



Safeguarding rights

Accountability and oversight in the time of COVID-19

26 May 2021
15h00 – 17h00 SAT
13h00 – 15h00 GMT

The challenges posed by COVID-19 were often described as “unprecedented”; the ways in which States responded, around the world, have been dramatic. In many places, extensive new powers have been sought—or often just taken—and systems designed to ensure the protection of fundamental human rights have in many cases been left to catch up.

This panel will explore some of the issues around the derogation and limitation provisions in international rights instruments, what activates these provisions, how we build in safeguards and sunset clauses and what special considerations need to be factored into policymaking, especially for different parts of the criminal justice system (for example in corrections facilities, or in designing temporary developments such as *in camera* hearings). Outside of the criminal justice system, broad concerns have been voiced concerning privacy, as well as the continued exercise of fundamental rights such as the right of peaceful assembly.

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French & Spanish

Speakers include:

Prof. Frans Viljoen (chair);

Director, Centre for Human Rights

Hon. Solomon Dersso

Chairperson, African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights

Prof. Fionnuala ní Aoláin

UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

Prof. Hélène Tigroudja

UN Human Rights Committee

Pedro Vaca Villareal

Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Register here:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0uc-yuqzkvE90vZFY3P-TOe8Hj_K2zKmpP