



Save the Date

Is Civil Society Participation Shrinking after the Adoption of the 2030 Agenda?

Town hall-style discussion at the
President of General Assembly's High-level Thematic Debate on Human Rights

Tuesday 12 July 2016, 1:15pm – 2:45pm, CR12

Opening remarks

Mr Stavros Lambrinidis
EU Special Representative for Human Rights

One of the strengths of the process leading to the adoption of the ambitious 2030 Agenda was the active engagement and participation of civil society. We witnessed an inclusive, participatory and transparent process in which the UN and some Member States embraced and invited stakeholders to share their vision and knowledge to formulate a more sustainable future for all.

- **Is the UN system still open to include active civil society participation?**
- **Do Member States value and encourage input from civil society into processes?**
- **Is there risk that we are sliding backward to a UN in which Member States hide behind the General Assembly's rules of procedure and call for intergovernmental processes consequently excluding civil society?**

Representatives of diverse areas of civil society will argue that their participation and active contribution to UN processes will ensure that no one is left behind and that the human rights of all persons are upheld.