

Reclaiming space for civil society:

“Shrinking space” tendencies – now in Europe?

::: December 16, 3-6 pm :::

– on funding cuts, change in legislation and how to respond

Global Focus in co-operation with CISU would like to invite to an event for Danish CSOs to gather around a topic related to the Danish development aid cuts – and discuss tendencies which go beyond the Danish debate on possible trends regarding shrinking space in several European countries.

The program will bring in examples across countries on consequences of funding cuts and change in legislations. The Netherlands will serve as a case. The idea is to include discussions on new openings and opportunities, strategies and ways of reclaiming “space” in different areas.

- Is there is a tendency of “shrinking space” for civil society– and if so, in which areas in particular?
- If so, why is this the case? Is it a response to a positive trend of a civil society growing stronger?
- And if space is shrinking in some areas – is space being opened up simultaneously in other areas?

PROGRAM

- Welcome by Berit Asmussen, head of Secretariat, Global Focus
- “Shrinking space for civil society – now in Europe? Various tendencies on change in legislation, funding cuts and beyond” by Laura Sullivan, Action Aid Regional Director for Europe and the Americas and vice-chair of Concord Europe. Followed by questions and comments.
- “The Netherlands as a case” by Koos de Bruijn, advocacy manager, PARTOS, the national platform of development CSOs in the Netherlands. Followed by questions and comments.
- Panel and plenary discussions: “Reclaiming space for civil society”: Where do we go from here? How do we act? Which space is there for political and other influence?” With; Laura Sullivan, Koos de Bruijn, Louise Hindenburg (Dialogos and chair of CISU)
- Gløgg and cookies

Date: 16 December at 3-6 pm.

Location: Global Focus, Copenhagen – Rysensteengade 3, meeting room “Undergrunden”.

Arranged by: Global Focus in co-operation with CISU.

Registration: Register [here](#).

For more information: Contact Andreas Dybkjær Andersson (ada@globaltfokus.dk).