

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 Deputy Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia Vladimir Hovhannisyan

Thank you very much! Thank you very much for the warm welcome, it is a great honor to be in the House of Human Rights.

As for the first question, the issues of legal education of human rights and freedoms have always been very relevant, the issues of raising legal awareness, the formation of a high legal culture, the development of civil society institutions and strengthening the foundations of the rule of law are always highly relevant and of great importance today in connection with the enormous pace of social transformations, increasing processes, digitalization of the problem of legal awareness, education and education is becoming very relevant.

In this context, I would like to note that the mass media have a very great influence on the formation of the legal culture of the population. Therefore, the office of the Human Rights Defender in Armenia highly appreciates the cooperation with the media in this area.

Back in 2020, as a result of legislative changes, amendments were made to the constitutional law "On the Defender of Human Rights", as a result of which the defender of human rights or his representatives have the right to conduct retraining of state institutions. Here, in particular, we are talking about administrations that work in places of deprivation of liberty, in particular in penal institutions, the police and other places of deprivation of liberty. We have already carried out a lot of retraining and improvements, that is, we are very actively working in this direction. We cooperate with the Institute of Legal Education, which operates in the system of the Ministry of Justice of Armenia.

In addition, in this direction we have a separate specialized unit that deals with research and educational issues, which is called the Research Educational Center. With the help of this center, we provide retraining of personnel, for example, employees in penal institutions.

As for the legal education of the population, we have also carried out a very large amount of work in this area, in particular, various manuals and manuals on human rights and fundamental freedoms have been published. We had a special issue in 2020, when the restrictions adopted by governments changed very dramatically and the legislation was amended all the time. During this period, we also worked very actively to raise the legal awareness of the population and we have issued many different manuals and manuals on human rights in a pandemic.

I will also present much of this in my report tomorrow, when I present problems related to youth. Thank you very much again