



VII Meeting of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen
"Legal education on human rights and freedoms as a
direction of human rights activity"
Moscow, November 15, 2022

Statement by
the Chairman of the House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Human Rights, National Affairs and Mass Media of the Republic of Belarus
Gennady Davydko

Hello, dear Tatiana Nikolaevna, hello, dear participants of the meeting! The State legal system of ensuring the protection of human rights, including legislative regulation, effective interaction of state authorities and the population in order to realize the full rights of citizens guaranteed by the Constitution, has been formed and is functioning effectively in our country.

Guarantees to ensure the protection of citizens' rights are enshrined in the Constitution. Citizens are granted the right to apply to the Constitutional Court directly, and not through authorized entities as it was before.

The most important elements of the national system for the implementation of the protection of citizens' rights are State and public institutions such as the National Human Rights Commission on the Rights of the Child, the National Council on Gender Policy, the National Council on Labor and Social Issues, the Public Coordinating Council in the Field of Mass Media and others. Thus, real observance and protection of civil, political, economic, socio-cultural and other human rights is ensured in our country.

On December 30, 1992, our then very young sovereign State joined the International Optional Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: We have sought to use the best international experience to develop a national system for ensuring and protecting human rights. Unfortunately, this international institution has ceased to fulfill its constructive role and, in order to please the geopolitical interests of outspoken detractors of our statehood, it has been used as an institution of pressure on us and other "undesirable" countries. This also applies to the politicization of the activities of the UN Human Rights Committee, which is often expressed in a biased attitude towards our country. The facts of such politicization and disregard for international law are obvious.

In such circumstances, we had to ensure the sovereign right of Belarus to defend its national interests, and we withdrew from the optional protocol, but we do not deprive our citizens, if all domestic remedies have been exhausted, to apply for the restoration of their rights to various international structures.

The Republic of Belarus retains its status as a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and continues cooperation on the implementation and protection of human rights based on the principles of equality and non-interference in internal affairs.

The West has long turned human rights concepts into weapons of neocolonial domination and social destabilization in developing countries, which are used to slow down social progress, weaken statehood, slow down economic development and as a desired result to maintain its political ideological dominance.

As for the agenda, education in this very important area, we had a period when all members of Parliament and all public figures had to be active in the field of legal education, when we carried out explanatory work in preparation for the adoption of a new version of our Constitution. It was quite

recently, and we adopted the Law "On Civil Society", adopted a new Constitution. So here I really want to refer to the brilliant, in my opinion, performance of our colleague from Kyrgyzstan. As for awareness of our rights, we are more or less all right. But as for duties, this is of course also necessary to deal with legal dependency, which is also observed in almost all layers of society.

Thank you very much and I wish successful work to our entire forum.