

Democracy and Human rights: current challenges in post-soviet countries

Dissent, Responsibility and Human Rights

This international conference brings together human rights defenders, scholars, artists, and diaspora voices to examine contemporary threats to democracy, civic resilience, and human dignity across the post-Soviet region. It addresses urgent challenges from authoritarian backsliding to war and forced displacement, while probing the role of European institutions, questions of historical responsibility, and the possibilities of transnational solidarity. The program also asks how democratic values are being eroded not only within the region, but at times by democracies that ought to serve as safe harbors.

09:30–10:00

— **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

10:00–11:00

— **Opening Remarks**

10:00-10:05 Anna Kuleshova, Welcome speech, LuxEureka a.s.b.l.

10:05-10:20 Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats), Member, Luxembourg - Parti chrétien social luxembourgeois (Luxembourg)

10:20-10:35 Christina Fabian, ACAT Luxembourg

Supporting Human Rights and Democratic Opposition in Times of Crisis

10:35-10:50 Alessandro Morini, Amnesty International

The work of human rights organizations in the interest of defending democracy, ex-president Amnesty International

10:50-11:10 DISCUSSION

11:10–11:30 coffee break

11:30-11:50 Andrey Kordochkin, Russians at home and abroad between real responsibility and imposed guilt, PhD University of Durham, orthodox priest, researcher

11:50-12:10 Inna Smirnova Deaths and Torture in Russian Prisons and the Military: An Overview of Relevant Law and Practice, a PhD student of the University of Strasbourg, a former lawyer of the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights

12:10-12:30 Alyona Vandysheva Citizen oversight: challenges and opportunities for Russian civil society, CEO at Transparency International - Russia (in exile),

12:30-12:50 Anna Dobrovolskaya, From collective trauma to collective healing, human rights defender, facilitator, and former CEO of Memorial Human Rights Center, Program Director for Systemic Solutions NGO

12:50-13:10 Anna Kuleshova, Why don't Russians take to the streets to protest? Sociologist, LuxEureka a.s.b.l.

13:10-13:50 DISCUSSION

13:50-14:00 Conference Closing Speech, Christina Fabian, ACAT Luxembourg