

# Bios of speakers, introducers and moderators

# **MONDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2014**

#### **OPENING PLENARY SESSION**

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

## Mr. Michael Georg Link

Michael Georg Link (Germany) began his tenure as ODIHR director on 1 July 2014. Before joining the Office, he served from January 2012 to December 2014 as the Minister of State for Europe in the German government, responsible for OSCE, EU, Council of Europe and NATO affairs. He was elected to the German parliament in 2005, representing Heilbronn/Baden-Württemberg, and served through 2013. During that term, from 2006 to 2013, Link established a strong OSCE connection as a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

The ODIHR director is a past member of the boards of the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the German Foundation for Peace Research and the Foundation for German-Polish Cooperation, and remains active in international NGOs, including the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Association for Eastern European Studies, the Southeast Europe Association, and the German Atlantic Association.

Born in Heilbronn in 1963, Link studied Russian, French, Political Science, Public Law and Eastern European History at the University of Augsburg, the University of Lausanne and Heidelberg University.

## **Ambassador Thomas C. Greminger**

Dr. Thomas Greminger is Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the UN and other international organizations in Vienna since 2010. In 2014, he chairs the OSCE Permanent Council during Switzerland's Chairmanship.

During his long career at the interface of diplomacy and development co-operation he held various leading positions in the areas of conflict management, human rights, humanitarian policy and migration policy at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Greminger is married and has four daughters. He is a General Staff Officer of the Swiss Army.

## Ms. Dunja Mijatović

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She took over this post on 11 March 2010.

Mijatović is one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. Prior to this, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović is an expert in human rights; communications and media strategy; and regulatory and policy media framework. She has extensive knowledge of institution-building in transition states and many years' experience of issues related to journalist's safety and new technologies, with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and Internet technologies.

#### Mrs. Astrid Thors

Astrid Thors is the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Before beginning her mandate as High Commissioner on 20 August 2013 Mrs. Thors, a lawyer by education, was a Member of the Finnish Parliament from 2004 to 2013. She also served as Minister of Migration and European Affairs (2007–2011) and was a Member of the European Parliament (1996–2004). As High Commissioner she leads her Institution within the security dimension of the OSCE. In accordance with her mandate she identifies and addresses causes of ethnic tensions and conflicts. The High Commissioner addresses the short-term triggers of inter-ethnic tension or conflict and long-term structural concerns.

#### Ambassador Adam Kobieracki

Ambassador Adam Kobieracki assumed the position of Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre on 1 June 2011. He is also the Deputy Head of the OSCE Secretariat. He served in the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, beginning in 1982 and most recently as the Director for Security Policy. From 2003 to 2007 he was NATO Assistant Secretary General for Operations in Brussels. Ambassador Kobieracki headed the Polish delegation to the OSCE in Vienna from 1997 to 2000 and chaired the Permanent Council in 1998. He was involved, inter alia, in the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) negotiations 1989-1990, negotiations of the OSCE Vienna Document 1994, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security and the adaptation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty in 1999.

## Mr. Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu

Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu (Turkey) was elected Vice-Chair of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions at the 2013 Annual Session in Istanbul and was re-elected at the 2014 Annual Session in Baku.

Kulkuloglu has been a Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey since 2007. He has prepared reports on "Political Abuse and Corruption" since 2007 and filed several criminal complaints which have turned into lawsuits. He was a Member of the Committee on Industry, Trade, Energy, Natural Resources, Information and Technology from 2007 to 2011. Kulkuloglu has been a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly since 2011 and has participated in several election observation missions, including to Georgia, Montenegro, Serbia and the United States.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### Ms. Elisa Massimino

Elisa Massimino is President and CEO of Human Rights First, one of the leading human rights advocacy organizations. Established in 1978, Human Rights First works in the United States and abroad to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law. Grounded in a belief that American global leadership on human rights is essential, the organization challenges the United States to live up to its ideals. Massimino joined Human Rights First in 1991 and served as the organization's Washington Director for more than a decade before being named chief executive in September 2008.

Massimino has a distinguished record of human rights advocacy in Washington. As a national authority on human rights law and policy, she has testified before Congress dozens of times and writes frequently for mainstream publications and specialized journals. The influential Washington newspaper The Hill has repeatedly named her one of the top public advocates in the country. Massimino holds a law degree from the University of Michigan, a Master of Arts in philosophy from Johns Hopkins University, and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. Massimino serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where she teaches human rights advocacy. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the bar of the United States Supreme Court.

#### **WORKING SESSION 1**

3-6 p.m.

Democratic institutions, including address by the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

## Mr. Michael Georg Link (Introducer)

see Opening Plenary

# Ms. Nicola Schmidt (Moderator)

Nicola Schmidt is the Deputy Head of the Election Department of the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR). She manages and oversees election-related activities across the OSCE region. She is responsible for the management of financial and operational as well as programmatic issues in the department. She is also the focal point on training for election observers. She leads needs assessment missions, expert and follow-up visits. Nicola joined OSCE/ODIHR in 2006 as an Election Adviser and subsequently became Senior Election Adviser. She organized election observation missions to several countries, contributed to developing and refining ODIHR's election observation methodology, particularly related to follow-up to observation mission, observation of voter registration, election assessment missions, and gender issues.

Prior to joining the OSCE/ODIHR in 2006, Nicola worked in the area of post-conflict development and democratization, including in South Africa and Albania. As a Programme Officer for IFES Ltd

in London she was responsible for democratization and civil society programmes in South-Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. She holds a Masters Degree in Political Science from the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, and an MSc in Violence, Conflict and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, UK.

# **TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2014**

#### **WORKING SESSION 2**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms I, including freedom of expression and address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

# Ms. Dunja Mijatovic (Introducer)

see Opening Plenary

## **Dr. Andrey Rikhter (Moderator)**

Andrey Rikhter is the Director of the Office of the OSCE RFoM. Dr. Rikhter is a professor and served as media law department head at the School of Journalism, Moscow State University.

Born in Kharkov, Ukraine, in 1959, he has university degrees in law and foreign languages, and a doctorate from Moscow State University in journalism. He has authored numerous publications on media law that are available in different languages, including Russian, English, German, French, as well as Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Serbian, Slovak, Tajik, and Ukrainian. His publications include the only standard media law textbook for journalism students of Russian universities (2002, 2009), a textbook on international and foreign media regulation (2011), and a book on censorship and freedom of the media in post-Soviet countries published by UNESCO in English (2007).

Until May 2013, Rikhter was a commissioner of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). In the 1990s, Dr. Rikhter was a visiting researcher at the Gannet Media Studies Center at Columbia University in New York City and a visiting professor in journalism at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee.

## **WORKING SESSION 3**

3–6 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms I (continued), including freedom of peaceful assembly and association

#### Ms. Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans (Introducer)

Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans works as the Executive Director at the European Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ECNL). She has been working closely with ECNL and its affiliate, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law since 2000. She currently implements programs on legal reform affecting civil society organizations (CSOs) in Central and Eastern Europe and particularly the Balkan region. Originating from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Katerina received a Law Degree from the University of St. Cyril and Methodius, in Skopje and a Master of Law

(L.L.M.) degree in Comparative Constitutional Law with Additional Specialization in Human Rights, from the Central European University (CEU) in Hungary. She also co-founded and managed the CEU Human Rights Students' Initiative in Budapest, when she initiated courses to supplement the curriculum of the Human Rights Program and developed human rights awareness raising and capacity building projects. Prior that, she volunteered for the Civil Society Resource Center in Skopje, working on projects regarding the rights of pre-trial detainees and refugees.

## Ms. Muatar Khaidarova (Moderator)

Muatar Khaidarova is a member of the ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly. She is a lawyer (Ph.D. in Law) and the former Country Director of the International Center for Notfor-Profit Law affiliate in Tajikistan and now Chair of the Board of the Tajik NGO 'Society and Law'.

# WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2014

WORKING SESSION 4	10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Rule of law I	

#### Mr. Gerald Staberock (Introducer)

Gerald Staberock, born on June 13, 1968, in Tübingen, Germany, is Secretary General of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) since September 1, 2011. OMCT is working towards the eradication of torture and the protection of human rights defenders globally.

Previously, he served over eight years with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), including as Director of its Center for the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (CIJL) and as Director of its Global Security and Rule of Law Initiative. In this context, he coordinated a global inquiry on the impact of counter-terrorism and human rights through a high-level panel of jurists (ICJ Eminent Jurists Panel).

From 1998-2002 he worked at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in Warsaw coordinating rule of law and anti-torture projects, including prison reform projects in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Gerald Staberock is a qualified lawyer from Germany concluding his judicial clerkship with the Higher Regional Court of Berlin. He studied in Bonn, Geneva and Washington DC (LL.M). He has published on issues of the rule of law in transition countries, the domestic implementation of international standards, counter-terrorism and human rights, including on the lack of accountability over intelligence agencies and cooperation, and on the role of civil society in international law.

#### Ms. Snježana Bokulić (Moderator)

Snježana Bokulić is Head of the Human Rights Department at the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In addition to human rights monitoring, in particular of freedom of assembly, her work includes human rights capacity building with a focus on law enforcement, national human rights institutions and human rights defenders, engagement with the security sector on human rights and gender issues affecting security sector personnel, and support for human rights compliant anti-terrorism policies and practices.

Prior to joining ODIHR in April 2010, she worked for Minority Rights Group International (2003-2010) and Open Society Institute (2000-2003). Her work focused on strengthening the capacity of minority rights NGOs to advocate at intergovernmental human rights fora, including the UN, Council of Europe, OSCE and the African Commission, and in particular on improving the participation of minorities in EU development and accession processes. She has published on topics such as ODIHR's monitoring of freedom of assembly, the engagement of ODIHR with civil society, political participation of minorities and minorities in the EU accession process in the Western Balkans, among others.

## **WORKING SESSION 5**

3–6 p.m.

Rule of law II

## Mr. Nicolae Esanu (Introducer)

Nicolae Esanu currently serves as Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova. In 1993 Mr Esanu graduated from the Law Faculty of Moldova State University and became a lecturer of the Civil Law Chair of the same Faculty. From August 2004 till November 2009 he was Deputy Minister of Justice and is holding the same position again since July 2013. Since March 2005 Mr Esanu is a member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) of the Council of Europe.

#### Ms. Olga Shepeleva (Moderator)

Ms. Shepeleva is a Senior Legal Officer at the Global Network for Public Interest Law (PILnet), Moscow Office. PILnet is an international NGO active in the field of human rights and rule of law which liaises with local partners to develop institutions essential to promote and ensure the respect of human rights. Within PILnet, Ms. Shepeleva researches on international best practices for organizing and managing free legal aid programs and advocates for the establishment of such programs throughout the Russian Federation.

Before joining PILnet, Ms. Shepeleva worked for various Russian civil society organizations on monitoring the work of law enforcement authorities, penitentiary institutions, and the judiciary. She has extensive experience on strategic litigation before the European Court for Human Rights (ECtHR), mostly in torture related cases, and provided advice on litigation strategies to other NGOs. Ms. Shepeleva authored and contributed to a number of publications related to legal aid and fair trial standards.

## THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2014

#### **WORKING SESSION 6**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Humanitarian issues and other commitments, including address by the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

## Ms. Madina Jarbussynova (Introducer)

Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova of Kazakhstan is the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, and represents the OSCE at the political level in anti-trafficking issues. She took office in September 2014.

From June 2012 to August 2014 she served as the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. She was Ambassador-at-Large for Kazakhstan from 2009-2011, including during Kazakhstan's Chair-in Office in 2010. Previously, since 2008, she represented the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States at the SOS Kinderdorf International Senate in Vienna. She also previously was a member of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) Advisory Board and a member of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

From 1999 to 2003, she was her country's Permanent Representative at the United Nations. Prior to this, from 1998 to 1999 she served as the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Ambassador Jarbussynova speaks English, Russian and Kazakh.

## Ms. Vera Gracheva (Introducer)

Mrs. Vera Gracheva, Ph.D. in international relations, currently is an independent consultant/expert on combating trafficking in human beings. In 2004-2013 Mrs. Gracheva served as a Senior Adviser at the OSCE Secretariat. She joined the OSCE in October 2004, right after the creation of the OSCE Office for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. Previously Dr.Gracheva worked as a researcher at the Russian Academy of Sciences and in 1991-2004 she served as a diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Her foreign posting included the Russian Embassy to the US (human rights counsellor), the OSCE Mission to Croatia (legal and human rights adviser) and the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE (Austria) (senior counsellor).

Dr.Gracheva significantly contributed to the drafting and adoption of all OSCE Ministerial Council Decisions related to the fight against human trafficking in 2000-2013, including the "OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings" (2003) and the "Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later" adopted by the PC Decisions and endorsed at the 2013 Kyiv Ministerial Council Meeting. She is an author and an editor of a number of articles and other publications on THB, including a Manual "Media against THB" (Moscow, 2012) for students and post-graduates of the Faculty of Journalism of the Moscow State University. She is also a co-author of an OSCE study on the role of the private sector in the prevention of THB and forced labour (to be published in November 2014).

## **Ms. Tichy Fisslberger (Moderator)**

Ambassador, Director General Legal and Consular Affairs,

National Coordinator on Combatting Human Trafficking Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Vienna, Austria

Ambassador Tichy-Fisslberger joined the Austrian diplomatic service in 1988 and has a long record of working in European affairs in various areas. Before joining the Austrian diplomatic service, she

had worked for the European Commission in Brussels. Foreign postings included Dublin, London and a long spell in Brussels.

Ambassador Tichy-Fisslberger has been the first Austrian National Coordinator on Combatting Human Trafficking and President of the Austrian Task Force on Combatting Human Trafficking since 2009.

For almost ten years now she has also been a lecturer at the University of Vienna and at the Diplomatic Academy, Vienna. She holds degrees from the University of Vienna in Law and Languages (French, Spanish). She is also fluent in English and Italian.

#### **WORKING SESSION 7**

3-6 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination I, including equality of opportunity for women and men and the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality

## Ms. Wanda Nowicka (Introducer)

Ms. Nowicka is a Member of Parliament and has since 2011 held the position of Deputy Speaker of the Sejm – Main Chamber of the Polish Parliament. Ms. Nowicka holds a Master's Degree in Classics and has been an activist in the field of women's rights and health, human rights and particularly sexual and reproductive health and rights for many years. She is a co-founding member of the Federation for Women and Family Planning as well as a founding member of ASTRA – Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. From 1996 to 2002, she served as a member of the Gender Advisory Panel of WHO's Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction Programme and since 2003 she has been a member of Advisory Board of Reproductive Health Matters. Ms. Nowicka has authored numerous articles and papers on women's rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, published in Poland and internationally. In 2008, Ms. Nowicka was granted the University-in-Exile Award by the New School – the University in New York, in recognition of the engagement in the struggle for women's reproductive rights, both in Poland and in the international arena.

#### **Ambassador Miroslava Beham (Moderator)**

Ambassador Miroslava Beham took up her present function as Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the OSCE on 15 December 2011. Ms. Beham started her diplomatic career when she joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro in March 2005. She was appointed Deputy Head of the Serbia and Montenegro Mission to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna in July 2005, and was Chargé d'Affaires of the Mission after Montenegro left the State Union with Serbia in May 2006. Subsequently Ms. Beham was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Serbia to the OSCE and other International Organizations in Vienna and stayed in the post until December 2011. From 1983 until she joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2005, Ms. Beham worked as a freelance author, literary critic and political journalist for a variety of German media (Süddeutsche Zeitung, SZ-Magazin, Bayerischer Rundfunk), publishing houses and the Serbian news-magazine NIN. She was visiting lecturer at the German School for Journalism and the Ludwig-Maximilians University, worked with the Ministry of Culture in Munich and various German, Serbian and international public relations and marketing firms and on projects for the German Peace Research Foundation. As a journalist and researcher Ms Beham has been dealing with gender and peace issues throughout her professional career.

# FRIDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

## **WORKING SESSION 8**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Specifically selected topic:** 

Violence against women and children

## Mr. Sergey Kyslytsya (Introducer)

A career diplomat in the rank of Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the 1st class, Mr. Kyslytsya has held various diplomatic posts over the last two decades in Ukraine, Belgium, and the United States. From 2006 until March 2014, Mr. Kyslytsya held the post of the Director-General of the Directorate for International Organizations at the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine. In March 2014, he was appointed the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ukraine). In addition, from 2007 to 2011, Mr. Kyslytsya was a member of the Steering Committee for the Equality between Women and Men (CDEG) of the Council of Europe. In 2012, he was elected to the newly established Gender Equality Commission of the Council of Europe (GEC) and had been its vice-chair in 2012-2014. Since 1 July 2014, he assumed responsibilities of the Chair of the GEC. Mr Kyslytsya has a degree in International Law cum laude.

#### Ms. Rosa Logar (Introducer)

Ms. Rosa Logar is the Executive Director of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Program Vienna, a victim/survivor service that was established with the Domestic Violence Act in 1997. She is also a lecturer at the Department of Social Work of the University of Applied Sciences and member of the Austrian inter-ministerial working group on the new Domestic Violence Act. Ms. Logar is also the President of the European WAVE Network, Women against Violence Europe, founded in 1994, and she participated in selected international activities. In 2008, she was member of the UN Expert Group Meeting on Good Practices in Legislation on Violence Against Women in Vienna; from 2006 to 2008, member of the Council of Europe Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence; and, from 2008 until 2010, she was the representative of the Austrian Federal Minister for Women in the Council of Europe Ad Hoc Committee, drafting the new Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence.

#### Mr. Thomas Vennen (Moderator)

Thomas Vennen was appointed Head of Democratization in the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in 2010, where he is responsible for the Office's rule of law, legislative support, democratic governance, gender and migration portfolios. Mr. Vennen started his career in the early 1990' as international lawyer advising investors and governments on foreign investment conditions and harmonization of national legal and institutional frameworks with International and European Standards. He has gained distinct experience in legal, judicial and governance standards and reforms and worked in various capacities for a number of international organizations and agencies such as the EU, EBRD, OECD, ADB and GIZ in Europe, Central Asia, Latin America and Africa. Mr. Vennen holds a law degree from Cologne University, a diploma in international human rights law from Geneva University and has qualified for judicial career at the Berlin Cassation Court.

#### **WORKING SESSION 9**

3-6 p.m.

**Specifically selected topic:** 

Violence against women and children (continued)

## Ms. Soraya Post (Introducer)

In the election on 25 May 2014, Soraya Post became the European Union Parliament's first-elected member of the Swedish Feminist Initiative as well as the first Romani woman in Swedish history to be chosen as a candidate for a political party. She has joined the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament and she is member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) and the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) as well as a substitute member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America (DCAM). Post has previously worked at the Västra Götaland County Human Rights Committee, as a human rights strategist. In 2007, she also initiated and founded Agnesbergs Folkhögskola (Folk High School) in Gothenburg.

#### Dr. Jemma Hasratyan (Introducer)

Dr. Hasratyan is the President of the Armenian Association of Women with University Education and the Director of the Centre for Gender Studies. She holds a Ph.D. in Education. Ms. Hasratyan is the leading expert on gender equality and women's rights in Armenia. Aged 81, Ms. Hasratyan has led the majority of efforts to advance women's rights in Armenia, including activities to increase women's political participation as well as prevent and combat domestic violence and violence against women belonging to vulnerable groups. A committed activist, Ms. Hasratyan has contributed to numerous efforts combating violence against women in Armenia, including testifying before the CEDAW committee and co-operating with the UN, CoE, and the OSCE. Her organization also published an analytical Survey on Women's Political Participation in the 2012 Parliamentary Elections in Armenia. Ms. Hasratyan was one of the 1000 women proposed for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

#### Ms. Beatriz Balbin (Moderator)

Beatriz Balbin joined the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in September 2013 as First Deputy Director. Previously, Ms Balbin joined the United Nations in 1997 and served in different capacities with the UN over 16 years in Africa, South East Asia, Latin America and the Balkans. She has worked for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as well as for the UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Department of Political Affairs. Her last assignment was as Head of the Human Rights Component of the UN Mission in Sierra Leone, where she also doubled as the Country Representative for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Previously, she served in different electoral observation and human rights assignments, including as member of Commissions of Inquiry mandated by the UN Secretary General and other UN bodies. She holds a law degree from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.

# **MONDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2014**

## **WORKING SESSION 10**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Specifically selected topic:** 

Rights of persons belonging to national minorities, including address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

#### Mrs. Astrid Thors (Introducer)

See Opening Plenary

## Mr. Vincent de Graaf (Moderator)

Vincent de Graaf has a broad background in international law, diplomacy and human rights. He is a Senior Adviser as well as Head of Section responsible for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. He is a specialist in European and Public International law and holds law degrees from the Universities of Aix-Marseille, Maastricht and Cambridge. Mr. de Graaf previously worked for the Legal Service of the European Commission, the Directorate of Legal Affairs of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands Council of State in the fields of EU enlargement, human rights, migration and EU law. He is a regular guest lecturer at different universities on human and minority rights and serves as a member of the Board of Editors of Security and Human Rights, a scientific journal published by Brill International.

#### **WORKING SESSION 11**

3-6 p.m.

**Specifically selected topic:** 

Rights of persons belonging to national minorities (continued)

#### Mr. Mark Lattimer (Introducer)

Mark Lattimer is the Executive Director of Minority Rights Group International, an NGO in consultative status with the UN which works to secure the rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples and to promote cooperation between communities. It works with over 150 partner organisations in over 60 countries worldwide. Formerly he was the Communications Director at Amnesty International UK where he worked on the Pinochet case and was editor of Amnesty's annual Human Rights Audit. He is currently a member of the Committee of Reference for Friends Life Stewardship, one of Europe's largest ethical investment houses.

He is the author or editor of a number of books including: Genocide and Human Rights (Ashgate, 2006); and (with Philippe Sands QC) Justice for Crimes against Humanity (Oxford, Hart, 2003). He has provided technical consultancy on human rights to a number of UN agencies, including UNDP, UNICEF and UNOHCHR, and is frequently used as an expert by the UN, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE.

#### Ms. Sirpa Rautio (Moderator)

Sirpa Rautio has a broad background in international human rights law, development and post-conflict operations. Ms. Rautio has served in a number of international organizations, such as OHCHR, OSCE/ODIHR, Council of Europe and the World Bank. She is a Director of the Finnish Human Rights Centre since 2012 and currently on leave of absence. Ms . Rautio received a Master of Law degree from Turku University in 1989.

# **TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**

#### **WORKING SESSION 12**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including prevention and responses to hate crimes, aggressive nationalism and chauvinism, and Roma and Sinti issues including the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on

Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti

## Mr. Thomas Hammarberg (Introducer)

Mr. Thomas Hammarberg is well known diplomat and human rights activist. He currently serves as a UN Senior Expert on Human Rights in Transnistria and as EU Special Adviser on Constitutional and Legal Reform and Human Rights in Georgia. In addition, he has been appointed by the Swedish government as Head of the Government Commission against Anti-Gypsyism in Sweden.

Mr. Hammarberg served as the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (2006-2012). Prior to this, he was the Secretary General of Amnesty International (1980-1986), Secretary General of "Save the Children" (1986-1992), Ambassador of the Swedish Government on Humanitarian Affairs (1994-2002) and Secretary General of the Olof Palme International Center (2002-2005). He has been particularly devoted to upholding the rights of Roma and Sinti throughout Europe.

## Mr. Stephanos Stavros (Moderator)

Mr. Stephanos Stavros is currently serving as the Executive Secretary, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe. In this organization, he served as the Head of the Penology and Criminology Division, where he was dealing with prison reform and crime policy, and also the Head of the Central Division of Administration.

Mr. Stavros has also occupied various positions within the following bodies of the organization: the Secretariat of the European Commission of Human Rights, the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights and the Secretariat of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO). In 1991-1994, Mr. Stavros worked as a Legal Officer (European Union law) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece.

#### **WORKING SESSION 13**

3 p.m.–6 p.m.

Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), including combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance on religious grounds

## Rabbi Andrew Baker (Introducer)

Rabbi Andrew Baker is Director of International Jewish Affairs for the American Jewish Committee. In January 2009 he was appointed the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chair-in Office on Combating Anti-Semitism. He has played an active role in confronting the legacy of the Holocaust. He is a Vice President of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, the Jewish umbrella organization working on restitution issues. In 2003 he was awarded the

Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit (First Class) by the President of Germany for his work in German-Jewish relations. Rabbi Baker directed AJC efforts in the development and construction of the Belzec Memorial and Museum, a joint project of the AJC and the Polish Government on the site of the former Nazi death camp in Southeastern Poland. Rabbi Baker has served as President of the Washington Board of Rabbis, President of the Interfaith Conference of Washington and Commissioner on the District of Columbia Human Rights Commission.

#### Mr. Alexei Avtonomov (Introducer)

Graduate of the International Legal Department, Moscow State Institute for International Relations, Mr. Avtonomov started his career as an academic teacher, lecturer and assistant professor of the Moscow State Institute for International Relations, Legal Department. Later his served as a Director of the Legal Department, then Deputy President on Legal Issues, Foundation for the Development of Parliamentarism in Russia. Mr. Avtonomov took part in numerous law drafting activities in Russia and Kazakhstan. He is also member of the Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (within the International Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination). In 2013 Mr. Alexey Avtonomov was appointed as a Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, focusing on Intolerance Against Christians and Members of Other Religions.

## Professor Talip Küçukcan (Introducer)

Talip Küçukcan is the Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies, Professor of Sociology at the Marmara University and Editor-in-Chief of Insight Turkey. He received a BA in Islamic Studies at the Uludag University and completed his MA at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, focusing on freedom of religion, social movements and political changes Middle. Küçukcan received his Ph.D. from the Center for Research in Ethnic Relations (CRER), University of Warwick, focusing on state-religion relations and Muslim minorities in the West. Küçukcan worked as a senior researcher at the Center for Islamic Studies between 1997 and 2007 where he led a major research project on state-religion relations and governance of Islam in 12 EU countries. He was also involved in the establishment of Political, Economic and Social Research Foundation (SETA), where later on he was appointed as the Foreign Policy Research Director (2010–13) and served as a Senior Adviser to the President of the Higher Education Council of Turkey between 2009 and 2013.

#### **Mr. Michael Whine (Moderator)**

Michael Whine has been employed by the Community Security Trust since 1986, and currently serves as its Government and International Affairs Director. In 2002, he was appointed a member of the Hate Crime Independent Advisors Group at the UK Ministry of Justice.

In September 2013, he was appointed the UK member of the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), the human rights monitoring agency of the Council of Europe.

# **WEDNESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2014**

#### **WORKING SESSION 14**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms II, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief

#### **Ms.** Laureline Fontaine (Introducer)

Laureline Fontaine is Professor of Public Law at the Institute of European Studies, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris 3. She is a member of the academic council of the journal Les Cahiers de la Recherche sur les Droits Fondamentaux.

Her academic interest lies primarily with constitutional law, the role of law in the evolution of society, and interdisciplinary analysis of law.

## Mr. Dmitry Kabak (Moderator)

Dmitry Kabak is a human rights defender and president of the Open Viewpoint Foundation, which is one of the organizations comprising the Human Rights Defenders Council of Kyrgyzstan. He has worked extensively on freedom of religion or belief issues as a member of the ODIHR Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

#### **WORKING SESSION 15**

3-6 p.m.

Fundamental freedoms II (continued), including freedom of movement

## Ms. Valentyna Subotenko (Introducer)

Ms. Subotenko is an independent legal expert and researcher in the areas of migration, freedom of movement, refugees and citizenship, as well as legal reform and legal drafting. Over the last 14 years she co-operated extensively on the above-mentioned issues with OSCE, UNHCR, UNDP and Council of Europe. She is former Director of the Centre for Legal and Legislative Drafting under the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine and former Head of the Citizenship Section of the Secretariat of the President of Ukraine.

## Ms. Roza Akylbekova (Moderator)

Ms. Roza Akylbekova is one of the founders of the Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law (KIBHR&RL) and has been its Director since 2012. Under her leadership, the Bureau has been actively involved in the drafting and presentation of reports on the human rights situation in Kazakhstan, as well as on thematic reports related to the observance of political rights and civil freedoms at the national and international level, including on issues of freedom of movement. Ms Akylbekova has also been a member of the Delegations of Kazakhstan to various UN Committees on the submission of Alternative (Shadow) Reports on the Implementation of UN Conventions and Covenants, including the 1966 ICCPR. In Kazakhstan, Ms. Akylbekova is a member of various Working Groups and Expert Councils, including the Expert Council for the Ombudsman of Kazakhstan, as well as the Human Rights Commission under the President of Kazakhstan.

# **THURSDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2014**

#### **WORKING SESSION 16**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Specifically selected topic: Rights of migrants

## Ms. Despina Syrri (Introducer)

Despina Syrri is Senior Expert on sustainable growth with the Regional Cooperation Council. She has been Director of Research and International Cooperation at the Immigration Policy Institute in Greece, and has cooperated with the Reuters, Athens News Agency, Berlin Migration Netzwerk, British Council, Refugee Studies Centre Oxford and EastWest Institute on post-conflict development, human rights, migration, refugees, borders and the Western Balkans integration to the European Union, including election observation with OSCE/ODIHR. She taught Political Science and Political Anthropology at the American College of Thessaloniki, worked with IOs and NGOs in Southern Africa, East Europe and South East Europe, published journal articles and book chapters in Greek, South Slavic and English, authored research papers, citizens' media and documentaries. She recently cooperated with a Deusto University led consortium of EU universities in developing post-graduate degrees at EU level on Humanitarian Action, and undertook research on irregular migration with ELIAMEP and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency. She is the Director of the Council of Europe Civic School of Political Studies in Greece, President of Symβiosis and a member of the Thessaloniki Municipality Migrants' Integration Council.

## Ms. Jitka Markova (Introducer)

Ms. Markova is Deputy Chair of the European Network of Migrant Women (ENoMW), the largest umbrella organization of migrant-led women's non-governmental organizations within the European Union, working to promote migrant women's rights, the concerns, needs and interests of migrant women in the European Union. ENoMW membership extends to organizations in 20 OSCE participating States.

## Mr. Sergo Mananashvili (Moderator)

Dr. Sergo Mananashvili is Post-doctoral Researcher at the Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute (EUI), where he has worked since 2011 as a Legal Module Coordinator of the CARIM-East project (an Observatory of Migration East of Europe) and as a Member of the Coordination Team of the project CONTENTION (focused on the judicial control of the pre-removal detention of migrants). His previous positions include Research Officer in the European law and European Migration Network Unit at the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, and Legal Adviser in a UNHCR-funded project on legal protection of refugees and IDPs in Georgia.

He received his master's degree (LL.M.) in European Law from the Europa-Institut of Saarland University (Germany), where he also defended his *summa cum laude* PhD (Dr. iur.) thesis on the possibilities and limits of international and European law enforcement of the Geneva Refugee Convention (Nomos, 2009).

## **WORKING SESSION 17**

3–6 p.m.

**Specifically selected topic: Rights of migrants (continued)** 

## Mr. Alfredo Zamudio (Introducer)

Mr. Zamudio is the Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), which is a world leader in the monitoring and analysis of the causes, effects and responses to internal displacement. Previously he worked as a humanitarian aid worker in complex emergencies with missions to Darfur, Timor-Leste, Colombia with the Norwegian Refugee Council, UNHCR, others. Mr. Zamudio holds a Master's degree in Public Administration, Harvard Kennedy School of Government. In 2010 Mr. Zamudio was awarded the Order of Timor-Leste by Timorese president José Ramos-Horta, and in 2012 Mr. Zamudio was appointed as one of the 10 most important role models with a migration background in Norway.

# Mr. Ignacio Díaz de Aguilar (Introducer)

Ignacio Diaz de Aguilar holds the position of Managing Director at Aguilar & Astorga Law firm. He specializes in commercial law and Planning and has an experience of over thirty years advising individuals and companies. Customers include public entities and has participated in the drafting of state and Islands legislation, the creation of the ZEC, the reform of the Statute of Autonomy or the Law of Tourism Renewal and projects of general interest such as internationalization of the city of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria or inter-mediation. Ignacio Díaz de Aguilar also has a long history of engaging NGOs in what has led him to be an expert in refugee law. Among other positions he has been president of the Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid and member of the Executive Board of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles. He is trustee of the ECCA Foundation and the Alliance for Solidarity Foundation.

## **Mr. Frank Remus (Moderator)**

Mr. Frank Remus is Head of the UNHCR Liaison Office to the OSCE and Vienna-based UN Agencies. Since 1995, Mr. Remus has worked with UNHCR in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Yemen. From 2002 to 2009 Mr. Remus was Senior Desk Officer for the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe, and in 2009 - 2010 he worked as Senior Operations Coordinator and Senior Crisis Coordinator for the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific. In 2011 - 2013 he was UNHCR Deputy Regional Representative for Central Asia.

# FRIDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2014

## **WORKING SESSION 18**

Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

### CLOSING REINFORCED PLENARY SESSION

# Working session 18: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

## Ms. Sebnem Lust (Introducer)

Şebnem Lust is the acting Head of the OSCE Secretariat, Conflict Prevention Centre's Programming and Evaluation Support Unit. She joined the OSCE in 2004 and occupied versatile positions, gradually specializing in results-based management, evaluation, effectiveness in programme delivery and accountability. Ms. Lust has been a key member of the team that rolled-out the results-based management system across the OSCE. She is the main author of the OSCE Project Management Manual that harmonized the Organization's approach to project management. Prior to the assumption of her duties in the OSCE, Ms. Lust served in the European Commission DG Economic and Financial Affairs, in private sector and academia. She holds a French Baccalauréat, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Trade from Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey and Master's Degree in European Economic Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium. She is fluent in Turkish, English, French and German. Ms. Lust is married and has a son.

#### Ms. Beatriz Balbin (Moderator)

See Working Session 9

# <u>Closing plenary session reinforced by the participation of human rights directors, OSCE ambassadors and heads of OSCE institutions</u>

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

#### **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**

Ambassador Lamberto Zannier of Italy took up the post of OSCE Secretary General on 1 July 2011. Zannier is an Italian career diplomat. From June 2008 to June 2011 he was UN Special Representative for Kosovo and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). From 2002 to 2006, he was the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE. Previous senior positions include Permanent Representative of Italy to the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague (2000-2002), chairperson of the negotiations on the adaptation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (1997-2000) and Head of Disarmament, Arms Control and Cooperative Security at NATO (1991-1997).

#### Mr. Guillaume Scheurer

Since August 26, 2013 Guillaume Scheurer serves as Deputy Head of Delegation to the Swiss Mission to the OSCE.

Previous government assignments:

- Deputy Head of the Swiss Embassy, Washington, D.C. where he was also the head of the Political and Legal Section (2009-2013);
- Deputy Head of the political Division for Human Security, Peace Promotion and Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berne (2005-2008);
- Deputy Chief of Mission at the Swiss Embassy in Teheran, which also represents U.S. interests in Iran (2001- 2005);
- First Secretary at the Swiss Delegation to the OSCE (1998-2001);
- Deputy Head of the OSCE Section in Berne (1997) and member of the Task Force in Berne for the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE in 1996;
- His first posting overseas was in Pretoria and Cape Town, after entering the Swiss Foreign Ministry in 1992.

Guillaume Scheurer received his Law degree from the University of Neuchâtel and did his post-graduate studies in International Security at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. His early career included working at a law practice in Neuchâtel, where he was called to the bar and from 1990 to 1992 as a lawyer at the general directorate for a large private insurance company near Zürich.

Guillaume achieved the military grade of First Lieutenant of Artillery during his military service in the Swiss Army. He is married to Farin Scheurer and has one son.

# Mr. Michael Georg Link

see Opening Plenary