



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 26 September 2016

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**Launching conference  
of the Fourth Thematic Commentary on the Scope of Application**

**“The Framework Convention: a key tool to managing diversity through minority rights”**

**Strasbourg, 11 October 2016**

***Venue: Council of Europe, Agora building, Room G03***

**PROGRAMME**

8:45–9:15 Registration

9:15 **Opening remarks**

Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

9:30–9:45 **Introduction of the Thematic Commentary**

Francesco Palermo, Former President of the Advisory Committee (2014–16)  
Brigitta Busch, Member of the Advisory Committee

9.45–10:15 **Keynote address**

Peter Leuprecht, University of Québec

**The Framework Convention – then and now**

10:15–10:45 Discussion

10:45–11:15 Coffee break

11:15–12:45 **PANEL ONE: Social interaction across difference – how to manage diversity through minority rights**

Chair: Francesco Palermo, Former President of the Advisory Committee

Panellists:

Sarah Green, University of Helsinki  
Henrik Villadsen, Office of OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities  
Steinar Bryn, Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue

Discussion

12:45–14:00 Buffet lunch offered by the Council of Europe

14:00–15:15 **PANEL TWO: Expression and recognition of difference – how to encourage self-identification and enjoyment of minority rights**

Chair: Brigitta Busch, Member of the Advisory Committee

Panellists:

Asbjørn Eide, Former President of the Advisory Committee (2004–06)  
Joseph Marko, University of Graz  
Boriss Cilevičs, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Discussion

15:15–16:45 **PANEL THREE: Equality despite difference – how to guarantee equal access to rights and resources**

Chair: Petra Roter, President *ad interim* of the Advisory Committee

Panellists:

Guido Bellatti Ceccoli, Chair of the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Human Rights

Barbara John, Bureau member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance

Sia Spilipoulou Åkermark, Former President of the Advisory Committee (2012-14)

Discussion

16:45–17:00 **Concluding remarks**

Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

17:00 Reception