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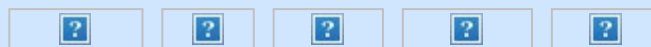


## FRP eQuarterly

#3

Autumn 2023

With these FRP eQuarterlies, we wish to provide the organisations participating in the Fundamental Rights Platform with an overview of the Agency's reports, webinars, e-learning courses and other resources that could be of relevance to their activities. The Fundamental Rights Platform is the Agency's cooperation platform with non-governmental organisations and institutions of civil society active in the field of fundamental rights. We invite you to spread the word and encourage other organisations to register with the Platform. [Click here to find out more about the Fundamental Rights Platform!](#)



"We live in a world where those who stand up for our rights and values are faced with immense pressure. Organisations that defend human rights face constant challenges," said **Michael O'Flaherty**, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, as FRA launched its latest civil society status update this month.

"What needs to be in place so that civic space isn't shrinking and civil society organisations can continue doing their work in protecting the most vulnerable," you asked Mr O'Flaherty at our Platform's Annual General Meeting on 2 October. "Both policymakers and donors alike have woken up to the need to protect human rights. We need to keep civil society challenges at the forefront of the attention of policy makers. This is why the Agency issues annual updates on civic space," he said.

Do take your time to go through this issue of the eQuarterly – and do share the reports with your networks and sign up for the webinars and events! Our data and insights are your allies.

**In this issue:**

## Looking back at the Annual General Meeting of the Fundamental Rights Platform

**On 2 October, the Agency hosted the Annual General Meeting 2023 of the Fundamental Rights Platform.** More than 200 participants from 24 countries attended the online event. The participants, representing civil society organisations, European institutions and international organisations, discussed how to tackle the changing fundamental rights realities in the European Union. Thematic discussions included how to build civil society resilience, how to mainstream fundamental rights into the use of EU funds, tackling the fundamental rights impacts of climate change, and ensuring that advances in Artificial Intelligence respect fundamental rights. Meeting report will be available soon!



## Roundtable with FRA Director in Brussels

### **REGISTER TO ATTEND ROUNDTABLE WITH FRA DIRECTOR!**

On **9 November**, from 10:00 until 11:30, FRA Director Michael O’Flaherty is inviting civil society organisations operating in Brussels to join a Roundtable for a dialogue on current fundamental rights developments. The event will take place at Amnesty International European Institutions Offices, address: Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 71, 1000 Brussels, 4th floor.

**Register to attend the Roundtable!**

## 3rd quarter highlights



## Protecting human rights defenders at risk: EU entry, stay and support

On **11 July**, FRA published a report on [Protecting](#)



### [human rights defenders at risk: EU entry, stay and support.](#)

This report outlines how human rights defenders can enter and stay in the EU when they need protection. It suggests how EU institutions and Member States could use the flexibility in existing EU legal provisions and provide shelter for defenders who seek protection.



## Fundamental rights of older persons: ensuring access to public services in digital societies



On **13 September**, FRA published a report on [Fundamental rights of older persons: ensuring access to public services in digital societies](#). It highlights that lack of basic digital skills among Europe's older persons keeps them from accessing their rights and points out that legislation across EU countries does not always acknowledge the risk of digital exclusion. **Join our webinar on 23 November to discuss this topic with FRA experts.**

[Register to attend the webinar!](#)



## The Russian aggression against Ukraine – Displaced children finding protection in the EU - Bulletin 3



On **29 September**, FRA published its [Third Bulletin on the Russian aggression against Ukraine](#). This bulletin explores the rights of the displaced children as they look for protection in the EU, and ways to safeguard their rights. This bulletin builds on the evidence in FRA's Bulletins [#1](#) and [#2](#)

On **12 October**, at the conference [Reclaim Our Civil Space! - Where do we stand with the European civil society strategy?](#), FRA gave a preview of the findings contained in its civic space report which was published on 18 October (see next item for more information). The conference marked the closure of the large 'Reclaim our civil space!' programme. The EEA and Norway Grants funded programme was run for over three years by 10 CSOs from eight countries: Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia. The project supported local organisations to build their capacities, facilitating cross-border networking, and connecting local and Brussels-based organisations with a view of bringing their concerns to the EU level.

On **18 October**, FRA published its report [Protecting civil society – Update 2023](#). The report includes four 'spotlight' chapters that focus on: strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs), migrant rights defenders and search and rescue at sea; participation for organisations representing groups at risk of exclusion; and on how can donors better support CSOs under pressure. The report reflects the views of almost 400 civil society organisations active in the field of human rights in the EU27 and Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia.

[Read the individual country reports](#)



## Online consultation on FRA's work on the rights of people with disabilities

**SHARE YOUR RESOURCES ON DISABILITY!** On **12 October**, FRA ran an online consultation on its work on the rights of people with disabilities. The consultation invited the insights of stakeholders on the upcoming FRA report on political participation of persons with disabilities and on a project on protecting the fundamental rights of people with disabilities in institutions. The consultation drew insights from a broad range of experts and practitioners from key EU level stakeholders, including the European Disability Forum, Victim Support Europe, the European Network on Independent Living and Inclusion Europe. **Please email us references to reports, promising practices, and other helpful background material:** [FRP@fra.europa.eu](mailto:FRP@fra.europa.eu)



## Being Black in the EU: Experiences of People of African Descent report

On **25 October**, FRA released [Being Black in the EU: Experiences of People of African Descent](#). The report presents the findings of FRA's third large-scale survey on immigrants and the descendants of immigrants. The report reflects the experiences of discrimination and racism of almost 6,800 people of African descent in 13 EU Member States. FRA's findings support developing a better understanding of the experiences of people of African descent in the EU and promote action towards more equality and inclusion.



## Webinar on the rights of older persons in digital societies

On **23 November**, from 14:30 until 16:00, FRA will run a webinar to discuss the findings from its report *Fundamental rights of older persons: ensuring access to public services in digital societies*.

[Register to attend the webinar](#)



## First CharterXchange event

**SAVE THE DATE!** On **11-13 December**, FRA will run the first CharterXchange event. The meeting will bring together civil society representatives, national human rights institutions, equality bodies and civil servants to discuss how better implementation of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights can foster positive change and enhance access to rights.

**New FRA releases 2023**

On **7 November**, FRA will publish its 19th annual update on antisemitic incidents in EU. This report is the only annual source of data of this nature for the EU. The report reveals persistent gaps in the recording of antisemitism across Europe as countries continue to collect data differently or do not collect any data at all. This impedes efforts to effectively counter hatred towards Jews in Europe. While this report does not cover data from 2023, previous reports show events in the Middle East can lead to a rise in antisemitism in Europe.

In **December**, a new report looking at challenges and promising practices when supporting persons displaced from Ukraine “Local efforts to integrate displaced persons fleeing the Russian invasion of Ukraine” will be published.

In **December**, “Your rights matter: Experiences of discrimination and violence of people with disabilities” will be published.

**For full calendar of upcoming publications please click here: [Upcoming products in 2023 | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(europa.eu\)](#)**

## At a glance: our resources at your fingertips



### eLearning platform

Need to brush up your skills or knowledge on human rights? Our e-learning platform is free and open to everyone. If you are a new user, please first create an account to get started on the e-learning platform!

Self-paced training courses currently available:

- [Guardianship e-learning tool and Trainer’s manual](#) supports trainers in developing courses for appointed and future guardians. The [online training and learning platform](#) is for trainers and guardians. It offers practical exercises, case studies and quizzes and other resources. The [trainers’ manual for guardians](#) helps institutions, organisations and individuals train guardians or deliver ‘train-the-trainers’ courses. The manual covers various guardianship services and training

contexts for unaccompanied children EU-wide. The manual can be adapted to different contexts, such as professional, academic and volunteer training. The training materials build on earlier FRA work on guardianship.

- [Courses on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights](#) offers guidance and case studies for judges, legal practitioners, students and trainers.
- [E-media toolkit](#) brings together practical tools such as media checklists and reporting examples for journalists, public relations specialists and campaign managers.



## FRA's Online data explorer



Our data is your ally!

[Access all available FRA data by theme, country and dataset.](#)

**Please encourage others in your networks to join the Fundamental Rights Platform.** [Register with the Platform](#)

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