



Expert Seminar

Our right to participate - promoting the participation of Persons with Disabilities in political and public life

AGENDA

09.30–10.00 Registration and welcoming coffee

10.00–10.20 Opening remarks

Mr Timo Soini, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Dr Marcin Walecki, Head of Democratization Department, ODIHR

Ms Sirpa Rautio, Director of the Finnish Human Rights Centre

10.20–10.40 Keynote speech

Ms Judith E. Heumann, Special Advisor for International Disability Rights for the U.S. Department of State

10.40–10.50 Video message by Ms Catalina Devandas Aguilar, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

10.50–11.10 Brief overview on ODIHR's engagement on political and electoral participation of persons with disabilities

Ms Tiina Kukkamaa-Bah, Chief of Democratic Governance and Gender Unit, ODIHR

Ms Lusine Badalyan, Senior Election Adviser, Elections Department, ODIHR

11.10–12.45 Panel discussion: What are the main challenges to the Political Participation of Persons with Disabilities in the OSCE region?



Moderated by Ms Kirsi Pimiä, the Finnish Non-Discrimination Ombudsman; rapporteur Ms Martha Stickings, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

Ms Helga Stevens, Member of the European Parliament and Co-President of the European Parliament Disability Intergroup of the European Parliament

Mr Dastan Bekeshev, Member of Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic

Dr Valery Rukhledev, President, All-Russian Public Organization of the Persons with Disabilities "All-Russian Society of the Deaf" (ARSD)

Ms Mechthild Rawert, Member of Parliament of Germany, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Sub-Committee on Disability and Inclusion

Mr Damjan Tatic, National Union of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia and member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Mr Kalle Könkkölä, Director, Finnish Threshold Association

12.45–13.30 Lunch

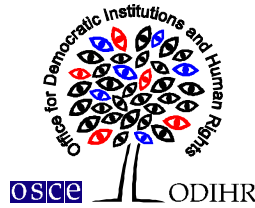
13.30–15.00 Panel discussion: How can identification and application of good practices help OSCE participating States address challenges to the political participation of Persons with Disabilities in the OSCE region?

Moderated by Dr Marcin Walecki, ODIHR; rapporteur Ms Anete Erdmane, ODIHR

Mr Yaroslav Hrybalskyi, Co-ordinator of the "Ukraine Without Barriers" Programme, former member of the Lviv Regional Council Parliament, Advisor to the Lviv city mayor

Ms Safak Pavey, Member of the Turkish Parliament and member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

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Ms Virginia Atkinson, Senior Access and Inclusion Specialist, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Ms Silvia Modig, Member of the Parliament of Finland, Board member of Political Parties of Finland for Democracy, Demo Finland

Mr Martin Ängeby, Co-ordinator of the European Network of Political Foundations

Mr Pat Clarke, CEO, Down Syndrome Ireland and Treasurer of the European Disability Forum

15.00–15.30 Closing remarks, Mr Kyriakos Kyriakou-Hadjjianni, representative of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Ambassador Ms Katja Pehrman, Permanent Representative of Finland to the OSCE