



The Human Rights Defenders Summit  
Les États Généraux des Défenseurs des Droits Humains  
Cumbre de los Defensores de los Derechos Humanos  
Международная конференция защитников прав человека  
قمة المدافعين عن حقوق الإنسان 人权卫士全球代表大会

**PALAIS DE CHAILLOT, PARIS**

**8-11 DECEMBER 1998**

# Programme for the Human Rights Defenders Summit

**Including  
parallel  
events**

**Moderator:**  
Paul Hoffman,  
Chair of Amnesty  
International USA  
and civil rights lawyer.

**Co-Moderator:**  
Fatimata M'Baye,  
Vice-Chair of  
the Human Rights  
Association  
of Mauritania.



## TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER

9.00 - 12.30:

- **Official opening:** Song for human rights defenders (performed by Jaribu Hill, member of the Steering Committee of the Human Rights Defenders Summit).
- **Welcome address to human rights defenders** (Danielle Mitterrand, President of the *Fondation France Libertés* and Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Defenders Summit).
- **Message in support of all defenders**  
Jean Tonglet, Executive Secretary of the International Movement ATD Fourth World and Treasurer of the Human Rights Defenders Summit).
- **Tribute to absent defenders (unable to attend or prevented from attending)** (Patrick Baudouin, President of the International Federation of Human Rights and Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Defenders Summit).
- **Roll call of the names of absent defenders (Members of the Summit Steering Committee).**
- **Address by Mary Robinson,**  
High Commissioner for Human Rights (United Nations).
- **Address by Pierre Sané,**  
Secretary General of Amnesty International and President of the Human Rights Defenders Summit.
- **Testimonies by human rights defenders:**
  - Charlotte Keys (USA): 'The fight against racism and extreme poverty in Mississippi'.
  - Paulette Liard (France): 'Defend human rights day after day: the fight against misery in northern France'.
  - Beko Ransome Kuti (Nigeria): 'Democracy in Nigeria? Yes, we need it. Yes, we'll have it'.
  - Aung San Suu Kyi (Myanmar): A video message 'Democracy in Myanmar: Moving forward'.
  - Salima Ghezali (Algeria): 'Algeria: the truth, nothing but the truth'.
- **Presentation of the List of Grievances**

15.00 - 18.30:

- **Workshop A: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND EXTREME POVERTY**
  - Chair: Luis Perez Aguirre (Uruguay)
  - Co-Chair: Annelise Oeschger (Switzerland)
  - Rapporteurs: Reginald Machbe (Zimbabwe) et Zunila Abeyesekera (Sri Lanka).
- **Workshop B: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND IMPUNITY**
  - Chair: Willy Mutunga (Kenya)
  - Co-Chair: Roselina Tuyuc (Guatemala)
  - Rapporteurs: Javier Giraldo (Colombia) et Frauke Seidensticker (Switzerland).

19.00 - 19.45:

- **Presentation to Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations:**  
10 million personal pledges collected by Amnesty International from people all over the world confirming their support for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER

( 08.30 - 08.45:

*Pupils from Chateaufort Malabry school meet human rights defenders.*

09.00 - 12.30 :

- **Workshop C: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND RACISM**
  - Chair: Angela Davis (USA)
  - Co-Chair: Sivarasa Rasiah (Malaysia)
  - Rapporteurs: Georges-Henri Beautier (Belgium) et Tamar Pelig (Israel).
- **Workshop D: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS**
  - Chair: Jan Hrubala (Slovakia)
  - Co-Chair: Fatimata M'Baye (Mauritania)
  - Rapporteurs: Taneeya Runcharoen (Thailand) et Jon Cortina (El Salvador).



**( 14.00 - 14.30:**

*Group of young runners (Human Rights League) meet human rights defenders.*

**14.30 - 18.00:**

• **Workshop E: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND ARMED CONFLICT**

- Chair: Eyade El Sarraj (Palestine)
- Co-Chair: Lirije Osmani (Kosovo)
- Rapporteurs:  
François-Xavier Nsanzuwera (Rwanda)  
et Mariclaire Acosta Urquidí (Mexico).

• **Workshop F: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

- Chair: Lourdes Indal Sajor (Philippines)
- Co-Chair: Francisco Soberon Garrido (Peru)
- Rapporteurs: Alya Cherif Chammari (Tunisia) et Guillaume Ngefa (Congo).

**( 20.00 - 21.00:**

*Documentary video by Willem Offenbergh (Amnesty International - Netherlands).*

**( Parallel meetings  
09.00-18.00:**

- Human rights defenders meet members of the French National Assembly.
- Club UNESCO receive a group of defenders at UNESCO.

## THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER

**09.00 - 12.00:**

- **Plenary session:** discussion and adoption of the Paris Declaration.

**15.00 - 18.00:**

- **Joint official ceremony** with guests of the Human Rights Defenders Summit and the French Government (satellite link with the special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York).

• **Testimonies by human rights defenders:**

- Akin Birdal (Turkey): *'The dangers of the freedom of expression in Turkey'*.
- Yanette Bautista (Colombia): *'Imposing the respect of the right to life in Colombia'*.

**( 18.00:**

*Reception hosted by the French Government*

**( 18.00 - 23.00:**

*World Music Concert for Human Rights Defenders at Bercy Stadium. (Amnesty International).*

## FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER

**09.00 - 12.30:**

- **Plenary session:** presentation of findings by the thematic workshop rapporteurs and inclusion of proposals in the Action Plan.

**( 13.30 - 14.00:**

*Release of balloons (tribute to the 'disappeared' of Algeria) (FIDH).*

**14.30 - 18.00:**

- **Plenary session:** discussion and adoption of the Action Plan.
- **Closing address:** Federico MAYOR, Director General of UNESCO (to be confirmed).
- **Conclusion:** Michel Forst, Secretary General of the Human Rights Defenders Summit.

**( 19.00 - 20.30:**

*Show 'Amnesia International' (Amnesty International) - Switzerland.*