

WORKSHOP

How to improve the protection of threatened lawyers worldwide? Practical tools from the EU Human Rights Defenders mechanism

Thursday 30th March - 14.00-18.00

Press Club, rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels

Registrations: event@ccbe.eu

14.00: **Registration**

14.30: **Welcome speech by** Ruthven Gemmill WS, President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)

14.40: **Keynote address by** Mercedes García Pérez, Head of Human rights Division, European External Action Service

14.50: **Session I - INITIATIVES AT EU LEVEL TO SUPPORT THREATENED LAWYERS WORLDWIDE**

Moderator: Richard Sédillot, CCBE Human Rights committee member/French National Bar Council (CNB) Vice-Chair of International & European affairs committee

Speakers:

- Threatened lawyers worldwide – Patrick Henry, Chair of the CCBE Human Rights committee
- Testimony: the situation of lawyers in Colombia - Jairo Enrique Céspedes, President of the Executive Committee of the Colombian Bar
- The European Commission's support of human rights defenders/lawyers - Sarah Rinaldi, acting Head of Unit "Human Rights, Gender, Democratic Governance", Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)
- The EU Human Rights Defenders mechanism – Joan Audierne, Head of Secretariat ProtectDefenders.eu

Q&A

16.00: **Coffee break**

16.20: **Session II - NEW ONLINE PLATFORM AND OTHER PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS/LAWYERS**

Moderator: Richard Sédillot, CCBE Human Rights committee member/French National Bar Council (CNB) Vice-Chair of International & European affairs committee

Speakers:

- The new online platform - Javier Roura, Communications Officer ProtectDefenders.eu
- Presentation of the different types of help available - Tommaso Mignani, Grants Coordinator, ProtectDefenders.eu
- Testimony by a Burundi lawyer relocated in Belgium
- Testimony by an Egyptian lawyer relocated in the United Kingdom (tbc)
- Testimony by a Kenyan lawyer relocated in the Netherlands

Q&A

17.50: **Concluding remarks** – Patrick Henry, Chair of the CCBE Human Rights committee

18.00: **End** – Drinks reception