



# Alliance for Multilateralism

## *Meet the Alliance in Geneva: promoting international humanitarian law and fighting impunity*

Ministerial meeting in the margins of the High Level Segment of the Human Rights Council  
Monday, 24.02.; 14:00-15:30, room VII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

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### **Background:**

The “Alliance for Multilateralism” is an informal network of countries united in their conviction that the rules-based multilateral order is the only reliable guarantee for international stability and peace and that our common challenges can only be solved through cooperation. Achieving the goals of the Alliance to defend, adapt and reform the rules based international order will require continued dedication and efforts.

The Alliance for Multilateralism concentrates in particular on the three following streams of action:

- To protect, preserve and advance international law, including internationally agreed norms, agreements and institutions, including through political initiatives, budget contributions, the provision of capabilities and expertise;
- To drive strong initiatives where there is the need to further develop and thereby strengthen the multilateral system, in particular where governance is lacking or insufficient;
- To reform and to modernize existing international institutions, in order to make them more inclusive, representative, democratic, transparent, accountable and more effective in their functioning as well as capacity to deliver tangible results to citizens.

### **Event:**

International humanitarian law and Human rights are part of the three pillars of the United Nations and main areas for multilateral cooperation.

They are as such a central focus of the Alliance for multilateralism.

The commitment was translated inter alia in the launch and endorsement of a Humanitarian Call for Action to strengthen respect for international humanitarian law and principled humanitarian action, and therefore to safeguard humanitarian space;

The high level segment of the Human right Council in Geneva provides an occasion to reflect on the contribution and progress made by the Alliance for multilateralism on International humanitarian law and Human rights, working with States, relevant international organizations and partners from civil society, looking at issues of particular relevance for our work in the Geneva institutions.

This meeting will also examine how the Alliance, and its methods, can contribute to the fight against impunity, in particular by reasserting international law and standards and strengthening the investigation and prosecution of individuals responsible of international crimes.

The purpose of the meeting will be:

- to **generate new support** among Foreign Ministers and civil society to defend, adapt and reinforce the multilateral institutions related to International humanitarian law and Human rights, ;
- to take stock of the contribution and progress made by the **Alliance for multilateralism and discuss further steps**. Foreign Ministers will be invited to make concrete proposals on the future of the Alliance at large and especially on international humanitarian law to implement the Call for Action;
- to drive further progress in strengthening multilateral cooperation, along the methods and aims of the Alliance for multilateralism, in the field of *fighting against impunity*: the role of international investigative mechanisms (IIMM, IIM and UNITAD) and national prosecutors,

*Ministerial discussions will be held in English, French and German with simultaneous translation.*

Draft Schedule:

I. Welcome address by FM Maas, Germany and FM Le Drian, France and further co-hosts (10-15 min.)

II. Where do we go with the Alliance? FM and other participants will be invited to discuss next steps for the Alliance, including implementation of the humanitarian Call for Action, as well as developing the agenda of the Alliance, with a focus on international humanitarian law and Human rights (20-25 min.)

Remarks by Foreign Ministers, President of ICRC Peter Maurer, civil society, gppi Advisory Council.

III. Prosecution of crimes under international law (45 Minutes):

- Opening remarks: Foreign Minister of Germany (other FM: tbc)
- Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor, ICC
- Heads of investigative mechanisms
  - o Catherine Marchi-Uhel (Head of IIMM)
  - o Karim Khan (UNITAD)
  - o Nicholas Koumjian, (Head of IIMM)
- Representative of the Federal Public Prosecutor General: Mr Ritscher
- Bruno Stagno Ugarte, HRW Global Advocacy Director, former foreign minister of Costa Rica
- Q&A with the audience (Ministers, representatives of states, NGOs, UN-organisations) -

IV. Coffee/Reception and exchange.

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