



People’s Advocate Office



JULY 2026



75th anniversary of the Convention related to the Status of Refugees:the PAO-UNHCR partnership strengthens the protection of human rights

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To mark the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the People's Advocate Office presents the results of the institutional partnership developed with UNHCR in the field of protecting and monitoring the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons in the Republic of Moldova. Between 2022 and 2026, cooperation between the two institutions resulted in over 220 monitoring visits, 17 thematic and general reports, the examination of over 130 individual cases, and numerous advocacy, training and awareness-raising activities. For information on the results of the cooperation between the Ombudsman's Office and UNHCR, please see the full press release.

Confidentiality of medical data in the focus of the People’s Advocate: citizens invited to contribute to a new study

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The protection of personal data in the healthcare sector is among the priorities of the People's Advocate, who, in partnership with the non-governmental organisations „HOMECARE” and „CASMED”, has launched a study into compliance with data privacy safeguards in public and private healthcare institutions. The research will analyse the legal framework and practices relating to the protection of medical information and will draw on citizens’ experiences to identify challenges and formulate recommendations for improvement.

PAO presented the UN Council with its alternative report on the human rights situation in the Republic of Moldova

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The fourth alternative report on the human rights situation in the Republic of Moldova, drawn up by the Ombudsman's Office as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, has been submitted to the UN Human Rights Council. The document reflects the findings resulting from the institution's independent monitoring activities and sets out recommendations for strengthening the protection of human rights, in accordance with international standards.

The People’s Advocate has submitted recommendation to the Venice Commision regarding the reform of the organisation and functioning of Parliament

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The People's Advocate recommendations for strengthening freedom of expression, transparency in decision making and democratic safeguards in Parliament's work were presented to the Venice Commission delegation during consultations on the draft Code on the Organisation and Functioning of Parliament. The Ombudsman, Cezlav Panico, called for the strengthening of parliamentary ethics, the responsible use of the emergency procedure, ensuring inclusivity and strengthening institutional cooperation with Parliament, including by guaranteeing the independence of the Ombudsman's institution.

The People’s Advocate has launched an investigation into the observance of human rights in the National Army's recruitment process

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The Ombudsman, Cezlav Panico, took up the matter on his own initiative and launched a comprehensive investigation into the observance of human rights in the recruitment and conscription of young people into the National Army, as well as into the organisation and functioning of civilian (alternative) service. The monitoring will be carried out over three consecutive recruitment cycles and will assess aspects relating to the transparency of procedures, respect for human dignity, access to education, medical examinations and appeal mechanisms. At the same time, the Ombudsman invites citizens to contribute to this investigation by sharing their relevant experiences and observations

The People’s Advocate Office contributed to the drafting of the new UN General Comment on freedom of association

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The People's Advocate Office has submitted comments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the draft General Comment No. 38 of the UN Human Rights Committee concerning freedom of association. As a National Human Rights Institution accredited with 'A' status, the PAO has made recommendations aimed at strengthening the protection of the right to freedom of association, including with regard to the protection of civil society organisations, the exercise of this right in the digital environment, and states' compliance with international standards.

Human Rights Caravan 2026: over 3.000 informed through direct dialogue with the Ombudsman's Office

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Over 3.000 people took part in the third edition of the 2026 Human Rights Caravan, organised by the Ombudsman's Office in the districts of Făleşti and Hînceşti and the municipality of Comrat. Through visits to communities, direct discussions with citizens and local authorities, and outreach activities carried out across the region, the PAO teams identified the main issues facing people and gathered information that will inform their monitoring work and the recommendations addressed to public authorities. To find out more about the results of the 2026 Human Rights Caravan and the main findings of the People's Advocate's Office, please see the full press release.

The People’s Advocate Office experience in the Transnistrian region, as set out in the Annual Reoirt of the Danish Institutute for Human Rights

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The ongoing monitoring of the human rights situation in the Transnistrian region and the development of protection mechanisms for people in that region are among the Ombudsman's Office's core areas of activity. Through monitoring, documentation, the examination of petitions and dialogue with relevant stakeholders, the Ombudsman's Office contributes to the protection of fundamental rights in the context of the challenges arising from the lack of effective control by the constitutional authorities over the region. The institution's experience in this field has been highlighted in the Annual Report of the Danish Institute for Human Rights. For further information, please see the full press release.

Protection of migrant workers' rights: the People’s Advocate has launched an investigation

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The protection of the rights of migrant workers in situations of vulnerability is a priority for the Ombudsman's Office.Following reports regarding the living conditions of workers from Bangladesh and Nepal, the Ombudsman has launched an investigation to verify compliance with fundamental rights and the extent to which the authorities and the employer have fulfilled their legal obligations.