



a joint programme
OMCT **fidh**
The Observatory
for the Protection
of Human Rights Defenders



INVITATION TO A SIDE-EVENT

“Shrinking spaces: human rights defenders in the OSCE region more than ever at risk”

24 September 2015
18.00-20.00
Meeting Room 3

In past months, violations against human rights defenders and NGOs have continued unabated in a number of OSCE countries. Human rights defenders have been harassed, jailed, attacked, killed. NGOs have been forced to close and their bank accounts have been frozen due to draconian NGO laws. LGBTI rights defenders have been slandered, criminalised and attacked.

Representatives from human rights organisations of **AZERBAIJAN**, **BELARUS**, **KYRGYZSTAN**, and the **RUSSIAN FEDERATION** will analyse the challenges they face in their day-to-day work.

Concrete recommendations in terms of implementation and monitoring of the OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines will be formulated.

Panelists

Ales Bialiatski, Head of the Human Rights Centre “Viasna”, FIDH Vice-President,
Belarus

Orkhan Mammadov, *Meydan TV*, **Azerbaijan**

Elena Shakhova, Head of Citizens Watch, **Russian Federation**

Lira Ismailova, member of the Human Rights Movement "Bir Duino", **Kyrgyzstan**

Lene Wetteland, Head of Russia Department, **Norwegian Helsinki Committee**

Moderation

Sacha Koulaeva, Head of the EECA Desk, **FIDH**

Interpretation: English-Russian
Refreshments and sandwiches will be provided