



Permanent Mission of Norway  
to the United Nations



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Artists  
at Risk  
Connection



The Freedom  
to Write

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Woman, Life, Freedom 2022 © JIR

# Defending Creative Voices

Protection of artists  
in times of emergencies

4.30-6.00pm (EST) • 9 April 2024  
Conference Room 2

United Nations Headquarters, New York  
Livestreaming available (EN, FR, ES)

## WE MUST PROTECT ARTISTS IN TIMES OF CRISIS.

Threats, harassment and attacks against artists are on the rise. Such incidents are often associated with the perceived political or social nature of their art, and increase during emergencies. However, their vulnerability is rarely recognized.

Co-organized by UNESCO (under the UNESCO-Aschberg Programme for Artists and Cultural Professionals) and Artists at Risk Connection (ARC), this event examines the impact of crisis on artists and calls for comprehensive and coordinated efforts to defend artistic freedom. Discussions will build on the UNESCO report "Defending Creative Voices: Artists in emergencies, learning from the safety of journalists", as well as the Artists at Risk Connection (ARC) publication "Art Is Power: 20 Artists on How They Fight for Justice and Inspire Change".

### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

#### Opening remarks • 4.30pm

- **Eliot Minchenberg**, Director of UNESCO New York Office and UNESCO Representative to the United Nations in New York
- **H.E. Mr. Andreas Løvold**, Deputy Permanent Representative/Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Gianluca Greco**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations

Moderator: **Karalyn Monteil**, Head of Programmes & Stakeholders Outreach, Diversity of Cultural Expressions Entity, UNESCO

#### Reading by **Zarifa Adiba**, violist, conductor of the Afghan Zohra Orchestra • 4.40pm

#### Panel discussion • 4.50pm

- **Alexandra Xanthaki**, UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights
- **Deeyah Khan**, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Artistic Freedom and Creativity
- **Dinaw Mengestu**, writer
- **DJ Switch**, disk jockey/musician/producer
- **Zarifa Adiba**, violist

Moderator: **Julie Trébaud**, Managing Director, Artists at Risk Connection (ARC), PEN America

#### Q&A • 5.45pm

#### Wrap-up and closing • 5.55pm

- **Karalyn Monteil**, Head of Programmes & Stakeholders Outreach, Diversity of Cultural Expressions Entity, UNESCO

#### Reception, artistic performance and exhibition visit • 6.00pm

- Performance by DJ Switch
- Exhibition "Culture under Attack: Safeguarding Heritage in Emergency"

Registration mandatory for in-person attendance: [bit.ly/DefendCreativeVoices](https://bit.ly/DefendCreativeVoices)

