGO Conference is uniquely placed in it.

During several years the INGO Conference leaders have entrusted me some specific tasks, like

- Lead person (appointed Special Advisor) in elaborating the CoE White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue.
- As INGO Expert in CoE-EU Joint Programme “Minorities in Russia: Developing Languages, Culture, Media and Civil Society“.
- As Coordinator of the INGO Transversal Working Group to research, write and launch the INGO Dialogue Toolkit, subsequently facilitating Dialogues in places that asked for our input. For more on this, see here <http://www.dialoguetoolkit.net>
- And finally a role in promoting the topic of Human Rights and Business, which led to build links with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the UN Forum for Business and Human Rights.

Now, I come before you as a candidate. As from last year I have a bit more time available and want to offer it to further improving the impact of the INGO Conference. Together we can learn from the past and the present to contribute to a better future on this continent. The Council of Europe, although not so visible and strong, gives insights and opportunities for us INGOs on 47 countries, a quarter of the world.