

Expert Workshop on the Right to Participate in Public Affairs

18 May 2016, Conference Room VII,
Palais des Nations, Geneva

PROGRAMME

09:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:15: Opening

Chair: **Mr. Eric Tistounet**,
Chief, Human Rights Council Branch, OHCHR

Thematic Session – 1

10:15-11:45: The right to participate in public affairs and existing guidance

Chair: **Mr. Eric Tistounet**,
Chief, Human Rights Council Branch, OHCHR

Speakers:

Mr. Olivier de Frouville
Member, Human Rights Committee

Ms. Wan-Hea Lee
Head of OHCHR Cambodia Office

Mr. Chad Vickery
International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)

Ms. Katerina Hadzi Miceva Evans
European Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ECNL)

Floor open for comments

11.45- 11.50 Break (change of panel)

Thematic Session – 2

11:50-13:00: Current challenges to the implementation of the right to participate in public affairs

Chair: **Ms. Nathalie Prouvez**
Chief, Rule of Law and Democracy Section, OHCHR

Speakers:

Ms. Lenka Homolkova

Election Adviser, EU Special Representative for Afghanistan

Ms. Pramilla Patten

Member, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar

Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Lunch Break

15:00-15:50 **Current challenges to the implementation of the right to participate in public affairs (*continued*)**

Mr. Dana Sofi

Reform Institute for Development, Iraq

Ms. Alicia del Águila

Journalist and Country Expert, V-Dem Project

Floor open for comments

15.50-16.00 Break (change of panel)

Thematic Session – 3

16:00-17:45 **Innovations and trends on the right to participate in public affairs**

Chair: **Mr. Simon Walker**

Chief, Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section,
Human Rights Treaties Branch, OHCHR

Speakers:

Ms. Beth Simone Noveck (via web conference)

Co-Founder, GovLab @NYU

Mr. Fernando Mendez

Centre for Research on Direct Democracy (C2D), University of Zurich

Ms. Caroline Ouaffo Wafang

Regional Gender Adviser, OHCHR

Ms. Maria Luisa Sotomayor

Global Coordinator, U-report project, UNICEF

Floor open for comments

17:45- 18.00 **Concluding remarks**