



CONFERENCE OF INGOs
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**SPRING SESSION
CONFERENCE OF INGOS
CONF/PLE(2019)OJ2**

**MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF INGOS
DRAFT AGENDA
Friday 12 April 2019
9.30-13.00
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, Room 01**

1. Opening of the meeting by Anna RURKA, President of the Conference of INGOs ('5)
2. Designation of the rapporteur of the meeting
3. Agenda: for adoption
4. Exchange of views with Snezana SAMARDŽIC-MARKOVIC, Director General, Directorate General of Democracy ('15)
5. Presentation of the conclusions and follow-up of the Warsaw Conference on the role and position of NGOs in the Council of Europe (22 March 2019) by Satu MATTILA-BUDICH, Ambassador of Finland to the Council of Europe, Chair of the Ministers' Deputies (tbc), Janusz STANCZYK, Ambassador of Poland to the Council of Europe (tbc) ('20)
6. Presentation of the priorities of the French Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe followed by an exchange of views with Jean-Baptiste MATTEI, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe ('15)
7. NGO participation at the Council of Europe – Presentation of the results of the consultation by Anna Rurka followed by the discussion with participants ('20)
8. NGO participation in decision-making processes in the member States of the Council of Europe ('40)
 - a. [Report of the fact finding visit of the Conference of INGOs to North Macedonia](#)
 - b. Exchange with Olgica VASILEVSKA, *Chargé d'Affaires a.i.*, Deputy Permanent Representative of North Macedonia to the Council of Europe
 - c. Comments on the report and follow up to the visit by Simonida KACARSKA, European Policy Institute, Skopje
9. Accountability of the NGO sector as a new challenge in the context of the restrictions on civil society space – Dr Carla FERSTMAN, Senior Lecturer, School of Law, University of Essex, member of the Expert Council on NGO Law of the Conference of INGOs ('25)

10. [Civil society space – view of organisations](#) - Presentation of the key findings followed by a discussion with Waltraud HELLER, Programme Manager Civil Society Cooperation, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (video conference) ('25)
Link to the report from January 2018 on [Challenges facing civil society organisations working on human rights in the EU](#)

11. Digital civic space ('45):

- a. Introduction by Karl Donert ('10)
- b. Conclusions and recommendations of the working session presented by the rapporteurs (Iamvi TOTSI, Gerhard ERMISCHER, Katarzyna SOKOLOWSA) ('25)
- c. Youth engagement in public debates in the era of digitalisation – Youth Partnership-EU (tbc) ('10)

12. Date of the next session – 28-31 October 2019