

INDIA: CONSTITUTIONAL AND CIVIC SPACE CRISIS

**SIDE EVENT AT 43RD
SESSION OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**MONDAY, 2ND MARCH
14:00–15:00
ROOM VII**

In India, human rights defenders and civil society activists are facing escalating levels of harassment and restrictions. The systematic use of restrictive laws against critics and an ongoing clampdown on public gatherings and internet freedom now go beyond Jammu and Kashmir. A divisive and discriminatory citizenship law has sparked widespread protests across India. Protests against the law have been met with arbitrary arrests, excessive force and violence by the authorities, with at least 27 people killed and hundreds injured with impunity.

As the situation continues to deteriorate, this event will look at what action is needed by states, civil society and the United Nations to ensure an end to these human rights violations in the world's largest democracy.

Speakers:

- Gayatri Khandhadai, Association for Progressive Communications
- Sharib Ali, The Quill Foundation
- Sehla Ashai, Kashmir Law and Justice Project
- Josef Benedict, CIVICUS

Moderator: Rosanna Ocampo, FORUM-ASIA

The event will be livestreamed on the @CIVICUS Facebook page

