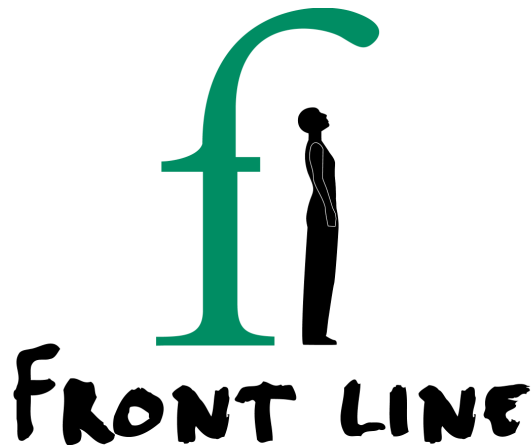


Steps to Protection:  
the 2nd Dublin Platform for Human Rights Defenders



Defenders of human rights defenders

## PROGRAMME

*“This job is about people - it is about human beings. It is about the victims of conflict; about the hungry; the poor; those who live under oppressive regimes; the tortured; and the silenced. And in that sense it is about idealism: we must not hide behind excuses that rights for all are too often difficult to define or too difficult to attain. We must not compromise on our end goal.”*

Sergio Vieira de Mello, on his appointment as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

Dublin Castle, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September 2003  
Dublin, Ireland

***The aims of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dublin Platform for Human Rights Defenders are to:***

- i) Analyse and ***expose the reality*** of the repression of human rights defenders and promote their work internationally.
- ii) Prioritise the ***sharing of experience*** so that human rights defenders can learn from each other and strategic lessons can be drawn for the prevention and minimisation of risk, for combating impunity and for exploring the specific situation of defenders of economic, social and cultural rights.
- iii) Provide an opportunity for participants to relate experiences and ***make practical recommendations*** in specific areas and influence thinking at the international level.

***Background***

*Front Line – the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders* was founded in Dublin, Ireland on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2001 with the specific aim of protecting Human Rights Defenders at risk.

A Human Rights Defender is an individual who works on behalf of their fellow citizens to uphold any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the UN on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1948.

*Front Line* came about as a direct result of the 1998 Paris Summit and the need to have a body whose mandate and activities are focused specifically on Human Rights Defenders.

*Front Line* has charitable status (CHY NO. 14029), is independent and impartial.

**The Second Dublin Platform has been supported by:**

**Irish Government**

**UK Government**

**Austrian Government**

**HIVOS**

**Inter-Church Organizations for Development Cooperation**

**Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace**

**St Stephen's Green Trust**

**Print and Display Digital**

**Diageo Ireland**

**Ballygowan**

**McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors**

**Green Property**

**Christ Church Cathedral**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Dublin Platform Agenda

*DUBLIN CASTLE*

**10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2003**

### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

- 8.30 Coffee and registration
- 9.30 Welcome Address by *Denis O'Brien, Chairman, Front Line*
- 9.45 Testimony - *Aloysius Toe, Liberia*  
- *Louiza Saker, Algeria*
- 10.00 The role of Ministries of Justice in implementing the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders  
  
*Michael McDowell T.D., Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform*
- 10.20 Opening Address by *Mary Lawlor, Director, Front Line*
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 11.00 Testimony - *Elizardo Sanchez Santa Cruz, Cuba*  
- *Abdullah Watandar, Afghanistan*
- 11.30 *Hina Jilani, UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders*
- 12.15 The Poet and the Piper  
*Seamus Heaney, Nobel Laureate*  
*Liam O'Flynn, piper*
- 12.30 Lunch



- 17.00 Testimony – *Father Brendan Forde, Colombia*  
- *Joy Kwaje Eluzai, Sudan*
- 17.10 Panel discussion on the specific challenges facing women Human Rights Defenders chaired by *Hina Jilani, UN Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders*
- Irene Fernandez, Tenaganita, Malaysia*  
*Hala Shukrallah, New Women Research Centre, Egypt*  
*Betty Makoni, Girl Child Network, Zimbabwe*  
*Evangalina Arce, Nuestras Hijas de Regreso a Casa, Mexico*  
*Galina Drebezova, Belarussian Association of Women Lawyers*
- 18.30 Close
- 19.00 Reception hosted by the Irish Government, at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Iveagh House

### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

#### ***Economic Social and Cultural Rights***

#### **Plenary Chair: Kieran Mulvey, Front Line Trustee**

- 9.30 Testimony  
Fatimata Mbaye, Mauritania  
Dr. Walid Al Hili, Iraq
- 10.00 Website Presentation
- 10.15 Coffee Break
- 10.45 Introduction to the discussion on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.  
Karen Kenny, Co-Director, International Human Rights Network
- 11.00 Presentation of the Economic, Social and Cultural (ESC) Rights Manual  
Felix C. Morka, Social and Economic Rights Action Centre (SERAC),  
Nigeria
- 11.20 The Presentation of lessons learnt from the struggle for ESC rights by Human Rights Defenders in their respective countries:  
Annkio Oporum-Briggs, Agape Birthright, Nigeria  
Medha Patkar, Narmada Bachao Andolan, India  
James Thorlby, Pastoral Land Commission, Brazil

11.40 Presentation on the UNESCO Anti-Poverty Strategy  
Pierre Sané, Assistant Director General of UNESCO for the Social and Human Sciences Sector.

12.00 Workshops on working for ESC rights.

Working Group A – Interpretation – Plenary Hall  
Chair: Kieran Mulvey, Front Line Trustee

Working Group B – English – Bedford Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair: Noeline Blackwell, Front Line Trustee

Working Group C – Spanish – Syndicate Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair: Sergio Zamorano

Working Group D – French – President’s Suite, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair: Michel Forst, Front Line Trustee

13.0 Lunch

### **Human Rights Defenders Under Attack**

**Plenary Chair – Pierre Sané, Front Line Trustee**

14.30 Testimony  
Gilbert Kalinde Abeli, DRC  
Betty Luvusia, Solomon Islands

14.40 Protecting Human Rights Defenders, the role of second governments; panel discussion chaired by Indai Lourdes Sajor, Front Line Leadership Council

Jon Benjamin, Head of Human Rights Policy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK

Chris Collier, HIVOS, Netherlands

Rashid Kang, Human Rights Defender Project Coordinator, Forum Asia

15.40 Presentation on information technology, electronic communications and security.

Robert Guerra, Privaterra, Canada

Jose Cruz, Guatemala

16.10 Coffee Break

16.40 John Rendler, Human Rights Defender under attack in the USA

16.50 Testimony

Lynne Stewart, USA  
Azam Taleghani, Iran

17.00 Human Rights Defenders under attack: the presentation of case studies focusing on anti-terrorism security measures and the politicisation of human rights  
Luz Perly, Cordoba Mosquera, Campesino Association of Arauca, Colombia  
Samsul Bahri Teuku, Kontras Aceh  
Khelef Khalifa, Muslims for Human Rights, Kenya  
Raji Sourani, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights

17.30 Workshops

**Coping with surveillance, electronic communications and security**

Working Group A - interpretation - Plenary Hall

Chair: Kieran Mulvey, Front Line Trustee

**Coping with security/anti-terrorist legislation, coping with attacks on NGOs objectivity/accountability**

Working Group B - English - Bedford Hall, 1st floor

Chair: Noeline Blackwell, Front Line Trustee

Working Group C - Spanish - Syndicate Room, 1st floor

Chair: Sergio Zamorano

Working Group D - French - President's Suite, 1st floor

Chair: Michel Forst, Front Line Trustee

18.30 Close

19.00 Dinner

21.00 Concert in Christchurch Cathedral

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

***Security***

**Plenary Chair: Michel Forst, Front Line Trustee**

09.30 Testimony – *Father Aidan Troy, Northern Ireland*  
- *Fiona McCausland, Northern Ireland*

09.40 Introduction of Security Manual, by *Enrique Eguren and Christoph Klotz of Peace Brigades International*

10.30 Workshops on practical security measures for human rights defenders  
Working Group A – Interpretation – Plenary Hall  
Chair: Kieran Mulvey, Front Line Trustee

Working Group B – English – Bedford Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair: Noeline Blackwell, Front Line Trustee

Working Group C – Spanish – Syndicate Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair Sergio Zamorano

Working Group D – French – President’s Suite, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Chair: Michel Forst, Front Line Trustee

11.30 Coffee Break

Plenary Chair: Martin O’Brien, Front Line Leadership Council

12.00 Concluding Session

13.00 Closing Remarks, Denis O’Brien, Chairman, Front Line

13.30 Lunch

The Friday afternoon will be free for participants to visit Dublin

20.00 Closing reception for human rights defenders at the Guinness Storehouse