GENEVA
CITIES HUB

THE GENEVA
HUMAN RIGHTS
PLATFORM

Institute for Business Ethics
University of St.Gallen

HYBRID EVENT

Smart cities and human rights – Pitfalls and opportunities

**24 June 2022
13:00 - 15:00 CEST**

Villa Rigot,
Av. de la Paix 9
1202 Geneva

The workshop aims to identify good practices of smart city projects in Chile and Switzerland to realize human rights and recommending measures that could be envisaged more generally by the Human Rights Council and other intergovernmental bodies.

The explosion in digital technologies is playing a major role in shaping cities – from IoT to digital platforms for service delivery and 5G for autonomous mobility. The challenge is now to set a responsible direction that favors inclusive, resilient and sustainable use of technologies by local governments.

These technologies, if governed responsibly, can contribute to sustainable development. Yet, in the absence of public oversight and accountability in line with international human rights standards, data on individuals and communities are being extensively recorded, often by private companies, raising concerns around privacy, surveillance, and participation of stakeholders.

Taking into consideration the human rights deliverables under the UN Secretary's Call for Action, the Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights, we need to ensure rights-respecting ecosystem of smart city projects.

A light lunch will be served before the discussion starts

Keynote address

- **Mr Sami Kanaan,** Deputy Mayor of Geneva and President, Geneva Cities Hub

Moderation

- **H.E. Ms Claudia Fuentes Julio,** Permanent Representative of Chile to the UN

Speakers

- **Ms Radka Sibille,** Delegation of the European Union to the UN
- **Prof. Alberto Coddou,** Universidad Austral de Chile
- **Dr. Isabel Ebert,** University of St. Gallen, Adviser OHCHR B-Tech Project
- **Mr. Peter Micek,** Access Now
- **Dr. Sebastian Smart,** Universidad Austral de Chile
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Welcome by Mr Andràs Szörényi, Senior Policy Advisor, Geneva Cities Hub

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