



## Side-event during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council

### **“Peaceful protests 101: Exchange on the proper management of assemblies and the use of force”**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 1.30-3.00 PM, Room XXIII**

The Permanent mission of Switzerland and the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human rights are pleased to invite you to a side event on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30-3.00 PM in Room XXIII.

The side-event will further the exchange of views and dialogue on the proper management of peaceful protests, including the use of force.

The constant action of the Human Rights Council on the topic since 2011 led to a Joint report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions on the proper management of assemblies. Thus HRC Res. 31/37 encourages all States to give due consideration to the practical recommendations contained in the Joint Report, with regard to the fulfilment of their obligations and commitments, including on how to operationalize them in their domestic laws, procedures and practices, to promote and protect human rights in the context of assemblies and peaceful protests.

The discussion will focus on recent publications, such as the “10 Principles for the proper management of assemblies” (by SRs Maina Kiai and Christoph Heyns) and the Geneva Academy In-Brief No.6 “Use of Force in Law Enforcement and the Right to Life: The Role of the Human Rights Council” (by Dr Stuart Casey-Maslen), and open the debate on other areas of the proper management of assemblies that have not yet been addressed and the role of the Human Rights Council in this regard.

- **Maina Kiai**, Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;
- **Stuart Casey-Maslen, Doctor**, Honorary Professor, Law Faculty, University of Pretoria;
- **Luciana Pol**, Senior Fellow Security Policy and Human Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS); (tbc)

The debate will be moderated by **H.E. Mr. Valentin Zellweger**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland (tbc).

*Refreshments will be served prior to the side-event*