



#WorldNGODay

Why do we need NGOs?

(I)NGO contribution to the work and to the mandate of the Council of Europe

27 February 2019

Room 5 (Palais de l'Europe, Council of Europe, Strasbourg)

Draft Agenda

8.30-8.55 Welcome coffee

9.00-9.30 Opening session

- President INGO Conference, Ms Anna Rurka
- Chair of the Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group on Democracy, H.E. Razvan Rusu
- Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, DGII, Council of Europe, Ms Claudia Luciani

9.30-10.30 Session 1: (I)NGOs invaluable contribution to CoE's mandate and to its work
Moderator: Mary Ann Hennessey

- Contribution of the INGOs to CoE standard setting: the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe (Anna Rurka) and Advisory Council of Youth (David Neuber)
- Contribution to CoE monitoring: execution of judgements (George Stafford, Co-Director of EIN), collective complaints procedures under ESC (Peter Verhaeghe, Caritas Europa)
- Contribution to CoE cooperation activities: (Jasminka Susmel, Bonaventura, BiH)

10.30-11.30 Session 2: The cost to (I)NGOs, and their members, of working for human rights, democracy and the rule of law in a context of democratic decline

Moderator: Cyril Ritchie

- Directors of Schools of Political Studies: Alexander Dabravolski, East-European School of Political Studies, Minsk; Ilgar Mammadov, Baku Political Studies Programme (Video message).

Ref.: Secretary General [annual reports](#), Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2018\)11](#) on the need to strengthen the protection and promotion of the civil society space in Europe)

11.30-12.30 Session 3: (I)NGOs message about future perspectives for NGO participation in CoE

Moderator: Anna Rurka

A moderated and facilitated discussion to come to a max of three conclusions to share/transmit to the Committee of Ministers 22 March meeting in Warsaw and/or Ministerial session in Helsinki.

12.30-12.45 Closing session – conclusions and family photo