



## MAJALAT Brussels Civil Forum 20-21 November 2018

### PRESENTATION & FULL PROGRAMME

Welcome to the first Brussels Civil Forum of MAJALAT!

#### What is MAJALAT?

The word Majalat stands for ‘spaces, opportunities, fields and domains’ in Arabic. This initiative aims at creating spaces for a constructive dialogue between the European Union and civil society organisations (CSOs), trade unions, social movements and academics from both shores of the Mediterranean, with a view to influencing the vision and policies relating to the region.

Majalat is a regional initiative financially supported by the European Commission (DG NEAR). The consortium managing the project is composed of six regional civil society networks: Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND), Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC), EuroMed Network France (REF), EuroMed Rights, Forum for Alternatives Morocco (FMAS), and SOLIDAR.

#### Another Civil Forum?

This unique initiative aims to build a continuous exchange between the EU and CSOs from Southern Mediterranean Countries, taking into account previous EU structured dialogues. The Brussels Civil Forum follows a South Policy Seminar and Youth Workshop held in Amman on 20-21 September 2018. The years 2019 and 2020 will include a full cycle of activities with thematic workshops, national workshops, youth workshop leading to the South seminar and the Brussels Civil Forum.

#### What’s on the menu?

The following four specific themes will be discussed with high-level EU representative (Commissioner Johannes Hahn, Christian Danielsson, Director-General, DG NEAR) and EU officials. Gender, youth and non-discrimination issues will also be part of the discussions.

- Good Governance and Rule of Law
- Security and Countering Violence
- Migration
- Economic development and social dialogue

The aim of this first Brussels Civil Forum is to identify ‘entry points’ for future discussions with the European Union, and to feed into the 2019 regional thematic workshops.

#### I’m not there, how can I follow the debates?

To establish a community amongst CSOs in the region, a digital platform has been developed at [www.majalat.org](http://www.majalat.org). The Forum conclusions, working papers and background documents will be available on that platform. You can also follow the discussion on twitter via our dedicated hashtag #majalatbrussels. For those who do not take part in the Brussels Civil Forum, most plenary sessions will be web streamed on [www.majalat.org](http://www.majalat.org)



EuroMed Rights  
EuroMed Droits  
الأورو متوسطية لحقوق



annd  
Arab NGO Network for Development  
شبكة المنظمات العربية غير الحكومية للتطوير

Ref solidar



Comité économique et social européen  
European Economic and Social Committee



Programme co-funded by the  
EUROPEAN UNION



# Civil Forum 2018

Brussels Civil Forum  
Venue: European Economic and Social Committee

Track 1	Good Governance and Rule of Law
Track 2	Security and Countering Violence
Track 3	Migration
Track 4	Economic Development and Social Dialogue

The first day is aimed to foster exchanges and discussions around the four themes between participants who were present at the South Seminar and new participants, to agree on entry points for CSO involvement in EU policies, which will be presented to EU representatives during the second day.

The second day will be dedicated to exchanging and discussing between participants and representatives of the EU institutions and bodies (European Commission, EEAS, European Parliament, Council of the EU, European Committee of the regions, European Economic and Social Committee) to identify operational implementation avenues.

## TUESDAY, 20 November 2018

8 : 0 0 - 9 : 0 0		Registration				
9 : 0 0 - 1 0 : 4 5	Market place	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b> Plenary room JDE 52</p> <p>Welcoming address and moderation by Mr Wadih Al Asmar, President of EuroMed Rights Key address by Mr Christian Danielsson, Director-General, DG NEAR, European Commission</p> <p>Speech by Ms Dilyana Slavova, President of the international section for external relations, European Economic and Social Committee Questions and answers ----- Majalat teaser video</p> <p>Presentation of the Majalat initiative, programme and expected outcomes of the Forum by Ms Marion Isvi, Executive Director, Réseau Euromed France and Mr Ahmed Berkia, Secretary General, Disabled People International for the Arab Region <b>This session will be web streamed (Arabic only)</b></p>				
1 0 : 4 5 - 1 1 : 1 5		Coffee Break				
1 1 : 1 5 - 1 3 : 0 0		<p><b>4 Parallel Focus Groups</b></p> <p>The objective of the session is to re-familiarise with the priorities identified during the South Seminar in Amman through a participative methodology. Participants will be able to explore and exchange on sub-themes identified for each focus group and draw priorities which will be presented and discussed the following day with EU representatives.</p>				
		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Room JDE 51 Governance</td> <td>Room JDE 53 Security</td> <td>Room JDE 63 Migration</td> <td>Room JDE 52 Economic development</td> </tr> </table>	Room JDE 51 Governance	Room JDE 53 Security	Room JDE 63 Migration	Room JDE 52 Economic development
Room JDE 51 Governance		Room JDE 53 Security	Room JDE 63 Migration	Room JDE 52 Economic development		
1 3 : 0 0 - 1 4 : 3 0		Lunch Break + Group Picture				
1 4 : 3 0 - 1 6 : 3 0		<p><b>4 Parallel Focus Groups</b></p> <p>The objective of the session is to discuss and exchange amongst participants about EU policies, programmes and instruments available and identify possible entry points for actions and dialogue with the European Union.</p>				
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1 6 : 4 5 - 1 7 : 0 0		Departure and walk to the European Parliament (5 minutes)				
1 7 : 3 0 - 1 9 : 0 0	High Level Panel: "Synergies in strengthening the global Human Rights architectures and mechanisms" in the framework of the 70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (Hemicycle of the European Parliament)					

19:00 - 21:00	Cultural event and Walking dinner (Menuhin Space)
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### WEDNESDAY, 21 November 2018

9:15 - 10:00	Market place	<b>Plenary room</b> Moderation: Mr Conny Reuter, Secretary General SOLIDAR Keynote address by Commissioner Mr Johannes Hahn, in charge of European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations General presentation of the outcomes of the discussions held the day before by Mr Abdelaziz Bouslah, TAMSS and Ms Saida Ben Messaoud, Green Tea  <span style="color: green;">This session will be web streamed (Arabic only)</span>			
10:00 - 11:00		Moderation: Mr Conny Reuter, Secretary General SOLIDAR Presentation of outcomes per focus group  Governance - Mr Moataz El Fegiery, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies Security - Ms Farah Greiw - H <sup>2</sup> O Migration - Ms Feriel Kessai, Médecin du monde Développement économique - Mr Ahmad Awad, Phenix Center			
11:00 - 11:30		Coffee Break			
11:30 - 13:30		<b>4 Parallel Focus Groups</b> The objective of the session is to exchange on the identified entry points for each thematic priority, and discuss potential operational implementation avenues for CSO and EU collaboration			
		Room JDE 51 Governance	Room JDE 53 Security	Room JDE 63 Migration	Room JDE 52 Economic development
13:30 - 15:00		Lunch Break			
15:00 - 16:30		<b>3 Parallel Sessions on Cross-Cutting Issues</b>			
		<u><b>Rights Based Approach and coherence of EU policies:</b></u> How can the EU ensure a Rights Based Approach in the ENP implementation? (JDE 53)	<u><b>EU role in protecting civil society spaces, and human rights defenders</b></u> How can the EU and CSOs collaborate to ensure effective protection systems (HRD, vulnerable groups, social protection, protection against different forms of violence)? (JDE 52)	<u><b>Inclusivity:</b></u> How can the EU better involve CSOs in defining, implementing and evaluating its policies? How making sure that CSOs working in remote areas or groups with vulnerabilities, minorities can be included? (JDE 51)	
16:30 - 17:00		Coffee Break			
17:00 - 18:00		<b>Plenary room</b> Panel discussion on “Where do we see this dialogue in 5/10 years and how do we engage youth and ensure gender equality?”  Exchanges with Mr Michael Köhler, Director B, DG NEAR and Mr Colin Scicluna, Deputy Managing Director, EEAS, Mr Abderrahim Kassou, Forum des Alternatives Maroc President Moderation by a journalist (TBC) Presentation of the digital platform, Mr Mahmoud Hishmah, Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC) Closing words, Ziad Abdel Samad, Executive Director, Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)  <span style="color: green;">This session will be web streamed (Arabic only)</span>			

## VENUE

**European Economic and Social Committee**  
Rue Belliard 99-101  
B-1040 Brussels

All facilities are accessible for participants with disabilities

## INTERPRETATION

Interpretation is available in Arabic / English / French (in most sessions)



## HIGH LEVEL PANEL AND CULTURAL EVENT

**70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human rights**

**Tuesday 20 November, European Parliament, 17:30-21:00**

Participants are invited to attend a high-level panel in the framework of the European Parliament's Human Rights Week followed by a cultural event/walking dinner hosted in the European Parliament building.

At 17.00 participants will leave the Forum venue to walk towards the European Parliament (5 minutes). They will be able to attend and participate in the high-level panel on "Synergies in strengthening the global Human Rights architectures and mechanisms", from 17:30-19.00.

*Chair: David McAllister, Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs*  
*Speakers:*

- *Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (video message)*
- *Prof. Remy Ngoy Lumbu, Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights*
- *Ms Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, First Deputy Director of OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*
- *Prof. Beate Rudolf, Chair of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and Member of the Board of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI)*
- *Prof. Pamela Palmater, Lawyer and Professor at Ryerson University*

At 19:00, a concert with Eugenio Bennato is organised followed by a walking dinner (Menuhin Space). Introductory words by Mr Pier Antonio Panzeri, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the sub-committee on human rights.

**Important note:** Access to the European Parliament will only be granted to participants who join the aforementioned high-level conference. No one will be allowed to enter the European Parliament premises just to take part in the cultural event.

