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Progress and solidarity

ENNHRI has taken great strides in 2016, and grown from a newly formed network, to an established actor in the European human rights landscape. Progress has been visible in support to our members, engagement with our partners, and organisational development.

The increased activities on the promotion and protection of human rights in Europe, and enhanced solidarity in this aim, are vital at this challenging time for human rights across Europe. Ongoing and critical human rights concerns have endured across the region, in relation to migration, economic and social rights, counter-terrorism measures, and conflict situations.

In addition, we have witnessed a contraction of democratic space in many states, with impacts on freedom of expression, and threats to some basic infrastructure for the rule of law. Therefore, and in line with our members’ areas of work, ENNHRI has focussed on these developments.

The backlash against human rights has also impacted on NHRIs, who operate in increasingly hostile environments. ENNHRI has offered support to its members through capacity building, peer exchange and common statements in support of institutions under threat.

Strong NHRIs have positive impacts on the enjoyment of human rights and the strengthening of democratic space, and ENNHRI is committed to supporting their crucial work, as well as their establishment and accreditation in line with the UN Paris Principles.
## List of abbreviations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AISBL</td>
<td>Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (International not-for-profit organisation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDDH-CORP</td>
<td>Drafting Group on Human Rights and Business (Council of Europe)</td>
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<td>CJEU</td>
<td>Court of Justice of the European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>CoE</td>
<td>Council of Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>COHOM</td>
<td>Working Party on Human Rights (Council of the EU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COSP</td>
<td>Conference of State Parties (for the CRPD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRPD</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG DEVCO</td>
<td>Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (European Commission)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG EMPL</td>
<td>Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs &amp; Inclusion (European Commission)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG NEAR</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (European Commission)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ENTERPRISE</td>
<td>Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry (European Commission)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG JUST</td>
<td>Directorate General for Justice and Consumers (European Commission)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DH-GDR</td>
<td>Committee of Experts on the Reform of the European Court of Human Rights (Council of Europe)</td>
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<td>DROI</td>
<td>Sub-Committee on Human Rights (European Parliament)</td>
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<td>ECC</td>
<td>European Co-ordinating Committee (ENNHRI’s Board)</td>
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<td>ECHR</td>
<td>European Convention on Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHR</td>
<td>European Court of Human Rights</td>
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<td>ENNHRI</td>
<td>European Network of National Human Rights Institutions</td>
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<td>FRA</td>
<td>European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights</td>
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<td>GANHRI</td>
<td>Global Alliance of National human rights institutions (formerly known as ICC)</td>
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<td>GT-GDR-F</td>
<td>Drafting Group F on the Reform of the Court (Council of Europe)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Co-ordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (European Parliament)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LWG</td>
<td>Legal Working Group (ENNHRI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMM</td>
<td>National Monitoring Mechanisms (appointed under article 33.2 UNCRPD as ‘independent mechanisms’ (IM) to promote, protect and monitor the implementation of the Convention by States Parties)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (United Nations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSCE-ODIHR</td>
<td>Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe - Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCA</td>
<td>Sub-Committee on Accreditation (ICC)</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>WG</td>
<td>(ENNHRI) Working Group</td>
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Introduction
1.1. About the Annual Report

The 2016 annual report considers the following:

- ENNHRI’s state of development as an organisation;
- An overview of ENNHRI’s activities, according to the Strategic Plan: what we worked on; and the impacts achieved; and
- The European context in which ENNHRI is functioning as a human rights actor, including cooperation with various partners.

1.2. About ENNHRI

In our work to promote and protect human rights across wider Europe, we are driven by our:

Vision
Universal and effective enjoyment of human rights throughout Europe.

Mission
Supporting and strengthening European NHRI’s to protect and promote human rights effectively, in line with the Paris Principles.

Values
- Respect of international human rights standards
- Transparency
- Cooperation
- Accountability
- Participation
- Non-discrimination
- Independence
1.3. Highlights

**Strong growth**

The network has been undergoing a strong institutional and membership growth in the past three years. In 2016, under the new board and chair, ENNHRI has developed further and provided stronger support for its members, while NHRIs themselves have increased their powers in front of important decision-making bodies, such as their participation before the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG-A).

“It is indeed great to see ENNHRI growing stronger and taking its rightful place on the global human rights scene, and at the regional level of cooperation among NHRIs. OHCHR attaches high importance to NHRIs and their role at the national level: it is indicative that whenever the High Commissioner visited European countries this year, he met as a matter of priority with NHRIs.”

**Vladen Stefanov,**
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

This reflects the urgency of our member NHRIs and of other key stakeholders to address the concerning human rights developments in Europe. We have been able to deliver on our vision of promoting and protecting human rights, thanks to the continued support of our members, partners and donors.

“NHRIs are vital pillars for society; they help guide state institutions, help prevent violations, can give a voice to victims, and their work strengthens UN independent monitoring mechanisms.”

UN Deputy Secretary-General, Jan Eliasson at the opening of the 29th Annual General Meeting of the ICC.

**New board, new Chair**

A new board, elected at the General Assembly meeting in 2015, has taken over ENNHRI’s strategic direction in 2016, under the Chair of the Croatian Ombudsman Institution, represented by Ombuds-woman Lora Vidović.
New member

A warm welcome to the new member who has joined ENNHRI during 2016, the Office of the Commissioner for Administration and Human Rights from Cyprus. At the end of 2016, our network thus included 40 members.

Providing support for NHRI under threat

Throughout 2016 ENNHRI provided support for NHRI facing challenging political situations in their home country, in the form of in-country visits, joint statements and declarations which highlighted the important role of NHRI in times when human rights and fundamental freedoms are under threat. ENNHRI and other global and regional bodies called for support for strong and independent national human rights institutions on several occasions, such as in a statement of support for the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights on the occasion of the General Assembly in October 2016 and in a joint declaration, and the expert meeting jointly organised by ENNHRI and other international organisations, and hosted by ODIHR, in Warsaw in November 2016.

Asylum and migration

A new ENNHRI statement highlighted the human rights concerns around the ongoing crisis of Europe’s Migration System, on the occasion of the General Assembly meeting in March 2016. Members of the asylum and migration Working Group participated in a visit to several refugee camps in Greece, in July 2016, which resulted in a set of recommendations presented before the Greek Parliament.

GANHRI: a new beginning for the global alliance, under European leadership

The global network of NHRI has undergone a major brand and governance change in 2016, with the ICC network becoming GANHRI, the Global Alliance of NHRI, under the new European Chair, Beate Rudolf of the German Institute for Human Rights.
2

Governance
2.1. General Assembly

ENNHRI’s General Assembly (GA) gathered on two occasions: on 21 March 2016 on the sidelines of ICC/ GANHRI’s 29th General Meeting, in Geneva, Switzerland and on 27 October 2016 in Zagreb, Croatia, the second stand-alone meeting since the establishment of the Permanent Secretariat.

The General Assembly in Geneva marked the start of the mandate for the new ENNHRI Chair and the new European Coordinating Committee.

“At a time when the current refugee crisis, terrorist attacks and weakened economies within EU member states are challenging human rights protection, we will ensure that ENNHRI brings stable and solid support to the work of NHRIs, not only within their respective countries, but at an international level as well” declared Croatian Ombudswoman, Lora Vidović, ENNHRI Chair.
The event was also an opportunity for the Secretariat to report on its activities for the past six months. A side-event was organised with the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) on a “Human rights-based approach to the work of Ombudsmen”, which aimed at strengthening the human rights mandate of Ombuds institutions, many of which are also NHRI.

At the General Assembly meeting in Zagreb, representatives of NHRI from 35 European countries and of several international organisations discussed ENNHRI’s progress and future activities and debated several thematic issues of relevance for its members. The event was hosted by ENNHRI’s Chair, Croatian Ombudswoman Lora Vidović.

“Our discussions on topics such as economic and social rights, sustainable development goals or asylum and migration, resulted not only in further strengthening thematic cooperation within ENNHRI, but also members’ capacities and knowledge. Both are of crucial importance during the challenging times that Europe continues to face, amid the economic and refugee crisis as well as security concerns.”

ENNHRI Chair, Croatian Ombudswoman Lora Vidović

ENNHRI members also discussed their support and solidarity for the Polish NHRI, the Commissioner for Human Rights. NHRI and representatives of global and European organisations expressed during the meeting their deep concern that recent developments in Poland could negatively impact on the Commissioner for Human Rights’ vital role to promote and protect human rights. In a statement released on 28 October 2016, ENNHRI strongly supports the Commissioner in its work to promote and protect human rights in Poland.

Speaking about the opportunities and impacts of NHRI reporting and engaging with UN treaty bodies, Anastasia Crickley, Chair of the UN Committee on the elimination of discrimination urged NHRI to use fully the power they have in front of the UN Bodies. Representatives from Equinet and IOI also spoke of standards for Equality Bodies and Ombuds Institutions, and the important cooperation between these bodies and NHRI. GANHRI Chair, Beate Rudolf, and representatives from OHCHR and UNDP also provided update from their organisations, and ENNHRI’s cooperation with them. In addition, each of ENNHRI’s Working Groups hosted small group sessions for members to discuss their work.

SDGs: fast forward

The implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda is a growing area of work for NHRI, following the 2015 Mérida Declaration on the role of NHRI in implementing the SDGs. ENNHRI held a meeting on SDGs in Berlin in February 2016, where members proposed that NHRI submit reports on the shrinking democratic space in countries providing voluntary reports at the High-level Political Forum New York in July 2016. Several GANHRI members took up this proposal. At the Berlin meeting, members also proposed to establish an ENNHRI Working Group on SDGs, for mutual learning and engagement, which was discussed further at ENNHRI’s General Assembly in Zagreb.
High-level Seminar on human rights and counter-terrorism

The General Assembly Meeting was followed on 28 October by a High-level Seminar on human rights and counter-terrorism. It included speakers from Council of Europe, OSCE/ODIHR, the European Commission, OHCHR and UNDP Regional Offices, IOI, Equinet and key human rights NGOs. The participants discussed how NHRIs across Europe can most effectively address human rights concerns in the context of increased counter-terrorism measures across Europe. The event facilitated ENNHRI members’ exchange of experiences and good practices to allow them to develop European NHRIs’ promotion and protection of human rights in this context.

“It is because the subject of human rights and counter-terrorism has so many layers to apprehend, in terms of monitoring, advice, awareness-raising, or sometimes complaints handling, that NHRIs are essential actors in this area” remarked Lora Vidović, ENNHRI Chair, in the opening of the seminar.

2.2. European Coordinating Committee (ECC)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Institution of the Croatian Ombudsman, represented by Lora Vidovic, Ombudsman of Croatia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>German Institute for Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Greek National Commission for Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>The Finish NHRI, Human Rights Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Netherlands Institute for Human Rights</td>
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ENNHRI’s Board, the ECC, met seven times during 2016, to review progress on the Operational Plan and define ENNHRI’s strategic direction, with the new members taking office in March 2016. ENNHRI extends its sincere thanks to the outgoing ECC members for their extensive work over the previous three-year mandate: the NHRIs from Albania, Denmark, France and Scotland. Prof Alan Miller, of the Scottish Human Rights Commission had chaired ENNHRI for six years, including through the establishment of the Secretariat, and special thanks are relayed to him for his commitment to ENNHRI for so many years.
2.3. Finance Committee

The German Institute for Human Rights chaired the Finance Committee (FC), which oversees ENNHRI’s financial situation, until March 2016. ENNHRI extends particular thanks to Michael Windfuhr for the time and expertise he offered at such a vital time for ENNHRI, when its financial base was being secured. Throughout 2016, six Finance Committee meetings took place.

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<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>Equality and Human Rights Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Belgian Centre for Equality (UNIA)</td>
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2.4. Permanent Secretariat

The development of ENNHRI’s Secretariat continued throughout 2016, when we have welcomed several passionate new colleagues to the team:

- Zoë Vautard and Johanna Günther joined ENNHRI in March as Policy Assistants (Trainees) with Nina Panikova following in September.
- Alicia Gomez Campos joined the team in April, taking over the Older Persons’ project coordinator role from Ciara O’Dwyer, who left on maternity leave.
- Christos Katsalis, ENNHRI’s Administration Officer, joined the Secretariat in October.
- Zoë Vautard continued work as Junior Development Officer from November.
### 2.5. Core objectives and key result areas

The activities throughout the year reflected the implementation of ENNHRI’s Strategic Plan for 2014-2017.

<table>
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<th>STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2016</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CORE OBJECTIVE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Supporting the development of NHRIs across Europe in line with the Paris Principles</td>
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<td>B. Facilitating network communications</td>
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<td>C. Enhancing European NHRIs’ engagement with regional and international frameworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Building a strong and sustainable secretariat</td>
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\(^1\) The International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC) is the global alliance of NHRIs.
Supporting the development of NHRIs across Europe, in line with the Paris Principles
3.1. Capacity development

NHRI Academy 2016

The third edition of the NHRI Academy took place from 30 May to 3 June 2016 in Tbilisi, Georgia. The event was organised by ENNHRI and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) and hosted by the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia with the support of two local partners: Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA) and Frontline Georgia.

The 2016 Academy brought together staff from 24 NHRI s – members of ENNHRI as well as the National Centre for Human Rights (Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights) in Kazakhstan and the Office of the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyz Republic and introduced the topic of gender mainstreaming in the work of NHRI s. Participants also explored the practical application of the UN Paris Principles, with a particular emphasis on NHRI s cooperation with civil society organisations, and considered how functional independence is maintained while pursuing active cooperation.

NHRI s’ monitoring role in the Human Rights Framework, as well NHRI engagement in the prevention of torture were further addressed. The participants have also discussed, in a dedicated session, how counter-terrorism policies and measures impact the protection of human rights.

The evaluation showed that the NHRI Academy is useful and relevant to participants’ roles and institutions, from the topics and techniques used, to the information and skills imparted, with 90% of the participants stating that the Academy impacted the way they carry out their work.

“This school is the most exciting event for this year in my life. It gives the opportunity see that your troubles are not only your troubles, but others have the same challenges, and together we can find solutions that are applicable in my country. I was expecting professional knowledge, but I have also had the opportunity to find solutions to challenges our institution faces.”

Mykhailo Chaplyga, Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

The NHRI Academy also served as an excellent platform for exchange of good practice and for building contacts. Given the success of the NHRI Academy since 2014, OSCE/ODIHR has confirmed its continued support for this joint initiative.
Working Groups and thematic projects

Within the established Working Groups as well as on new thematic areas, ENNHRI supported capacity building for its members through training activities, exchange of information, peer support and research.

- A seminar on Article 13 CRPD (access to justice) organized by the CRPD Working Group;
- A two-day capacity building workshop for the Working Group on Economic Social Rights on monitoring economic, social and cultural (ESC) rights in Europe, including the monitoring of the Financial Crisis impacts and subsequent austerity measures;
- A workshop on NHRIs use of the European Charter for Fundamental Rights, co-organised by ENNHRI with the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA);
- A workshop on NHRIs’ role in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, in cooperation with UNDP and ANNHRI.
3.2. Establishment and accreditation of NHRIs

NHRIs are accredited by reference to the UN Paris Principles in order to test their independence, pluralism, impartiality and accountability. ENNHRI, through the Secretariat and Accreditation Support Group, offers guidance and support to ENNHRI members as they navigate their way through the accreditation process.

ENNHRI extends its congratulations to all member institutions that were accredited or re-accredited under the UN Paris Principles in 2016. Throughout 2016, ENNHRI provided advice and support on accreditation and establishment to its members. Assistance ranged from general support in understanding the accreditation process and liaising with the SCA Secretariat, to more targeted and individual support, including the preparation of their review by the SCA, exchanges of relevant practices and funding legislations, regular follow-up with members and stakeholders, and pre-accreditation consultations with the Secretariat.

ENNHRI also assisted European states to establish NHRIs. During 2016, ENNHRI participated at a conference of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and liaised with stakeholders for the establishment of a NHRI in Italy. The Secretariat had also regular contacts with its Turkish member to explore most suitable avenues for its establishment as an NHRI.

The Secretariat participates to the biannual meetings of the SCA in Geneva, to provide information on the work and context of the NHRIs under review. It also puts forward proposals for the SCA application of the Paris Principles and working methods. Following-up on the global roundtable on accreditation held in 2015, ENNHRI extended proposals to the SCA to revise its practice on two areas:

- **Functional immunity** – proposal to discuss the implications and applicability of the SCA’s recommendation to include functional immunity in national laws, given the diversity in legal structures.
- **NHRIs in transition** – proposal to clarify the accreditation procedure applying to accredited NHRIs in transition (following to, for example, a merger or change in mandate).

In 2016, ENNHRI also developed an information booklet on accreditation, to explain the benefits and process of accreditation, and provide a brief overview of the role of NHRI accreditation to national, regional and international stakeholders.
Facilitating Network Communications
Enhancing the network’s communications, visibility and impact was a cross-cutting objective throughout 2016, with a focus on further developing the communication infrastructure among members and supporting policy work through awareness-raising, publications, organisation of events, and engagement with a variety of stakeholders at regional and global levels. Furthermore, it has become clear that the new European and global context in which the NHRIs are carrying on their work requires new, comprehensive strategies, to support them in communicating human rights in often challenging situations, such as economic crisis, migration, security concerns, or in countries where the democratic space has been reduced.

4.1. Strengthening communications among members

Dissemination of information to the members

Over the course of 2016, the Secretariat sent several news updates to members, informing them about activities and developments at different levels, including from ENNHRI Secretariat, individual members, European developments, GANHRI, and the work of other human rights mechanisms and external partners. Thematic, targeted information updates were also sent by the Secretariat to the ECC, the Finance Committee, and Working Groups.

Furthermore, the Secretariat facilitated the exchange of information both at meetings and by email, among individual Working Groups as well as the entire membership. It also responded to ad hoc information requests from members.

There is great diversity among our members in regard to their mandates and national contexts. In order to ensure that ENNHRI’s actions are relevant to as many members as possible, ENNHRI’s Secretariat undertook extensive consultations on various occasions and encouraged the exchange of information between members to enhance mutual understanding.
Communications tools

The following main tools facilitate communications and the sharing of expertise among NHRIs:

- An internal newsletter (ENNHRI mailing), sent out to about 200 registered members; more than 20 such mailings have been sent throughout 2016.
- Mailing lists of experts from member institutions wishing to exchange on specific topics
- Several policies for members, among which:
  - A Draft Protocol for members in the use of branded ENNHRI outputs; and
  - A Policy for ENNHRI Common Positions
- A members’ area (developed throughout 2016, to be launched in 2017) will serve as a main tool for facilitating exchanges between members. Some features have been piloted already on the occasion of the 2016 NHRI Academy and the Zagreb GA.
- The Secretariat is also liaising with members on a regular basis, often daily, to respond to individual requests, and organises regular meetings, either in person or via web access.

ENNHRI’s Communications Support Group

The need for developing the communication capacity of NHRIs has become clear throughout 2016 from requests from member institutions, the demands of the age of communications, and the challenges of communicating human rights at present in Europe, in particular in the context of: increased migration; austerity measures; counter-terrorism; and the rise of populism.

ENNHRI organised a meeting of the Communications Support Working Group, on 15 December 2016 in Strasbourg. The meeting addressed new ways of cooperating and mutually supporting members when communicating about human rights and the work of NHRIs at the national and European levels. The meeting was also an opportunity to exchange good practice and discuss cooperation with ENNHRI partners (CoE and FRA) and explore venues for strengthening NHRIs capacity to communicate human rights in an increasingly hostile environment towards human rights, which are often under attack from the state, political groups, the media and the wider public itself. Promoting and communicating human rights has been identified as a cross-cutting priority of NHRIs and further training on this particular aspect is foreseen in 2017.
4.2. Facilitating communication with external stakeholders

The main activities to support and enhance ENNHRI’s external communications in the course of 2016 were the following:

- Dissemination of ENNHRI joint press releases and statements on various topics of relevance2, such as:
  - Press Release on the occasion of World Elder Abuse Day (June 2016)
  - Statement on evictions of Roma and travellers (June 2016)
  - Joint Press release on the occasion of Older Persons International Day (September 2016)
- Continued development and maintenance of ENNHRI’s website and social media channels (Twitter) to support the publication and distribution of a variety of thematic updates and news;
- The development of an infographic to showcase ENNHRI’s structure and areas of work
- The development of a microsite for the older persons project (ennhri.org/rights4elders), which acts as a one stop shop for all the project-related information; and
- Publication and distribution of branded thematic and general publications:
  - Leaflet “Accreditation at a glance”
  - Leaflet for the Older Persons Project
  - Booklet on NHRIs work with the EU Charter

4.3. Supporting ENNHRI meetings and ENNHRI Working Groups

Recognising that communications and policy work are very much interrelated and there is a need to better advance and present ENNHRI policy work through various communications channels. In 2016, ENNHRI developed procedures to closely align policy and communications work primarily within the Secretariat but also with ENNHRI’s Working Groups and thematic work areas.

2 For a full list of ENNHRI statements please see ANNEX 2 – ENNHRI Submissions
5

Working Groups
5.1. Asylum and Migration Working Group

ENNHRI’s Asylum and Migration Working Group comprised in 2016 representatives of 23 NHRIs, who work to raise awareness of the shared responsibility in promoting and protecting the rights of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and strengthen cooperation and exchange of good practice in this field.

The Working Group members contributed to ENNHRI’s Statement on Migration “Human Rights concerns regarding the ongoing crisis of Europe’s Migration System” released in March 2016. The Greek National Commission for Human Rights also organized a visit to several refugee camps in Greece, in July 2016, which resulted in a set of recommendations presented before the Greek Parliament.

For several years, ENNHRI’s Asylum and Migration Working Group has prioritised work on migrant detention. The importance of NHRI monitoring of migrant detention is rooted in the Belgrade Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Refugees and Migrants (2015) and was highlighted in the GANHRI Statement on the occasion of the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants New York (September 2016).

A&M WG members supported ENNHRI input in the work of CDDH-MIG by exploring national alternatives for detention of migrants.

Throughout 2016, ENNHRI also collected information from its members’ monitoring visits of migrant detention and reception facilities. Migrants’ right to information, children’s right and access to health care were the top three concerns raised. Based on these findings, ENNHRI has developed a program of work extending over 2017.

Asylum and Migration WG is closely monitoring the situation of migrants in Greece.
The CRPD Working Group comprised in 2016 around 27 members which have been, or are expected to be designated, under article 33.2 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), as Independent Monitoring Mechanisms (IMM) to promote, protect and monitor the implementation of the UNCRPD by States Parties.

The CRPD Working Group met twice in 2016 to ensure the exchange of information and capacity building among its members: in June (Brussels), on the side of the EU Work Forum on the Implementation of the UNCRPD, to shape concrete actions related to engagement with the EU and on Supported Decision Making, and in November (Berlin), with a focus on effective access to justice for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others (Article 13 UNCRPD) and on the design of the WG future work priorities.

The meeting in Berlin included a seminar on Article 13, regarding effective access to justice for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others, where members discussed the Role of NHRIs and Independent Monitoring Mechanisms to promote effective access to justice for persons with disabilities and how can CRPD WG ‘add value’ by identifying strategic opportunities at European and international level.

The CRPD WG also led on ENNHRI’s contribution to a GANHRI submission to the UN CRPD Committee on “Draft Guidelines on the establishment of Independent Monitoring Frameworks and their participation in the work of the Committee”.

5.2. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Working Group
5.3. Legal Working Group

The Legal Working Group (LWG) included 22 ENNHRI members in 2016. Its activities include ongoing input to the process of reform and enhancement of the Council of European Convention system, providing capacity building, and submitting third party interventions.

ENNHRI’s Observer status before the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Human Rights (CDDH) and at the Committee of Experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC) is mainly operated through the LWG.

In 2016, The LWG tracked and monitored landmark judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and priority cases communicated to member states by the ECtHR, especially when these are triggering new developments in key areas of concern for ENNHRI: disabilities, asylum and migration, data protection, counter-terrorism and rule of law.

It submitted third party interventions on behalf of ENNHRI at the European Court of Human Rights in the following cases: Big Brother Watch & ors v. the United Kingdom (app no 58170/13) and Ten Human Rights Organisations v. the United Kingdom (app no 24960/15). These cases relate to data protection in general and address in particular the protection of freedom of expression of Non-Governmental Organisations, the (lower) standards of human rights protection for non-nationals in a context of surveillance, the issue of exhaustion of domestic judicial remedies, and that of metadata falling under the scope of privacy protection. Both cases are still pending.

The LWG members held a two-day meeting in February 2016, in Vienna, to discuss LWG priorities and activities for 2016-17. The meeting was followed by a seminar on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, organised jointly by ENNHRI and FRA, which discussed how the Charter relates to other human rights instruments, and how it can concretely reinforce NHRIs’ work.

At the LWG Annual Meeting in October 2016, in Paris, discussions included potential work on the ongoing process of reform of the system of the European Convention on Human Rights.

NHRIs work towards the implementation of all international human rights standards at national level, through their broad state mandate to promote and protect human rights. They both form part of, and support, an effective justice system, throughout Europe. They are therefore essential to the implementation of the Charter, as well as to access to justice for individuals throughout Europe. In 2016, the LWG has collected practices from ENNHRI members to show how NHRIs across Europe are working towards the national implementation of the Charter, and grouped these practices in a new publication describing examples of NHRIs’ use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.
5.4. Economic and Social Rights Working Group

The Economic and Social Rights Working Group (ESR WG) is ENNHRI’s newest WG; however, ENNHRI’s members have worked on Economic and Social Rights in times of Economic Crisis since 2013. The ESR WG had 18 members in 2016.

The ESR WG members gathered twice in 2016 to work on its priorities: the identification of adequate tools for NHRI’s regarding Human Rights Impact Assessments, the review of economic policies, linking research to human rights standards, and engagement at national and regional levels. The first meeting took place in Strasbourg, in January, and focused on the use of indicators in monitoring Economic and Social Rights. The second meeting took place in Belgrade, in October, and included a workshop, facilitated by the Centre for Economic and Social Rights, which addressed capacity building needs for monitoring ESR and developing tools and future training activities in 2017.

The ESR Working Group submitted a report on NHRI practices under the European Social Charter control mechanisms to the Council of Europe’s Committee of Experts on Economic and Social Rights (CDDH-SOC). Its members also contributed to ENNHRI statement in support of the Turin Process, which aims to enhance the implementation of social rights in Europe.

In May 2016, WG members met with Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, UN Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights.

In 2016, interventions by ENNHRI BHR WG members included submissions during the negotiations of the Council of Europe’s new Recommendation on Business and Human Rights, securing references to NHRI mandate and alignment with the UN Guiding Principles in this field (UNGPs).

The WG members met in Copenhagen in December 2016, where they shared information on national legal or policy developments, including on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights (NAPs) and discussed members’ needs for capacity building activities in 2017.

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) represented ENNHRI on the Steering Committee of the EU Dutch Presidency Conference on Business and Human Rights. NHRI’s from Germany, Netherlands and Denmark took part in various sessions and the conference conclusions informed European Council Conclusions on Business and Human Rights of June 2016.

WG members also participated in a workshop (Copenhagen, December 2016) to develop recommendations for the Council of Europe on measures to promote implementation of the new CoE Recommendation on Human Rights and Business.

5.5. Business and Human Rights Working Group

Within the Business and Human Rights Working Group, 9 ENNHRI members share their knowledge and expertise and engage with regional mechanisms on the human rights impact of corporate activities.

In 2016, interventions by ENNHRI BHR WG members included submissions during the negotiations of the Council of Europe’s new Recommendation on Business and Human Rights, securing references to NHRI mandate and alignment with the UN Guiding Principles in this field (UNGPs).

The WG members met in Copenhagen in December 2016, where they shared information on national legal or policy developments, including on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights (NAPs) and discussed members’ needs for capacity building activities in 2017.

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WG members also participated in a workshop (Copenhagen, December 2016) to develop recommendations for the Council of Europe on measures to promote implementation of the new CoE Recommendation on Human Rights and Business.
5.6. Projects

**Project on the Human Rights of Older Persons and Long-term Care (LTC)**

ENNHRI’s project on the Human Rights of Older Persons and Long-term Care commenced in January 2015. It aims to improve the human rights protection of older persons in LTC, with particular emphasis on residential care.

The main focus of activities in 2016 was the data collection and analysis of the monitoring work, culminating in six national reports which were subsequently used as the basis for drafting a European overview report. The project also made significant progress on engaging with European stakeholders and delivering awareness-raising activities.

The proposed project aims to enhance the effectiveness of NHRIs in situations of conflict and post-conflict in the wider Europe, through capacity building, dialogue and cooperation, as well as engagement with national, regional and international actors. The project also seeks to strengthen the capacity of ENNHRI to support more effectively European NHRIs operating in such contexts. Several members and partners have volunteered to be part of the project’s Advisory Group, in charge of giving strategic advice on planning and implementation.

**Key achievements in 2016**

- Monitoring work by the Pilot Group was completed, culminating in six national reports; an Overview report was subsequently drafted;
- Awareness raising through the project leaflet and a newsletter, with three issues published in 2016; a microsite for the Older Persons Project was also launched in 2016 (http://www.ennhri.org/rights4elders);
- National awareness-raising activities included the publication, in Hungary, of two user-friendly booklets on human rights and the outcomes of the monitoring work;
- The project hosted a thematic briefing on the potential of the CRPD for older persons in long-term care during the 15th Working Session of the UN CRPD Committee, for which a policy brief was published;
- Presentations on the Project were held at nine high level European events (including in the European Parliament, Council of Europe Ad Hoc Working Group on persons with disabilities, OEWG-Ageing, European Conference for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day);
- High-level events at national level also took place within the six pilot countries, including a presentation to the National Human Rights Working Group in Hungary; network meetings with key policy-makers and other stakeholders in Germany and selected regions in Croatia; and training sessions to care providers in Belgium;
- Bilateral meetings with 12 European NGOs in the area of ageing, disability and human rights.

**The role of NHRIs in conflict or post-conflict situations**

In 2016, ENNHRI has developed a project proposal on the role of NHRIs in situations of conflict and post-conflict, following the research carried out in 2015 and the consultation with the members, to ensure relevance and impact. The final proposal was submitted to the European Commission (DG DEVCO) in December 2016.
Enhancing NHRIs’ engagement with regional and international frameworks
6.1. Supporting ENNHRI members’ participation in GANHRI processes

The Global Alliance of NHRIs, formerly known as the ICC, was rebranded as “GANHRI” on the occasion of its 29th Annual General Meeting in March 2016. The meeting also marked the start of the European Chairmanship of the network. Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf from the German Institute for Human Rights took over from Adv. Laurence Mushwana, of the South African Human Rights Commission, as the first Chair of GANHRI, for the 2016-2018 period.

On the occasion of the GANHRI General Meeting, ENNHRI joined more than 100 NHRIs from across the globe, as well as representatives of OHCHR, UNDP and other UN mechanisms. The participants discussed the key role of NHRIs in the current human rights climate but also the challenges that these institutions are facing, in particular those related to the current conflicts around the globe, the impact of violent extremism and terrorism and the human rights implications of migration.

Throughout 2016, ENNHRI’s contribution to GANHRI included inputs to various GANHRI statements, including to the Human Rights Council, and to NHRI Resolutions of the UN General Assembly. As one of its four regional networks, ENNHRI contributes in the governance meetings, such as the GANHRI Annual Meeting, Bureau (Board) and Sub-committee on Finance. It has also submitted inputs to GANHRI’s strategic plan, on the basis of key international developments and challenges to be addressed by NHRIs.

For the 2016-2018 period ENNHRI is represented on the Bureau by the following members, elected at the General Assembly meeting in Utrecht on 1 December 2015.

- Croatia - Office of the Ombudswoman of Croatia
- Finland - Finnish Human Rights Centre/Finnish NHRI
- Georgia - Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia
- Germany - German Institute for Human Rights

ENNHRI is also represented on GANHRI’s Sub-Committee on Accreditation, through the French NHRI.

ENNHRI participated in GANHRI’s thematic work, including its Working Groups on Ageing, Business and Human Rights and Sustainable Development Goals. ENNHRI was represented at the UN Conference of State Parties on CRPD, as well as at the UN Committee on the Status of Women and the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing.

Other topics under discussion throughout the year included NHRI accreditation and cooperation with GANHRI’s strategic partners.
6.2. Participation in European (regional) Processes

ENNHRI has close working relationships with its valued partners at Council of Europe, OSCE, European Union, UN regional offices and European networks of national bodies and NGOs. ENNHRI members and Working Groups are active in their work on European regional processes. In addition, ENNHRI’s Secretariat meets frequently with representatives of these bodies and coordinates work to ensure a complementary and impactful approach to the promotion and protection of human rights across Europe.

On the occasion of the 4th Annual Seminar on NHRIs organised by GANHRI – UNDP – OHCHR in June, ENNHRI Chair, Lora Vidović, emphasized the vital role of NHRIs in preventing conflict and sustaining peace, and their contribution towards promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies as part of the SDGs: “Effective, accountable, inclusive and independent NHRIs contribute towards achieving SDGs’ targets throughout the wider European region. Considering NHRIs’ broad mandate, it is fair to say that all SDGs are very much relevant for their work. In order to achieve the targets of the other goals, we need peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all and the establishment of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

Throughout the year, ENNHRI also continued to be involved in the Tripartite Strategic Relationship between OHCHR, UNDP and GANHRI, through its Chair and Secretary General.

ENNHRI has consistently implemented its observer status before CDDH, the Steering Committee on Human Rights and has been granted the same status before the CAHROM (Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Travellers). In line with the 2015 Brussels Declaration on the Implementation of ECHR, ENNHRI also engages with the CoE Department for Execution of Judgments and has been recommended as a partner for CoE to assist in effectiveness, following a recent evaluation of ECHR.

ENNHRI submitted written contributions to:
- CDDH-SYSC (longer-term future of the system of the European Convention on Human rights and the European Court of Human Rights),
- CDDH-SOC (NHRI use of the European Social Charter control mechanisms),
- CDDH-INST (activities of civil society organisations, Human Rights defenders and NHRIs),
- CDDH-CORP (human rights and business)
- CDDH-EXP (on Freedom of Expression) and
- CDDH-MIG (alternative to migrant’s detention).
Protecting human rights while countering terrorism

ENNHRi engaged with the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Nils Mužnieks, and his Office on various occasions throughout 2016, including at a dedicated meeting in Paris, on NHRIs’ activities to respond to counter-terrorism measures (May 2016).

In a joint ENNHRI-Council of Europe Commissioner’s Office background note, NHRIs’ role in this regard is clearly described: “vital actors towards rebalancing any skewed approaches to security and human rights adopted by politicians and State machinery in the context of counter-terrorism”.

The Paris meeting resulted in a Human Rights Comment of the Commissioner on “National human rights structures: protecting human rights while countering terrorism”, based on the practices collected by ENNHRI.

“NHRIs constitute the interface between national authorities and the public and are able to help both in keeping a cool head and efficiently combating terrorism without giving in to fear or undermining human rights.”

Nils Mužnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Freedom of Expression and the role of NHRIs

NHRIs are important in protecting media freedom because of their independence, pluralism, broad mandate and functions and cooperation with civil society, media, national actors and the international mechanisms.

During 2016, ENNHRI has been increasingly looking at the role and powers of NHRIs and other national mechanisms in protecting the freedom of expression, as an essential ingredient of a democratic society. In December 2016, ENNHRI jointly organised with COE’s Information Society Department, a High-level Seminar on the role and powers of NHRIs in protecting the freedom of expression and media actors.

Participants included representatives of NHRIs and other national mechanisms, former judges of the European Court of Human Rights and journalists’ organizations; they explored ways in which NHRIs can work with the state institutions, civil society and Council of Europe to protect freedom of expression and highlighted the need to support NHRIs in safeguarding this vital component of a democratic society.

Adriana Van Dooijeweert, President of the Netherlands Human Rights Institute, noted that “as NHRIs, we witness and also are mandated to monitor how freedom of expression is at the very core of human rights; a critical, much needed ingredient that paves the way and strengthens other freedoms, and a cornerstone of democracy.” She recalled that many NHRIs have recently increased their attention to the issue of independent media and protection of journalists, as an independent media becomes even more important in times of crisis.
Such evictions violate international human rights obligations. The authorities must ensure that everyone subject to eviction is adequately informed of their rights, and carry out necessary evictions without discrimination or harassment.”

Thematic cooperation platforms

In 2016, ENNHRI continued its participation in the four thematic cooperation platforms established jointly with Council of Europe, FRA and Equinet.

Operational Platform for Roma Equality (OPRE)

In 2016, ENNHRI was formally granted Observer Status at CAHROM, the Council of Europe’s Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Travellers Issues. It was represented at the plenary meeting of the Council of Europe’s Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues in Sofia, Bulgaria (April 2016).

ENNHRI co-hosted the OPRE Platform meeting in Athens, on 7-8 June 2016, where the participants discussed the access of Roma and travellers to justice as well as a joint statement on evictions of Roma and travellers in Europe. ENNHRI, alongside the other OPRE partners, strongly condemned forced evictions without due process and provisions of adequate alternative housing.

Economic and Social Rights (ESR)

The Platform on economic and social rights met in 2016, to discuss and review the recent developments under the Turin process for synergies between the European Social Charter and the work of the EU.

Other issues discussed by the platform in 2016 were the Developments under the European Pillar of Social Rights and the strategic use of indicators to monitor economic and social rights, by NHRIs, Equality Bodies and by the European Committee for Social Rights.

Thanks to the commitment of the Council of Europe, OPRE and ESR Platforms have set-up dedicated webpages allowing for sharing of information and materials among the platform members.
Asylum and Migration

The Platform on Asylum and Migration met in February 2016 to discuss the cooperation between European and National Human Rights Mechanisms in relation to migration, in particular the inclusion and integration of migrants and the rights of migrant children. The discussions built on the November 2015 Belgrade Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Refugees and Migrants.

Hate Crime

In April 2016, the Platform on Hate Crime met alongside FRA’s Working Party on Improving Reporting Hate Crime in Amsterdam. This meeting was jointly organized with the Netherlands Presidency of the Council of the EU. Participants agreed to continue the cooperation among Platform members, mostly based on information exchange regarding activities, meetings, studies and publications in the field of combating hate crime and hate speech.

EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)

FRA is participating, alongside ENNHRI, Equinet and CoE in the Thematic Collaboration Platforms described above - leading on the platforms on asylum and migration and hate crime; it is also a valued member of Advisory Group for Older Persons Project, and has observer status on the CRPD Working Group.

ENNHRI Chair, Lora Vidović, and Secretary General, Debbie Kohner, participated in Vienna in the Fundamental Rights Forum organised by FRA in June 2016. Lora Vidović also spoke in the plenary on NHRIs’ work to empower rights holders, and participated in the working group on migration. The Forum looks at existing challenges and good practices as well as future challenges and opportunities for human rights in Europe and beyond.

OSCE - ODIHR

ENNHRI and OSCE / ODIHR are collaborating on the implementation of human rights and all other Human Dimensions Commitments across the OSCE participating states and have engaged as well on thematic work, in particular on NHRI Independence and through the joint organisation of the annual NHRI Academy which provides tailored capacity building to NHRI staff from across the OSCE participating states.

The NHRI of the State holding the OSCE Chairmanship has carried out monitoring of OSCE human dimensions commitments since 2015. In 2016, the German NHRI (German Institute for Human Rights) launched a report on the implementation of human dimensions commitments in Germany, and hosted a side event on this topic at the 2016 Human Dimensions Implementation Meeting, where ENNHRI was represented. The 2016 NHRI Academy also included training sessions on: OSCE, its Human Dimensions Commitments, human rights monitoring for NHRIs.

Strengthening and maintaining the independence of NHRIs was at the centre of an expert meeting jointly organised by ENNHRI and other international organisations, and hosted by ODIHR and Council of Europe, in Warsaw on 28 and 29 November 2016. Representatives of NHRIs, international organizations and academia took part in the meeting, in which they reviewed the specific aspects of the Paris Principles related to the independence and pluralism of NHRIs and discussed modalities to provide sustainable, operational guidance on the issue of NHRIs’ independence. Discussions also focused on the importance of NHRI engagement with international human rights mechanisms.
Following the expert meeting, ENNHRI and the co-organizing international and regional organizations issued a joint statement on the independence and pluralistic character of NHRIs in the OSCE region on 19 December 2016 and agreed to further explore the development of guidelines on the independence of NHRIs and the implementation of the Paris Principles in practice, based on international standards and the experience of NHRIs across the OSCE region.

**European Union (EU)**

As ENNHRI’s membership spreads both EU Member States and beyond, its engagement with the EU bodies has covered both the internal and external dimensions of EU policies related to human rights. The 2015-19 Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy “recognises and support the crucial role of NHRIs as independent institutions and affirms the EU commitment to support and engage in particular with those institutions which are in line with the Paris Principles”.

As well as interventions at high-level events, ENNHRI submitted written contributions concerning several EU developments, including on:

- a human rights based approach to combatting human trafficking,
- fundamental rights concerns of the current European migration system, including statelessness,
- standards against evictions of Roma and Travellers,
- a cohesive European framework on economic and social rights, including the European Pillar of Social Rights,
- national implementation of European human rights standards,
- structural requirements to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the EU,
- the need for a systematic review of the impact of economic crisis on human rights in Europe, and a harmonisation of standards between the EU and Council of Europe,
- the importance of Business and Human Rights National Action Plans, and the EU’s new strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility.
European Parliament

On 15 and 16 March 2016 ENNHRI participated at the Third Eastern Partnership Ombudsmen Summit, organized by the European Parliament’s Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI). The event provided an opportunity for NHRIs from the Eastern Partnership, Visegrad and Western Balkans countries to come together to discuss the concrete problems they are facing, with a focus on Migration, Internally Displaced Persons and their related challenges.

Debbie Kohner, ENNHRI Secretary General, addressed on this occasion the effective implementation of the EU Action Plan for Human Rights and Democracy in relation to NHRIs. ENNHRI members from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Poland, Serbia, and Ukraine delivered short statements on their work and had a fruitful exchange of views with the Members of the European Parliament, during which they described their countries’ situation. The Ombudsmen Summit aims at enforcing the role of National Human Rights Institutions and promoting respect for the rights of individuals in their jurisdiction.

European Commission

EU High Level Group on combating racism

ENNHRI is participating in the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, which was established in June 2016. The High Level Group will foster the further exchange and dissemination of best practices between national authorities on how to fill existing gaps and better counter hate crime and hate speech.

Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights 2016

ENNHRI was represented on 17 and 18 November at the Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights organised by the European Commission under the theme of “Media Pluralism and Democracy”. ENNHRI, represented by its Chair, highlighted that National Human Rights Institutions in Europe have reported concerns, and are actively working on, the freedom and independence of the media, as key components of an open and democratic European public space.

EU Agencies

ENNHRI Secretary General participated on the “Justice and Home Affairs” panel at EU Agencies Forum, which took place on the 6 and 7 December 2016 at the European Parliament in Brussels, where she spoke on ENNHRI’s work with EU Agencies in relation to topics including migration and counter-terrorism.

On the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons, ENNHRI organized with AGE Platform Europe, and with the support of the EPP Group of the European Parliament, a meeting with the participation of several MEPs and representatives of other EU institutions. ENNHRI’s Chair, Lora Vidović, presented the latest updates from the Older Persons Project. The joint event opened the dialogue for an international convention on the rights of older persons at EU level. It also provided an update on recent developments at the Open Ended Working Group of the United Nations and its impact on European Member States and older persons in Europe.
European and international networks

Equinet

The General Meeting of Equinet, the European Network of Equality Bodies, which took place on 29-30 September in Brussels, was an opportunity to reinforce the strong links between NHRIs and Equality bodies. ENNHRI’s Chair contributed to the panel discussion on ‘Strengthening equality bodies within the institutional architecture’ and highlighted the cooperation between Equality Bodies and NHRIs and their respective networks.

“The Equality Bodies and the National Human Rights Institutions are each important in themselves, and even more impactful when they cooperate together, be it inside one institution, between institutions, or indeed between their representative networks.”

ENNHRI Chair Lora Vidovic at the Equinet Annual General Meeting

International Network of Ombudsmen (IOI)

The current human rights challenges require a collective response and cooperation among NHRIs, Parliaments, Ombudsman institutions and other relevant stakeholders.

Representatives of Ombudsman Institutions from across the world gathered on 7 and 8 September in Tirana, Albania, to discuss the current challenges posed by the recent refugee and migrant flows and find a common response to the situation of people in need of international protection. Croatian Ombudswoman Lora Vidović, representing both ENNHRI and the GANHRI, reminded how, among other steps, NHRI’s affirmed their intention to turn law and policy makers’ attention towards protection measures for the most vulnerable among migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

ENNHRI’s Chair, Secretary General and several members also participated in the Barcelona Workshop on human rights challenges for Ombudsmen organised by the IOI earlier in 2016.

At the invitation of the Austrian NHRI (host and Secretary General of IOI), ENNHRI Secretary General, Debbie Kohner, gave a presentation at the Alpbach European Forum in August 2016, on the impacts of terrorism, security and fear on human rights, highlighting different NHRIs examples on how to turn the tide on the dichotomy increasingly created between human rights and security.

European NGOs

Over the period 2014-2016 ENHRI has engaged periodically with several European NGOs, including EDF, Age Platform Europe, FEANTSA, ECRE, Open Society Justice Initiative, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurists, Mental Health Europe, ILGA Europe, FIDH. Age Platform is a member of the Advisory Group of ENNHRI’s Project on the Human Rights of Older Persons and Long Term Care. The European Disability Forum is an Observer member of ENNHRI CRPD Working Group.
6.3. Supporting ENNHRI members’ participation in international processes

ENNHRI continued to support European NHRIs’ engagement in international processes, often in liaison with GANHRI. This included engagement with UN bodies, international networks, and NGOs. Furthermore, ENNHRI continued its cooperation with UNDP and OHCHR including the participation in Tripartite Partnership meetings and events.

ENNHRI has initiated a global initiative for NHRIs to provide reports to the High Level Political Forum on SDGs, in relation to democratic space in the UN Member States providing voluntary reports. ENNHRI members have attended meetings of the Committee on the Status of Women, and the Chair and Secretary General have met with various UN - New York actors on the occasion of Tripartite Partnership meetings between GANHRI, UNDP and OHCHR.

ENNHRI has engaged with the UNDP regional office on the role of NHRIs in situations of Conflict and Post-Conflict, notably at the Fourth Annual Seminar Series on National Human Rights Institutions, organised on the occasion of the tripartite GANHRI – OHCHR – UNDP meeting.

The seminar intended to take stock of the recent policy developments that have highlighted the vital role that NHRIs have in efforts to prevent conflict and sustain peace while looking to the future to see how this position and added value can be strengthened through inter-alia building on the 2015 Kyiv Declaration on the role of NHRIs in conflict to work towards promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

“NHRIs are increasingly called to play a stronger role in conflict and post-conflict settings. (..) These institutions work to promote and protect human rights in every context, including during and following conflicts, in situations of fragility and during recovery and hard-earned reconciliation times. (..) They play a vital role in efforts to prevent conflict and to build and sustain peace in often challenging environments and themselves regularly face challenges that include threats of reprisals.”

Mr. Magdy Martínez-Solimán, UNDP Assistant Secretary-General: Statement at the Fourth Annual Seminar for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)
ENNHRI has also engaged with the UNDP regional office on the role of NHRIs in situations of Conflict and Post-Conflict, at its event co-hosted with the Ukrainian NHRI in Kyiv in October 2016.

The role of NHRIs in implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals was the focus of a Regional Consultation jointly organised by ENNHRI, UNDP and ANNHRI (Arab Network of NHRIs), on 5 December 2016 in Istanbul. The consultation raised NHRIs’ awareness of the 2030 Development Agenda and the SDGs, discussed the role of a human rights-based approach in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and identified the policy guidance and support NHRIs need to fulfil this particular role.

Speaking in the opening of the event, ENNHRI Secretary General, Debbie Kohner, highlighted the importance of integrating SDGs in ongoing NHRI work, as a means to reinforce and complement the implementation of human rights: “Many NHRIs in Europe are already working on SDGs at national level. As independent bodies, NHRIs can monitor implementation of the SDGs through providing a source of accurate data. NHRIs can also make use of their bridging role, by bringing together government and civil society – essential to ensure the success of the SDGs.”

ENNHRI also participated in a session on SDGs organised under the UNDP Regional Consultations of NHRIs in Central Asia in November 2016, Istanbul. The discussions focused on the role of NHRIs in the SDG process to promote transparency and accountability in national level efforts to achieve the SDGs.
OHCHR

In a meeting on 14 March 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, welcomed future engagement with ENNHRI to promote and protect human rights across wider Europe.

ENNHRI attended the Conference of State Parties (for UNCRPD), the Commission on the Status of Women, the High Level Political Forum on SDGs, and the meeting of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG-A), where consultations were held with key stakeholders in the area of human rights of older persons. At this meeting, the OEWG-A voted to grant participation rights to ‘A’ status NHRIs.

The High Commissioner met Professor Alan Miller, then ENNHRI Chair, and Debbie Kohner, ENNHRI Secretary General, to discuss the role of ENNHRI and NHRIs in the current human rights context. The High Commissioner remarked that ENNHRI has become a valued partner for OHCHR. ENNHRI’s contribution was underlined in relation to issues such as migration, counter-terrorism, conflict, Sustainable Development Goals, older persons’ human rights and economic and social rights.

ENNHRI Chair, Lora Vidović, and Secretary General, Debbie Kohner, met with Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Kate Gilmore, in June 2016 in Vienna on the side lines of the Fundamental Rights Forum. The Deputy High Commissioner highlighted the importance NHRIs’ and ENNHRI’s work during the current challenging developments in Europe. On the issue of migration, ENNHRI participated in a series of meetings organised by the OHCHR:

• OHCHR expert discussion on the public narrative on migration - Geneva, April 2016:

UN: New York Processes

ENNHRI attended the Conference of State Parties (for UNCRPD), the Commission on the Status of Women, the High Level Political Forum on SDGs, and the meeting of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG-A), where consultations were held with key stakeholders in the area of human rights of older persons. At this meeting, the OEWG-A voted to grant participation rights to ‘A’ status NHRIs.

This initial meeting took place in response to the UN Secretary-General’s call for broad support for an UN-led global campaign to counter xenophobia against migrants and refugees. It also explored the feasibility, parameters and products for an eventual public-facing initiative on shaping the public narrative on migration.

• OHCHR and PICUM multi-stakeholder consultation on the standards of human rights protection to which migrants moving in large numbers are entitled, with a view to inputting the UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants on 19 September - Geneva, June 2016;

• OHCHR organised also an Expert Meeting on “Non Refoulement” to feed into a set of principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations and large movements - Geneva, June 2016.
Building a strong and sustainable Secretariat
7.1. Building strong organisational and administrative systems

Building robust administrative and financial systems, while servicing the membership and its governance bodies continued to be at the centre of the Secretariat’s activities. This was facilitated by additional human resources at the Secretariat office, which helped to manage the heavy workload and the competing deadlines, and to respond efficiently to members’ needs. In addition, the Secretariat continued to develop administrative, operational, financial and human resources policies.

To ensure the good management of the Secretariat office, including appropriate procedures and systems, we sought advice from a consultant who advised the Secretariat on good governance, effective management and operational sustainability, including on necessary policies and information systems, during a meeting held in January 2016.

7.2. Developing and implementing a fundraising strategy

In 2016, ENNHRI continued its work towards a comprehensive fundraising strategy, in order to identify diverse and sustainable sources of income. External advice was sought through fundraising experts, who carried out research and facilitated a fundraising meeting for ENNHRI’s governance bodies. A final report including recommendations to implement the fundraising strategy, will be completed following ENNHRI’s Strategic Planning process.

Environmental sustainability

With such a wide geographic network, meetings in person frequently involve international travel, which inevitably has an environmental impact. In order to minimise its carbon footprint, ENNHRI’s Secretariat organises a considerable number of its meetings by telephone or by Skype, and also groups meetings, where possible, to avoid unnecessary travel. ENNHRI also uses recycling in the office and minimises printing wherever possible.
7.3. Financing through member contributions and grants

ENNHRI’s greatest resource is its membership, which provides both membership fees and representation through ENNHRI’s governance bodies, Working Groups and other activities.

We’d like to acknowledge in particular the additional financial contributions of the following member institutions, which made a big difference to ENNHRI’s operations in 2016: the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, the Finish Human Rights Centre and the Great Britain Equality and Human Rights Commission. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to these institutions for their financial support to ENNHRI.

“In kind” support from members and partners

ENNHRI benefits from direct “in kind” support from a number of ENNHRI members, in the form of staff time and material support for its activities, contributions for meeting logistics and participation, expertise and information-sharing. We would like to acknowledge as well the in kind support our partners, such as:

- OSCE/ODIHR for the NHRI Academy and high-level meeting on NHRI independence;
- Council of Europe for the Cooperative Platforms (Economic and Social Rights, Roma) and high-level meetings on Freedom of Expression, and on NHRI’s work on Counter-terrorism;
- UNDP for the workshop on SDGs;
- FRA for the Asylum and Migration Cooperative Platform meeting; and
- OHCHR for the General Assembly meeting venue in Geneva in March.

In addition to our members’ contributions, the following grants from the EU have been essential for ENNHRI’s development in 2016:

Operating Grant from the European Commission (DG Justice and Consumers)

The Operating Grant for 2016 has been invaluable for ENNHRI to support European NHRI’s work for the promotion and protection of fundamental rights, as well as access to justice, across Europe. More specifically, it facilitated the establishment and ‘A’ status accreditation of more European NHRI; the capacity development of NHRI, sharing of knowledge on European law and policy, including the EU Charter; enhanced cooperation and communication between NHRI throughout Europe; and their increased engagement with European bodies on human rights and access to justice.

Project Grant on Human Rights of Older Persons and Long-term Care from the European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion)

This project aims to improve the human rights protection of older persons in and accessing long-term care, with particular emphasis on residential care. It runs from January 2015 to December 2017.


The main objectives of this project, which involves NHRI across the world and their regional networks, are to:

- support improved NHRI’s impacts on the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance to the UN Paris Principles, including in the areas of human rights education, monitoring & reporting, business and human rights and economic, social and cultural rights;
- support the regional networks of NHRI and the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) to improve interactions with human rights mechanisms at regional and global levels.
Annexes
ANNEX 1
ENNHRI Submissions and recommendations

Thanks to its member NHRI's expertise on fundamental rights and access to justice at the national level, ENNHRI has made various conclusions and recommendations for the EU, through submissions, statements, guidelines, reports or statements.

- ENNHRI Human Rights Guidelines for Practitioners on Combatting Human Trafficking, January 2016
- ENNHRI Written observations on Big Brother Watch & ors - v - the United Kingdom, February 2016
- Joint Statement in support of Poland's NHRI, Commissioner for Human Rights, with OHCHR, Council of Europe, ODIHR, March 2016
- ENNHRI General Assembly Statement on Human Rights concerns regarding the ongoing crisis of Europe's Migration System, March 2016
- ENNHRI Written observations on Ten Human Rights Organisations & ors - v - the United Kingdom, March 2016
- ENNHRI Report to the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) on examples of good practices in relation to national action plans for execution of ECHR judgment under Recommendation CM/REC(2008)2, June 2016
- ENNHRI Chair Letter to European Commissioner Thyssen introducing ENNHRI and Follow-up to UN Committee's Concluding Observations to EU on CRPD, August 2016
- ENNHRI Statement of Support for the Turin Process to Strengthen Social Rights in Europe, October 2016
- ENNHRI Statement of Support for Poland's Commissioner for Human Rights, October 2016
- ENNHRI Submission to the Consultation on the European Pillar of Social Rights, December 2016
Strong and Independent NHRIs

In 2016, ENNHRI activities emphasized that a strong and independent NHRI underpins a state’s good governance and justice, as well as the promotion and protection of human rights. Specific recommendation included:

- States should safeguard the independence of NHRIs, which act as a cornerstone of national human rights protection systems;
- States should ensure adequate funding to allow NHRIs to carry out their mandate fully in line with the UN Paris Principles;
- NHRIs should be proactive in reaching out to other actors, to ensure broad support for their independence in society.

Access to Justice

NHRIs are essential to the implementation of fundamental rights, as well as access to justice for individuals. NHRIs are also central actors in the national implementation of international and regional human rights standards. ENNHRI has supported NHRIs’ role and expertise in the national execution of international judgments relating to human rights and recommended that:

- NHRIs’ capacity to work with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights should be reinforced
- States should share for consultation their draft Action Plan on the execution of a European Court of Human Rights judgment with the NHRI (where one exists) and civil society, where relevant

Asylum and Migration

In a statement issued on the occasion of its March General Assembly Meeting, ENNHRI acknowledged the challenges faced by the EU and its Members States regarding the human rights situation of migrants both at the border and in the EU. ENNHRI also noted that, if responsibility is placed on a few states only, no solution will be found to the current humanitarian crisis in Europe.

ENNHRI called for solidarity between European states both within the EU and with the EU’s neighbours and recommended:

- The EU, and all States concerned should guarantee the full protection of human rights in the context of migration
- States should to take into account the human rights implications of all actions and promote human rights compliant responses to the current migration situation;
- States should contribute proportionately to sustainable development and the realisation of all human rights, in regions of forced migration, as well as within Europe;
- States should not return migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and persons in need of international protection before these issues have been resolved in a manner fully respectful of human rights.
CRPD (Disability)

ENNHRI has been actively engaging over 2016 with the Council of Europe, regarding the preparation of the Council of Europe Disability Strategy and the UN CRPD Committee, regarding its Guidelines on the establishment of Independent Monitoring Frameworks and the participation of NHRIs and Independent Monitoring Mechanisms in the work of the Committee.

With the European Commission, a dialogue was established regarding in particular the Concluding Observations of the UN CRPD Committee to the European Union on the implementation of the CRPD. ENNHRI has welcomed the reform of the EU Monitoring Framework (EUMF), stressed the role of EU as a rule model and highlights the crucial importance that the EUMF is granted independence and adequate resources.

ENNHRI recommended that:
- the EU institutions should develop further action in order to fully implement the recommendations of the UN CRPD Committee; and
- The UN CRPD Committee should formalise a process to ‘put in touch’ from the earliest opportunity in the reporting cycle, the designated country rapporteur and a named contact within the relevant NHRI/IMM.

Business and Human Rights

ENNHRI has engaged on the use of National Action Plans (NAP) to protect, respect and remedy the human rights impacts of business with the European Council, Commission and Parliament, and the Council of Europe’s Steering Committee on Human Rights (CDDH).
ENNHRI also engaged actively in CDDH-CORP, leading to the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of a new Recommendation on Business and Human Rights. This Recommendation elaborates on the duties of Council of Europe member states to protect against business-related human rights abuses and the responsibilities of businesses to respect human rights, and the right of victims of business-related human rights to effective remedies:

• States should elaborate their NAPs taking into account the available guidance, and seek “the expertise and involvement of all stakeholders, including (…), national human rights institutions”.
• States should cooperate with (…) national human rights institutions when promoting, supporting and participating in training and workshops for business enterprises and their local trading partners, including on human rights due diligence (…)"

Economic and Social Rights

ENNHRI underlined the importance of a coherent system of human rights protection in all of Europe, and a harmonization of European Union and Council of Europe standards. ENNHRI expressed support for the Turin Process, which aims to enhance the synergy between EU law and the European Social Charter. In particular, ENNHRI recommended that:

• States should endorse the Turin Process through the adoption of concrete measures at national level;
• The EU and Council of Europe should work towards a cohesive framework for the protection of economic and social rights throughout the European region;
• The EU should consistently take into account the European Social Charter when interpreting EU law;
• The EU’s human rights impact assessments of policy making measures should integrate the provisions of the European Social Charter.

ENNHRI has submitted a contribution to the European Commission Consultation on the European Pillar of Social Rights. It recommended that:

• the EU could consider showing commitment for economic and social rights by developing a permanent mechanism for impact assessment of macroeconomic policy making on fundamental rights in Member States;
• the first preliminary outline of the European Pillar of Social Rights should be revised to set out how the Union and its Member States will reform the Union’s acquis to ensure that the social rights of its citizens and residents will be respected by the Union and its member States;
• the EU’s social acquis should be amended to reduce and eliminate the divergences between that acquis and the jurisprudence under the European Social Charter, as well as other international human rights standards;
• the EU should develop a comprehensive approach for an enhanced respect of economic and social rights through all its activities, including in the realm of austerity measures;
• States should remain vigilant that the financing rules of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) relating to the economic or financial support of a State, cannot circumvent the obligation to respect international and European human rights law.

Sustainable Development Goals

ENNHRI recommended that States ensure that the 2030 Agenda is implemented internally as well, and not looked at only through the prism of international development and foreign policy. To support the implementation of SDGs in a human rights compliant way, NHRI should:

• Mainstream SDGs in their work as this could lead to greater domestication of the 2030 Agenda among other state bodies too;
• Advocate with respective governments, especially in Europe, to ensure that the 2030 Agenda is implemented internally;
• Identify who is left furthest behind through human rights monitoring, and assist the states in prioritizing the SDGs;
• Engage with regional bodies, which should also have a role in implementation of SDGs and cooperate with other stakeholders such as Parliaments and civil society in holding the government accountable to achieving the SDGs.
## ANEX 2
### ENNHRI accounts 2016

### INCOME 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget 2016</th>
<th>Year 2016</th>
<th>Variations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership fees 2016</td>
<td>€ 88,500,00</td>
<td>€ 90,071,70</td>
<td>102%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional contributions from members</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 23,350,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Persons project - EU Grant</td>
<td>€ 208,343,55</td>
<td>€ 176,671,08</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Persons project - members cash contributions</td>
<td>€ 47,989,89</td>
<td>€ 0,00</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG JUST Operating Grant 2016 - EU Grant</td>
<td>€ 339,806,02</td>
<td>€ 135,402,68</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for second tranche of funding</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 201,492,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 final payment difference vs reporting</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ -2,935,33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHRI.EU Capacity Building Grant - EIDHR/DIHR</td>
<td>€ 111,537,52</td>
<td>€ 89,322,28</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JBI Grant - Migrant detention centres</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL INCOME** | € 796,176,98 | € 713,374,41 | 90%        |

### EXPENDITURE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget 2016</th>
<th>Year 2016</th>
<th>Variations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Personnel costs</td>
<td>€ 527,408,39</td>
<td>€ 458,987,26</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1. Staff</td>
<td>€ 475,618,50</td>
<td>€ 451,677,01</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2. Other personnel costs</td>
<td>€ 51,789,89</td>
<td>€ 7,310,25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Office costs</td>
<td>€ 86,480,67</td>
<td>€ 85,415,61</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Rent</td>
<td>€ 62,160,00</td>
<td>€ 57,399,99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. Communication</td>
<td>€ 14,527,00</td>
<td>€ 17,617,19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3. Materials</td>
<td>€ 9,793,67</td>
<td>€ 10,398,43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Travel and Meeting costs</td>
<td>€ 103,822,95</td>
<td>€ 88,704,74</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1. Travels and Subsistence</td>
<td>€ 86,280,00</td>
<td>€ 73,663,96</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2. Meeting costs</td>
<td>€ 17,542,95</td>
<td>€ 15,040,78</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Professional fees</td>
<td>€ 17,110,00</td>
<td>€ 27,301,65</td>
<td>160%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1. Accountant / Finance Costs</td>
<td>€ 11,410,00</td>
<td>€ 7,549,19</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.11 Accountant general</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 1,067,36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.115 Bank Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 5,700,00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.112 Consultancies / Audit fees</td>
<td></td>
<td>€ 18,685,10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. TO BE PAID TO MEMBERS</td>
<td>€ 69,036,00</td>
<td>€ 37,221,60</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1. Older Persons project - Pilot Group</td>
<td>€ 69,036,00</td>
<td>€ 37,221,60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** | € 803,858,00 | € 697,630,86 | 87%        |

**TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE** | € -7,681,03 | € 15,743,55 |

**RESERVES 2014 + 2015** | € 87,035,09 |

**CUMULATIVE RESERVES** | € 102,778,64 |

**TARGET CUMULATIVE RESERVE (6 MONTHS)** | € 348,815,43 |
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td>€ 796,176,98</td>
<td>€ 713,374,41</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ANNEX 3
ENNHRI Members and their Accreditation Status (December 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Organization</th>
<th>Accreditation status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People’s Advocate (Albania)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austrian Ombudsman Board</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombudsman of Azerbaijan</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIA - Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities (Belgium)</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MYRIA - Federal Migration Centre (Belgium)</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Against Poverty (Belgium)</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombudsmen of Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Ombudswoman of Croatia</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Commissioner for Administration and Human Rights (Cyprus)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish Institute for Human Rights</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Centre and the Parliamentary Ombudsman (Finland)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Consultative Commission for Human Rights (France)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Public Defender of Georgia</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Institute for Human Rights</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality and Human Rights Commission (Great Britain)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek National Commission for Human Rights</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights (Hungary)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Organization</td>
<td>Accreditation status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Ombudsman Office of the Republic of Latvia</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. The Seimas Ombudsmen’s Office of the Republic of Lithuania</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. National Consultative Commission for Human Rights of Luxembourg</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Ombudsman Institution of the Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. People’s Advocate of the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Netherlands Institute for Human Rights</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Norwegian National Human Rights Institution</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Human Rights Defender of Poland</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Portuguese Ombudsman</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Romanian Institute for Human Rights</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Scottish Human Rights Commission</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. The Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Slovak National Centre for Human Rights</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Human Rights Ombudsman (Slovenia)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Defensor del Pueblo (Spain)</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. The Equality Ombudsman (Sweden)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. National Human Rights Institution of Turkey</td>
<td>No Accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>