

# European Regional Forum on Hate Speech, Social Media and Minorities

ONLINE EVENT:  
SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2020



## Programme of Work

\*\*The times indicated refer to Geneva/Central European Summer Time (CEST or UTC +02:00)

### Day 1      21 September 2020

#### 10:00-11:30      Opening Session

*Welcoming remarks (5 minutes)*

**Anna-Mária Bíró**, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute

*Opening Remarks (80 minutes)*

**H.E. Mr. Alexander Schallenberg**, Minister of Foreign Affairs Austria

**Snežana Samardžić-Marković**, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

**Birgit Van Hout**, OHCHR Regional Representative for Europe

**Michael O’Flaherty**, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

**Maria Daniella Marouda**, Chair of European Commission against Racism and Intolerance

**Christophe Kamp**, Director of the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities

**Katarzyna Gardapkhadze**, First Deputy Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

**Guilherme Canela**, Chief, Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists Section, UNESCO

**Fernand de Varennes**, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues

*Chair: Anna-Mária Bíró*, Tom Lantos Institute

*Rules and Guide to Proceedings (5 minutes)*

**Anna-Mária Bíró**, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute, will set-out the process and explain the rules of proceedings for the forthcoming sessions.

**11:30-13:00**     **Lunch Break**

**13:00-14:30**     **Thematic Session 1: Causes, scale and impact of hate speech targeting minorities in social media**

*Moderator:*     **Astrid Thors**, former OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

*Experts:*        **Murtaza Shaikh**, Director of Averroes Foundation (10 minutes)

**Kyriaki Topidi**, Head of "Culture & Diversity", European Centre for Minority Issues (10 minutes)

**Nurcan Kaya**, human rights lawyer and member of Mesopotamia Foundation lawyer (10 minutes)

*Interactive dialogue (13:40 – 14:30)*

**14:30-15:00**     **Break**

**15:00-16:30**     **Thematic Session 2: International legal and institutional framework**

*Moderator:*     **Francesco Palermo**, Professor, University of Verona, and EURAC Research

*Experts:*        **Sejal Parmar**, Lecturer at School of Law at the University of Sheffield (10 minutes)

**Andrey Rikhter**, Special Advisor to OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (10 minutes)

**Antonija Petricusic**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb (10 minutes)

*Interactive dialogue (15:40 – 16:30)*

**Day 2**             **22 September 2020**

**09:00-10:30**     **Thematic Session 3: Regulation of online hate speech: The role and responsibility of intergovernmental organizations, States, internet companies and social media platforms**

*Moderator:*     **Nazila Ghanea**, Associate Professor in International Human Rights Law at Oxford

*Experts:*        **Tarlach McGonagle**, Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam (10 minutes)

**Fadzai Madzingira**, Public Policy Manager Content, Facebook (10 minutes)

**Hanna Orsolya Vincze**, Faculty of Politics, Public Administration and Communication, Babeş-Bolyai University (10 minutes)

*Interactive dialogue (09:40 – 10:30)*

**10:30-11:00** Break

**11:00 – 12:30** Thematic Session 4: Towards a safer space for minorities: positive initiatives to address online hate speech: The role of NHRIs, human rights organizations, civil society and other stakeholders

*Moderator:* **Gabriela Hrabanova**, Executive Director, European Roma Grassroots Organizations (ERGO) Network

*Experts:* **Thomas Hughes**, Director, Facebook Oversight Board Administration (10 minutes)

**Iulius Rostas**, Visiting Professor at the National School of Political Science and Administration in Bucharest and Central European University (10 minutes)

**Eliška Pírková**, Europe Policy Analyst at Access Now (10 minutes)

*Interactive dialogue (11:40 – 12:30)*

**12:30-14:00** Lunch break

**14:00-15:00** Presentation of Recommendations

In this session, the proposed recommendations developed during the four thematic sessions will be made available to participants to consider.

The session will be introduced by **Fernand de Varennnes**, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues, following which **Marcus Oda**, Programme Manager at the Tom Lantos Institute, will present the list of recommendations.

Participants can make any final comments on specific recommendations using the Zoom chat function.

*Moderator:* **Anna-Mária Bíró**, Director of the Tom Lantos Institute

**15:00-15:30** Concluding remarks

**Fernand de Varennnes**, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues

*Working languages: English and Russian*