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Legislationline.org - basic information:

- coding, the horizone database.

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 national legislation (constitutions, criminal codes, national legal acts - both primary and secondary),

2) international human rights documents (treaty standards, non-treaty standards and international case-

 documents prepared by ODIHR as part of its legislative assistance to OSCE participating States - legal reviews, legislative guidelines and assessments of legislative processes







Legislationline.org



ODIHR's online legislative database

ECCHRD annual meeting 17-18 October 2019

Agnieszka Kasztalska Website Assistant Legislative Support Unit, Democratization Department OSCE/ODIHR



Legislationline.org - basic information:

- online, free legislative database;
- part of ODIHR activities in the area of legislative assistance;
- purpose: assistance in bringing legislation into line with international human rights standards on OSCE commitments; tool which can be used for analytical and advocacy purposes; gives overview on how the same issues are addressed in different countries;
- languages: English and Russian (documents exceptionally published in other OSCE official languages - French, German, Spanish and Italian)





Legislationline.org provides direct access to different types of documents:

- 1) national legislation (constitutions, criminal codes, national legal acts both primary and secondary),
- 2) international human rights documents (treaty standards, non-treaty standards and international caselaw),
- 3) documents prepared by ODIHR as part of its legislative assistance to OSCE participating States legal reviews, legislative guidelines and assessments of legislative processes



ODIHR and Legislative assistance:

1) Legal reviews:

- of draft or existing legislation,
- on the request of OSCE participating State,
- to assess compliance of the law with OSCE commitments and international human rights standards and provides concrete recommendations for improvement.

2) Legislative guidelines:

- toolkit for lawmakers when drafting legislation on respective rights and freedoms,
- · advocacy tool for civil society,
- reflect international human rights standards and good practices.

3) Assessments of legislative processes -

- examine whether the law making process in particular country conforms to key standards and OSCE commitments on democratic law making
- include concrete recommendations on how to improve the system.



Legislationline.org acts as a reference and analytical tool mainly for:

- law drafters,
- legal experts,
- government officials,
- parliamentarians,
- civil society activists,
- academics, students,
- researchers.



Documents are collected on selected human rights topics, such as:

- Administrative Justice
- Anti-discrimination
- Citizenship
- Elections
- Counter-Terrorism
- Gender Equality
- Migration
- Trafficking in Human Beings
- Freedom of Peaceful Assembly
- Freedom of Association

- Political Parties
- Access to Information and Data Protection
- Fair Trial (Right to a)
- Judicial and Prosecution Systems
- Hate Crimes
- Freedom of Religion or Belief
- National Human Rights Institutions
- National Minorities



Short history of Legislationline













e site Legislationline is a free-of-charge online service provided by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). It compiles international texts and domestic legislation in the OSCE region (55 countries located in the Caucasus, Central Asia, Europe and North America) dealing with the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. ned by on 19

02 August: Armenia amends its election legislation

On 31 July, Armenian President signed the law "On incorporating changes and addenda to the Election Code of the Republic of Armenia". On the same day he signed the law "On annulling the 22 December 2000 law on amendments to the Election Code of the Republic of Armenia".

01 August: The Russian President signed bill on prevention of extremist activities into law

On 28 July the Russian President signed the bill on prevention of extremist activities into law, which was passed by the Federation Council on 10 July and by the State Duma on 27 June. The law outlines a legal groundwork that allows organizations to be closed by a court ruling due to their extremist activities. A court may close or ban public, religious and other organizations under an application issued by the prosecutor general or the Ministry of Justice.

01 August: The President of Kazakhstan signed the law on political parties

On 15 July the Kazakh President signed the law on political parties four days after the Constitutional Court ruled that its provisions do not violate the country's basic law. Under the law a political party will be registered if it has at least 50,000 members (compared to the current 3,000.), each party must have at least 700 members in each of the 14 regions and in Astana and Almaty, and a political party will lose its status if it does not register for elections twice. All of the 19 political parties operating in Kazakhstan will undergo reregistration on new terms.

01 August: ECHR: violation of the right to a fair trial in the case of Papon v. France

On 25 July the European Court of Human Rights held in the case of Papon v. France, that the applicant forfeited his right to appeal on points of law to the Court of cassation, following his failure to surrender to custody, amounted to a violation of his right of access to a Court. Press release

The case in French

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31 July: New citizenship legislation in Denmark

Danish Citizenship legislation has been changed on July 1st, 2002. Legislationline

30 July: UK Police Reform Act received royal assent on 25 July

The new Act sets out, among others, the formation of an Independent Police Complaints Commission to be established by April 2004 to investigate and oversee serious complaints against the police. The Commission is intended to encourage greater openness and transparency in complaints procedures, and will lead to increased confidence in the robustness of the complaints system. More...

30 July: UNHCHR human trafficking guidelines issued

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking has been issued on 20 May as an official document of the UN Economic and Social Council. More...

30 July: Denmark ratifies the European Convention on Nationality

On 24 July, Denmark has ratified the European Convention on Nationality. So far eight Member States of the Council of Europe (Austria, Hungary, Moldova, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden and now Denmark) have ratified the European Convention on Nationality, which entered into force in March 2000. Its entry into force in Denmark is to take place on 1 November 2002. More...

30 July : Bosnia & Herzegovina ratifies on 12 July key Council of Europe conventions, including the ECHR

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified on 12 July the Convention for the Protocol No. 1 (entry into force : immediate), the Protocol No. 1 (entry into force : immediate), the Protocol No. 4, securing certain rights and freedoms other than those already included in the Convention and in the first Protocol No. 7 (entry into force : 01.08.2002), the Protocol No. 7 (entry into force : 01.10.2002) as well as the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as amended by its Protocols No. 1 and No. 2 (entry into force: 01.11.2002) and the European Charter of Local Self-Government (entry into force: 01.11.2002).

More...

30 July: ECHR: violation of the right to free elections in the case of Sadak and Others v. Turkey

On 11 June the Court has notified in writing the Chamber judgment in the case of Sadak and Others v. Turkey. Facts and decision: members of a political party, the DEP (the Democracy Party), all elected to the Turkish Grand National Assembly, were arrested after their party was ordered dissolution by the Constitutional Court on the ground that it had infringed constitutional rules and the Law on Political Parties. Thereafter, some of the applicants were convicted by the Ankara National Security Court under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The Court of Cassation quashed the convictions of two applicants, but upheld the other applicants on the ECHR, the applicants raised a number of grounds (freedom of expression, freedom of association, nondiscrimination, etc), but not the right to free elections under article 3 of Protocol n. 1; it is the Court, which ruled that the application should also be determined under this provision. In its ruling, the ECHR noted that the penalty imposed on the applicants was not proportionate to the legitimate aim pursued by the Turkish authorities (considering that since a constitutional amendment in 1995, only members of parliament whose words or deeds had caused the dissolution of a party lost their parliamentary mandates: dissolution of the party followed by automatic deprivation of their members' parliamentary immunity was a particularly harsh penalty). The Court further considered that the measure was incompatible with the very essence of the right to stand for election and to hold parliamentary office and that it had infringed the unfettered discretion of the electorate which had elected the applicants. It therefore held that there had been a violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1. Press release

30 July : ECHR: freedom of association can not be abused to obtain privileges afforded to minorities under the election law

On 18 July, the case Gorzelik and Others v. Poland (application no. 44158/98) has been referred to the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights. The case concerns an attempt by the applicants and 190 others to form an association called the "Union of People of Silesian Nationality". The Polish authorities refused to register the association on the ground that both the intended name and certain provisions of the unionly memorandum of association, which characterised Silesians as a "national minority", implied that their real intention was to circumvent the provisions of the electoral law. In its Chamber judgment of 20 December 2001 the Court held, unanimously, that there had been no violation of Article 11 (right to association). Press release

26 July: Bulgarian Law on Combating Human Trafficking to come into force on 1st January 2003

The Law on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings brings the UN Protocol's definition of trafficking within the Bulgarian domestic legal order. The Act is focused on prevention measures and the protection of victims, with little emphasis on the prosecution of traffickers. The supervision of its effective implementation is entrusted to a national interministerial commissions chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and topping a network of local commissions. The mandate of these commissions is broad: it includes the supervision of the penal anti-trafficking policy, the launching of raising-awareness campaigns and more importantly, the setting up of shelter houses or centres - but on the request of local authorities only - for victims of trafficking who will be allowed to stay for 30 days maximum (10 days + 20 more days upon approval by the local commission). In the event of a criminal procedure, this period may be extended until completion of the proceedings on the Prosecutor's order. More

26 July: Council of Europe adopts guidelines on human rights and the fight against terrorism

On 15 July, Deputies Ministers have adopted guidelines on human rights and the fight against terrorism. This document was developed as a recollection of the ECHR basic rules - and their interpretation by the Court - that have to be respected in a democratic society in its fight against terrorism. They have been finalised last April by the Group of Specialists on Human Rights and the Fight against Terrorism established in November 2001 under the authority of the Steering Committee on Human Rights. Press release

This legal acts and other texts available from this database can be accessed three ways :



More

1. Non-Governmental Organizations 2. Citizenship

3. State of Emergency 4. Elections 5. Gender 6. Fair Trial (Right to a 7. Independence of the

Judiciary 8. Migratio 10. Police

11. Prison Service 12. Roma and Sinti 13. Trafficking in Human Beings

14. Freedom of Religion 15. Ombudsperson

Please note that the figure indicate the number of doc for a particular country, to do not necessarily match to pieces of legislation retriev may have been separated excerpts posted under diffe

 Background informati Disclaimer

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02 Jun : Law Putting a Moratorium on Death Penalty Passed in Tajikistan

01 Jun : Law on Public Gatherings and Rallies to be Passed in the Russian

28 May: Police cadets graduate from OSCE Police Service School in Prishtina

more news...

RESOURCES

Membership of international organizations

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Legislationline is an internet-based free-of-charge legislative database published and maintained by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. Its purpose is to assist lawmakers in OSCE participating States by providing them with sample domestic legislation and international standards on selected human dimension issues. The database was designed as a tool for lawmakers, not as an

archive of domestic or international legislation. Through the country and thematic scroll-down menus, they can access examples from other countries' legislation that can help them make their own choices, when faced with the task of drafting legislation in their domestic context.

Legislationline contains legislation in all OSCE official languages. The site also includes internal links to international treaties, conventions and other relevant instruments as well as EC/EU norms and documents, European and domestic case-law, bilateral conventions and other texts of relevance to the subject matters addressed by the site. The database is being updated and reviewed at regular intervals, however please be aware that the task is immense and it unavoidably contains outdated information and data (click here for disclaimer). Your comments, observations, corrections can be sent to legislationline@odihr.pl.

Monthly newsletters containing an update on the latest documents posted on the site as well as the complete list of all news stories of the past month are published by the OSCE ODIHR. They are not accessible from the site, and can only be obtained upon subscription by filling out and sending a subscription form (click here). The personal data processed for this purpose will be kept confidential and will not be disseminated to third parties.

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OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

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Jun 6, 2007

Georgian Parliament Okayed Draft Amendments to Law on Political Unions of Citizens

Tbilisi, 6 June'07, [Caucasus Press] -The Parliament yesterday gave general approval to the draft amendments to the Law on Political Unions of Citizens.

The project author, Rati Samkurashvili MP, held a news conference after the plenary session and called the consensus reached at the session a real achievement.

He said that the bill aims to create conditions for healthy competition and ensure equal opportunities of political parties and their access to legal funding.

The bill defines the rule of financing of political unions of citizens by the state budget and donation mechanisms. The bill will be put to vote within the next few days.

Jun 5, 2007

Andorra signs six Council of Europe treaties

(www.coe.int) On May 31, Ambassador Ricard Fiter Vilaloana. Permanent Representative of Andorra to the Council of Europe, signed in the presence of Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the following treaties:

- the Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
- Protocol No. 4 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, securing certain rights and freedoms other than those already included in the Convention and in the first Protocol thereto (Protocol No. 4 secures certain rights and fundamental freedoms not included in previous texts (ETS Nos. 005 and 009); no deprivation of liberty for nonfulfilment of contractual obligations, right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose one's residence, prohibition of a State's expulsion of a national, probibition of collective expulsion of aliens.)
- Protocol No. 7 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and odamental Freedoms (Prote







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Citizenship

Elections

Counter-Terrorism

Gender Equality

Migration

Trafficking in Human Beings

Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

Freedom of Association

Political Parties

Access to Information and Data Protection

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Legislationline.org provides direct access to international norms and standards relating to specific human dimension issues (see list of topics on left-hand column) as well as to domestic legislation and other documents of relevance to these issues. These data and other information available from the site are intended for lawmakers across the OSCE region.

Associationline - interactive guide to Freedom of Association

OSCE/ODIHR has recently produced the following reviews and auidelines:

Comments on the draft law on Public Assembly in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (24 April 2018)

The OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission welcome Armenia's efforts to amend its existing legal framework with a view to bringing it into compliance with international standards on freedom of religion or belief and note a number of improvements compared to the existing 1991 Law that reflect some of the recommendations made in previous OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission joint opinions on Armenian legislation pertaining to freedom of religion or belief. At the same time, it is noted that some positive aspects of the Draft Law as reviewed by the OSCE/ODIHR in its 2017 Opinion have been removed from the current version of the Draft Law. Moreover, some key recommendations from previous opinions have not been addressed and the Draft Law still raises issues on several points that should be carefully addressed prior to adoption, especially regarding the scope and wording of the provisions on limitations to the manifestation of freedom of religion or belief, the rights enjoyed by all, registered or unregistered, religious or belief communities, and the requirements for registering religious organisations.

Opinion on Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code of Bulgaria Pertaining to Bias-Motivated Crime, "Hate Speech" and Discrimination (17 April 2018)

The Opinion appreciates Bulgaria's efforts to tackle bias-motivated crime, expression labelled as "hate speech" and discrimination, inter alia, through means of criminal legislation. Many of the provisions contain the main elements prescribed for these types of legislation by international human rights standards. However, the protected characteristics should be expanded and made consistent in all provisions dealing with bias-motivated crime, Specific penalty enhancements for a number of crimes which currently do not have such a clause, coupled with a general penalty enhancement explicitly referring to bias motivation would be a way to more effectively combat bias-motivated crimes and consider bias in sentencing for a wide variety of crimes, while specifically emphasizing the importance of correct identification, registration, investigation and punishment of such crimes. It is crucial that all criminal provisions avoid overly vague terms and are accessible, specific and foreseeable.

Joint Opinion on the Draft Law Amending the Law of the Republic of Armenia on "Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organisations" (20 March 2018)

The OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission welcome Armenia's efforts to amend its existing legal framework with a view to bringing it into compliance with international standards on freedom of religion or belief and note a number of improvements compared to the existing 1991 Law that reflect some of the recommendations made in previous OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission joint opinions on Armenian legislation pertaining to freedom of religion or belief. At the same time, it is noted that some positive aspects of the Draft Law as reviewed by the OSCE/ODIHR in its 2017 Opinion have been removed from the current version of the Draft Law. Moreover, some key recommendations from previous opinions have not been addressed and the Draft Law still raises issues on several points that should be carefully addressed prior to adoption, especially regarding the scope and wording of the provisions on limitations to the manifestation of freedom of religion or belief, the rights enjoyed by all, registered or unregistered, religious or belief communities, and the requirements for registering religious organisations.

Joint Opinion on Two Draft Laws (no. 6674 and no. 6675) of Ukraine on Public Transparency of Information on Finance Activity of Public Search all Lawmaking surveys Associations and on the Use of International Technical Assistance (16 March 2018)

First, the OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission welcome Ukraine's plans to cancel the edeclaration requirements for 'anti-corruption activists', which were introduced by Law No. 6172 of 3 March 2017 amending the Law on Prevention of Corruption and which raise serious human rights issues; they also urge the authorities to ensure that the cancellation enters into force before the deadline of 1 April 2018 for submission of the first e-declarations. At the Constitutions

Criminal codes

Legal Reviews

Comments on the draft law on Public Assembly in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (in English) Date : 24 April 2018

📆 English [0.58 MB]

Opinion on Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code of Bulgaria Pertaining to Bias-Motivated Crime, "Hate Speech" and Discrimination (in English)

Date : 17 April 2018 English [0.58 MB]

Opinion on Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code of Bulgaria Pertaining to Bias-Motivated Crime, "Hate Speech" and Discrimination (in Bulgarian) Date : 17 April 2018

English [0.67 MB]

Search all Legal Reviews

Legislative guidelines

- . Making Laws Work for Women and Men: A Practical Guide to Gender-Sensitive Legislation (2017)
- Joint Guidelines for Preventing and Responding to the Misuse of Administrative Resources During Electoral Processes (2016)
- Guidelines on Freedom of Association (2014)

Search all Legislative guidelines

Lawmaking surveys

Assessment of the Legislative Process in the Kyrgyz Republic

Date : 08 December 2015

The English [0.56 MB]

Assessment of the Legislative Process in Georgia

Date: 30 January 2015 English [0.37 MB]

Assessment of the Legislative Process in Georgia (in Georgian) Date: 30 January 2015

🔁 Georgian [0.45 MB]





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About Us

■Русская версия

Site Map

Welcome to legislationline.org

Legislationline.org provides direct access to international norms and standards relating to specific human dimension issues (see list of topics on right-hand column) as well as to domestic legislation and other documents of relevance to these issues. These data and other information available from the site are intended for lawmakers across the OSCE region.

Keyword or Document Title

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See the Constitutions of all participating States More

§ Criminal codes

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Legislation

Search national legislation of OSCE participating States.



International standards

Search international standards on a variety of human dimension issues



Filter by Country

Select country

Filter by Topic

- ☐ Access to Information and Data Protection
- ☐ Administrative Justice
- Anti-Discrimination
- ☐ Citizenship
- ☐ Counter-Terrorism
- State of emergency
- ☐ Elections
 - Referendum
- ☐ Fair Trial (Right to a)
- Freedom of Assembly
- ☐ Freedom of Association

ODIHR Legal Reviews, Assessments and Guidelines

Search ODIHR Legal Reviews, Assessments and Guidelines.



More



Search documents on democratic lawmaking.

More



Reconstruction of the website - what was taken into account?



User experience (UX)

- good practices,
- survey,





Web Content Accessibility
 Guidelines consulted





Decision









Technical limitations



SEO (Search Engine Optimization)

- SEO audit conducted,
- recommendation implemented.



Process of modernisation of the website:

more user-friendly

clear layout

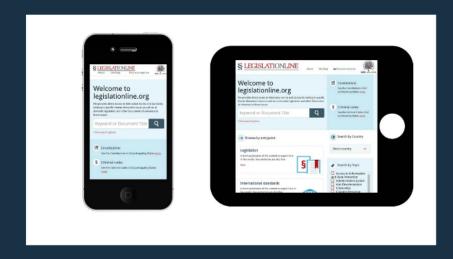
improved search engine i.e. allowing for searching through text of the documents in the database

summaries of legal review available for users

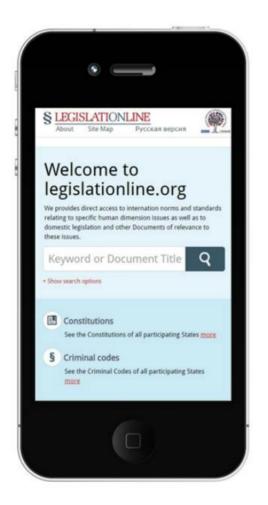
more accessible for all users:

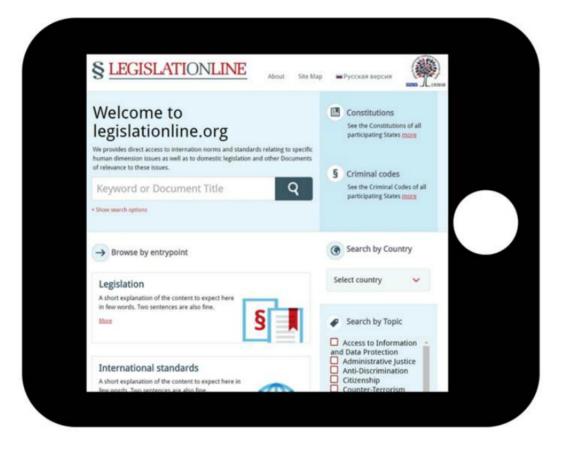
- · Option to change font size,
- · High-contrast version,
- Structure improved for screen readers

mobile-friendly















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About Us Si

Русская версия



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Armenia







The **system of government** in Armenia is that of a Parliamentary Republic. The current Constitution was adopted on July 5, 1995, by way of popular referendum and proclaims Armenia as being a sovereign, democratic State, founded on the principles of social justice and the rule of law. Article 3 of the Constitution establishes the office of the President, the National Assembly (Armenian Parliament) and local self-governing bodies

as well as, the right of the people to vote at elections or referenda based on universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot. The Constitution also embodies the principle of separation of powers. State power is divided between the executive, legislature and judiciary.

More

Armenia is:

- · OSCE Participating State since 30 January 1992
- · Member State of the United Nations since 2 March 1992
- Member state of the Council of Europe since 25 January 2001

Filter by topic

- ☐ Freedom of Assembly
- ☐ Freedom of Association
- Political Parties
- ☐ Freedom of Religion or Belief

Status of Ratification of the Main International Human Rights Treaties, Conventions and other instruments

- CoE Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and Financing of Terrorism (2008)
- . CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (2008)
- · Convention on the Political Rights of Women (1954)

01 August 2008

24 January 2008

Legal Reviews

Joint Opinion on the Draft Constitutional Law on Political Parties of Armenia (in English)
Date: 12 December 2016 English

Opinion on the Draft Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of Armenia (in English)

Date: 02 December 2016 English



ODIHR Legal Reviews, Assessments and Guidelines Guidelines

In this section you can find all legislative guidelines developed by ODIHR to assist participating States in formulating legal frameworks that comply with OSCE commitments and other international standards. Guidelines provide good practice examples in their respective areas of specialization. Some of the Guidelines were prepared jointly with Council of Europe's European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission).





Making Laws Work for Women and Men: A Practical Guide to Gender-Sensitive Legislation (2017)

ODIHR's Making Laws Work for Women and Men: A Practical Guide to Gender-Sensitive Legislation looks at the legislative process as a vital entry point for gender mainstreaming, while taking into account the direct and tangible impact of legislation on people's lives. The Guide is primarily intended for members of parliament and parliamentary staff, and aims to offer practical guidance on what gender-sensitive legislation is, why it is important, what it consists of and how it can be integrated it into routine parliamentary work.



Joint Guidelines for Preventing and Responding to the Misuse of Administrative Resources During Electoral Processes (2016)

The Guidelines are aimed at assisting national lawmakers and other authorities in adopting laws and initiating concrete measures to prevent and act against the misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes. Therefore, they are not intended as a set of hard rules. The guidelines among others build upon the OSCE/ODIHR's election observation findings and recommendations in respect of the misuse of administrative resources.



Guidelines on Freedom of Association (2014)

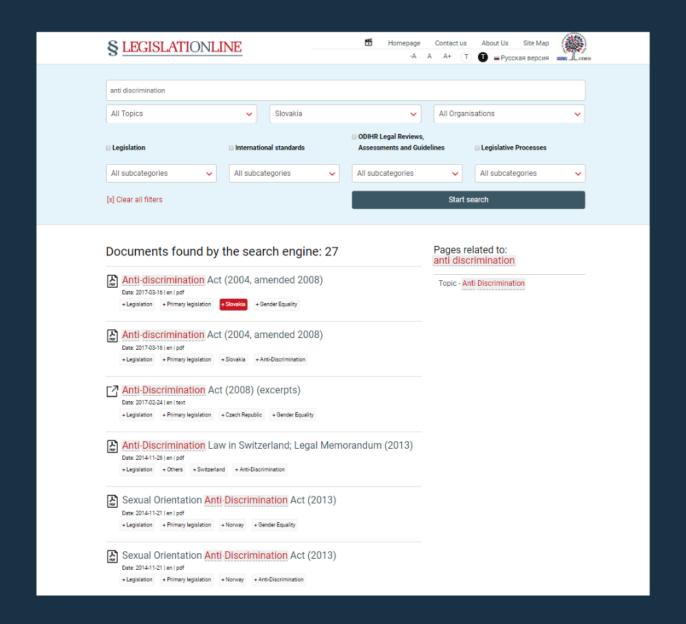
The joint OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Association aim to offer advice and expertise on how to legislate on freedom of association-related matters, in a manner that is compliant with international human rights standards and OSCE commitments. They also reflect evolving good state practices, and are intended to enhance awareness of the above right in general. They will offer a practical toolkit to legislators tasked with drafting laws which regulate or affect associations, but also to associations, members of associations and human rights defenders, to support advocacy in this field of human rights law.



Guidelines on the Legal Personality of Religious or Belief Communities (2014)

The purpose of these Guidelines is to ensure that those involved in drafting and applying legislation in the area of the freedom of religion or belief, including civil society representatives, have at their disposal a benchmark document containing minimum international standards in the area of recognition of religious or belief communities. The document does not seek to challenge established agreements between states and religious or belief communities but, rather, to delineate the legal framework that would ensure that communities wishing to do so have a fair opportunity to be granted legal personality, and that the criteria established are applied in a non-discriminatory manner.







What comes next, challenges?



- update of the database:
 - monitoring of legislative changes in OSCE region (use of monitoring tools),
 - translations (machine translations?)
- user needs and expectations,
- co-operation, exchange of information and good practices,
- technical aspects (e.g. using open source technologies)









Thank you for your attention!

legislationline@odihr.pl

