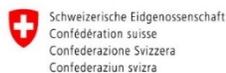


# THE GENEVA HUMAN RIGHTS PLATFORM



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Mission permanente de la Suisse auprès de l'Office des Nations  
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# GHRP FRIDAYS

## Nominations, elections and membership

Friday 3 December 2021, 2.30 – 4.00 pm CET

This event is held exclusively online on the platform ZOOM

## Topic: Nominations, elections and membership

Treaty body (TB) members are independent experts, i.e. members who serve in a personal capacity, not as State representatives. The 10 treaty bodies are composed of 172 experts in total.

Quality treaty body membership is key to Committees discharging their mandate effectively and to their credibility to do so. Treaty body members must be perceived as being independent, qualified and representative of the global population for their output to be considered legitimate and authoritative.

Transparency is a key element in the nomination and election process of United Nations TB members. Many states have started inclusive processes of national nominations, NGOs lead a transparency initiative involving all candidates and there are also parallels to be drawn from nomination processes in place for other international judicial or quasi-judicial bodies.

This GHRP Friday will focus on good practices and potential modalities to be introduced globally in the nomination and election process for new TB members.

## Program

### 2.30 pm **Opening of the session**

Felix Kirchmeier, Executive Director, Geneva Human Rights Platform

### 2.40 pm **Presentations on recent developments**

Claire Callejon, Associate Research Fellow, Geneva Academy

Marcia V.J. Kran, Member of the Human Rights Committee

Barbara Fontana, Counselor, Head of Human Rights Section, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN in Geneva

Elena Kountouri Tapiero, Secretary, Treaty Body Chairpersons' Meeting, OHCHR

Audrey Olivier Muralt, Deputy Secretary General, Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)

### 3.20 pm **Open Discussion**

### 4.00 pm **End of the Meeting**

## Documentation



### Promoting Quality Independent and Diverse Treaty Body Membership

November 2021

Claire Callejon

The Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

[Download](#)

## Background / Concept

Completing the 2020 Treaty Body Review by the General Assembly, the report of the co-facilitators, Morocco and Switzerland, has been submitted and noted by the General Assembly (A/75/601). Treaty Bodies have responded to the issues raised in various forms, most recently via the [report of the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Chairpersons](#) (A/76/254), or, individually, e.g. via the [CRPD position paper](#).

States have also voiced their views and expectations, as e.g. via a [joint letter](#) to the TB Chairs' 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Yet, the important proposals resulting from the 2020 review process still remain to be implemented. Those proposals include the establishment of predictable review calendars on new timelines, the introduction of focused reviews in the reporting cycle, harmonization of working methods, transparency in the nomination process for membership and the digital shift, including inter-sessional work online, and questions around remuneration of online work. Aside of budgetary considerations, implementation will depend on political will and collaboration of all actors involved, and their openness to test new way of working.

This new GHRP Friday event series will provide a space for discussions among diplomats, Treaty Body members, OHCHR staff and civil society on the results of the review and practical ways to implement change.

## Modalities for Participation

This event will exceptionally be held online only on the platform Zoom. Meetings will be open to the diplomatic community, Treaty Body members, OHCHR staff and representatives of civil society.

## Registration

[Register here](#) to follow this event online. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.