

Human Rights Paper Session

Civic Space and Human Rights Cities

Organizers: Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, International Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels under the auspices of UNESCO, University of Graz UNESCO Chair in Human Rights and Human Security, Chonnam National University May 18 Institute, Gwangju International Center

Human Rights Papers Session provides a space for students, academics, activists, and practitioners to share their studies, with a view of spotlighting and providing solutions to the challenges of achieving more inclusive, human rights focused cities.

The session recognizes the fact that human rights cities are made stronger when diverse citizen participation in civic spaces is ensured. Vibrant civic spaces are where people can express their diverse opinions and communicate strengthen democracy, trust and human rights. The session will therefore delve into dimensions of

- Examination of laws, policies and practices that either facilitate or hinder civic engagement;
- Exploration of the role of digital platforms in expanding or restricting civic space;
- Case studies of successful grassroots movements and the role of NGOs in sustaining civic spaces;
- Participation of youth and marginalized groups in civic activities;
- Insights into the global trends affecting civic space and their local manifestations among others.

