

## Exchange of views on the situation in Belarus since the presidential elections on 19 December 2010

### Guest speakers:

**Neil JARMAN** is the director of the Institute for Conflict Research, an independent research centre specializing in policy related issues based in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He is an anthropologist by training and has worked on numerous themes related to political transition, including policing, hate crime, social identity, human rights and equality issues.

He was a specialist adviser to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee for their inquiry into hate crime in Northern Ireland (2004-2005) and he is currently working with the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights / Organisation of Security and Co-operation in Europe in Warsaw as member of their expert panel on freedom of assembly. He was appointed special rapporteur of the Committee on International Control over the Human Rights Situation in Belarus, which unites representatives of human rights organizations across the OSCE region and international civic networks and organizations.

Report: [http://www.hrwat-by.org/sites/default/files/Interim\\_HRights\\_Assessment\\_of\\_19-12-10\\_in\\_Minsk.pdf](http://www.hrwat-by.org/sites/default/files/Interim_HRights_Assessment_of_19-12-10_in_Minsk.pdf)

**Prof. Emmanuel DECAUX** is a Professor of international law at the University Panthéon-Assas Paris II and the director of the Director of the Research Centre on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (CRDH) of the University Paris II ([www.crdh.fr](http://www.crdh.fr)).

He was elected member of the new Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) in May 2011 and is a former member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council and of the late UN Sub-Commission on Human Rights. In April 2011 he was appointed OSCE rapporteur on Belarus by 14 Participating States invoking the Moscow Mechanism of the Human Dimension and presented his report to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 16 June 2011 ([www.osce.org](http://www.osce.org)). He was OSCE rapporteur on Turkmenistan in 2003. Prof. Decaux is the editor of the online journal *Droits fondamentaux* and the author of numerous articles and books on human rights. He recently edited a collective commentary of *Le Pacte international relatif aux droits civils et politiques* (Economica, 2010) and published *Droit international public* (7ème édition), Dalloz, 2010; *Les formes contemporaines de l'esclavage* (cours de l'Académie de La Haye), Nijhoff, 2009; *Les grands textes internationaux des droits de l'homme*, La Documentation française, 2008.

Report: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/78705>

**Aliaksandr BIALIATSKI** is the Chairperson of the Council of the Human Rights Center "Viasna", Deputy chairperson of the Assembly of Pro-Democratic NGOs in Belarus and author of a number of books and numerous publications in the sphere of human rights. He was a leader of the underground pro-democratic youth movement during the USSR era. In 1996 Ales was one of the founders of the Human Rights Centre "Viasna" (Spring) dealing with protection of the victims of political repression, collection and distribution of information about violation of human rights in Belarus, human rights education and election observation and monitoring. At present the Human Rights Center Viasna is one of the leading non-governmental organizations in Belarus. Ales Bialiatski has served several administrative sentences for his human rights and civic activity.