



THE ELEVENTH BUDAPEST HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

27 - 28 NOVEMBER 2018

BUDAPEST

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF HUNGARY

Concept Note

The year 2018 is marked by the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the 25th anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights. The protection of the internationally recognized human rights framework and strengthening human rights mechanisms are of ever-growing importance in light of alarming global human rights trends. The discussions of the 11th edition of the Budapest Human Rights Forum will focus on relevant and topical human rights issues in the course of three panel debates.¹

First Panel: Human empowerment - The role of education in the protection and promotion of human rights

Education plays a crucial role in the realization of all human rights. The right to education is a fundamental right of every human being as stipulated in several international human rights conventions. It also constitutes a significant part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Inclusive and good quality education is a key factor in creating a community that strives for social peace, coherence and development. The topic of the panel is closely linked, inter alia, to the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, the promotion of women's empowerment, as well as to the preservation of minority identity.

Second Panel: Protection of the rights of persons belonging to religious minorities

In recent years there has been a sharp increase of acts of intolerance and violence against individuals and/or group of people based on their religion or belief in every region of the world. These aggressive attacks pose a great threat to the historical and religious traditions of any nation; millions of people are exposed to persecution in their home country and suffer from the total deprivation of their basic human rights. The tragedies of local communities, families and children go beyond themselves: the reinforcement of our democratic values, the fight against violation of the universal right to freedom of religion and belief, expanding in geographical area and growing in its intensity, is our joint responsibility. The Budapest Human Rights Forum is intended to provide a platform for engagement in local, regional and international dialogues and education which are crucial means in the pursuit of our goal.

Third Panel: Mainstreaming human rights throughout the Voluntary National Reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

UN Member States have the opportunity to present their national measures and steps aimed at and taken for the implementation of Agenda 2030 in the form of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). Hungary prepared and submitted its first national report which was presented to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2018.

¹ The panel discussion on “Increasing the efficiency of the Human Rights Council” has been postponed until next year, taking into consideration the current dynamics of the cross-regional negotiation process in Geneva.

Human Rights are not listed under a separate goal among the SDGs but they are horizontally incorporated in the 2030 Agenda as all the goals are founded upon universal human rights. The relevant UN General Assembly resolution does not define the exact substantial and structural requirements and elements of a voluntary national review, it is therefore up to the UN Member States to decide to what extent they are ready to reflect on the human rights dimension in their reports. The aim of this Panel is to compare and share best practices concerning the presentation of the implementation of human rights in the voluntary national reviews. Invited panellists and speakers will summarize and share best practices and examples of the last three years and, by doing this, they will put forward useful recommendations for the preparation of national reports.

PROGRAMME OF THE ELEVENTH BUDAPEST HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

27 - 28 NOVEMBER 2018

**Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
Conference Hall, 1027 Budapest, Bem rakpart 47.**

CHAIR OF THE FORUM: Ágnes Hevesi, Human Rights Ambassador, Deputy Head of Department of International Organizations, MFAT of Hungary

RAPPORTEUR OF THE FORUM: Júlia Koncz-Kiss, Human Rights Officer, Department of International Organizations, MFAT of Hungary

27 NOVEMBER 2018

08:45-09:30 REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENT

09:30 - 10:30

OPENING SESSION

WELCOME SPEECH BY H.E. PÉTER SZTÁRAY, STATE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY POLICY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF HUNGARY

KEYNOTE SPEECH BY H.E. MARTIN NESIRKY, DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION SERVICE IN VIENNA

KEYNOTE SPEECH BY MARC LIMON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSAL RIGHTS GROUP

VIDEO MESSAGE BY H.E. AMBASSADOR VOJISLAV ŠUC, PRESIDENT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, GENEVA

10:30 - 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 13:00

FIRST PANEL

1ST PANEL: HUMAN EMPOWERMENT - THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

MODERATOR: Ágnes Hevesi, Human Rights Ambassador, Deputy Head of Department of International Organizations, MFAT of Hungary

PANELLISTS:

H.E. Niclas Trouvé, Ambassador of Sweden to Hungary

Elgun Safarov, Head of Department, Information and Analytic Researches Department, State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Velina Todorova, Independent Expert, Committee Member, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Amarsanaa Darisuren, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Secretariat, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Imre Ritter, Member of the National Assembly of Hungary representing the National Self-Government of Germans in Hungary

Q&A

13:00 - 14:30 BUFFET LUNCH IN THE MFAT, HALL

14:30 - 15:00
CULTURAL SESSION

15:00 - 17:00
SECOND PANEL

2ND PANEL: PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

MODERATOR: Marianna Lévai, Human Rights Officer, Department of International Organizations, MFAT of Hungary

PANELLISTS:

H.E. Tristan Azbej, Secretary of State for the Aid of Persecuted Christians, the Hungarian Prime Minister's Office

H.E. Isabelle Poupart, Ambassador of Canada to Hungary

Fernand de Varennes, UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues

Paul Coleman, Executive Director, ADF International

Thomas Schirmmacher, Executive Director, International Institute for Religious Freedom

Q&A

17:30 DEPARTURE FROM THE MFAT TO THE BOAT

*18:00 – 20:00 DINNER (WITH BOAT TRIP ON THE DANUBE) HOSTED BY H.E. DR. FERENC DANCS
DEPUTY STATE SECRETARY FOR MIGRATION CHALLENGES*

28 NOVEMBER 2018

09:15-10:00 REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENT

10:00 - 12:00
THIRD PANEL

3RD PANEL: MAINSTREAMING HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MODERATOR: Tamás Kuntár, Head of Department, United Nations Department, MFAT of Hungary

PANELLISTS:

Massimo Toschi, Programme Manager, Equality and Citizen's Rights Department, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Katalin Sulyok, Head of Department, Office of the Ombudsman for Future Generations, Hungary

Eva Grambye, Deputy Executive Director, International Division, The Danish Institute for Human Rights

Sonja Sattmann-Grabner, Advisor, Austrian Development Agency

Q&A

CLOSURE OF THE FORUM

12:00 – 13:30 BUFFET LUNCH IN THE MFAT, HALL

INFORMATION NOTE ON PRACTICAL DETAILS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Venue of the Forum: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary,
Conference Hall, 1027 Budapest Bem rakpart 47.

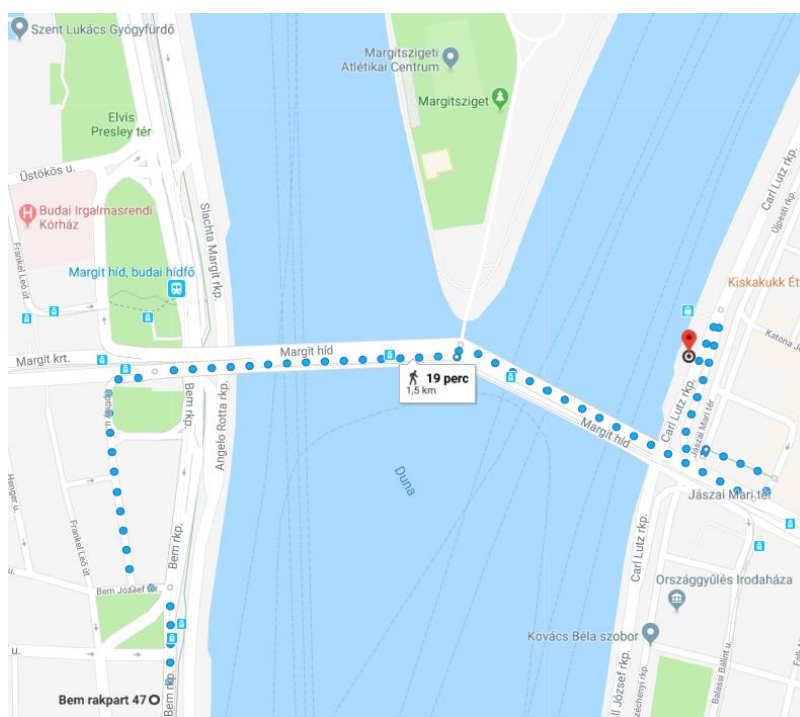
To enable the debates as open as possible, the Q&A sessions of the Forum will be held under the Chatham House Rule; participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers, nor that of any other participants, may be revealed or publicly referred to.

Language of the conference: English.

There is a free WIFI access in the Conference Hall. (User ID: Vendeg Password: VendegNov18)

Participation in the dinner & cruise on the Danube

The dinner & cruise on the Danube will start at 18h00, departure by boat “Primus” from Jászai Mari Square Port 9. The port is situated within 20 min. walking distance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (see the map below).



Hotels within walking distance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Hotel Novotel Budapest Danube

<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-6151-novotel-budapest-danube/index.shtml>

H-1027 Budapest, Bem rakpart 33-34.

Tel: +36 (1) 458-4900

Fax: +36 (1) 458-4909

Email: h6151-re3@accor.com

Hotel Regnum Residence

<http://www.regnumresidence.hu/index.php>

H-1025 Budapest, Ganz utca 8.

Phone: +36 (1) 265-5090

Fax: +36 (1) 201-4022

Email: sales@regnumresidence.hu

Art'otel Budapest

<http://www.artotels.com/budapest-hotel-hu-h-1011/hunbuart/>

H-1011 Budapest, Bem rakpart 16-19.

reservations:

+00 800 814 70000 (Europe toll free)

+1 (800) 814-7000 (US toll free)

Tel: +36 (1) 487 9487

Fax: +36 (1) 487 9488

Accessing the Hotels from Budapest Airport (please also check: www.bud.hu)

In Hungary the Taxi Decree is regulating the price of the taxis at a fixed tariff of 300 HUF/Km (0.95 EUR/Km) in addition to the one-off basic fee of 700 HUF (2.2 EUR) and waiting fee.

A ride to the city centre should typically cost around 7200 HUF (26 EUR) depending on traffic conditions.

Please be aware of exposing yourself at risk by using non-regulated taxi service providers soliciting at the terminal buildings!

Taxi *Főtaxi* is the contracted taxi service provider of Budapest Airport. Major credit cards are accepted. Reservations can be made upon arrival at the Főtaxi booths located at the exits at Terminals 2A and 2B. Taxis are constantly available for passengers at the taxi rank in front of the stands.

Telephone: +36 1 222 2 222

<http://www.fotaxi.hu/?Language=en#main-menu>

Airport shuttle service: <https://www.minibud.hu/en>

About Hungary

You can find more information about Hungary at the website: <http://gotohungary.com/>

Weather forecast for Budapest: <http://www.weather.com>

Currency: Hungarian Forint (HUF) (1 EUR = approx.: 320 HUF)

Power voltage: 230 V

Budapest - the Capital of Hungary

Budapest is a city full of surprises and wonders, with its lively centre, beautiful parks, the majestic Danube River, tall church spires and lavish spas. One of the most exciting cities in the world, Budapest is full of secrets, hidden spots to explore and old favourites to revisit. This is the city where being bored is not an option.

Budapest is also called the “Festival City”. All around the year there are many festivals taking place in Budapest and all over Hungary, from the well-known Sziget Festival to the popular Budapest Summer Festival and the Wine Festival.

Budapest has long been an attractive tourist destination with its UNESCO world heritage sites. Walking down leafy Andrassy Avenue is a pleasure in itself, with the glittering flagship stores of international brands also making it a favourite destination for the discerning shopper. Friday night in Budapest's 7th district and the pavements are jammed with trendy young urbanites starting their night out. Over the last few years, the run-down inner-city area has become the city's hippest quarter, packed with what has become one of Budapest's trademarks - ruin pubs. Each ruin pub is unique, but they all share certain similarities: the main ingredient is an abandoned building or empty lot, spiced up with some thrift-shop décor and a dose of hipster vibe.

While Budapest embraces innovation and new talent, traditions and legacy are still cherished and nurtured. The café culture of Budapest stretches from the fin du siècle gilded splendour of the New York Palace and Centrál Café, which are the regular meeting places of writers and journalists, to the new wave barista havens that offer a selection of single plantation beans to go with the free WiFi. Mesterségek Ünnepe, an arts and crafts festival, introduces modern audiences to the tactile pleasure of handicrafts and folk art. The Palace of Arts (Művészetek Palotája) is a bold architectural statement on the bank of the Danube, serving as the home base of the Budapest Festival Orchestra, counted among the world's best classical orchestras. It is also the home of the Ludwig Museum, curating one of the most significant contemporary art collections in Central Europe.

Baths, day spas and lidos are an integral part of Budapest life, all year round serving as places of family entertainment, wellbeing and lately even of sensational pool parties. Budapest is exceptional for being a capital rich in thermal springs and aquifers, providing eight therapeutic spas and several lidos with thermal waters that have proven health benefits.

We wish you a pleasant stay in Budapest!



Human Rights