



CIVICUS, in cooperation with the Assembly of Pro-Democratic NGO and Legal Transformation Centre "Lawtrend" (Belarus), HRHF, FIDH and HRW cordially invite you to a Side Event during the 22th UPR Session.

Freedom of Association and Legal Conditions for Civil Society Organizations in Belarus

Monday, 4 May 2015, 12:45-14-15
Palais des Nations Room ____

While Belarus accepted a number of recommendations on improving the environment for freedom of association during its initial UPR review in 2010, little appreciable impact has been observed in this field. Accordingly, the legal conditions for freedom of association and civil society groups remain among the worst in the region. Moreover, from 2010-2014 several restrictive legal measures and laws have been adopted further imperiling the right to freedom of association.

The side event, which will be paneled by several prominent Belarusian activists, will provide an important opportunity to discuss restrictions on civil society in Belarus and assess Belarus' examination under the second cycle of the UPR.

Speakers:

❖ **Olga Smolianko**
Director of Legal transformation center "Lawtrend"

❖ **Yury Chavusau**
Legal Adviser from Assembly of pro-democratic NGOs

❖ **Valiantsin Stefanovic**
Deputy Chairman of Human Rights Center "Viasna".

Moderator:

❖ **Renate Bloem**
Main Representative of CIVICUS, Geneva

Interpretation in English and Russian
Refreshments will be provided