

Conference Organisers: Peace Brigades International UK
Human Rights & Social Justice Research Institute, London Metropolitan University
The All Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group, UK Parliament



2009 Conference on Security and Protection for Human Rights Defenders

Day 1 Programme, Wednesday 29th April 2009

London Metropolitan University, Graduate Centre
166-220 Holloway Road, London N7 8HN

Session 1: *Setting the Scene*

09:00 – 09:15 **Welcome, Professor Philip Leach**, *Director HRSJ Research Institute, London Metropolitan University*

Introduction, Nicole Piché, *Coordinator, All Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group, UK Parliament*

09:15 – 09:45 **Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya**, *UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders*

Keynote address:

‘Why the international community needs HRDs’

The Existing Framework for Protection

Session 1 Chair:

09:45 – 9:50

Professor Sir Nigel Rodley, *Chair of the University of Essex Human Rights Centre, Member of the UN Human Rights Committee, Patron of Peace Brigades International UK section*

Panel Presenters:

09:50 – 10:10

Ulrika Sundberg, *Special Advisor of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe*

10:10 – 10:30

Anders Kompass, *United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights*

10:30 – 10:50

Alessio Cappellani, *European Commission, DG External Relations Human Rights and Democratisation Unit*

10:50 – 11:15

Plenary Discussion with Audience

11:15 – 11:45 Coffee/Tea Break (30 min)

Session 2: *Identifying Regional Trends in Security Risks*

Session 2 Chair:

11:45 – 11:50

Professor Kevin Boyle, *School of Law and Human Rights Centre University of Essex, Advisory Board Member of the HRSJ Research Institute, and Chair International Council Minority Rights Group*

Panel Presenters:

11:50 - 12:15

Hassan Shire Sheikh, *Chair, East & Horn of Africa HRD Network*

12:15 – 12:40

Tanya Lokshina, *Deputy Director, Moscow Office of Human Rights Watch*

12:40 - 13:30 Lunch Break (50 min)

(Session 2 Continued)

13:30 – 13:35

Professor Kevin Boyle (Chair Introduces Panel Presenters)

Panel Presenters:

13:35 - 14:00

Mandira Sharma, *Nepalese Human Rights Lawyer Advocacy Forum*

14:00 – 14:40

Alirio Uribe, *Colombian Human Rights Lawyer, Jose Alvear Retrepo Lawyers (in Spanish with translation)*

14:40 – 15:15

Plenary Discussion with Audience *(to incl. other HRDS/regional NGOs' comments)*

Session 3: *Strategies of States and NGOs to Address Repressive Trends and Gaps in the Protection of Human Rights Defenders*

Session 3 Chair:

15:15 – 15:20

Professor Philip Leach, *Director, HRSJ Research Institute*

Panel Presenters:

15:20 – 15:35

Liam Mahony, *PBI International Council Member, Researcher and Academic*

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15:35 – 15:50 **Leos Javurek**, *Principal Co-ordinator, Human Rights & Transition Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic*

15:50 – 16:05 **Lena Nordstrom**, Ambassador of Sweden in Colombia

16:05 - 16:35 Coffee/Tea Break (30 min)

(Session 3 continued)

16:35 – 16:40 **Professor Philip Leach** (Chair Introduces Panel Presenters)

Panel Presenters:

16:40 – 17:00 **Mary Lawlor**, *Director, Frontline, Dublin*

17:00 – 17:20 **Riina Kionka**, *Personal Representative for Human Rights for Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)*

17:20 – 17:40 **Dr. Nicolas Beger**, *Director, Amnesty International EU Office*

17:40 - 18:05 **Plenary Discussion with Audience**

Closing remarks:

18:05 - 18:15 **Susan Hyland**, *Head of Human Rights, Democracy and Governance Group, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office*

