

ECRI's seminar with national Specialised Bodies¹
The role of national Specialised Bodies in advising legislative and executive authorities and other stakeholders

Strasbourg, Agora Building, Room G01 – 26-27 May 2016

Draft Programme

Thursday, 26 May 2016

- 9.30 – 9.45** **OPENING**
Christian Ahlund, ECRI's Chair
Introduction of the seminar's objectives and programme
- 9.45 – 10.15** **SESSION I (plenary) – ACHIEVING INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE**
Niall Crowley, Independent Expert
Key note presentation on goals, strategies, tools and actions for national Specialised Bodies to be effective in advising legislative and executive authorities and other stakeholders
- 10.15 – 11.15** **SESSION II (group discussion)– NATIONAL SPECIALISED BODIES SEEKING LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CHANGE**
Two groups discussing on steps by national Specialised Bodies or support from external actors to enable more effective outcomes from their work on policy and legislative change
- Coffee break*
- 11.30 –12.30** **SESSION II (plenary)– NATIONAL SPECIALISED BODIES ACHIEVING LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CHANGE**
Nadejda Hriptievschi, ECRI member, moderator
Panel presentations and plenary discussion on approaches by national Specialised Bodies to advising legislative and executive authorities, including examples from national Specialised Bodies of their work in influencing policy, the barriers found and the impact sought with contributions from :
Jaques Toubon, Défenseur des droits, France
Yan Feldman, Chairman of the Non-Discrimination Council, Republic of Moldova
Igli Totozani, People's Advocate, Albania
- Lunch break*
- 14.30 – 15.30** **SESSION III (group discussion)– NATIONAL SPECIALISED BODIES SEEKING CHANGE IN INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICE**
Two groups discussing on steps by national Specialised Bodies or support from external actors to enable more effective outcomes from their work on promoting good practice among employers, trade unions and service providers

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.

15.30 – 16.30

SESSION III (plenary)– NATIONAL SPECIALISED BODIES ACHIEVING CHANGE IN INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICE

Mirosław Wyrzykowski, ECRI's Vice-Chair, moderator

Panel presentations and plenary discussion on approaches by national Specialised Bodies to advising employers, trade unions and service providers including examples from national Specialised Bodies of their work in supporting good practice, the barriers found, and the impact sought with contributions from:

Els Keytsman, Co-Director, Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities, Belgium

Bernhard Franke, Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency, Germany

Break

16.45 – 17.45

SESSION IV (plenary) – NATIONAL SPECIALISED BODIES SUPPORTING THE EQUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Michèle Akip, Executive Secretary to ECRI, moderator

Panel presentations and plenary discussion on approaches by national Specialised Bodies to advising and networking with NGOs and other stakeholders, including examples from national Specialised Bodies of their work in stimulating more effective action on equality and non-discrimination, the barriers found, and the impact sought with contributions from:

Monika Cavlovic, Office of the Ombudswoman, Croatia

Valariya Lutkovska, Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights, Ukraine

Kalliopi Lykovardi, Office of the Greek Ombudsman

17.45 – 18.00

SESSION V – CLOSING

Nadeijda Hriptievschi, ECRI Member

Closure of the first day, summarising main conclusions

Reception

Friday, 27 May 2016

(morning only)

9.30 – 11.00

SESSION VI – PRESENTATION OF TWO NEW ECRI GPRs

Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Introductory remarks

Mirosław Wyrzykowski, ECRI's Vice-Chair Presentation of ECRI General Policy Recommendation on combating Hate Speech

Discussion with contributions from the floor:

Francesco Spano, Director of UNAR, Italy

Serena Pescatore, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE/ODIHR

Dalibor Jílek, ECRI member Presentation of ECRI General Policy Recommendation on safeguarding irregularly present migrants from discrimination

Discussion with contributions from the floor:

Gert Westerveen, UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg

Michele LeVoy, Director, PICUM

11.00 – 12.00

SESSION VII – TOPIC OF THE 2017 SEMINAR

Christian Ahlund, ECRI's Chair

Identifying next steps and topic of the 2017 seminar