



Lunch debate

Amazonia's indigenous peoples: How can the EU promote their rights?

Thursday, 20 September 2018, 12.00-14.00
COMECE office, Sq. de Meeûs 19, B-1050 Brussels

The natural balance of the Amazon region is under increased pressure and the indigenous communities who protect its environment are facing more threats. Extractive activities and exploitative business practices of multinational corporations raise serious concerns with regard to human rights violations and damages to the natural environment of indigenous communities. International actors, including the European Union, are called to action. The Catholic Church is convening in October 2019 a Synod on Amazonia to reflect on ways to foster sustainable human development in the region based on the principles of integral ecology.

The Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the EU ([COMECE](#)), [CIDSE](#), [Adveniat](#) and [Misereor](#) are pleased to invite you to join a discussion on the theme "**Amazonia's indigenous peoples: How can the EU promote their rights?**". Representatives of the Pan-Amazon Church network ([REPAM](#)), of indigenous communities and of European institutions will engage in a dialogue on the regional situation. They will share their experiences and reflect on the respective roles the EU and the Church could play in addressing the human rights, socio-economic and environmental challenges. Representatives of the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network (REPAM for its acronym in Spanish, *Red Eclesial Pan-Americana*) will present their last report on the situation of Human Rights in the Amazon.

This lunch event will take place **at the COMECE Secretariat on Thursday, 20 September 2018 from 12:00 to 14:00**. English interpretation will be provided. A light lunch will be offered between 12:00 and 12:30.

Please register by 17 September 2018 under the following link:
<https://bit.ly/2wKsmVz>

DRAFT PROGRAMME

12.00- 12.30

Arrival & lunch reception

12.30 -12.35

Welcome

WELCOME

H.E. Mgr. Jean-Claude Hollerich SJ, *President of COMECE and Archbishop of Luxembourg*

12.35 – 12.45

Opening remarks

OPENING

H.Em. Cardinal Claudio Hummes OFM, *President of “Red Eclesial PanAmazonica” (Repam) and Archbishop Emeritus of Sao Paolo (Brazil)*

12.45 – 13.50

Amazonia’s indigenous peoples: How can the EU promote their rights?

PANEL

Mr. Hugo Sobral, *Director for Americas, European External Action Service*

Mr. Maurício Lopez, *General Secretary of REPAM*

Mr. Rosildo Da Silva, *representative of the Jaminawa Arara people, Acre (Brazil)*

Moderator: Ms. Denise Auclair, Senior Policy Advisor, CIDSE

13.50 - 14.00

Closing

CLOSING

H.Em. Cardinal Pedro Barreto Jimeno SJ, *Vice-President of REPAM and Archbishop of Huancayo (Peru)*

Fr. Michael Josef Heinz SVD, *Director General, Adveniat*

Mgr. Pirmin Spiegel, *Director General, Misereor (tbc)*
