About This Report

Each year the CIVICUS State of Civil Society Report examines the major events that involve and affect civil society around the world. Our report is of, from and for civil society, drawing from a wide range of interviews with people close to the major stories of the day, CIVICUS’ ongoing programme of research and analysis, and findings from the CIVICUS Monitor online platform tracking the space for civil society around the world. This report kicked off a series of dialogues around ‘Reimagining Democracy’; a synthesis of these dialogues is published in the report Democracy for All: Beyond a Crisis of Imagination.

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Year In Review: By The Month

Our monthly Year in Review looks back at the key stories for civil society in 2017; the major events that civil society was involved in, responded to and was impacted by.
OVERVIEW: TOP TEN TRENDS

“What is perhaps unusual about this year’s report is the focus on the resistance and the fact that the fightback is on,” is one of the key findings of the State of Civil Society Report 2018. The report identifies 10 key trends that impacted on civil society in 2017 and are continuing in 2018, including:

- Globalised neoliberalism is failing people all around the world;
- Polarising politics are dividing our societies;
- Personal rule by political leaders is undermining democratic institutions;
- Attacks are increasing on journalists reporting on corruption and public protests;
- Growing surveillance and manipulation of opinion is betraying the promise of social media;
- Uncivil society is claiming civil society space;
- Multilateralism is in the firing line;
- The private sector’s growing role in governance demands more scrutiny;
- Patriarchy is now firmly under the spotlight;
- Civil society is fighting back and building resolute resistance.
CIVICUS Monitor
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