What does it take to stand up for human rights? What risks do human rights defenders face, in particular if they are women? And what can we do to provide better support?

In light of the 10th anniversary of the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders and ahead of the Human Rights Day we will discuss with NGOs, Human Rights Defenders and International Organisations the challenges of speaking up for human rights. The event will also include the Geneva launch of a study "Femdefenders – the bravest women in the world" conducted by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation on Women Human Right Defenders’ exposure to threats and violence.

The debate will be moderated by Peter Sørensen, Head of the EU Delegation to the UN in Geneva

Speakers:
- Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights
- Christina Hagner, Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation
- Debbie Stothard, FIDH Secretary General, Coordinator of the Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma

The event will be followed by the screening of the documentary "Six Days", portraying three women in three different countries, fighting for change in the wake of war and conflict.

A light lunch will be served at 12.45 ahead of the event
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