



7th 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 Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia (Ombudsman)
Zoran Pasalic at the VII Meeting of the Eurasian Ombudsmen Alliance

The main topic of my speech is "Legal education".

First of all, I would like to welcome all the participants of our meeting and apologize on my own behalf for not being able to come to Moscow. It was extremely important for me to take part in this regular meeting of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen.

First of all, I would like to say that this is of key importance for our work. The human rights defender tries to embody one of the key principles in his work. In order to ensure the protection of the fundamental rights of citizens, it is extremely important to involve young people and children in learning about human rights from an early age.

We try to use this forum to involve young people and children in human rights work, and within the framework of the forum, which is held, we involve them in the decision-making process in the field of protecting children's rights and other human rights issues. And besides the fact that the Ombudsman outlines the range of problems before us, he points out issues that are important for children and youth.

In September of this year, we hosted a five-day Summer School under the auspices of the Defender of the Rights of Citizens of Serbia, which was attended by 80 children who were trained with the participation of a group of experts. At first it was a pilot project, with the participation of 18 people, but then the number of children increased. The training was held within the framework of the project "Children to Children" - a human rights project.

The Summer school, which was organized to improve the level of legal education, and was also aimed at children with disabilities, representatives of the Roma community, older citizens. The topics of countering violence and trafficking in people, the mechanism of protection against violent methods deserved special attention.

In the subsequent period, the participants of the summer school promoted and used the acquired knowledge in their schools and also among their classmates, shared their knowledge on human rights.

I would like to thank you once again for your attention, for the allocated time. I wish you success in your future work and a successful meeting. Thanks.