

UNITED NATIONS WATCH
11th Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy

OPENING SESSION

www.genevasummit.org

Monday, 25 March 2019 – from 13:30 until 15:00

ROOM XIV (CINEMA), PALAIS DES NATIONS

13:30

Welcome

Hillel Neuer, Executive Director of UN Watch, on behalf of Geneva Summit co-sponsors

Alfred H. Moses, Chair of UN Watch, former U.S. Ambassador to Romania

13:35

Greetings

Michael Levitt, MP, Chair of Canadian Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee

13:42

Keynote Address

Hakima el Haite, President of Liberal International, Former Minister of Environment for Morocco

13:50

Presentations by Human Rights Defenders:

1. **Richard Ratcliffe**, Husband of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, British-Iranian citizen imprisoned in Iran on spurious charges
2. **Vicente de Lima**, Brother of Philippines Senator Leila de Lima, currently imprisoned for criticizing President Duterte's Drug War
3. **Ensaf Haidar**, Human rights activist, wife of Saudi political prisoner Raif Badawi
4. **Abdalaziz Alhamza**, Co-founder and spokesperson for Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently, a citizen journalist group reporting Syrian war news and human rights abuses by the Islamic State
5. **Nimco Ali**, Co-Founder of Daughters of Eve, advocate for women and girls at risk for female genital mutilation, survivor
6. **Diego Arria**, Advocate for Venezuelan human rights, former Ambassador to UN & President of Security Council

7. **Nurcan Baysal**, Award-winning Kurdish journalist and activist, recently detained by Turkey
8. **Felix Maradiaga**, Nicaraguan opposition leader targeted with false criminal charges
9. **Ketty Nivyabandi**, Poet and exiled Burundian democracy activist, led a movement of women-only protests
10. **Yang Jianli**, President of Initiatives for China, former political prisoner