

**OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting  
on Protection and Promotion of Human Rights:  
Responsibilities and Effective Remedy**

**Vienna, 12-13 July 2007**

**Recommendations for the OSCE participating States**

**Dezideriu Gergely,**

**Position \_\_\_\_\_**

**National Council for Combating Discrimination,  
Romania**

**Session III: The role of national human rights institutions in promoting and protecting human rights**

A. NHRI play an essential role in transposing international standards on human rights into national law. To a great extent the transposition process may become a complex process at the national level, due to several aspects like misunderstanding of legal concepts, resistance to new procedures and standards, lack of coherent agenda etc.

**Recommendations:**

- **OSCE participating States should ensure that NHRIs effectively assess the capacity and the consequences of transposing international standards into national law in order to avoid incoherent compliance (which leads to further amendments)**
- **OSCE participating States should ensure that independence of NHRIs is guaranteed by law, in practice assuring freedom from Government or public authorities in fulfilling their duties.**

B. NHRI play an important role in assuring effective access to law and specialized bodies for the public and especially vulnerable groups. Without guaranteeing accessible proceedings, victims of human rights violation can not reach effective redress.

**Recommendations:**

- **OSCE participating States should ensure that NGOs have the possibility to initiate and participate to proceedings on behalf of victims of human rights violations (including Roma victims) before the NHRIs.**
- **OSCE participating States should ensure that NHRIs are cooperating with non-governmental organizations in capacity building, receipt, investigation and resolution of human rights violations regarding Roma, as one of the most discriminated against ethnic group.**
- **OSCE participating States should ensure that NHRIs are regularly conducting in cooperation with NGOs public awareness campaigns for prevention and combating discrimination, ensuring an effective reach out of Roma community**
- **OSCE participating state should ensure that NHRIs are participating in cooperation with specialized NGOs to national scale human rights training sessions for targeted groups, like judges, prosecutors, police officers, public servants, on particular issues like Roma or other minorities.**