



The New Human Rights Dialogue Series Presents:

The Highest Common Denominator: Human Rights in Peacemaking

The panel discussion is the 6th installment of the *New Human Rights Dialogue Series*, a collaborative initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Member States, the NGO Committee on Human Rights, and the Department of Public Information. The Series is a 12-part, monthly series of discussions at United Nations Headquarters, leading up to the celebration on 10 December 2008 of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This year also marks the 60th anniversary of UN Peacekeeping. As part of these commemorations, the 6th installment will examine the integration of human rights into peace negotiations and peace agreements. The panel is titled “*The Highest Common Denominator: Human Rights in Peacemaking*”.

Panelists include Jamal Benomar, UN Rule of Law Unit; Peggy Hicks, Human Rights Watch; H.E. Milos Prica, Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina; H.E. Zahir Tanin, Permanent Mission of Afghanistan; Paul van Zyl, International Center for Transitional Justice; and a representative from the UN Department of Political Affairs.

The Panelists will address key questions in integrating human rights into peacemaking, such as:

- Is there a trade-off between peace and human rights?
- What are the incentives proposed by peacemakers for inclusion of human rights into peace negotiations and committing local protagonists to abide by them?
- What are the temporal and substantive scopes of permissible amnesties? How to deal with the individual criminal responsibility of conflict protagonists?
- What guides the choice between different transitional justice mechanisms?
- What are the mechanisms at the national and international level to monitor the implementation of human rights provisions in peace accords and are they effective?
- Are the measures identified in the 2004 Report of the UN High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change for improving the interaction between international and local peacemakers sufficient? What are the missing elements?
- How are peacemakers implementing SC Resolution 1325?

The panel will take place **on 29 May 2008 at the UN Headquarters, Conference room 2, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.** It will be broadcast via the [United Nations Web cast](#).

All are invited to attend. Those without a UN Grounds Pass should contact the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights **no later than 28 May 2008.**

Contact Information: Danila Boneva at 1-917-367-3637, e-mail: unchrtemp3@un.org.