



**BEST PRACTICES
for
ROMA INTEGRATION**
in the Western Balkans



Република Македонија
НАРОДЕН ПРАВООБРАНИТЕЛ
Republika e Maqedonisë
AVOKATI I POPULLIT
O M B U D S M A N
Republic of Macedonia

Regional Conference

“Particular Challenges in Dealing with Complaints of Discrimination on Grounds of Ethnicity – A Regional Practitioners’ Exchange”

Hotel Bellevue, Ohrid, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
25-27 September 2013

Wednesday, 25 September 2013

Arrival of participants & registration

- 19:30 – 20:30 Informal reception at hotel hosted by BPRI with welcome words by Mr. Ixhet Memeti, Ombudsman, Ms. Milena Isakovic, OSCE/ODIHR BPRI Regional Project Coordinator
- 20:30 Dinner at hotel

Thursday, 26 September 2013

- 9:30 – 10:00 Opening session
Mr. Ixhet Memeti, Ombudsman of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Ms. Milena Isakovic, OSCE/ODIHR BPRI Regional Project Coordinator
Mr. Marcus Rolofs, Head of Human Dimension Department, OSCE Mission to Skopje
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Session 1: Comparative review of anti-discrimination legislation in South East Europe**
Chair: Ms. Milena Isaković, BPRI Regional Coordinator, OSCE/ODIHR

Best Practices for Roma Integration
Supported by OSCE participating States



Project funded by the EU

Implemented by



- 10:00 – 10:30 Presentation of the ODIHR Overview of Anti-Discrimination Legislation in the Western Balkans
Mr. Mikolaj Wrzecionkowski, ODIHR
Mr. Laurentiu Hadirca, ODIHR
- 10:30 – 11:00 Reaction to and discussion of the review: general and country specific observations
Remarks from representatives of Anti-Discrimination Bodies (ADB) from 3 Beneficiaries (10 minutes each)
- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 – 13:00 Reaction to and discussion of the review: general and country specific observations (continued)
Remarks from representatives of ADBs from 4 beneficiariesⁱ (10 minutes each)
- General discussion
- 13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break
- 14:30-17:30** **Session 2: Typology of cases of discrimination on ground of ethnicity that are brought before the ADBs in SEE**
Chair: Ms. Nevena Petrusic, Commissioner for the protection of equality, Serbia
- 14:30 – 15:45 Representatives of the ADBs from 4 Beneficiaries explain typology of cases brought before their institutions (10 minutes each)
- 15:45 – 16:15 Coffee break
- 16:15 – 17:30 Representatives of the ADBs from 3 beneficiaries explain typology of cases brought before their institutions (10 minutes each)
- Representative of Equinet member institution from outside SEE comments on pattern of cases in SEE as compared to wider picture in Europe (10 minutes)
- General discussion
- 18:00 – 21:00 *Optional: Organized transportation to Ohrid City Center and a guided tour through some of the city's highlights*
- 21:00 Dinner

Friday, 27 September 2013

- 9:30 – 13:00** **Session 3: Presentation and brief discussion of one salient case file on discrimination on grounds of ethnicity per Beneficiary to demonstrate challenges and ways to overcome those**
Chair: Mr. Ixhet Memeti, Ombudsman
- 9:30 – 10:45* Representatives of 5 ADBs explain one case brought before their institution, which challenges it raised and how those were overcome (15 minutes each)
- Representative of Equinet member institution from outside SEE comments on salient cases set out, the challenges those raised and the ways they were overcome (15 minutes)
- 10:45 – 11:00* Coffee break
- 11:00 – 13:00* Representatives of 5 ADBs explain one case brought before their institution, which challenges it raised and how those were overcome (15 minutes each)
- Representative of Equinet member institution from outside SEE comments on salient cases set out, the challenges those raised and the ways they were overcome (15 minutes)
- General discussion
- 13:00 – 13:15** **Closing Session**
Ms. Milena Isaković
Mr. Ixhet Memeti
- 13:15 – 14:30* Lunch
- Departure of participants*

ⁱ In Beneficiaries where there is, both, an Ombudsman and a specialised Anti-Discrimination / equality Body (i.e. Albania, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) representatives of only one of those institutions make the presentation. They are expected to have coordinated the content of their presentation with the other body. The Anti-Discrimination Review will be distributed in advance, translated in the local languages.