

#### RESOLUTION

# of the IX meeting of the Eurasian Ombudsman Alliance dedicated to the protection of human rights in the digitalization of society

October 9, 2024

We, the participants of the meeting of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen, held on October 9, 2024, in Moscow,

confirming our commitment to the principles of respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, social justice, dignity, and the value of the human person;

*recognizing* that digital transformation affects all aspects of people's lives and offers significant opportunities to improve the quality of life, economic growth, and resilience;

*emphasizing* that technological development should not lead to a regression of human rights, and that technologies should unite, not divide, people;

*believing* that the digital transformation of society should be based on the principles of sovereignty, the rule of law, equality, security, improved quality of life, accessibility of services, and respect for the rights, freedoms, and legitimate interests of every individual;

understanding that coordinated efforts by human rights protection institutions contribute to the more effective implementation of human rights protection measures in the context of digitalization;

being convinced that national institutions responsible for promoting and protecting human rights, members of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen, can make a significant contribution to the protection of human rights in the digital environment;

based on the understanding that safeguarding digital human rights and informing the public on human rights issues are crucial for establishing and maintaining harmonious relations between countries and peoples;

taking into account the desire of national human rights institutions, members of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen, to improve their work in protecting human rights in the digital environment,

having reviewed the issues related to the protection of human rights in the context of the digitalization of society,

## 1. Note the following:

The implementation of digital technologies contributes to the increased effectiveness of the realization and protection of human rights and freedoms;

The member states of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen have achieved certain successes in ensuring and protecting human rights in the context of information technology development, including reducing digital inequality, digitalizing judicial processes, and providing citizens with government and municipal services in electronic form;

Digital transformation is accompanied by an increase in risks related to disinformation, violations of privacy, and the dissemination of content intended to harm individuals and society;

The importance of efforts by states and the human rights community to develop mechanisms to counter threats to human rights in the context of societal digitalization.

#### 2.We recommend that members of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen:

*Inform* the parliaments and governments of their countries about the issues of compliance with and protection of human rights in the digital environment, as presented during the meeting, and share experiences regarding the use of digital technologies in human rights protection activities;

*Take into account* the experience of the digitalization of the activities of national institutions responsible for promoting and protecting human rights;

Strengthen cooperation with public authorities and civil society institutions to create a secure digital environment based on respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms;

Contribute to overcoming digital inequality;

Promote greater transparency of public authorities in the digital environment;

*Collaborate* with the scientific community and organizations working in the field of information technology to prepare proposals for public authorities on strengthening human rights guarantees in the context of societal digitalization;

*Expand* educational activities on human rights compliance and protection in the use of digital technologies;

Pay special attention to the rights of children, youth, and the elderly to protection from crimes committed using digital technologies;

*Inform* international human rights bodies and governments of their countries about the positive experiences of national institutions responsible for promoting and protecting human rights in restoring and preventing human rights violations in the digital environment;

*Initiate* the organization of an international scientific and practical conference of ombudsmen in Moscow in October 2025 to discuss the development of additional international legal documents on the protection of human rights in the context of digitalization;

*Submit* information to the Secretariat of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen about new practices of using information technologies in human rights activities.

Deadline – December 1, 2024.

## 3.We instruct the Secretariat of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen to:

*Publish* the transcript of the meeting on the official website of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen.

Deadline – November 1, 2024.

Form, taking into account the proposals of the members of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen, a working group for preparing standards for the protection of human rights in the digital environment, with coordination of its activities entrusted to the working body of the Human Rights Commissioner of the Russian Federation.

Deadline – December 1, 2024.

*Summarize* information about new practices of using information technologies in human rights activities by members of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen and publish it on the official website of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen.

Deadline – February 1, 2025.

*Prepare* a compilation of fundamental regulatory legal acts of the member states of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen governing the protection of human rights and freedoms in the digital environment, and place it in a separate section dedicated to digital rights on the official website of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen.

Deadline – March 1, 2025.

Chairperson of the Eurasian Ombudsmen Alliance, High Commissioner Human Rights in the Russian Federation

T.Moskalkova