



Wilton Park

## Programme

### **Human rights, peace and security: strengthening the links**

Wednesday 15 – Friday 17 January 2020 | WP1725

#### **Wiston House**

The 15th conference in the annual human rights series, will focus on human rights in conflict prevention, peace-building and sustainable peace, exploring the interlinkage between human rights and the security framework from the perspectives of policy makers and practitioners.

*“Perhaps the best prevention tool we have is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – and the treaties that derive from it. The rights set out in it identify many of the root causes of conflict, but equally they provide real world solutions through real change on the ground.”*

Secretary-General António Guterres (Human Rights Council 2017)

In the 2016 ‘twin’ resolutions on Sustaining Peace, member states of the Security Council and the General Assembly recognised that development, peace and security, and human rights are interlinked and mutually re-enforcing. However, cooperation between actors across the three UN pillars needs to be strengthened to overcome the current tendency of thematic silos.

The conference will build on the Government of Switzerland’s [13th June Appeal](#), placing human rights at the heart of conflict prevention. The 2016 Appeal, which was supported by 71 states, calls for the Human Rights Council to play a more prominent role in conflict prevention, involving itself at every stage of the ‘peace continuum’. This is echoed in a more recent call for Member States to enhance exchanges and communications between the Human Rights Council and the rest of the UN system, for example, during the interactive dialogue with the President of the Human Rights Council in October 2019 at the UN General Assembly session in New York.

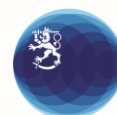
This Wilton Park conference will convene up to 55 people drawn from key donor countries, a selection of affected countries and/ or regions, policy makers (Geneva and New York); human rights defenders and advocates; field practitioners, relevant international and regional bodies. Through frank and off-the-record discussion under the Wilton Park

#### **In association with:**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA**



Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs of Finland

protocol, this meeting aims to:

- Identify practical ways in which to integrate human rights discourse into conflict prevention and mediation
- Enhance understanding of how human rights frameworks can contribute to sustainable peace
- Strengthen links among key agencies and actors, particularly across a spectrum of policymakers, civil society and frontline practitioners
- Generate the emergence of expert networks to take forward actions and proposals

**In association with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland**

## Wednesday 15 January

**1500-1600**

Participants arrive. Tea and coffee available on arrival

**1500-1515**

Briefing meeting for Session 2 facilitators

**1600**

### **Welcome to Wilton Park and introduction to conference**

**Julia Purcell**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

**Barbara Schedler Fischer**

Acting Head, Human Security Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Bern

**1615-1730**

### **1. Human rights, peace and security: towards greater coherence**

In what ways can human rights considerations be more firmly embedded into the security framework? What are the obstacles to effective integration across the UN system? How to strengthen links with civil society actors and human rights defenders? How to achieve greater coherence and ensure more effective responses towards peace, security and protection of individual rights?

**Andrew Gilmour**

Former Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, New York

**Elham Saudi**

Director, Lawyers for Justice in Libya, London

**Kim Turcotte**

Senior Protection of Civilians Officer, United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), Kinshasa

**1730-1800**

Tea/coffee

**1800-1845**

### **2. Opportunities for integration**

How to improve inter-action across the UN pillars of human rights and peace and security, ensuring that human rights defenders and civil society are fully engaged?

Break out groups

**Facilitators:**

**Andrea Baumann**

Deputy Political Coordinator, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, New York

**Jennifer Croft**

Deputy Head, Human Rights Department at OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Warsaw

**Janina Hasenson**

Deputy Director, Human Rights Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Helsinki

**Christof Heyns**

Professor of Law, University of Pretoria

**Marc Limon**

Executive Director, Universal Rights Group, Geneva

**Phil Lynch**

Executive Director, International Service for Human Rights, Geneva

**Graeme Simpson**

Principle Representative and Senior Peacebuilding Advisor, Interpeace, New York

1845

Briefing meeting for Session 6 facilitators

1900

Reception followed by dinner

**Thursday 16 January**

0800-0900

Breakfast

0900-0930

**3. Opportunities for integration: brief reflections from break out groups**

0930-1045

**4. Tackling root causes: protecting human rights and preventing conflict**

Early information about human rights violations: how to integrate 'field knowledge' and evidence into political decision-making and inform targeted action for conflict prevention? How to strengthen the role of human rights bodies in conflict prevention? In what ways can human rights norms and frameworks be deployed to address grievances, reduce inequality and build resilience?

**Philippe Bolopion**

Deputy Director for Global Advocacy, Human Rights Watch, New York

**Michael Kingsley-Nyinah**

Director, Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, Central and Southern Africa Division, United Nations, New York

1045-1130

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1130-1200

**5. Perspectives on human rights violations in conflict**

Plenary introduction to break out groups

Highlighting the increased risk of human rights violations, the impact on the most vulnerable and marginalised. What are the particular issues for the most vulnerable, including women, girls and other marginalised groups? How to maintain a strong human rights perspective during conflict? What needs to change?

**Eamon Gilmore**

EU Special Representative for Human Rights, Brussels

**Comfort Lamptey**

Representative of United Nations Women to Nigeria and the Economic Community of West African States, Abuja

1200-1300

## **6. Improving responses: human rights violations in conflict**

What could be done differently to enhance protection and security and inform responses to future conflicts? What is needed to improve the 'peace architecture' and cross communication between: the UN pillars, human rights mechanisms, civil society, national and regional bodies? What recommendations for future working?

Break out groups

**Facilitators:**

**Chaloka Beyani**

Associate Professor of International Law, London School of Economics and Political Science, London

**Charles Blaha**

Director of the Office of Security and Human Rights, US Department of State, Washington DC

**Rita French**

Ambassador for Human Rights and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva

**Rachel Madenyika**

United Nations Representative, Quaker United Nations Office, New York

**Michael O'Flaherty**

Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Vienna

**Renzo Pomi**

Representative at UN, Amnesty International USA, New York

**Luisa Ragher**

Head of Human Rights Division, European External Action Service, Brussels

**Maria Westergren**

Political Affairs Officer, UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, New York

1300-1445

Lunch/free time

1345-1430

Garden tour

1400-1415

Briefing for Session 10 facilitators

1445-1515

## **7. Reflections from break out groups**

Brief feedback from the four groups.

1515-1630

## **8. Conflict resolution: promoting a human rights-based approach**

How to promote efforts towards conflict resolution within a human rights framework and strengthen the impact of the Human Rights Council 'in the field'? What are the tensions arising from different approaches and aims, eg the perceived short and medium-term objectives of conflict resolution and longer-term human rights perspectives? And how can they be resolved? How to ensure the inclusion of women? In what ways can a human rights approach strengthen the efforts of mediators and negotiators towards more

sustainable conflict resolution?

**Priscilla Hayner**

Senior Mediation Adviser, United Nations Standby Team of Mediation Advisers, New York

**Adrian Foster**

Former UN Deputy Military Adviser in New York; Strategic Adviser, Small Arms Survey, Geneva

**Juanita Goebertus**

Congresswoman, House of Representatives, Bogotá

1630-1700

Tea/coffee

1700-1730

## 9. Human rights and sustainable peace

In what ways does the current UN architecture enable sustainable peace through the human rights framework? How to improve communication and related action? What are the obstacles to effective inter-action and what needs to change? How to ensure a people-centred, gender sensitive and inclusive approach to peacebuilding? How might the UN better partner with other multilateral, regional and national actors to build resilience?

Plenary introduction to break out groups

**Alejandra Botero**

Counsellor, Delivery Unit, Government of Colombia, Bogotá

**\*Chukwuemeka Eze**

Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, Accra

1730-1845

## 10. Towards more sustainable peace

Discussion in smaller groups based on the preceding session: What to do differently, joining up the UN system, increasing impact of civil society, enhancing links with national and regional bodies; more effective architecture and cross communication. Recommendations and proposals for the future.

Break out groups

**Facilitators:**

**Rachel Clogg**

Senior Advisor Caucasus, Conciliation Resources, London

**Clare Dalton**

Head of Humanitarian Diplomacy, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva

**Hilde Klemetsdal**

Director, Human Rights, Democracy and Gender Equality, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo

**Chloe Marnay-Bazanger**

Chief of the Peace Mission Section, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, New York

**Ian Martin**

Former United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General, London

**Sadeeq Shehu**

Senior Research Fellow National Defence College Nigeria and Adjunct Professor George C Marshall European Centre for Security Studies, National Defence College, Kaduna

**Bahia Tahzib-Lie**

Human Rights Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, The Hague

**Elizabeth Wilde**

Ambassador and Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Geneva

**1845**

Debrief for Session 10 facilitators in the Library

**1900**

Reception followed by dinner

**Friday 17 January**

**0800-0900**

Breakfast and checkout

**0915-1000**

**11. Recommendations and proposal from break outs**

**1000-1100**

**12. How to strengthen the role of human rights bodies and improve co-ordination?**

Roundtable discussion, drawing on proposals and recommendation from preceding sessions

**Chair:**

**Pekka Metso**

Ambassador-at-Large for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue Processes, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Helsinki

**1100-1130**

Tea/coffee

**1130-1145**

**13. Evaluation survey**

Completion of online survey

**1145- 1245**

**14. Next steps and ways forward**

**1300**

Lunch

**1400**

Participants depart