

International Day for Universal Access to Information 2021

28 & 29 September 2021

Online



PANEL 1: ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAWS DURING THE DECADE OF ACTION: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

- Global trends: national access to information laws – numbers, new developments, persistent weaknesses
- International trends: the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents
 - Adoption of access to information rules by intergovernmental organisations
 - Implementation challenges: political will, funding, assessing progress

28 September
12 to 1:30 p.m. CET

PANEL 2 : THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE AND EFFICIENCY OF OVERSIGHT BODIES AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

- The role of specialized bodies in protecting and promoting access to public information;
 - Defining independence for oversight bodies;
- Sharing best practices: models for implementation and oversight of access to information laws;
 - Transparency and proactive disclosure as key elements of ATI laws

28 September
2 to 3:30 p.m. CET

PANEL 3: LEVERAGING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR PEACE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Digitalization and access to information;
- The expansion of e-Government processes;
- The increase of data and data intensive research;
 - Inclusion and cross-border data flows;
- Results of UNESCO's SDG 16.10.2 survey on the implementation of ATI laws

28 September
4:30 to 6 p.m. CET

PANEL 4: DELIVERING REGIONALLY, DELIVERING FOR CITIZENS; BUILDING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION INITIATIVES

- How to ensure that Access to Information laws translate into effective outcomes?
 - How to make sure citizens are aware of all the possibilities open to them and how to encourage them to use them to their fullest?
- What solutions work in building demand for information but also in supplying it?
 - Progresses made towards improved laws, structures and practices.
- Examples of successful efforts in implementing Access to Information policies.

28 September
7 to 8:30 p.m. CET

PANEL 5: STRENGTHENING THE RIGHT TO ACCESS INFORMATION IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

- Streamlining Access to Information in the Universal Periodic Review;
- Links between ATI and other thematic recommendations in the UPR reports;
 - How to better target recommendations based on ATI?
- Implementation of UPR recommendations at national level - lessons learned

29 September
9:30 to 10:30 a.m. CET

PANEL 6: ACCESS TO INFORMATION - REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND UNESCO POLICY GUIDE

Experts from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Arab States, Europe and North America will discuss regional perspectives regarding Access to Information laws.

29 September
2 to 3:30 p.m. CET

PANEL 7: HARNESSING OER TO STRENGTHEN ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- How Open Educational Resources (OER), copyright capacity building and policy development enhance access to information?

29 September
3:30 to 4:30 p.m. CET

#AccessToInfoDay
#RightToKnow

