



AGENDA

The Protection and Promotion of Civic Space

Strengthening Alignment with International Standards and Guidance

16 December | 15:00–16:15 CET

Registration link for attendees ([here](#))

Registration links for panellists will be sent separately

English-French interpretation available

The OECD Global Report on Civic Space

The past decade has seen increasing international recognition of civic space as a cornerstone of functioning democracies, alongside efforts to promote and protect it. Countries that foster civic space are better placed to reap the many benefits of higher levels of citizen engagement, strengthened transparency and accountability, and empowered citizens and civil society. In the longer term, a vibrant civic space can help to improve government effectiveness and responsiveness, contribute to more citizen-centred policies and boost social cohesion. This first OECD comparative report on civic space offers a baseline of data from 33 OECD Members and 19 non-Members and a nuanced overview of the different dimensions of civic space, with a focus on civic freedoms, media freedoms, civic space in the digital age and the enabling environment for civil society. It provides an exhaustive review of legal frameworks, policies, strategies and institutional arrangements, in addition to implementation gaps, trends and good practices. The analysis is complemented by a review of international standards and guidance, in addition to data and analysis from civil society and other stakeholders.

Draft Agenda

16 December 2022 | 15:00-16:15 CET

Opening Remarks

15:00-
15:05

- **Gillian Dorner**, Deputy Director, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

Moderator:

- **Alessandro Bellantoni**, Head of Unit, Open Government and Civic Space Unit, OECD

15:05-
15:20

Findings of the Global Report on Civic Space



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- **Claire McEvoy**, Policy Analyst, Observatory of Civic Space, Open Government and Civic Space Unit, OECD
 - **Deniz Devrim**, Policy Analyst, Observatory of Civic Space, Open Government and Civic Space Unit, OECD

The Observatory of Civic Space will present the key findings of the Report, highlighting implementation gaps, trends, and good practices.

Reactions and reflections on the findings

- **Clément Nyaletsossi Voule**, Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association, United Nations
- **Michael O’Flaherty**, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
- **Thibaut Bruttin**, Assistant Director General, Reporters Without Borders
- **Katju Holkeri**, Chair of the OECD Working Party on Open Government and Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Finland
- **Helena Hofbauer Balmori**, International Program Director, Civic Engagement and Government and Director, Mexico and Central America, Ford Foundation
- **Sharan Srinivas**, Division Director, Securing Democratic Freedoms, Open Society Foundations

15:20-
15:55

International experts are requested to react to the findings of the Global Report on Civic Space, including with reflections from their own work, and to underline how it can be instrumental in guiding and supporting countries in setting ambitious benchmarks for the future.

Q&A and discussion

15:55-
16:10

Attendees are invited to submit questions to the panellists.

Close of Session

16:10-
16:15

- **Alessandro Bellantoni**, Head of Unit, Open Government and Civic Space Unit, OECD
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