



# **A Co-operation between Ombudsmen from Eastern Partnership Countries (EP) of the European Union**

14 October 2011

# A Co-operation between Ombudsmen from Eastern Partnership Countries (EP)

---

The Project of Co-operation between Ombudsmen from EP Countries has been designed as one of the undertakings implemented by the Polish side as a part of EU policy on Eastern Partnership:

- The Defender of Rights of the French Republic was invited to participate in the Project,
- The Project is directed to Ombudsman institutions in: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine,
- The co-operation has been designed for years 2009-2013.

# A Co-operation between Ombudsmen from Eastern Partnership Countries (EP)

---

- Ombudsmen from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine expressed their willingness to participate in the Project,
- The Project gained approval of the President of the Republic of Poland, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland and the Committee for European Integration,
- Until now the project obtained financial support from Polish Foreign Assistance provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011.

# The Objectives of the Ombudsmen Co-operation Project

---

The main objectives of the Project are:

- Reinforcement the EP countries ombudsman institutions' ability to participate in the creation of a democratic state honouring individual's rights,
- Creation of conditions for realization of right to court in the EP countries included in the project through improvement of the judiciary body functioning,

# The Objectives of the Ombudsmen Co-operation Project

---

- Support for non-governmental organizations contributing to the development of civil society in the EP countries,
- Improvement of civil service functions through promotion of good practices in administration,
- Supporting and securing freedom of speech and media.

# The Beneficiaries of the Ombudsmen Co-operation Project

---

The main beneficiaries of the Project are:

- Ombudsmen of the EP countries included in the Project,
- The bodies of the administration of justice,
- The bodies of public administration,
- Non-governmental organizations operating in these countries,
- Journalists and free press organizations.

# The primary tasks of Ombudsmen Co-operation Project

---

The project tasks are to be accomplished through following assignments:

- Organization of a series of workshops and trainings on human and civil rights protection,
- Monitoring the situation of prisoners in countries within the Project as well as implementing mechanisms of preventing torture,

# The primary tasks of Ombudsmen Co-operation Project

---

- Promotion of The European Code of Good Administrative Behaviour,
- Analysis of EP countries national law regulations paying special attention to adaptation to European standards of individual's rights protection,
- Realization of research and scientific projects.



# Leading subjects for the years 2010-2013

---

International conferences organized in countries included in the Project, initiating each thematic year:

- 2010 - Year of Solidarity,
- 2011 - Year against violence and discrimination,
- 2012 - Year of basic civil liberties,
- 2013 - Year of rule of law.

# First stage of the Project realization priorities

---

In the first stage of the Ombudsmen Co-operation Project (2009) the priorities have been:

- A thorough analysis of EP countries ombudsman offices' mode of functioning,
- A precise definition of problems and needs, fulfilment of which should reinforce institutions already in function.

# Undertakings in year 2009

---

In year 2009 the following events took place:

- **Workshop on “The state of the observance of human rights and freedoms in the countries included in the Eastern Partnership Programme”**
  - ▶ 22-25 October 2009 – College of Europe in Natolin (Poland)
  - ▶ Discussed topics: freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, right to court and actions against torture and inhuman treatment

# Undertakings in year 2009

---

## ■ Civil Rights Board session

- ▶ 10 December 2009 – Royal Castle in Warsaw
- ▶ Discussion on challenges, problems and needs of the ombudsman institutions and for the protection of human rights and freedoms
- ▶ Declaration of Eastern Partnership Cooperation

# Undertakings in year 2010

---

In year 2010 the following events took place:

- **Seminar „Partnership for Human Rights Poland-Georgia-Moldova”**
  - ▶ 9-15 May 2010 – Chisinau
  - ▶ 10-16 October 2010 – Tbilisi

# Undertakings in year 2010

---

- **List of subjects discussed on the seminars:**
  - ▶ The model of the Ombudsman institution
  - ▶ National Preventive Mechanism
  - ▶ Help to crime victims
  - ▶ Equal treatment and antidiscrimination
  - ▶ Fight against poverty and social exclusion

# Undertakings in year 2010

---

In year 2010 the following events took place:

- **Seminar „Partnership for Human Rights Poland-Georgia-Moldova”**
  - ▶ 15-19 November 2010 – Cracow, Warsaw
  - ▶ Discussion on the topics: National Preventive Mechanism, help to crime victims, equal treatment and antidiscrimination

# Undertakings in year 2011

---

- **Seminar „Partnership for Human Rights” with the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan**
  - ▶ 17-19 May 2011 – Poland
  - ▶ 11-13 October 2011 – Azerbaijan



# Undertakings in year 2011

---

- **Seminar „Partnership for Human Rights” with the Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia**
  - ▶ 7-9 June 2011 – Poland
  - ▶ 27-29 September 2011 – Armenia

# Undertakings in year 2011

---

## ■ List of subjects discussed on the seminars:

- ▶ National Preventive Mechanism
- ▶ Help to crime victims
- ▶ Counteracting discrimination
- ▶ Contemporary challenges to human rights in the context of threats connected with the use of new technologies



**Thank you for your attention!**