## Pre-Assembly Side Events

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<tr>
<th>Time (KST)</th>
<th>Event Session</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 09 Nov     | Special Session on Democracy Crisis in Afghanistan | This session is to dissect the bitter political reality in Afghanistan and the state of human rights and democracy under the Taliban’s regime from the perspective of journalists and democracy actors. The session will take a look at previous engagements on democratic development, to the collapse of the civilian-led government and now the massive exodus of citizens to seek safety. This session also intends to explore what actions human rights and democracy NGOs can do in support of pro-democracy allies, as well as uphold democratic values amid the difficult landscape. The discussion of the speakers will revolve such topic and will answer the following questions:  
1. What is the recent situation and the most concerning issues in Afghanistan?  
2. What are critical things to ensure respect rights and protect any remaining semblance of democracy in the country?  
Audiences are invited to participate through direct chat and poll interventions. |
| 16 Nov     | Special Session on Illiberal power in Asia (Closed Door - Invitation Only) | This session provides awareness on the growing influence of the greatest illiberal power in the region, including its implication towards democracy and human rights in various Asian countries. The session aims to increase awareness and explore possible action in ensuring the upholding rights and democracy despite the unstoppable influence of such illiberal power. Each speaker is allocated 15 minutes to address the following questions:  
1. How have illiberal states influenced actors in your space, how did they operate? How did it affect the state of democracy in your country/in the region?  
2. What responses were made to counter such interventions? How successful were they?  
3. What alternative responses can pro-democracy do to illiberal actions which undermine democratization? Are there actions specific stakeholders should do (government, media, pro-democracy NGOs, academe, etc)? |
| 16 Nov     | Democracy amid the rise of the greatest Illiberal power in Asia. Closed door Virtual Discussion | |

**Moderator:** Bo Tedards, International Cooperation Department, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy  
**Resources persons:**  
1. Constantino Xavier, Center for Social and Economic Progress  
2. Business & Human-Rights Resources Center (BHRRC)  
3. Karel Galang, Program Officer, ADN  
4. Joey Siu, Policy Advisor Hong Kong Watch
4. Are there collaborative actions that the international community and pro-democratic actors should create to prevent the advancing liberal power to ensure rights and democratic practice?

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<tr>
<th>19 Nov</th>
<th>Special Session on Democracy Crisis in Myanmar</th>
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This session is to hear updates on the recent Myanmar democracy and human rights struggle from the perspective of the journalists and human rights activists. Journalists have been providing valuable work in reporting HRs, including the risks, threats, and security concerns connected to their role and their fighting for democracy in Myanmar’s dangerous political landscape.

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<tr>
<th>20 Nov</th>
<th>Special Session on Democracy and Minority</th>
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The session will discuss interconnected issues on democracy and communities Discriminated on Work and Descent. The presenter will display how the marginalized communities mainly Dalit has been excluded by the social hierarchy and system. The discussion aims to bring and learn from CSOs in Asia to build commitment and forward pointer of action as navigate solution to the current situation, and together strengthen and uphold democratic values in the region through inclusiveness.

On this session the speakers will respond to the following questions:
1. How the situation and effort to support the discrimination?
2. What are future action pointers urgently needed to do by National and Regional actors?

Audiences are welcome to participate through direct, chat, and poll interaction.