

'The relationship between civil society and the NPM: A webinar for UK and Irish civil society'

Co-hosted by the Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT) and the Zahid Mubarek Trust (ZMT)

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

PROFESSOR SIR MALCOLM EVANS, KCMG, OBE (UN)

Sir Malcolm Evans is Professor of Public International Law at the University of Bristol. He is a member and Chair of the UN Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture (the SPT). He is also a member of the UK Foreign Secretary's Human Rights Advisory Group and a Member of the Panel of Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in England and Wales (IICSA). From 2002 – 2013 he was a member of the OSCE ODIHR Advisory Council on the Freedom of Religion or Belief. He is Co-General Editor of the International and Comparative Law Quarterly and Co-Editor in Chief of the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion.

DR MARIE BRASHOLT (DENMARK)

Dr Marie Brasholt is a Senior Medical Officer at DIGNITY – The Danish Institute against Torture. In that capacity, she is a member of the Danish NPM together with medical colleagues from DIGNITY and staff from the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Danish Ombudsman. She has a specialisation in public health and administrative medicine and prior to joining DIGNITY worked with planning health care services at regional and national levels in Denmark. She also has several years' experience in international health care (Africa, Latin America, Asia) through consultancies and volunteer NGO work and is associate professor at the University of Copenhagen.

HELGA FISTRUP ERVIK (NORWAY)

Helga Fistrup Ervik is head of the NPM for the Parliamentary Ombudsman. Helga has a law degree from the University of Oslo and broad expertise in the field of human rights. Prior to joining the Parliamentary Ombudsman, she was deputy director general of the Department of Justice and Inclusion at the Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufdir). She has also been deputy head of the Section for Human Rights and Democracy at the Department for UN and Humanitarian Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

JOHN WADHAM (UK)

John Wadham, the NPM's first independent chair, was appointed by members in April 2016 and took up the post in May 2016. John Wadham is a solicitor with wide experience in the public sector and in the non-government sector. He is a member of the Human Rights Committee of the Law Society of England and Wales, Associate Member Doughty Street Chambers, Visiting Fellow at Bristol University and Visiting Senior Research Fellow Kings College London.

HEYDI FOSTER-BRESLIN (IRELAND)

Heydi has been a Commissioner of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission since 2014. She was reappointed by the President of Ireland for a second five year term in 2018. She is the Chief Executive Officer of An Cosán (Gaelic for 'The Path'), Ireland's largest community education organisation. Prior to this, she was CEO of Misean Cara, an Irish development agency working with some of the most marginalised and vulnerable communities in developing countries. She has also been CEO of Exchange House Ireland National Travellers Service, a leading multi-disciplinary frontline service provider.

PROFESSOR NICK HARDWICK (UK)

Professor Nick Hardwick has served as Chair of the Parole Board for England and Wales, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons, first Chair of the Independent Police Complaints Commission and Chief Executive of the British Refugee Council. He is now a Professor of Criminal Justice at Royal Holloway, University of London.