

Defenders'  
Stockholm  
2014 Days



**CIVIL  
RIGHTS  
DEFENDERS**

Empowering Human Rights  
Defenders at Risk

Stockholm 1 – 5 April 2014

# Welcome!

We welcome you to Stockholm for the second annual Defenders' Days conference entitled **Empowering Human Rights Defenders at Risk**. Defenders' Days is a unique event where interactive training sessions are accompanied by inspirational elements and remarkable networking opportunities. For four days, over 120 human rights defenders from some of the world's most oppressive societies will be gathered in Stockholm for what promises to be one of the highlights on the human rights calendar for 2014.

Leading experts will provide customised training in digital security, video campaigning, and human rights lobbying. Prominent representatives from the UN and the international human rights community will attend to connect with activists.

On 4 April we will celebrate the work and achievements of one of our brave colleagues by handing out the Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award.

There will be plenty of time to network and exchange experiences. We sincerely hope that you will use this opportunity to connect with fellow human rights defenders, media, security and human rights experts, together with representatives from Swedish and international organisations throughout your stay.

## The Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award

**At the open session on 4 April we will present an award to the Civil Rights Defender of the Year. The award is given to a person who, despite the risk to his or her own safety, works tirelessly to defend people's civil and political rights, without using or advocating violence.**



Ales Bialiatski is one of the most prominent human rights defenders in Belarus, and since 1996 the leader of the human rights organisation Viasna. Human rights defenders in the country carry out their work at great risk and Ales Bialiatski is the illustration of both courage and of the personal price people pay for the fight for human rights. Since 1996, when Viasna was founded, Ales has been arrested more than 20 times. In November 2011 he was sentenced to 4,5 years in prison in a politically motivated trial. He has been isolated from the world and in periods not even allowed visits from his family.

When referring to this event, please use **#defendersdays**

---

**Accommodation and location for meeting:**

Elite Hotel Marina Tower, Stockholm ([www.elite.se/eng/marinatower](http://www.elite.se/eng/marinatower)).

**Language:**

The joint conference sessions (i. e. presentations and panel discussions) will be held in English with Russian interpretation. The languages of the workshops are noted in the programme.

---

## Tuesday, 1 April – Arriving Day

- All Day** We look forward to the arrival of our guests – Transport from Stockholm Arlanda Airport to Elite Hotel Marina Tower.
- 15.00 –** Registration at the hotel reception desk.
- 18.00 – 20.00** Civil Rights Defenders will host a welcome dinner at the Marina Tower restaurant
- 20.00 – 21.00** Presentation: *Engineering a movement, using data, viral mechanics, and the visceral power of live music to mobilize people toward action*  
**Mr. Jeffrey Wescott**, Co-Founder and CEO, Giving Stage (Prins Eugens salong)
- 

## Wednesday, 2 April – Joint panel sessions and inspiration

- 08.00 – 09.00** Registration at the hotel reception desk
- 09.00** We will depart on the boat “Teaterskeppet” which is located just outside the hotel. The whole session on Wednesday will take place on the boat, and it includes a tour of the Stockholm archipelago.
- 09.00 – 09.30** Introduction and welcome  
**Robert Hårdh**, Executive Director, Civil Rights Defenders
- 09.30 – 10.30** Presentation: *The art of making, and influencing, decisions*  
**Mr. Pelle Tornell**, entertainer, lecturer, writer
- 10.30 – 11.00** Coffee Break
- 11.00 – 12.00** Panel discussion: *Repressive trends for human rights defenders worldwide*  
*Participants:*  
**Ms. Maryam al-Khawaja**, The Bahrain Centre for Human Rights  
**Mr. Robert Hårdh**, Executive Director, Civil Rights Defenders  
**Mr. Maina Kiai**, UN Rapporteur on Freedom of Association & Assembly  
**Ms. Mary Lawlor**, Executive Director, Fronline Defenders

- 12.00 – 13.00** Presentations: *Successful human rights campaigns*  
 Three activists from three regions present aspects of recent or ongoing successful human rights campaigning. Hear their ideas, experiences and strategic thinking.  
 Moderated by **Ms. Brittis Edman**, Civil Rights Defenders
- Ms. Polina Andrianova**, from the Russian LGBT group Coming Out, describes the highly successful mobilization in St Petersburg against the so-called Propaganda Law targeting LGBT people.  
**Mr. Trinh Huu Long**, Vietnamese human rights lawyer, talks about the first ever international human rights campaigning by local Vietnamese activist networks by proxy of the UPR.  
**Ms. Alaá Shehabi** from Bahrain Watch, presents the Stop the Shipment Campaign, an innovative and interesting approach to evidence based campaigning.
- 13.00 – 14.00** Lunch
- 15.00** Our boat Teaterskeppet arrives at the art venue Artipelag
- 15.00 – 15.30** Guided tour of an art exhibition
- 15.30 – 17.30** Meeting time
- 18.00** End of first day, joint dinner
- 19.45** A bus will take us back to Elite Hotel Marina Tower
- 

## Thursday, 3 April – Training and workshops

- 09.00 – 10.00** Presentation: *Lessons learned from the years working as a UN Special Rapporteur, and the main challenges ahead.*  
**Ms. Margaret Sekaggya**, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders. (Gyllene salen)
- 10.00 – 10.30** Coffee Break
- 10.30 – 13.00** Workshops:
- A. Digital security, part 1(2), **Mr. Martin Löwdin**, English (Stadshuset)
  - B. Personal security, part 1(2), **Mr Alaksiej Carniajeu**, Russian (Prins Eugens salong)
  - C. Successful use of social media in repressive contexts, part 1(2)  
**Mr. Emin Milli**, English (Seglora)
  - D. Strategic human rights litigation, part 1(2), **Ms. Arpine Avitisyán**, English (Skansen)
  - E. Video campaigning, part 1(4), **Mr. Chris Michael**, English (Mannagrynskvärnen)
  - F. Info-activism for human rights, **Ms. Alaá Shehabi**, English (Solliden)
  - G. Efficient use of human rights mechanisms part 1(2): Special procedures,  
**Mr. Christophe Peschoux**, Russian Interpretation (Gyllene salen)

- 13.00 – 14.00** Lunch
- 14.00 – 17.00** Workshops:
- A. Digital security, part 2(2), **Mr. Andrew Lewman** English (Stadshuset)
  - B. Personal security, part 2(2), **Mr. Alaksiej Carniajeu**, Russian (Prins Eugens salong)
  - C. Successful use of social media in repressive contexts, part 2(2)  
**Mr. Emin Milli**, English (Seglora)
  - D. Strategic human rights litigation, part 2(2), **Ms. Arpine Avitsyan**, English (Skansen)
  - E. Video campaigning, part 2(4), **Mr. Chris Michael**, English (Mannagrynskvärnen)
  - F. Info-activism for human rights, **Ms. Alaá Shehabi**, Russian interpretation (Gyllene salen)
  - G. Efficient use of human rights mechanisms, part 1(2): Special procedures ,  
**Mr. Christophe Peschoux**, English (Solliden)
- 17.00 – 18.00** Discussion: *The human rights challenges of yesterday, today, and tomorrow* (Gyllene salen)  
**Mr. Carl Gershman**, National Endowment for Democracy  
**Ms. Sumeja Tulic**, Civil Rights Defenders
- 18.30 – 21.00** End of second day, joint dinner
- 

## Friday, 4 April – Training, workshops and award ceremony

- 09.00 – 10.00** Presentation: *The work against discrimination within the Swedish Police*  
**Mr. Göran Stanton**, investigator at the hate crime unit in Stockholm County, Swedish Police (Gyllene salen)
- 10.00 – 10.30** Coffee break
- 10.30 – 13.00** Workshops:
- A. Digital security, part 1(2), **Mr. Martin Löwdin**, English (Stadshuset)
  - B. Personal security, part 1(2), **Mr. Alaksiej Carniajeu**, English (Prins Eugens salong)
  - C. Successful use of social media in repressive contexts, part 1(2),  
**Mr. Emin Milli**, Russian (Seglora)
  - D. Strategic human rights litigation, part 1(2), **Ms. Arpine Avitsyan**, Russian interpretation (Skansen)
  - E. Video campaigning, part 3(4), **Mr. Chris Michael**, English (Mannagrynskvärnen)
  - F. The force of compelling presentations, **Mr. Ruben Brunsveld**, English (Solliden)
  - G. Efficient use of human rights mechanisms, part 2 (2): Universal Periodic Review, **Mr. Christophe Peschoux**, Russian interpretation (Gyllene salen)
- 13.00 – 14.00** Lunch
- 14.00 – 15.30** Workshops:
- A. Digital security, part 2(2), **Mr. Andrew Lewman**, English (Stadshuset)
  - B. Personal security, part 2(2), **Mr. Alaksiej Carniajeu**, English (Prins Eugens salong)

- C. Successful use of social media in repressive contexts, part 2(2), **Mr. Emin Milli**, Russian (Seglora)
- D. Strategic human rights litigation, part 2(2), **Ms. Arpine Avititsyan**, Russian interpretation (Skansen)
- E. Video campaigning, part 4(4), **Mr. Chris Michael**, English (Mannagrynskvarnen)
- F. The force of compelling presentations, **Mr. Ruben Brunsveld**, Russian interpretation (Gyllene salen)
- G. Efficient use of human rights mechanisms, part 2(2): Universal Periodic Review, **Mr. Christophe Peschoux**, English (Solliden)

---

## Open Session – Gyllene salen

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>16.00 – 16.30</b> | Welcome & Introduction<br><b>Robert Hårdh</b> , Executive Director, Civil Rights Defenders  |
| <b>16.30 – 17.30</b> | Panel discussion: <i>The shrinking space of human rights work in some of the world's most repressive societies</i><br>Moderated by <b>Ms. Benedicte Berner</b> , Acting Chair of the Board, Civil Rights Defenders<br><br><i>Participants:</i><br><b>Ms. Khin Ohmar</b> , Coordinator, Burma Partnership<br><b>Mr. Antonio G. Rodiles</b> , Coordinator Estado de Sats, Cuba<br><b>Mr. Greg Scarlatoiu</b> , Executive Director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea<br><b>Mr. Hassan Shire Sheikh</b> , Executive Director of the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network |
| <b>17.30 – 18.00</b> | Presentation: <i>Surveillance, censorship and you</i><br><b>Mr. Jacob Appelbaum</b> , core member of Tor project, investigative journalist on security and surveillance   |
| <b>18.00 – 19.00</b> | The Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award Ceremony including performance by Swedish artist  |
| <b>19.00 – 19.30</b> | Cocktail (Marina Tower bar)   |
| <b>19.30 –</b>       | Entertainment and buffet dinner   |

---

## Saturday, 5 April – Departures

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>All Day</b> | Transport from Elite Hotel Marina Tower to Stockholm Arlanda Airport will be available from 05.00. For more information, please consult your designated conference staff. |
|----------------|---|

13.00 is the latest checkout time from the hotel.

## Defenders' Days – panellists and trainers

- Maryam al-Khawaja** Maryam al-Khawaja is the Acting President of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, as the president Nabeel Rajab is in prison. She played an instrumental role in the democratic protests taking place in the Pearl Roundabout in February 2011, which triggered a government response of widespread extra judicial killings, arrest, and torture. Al-Khawaja has emerged as a leading voice for human rights and political reform in Bahrain and the Gulf region.
- Jacob Appelbaum** Jacob Appelbaum is a core member of the Tor project, a free software network designed to provide online anonymity. He is also an independent investigative journalist working on a variety of topics related to security, privacy, surveillance and censorship.
- Arpine Avetisyan** Arpine Avetisyan is an international human rights lawyer and currently a Partner at the Centre for Rights and Justice, London. She has 15 years of experience of promoting human rights through awareness raising, research, capacity development and strategic litigation. She has worked in local and international NGOs on human rights issues in Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Kosovo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Egypt and others.
- Benedicte Berner** Benedicte Berner is Acting Chair of the Board of Civil Rights Defenders. She teaches at Harvard University on Media and Democracy and is Associate at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard. Benedicte Berner has previously taught on issues regarding freedom of expression at the Institut d' Etudes Politiques de Paris. She also trains journalists in the Middle East and Northern Africa.
- Ruben Brunsveld** Ruben Brunsveld is the founder of the Stockholm Institute for Public Speaking (StIPS). He has extensive experience in international negotiations and speech writing. Ruben Brunsveld has worked as a diplomat for the Netherlands to the European Union, and as a legal expert and speechwriter responsible for advising the Minister on issues such as "Freedom of Speech", "Privacy and Security" and "Integration".
- Alaksiej Carniajeu** Alaksiej Carniajeu has been working as a security researcher and trainer for activists in repressive societies since 2004, first with the Assembly of Pro-Democratic NGOs of Belarus and later with Belarus IT Aid. He has provided security and technology trainings for political and human rights activists from North and East Africa, post Soviet region, and Southeast Asia. In addition, he is a consultant to SuperPeif.com and a member of Electby.org team, which uses mapping software for citizen monitoring of Belarusian elections.
- Brittis Edman** Brittis Edman is Programme Director for Southeast Asia at Civil Rights Defenders. She has documented and analysed the human rights situation in Southeast Asia since the mid -90s, in particular Cambodia, where she lived and worked for seven years. Prior to joining Civil Rights Defenders, Brittis Edman worked for five years as a Southeast Asia researcher at Amnesty International.

- Carl Gershman** Carl Gershman is President of the National Endowment for Democracy, a private grant-making institution with a mission to strengthen democratic institutions around the world through nongovernmental efforts. He took the lead in launching the World Movement for Democracy, in New Delhi in 1999, which is a global network of democracy practitioners and scholars.
- Robert Hårdh** Robert Hårdh is the Executive Director of Civil Rights Defenders. He has a Master of Laws degree from Uppsala University, specialising in human rights. Robert Hårdh started working for Civil Rights Defenders as a human rights lawyer in 1999. In 2000, he was appointed Executive Director of the organisation.
- Maina Kiai** Maina Kiai is the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. Maina Kiai has spent the last 20 years campaigning for human rights and constitutional reform in Kenya. He won national reputation for his courageous and effective advocacy against official corruption and impunity following the violence that convulsed Kenya in 2008, causing thousands of deaths.
- Mary Lawlor** Mary Lawlor is the Executive Director of Fronline Defenders. She has over 35 years of experience in human rights. In 2001 she set up Front Line - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. Front Line concentrates all its activities on human rights defenders at risk. The aim is to protect defenders of human rights and provide them with “round the clock” practical support so that they can continue their work to build civil and just societies. Prior to Front Line, Mary Lawlor was Director of the Irish Section of Amnesty International for 12 years.
- Andrew Lewman** Andrew Lewman runs The Tor Project as the Executive Director and a member of the Board. Currently Treasurer of the Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium, which brings together anonymity and privacy experts from around the world to discuss recent advances and new perspectives in privacy on the Internet and other communication networks. He is a founding member of the IPVTech Working Group to help eliminate Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), and Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) through the use of information technology.
- Trinh Huu Long** Trinh Huu Long is one of very few human rights legal activists in Vietnam, also one of the democracy activists of the young generation. Since 2011, Long has been providing legal assistance to the disadvantaged, including landlost farmers, indigent victims of injustice, and human rights defenders. In the meantime, Long has also worked as a journalist for a number of leading newspapers in Vietnam, such as the Tuoi Tre, Thanh Nien, and Tia Sang. While he is still a legal activist and blogger, Long has been a trainer as well, especially in law.
- Martin Löwdin** Martin Löwdin is an Internet activist and writer, working with issues ranging from surveillance and digital security to human rights. In 2010 and 2011 he was part of the Telecomix “Tech Support for the Arab Spring”, helping Egyptians to stay online and Tunisians to defeat Internet censorship. As a part of the net-centric think-tank Juliagruppen he works to enhance Internet freedom and influence European Internet policy. Lately he has been working to educate users in different countries on practical security measures, how to avoid surveillance and staying safe online.



- Chris Michael** Chris Michael is a trainer, video producer and campaign strategist who founded Collaborations for Change in 2013 after over a decade of designing and running social change campaigns, developing human rights training and leading dozens of video and campaign strategy workshops for human rights groups from over 115 countries. Previously, Chris was the Head of Training and Partnerships at WITNESS. Much of Chris Michael's work has focused on creative and innovative campaigns that utilise technology to promote justice.
- Emin Milli** Emin Milli is a writer and dissident from Azerbaijan. He is currently managing director of Meydan TV, a free and alternative platform for freedom of speech in Azerbaijan. Milli was imprisoned in 2009 for two and a half years for his critical views about the government. In November 2010, he was conditionally released, in part due to strong international pressure on the government of Azerbaijan. From 2002-2004, Milli was director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and also advised the Council of Europe on cases of political prisoners in Azerbaijan.
- Andrew Lewman** Andrew Lewman runs The Tor Project as the Executive Director and a member of the Board. Currently Treasurer of the Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium, which brings together anonymity and privacy experts from around the world to discuss recent advances and new perspectives in privacy on the Internet and other communication networks. He is a founding member of the IPVTech Working Group to help eliminate Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), and Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) through the use of information technology.
- Khin Ohmar** Khin Ohmar serves as the Chairperson of the Network for Democracy and Development (Burma) and she also serves as a Policy Forum member and the Foreign Affairs Secretary of the Forum for Democracy in Burma—an umbrella organisation for Burmese political groups based in Burma's border areas. Khin Ohmar is also Coordinator of Burma Partnership, a network of Burmese and regional civil society organisations that seeks to bring greater support in the Asia-Pacific region for Burma's ongoing struggle for democracy, human rights and freedom.
- Christophe Peschoux** Christophe Peschoux is a human rights expert and a senior staff member at the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, after several field postings with OHCHR and ICRC in post-conflict and crisis contexts. Christophe Peschoux led the field office of OHCHR in Cambodia for four years, after which he returned to Geneva. Since January 2014, he is head of the section of the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights supporting the work of six special procedures mandate holders: torture, executions, disappearances, arbitrary detention, freedom of religion and belief and human rights protection and counter-terrorism.
- Antonio G. Rodiles** Antonio G. Rodiles is Director of Estado de SATS, a forum created in 2010 by a group of young artist, intellectuals, and professionals to encourage debate about social, cultural, and political issues in Cuba. Rodiles is also the main coordinator of the Citizen Demand for Another Cuba, an initiative calling for Cuba to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

- Greg Scarlatoiu** Greg Scarlatoiu is Executive Director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea in Washington, D.C. He has taught intensive courses on the Korean peninsula at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul and the State Department's Foreign Service Institute. He has been a guest lecturer at academic institutions such as Harvard, Princeton, and Stanford. He has lived in Seoul for 10 years and is fluent in Korean. In 1999, Scarlatoiu was conferred the title of Citizen of Honor, City of Seoul.
- Margaret Sekaggya** Margaret Sekaggya is the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders. Between 1996 and 2008 she was the Chairperson of the Uganda Human Rights Commission, and also served as the Chairperson of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions. Margaret Sekaggya has participated in the drawing up of a Bill of Rights for the East African Community. In addition to her work at the international level, Ms. Sekaggya is the Executive Director of the Human Rights Centre Uganda.
- Alaá Shehabi** Alaá Shehabi has a leading role in Bahrain Watch, an independent research and advocacy organisation that seeks to promote effective, transparent and accountable governance in Bahrain. Bahrain Watch was established after the February 2011 uprising and subsequent security crackdown in Bahrain. Alaá Shehabi is responsible for the Stop the Shipment campaign, which aims at stopping the import of tear gas to Bahrain. She is a British-born Bahraini researcher and writer, and currently an ACSS research fellow.
- Hassan Shire Sheikh** Hassan Shire Sheikh is the Executive Director of the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network. He was the founder and co-director of Dr. Ismail Jumale Human Rights Centre and Chairperson of Peace and Human Rights Network in Mogadishu, before he was forced to flee his native Somalia. For a number of years, Mr. Shire has served as the coordinator of the African Human Rights Defenders Project at York University, Canada. He also engages actively in the UN Human Rights Council and Community of Democracies.
- Göran Stanton** Göran Stanton has been working in the police force for 30 years. Currently he works as an investigator at the hate crime unit in Stockholm County. In March 2000, Göran Stanton and some of his colleagues started the Swedish Gay Police Association. He is a member of the board of HBT-liberalerna (the LGBT liberals) since 2011, and has visited many Pride festivals in Eastern Europe during the last three years. Last year he attended Belgrade Pride. Göran Stanton is a member of Civil Rights Defenders.
- Pelle Tornell** Pelle Tornell is a unique international entertainer and speaker. After many years in various top management and board positions Pelle Tornell decided to pursue a further career as a keynote speaker, entertainer and author. Today, he is one of Scandinavia's most prominent speakers and thinkers on the topic of decision making. His psychological deception show MindBusiness is seen by thousands of spectators every month. He is also the author of the book Bestäm Dig (You Choose).

**Sumeja Tulic**

Sumeja Tulic is Programme Officer for the Western Balkans at Civil Rights Defenders. She has a BA in Law from the Law faculty in Sarajevo and a MA degree from the European Regional Master on Democracy and Human Rights in Sarajevo. Sumeja started to work for Civil Rights Defenders in 2011 and is stationed at the organisation's office in Sarajevo.

**Jeffrey Wescott**

Jeffrey Wescott is Co-Founder and CEO of Giving Stage. Jeffrey believes in beautiful design, lean thinking, and agile development. Before starting Giving Stage, Jeffrey was the VP of Product and Engineering at Change.org. An entrepreneur at his core, Jeffrey has spent nearly his entire career building start ups. He holds a bachelors degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Bucknell University.

# Trainings and Workshops

*Please note that the workshops comprise of 7 parallel tracks over two days, covering different topics, so you can choose the topic that suits you or your organisation best. The first 5 topics in the agenda (A – E) involve longer training sessions and consist of 2 – 4 parts. The final two sessions (F – G) are once off. Please consider if you want to choose the longer sessions or the shorter ones. The language is specified for each of the workshops so you have the option to participate in English, English with Russian translation or Russian.*

---

## **Digital Security, part 1 – Secure communication and encryption, Mr. Martin Löwdin**

Most of us would be upset if our regular ordinary mail was systematically opened and read on its way from sender to receiver. But when we communicate by email, chat or phone we seem to neglect the fact that this could be done systematically and on a massive scale.

For human rights defenders all over the world secure communication is a crucial security concern. This session will deal with strategies for how to communicate over Internet in a more secure way, but also discuss why there might be reasons to make encrypted communication a standard rather than exception. The session is useful for human rights defenders who want to learn more about encryption, what tools are available for email, chat and phones, and what strategies to apply when sending messages encrypted.

---

## **Digital Security, part 2 – Internet circumvention and anonymity online, Mr. Andrew Lewman**

Many human rights defenders face serious risks when being active online. In some countries websites are blocked and Internet traffic is closely monitored. This session focuses on how to circumvent Internet censorship and how to hide your tracks when being active online.

The session also raises the question about anonymity in general from a personal integrity perspective. In some very repressive countries it is not enough only to browse the Internet safely, you must also hide your tracks on your computer. Linus Nordberg from the Tor Project will present and demonstrate how the tools Tor and Tails work in practice so that you can protect your privacy and anonymity.

---

## **Personal Security, part 1 – How to cope with psychological pressure, Mr. Alaksiej Carniajeu**

Psychological manipulation is a common coercive technique used by repressive governments, or other opponents, against human rights defenders and those that they try to protect.

In stressful situations we react instinctively and irrationally, which makes us more vulnerable for manipulation and pressure. This training will highlight the most pertinent questions surrounding the psychological aspects of security. It will look at strategies for how to resist attempts of psychological pressure and manipulation by the police or other agents. It will also look at how you can better prepare yourself to react more rational in a stressful situation.

## **Personal security, part 2 – Witness and victim protection, Mr. Alaksiej Carniajeu**

Human rights defenders often work closely with witnesses or victims of human rights violations. Sensitive information is shared and documented and the human rights defender has a great responsibility not to compromise the security of these informants.

This session will focus on what human rights defenders and human rights organisations can do, with limited resources, to strengthen the security when handling information. How can they protect the anonymity of individuals and what can be done to protect someone physically?

---

## **Successful use of social media in repressive contexts, part 1 – 2, Mr. Emin Milli**

Internet injected a new impetus in the work of the technology savvy human rights defenders. Almost all human rights defenders are under pressure, in one way or the other, linked to their internet activities. Some share their struggle and achievements on social media. Others solely depend on their personal or group blogs and social media platforms to inform their community (virtual and real/physical).

But using Internet to promote and defend human rights in repressive societies is not an easy task. Repressive regimes are becoming more and more technologically equipped to monitor, censor or completely block critical contents on the Internet. In some countries, the authorities put a number of legal constraints in place to discourage citizens. In other countries such activities are criminalised. On the other hand, Internet provides access to the community with less cost and time. If linked with activities on the ground, Internet can obviously be an effective tool to inform and mobilise the public.

---

## **Strategic human rights litigation, part 1 – 2, Ms. Arpine Avetisyan**

Strategic human rights litigation has become one of the most powerful tools in advancing law and enhancing social change. This workshop will unravel the notion of strategic litigation and provide a step-by-step guide on how to successfully run human rights cases: from identifying the right case, working with the victim to developing the strategies on national, regional and international levels.

Participants will learn about the advantages and disadvantages of strategic litigation and how it can be used as part of a wider advocacy strategy to maximise its impact. The workshop will focus on the advancements made regarding human rights law at the European Court of Human Rights, while at the same time reflecting on other regional mechanisms and UN Treaty bodies.

The sessions will be interactive with the opportunity for participants to share their own experiences through examples. We will discuss and consider the best strategies for advancing participants' sample cases and how best to use them in their advocacy work.

## **Video campaigning, part 1 – 4, Mr. Chris Michael**

These workshops, divided in 4 parts, will cover how you can develop powerful stories and create effective videos that move your audiences to action. It will feature methods for video advocacy and discuss how human rights defenders may (or may not) best use video to support their documentation and advocacy work.

The training is rooted in over a decade of successful collaborations with social change campaigns. With a specialization in supporting human rights defenders and communities at risk, the training does not just focus on how to get great footage or amplify a powerful story, but how to work safely and ethically to best protect everyone involved. The workshop is open to new and advanced filmmakers, and will focus on video for change strategy.

---

## **Info-activism for human rights, Ms. Alaá Shehabi**

Bahrain Watch is an independent research and advocacy organisation that seeks to promote effective, transparent and accountable governance in Bahrain. Bahrain Watch was established after the February 2011 uprising and subsequent security crackdown in Bahrain to uncover the truth of the crackdown and its aftermath.

Through their Stop the Shipmen campaign, they have mobilized significant interest and international support to end the import of tear gas to Bahrain from, in particular, South Korea and South Africa. Through targeted research, media work and video advocacy, Stop the Shipment has made significant progress in a short space of time. Join this session to learn more about the campaign, and about their strategic thinking.

---

## **Efficient use of human rights mechanisms, part 1 – 2, Mr. Christophe Peschoux**

When, how and why would you contact a Special Rapporteur? This session will provide concrete ideas on how human rights defenders can make the best use of UN special procedures. Is the Universal Periodic Review a good human rights tool for you? Hear the ins and outs of UPR and how human rights organisations and networks can make effective use of the UPR process.

---

## **The force of compelling presentations, Mr. Ruben Brunsveld**

What is closest to your heart can be the most difficult to present in a brief and clear way. Leaders and key staff of human rights organisations are exposed to many situations where they have to present their organisation to politicians, decision-makers, international partners and donors.

In a few minutes the work of the organisation, its importance and core values should be conveyed to the listeners. In this session Ruben Brunsveld, an expert in public speech and rhetoric, will provide the participants with useful advice for how to effectively bring the best out of your organisational presentations.

---

# Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award

**The Civil Rights Defender of the Year is a person who, despite the risk to his or her own safety, continues to strive to ensure that other people's civil and political rights are recognised and protected. Their work is carried out without the use of violence and within an independent human rights organisation.**

Civil Rights Defenders has worked for more than 30 years with defending people's civil and political rights. One of our main tasks is to empower our partners, those human rights defenders who work in repressive societies around the world. Our hopes are that the prize will bring light to the work of the courageous laureate and enable long-term strengthening of the organisations' important work for human rights.

## Established in 2013

The first Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award was handed out on 4 April 2013 to one of the world's most prominent human rights defenders. Ms. Nataša Kandic from the Humanitarian Law Center in Serbia received the award for her persistent and fearless work in documenting war crimes and serious human rights abuses in the former Yugoslavia and for supporting war crimes trials by providing courts with evidence and witnesses. Read more about her work below.

## Nomination Process

The recipient of the prize is appointed by the Civil Rights Defenders Board, which chooses between three candidates presented by the organisation's secretariat. The secretariat makes their choices based on nominations submitted by Civil Rights Defenders' worldwide network of human rights defenders and human rights organisations. Nomination for the Civil Rights Defender of the Year Award is by invitation only.

The winner will receive the award on 4 April, to coincide with the conference "Defenders' Days – Empowering Human Rights Defenders at Risk". It is held annually in Stockholm with the first ever inauguration of the award taking place in 2013. The purpose of the conference is to draw attention and to recognise the work of courageous human rights defenders, and to provide a forum for training, discussion, networking, and capacity building. The Civil Rights Defender of the Year is awarded in the presence of some of the world's leading human rights defenders.

## The prize

The prize consists of a specially designed statuette (design by Johan Pihl, RBK), a diploma and a cash award of € 50,000. The winner receives the statuette and the diploma while the prize money is donated to the recipient's organisation to enable long-term strengthening of its important work for human rights.



### About Nataša Kandic, 2013 Civil Rights Defender of the Year

For more than two decades Nataša Kandic, founder of the Humanitarian Law Centre in Serbia, has been a strong spokesperson for fundamental human rights in the Western Balkans. She received the award for her persistent and fearless work in documenting war crimes and serious human rights abuses in the former Yugoslavia, and for supporting war crimes trials by providing courts with evidence and witnesses. Because of

her human rights work, Nataša has been subjected to repeated death threats, but her concern has always been to support and campaign for victims of war crimes with little regard to her own safety.

---

## **We would like to express our gratitude to all of you who made Defenders' Days possible:**

Artipelag	Open Society Foundations
Dagens Nyheter	RBK Communication
Daniel Sahlberg, photographer	Randy Gosda, writer
Elite Hotel Marina Tower	Sida
FinFina	Sporrong
Fokus	Sticky Beat
Frida Nilson, photographer	Svenska Dagbladet
Global Mouth	Svenska Institutet
Gefle Chocolaterie	Svenska PostkodLotteriet
Hill & Knowlton PR	Svenska PostkodStiftelsen
H & M	Teaterskeppet
Keith Begg, writer	Vitt Grafiska

And all speakers and participants at the conference Defenders' Days.