

ECRI's seminar with national Specialised Bodies¹

Revision of ECRI General Policy Recommendation (GPR) No.2 on: Specialised bodies to combat racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance at national level

Strasbourg, Agora Building, Room G01 –23-24 May 2017

Programme

Tuesday, 23 May 2017

9.30 – 9.45

OPENING

Christian Ahlund, ECRI's Chair

Introduction of the seminar's objectives and programme

9.45 – 11.00

SESSION I – STANDARDS FOR EQUALITY BODIES

Patrick Charlier, Co-director of the Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities, Belgium

Evelyn Collins, Chair of the European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet) and Chief Executive of the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland

Standards for equality bodies: The purpose and use of standards - what are the issues we seek to solve with standards?

Tena Šimonović Einwalter, Chair of ECRI's Working Group on the Revision of GPR No. 2 and Deputy Ombudsperson, Croatia

ECRI Working Group (WG) input: The process of revising GPR No. 2, overview of and framework for GPR No. 2

Discussion with contributions from the floor

Coffee break

11.15 – 12.30

SESSION II – INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Richard Senghor, Secrétaire général du Défenseur des Droits, France

Issues in relation to stand-alone equality bodies, joined mandate bodies and single-ground/multi-ground bodies'

George Tugushi, Member of ECRI's Working Group on the Revision of GPR No. 2

ECRI WG input: How GPR No. 2 deals with the institutional architecture

Discussion with contributions from the floor

Lunch break

¹ Independent authorities expressly entrusted with the fight against racism, xenophobia, antisemitism, intolerance and discrimination on grounds such as ethnic origin, colour, citizenship, religion and language (racial discrimination), at national level.

SESSION III – FUNCTIONS

14.30 – 15.30

Agneta Skardžiuvienė, Ombudsperson for Equal Opportunities, Lithuania

Issues in relation to promotion and prevention functions

Issues in relation to victim support and litigation functions

Issues in relation to adjudication functions

Nadejda Hriptievschi, Member of ECRI's Working Group on the Revision of GPR No. 2

ECRI WG input: How GPR No. 2 deals with these three functions and their merging in one body

Discussion with contributions from the floor

Coffee break

16.00 – 17.30

SESSION IV – FUNCTIONING OF EQUALITY BODIES

Adam Bodnar, Commissioner for Human Rights, Poland

Niall Crowley, Independent Expert

Issues in relation to effectiveness

Issues in relation to independence

Issues in relation to accessibility

Barbara John, Member of ECRI's Working Group on the Revision of GPR No. 2

ECRI WG input: How GPR No. 2 deals with these three issues

Discussion with contributions from the floor

Reception

Wednesday, 24 May 2017

(morning only)

9.30 – 10.30

SESSION V – WORKSHOPS

Tena Šimonović Einwalter and Nadejda Hriptievschi, moderators

Discussion in parallel workshops on GPR No. 2: Strengths, weaknesses, gaps and further developments

10.30 – 11.30

SESSION VI – PLENARY SESSION

Michael Farrell, Member of ECRI's Working Group on the Revision of GPR No. 2

Feedback from workshops conclusions and next steps

Coffee break

11.45 – 12.00

SESSION VII ABRIDGED VERSION OF ECRI GENERAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Stefano Valenti, External Relations Officer, ECRI Secretariat

12.00 – 12.30

SESSION VIII – TOPIC OF THE 2018 SEMINAR

Christian Ahlund, ECRI's Chair

Identifying topic of the 2018 seminar