

NHRI ACCREDITATION STATUS AND MANDATES

—
UPDATE
2024

REPORT

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Introduction

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) continue to play a key role in upholding fundamental rights. The European Commission called NHRIs a “core element in the system of checks and balances” in its [2023 annual rule of law report](#). [1]

The mandate of the NHRIs is based on the UN General Assembly’s [Paris Principles](#) of 1993 (‘Principles Relating to the Status of National Human Rights Institutions’). They provide the basis for assessing the independence and effectiveness of national human rights institutions. [The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions \(GANHRI\)](#) uses the Paris Principles to determine the international accreditation status of national human rights institutions, distinguishing between A-level NHRI (full compliance) and B-level NHRI (partial compliance) with the Paris Principles.

Since the publication of its 2020 report [Strong and effective national human rights institutions – challenges, promising practices and opportunities](#), the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) has been regularly tracking the accreditation status and the mandates of the NHRIs. This December 2023 Update covers not only the accreditation status (section 1) and the mandates (section 2), but also additional aspects, namely the role of NHRIs in the context of EU funds (section 3) and the use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (section 4). In this latest Update, the data utilized for certain countries remains consistent with that provided in the December 2022 Update.

Methodology

The information contained in this report was collected through primary and secondary sources:

- **Primary sources**
 - **Questionnaire sent to NHRIs**
- **Secondary sources**
 - **Desk research**

FRA collected data through questionnaires sent to the 27 EU Member States and the three accession countries falling within FRA’s mandate – North Macedonia, Serbia and Albania. This was carried out between September and December 2023. All 35 NHRIs/ENNHRI members received FRA’s questionnaire; 31 responded, although some opted to not answer to all sections of the questionnaire. Additional desk research was conducted during the same period. In cases where no response was received, this is marked in the respective tables. [2]

1. Accreditation Status

Since December 2022, none of the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) had a change in its accreditation status. In total, eleven NHRIs applied for accreditation or re-accreditation.

Both Romanian NHRIs, the Romanian People's Advocate and the Institute for Human Rights, have a pending status, meaning they have applied for accreditation. The Swedish Institute for Human Rights applied for accreditation and membership in GANHRI on 14 April 2023, but has not yet been ranked by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA). The Swedish Equality Ombuds institution, currently a B-status-member of GANHRI, has informed the SCA that it intends to withdraw its membership as soon as the membership for the Swedish Institute has been approved. Institutions possessing an A-status accreditation, such as the Portuguese Ombudsman, the Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg, the German Institute for Human Rights, the Finnish Human Rights Centre and Parliamentary Ombudsman, and the Ombuds institution of Spain have formally initiated the process of seeking re-accreditation for their respective statuses. The Belgian Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) has submitted an application for the reaffirmation of its accreditation status, notwithstanding its current classification as a B-status institution.

Table 1 – Accreditation status of National Human Rights Institutions as of 1 December 2023

| Country | Name of Institution | Accreditation status |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Austria | Austrian Ombudsman Board | A-status |
| Belgium | Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) | B-status * |
| Belgium | Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia) | B-status |
| Bulgaria | Commission for Protection against Discrimination | B-status |
| Bulgaria | Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria | A-status |
| Croatia | Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia | A-status |
| Cyprus | Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights | A-status |
| Czechia | Public Defender of Rights | Institution not accredited |
| Denmark | Danish Institute for Human Rights | A-status |
| Estonia | Chancellor of Justice | A-status |
| Finland | Finnish Human Rights Centre | A-status * |
| Finland | Parliamentary Ombudsman | A-status * |
| France | National Consultative Commission on Human Rights | A-status |
| Germany | German Institute for Human Rights | A-status * |
| Greece | Greek National Commission for Human Rights | A-status |
| Hungary | Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights | B-status |
| Ireland | Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission | A-status |
| Italy | National Guarantor for the Rights of Persons Detained or Deprived of Liberty | Institution not accredited |
| Latvia | Ombuds institution's Office of the Republic of Latvia | A-status |
| Lithuania | The Seimas Ombudsmen's Office | A-status * |
| Luxembourg | Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg | A-status * |
| Malta [3] | Human Rights and Equality Commission | Institution not accredited |
| Netherlands | Netherlands Institute for Human Rights | A-status |
| Poland | Commissioner for Human Rights | A- status |
| Portugal | Portuguese Ombudsman | A-status * |
| Romania | People's Advocate | Institution not accredited -Applied for accreditation * |
| Romania | Romanian Institute for Human Rights | Institution not accredited -Applied for accreditation * |
| Slovakia | Slovak National Centre for Human Rights | B-status |
| Slovenia | Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia | A-status |
| Spain | Ombuds institution of Spain | A-status * |
| Sweden | Equality Ombudsman | B-status |
| Sweden | Institute for Human Rights | Applied for accreditation * |
| Albania | People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania | A-status |
| North Macedonia | Ombudsman of the Republic of North Macedonia | B-status |
| Serbia | Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia | A-status |

Note: * highlights (re)accreditation applications after the December 2022 update.

2. Mandates

Since FRA's December 2022 Update, some NHRIs have had a change in the tasks covered by their mandates. While the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission now covers one new task, reporting on trafficking in human beings (EU directive), hate crimes were removed from its mandate. The Portuguese Ombudsman started covering equal treatment and monitoring of forced returns. Moreover, membership in the Portuguese Council of State is a new task covered by the mandate. The mandate of the Ombuds institution of Spain now also covers promotion and protection of human rights, national preventive mechanisms under OPCAT and maladministration.

Moreover, in 2023 the mandates of eight NHRIs changed to include monitoring of forced returns. The NHRIs concerned are the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Cyprus Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights, the Czech Public Defender of Rights, the Ombuds institution of the Republic of Latvia, the National Guarantor for the Rights of Persons Detained or Deprived of Liberty of Italy, the Portuguese Ombudsman, the People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania and the Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia.

Some NHRIs saw their mandate under the category 'other mandates' expanded. In Austria, the Ombudsman Board reported a new mandate as Chair of the Pension Committee under the Pensions for Victims of Children's Homes Act. The Greek National Commission for Human Rights has a new mandate in the context of monitoring compliance of the use of EU funds with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, a "horizontal enabling condition" under the Common Provisions Regulation for eight major EU funds.

Mandates may also be reduced, as the case of Unia in Belgium demonstrates. Its previous role as national mechanism under the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) was removed from its mandate. Other changes are rather of a structural nature: in Sweden, the Institute for Human Rights established an advisory body consisting of representatives from various human rights organisations thus contributing knowledge and experiences from civil society and the work of other actors to the Institute.

Table 2 – Tasks included in mandates of National Human Rights Institutions as of 1 December 2023

2023 Update of Annex III from report 'Strong and effective national human rights institutions – challenges, promising practices and opportunities'

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Promotion and protection of human rights | Ombuds institutions with a mandate on maladministration | National preventive mechanisms under OPCAT | National monitoring mechanisms under CRPD | Equality bodies with a mandate on equal treatment | Monitoring of forced returns (EU Returns Directive) | Reporting on trafficking in human beings (EU directive) | Protecting freedom of movement and mobility rights in the EU | Other mandates [4] |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|--------------------|
| Austrian Ombudsman Board | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | | Yes |
| Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) (Belgium) | Yes | Yes * | | | | | | | |
| Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia) (Belgium) | | | | Yes | Yes | | | Yes | |
| Commission for Protection against Discrimination (Bulgaria) | Yes | Yes * | | Yes | Yes | | | Yes | Yes |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | |
| Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | | | Yes |
| Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Cyprus) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Public Defender of Rights (Czechia) | | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | |
| Danish Institute for Human Rights (Denmark) | Yes | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| Chancellor of Justice (Estonia) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes |
| Finnish Human Rights Centre | Yes | | | Yes | | | | | |

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Promotion and protection of human rights | Ombuds institutions with a mandate on maladministration | National preventive mechanisms under OPCAT | National monitoring mechanisms under CRPD | Equality bodies with a mandate on equal treatment | Monitoring of forced returns (EU Returns Directive) | Reporting on trafficking in human beings (EU directive) | Protecting freedom of movement and mobility rights in the EU | Other mandates ^[4] |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Parliamentary Ombudsman (Finland) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | | |
| National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France) | Yes | | | Yes | | | Yes | | Yes |
| German Institute for Human Rights | Yes | | | Yes | | | Yes | | Yes |
| Greek National Commission for Human Rights | Yes | | | | | | | | Yes * |
| Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights ** (Hungary) | Yes | | Yes | | Yes | | | | Yes |
| Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission | Yes | | | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| National Guarantor for the Rights of Persons Detained or Deprived of Liberty ** (Italy) | | | Yes | | | Yes | | | |
| Ombuds institution's Office of the Republic of Latvia | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | Yes |
| The Seimas Ombudsmen's Office (Lithuania) | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | | | |
| Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg | Yes | | | Yes | | | Yes | | |
| Human Rights and Equality Commission ** (Malta) | | | | | | | | | |
| Netherlands Institute for Human Rights | Yes | | | Yes | Yes | | | | |

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Promotion and protection of human rights | Ombuds institutions with a mandate on maladministration | National preventive mechanisms under OPCAT | National monitoring mechanisms under CRPD | Equality bodies with a mandate on equal treatment | Monitoring of forced returns (EU Returns Directive) | Reporting on trafficking in human beings (EU directive) | Protecting freedom of movement and mobility rights in the EU | Other mandates [4] |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|--------------------|
| Commissioner for Human Rights (Poland) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| Portuguese Ombudsman | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes * | Yes * | | | Yes |
| People's Advocate (Romania) | Yes | | Yes | | | | | | |
| Romanian Institute for Human Rights | Yes | | | | | | | | |
| Slovak National Centre for Human Rights | Yes | | | | Yes | | | | |
| Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | | | |
| Ombuds institution of Spain | Yes | Yes * | Yes | | | | | | |
| Equality Ombudsman (Sweden) | Yes | | | | Yes | | | | |
| Institute for Human Rights (Sweden) | Yes | | | Yes | | | | Yes | |
| People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of North Macedonia | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes * | | Yes | | Yes |
| Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | | Yes |

Note: * highlights changes in mandate since the December 2022 update; ** highlights NHRIs that have not provided answers to the survey.

Source: FRA, December 2023.

Table 3 – Other tasks included in mandates of National Human Rights Institutions as of 1 December 2023

List of 'Other mandates' shown in Table 2 above and specified by the NHRI.

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Rights of the child | Freedom of information | Standing in front of constitutional court for review of legislation | Other |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|---|---|
| Austrian Ombudsman Board | | | | Establishing and chairing the Pension Committee under the Pensions for Victims of Children's Homes Act |
| Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia)(Belgium) | | | | |
| Commission for Protection against Discrimination(Bulgaria) | | | | Hate crime |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria | Yes | | Yes | |
| Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia | | Yes | | External channel for the reporting of irregularities under the Act on the Protection of Persons Who Report Irregularities |
| Chancellor of Justice(Estonia) | Yes | | Yes | |
| Finnish Human Rights Centre | Yes * | | | Corporate responsibility |
| National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France) | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate responsibility; LGBTI rights * National commission for the implementation of international humanitarian law * |
| Greek National Commission for Human Rights | | | | Compliance of EU funds with Fundamental Rights Charter, Member of the National Council against Racism and Intolerance, of the National Accessibility Authority, of the Special Committee for the Compliance with Fundamental Rights at the Ministry for Migration and Asylum, of the Monitoring Committee for the national programmes of EU migration funds |
| Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights (Hungary) | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission | | Yes | | |
| Ombuds institution's Office of the Republic of Latvia | Yes | | | |
| Portuguese Ombudsman | | | Yes | Member of the Portuguese Council of state |
| Institute for Human Rights(Sweden) | | Yes | | |
| People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania | Yes | | | |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of North Macedonia | Yes | | | |
| Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia | Yes | | | |

Note: * highlights changes in mandate since the December 2022 update.

Source: FRA, December 2023.

3. NHRIs' use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

Out of the 26 NHRIs which responded to this survey, 15 NHRIs used the Charter in 2023 in their work in the context of education/training and awareness raising. Application of the Charter provisions when advising government was indicated by 11 NHRIs: the Austrian Ombudsman Board, the Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) (Belgium), the Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia) (Belgium), the German Institute for Human Rights, the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, the Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg, the Chancellor of Justice (Estonia), the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia, the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Cyprus) and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. Five NHRIs indicated that they use the Charter in litigation before courts, namely the Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, the Ombudsman of the Republic of North Macedonia, and the Swedish Equality Ombudsman. The Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Cyprus) is the only institution that indicated that it applies the Charter in the context of mediation.

The Swedish Institute for Human Rights refers to the Charter in its legal opinions on the government's legislative proposals. When it comes to accession countries, experiences differ. The EU Charter holds major significance for the People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania, primarily in the areas of awareness raising, processing complaints and advising government. Following its attainment of FRA observer state status, Albania, alongside its NHRI, has expeditiously and proactively incorporated the principles outlined in the EU Charter into its operational framework. In contrast, the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia, in its reply, indicated that the use of the EU Charter does not constitute a foundational aspect of its operational framework.

Table 4 – Institutions that used the Charter of Fundamental Rights in their work in 2023 and the context in which it was used:

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Education / Training | Awareness raising | Processing complaints | Advising government | Litigation before court | Mediation | Other activities [5] |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| Austrian Ombudsman Board | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) (Belgium) | | | | Yes | | | Research Policy related communication |
| Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia) (Belgium) | | | | Yes | | | Opinion on the digital divide |
| Commission for Protection against Discrimination (Bulgaria) | | | | | | | |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Cyprus) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| Public Defender of Rights (Czechia) | | | Yes | | | | Research Policy related communication * |
| Danish Institute for Human Rights | | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Equal treatment body |
| Chancellor of Justice (Estonia) | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | Supervision over conformity of acts of general application with constitutions and their legality (constitutional review) |
| Finnish Human Rights Centre | Yes | Yes | | | | | Statements to the ministries and parliamentary committees on legislative proposal Participation in FRA's Charter Expert Group |
| Parliamentary Ombudsman (Finland) | | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes * |
| National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France) | Yes | Yes | | | | | |

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Education / Training | Awareness raising | Processing complaints | Advising government | Litigation before court | Mediation | Other activities [5] |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| German Institute for Human Rights | Yes | | | Yes | | | |
| Greek National Commission for Human Rights | Yes | | | | | | |
| Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights (Hungary) | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | | |
| Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission | | | | | Yes | | Yes |
| National Guarantor for the Rights of Persons Detained or Deprived of Liberty **(Italy) | | | | | | | |
| Ombuds institution's Office of the Republic of Latvia | Yes | Yes | | | | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| The Seimas Ombudsmen's Office (Lithuania) | | | Yes | | | | Yes * |
| Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg | | Yes | | Yes | | | Research Policy related communication * |
| Human Rights and Equality Commission **(Malta) | | | | | | | |
| Netherlands Institute for Human Rights | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | | |
| Commissioner for Human Rights (Poland) | Yes | Yes | | | | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| Portuguese Ombudsman | | | Yes | | | | |
| People's Advocate (Romania) | | | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Romanian Institute for Human Rights | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | | |
| Slovak National Centre for Human Rights | Yes | Yes | | | | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. Analysis |
| The Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia | Yes | Yes | | | | | Participation in a regional project on the topic. |
| Ombuds institution of Spain | | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| Equality Ombudsman (Sweden) | | | | | Yes | | |
| Institute for Human Rights (Sweden) | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | | Yes |
| People's Advocate of the Republic of Albania | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of North Macedonia | | | | | Yes | | |
| Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia | | | | | | | Yes |

Note: * highlights changes in mandate since the December 2022 update; ** highlights NHRIs that have not provided answers to

the survey.

Source: FRA, December 2023.

4. Fundamental rights monitoring of the use of EU funds at national level

The [Common Provisions Regulation](#) (2021/1060) on EU funds has opened up the possibility for NHRIs (along with Equality Bodies and Ombuds Institutions) to play a role in fundamental rights-related monitoring in the use of eight major EU Funds at the national level. ENNHRI issued a [statement](#) on the potential role of NHRIs in the context of the EU funds in 2022, and in December 2023 FRA released a major report on [EU funds: Ensuring compliance with fundamental rights](#). The report includes recommendations for EU and national policy makers on how they could benefit from the expertise of NHRIs when implementing EU funds in a way that is compliant with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as required for the Funds governed by the Common Provisions Regulation for the programming period 2021–2027.

FRA collected information from NHRIs for the preparation of a [2020 report](#) asking whether they are engaged in the monitoring of the EU funds implementation. Back then only three NHRIs reported such an involvement. In 2023, out of the 26 NHRIs that responded to this question, 13 NHRIs indicated they were engaged in the monitoring of fundamental rights compliance in the use of EU funds at national level. With regard to challenges, eight NHRIs indicated lack of capacity and resources and three NHRIs highlighted lack of impact, lack of knowledge and lack of resources as the main challenges in performing their role. Two NHRIs encountered challenges such as lack of clarity due to insufficient guidance by the European Commission. When responding to the survey, some NHRIs mentioned the unclarity of mandates of EU funds monitoring committees or decision-making on projects and their concrete involvement remaining quite abstract. Several NHRIs observed a need to raise the government's awareness of the obligations regarding the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and four indicated challenges regarding interference into the independence of the institution.

On the positive side, some governments have reached out to the respective NHRI in their country, to seek training on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, while some NHRIs have issued guidance to the national authorities on monitoring the compliance of EU funds with fundamental rights.

Table 5 – NHRIs that are engaged in monitoring fundamental rights in the use of EU funds: challenges in performing their role

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Lack of capacity and resources | Lack of impact | Lack of knowledge | Interference into the independence or mandate of the institution | Other |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|-------|
| Inter-federal Centre for Equal Opportunity and the fight against racism and discrimination (Unia) (Belgium) | Yes | | Yes | | |
| Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria | Yes | | | | |
| Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |
| Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Cyprus) | | | Yes | | |
| Finnish Human Rights Centre | Yes | | | | Yes |
| Greek National Commission for Human Rights | Yes | | Yes | | |
| Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Ombudsman's Office of the Republic of Latvia ** | | | | | |
| Commissioner for Human Rights (Poland) | Yes | | | Yes | |
| Portuguese Ombudsman | | | | Yes | |
| Romanian Ombudsman | | | | | |
| Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia ** | | | | | |
| Ombuds institution of Spain | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |

Note: ** highlights NHRIs that have not provided answers to the survey.

Source: FRA, December 2023.

For more information see:

[Supporting National Human Rights Institutions in monitoring fundamental rights and the fundamental rights aspects of the rule of law | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(europa.eu\)](#)

Table 6 – Reasons for NHRIs not to engage in monitoring fundamental rights compliance in the use of EU funds

| NHRI (or nearest equivalent) | Not invited by the responsible authorities | Lack of human / financial resources | Lack of knowledge | Concerns regarding the independence or mandate of the institution | Not relevant for the institution | Other |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------|
| Austrian Ombudsman Board | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (FIRM) (Belgium) | | | | | | Yes |
| Public Defender of Rights (Czechia) | | | | | Yes | |
| Chancellor of Justice (Estonia) | | | | Yes | | Yes |
| Parliamentary Ombudsman (Finland) | | | | | Yes | |
| National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France) | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| German Institute for Human Rights | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights ** (Hungary) | | | | | | |
| The Seimas Ombudsmen's Office (Lithuania) | Yes | Yes | | | Yes | |
| Consultative Human Rights Commission of Luxembourg | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | |
| Netherlands Institute for Human Rights | Yes | | | | | |
| Slovak National Centre for Human Rights | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | |
| Equality Ombudsman (Sweden) | | | | | Yes | |

Note: ****** highlights NHRIs that have not provided answers to the survey.

Source: FRA, December 2023.

Endnotes

[1] European Commission, 2023 Rule of Law Report The rule of law situation in the European Union, available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023DC0800>

[2] Cells including ** in Tables 2, 4, 5 and 6 indicate NHRIs that have not provided answers to the survey.

[3] The Human Rights and Equality Commission Bill setting up the Human Rights and Equality Commission in Malta has not been adopted yet by the Maltese Parliament. See Malta, Parliament, [Bill No. 97 – Human Rights and Equality Commission Bill](#) .

[4] Other mandates are shown in Table 3.

[5] Other mandates are spelled out in Table 3.