Background

The outcome document of the 2013 forum recognized the need for continuing consultations among civil society on a number of ambitious initiatives aimed at resolving existing crises. The forum equally reaffirmed the interrelation between the Developmental, Environmental and Human Rights sectors. Whereas obstacles have been identified and proper diagnoses formulated, the systemic inertia of entrenched political and economic structures prevent real movement in the direction of developing a more humanistic world society.

Objectives

The 2014 event will continue the dialogue with the following priority themes: Recognising human security as indispensable for human dignity; strengthening existing human rights mechanisms; promoting new ideas and youth initiatives. Our intention is to provide an annual platform on the occasion of Human Rights Day to highlight and develop fresh approaches to issues of concern as well as encourage greater public participation in the decision-making process at the international, regional, and national levels. The Forum intends to create a space for human rights experts, defenders, journalists, non-governmental and governmental entities, youth, students and the general public to debate pressing issues in the international system, as well as potential solutions thereto.

Additional Elements

Video Interview Corner
Participants will be encouraged to share ideas and elaborate on themes presented at the forum.

Documentary Screening
Screening of a documentary “Paradise or Oblivion” and an interactive live discussion with the producers and founders of “The Venus Project”.

Human Rights Art Exhibition
An exhibition of art works on the subject of Future Cities, Future Life depicting artistic interpretations of a future human rights conscious world society.
MORNING SESSION

09:00  REGISTRATION (Coffee)
09:30  FORUM OPENING
WELCOME  BRUNA MOLINA  •  Vice-President of FHRF
KEYNOTE  CRAIG MOKHIBER  •  Chief, Development & Economic & Social Issues Branch of the OHCHR, Whose security? human rights in an age of crisis
10:00  HUMAN SECURITY AS A PREREQUISITE TO HUMAN RIGHTS
  •  MODERATOR  •  TOBY LAMARQUE  •  Universal Rights Group
    COLIN ARCHER  •  International Peace Bureau, Launching the Global Campaign on Military Spending, GCOMS
    LEA KOR  •  Womens International League for Peace and Freedom, The key role of women for peace, disarmament and human rights
    CARLOS VILLAN DURAN  •  AEDIDH, The Right to Peace movement, recent developments
    DELIA MAMON  •  Grains of Peace
    ALFRED de ZAYAS  •  UN Independent Expert, Presentation of initiatives, World Parliamentary Assembly, IPU and GBOR
11:45  INTERACTIVE PUBLIC DISCUSSION
    Q&A, Public discussion & contributions
12:15  LUNCH BREAK
13:15  DOCUMENTARY SCREENING
    In parallel: Outcome Document Drafting Session
    PARADISE OR OBLIVION  •  Directed by the Venus Project, it proposes a feasible plan of action for a peaceful and sustainable global civilisation, where human rights are no longer just paper proclamations, but a way of life
14:00  VIDEO LINK DISCUSSION
    JACQUE FRESCO  •  Futurist, Social Engineer, The Venus Project
    ROXANNE MEADOWS  •  Designer, Architect, The Venus Project

AFTERNOON SESSION

14.30  YOUTH INITIATIVE PRESENTATIONS
  •  MODERATOR  •  KEVIN I. KOH  •  International Human Rights Lawyer
    FRIEDRICH BOKERN, IMAN SIMON  •  Relief and Reconciliation for Syria, FHRF, Engaging vulnerable youth into the human rights discourse in Lebanon, Ukraine and Tajikistan
    LEO EVANS, PRERNA BHAGI, SOFIA ZIESSLER-KORPI  •  Just Innovate Initiative
    A human rights app – facilitating the reporting process for victims
    VINAY YYAS RAGHUVEER, HOODA KHALEEL, LADHANI SAAD  •  A human rights app – facilitating the reporting process for victims
    CAROLINE MURGUE  •  Vice-President of FHRF

14.00  DOCUMENTARY SCREENING
    In parallel: Outcome Document Keynote
    NICOLA SPAFFORD FUREY  •  Earth Focus Foundation, Including sustainable development and human rights centre, online learning
    OMAR BAWA  •  Goodwall, A social networking platform to do good.
    GUZERHAN CAVALCANTE  •  Jornal Jardim Carolina, Community communication and human rights: an example from Brazil
    CAROLINE MURGUE  •  Educational program, Philo is not a swearword
15:30  INTERACTIVE PUBLIC DISCUSSION
    Q&A, Public discussion & contributions
16.00  COFFEE BREAK & NETWORKING
16.15  PRESENTATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES
  •  MODERATOR  •  ALFRED de ZAYAS  •  Independent Expert on the Promotion of a Democratic and Equitable International Order
    ALEXANDRA BOETHIUS  •  Impact Hub, Solutions for a better world
    THOMAS EGLI  •  Objectif Sciences International, The rights of nature, a Transversal Key Factor for Human Rights Achievement
    NICOLA SPAFFORD FUREY  •  Earth Focus Foundation, Including sustainable development and human rights centre, online learning
    MANUSHAK ASLANYAN  •  Huridocs, a global human rights network
    NIDAL SALIM  •  Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Including the right to water, S.O.G’s
    ALESSANDRO PAVONE  •  Koine Films, What can media do for human rights
    CONNOR SATTELY  •  Govfaces, Connecting civil society and political leaders for improved dialogue
    LEO EVANS, PRERNA BHAGI, SOFIA ZIESSLER-KORPI  •  Just Innovate Initiative
    A human rights app – facilitating the reporting process for victims
    VINAY YYAS RAGHUVEER, HOODA KHALEEL, LADHANI SAAD  •  A human rights app – facilitating the reporting process for victims
17.30  PRESENTATION OF OUTCOME DOCUMENT
18.00  CLOSING (Final Networking Session)