



Co-Chairs Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) and Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC)
invite you to join:

COVID-19 and the Erosion of Human Rights

**A virtual discussion on how government responses
to COVID-19 can have long-term, negative effects on human rights**

Wednesday, July 22

4:00 – 5:00 PM ET

via videoconference (RSVP for link)

The public health and economic crises caused by COVID-19 require government responses. In many parts of the world, however, governments have used the pandemic response to close civic spaces and violate human rights, not to ensure health and safety or support economic recovery. Some governments have made emergency declarations, while others have tightened their grip on the press, and many communities wonder if such restrictions will remain in place indefinitely.

The Senate Human Rights Caucus will host a discussion on the effects of COVID-19 on human rights and how authorities could respond to the pandemic while protecting and promoting fundamental rights and freedoms.

Panelists:

Ms. Peggy Hicks, Director of Thematic Engagement,
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Mr. Nate Schenkkan, Director for Special Research, Freedom House
Ms. Gulnoza Said, Europe and Central Asia Program Coordinator,
Committee to Protect Journalists

Moderated by **Akshaya Kumar**, Director of Crisis Advocacy, Human Rights Watch

Featuring remarks by **Senator Coons** and **Senator Tillis**

To RSVP for the event and receive the videoconference link, please contact Emma Borden at
Emma_Borden@coons.senate.gov.