

# : Programme

As at: 29 April 2016

## **sef: Policy Lunch 2016** **The World Humanitarian Summit –** **What will the EU bring to the table?**

### **Brussels**

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU  
Rue Montoyer 47, Brussels

**11 May 2016, 12.00 hrs**

### **Conference language**

English

### **Cooperating Partner**

CIDSE - International Alliance of Catholic Development Agencies, Brussels



### **Supported by**

Minister for Federal Affairs,  
Europe and the Media of  
North Rhine-Westphalia



#sefLunch

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## BACKGROUND

The first *World Humanitarian Summit* will be held in Istanbul on 23-24 May 2016. Ahead of the Summit, comprehensive consultations have taken place with key stakeholders – governmental and non-governmental alike – from all regions of the world. Drawing on these consultations, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has set out his *Agenda for Humanity* in preparation for the Summit and hopes to secure a commitment to its implementation from as many stakeholders as possible. The Agenda defines five core responsibilities, which are underpinned by numerous proposals on action to be taken by states and their leaders:

1. Assume responsibility to prevent and end conflict.
2. Affirm the responsibility to uphold the norms that safeguard humanity.
3. Leave no one behind.
4. Change people's lives by moving from delivering aid to ending need.
5. Invest in humanity.

The Secretary-General has also set up a High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, tasked with developing proposals on increasing the funding to this field of work. The proposals are set out in a report published in January 2016, in which the Panel identifies three key strategies:

1. Reducing humanitarian needs by addressing their root causes.
2. Mobilising additional funds.
3. And improving the efficiency of humanitarian assistance.

The Panel also proposes that a much larger percentage of official development assistance (ODA) resources be allocated to managing protracted emergencies and situations of fragility. In funding humanitarian assistance, governments should not only make more efficient use of existing resources, but should also reach agreement in Istanbul on a mechanism for a “solidarity tax”.

What view should be taken on the demands laid out by the *Agenda* and the *High-Level Panel*? What were the main results of the preparation process so far? What do governments and civil society expect the Summit to achieve? What will and should the European Union bring to the table? And what will be necessary steps to follow the Summit?

These are the issues that we are keen to explore with representatives of the European Union, international and civil society organisations and others shortly before the Summit.

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**12.00 HRS      REGISTRATION AND DRINKS**

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**12.15 HRS      WELCOME**

**Rainer Steffens**

Director

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU, Brussels

**Dr Gerd Harms**

Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:), Bonn/Potsdam

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**12.30 HRS      INPUT AND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

**Chair**

**Patrick Leusch**

CEO DW-Media Services GmbH, Bonn

**Input**

**Professor Hans-Joachim Heintze**

Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict

University of Bochum

**Round Table Discussion**

**Veronika Burget**

External Relations Officer

UNHCR Brussels

**Dr James Munn**

Interim Director/Head of Humanitarian Policy

Norwegian Refugee Council, Geneva

**Gosia Pearson**

Policy Officer – Focal point for WHS

Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

European Commission, Brussels

Followed by discussion with the audience

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**14.00 HRS      RECEPTION**

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Your sef: team

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