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The Right to Science

UNESCO & HUMAN RIGHTS: GENEVA DIALOGUES FOR ENHANCING COOPERATION & EFFECTIVENESS

25th & 26th April, 2022

University of Geneva - Uni Mail – bd du Pont-d'Arve 40, 1205 Geneva
Room 6220 (Room 5383 PM session day 2)

Programme

Building on trust and existing efforts to enhance cooperation among the stakeholders, the Dialogues aim to draw out lessons from existing work together as well as analyze what is working and what can be strengthened. The aim and added value of each Dialogue is to assess crosscutting challenges and take advantage of synergy opportunities. The second dialogue, focused on the right to science, seeks to obtain concrete and constructive proposals to enhance our work in this increasingly important field.

The dialogue underlines the crucial role of the Right to Science as an enabler to address the challenges of our times, ranging from COVID19, climate change and wider sustainability goals.

Day 1 - April 25 (Room 6220)

09.00 Welcoming address

Ambassador Muriel Berset-Kohen - Permanent Delegate of Switzerland to UNESCO

09.05 Opening remarks

Ms Gabriela Ramos - Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO

Ms Nada Al-Nashif - Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR

Mr. Thomas Zeltner - President of Swiss Commission for UNESCO

09.30 - 12.30 Segment 1: Setting the scene - What do we know about the emerging issues and current challenges in the field of the Right to Science?

This segment will allow for the sharing of perspectives about state-of-the-art knowledge and analysis of both global and regional trends, the evolving nature of challenges related to Right to Science. It specifically seeks to identify emerging issues and knowledge gaps.

The first part of the meeting will allow for a 30-minute keynote as well as a panel discussion dedicated to the understanding of emerging trends and challenges in the field of right to science. Each panelist will have 10 minutes to present their perspective, followed by a moderated discussion on the following issues:

- What are key global and regional trends in terms of changing patterns, emerging issues and new challenges?
- How well are different regions covered in terms of documenting right to science challenges?
- Which fields/ topics/ issues need further documentation and analysis to respond effectively?

09.30 Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Marcos Orellana - UN Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights

10.15 - 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 - 12.30 Panel on current issues and challenges

Moderator: Dr. Peter Bille Larsen - University of Geneva/Swiss Commission for UNESCO

Panelists:

Prof. Alexandra Xanthaki - UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

Ms Milica Momčilović - World Federation of Science Journalists

Ms Nicoletta Dentico - Geneva Global Health Hub

Prof. Daya Reddy - ISC Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science (CFRS)

Ms Harriet Kingaby - Conscious Advertising networks

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 17.00 Segment 2: Working together - What are the experiences with existing and recently established human rights mechanisms and instruments and how can collaboration be strengthened?

This segment seeks to shed light on what works and what does not in terms of collaborating around the right to science through both regional and global human rights mechanisms and normative instruments. It aims to assess how stakeholders contribute to the functioning of such mechanisms both globally and regionally, while identifying specific needs and opportunities for enhancing cooperation.

The first part of the meeting will allow for a 30-minute keynote followed by panel discussion dedicated to the understanding of existing human rights mechanisms. Each panelist will have 10 minutes to present their perspective, followed by a moderated discussion on the following issues:

- What are key lessons from contributing towards the effective use and functioning of global and regional human rights mechanisms and instruments?
- What gaps and opportunities may we identify within and around such mechanisms?
- What kind of data is missing to fill the gaps in terms of functioning?
- Based on the challenges identified, how can we better collaborate with regional and UN mechanisms to promote the right to science?

13.30 Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Rodrigo Uprimny - UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights & National University of Colombia

14.15 – 15.30 Panel on Human Rights mechanisms, UNESCO Instruments and other mechanisms

Moderator: Mr. Constantinos Tararas - Inclusion and Rights Section, UNESCO/SHS

Panelists:

Ms Veronica Gomez - Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR)

Mr. Robert Quinn - Scholars at Risk

Dr. Sebastian Porsdam Mann - University of Oxford

Prof. Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky - National Council for Scientific and Technical Research of Argentina (CONICET)

15.30 – 15.45 Coffee break**15.45 - 17.00 Panel continued****Panelists:**

Ambassador Carsten Staur - Permanent representative to UNESCO from Denmark

Ms Angela Melo - Policies and Programmes, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO

Ms Theresa Harris - AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

Dr. Camila Perruso - University of Fribourg

17.00 - 19.30/20.00 Light dinner aperitif**Day 2 - April 26 (Room 6220, from 1PM Room 5383)****09.00 - 12.00 Segment 3: Partnerships, programs and cooperation; Lessons and recommendations - How are existing partnerships working for the right to science and how can cooperation be strengthened?**

This segment looks to share experiences from existing partnerships between different stakeholders (NGO-IO, NGO-NGO, IO-IO, etc.) and draw from lessons learnt. It further aims to share ideas on needed partnerships for strengthening national and global actions.

The first part of the meeting will allow for a 30-minute keynote as well as a panel discussion dedicated to the understanding of existing partnerships. Each panelist will have 10 minutes to present their perspective, followed by a moderated discussion on the following issues:

- What are critical lessons learned about existing partnerships on the right to science?
- What are key achievements and gaps of past and current partnerships and collaborative mechanisms?

- What kind of new or different forms of partnerships, mechanisms and cooperation are needed?

09.00 Keynote Speaker:

Ms Vivi Stavrou - International Science Council (ISC)

9.45 - 10.00 Coffee break

10.00 - 12.00 Panel on partnerships, programs and cooperation

Moderator: Dr. Shyami Puvimanasinghe - Right to Development Section, OHCHR

Panelists:

Mr. Antony Taubman - Intellectual Property Division, WTO

Mr. Saad Alfaragi - UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Dr. Gérard Escher - Geneva Science and Diplomacy Accelerator (GESDA)

Dr. Carlos Correa - South Centre

Ms Elenita Daño - Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration

Mr. Stephan Kuster - Frontiers

Mr. Angel González Sanz - Science, Technology and ICT Branch Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD

12.00 - 13.00 Lunch

Room 5383

13.00 - 15.00 Wrap-up and conclusions