

DRAFT AGENDA



ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROGRAMME



OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Freedom of Information Litigation International Conference – Lessons Learned

25 – 26 NOVEMBER 2005,
SOFIA, BULGARIA

Venue

HOTEL FORUM CENTRAL, 41 Tsar Boris III Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria (tel.: +3592 / 981
23 64)

Participants

Representatives of non-governmental organizations from South-East European countries, EU and USA; representatives of international NGOs.

23 November, 2005

Arrivals of participants in Sofia and accommodation in Hotel Forum Central

19:00 Dinner Reception in Hotel Forum Central Restaurant Hall

24 November, 2005

Arrivals of participants in Sofia and accommodation in Hotel Forum Central

19:30 Dinner with the AIP team, *Egur Egur Restaurant, 10 Dobrudzha street*

25 November, 2005

Conference Hall of the Hotel Forum Central, First floor

09:00 - 09:30

Registration of participants

09.30 – 10:00

Opening remarks

Gergana Jouleva, Executive Director of Access to Information Programme

Emily Martinez, Program Director, Human Rights and Governance Grants Program, Open Society Institute

Helen Darbshire, Chairperson of the Steering Committee of FOIANet; Executive Director of Access Info Europe

Theme: General Overview of Freedom of Information Litigation

Chair: Alexander Kashumov, Gergana Jouleva

10:00 – 10:20

Access to Information in the Council of Europe. Strategies for the forthcoming Treaty on Access to Documents

Helen Darbshire, Access Info Europe

10:20 – 11:00

Overview of Freedom of Information Litigation Experience in the Countries

Ten minutes for each country, by alphabetical order

11:00 – 11:20

Coffee Break

11:20 – 13:00

Overview of Freedom of Information Litigation Experience in the Countries—continues

Ten minutes for each country, by alphabetical order

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13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch in the restaurant of Hotel Forum Central**

Theme: Challenging of FOI Exemptions through Litigation
Chair – Diana Bancheva

14:30 –15:30 **National Security and FOI –**
Kristin Adair, National Security Archive, USA
Roger Vleugels, the Netherlands
Alexander Kashumov, AIP, Bulgaria
Diana Olivia Calinescu, Romanian Helsinki Committee, Rumania
Discussion

15:30 –16:00 **Freedom of Information and Government Contracts—**
Vasile Spinei, Acces-info, Moldova
Kiril Terziiski, AIP, Bulgaria
Roger Vleugels, the Netherlands

16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee Break**

16:30 – 17:00 **Freedom of Information and Government Contracts—**
continues
Darian Pavli, Open Society Justice Initiative;
Peter Wilfling, Citizen and Democracy Association, Slovakia
Discussion

17:00 – 18:00 **Freedom of Information and Personal Data**
Adam Foldes, HCLU, Hungary
Roger Vleugels, the Netherlands
Amira Krehic, Center for Free Access to Information, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Alexander Kashumov, AIP, Bulgaria
Discussion

19:30 **Dinner reception at the Hotel Forum Central**

26 November, 2005

Theme: Challenging of FOI Exemptions through Litigation—continues
Chair – Helen Darbshire

9:00 – 10:00 **Freedom of Information and Open Government**

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Kristin Adair, National Security Archive
Darian Pavli, Open Government Justice Initiative
Adam Foldes, HCLU, Hungary
Alexander Kashumov, AIP, Bulgaria
Discussion

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee Break**

Theme: Effects of Freedom of Information Litigation (Changing legal environment, campaigning for FOI implementation, tool for trainings)

Chair: Gergana Jouleva

10:30 – 12:30 **Lessons Learned By Countries**

Ten minutes for a country representative

***Simon Hradilek**, Judicial control of public access to information in the Check Republic*

***Vasile Spinei**, Access Info, Moldova*

***Shushan Doydoyan**, FOI Center of Armenia*

***Adam Foldes**, Legal process against the Hungarian Constitutional Court*

***Eszter Filippinyi and Helen Darbshire**,
Presentation of FOI Global Monitoring Software*

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 - 16:00

Theme: FOIA Network as a Tool for Sharing Information and Experience

Chair: Shushan Doydoyan

***Helen Darbshire**, Chair of Steering Committee FOIAdvocates Network, Access Info Europe*

***Nikolay Marekov**, Maintainer of Freedom of Information Advocates Web, AIP*

Discussion: Opportunities for Future Cooperation Between Participants and other Interested Groups

Closing Remarks

19:30 **Dinner at Enoteca Uno**

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