

About the Venice Principles

The “Venice Principles” are the result of merging existing Venice Commission’s doctrine and new standards, all committed to address specifically the work of the Ombudsman institutions. The “Venice Principles” (adopted by the Venice Commission on 15 March 2019 in its plenary session) represent a further development of the “Paris Principles” (adopted in 1991 and endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1993, the Paris Principles settled minimum standards for an effective work of National Human Rights Institutions) aiming to develop a complementing set of principles devoted to address the specific problematic and needs of Ombudsman institutions.

Objectives of the Conference

- To enable the exchange of experiences and working strategies in protecting people’s rights between Ibero-American and European Ombudsman institutions.
- To promote a fruitful exchange between the Ibero-American Ombudsperson Institutions and the invited experts from francophone countries, which might lead to enrich their work strategies and to further cooperation opportunities.
- To bring together different perspectives regarding the work of the Ombudsman in Ibero-America assessing them against the standards of the Venice Principles.
- To address the challenges which the ombudsman institutions had to face during the context of states of emergency, notably the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- To contribute in making the “Venice Principles” a relevant international reference text setting out the legal principles essential for the establishment and proper functioning of Ombudsman institutions at all levels of democratic government. In other words, to make them a standard for the institution of the Ombudsman against which individual country regulation on the work, status, independent, objectivity, transparency, impartiality and stability of the Ombudsperson institutions can be assessed and measured.

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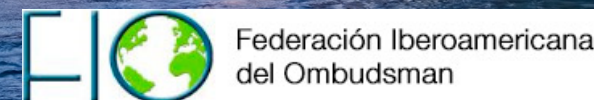
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MAY 11: <https://vmeeting.coe.int/k8/241117103030/join>

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THE VENICE PRINCIPLES AND OMBUDSPERSON INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN IBERO-AMERICA AND IN EUROPE

MAY 11,12 - 2021



Agenda

May 11th

16:00 - 16:15: Conference opening

- Augusto Jordán Rodas Andrade (FIO, President & Procurador de los Derechos Humanos de la República de Guatemala)
- Gianni Buquicchio, President, Venice Commission

16:15 - 17:00: The Ombudsman as a constitutional institution for the protection of fundamental rights

- Maria Lúcia da Conceição Abrantes Amaral (Provedora de Justiça de Portugal)
 - Marc Bertrand, Ombudsman, Wallonie, Federation of Wallonie Bruxelles, Belgium
- Discussion

17:15 - 18:00: The role of “Venice Principles” in strengthening the Ombudsman institutions in Ibero-America and in Europe

- Catalina Crespo Sancho (Defensora de los Habitantes de Costa Rica)
 - Igli Totozani, Former Ombudsman Albania, Expert Venice Commission
- Discussion

May 12th

16:00 - 16:45: Differences and similarities of the Ombudsman institutions in Latin America and Europe

- Guillermo Escobar Roca. Director del PRADPI. University of Alcalá (Spain)
 - David Renders, Professor, Lawyer, Vice-Dean for Relations with the Professional Community Faculty of Law and Criminology, Louvain la Neuve, Belgium
- Discussion

17:00 - 17:45: The role of the Ombudsman institutions during the context of the states of emergency

- Sergio Micco Aguayo President INDH Chile)
- Peter Tyndall Ombudsman Irlanda, Discusión

17:45-18:00: Conference Closing

The Venice Principles in Ibero-america

- The main goal of increasing the awareness about the “Venice Principles” in Ibero-America is to strengthen the common tradition of democracy, human rights, rule of law and good governance in Ibero-America.
- To provide the Ombudspersons institutions with reference standards specifically committed to support and strengthen the work of the ombudspersons in protecting people’s rights.
- To serve as a common ground to enable the exchange of experiences and approaches to the problematic of work of the Ombudsperson institutions.
- To confer the “Venice Principles” the nature of a living text able to adapt to different legal context and political backgrounds beyond the European model.

:With the cooperation of:

