



General Assembly High-Level Side Event

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, together with co-sponsors Argentina, Costa Rica, Denmark, the European Union, The Gambia, the Republic of Korea, Ukraine and Uruguay, is hosting a high-level virtual side event on:

Participation, Human Rights and the Governance Challenge Ahead

A high-level virtual panel discussion taking place and webcast live on
25 September 2020, 09:00 – 10:30 am

The high-level side event will discuss participation as a human right and a vital tool for multilateralism and Member States' governance in addressing grave global challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the climate crisis and development.

CO-SPONSORS

Costa Rica, Denmark, the European Union, the Gambia, the Republic of Korea, Uruguay, Ukraine

OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Antonio Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations

PANELISTS

Ms. Michelle Bachelet

UN High Commissioner
for Human Rights

Mr. Eamon Gilmore

Special Representative for Human Rights
of the European Union

Mr. Dawda A. Jallow

Attorney General and Minister
of Justice of The Gambia

Mr. Christof Heyns

Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Pretoria,
and Member of the UN Human Rights Committee

Ms. Satta Sheriff

Young Leader for the SDGs and Founder and Executive
Director of Action for Justice and Human Rights, Liberia

MODERATOR

Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

Please use the Chrome browser to access the meeting via this link:

<https://un.interpret.world/loginlink?token=3m7hscq2>

Attached is the guide for the non-speaker participant's role in the platform, please make sure to familiarize yourself with the guide before you join.

The event can also be followed live on <http://webtv.un.org>

Interpretation in English, French and Spanish will be available.



PANELISTS' BIOS



Michelle Bachelet

Michelle Bachelet assumed her functions as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in September 2018. Ms. Bachelet was elected President of Chile for two terms (2006-2010) and (2014-2018). She was the first female president of Chile. She served as Health Minister (2000-2002), as well as Chile's and Latin America's first female Defense Minister (2002-2004). In 2011-2013, she was the first Executive Director of UN Women, leading the UN's work for the rights of women and girls. Michelle Bachelet has a Medical Degree in Surgery, with a specialization in Pediatrics and Public Health. She also studied military strategy at Chile's National Academy of Strategy and Policy and at the Inter-American Defense College in the United States.



Dawda A. Jallow

Dawda A. Jallow is the Attorney General and Minister of Justice of the Republic of The Gambia. Until his appointment in July 2020, he was a private legal practitioner at Kansala Law Chambers. Before taking up private legal practice in June 2016, Mr. Jallow was the Principal Legal Officer at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia. Mr. Jallow also served as a First-Class Magistrate and Principal Magistrate respectively at the Judiciary of The Gambia from 2011 to 2015. Prior to joining the legal field, Mr. Jallow served as Civic Education Officer and Program Officer at the National Council for Civic Education from 2002 to 2011. He also served as a teacher at Charles Jow Memorial Academy between 2000 and early 2002 after completing a two years professional training at the Gambia College School of Education. He obtained an LLB from the University of The Gambia in 2010 and an LLM in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law from the School of Law, University of Essex, United Kingdom in 2014. He is a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of The Gambia having been called to The Gambia Bar in January 2013.



Satta Sheriff

Satta Sheriff is the founder and Executive Director of Action for Justice and Human Rights (AJHR), a children and youth driven NGO advocating for and ensuring access to justice and respect for human rights in Liberia. Satta Sheriff is also a Peace Ambassador of One Young World and a founding member of the Global Youth Leadership Council. She is the former Speaker of the Liberian Children's Parliament and co-founded the Joint Action Committee on children, an advocacy group for social justice for all children in Liberia. Recently, Satta Sheriff was appointed one of the UN's Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals.



Eamon Gilmore

Eamon Gilmore is the European Union's Special Representative for Human Rights. He is a former Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland, and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (2011-2014). Since 2015, he has been the EU Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia. Mr. Gilmore is a former member of Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament) and Leader of the Irish Labour Party. He served on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (2004-2007) and was Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE (2012). He is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Law and Government in Dublin City University. Mr. Gilmore is a graduate (Psychology) of the National University of Ireland, Galway, which has also conferred him with an Honorary Doctorate in Laws. He has received several international honours and awards for his work on Peace and his leadership on human rights issues.



Christof Heyns

Christof Heyns is Professor of Law at the University of Pretoria and Director of its Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa. He also teaches human rights at the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and Oxford University. He has published widely in the field of international human rights law. He is a member of the UN Human Rights Committee and a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights' Working Group on the Death Penalty, Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Killings and Enforced Disappearances in Africa. He was UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions 2010 – 2016. He led the drafting of a number of international law instruments for the UN and the African Union, including: The United Nations human rights guidance on less-lethal weapons in law enforcement (2020); and the Human Rights Committee's General Comment No. (2020) 37 on the right of peaceful assembly (article 21).



Ilze Brands Kehris

Ilze Brands Kehris assumed her functions as Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on 14 January 2020, heading the UN Human Rights Office in New York. Ms. Brands Kehris combines extensive expertise in political science, conflict prevention and human rights, with a specialization in minority rights, and long-standing experience in intergovernmental fora and with civil society organizations. From 2017 to 2019, Ms. Brands Kehris served on the UN Human Rights Committee. Between 2016 and 2019, she served as a senior research fellow at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Lund University, in Sweden. She also served as Director of the Latvian Centre for Human Rights.