Discrimination in the context of housing continues to be one of the most pervasive and persistent barriers to the fulfilment of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living. It is a global problem: starting with equal and affordable access to public services (e.g. water and sanitation), protection against evictions, access to building land, housing for rental to non-discriminatory access to private and public housing. This is particularly true for racism, racial discrimination and other related intolerances. Historical patterns and traditions of racial discrimination have led to systemic racism in all societies up to the present day with grave consequences also for the right to adequate housing.

Due to a lack of access to adequate housing and land rights and the increased likelihood of living in segregated, disadvantaged and hazardous neighbourhoods, discriminated groups face great disadvantages.

With a particular focus on intersectionality and systemic racism, this side event intends to analyse the effects of racial discrimination and systematic racism, on the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living. It will furthermore identify potential areas for improvement, collective engagement and cooperation among governments, UN bodies and civil society.

**BACKGROUND**

Discrimination in the context of housing continues to be one of the most pervasive and persistent barriers to the fulfilment of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living. It is a global problem: starting with equal and affordable access to public services (e.g. water and sanitation), protection against evictions, access to building land, housing for rental to non-discriminatory access to private and public housing. This is particularly true for racism, racial discrimination and other related intolerances. Historical patterns and traditions of racial discrimination have led to systemic racism in all societies up to the present day with grave consequences also for the right to adequate housing.

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**KEY OBJECTIVES**

- Raise awareness of the origins of and systematic nature of racism and discuss the effects of discrimination in the context of housing
- Highlight the added value of regularly monitoring and identifying any form of systematic discrimination in relation to housing and discuss how to eliminate such discrimination in conformity with international human rights law
- Discuss and share best practices on how to address and combat racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and other related intolerance in the context of adequate housing

**Welcoming and opening Remarks**
- H.E. Ambassador Julia Imene-Chanduru, Namibia

**Moderator**
- H.E. Ambassador Katharina Stasch, Germany

**Closing remarks**
- H.E. Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes, Brazil

**Panel**
- Balakrishnan Rajagopal, Special Rapporteur on adequate housing
- Tendayi Achiume, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism
- Niklas Hofmann, Policy Officer, Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency, Germany
- Sharita Samuel, Regional Director, Legal Resources Centre, South Africa
- Kate Donald, Director of Program, Center for Economic and Social Rights

**Meeting link**

https://opendiplo.webex.com/opendiplo/j.php?MTID=m395f437c0b7e5247ffdb1f3e9907c68
Meeting-No. (code): 2741 406 8507
Meeting password: b6!FeuE (2603383 for phone and video systems)

**Related reports**

- Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing on discrimination in the context of housing (A/76/406)
- Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing on spatial segregation (A/HRC/49/48)