

**Round Table**

**“Combating racial discrimination and intolerance in the Slovak Republic”**

**organised by**  
**the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)**  
**and**  
**the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR)**

**28 September 2017, Bratislava**

Austria Trend Hotel Bratislava (Vysoká 2A, 811 06 Bratislava)

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**8:30 – 9:00**      **Registration of participants**

**9:00 – 9:20**      **OPENING**

Statements from ECRI (Mr Christian Ahlund, Chair), SNCHR (Ms Katarína Szabová, Executive Director), Slovak Government (Ms Mária Kolíková, Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic)

**SESSION I – ECRI REPORT ON THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

*Chair: Mr Michal Vašečka, ECRI member*

**9:20 – 9:40**      **Key observations and main recommendations**  
Ms Barbara John, Ms Ülle Madise, ECRI members (rapporteurs)

**9:40 – 10:00**      **Measures to follow up on ECRI’s recommendations**  
Vladimír Horváth, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Roma Communities

10:30 – 11:00 Discussion with contributions from the floor

11:00 – 11:15 *Coffee break*

## **SESSION II – LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR COMBATING RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**

*Chair: Ms Zuzana Pavlíčková, SNCHR Head of Office of the Executive Director*

11:15 – 11:35 Challenges in the application of the legislation  
Mr Lubomír Čunderlík, Lawyer, SNCHR  
Mr Marian Filčík, Head of Human Rights Department, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic

11:35 – 12:00 Discussion with contribution from the floor

12:00 – 12:30 Independent institutions, current framework  
Effectiveness of the equality body (interim follow-up recommendations)  
Mr Marián Tórk, Head of Office, Public Defender of Rights of the Slovak Republic  
Ms Katarína Szabová, Executive Director, SNCHR  
Ms Šarlota Pufflerová, Executive Director, Citizen, Democracy and Accountability

12:30 – 13:00 Discussion with contribution from the floor  
Representatives of ECRI, ENNHRI and Equinet

13:00 – 14:30 *Buffet lunch hosted by ECRI*

## **SESSION III – COMBATING HATE SPEECH**

*Chair: Mr Milan Kollár, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Head of Human Rights Department*

14:30 – 14:45 Presentation of ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 15 on combating hate speech  
Mr Stefano Valenti, External Relations Officer, ECRI Secretariat

- 14:45 – 15:00 Gaps in legislation and data collection  
Ms Dominika Ďuranová, Secretary of the Committee for Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and Other Forms of Intolerance, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic
- 15:00 – 15:30 Discussion with contributions from the floor
- 15:30 – 15:45 Tackling hate speech in the media, including online media  
Ms Beata Balogová, Chief Editor of SME daily
- 15:45 – 16:15 Discussion with contributions from the floor
- 16:15 – 16:30 CONCLUSIONS**  
**Wrap-up and concrete steps for action**  
Slovak Government (Mr Andrej Bonko, Section of Government Legislation, Government Office of the Slovak Republic)  
ECRI (Mr Christian Ahlund, Chair)  
SNCHR (Ms Katarína Szabová, Executive Director)