

# EIN proposals for NGOs engagement with the ECHR implementation monitoring process

Note: We recognise that the Department for the Execution of Judgments and the HELP department are already considering the proposals below that relate to their work. We are grateful for their active co-operation.

### The Committee of Ministers (CM)

- 1. The CM to hold biennual meetings with civil society representatives, just as the European Court of Human Rights currently does.
- The introduction of a stipulation that Action Plans report on how NGOs and NHRIs have been involved/consulted in identifying and implementing measures needed to execute a given judgment.

#### Department for the Execution of Judgments (DEJ)

- 3. The DEJ should produce an easily accessible webpage devoted to NGO/NHRI participation in the implementation process, including:
  - a. Basic information about the process and the role of NGOs/NHRIs;
  - b. A timeline for when such engagement is helpful;
  - c. A clear invitation to contact the central office email address, in order to access the lawyer(s) dealing with particular cases;
  - d. A list of NGOs, NHRIs and international organisations that have made submissions in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of the Committee of Ministers;
  - e. Identification of EIN as a network of NGOs that specialises in assisting civil society with implementation, along with a link to the EIN handbook on how NGOs should engage.
- 4. On country visits, the DEJ should meet with NGOs/NHRIs as a matter of course.
- 5. DEJ's HUDOC-EXEC database should be developed so that:
  - a. For cases under the standard procedure, more detail is presented about the exchanges between DEJ and the state;
  - b. Submissions from NGOs and NHRIs are recorded separately.
- 6. The DEJ should increase the accessibility of information about the implementation process, such as through an email alert system or RSS feed whereby users can be regularly notified about important developments (new cases, Action Plans, Action Reports, Decisions, Rule 9, Resolutions, etc).



## Parliamentary Assembly (PACE)

- 7. PACE should reinforce its role in holding states to account both regarding their implementation record in general and their progress in individual cases by inviting high-level state representatives to appear at open hearings of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to which NGOs ought also be invited to give evidence when appropriate.
- 8. PACE General Rapporteurs should periodically report on the implementation of judgments for their topic, obtaining the views of both state officials and civil society.

## **Council of Europe - general**

- 9. A HELP module should be developed on how NGOS/NHRIs should engage with the ECHR monitoring process for the implementation of judgments of the Court.
- 10. Whilst we recognise the challenging financial situation at the Council of Europe, funding could be provided to support the training of NGOs in engaging with the ECHR implementation monitoring process.