
Wednesday 13 November 2013

12.30 Racism and xenophobia, a challenge to the fundamental principles of the European Union: the role of statutory bodies

Ioannis DIMITRAKOPOULOS, Head of Department Equality and Citizens' Rights, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

12.45 Social rights and the Council of Europe

Riccardo PRIORE, Department of the European Social Charter, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe

13.00 The role of the Greek Ombudsman in protecting human rights and combating discrimination

Vassilis KARYDIS, Deputy Ombudsman

13.15 Interventions of Greek Ombudsman senior investigators *

Niki BAFE, Children's right to education
Maria VOUTSINOY, Ombudsman and the ECHR case law
Christina AGGELL, Gender equality issues

13.45 Discussion

14.30 - 16.00 Buffet Lunch

16.00 – 18.15 Round table – The State-Citizens relations in a time of crisis

Chair: John METAXAS, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Athens

Discussion panel:

Nikiforos DIAMANDOUROS, former European Ombudsman
Yorgos KAMINIS, Mayor of Athens, former Greek Ombudsman
Calliope SPANOY, Greek Ombudsman
Konstantinos MENOUDAKOS, former President of the Council of State
Maria KATSOUNAKI, journalist
Pavlos TSIMAS, journalist

18.00 - 18.15 Concluding remarks

Calliope SPANOY, Greek Ombudsman

* *The interventions are a result of the collective work of senior investigators at the Greek Ombudsman's Office*

The Greek Ombudsman

15th anniversary

1998 

12 & 13 November 2013

Auditorium of the Acropolis Museum

with the support of the Council of Europe

1998

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- 17.00 Opening**
Evangelos MEIMARAKIS, President of the Hellenic Parliament
Kyriakos MITSOTAKIS, Minister of Administrative Reform and e-Governance
- 17.30 Keynote speech: The Ombudsman institution**
Nikiforos DIAMANDOUROS, former European Ombudsman
- 18.00 15 years of the Greek Ombudsman**
Calliope SPANOU, Greek Ombudsman
- 18.30 - 20.30 1st Plenary Session Institutional counterweights and balance of powers. The ombudsman in the constitutional system**
Chair: Yorgos KAMINIS, Mayor of Athens, former Greek Ombudsman
- 18.30 The Ombudsman in the Constitution**
Nikos ALIVIZATOS, Professor of Law at the University of Athens
- 18.45 The Ombudsman and the judiciary**
Athanasios RANTOS, Vice President of the Council of State
- 19.00 - 19.15 Coffee Break**
- 19.15 The dynamics of a new Ombudsman institution**
M. Nihat ÖMEROĞLU, Chief Ombudsman of Turkey
- 19.30 The Ombudsman in a new democracy**
Sasa JANKOVIC, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia
- 19.45 The Ombudsman and the crisis of the nation-state**
José de FARIA COSTA, Ombudsman of Portugal
- 20.00 - 20.30 Discussion**

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- 10.00 - 12.00 2nd Plenary Session Mediation and good governance.**
The Ombudsman as a catalyst for administrative reform
Chair: Theodoros FORTSAKIS, Professor, President of the Faculty of Law of the University of Athens
- 10.00 The Ombudsman and mediation**
Alex BRENNINKMEIJER, Ombudsman of The Netherlands
- 10.15 The role of the Ombudsman as a vehicle for citizen participation and a safeguard of human rights**
Catherine DE BRUECKER, Federal Ombudsman of Belgium
- 10.30 Mediation in administrative disputes**
George DELLIS, Associate Professor of Law at the University of Athens
- 10:45 The challenges of mediation for the Greek Ombudsman**
John SAYAS, Deputy Ombudsman
- 11:00 Interventions of Greek Ombudsman senior investigators ***
Rena PAPADAKI, Social protection issues
Kyriaki ANDRIKAKI, Local authority issues
Elena STABOULI, Quality of life issues
- 11.30 Discussion**
- 12.00 - 12.15 Coffee Break**
- 12.15 - 14.30 3rd Plenary Session Rule of law and human rights, the safeguarding role of the ombudsman**
Chair: Christos ROZAKIS, President of the Administrative Tribunal of the Council of Europe, former Vice-President, European Court of Human Rights
- 12.15 Combating racial discrimination – what is new?**
Ulrich BUNJES, Special Policy Advisor, Directorate General for Democracy, Council of Europe