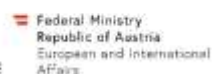


European Regional Forum on Hate Speech, Social Media and Minorities



P R A C T I C A L I N F O R M A T I O N

1. Date and venue of the meeting

The European Regional Forum (the “Regional Forum”) on the topic “*Hate Speech, Social Media and Minorities*” will be held on 21st – 22nd September 2020. The Regional Forum is convened by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on minority issues, with the support of the Federal Ministry of the Republic of Austria and organized by the Tom Lantos Institute in cooperation with a number of regional organizations: EURAC Research, European Centre for Minority Issues, Federal Union of European Nationalities, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, Minority Rights Group, UNITED for Intercultural Action and ZARA

The meeting will be held on the Zoom conferencing platform.

2. Output

During the meeting, the discussions and the contributions of the participants will result in the development of a regional document with practical recommendations reflective of regional contexts and challenges. Additional information in relation to the objectives of the regional forums can be found in the concept note and call for participation on the European Regional Forum webpage, <https://tom-lantos-institutue.events.idloom.com/european-regional-forum-on-minority-issues-2020>

3. Information relevant to holding the meeting online

Preparation

A few days prior to the meeting, access information to the meeting will be sent to all registered participants. It will not be necessary to set up an account with Zoom to join the meeting. Participants may access the meeting through a web browser as well.

The meeting can be joined 1 hour before the indicated starting time. Participants are encouraged to log in early in order for their credentials and connectivity to be checked prior to the start of the meeting.

Participants are required to join the meeting using the applicable naming convention communicated before the meeting via the confirmation email. Only participants with the appropriate naming convention will be admitted to the meeting. Otherwise, they will be “removed” from the Waiting Room so they may rename themselves and join again applying the naming convention correctly.

Conduct of the online meeting

Participants are strongly encouraged to submit their proposed recommendations in writing prior to the meeting (via regionalforum@tomlantosinstitute.hu). In addition, speakers are kindly requested to speak slower than usual to ensure the quality of interpretation is maintained.

Participants are required to remain muted with their camera disabled at all times during the meeting, except when taking the floor. This will ensure the best possible sound quality for all meeting participants.

Participants that wish to be added to the speakers list during the Regional Forum are kindly asked to use the “raise hand” function available in Zoom. Once the moderator hands the floor to a participant, the speaker must unmute themselves and turn on the camera before taking the floor. After their intervention is finished, the speaker mutes themselves and disables their camera. This process is repeated for each participant which is given the floor.

In case of technical issues (interpretation not working/ unmuting function not working for a someone who wishes to intervene/etc.), the Chat function shall be used to promptly inform the meeting host of the problem, so that appropriate action can be taken

4. Process

Structure of the meeting

Following the opening session there will be four consecutive thematic sessions addressing specific themes.

Each thematic session will consist of 3 expert panelists and a moderator. Each session will begin with short presentations from the expert panelists, highlighting the issue areas and focusing on key points from which recommendations can subsequently be elicited through further discussions.

Following the presentations, the floor will be open for interventions during which participants will be able to make statements and propose recommendations.

Length of interventions from the floor

To allow for a broader participation, interventions are limited to 2 minutes.

Taking the floor

Participants wishing to speak should indicate this to the moderator (via the “raise hand” function in Zoom) and wait for the floor to be given to them by the moderator.

When taking the floor, participants shall turn on their microphone and camera, and introduce themselves by providing their name, surname and the name of the organization/State they represent (if any). Participants should keep their comments short and to the point and speak only within the time frame allotted to them.

Subject to the number of participants registered for the Regional Forum, participants can speak only once during a session. If there is time left before the end of the thematic session, moderators will ask participants to raise their hands if they wish to make a second intervention.

The moderator will help to ensure that the participants engage in a constructive debate aimed at achieving the meetings’ objectives, ensuring that participants speak on the topic

under discussion at least once.

There are no rights of reply or points of order during the Regional Forum. All participants wishing to make a statement or intervention must follow the protocol detailed above.

Thematic focus

All interventions and statements under each theme of the Regional Forum should be relevant to the particular theme and relate to the topics under discussion. All statements should include **concrete recommendations** on how to tackle the issues under the theme. We count on the cooperation of all participants to that end.

Recommendations

All proposed recommendations must also be sent in writing. This can be done in advance of the Regional Forum by emailing them to regionalforum@tomlantosinstitute.hu or during the Regional Forum by submitting them via the Zoom chat function. This includes those recommendations proposed during an intervention, to ensure they are incorporated into the output document.

All proposed recommendations submitted in writing will be collated by the organizers. The final list of recommendations will be open for comment via the Zoom chat function during the final session (Presentation of Recommendations)

Code of conduct

Participants have a right to express their opinions freely, while respecting human rights and the principle of non-discrimination. In order to attain fruitful and meaningful exchanges, all participants are expected to show respect for others' views and to exercise decorum, avoid abusive or disrespectful language or derogatory and inflammatory remarks, respect UN core values and principles, and uphold UN standards when referring to countries and territories.

5. Schedule

The opening session will start on Monday, 21st September at 10am CEST. During this session the United Nations Special Rapporteur, as well as the keynote speakers, will present their opening remarks. Participants will not be able to make statements or interventions during the opening session.

Four working group sessions will follow, and all participants will have the right to speak during the thematic sessions and to submit proposed recommendations in writing.

At the closing session on Tuesday, 22nd September at 2pm CEST, the proposed recommendations developed during the four thematic sessions will be made available to participants to consider. The session will be introduced by the UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues and the recommendations made available for all participant to view via the shared-screen Zoom function. The recommendations will then be read out. Participants that wish to comment on a specific recommendation should use the chat function to send their comment, referring to the specific recommendation number.

The UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues will ultimately make the final decision on the complete set of draft recommendations, taking into account those comments provided.

The final set of recommendations will be posted online on the organizers website and on the webpage of the UN Forum on Minority Issues following the Regional Forum.

The meeting will end on Tuesday, 22nd September at 3.30pm CEST.

6. Interpretation

Interpretation is provided in English and Russian.

7. Contact Information

Mr. Sean Waller, at regionalforum@tomlantosinstitute.hu

8. Media

The Special Rapporteur on minority issues will be available for 1 hour at the end of each day of the regional forum for media enquiries.

For inquiries and media requests, please contact Ms. Marina Narvaez (mnarvaez@ohchr.org) or Ms Hee-Kyong Yoo (hyoo@ohchr.org)

9. Livestream and Recording

The Regional Forum will be livestreamed on YouTube. Day 1 can be followed using [this link](#). Day 2 can be followed using [this link](#).

Following the Regional Forum, the video and audio recording will be publicly available on the Tom Lantos Institute's YouTube channel, website and on www.minorityforum.info.

10. 'Side event'

The former OHCHR Minority Fellows, together with their partners, will host an event on 22 September 2020, 12.45 - 13.45 CEST. Please see details below.

Note, this is not part of the official European Regional Forum 2020. The organizers of the European Regional Forum 2020 bear no responsibility for the organization or content of this event.

Hate speech vaccine. Minority Youth Laboratory
A side event of the European Forum on Minority Issues

22 September 2020
12.45 - 13.45 CEST

Zoom link for participation: <https://eur-nl.zoom.us/j/91476027374>
Meeting ID: 914 7602 7374

The world is affected by COVID-19 pandemic but there is one more pandemic affecting the well-being of our society - the one of hate speech against minorities.

Do you want to be a part of the hate speech vaccine trial? Join the Minority Youth Laboratory - a solution oriented online discussion led by youth leaders.

Our speakers will share good practices on how the youth from the Netherlands, Armenia, France, Moldova and Turkey use online space, arts and public authority institutions to combat hate speech against minorities in the social media space. This interactive event will offer a platform for exchange of ideas, networking and innovation for all those concerned about the hate speech pandemic.

Join the Minority Youth Laboratory and bring your practical ideas to make the Hate Speech Vaccine a success. During the event there will be artistic performances by youth artists of diverse backgrounds to potentially enhance your creative thinking.

The event will be organized on Zoom. You would need to install the Zoom application on your device to be able to participate in the event. Please use the following link to access the discussion: <https://eur-nl.zoom.us/j/91476027374> and Meeting ID: 914 7602 7374

You are also encouraged to access the Facebook page of the side event to find out more about the speakers and the team behind the event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/s/hate-speech-vaccine-minority-y/3242887552491653/?ti=as>

If you have any questions about the side event please send an email to: Mostafa Betaree mbetaree@hotmail.com or Marina Shupac marinashupac@gmail.com.

“Hate speech vaccine. Minority Youth Laboratory” is organized by Former OHCHR Minority Fellows, Minority Youth International, Spotlight Team International Art, Youth Platform of Interethnic Solidarity of Moldova, and Yezidi Center for Human Rights of Armenia