

# ECRI

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance  
Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance

## ECRI's Round Table in Latvia

Reval Hotel Latvija  
Riga, 19 May 2008

### PROGRAMME

[Latvian version \(pdf\)](#)

REGISTRATION: 8:45

**Moderator of the morning session: Mr Nils MUIZNIEKS, Vice-Chair of ECRI**

9:00 – 9:15

#### OPENING

- Opening by Professor Eva SMITH ASMUSSEN, Chair of ECRI
- Opening Address by Mr Ilgvars KĻAVA, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

### **9:15 – 10:30 THEME I – ECRI'S REPORT ON LATVIA**

9:15 – 9:40

ECRI's work and conclusions to be drawn from ECRI's Report on Latvia, by Professor Eva SMITH ASMUSSEN, Chair of ECRI

9:40 – 10:30

Discussion: open to the floor

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break

### **10:45 – 12:45 THEME II - TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED SOCIETY**

10:45 – 11:00

The climate of opinion with regard to minority groups in Latvia, by Ms Marija GOLUBEVA, Centre for Public Policy - PROVIDUS

11:00 – 11:15

Problems faced by minority groups in achieving full integration, by Ms Ilze BRANDS-KEHRIS, Director of the Latvian Centre for Human Rights

11:15 – 11:30

Initiatives for building an integrated society in Latvia, by Mr Oskars KASTENS, Special Assignments Minister for Social Integration

11:30 – 12:45

Discussion: open to the floor

# ECRI

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance  
Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance

12:45 – 2:00

Lunch break

**Moderator of the afternoon session: Mr Romāns APSĪTIS, Ombudsman of the Republic of Latvia**

## **2:00 – 3:30 THEME III – THE FIGHT FOR EQUALITY – IMPLEMENTING ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAWS**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2:00 – 2:15 | ECRI's standards for the development of a comprehensive legislative and institutional framework for combating racism and racial discrimination, by Ms Isil GACHET, Executive Secretary to ECRI |
| 2:15 - 2:30 | The legislative and institutional framework for combating racism and racial discrimination in Latvia, by Ms Līga BIKSINIECE, Head of the Human Rights Department, Office of the Ombudsman      |
| 2:30 – 3:15 | Discussion: open to the floor  |
| 3:15 – 3:30 | Coffee Break   |

## **3:30 – 5:15 THEME IV – RESPONDING TO RACIST INCIDENTS IN LATVIA**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 3:30– 3:45  | Hate speech in Latvia and its affiliation to racist incidents, by Ms Anna STROJA, "Dialogi.lv"   |
| 3:45 – 4:00 | The role of the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to racist incidents, by Mr Janis MAIZITIS, Prosecutor General of Latvia |
| 4:00 – 4:10 | Report on antisemitism in Latvia, by Professor Leo DRIBINS, representative of the Jewish Community of Latvia                                 |
| 4:10 – 5:00 | Discussion: open to the floor  |
| 5:00 – 5:15 | Conclusions of the Round Table<br>- Presentation of the conclusions of the Round Table by the Moderator                                      |