



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Ombudsman

Towards an effective domestic advocacy strategy for the implementation of ECHR judgments

“The importance of an open and early dialogue with all relevant stakeholders”

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Mirela Buturović, Legal Affairs Advisor to the Ombudswoman

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA OMBUDSWOMAN

www.ombudsman.hr



OMBUDSWOMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

- Independent state institution with a constitutional and legal mandate to protect and promote human rights (Status A Paris Principles)
- 4 mandates (Human Rights Protection, National Equality Body, National Preventive Mechanism, Whistle-blower's Protection)
- Contribute to the implementation of ECtHR judgment through opinions and recommendations (Annual Report)
- Monitor and analyse whether the proposed legislation is aligned with the ECHR and ECtHR practice
- Submit observations on draft of legislation (public consultation process)



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EXPERTS FOR THE EXECUTION OF ECHR JUDGMENTS

- Established in 2013 at the initiative of the State Agent of the Republic of Croatia before the ECtHR
- 40 members
- Composed of the representatives of all Ministries, Judicial bodies, State Attorney Office, Ombudsman Office
- Communicate through mailing list (State Agent Office deliver draft of Action Plans to Council members)



OMBUDSWOMAN OFFICE - PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

- Monitor proposed Action Plans
- Has one representative in the Council
- Submitted opinion:

Secic group v. Croatia - concern discrimination against the applicants due to the failure of domestic authorities to take into account the racist motives behind the attacks on the applicant in *Secic* between 1999 and 2002 due to his Roma origin and on the applicant in *Skorjanec* between 2013 and 2014 due to her association with a Roma partner (violations of Article 14 in conjunction with the procedural aspect of Article 3).

Dolenec and Gladovic v. Croatia - concern a violation of the procedural aspect of Article 3 of the ECHR on account of the failure of domestic authorities to properly investigate applicants' allegations of ill-treatment by other prisoners or prison guards which they allegedly suffered while serving their prison sentences.



COOPERATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- Ombudswoman Office - bridge between national authorities and CSOs
- Central Equality body in Croatia (Antidiscrimination Department)
- 2012 the Office has established Regional Anti-Discrimination Contact Points Network (5 regional CSOs)
- 2013 the Office has established Council for Human Rights (8 members – CSOs, Media, Academic institutions, National minorities)
- 2018 the Ombudswoman has signed Cooperation agreements with members of the Anti-Discrimination Contact Points Network (11 CSOs)



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Thank you!

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