

CIVILSAMFUNDET SLÅR IGEN

Civilsamfundet er under angreb globalt. I april 2018 var [råderummet for civilsamfundet](#) i 109 lande i verden enten lukket, undertrykt eller destabiliseret. Det er en forværring og et udtryk for, at det bliver mere og mere normalt for regeringer at slå ned på borgernes mest basale rettigheder - ytringsfrihed, forsamlingsfrihed og foreningsfrihed - som alle er grundsten i et velfungerende demokrati. Globalt Fokus, medlemmer og internationale partnere stiller i forløbet "Civilsamfundet slår igen" skarpt på, hvilke modstrategier civilsamfundet verden over benytter sig af i kampen for sit råderum, og hvordan det danske civilsamfund og den danske regering bedst kan støtte op om denne kamp.

Forløbet "Civilsamfundet slår igen" består af en **tre-trins-raket**:

1

FYRAFTENS- MØDER

AUGUST-DECEMBER

2018: Fyraftensmøder med globale inputs til modstrategier og diskussion af, hvad dansk civilsamfund og regeringen kan gøre for at støtte.

2

CIVILSAMFUNDS- MØDE

DECEMBER 2018:

Civilsamfundsmøde for udvikling af anbefalinger til, hvordan dansk civilsamfund og regeringen bedst kan støtte civilsamfundets råderum globalt.

3

CIVIC SPACE KONFERENCE

MARTS 2019: International konference i København, hvor dansk civilsamfund og regeringen forpligter sig på konkrete tiltag for at støtte civilsamfundets råderum globalt.

Læs mere om forløbet [her](#).



GLOBALT FOKUS

– Folkelige organisationers udviklingssamarbejde

PROGRAM: Fyraftenmøder

22-08-2018, 15.00-16.30, Global Focus, Rysensteensgade 3, Copenhagen:

When 'Rule of Law' Becomes 'Rule by Law' to Silence Civil Society

Globally, a tendency has intensified for governments to silence civil society, as 'rule of law' is replaced by 'rule by law'. We invite David Moore from ICNL (International Center for Non-for-Profit Law) and Frank Mugisha from SMUG (Sexual Minorities Uganda) to give an insight into their work on the topic. David Moore will present the current trends of closing space for civil society, as documented by ICNL in their effort of monitoring the freedoms of assembly and association around the world. Frank Mugisha will present how Ugandan LGBT+ activists in coalition with other national CSO's are working in their pursuit of securing their rights in Uganda in spite efforts by the authorities to silence them.

Organisations: Global Focus, ICNL & SMUG.

06-09-2018, 14.00-15.30, Global Focus, Rysensteensgade 3, Copenhagen:

Civil Society under pressure in Sub-Saharan Africa: What are the Effective 'Push Back Efforts'?

What is the state of civic freedoms and the ways forward for civil society organizations (CSO's) to enlarge civic space in Sub-Saharan Africa? Is it even possible for government bodies and CSOs to collaborate? This event attempts to answer these questions by inviting Charles Kojo VanDyck from West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) and Teldah Mawarire from CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. Charles Kojo VanDyck from WACSI will present the context of civic space in Ghana, Senegal and Mauritius and highlight some of the 'push back efforts' implemented by civil society that have successfully led to enlarged civic space. Teldah Mawarire from CIVICUS will present her perspective on the state of civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa and discuss the implications of cooperation between civil society actors and government bodies in the region.

Organisations: Global Focus, CIVICUS, WACSI & CISU.

31-10-2018, 14.00-16.00, KVINFO, Christians Brygge 3, Copenhagen:

How LGBTIQ+ and women's rights activists are affected by shrinking civic space

Women human rights defenders (WHRD), activists advocating for lgbtiq+ rights and women's rights face resistance which is linked to gendered power relations, patriarchal and conservative values, misogyny, prejudice and taboos. The problem is global and the restrictions and harassment they experience are linked to traditional ideas of gender norms and perceptions about how women should behave. The challenges of a shrinking civic space often come on top of challenges of understaffed and underfunded lgbtiq+ and feminist activist organisations that need to find creative ways to move forward. To discuss these issues, we have invited Maryam Al-Khawaja (WHRD), Susanne Branner (LGBT Danmark), Helle Jacobsen (Amnesty International) and Henriette Laursen (KVINFO).

Organisations: KVINFO, Amnesty International, WRHD, Sex og Samfund & LGBT Danmark.

21-11-2018, 17.00-18.30, Global Focus, Rysensteensgade 3, Copenhagen:

Democratic freedom, transnational companies and Danish investments

Transnational companies have a long history of violating human rights and thereby shrinking civic space. However, these violations rarely lead to companies being held responsible, since efficient legislation is either non-existent or not being upheld due to politicians protecting transnational companies for financial reasons. In Mozambique, Associação de Apoio e Assistência Jurídica as Commundades (AAAJC) is striving to mobilise local communities to hold big mining firms accountable to national laws. Their work is often cracked down upon with violent means by police and security firms. At this after-work meeting, activist Ali Chaucate will tell us about AAAJC's fight against the big mining industry, and share the strategies employed by civil society in Mozambique fighting for its civic space.

Organisations: Afrika Kontakt, Amnesty International & AAAJC.

26-11-2018, 16.30-18.30, Øst for Paradis, Paradisgade 7-9, Århus:

No one should lose their life for telling the truth

Open witch-hunts against media and journalists, and laws limiting freedom of speech and access to information, are no longer reserved for the dictators of the world. The scary development, with clear attempts to undermine the legitimacy and credibility of independent media and journalists, is only becoming more evident – even in EU-countries such as Poland and Hungary, and most recently in Slovakia, where a journalist was murdered for uncovering government corruption in February. IMS & Nyt Europa invite you to the screening of the new documentary film 'Courage – Journalism is not a crime' by Tom Heinemann, who follows three journalists from Turkey, Azerbaijan and Myanmar, respectively. The movie will be followed by a debate about what it is like to be a journalist in a country, where authorities employ persecution, harassment and threats in the attempt to silence critical journalism. We will also discuss why the mounting threats to freedom of speech and press in Europe has consequences for Denmark, and whether we have a problem ourselves – and, most importantly, how Danish civil society and the Danish government can contribute to strengthening freedom of speech and press, not just here at home and in the rest of Europe, but globally as well.

Organisations: IMS & Nyt Europa.

03-12-2018, 15.00-17.00, Mellempøkeligt Samvirke, Fælledvej 12, Copenhagen:

How can young people around the world bring down the towers of oppression and raise the banners of freedom?

Young people are at the center of a global fight for democracy and sustainable development, and they are in many countries around the world in the front line and directly experiencing the challenges of a shrinking space for civic and political participation. In his 2018 Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture, Barack Obama in his first major speech since leaving office, had a message to young people: "Young people (...), my message to you is simple – keep believing, keep marching, keep building, keep raising your voice. Every generation has the opportunity to remake the world. Mandela said: 'Young people are capable, when aroused, of bringing down the towers of oppression and raising the banners of freedom.' Now is a good time to be aroused. Now is a good time to be fired up." This event will discuss global trends and local experiences of young people's civic and political space and how young people can protect and expand civic and political space for themselves and the population at large to participate in public affairs – or in other words: How can young people around the world bring down the towers of oppression and raise the democratic banners of freedom?

Organisations: Mellempøkeligt Samvirke / ActionAid, DUF & Red Barnet.

FLERE FYRAFTENSMØDER UNDERVEJS (datoer TBC):

- "Humanitære aktioner og civic space" ved Red Barnet og Folkekirkens Nødhjælp.
- "Fokus på den glemte rettighed: Tros-, religions- og tankefrihed".