

The Geneva Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the International Training Center for Human Rights and Peace Education CIFEDHOP cordially invite you to a side event in the context of the 34<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council.

## LAUNCH OF THE STUDY

# “BEYOND THE PROCEDURE: THE UPR AS A CATALYST FOR PUBLIC DEBATE ON HUMAN RIGHTS”

FRIDAY 17 MARCH 2017, 10.00 –11.30; ROOM XXVII, PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is widely acknowledged as one of the major innovations of the United Nations Human Rights Council. At the outset of its third cycle, it is worth assessing whether the UPR has been delivering on its promise to advance human rights on the ground.

On this occasion, the recent FES-CIFEDHOP study “Beyond the procedure: the UPR as a catalyst for public debate on human rights” will be presented. The study outlines a sample of the type of actions, strategies and methodologies of information, awareness-raising and social mobilization that has been undertaken by stakeholders using the UPR.

Beyond the formalities of the mechanism, the UPR can offer multiple opportunities for protecting and promotion human rights. On the basis of the findings of the study, the panel discussion aims to assess whether and how the UPR can effectively advance human rights through public debate and awareness-raising as well as through unexplored dynamics and processes.

### OPENING REMARKS:

- ❖ YVES LADOR, CIFEDHOP

### SPEAKERS:

- ❖ JOSÉ PARRA, LEAD AUTHOR
- ❖ BIHTER MOSCHINI, ARAB NGO NETWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT
- ❖ MONA M’BIKAY, RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANCY
- ❖ ANDRÉS SANCHEZ, OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### MODERATION:

- ❖ HANNAH PETERS, FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG GENEVA

☞ Light refreshments will be served prior to the event ☞

**NB:** valid UN accreditation for the HRC session is needed to attend the event. Please notify the organizers at least 3 working days before the event should you need accreditation to access the Palais des Nations via [iengel@fes-geneva.org](mailto:iengel@fes-geneva.org)