

## **Profile of Partner Equality Body**

**Name:**

National Council for Combating Discrimination

**Address:**

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**Date established:**

August 2002

**Mode of establishment:**

Primary legislation

Governmental Ordinance nr 137/2000, Governmental Decision 1194/ 2001

**Status:**

Governmental Agency, subordinated to the Prime-Minister

**Mandate/objectives:**

Governmental Decision 1194/2001:

- a) Proposes the establishment, under the law, of certain actions or special measures for the protection of disadvantaged persons and groups that experience inequality compared to the majority of citizens due to social origin or disability or are victims of rejection and marginalisation and do not benefit from equality of opportunity;
- b) Proposes relevant draft legal regulations to the Government;
- c) Endorses draft legal regulations regarding the exercise of rights and freedoms, in conditions of equality and non-discrimination;
- d) Co-operates with public authorities with prerogatives in the field with a view to the approximation of domestic legislation with international obligations on non-discrimination;
- e) Co-operates with public authorities and natural and legal persons in order to prevent, sanction and eliminate all forms of discrimination;
- f) Monitors the application and observance of legal provisions on preventing, sanctioning and eliminating all forms of discrimination by public authorities and legal and natural entities;
- g) Receives petitions and complaints regarding violations of legal provisions on equality and non-discrimination from natural persons, NGOs with activities in the field of the protection of human rights, other legal entities and public institutions; analyses the respective petitions and complaints, adopts the appropriate measures and answers within the term provided under the law (Governmental Ordinance nr 27/2002 regarding the activity of solving petitions)
- h) Co-operates with NGOs on activities in the field of human rights protection;

- i) Develops studies and research on the observance of the principle of equality and non-discrimination for submission to the Government and publication;
- j) Issues publications in this domain;
- k) Assesses and sanctions contraventions of Government Ordinance No. 137/2000;
- l) Co-operates with similar organisations in other countries and with NGOs outside Romania that are active in human rights protection, as well as with relevant international organisations.
- m) The Council will perform any other functions established by Government or Parliament by laws intended to prevent, sanction and eliminate all forms of discrimination.

**Grounds of Discrimination covered:**

Race, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, social origin, beliefs, sex or sexual orientation, age, disability, chronic non-contagious diseases, persons infected with HIV or belonging to a disfavoured category (refugees, asylum seekers, pensioners, abandoned children, individuals with a criminal record etc.).

**Competences and responsibilities:**

1. implementing the principle of equality between citizens and the principle of non-discrimination
2. preventing discrimination
3. sanctioning discriminatory activities
4. mediation
5. co-operating with NGOs and public institutions

**Main activities:**

Examining and responding to petitions; conducting independent investigations; mediation; co-operation with NGOs.

**Publications:**

Anti-discrimination legislation; Dictionary of terms in the field of discrimination; Jurisprudence of NCCD. All publications available in Romanian from the NCCD.

**Management:**

President and Members of the Steering Board when the President delegates his authority.

**Nomination of senior staff and board:**

7 Ministries put forward 3 candidates from each ministry. The Prime Minister appointed one person from each ministry to the Steering Board. However, the members do not represent the ministries.

**Number of Staff:**

38

**Budget:**

25.564.201.000 LEI (approx € 706 000)

**Accountability:**

The NCCD reports to the Minister of Finance and to a specialised Court. The Court of Accounts who has the authority to check these issues.

**Project contact person:**

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