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NEWS REPORT

Country: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Title: Annual Reports of the Two National Human Rights Institutions Published
Date: 11 June 2015
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Update of flash report nr: MK-36-Annual_Reports_of_NHRIs
Context
Issue at stake: Annual reports by the two NHRIs
Ground of discrimination: All grounds
Source: National Human Rights Institutions annual reports
Field: All Fields
Applicable law: n/a

Content

Policy development: The two national Human Rights institutions with competences related to the protection against discrimination - the Commission for Protection against Discrimination (CPAD) and the Ombudsperson - published their annual reports for 2014.

In 2014, the percentage of discrimination cases filed to the Ombudsperson remained low, although there is again an increase in the number of cases compared to last year. 66 discrimination cases were filed (which represent 1.55 % of the total number of cases). The Ombudsperson did not publish detailed statistics as to grounds and fields in relation to the cases, but did mention that the trend of the largest number of cases being in employment and on grounds of ethnicity has continued.

The CPAD received 106 cases in 2014 (which is an increase compared to 2013 when it received 83 cases, as well as when compared to the previous two years). These cases were on the following discrimination grounds: 26 on ethnicity, 13 on health status, 4 on belonging to a marginalised group, 15 on personal or social status, 13 on mental or physical disability, 8 on education, 7 on social origin, 10 on sex, 7 on religion or religious belief, 7 on political affiliation, 8 on age, 5 on family or marital status, 4 on gender, 3 on other beliefs, 6 on property status, and 14 under 'any other ground'. In the filed cases, the alleged discrimination was in the following fields: 42 in employment and labour relations, 22 in access to goods and services, 18 in social security, 11 in judiciary and administration, 7 in public information and media, 5 in education, science and sports, 5 in housing, 2 in culture, 2 in membership in trade unions or political associations, while in 6 cases no field has been claimed by the applicant, and 4 cases concerned "other fields" as provided for under the law.

CPAD reports that it fully processed 34 cases from the ones received in 2014, and that it opened and/or processed 80 cases from the backlog from the previous years. In 2014 it found discrimination in 7 cases only; however, the report is not clear as to how many of

these cases were from the ones received in 2014 or from the backlog cases from the previous years.

Key points of analysis: Annual reports from the two NHRIs in the country, presenting the only opportunity to get familiar with the full and detailed statistics as to the work of these bodies regarding the practicing of their protection mandate related to equality and non-discrimination which are not otherwise publically available.

Internet link source: Ombudsperson Annual Report 2014. Ombudsperson Website. <http://ombudsman.mk/upload/Godisni%20izvestai/GI-2014/GI%202014.pdf>. All hyperlinks last accessed: 16.04.2015.

Commission for Protection against Discrimination Annual Report 2014. *Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia Website*. <http://sobranie.mk/downloadaddocument.aspx?id=d5fc5a99-4941-4a6a-84f3-3776d9d1b67d&t=pdf>