

PROTECTDEFENDERS.EU BENEFICIARIES' MEETING

Brussels, Tuesday, 29th November

“Defenders are not criminals

Countering criminalisation of Human Rights Defenders”

Venue: La Tricoterie, Rue Théodore Verhaegen 158, 1060 Bruxelles

11.00-11.30	Registration of participants
11.30-12.00	<p>Opening session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome speech Speaker : Jean-Louis Ville, Head of Unit, EIDHR, DEVCO • Overview of the Project up to date: milestones, highlights and challenges Speaker : Chair of the board : Antoine Madelin, Director of International Advocacy, FIDH • Testimony about a criminalisation case
12.00 - 13.30	<p><i>Panel session : « Reaching out to the most isolated at risk » - Outreach to isolated or particularly targeted defenders facing criminalisation threats: best practises and recommendations</i></p> <p>Moderation : Memory Bandera, Director of Programs, Defend Defenders/EHAHRDP</p> <p>Panelists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauricio Angel Morales, Policy, Research and Training Head of Unit, Protection International • Bouhdid Belhadi, responsible for communication and external relations, SHAMS (Tunisia) • Claudia Samayoa, Director, UDEFEGUA (Guatemala) TBC • <i>Other panelist TBC</i>



13.30 - 14.30	LUNCH
14.30 - 16.00	<p>Panel session - « Countering negative narrative » - <i>Addressing perception issues about Human Rights Defenders in contexts of criminalisation.</i></p> <p>Moderation : Lucie Morillon, Head of programs, Reporters Sans Frontières (TBC)</p> <p>Panelists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercedes García Pérez, Head of the Human Rights Division, EEAS • Adilur Rahman Khan, Secretary, Odhikar (Bangladesh) • <i>Other panelists TBC</i>
16.00 - 16.30	Coffee break
16.30 - 18.00	<p>Panel session - « Leveraging EU and international influence » - <i>How to engage EU entities and international protection mechanisms on cases of criminalisation of Human Rights Defenders?</i></p> <p>Moderation : Gerald Staberock, Secretary General, OMCT</p> <p>Panelists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elena Valenciano, Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) of the EP (TBC) • Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders (TBC) • Armel Niyongere, President of ACAT-Burundi • <i>Other panelist TBC</i>
18.00 - 18.30	<p>Closing session : Presentation of results and conclusion</p> <p>Speakers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Rinaldi, Deputy Head of Unit, EIDHR, DEVCO • Andrew Anderson, Executive Director, Front Line Defenders
19.00	Dinner

