The freedoms of association, assembly and expression – the rights that make up ‘civic space’ – are an essential part of a vibrant society; where debate and discussion thrive, and where people are able to contribute to important decisions that affect them. The following dates are opportunities on the international development calendar to highlight these issues that affect everyone, everywhere.

**CIVIC SPACE**

**DATES TO REMEMBER FOR MEDIA**

**SPEAK OUT, ORGANISE, AND TAKE ACTION**

The freedoms of association, assembly and expression – the rights that make up ‘civic space’ – are an essential part of a vibrant society; where debate and discussion thrive, and where people are able to contribute to important decisions that affect them. The following dates are opportunities on the international development calendar to highlight these issues that affect everyone, everywhere.

**TIPS FOR JOURNALISTS**

- Ask the question – do people have the freedom to speak out, organise, and take action around the themes raised for each day? Why is civic space important for making progress around each of these issues?
- For each of the days, find out what the theme for the year is and focus your coverage around these.
- Free to use visuals are often available and can be found in an online search.
- Look for the untold stories – who is most excluded? Where are the marginalised voices?
- New reports and statements are often launched to shed light on the current situation, seek these and find out how your country rates.

**FOR A FULL LIST OF INTERNATIONAL OBSERVANCES, SEE**


---

This toolkit is prepared by CIVICUS, through the Civic Space Initiative, implemented in partnership with World Movement for Democracy, ARTICLE 19, and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law.