

AGENDA

European Council on Refugees and Exiles Annual General Conference 2018 and UNHCR Europe NGO consultation

Organised by Grupa 484, Belgrade Centre for Human Rights and ECRE

Belgrade, 7 to 9 November 2018

Venue: Hotel M, Bulevar oslobođenja 56 a, Voždovac, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

DAY 1, WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER	
8h30 to 9h00	REGISTRATION
9h00 to 10h00	Formal Opening Address Aleksandar Vučić, President of Republic of Serbia
10h00 to 11h30 <i>Plenary room</i>	Asylum in Europe: The State of Play Panellists will give their assessment of the recent developments in the law, policy and practice of asylum in Europe, the likely future scenarios and their recommendations for the defence of the right to asylum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR • ECRE • Civil society from the region Moderator: Morten Kjaerum
11h30 to 12h00	COFFEE BREAK
12h00 to 13h30 <i>Workshop rooms</i>	UNHCR Europe NGO Consultation (Regional Workshops I) 5 regional workshops co-chaired by representatives of UNHCR and ECRE's membership. Reports will be circulated afterwards covering civil society recommendations for UNHCR and suggestions for cooperation between UNHCR and civil society in the regions. Regions: Western Europe, Central Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe and South-Eastern Europe.
13h30 to 14h30	LUNCH
14h30 to 16h00	UNHCR Europe NGO Consultation (Regional Workshops II) Regional workshops continue.
16h00 to 16h30	COFFEE BREAK
16h30 to 18h00 <i>Plenary room</i>	Plenary discussion: Implementing the Global Compact on Refugees: the role of Europe The discussion of the GCR will focus on the role of Europe in its implementation. UNHCR and civil society, including refugee advocates, will provide input to kick off an interactive discussion.
19h00 to 21h00	<i>Drinks at the hotel bar</i>

DAY 2, THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER			
9h30 to 11h00 <i>Plenary room</i>	Panel debate: Asylum in the Western Balkans: findings, experience and proposals for change Debate with asylum-seekers and beneficiaries of international protection in the region, CSOs and UNHCR, including presentation of the findings of the Balkans Refugee Council study on asylum		
11h00 to 11h30	COFFEE BREAK		
11h30 to 13h00 <i>Workshop rooms</i>	Workshops: Interactive workshops will bring together experts on the topics to share ideas Each workshop will cover interactive discussion on the topic with ECRE members, ECRE Secretariat and external participants sharing their views and/or presentation of and input into ECRE's strategy and activities on the issue in question.		
	Workshop 1: EU funding for refugee rights Presentation and input into ECRE and UNHCR AMIF study Facilitators: Daphne Bouteillet-Paquet, Anna Abela	Workshop 2: Return: policy and practice Facilitator:	Workshop 3: Refugee rights in Serbia (Projects and examples of work in Serbia) Facilitator:
13h00 to 14h00	LUNCH		
14h00 to 16h00	Workshop 4: Europe in the world: pursuing the migration control agenda Facilitator:	Workshop 5: Reform of EU Asylum Law Facilitator:	Workshop 6: Communications Facilitator: Villads Zahle
16h00 to 16h30	COFFEE BREAK		
16h30 to 18h00 <i>Plenary room</i>	Plenary discussion: Protecting the rule of law, democracy and civil society in Europe Over the last ten years there has been a decline in the rule of law and democracy in Europe, with a rapid deterioration in the last two to three years, according to comparative analyses. This has included restrictions on and repression of civil society. Civil society working on the rights of refugees and other migrants has been particularly affected. The focus will be initiatives for the protection of rule of law, democracy and civil society in Europe, with a focus on those working on refugee rights.		
19h30	SOCIAL EVENING		

DAY 3, FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER (FOR ECRE MEMBERS ONLY)	
09h30 to 11h00 Workshop rooms	Regional meetings (for ECRE regional groupings) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Europe Region (Austria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine) – Karl Kopp, ECRE Board member • Mediterranean Region (Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Turkey) – Neil Falzon, ECRE Board member • Nordic/Baltic Region (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden) – Egle Samuchovaite, ECRE Board member • Southeast Europe Region (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, RoNM, Kosovo, Romania, Serbia) – Sonja Tošković, ECRE Board member • Western Europe (Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, UK, and international) – Morten Kjaerum, Chair of ECRE Board
11h00 to 11h30	<i>COFFEE BREAK</i>
11h30 to 13h30	ECRE General Assembly (agenda available for ECRE members)
13h30	<i>MEETING ENDS WITH LUNCH</i>