ACTIVITY
REPORT
2016



European Association for the Defence of Human Rights

# For a Europe of HUMAN RIGHTS

AEDH - European Association for the Defence of Human Rights

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## THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEFENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS - ABOUT US

Founded in 2000, the European Association for the defence of Human Rights (AEDH) is a European network of 32 human rights organisations based in 23 member states of the European Union and in Switzerland. Within a Europe

where important choices are made at the European level concerning more than 500 million people, AEDH defends and promotes human rights, democracy and citizenship.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

#### AEDH works for:

- A democratic Europe in which citizens get a real power
- A Europe grounded on the respect of freedom of each and every person
- A Europe which maintains its concern for social equality
- A Europe respectful of the environment and engaged in sustainable development
- A Europe without discrimination
- A Europe open to the world and taking into account its international responsibilities

#### **METHODS**

#### AEDH:

- Raises awareness and informs its members and citizens on EU policies having an impact on human rights;
- Brings its members together in the framework of its thematic priorities in order to develop analysis and common positions;
- It defends its claims and recommendations towards European decision-makers
- joins collective actions of European networks in order to defend human rights together

#### **THEMES**

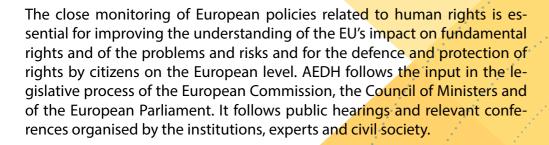
#### AEDH concentrates its actions in particular on:

- economic, social and cultural rights
- minority rights and the fight against discrimination
- active and inclusive citizenship
- the right to asylum and the rights of migrants
- the right to privacy and the protection of personal data

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### **OUR METHODS**

#### MONITORING OF POLITICAL AND LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS







#### **DIALOGUE WITH INSTITUTIONS AND ADVOCACY**

AEDH makes its voice and the voice of its members heard by EU decision makers through position papers, open letters, campaigns, by answering to public consultations and organising conferences and meetings with key stakeholders.

- The dialogue with the European Parliament, only democratically elected European institution is particularly important for AEDH. Our association is often consulted for parliamentary reports and submits proposals of amendments to their authors.
- AEDH is a member of the structured dialogue « active citizenship group » of the European Commission and promotes in the group a participative, social and inclusive citizenship.
- AEDH is a member of the civil society liaison group of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) since 2007. The liaison group aims to encourage dialogue and cooperation between the EESC and the representatives of civil society networks and organisations. AEDH represents the human rights sector in the group.
- AEDH contributes to the work of the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), being a
  member of the Fundamental Rights Platform. The platform consists of over 300
  civil society organisations and aims to foster exchange of information and expertise. The civil society organisations are regularly invited to answer to public
  consultations of the Agency.
- AEDH is also one of the civil society organisations consulted by the European Asylum Support Office (EASO).

#### PARTNERSHIP WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS

The voice of the AEDH is strengthened by its joint work with organisations with which it shares values and positions.

- The AEDH naturally interacts with the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and is an associate member of the network. Visit its website www.fidh.org.
- Since June 2012, the AEDH is a full member of EuroMedRights (formerly the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network), a network that promotes and strengthens human rights and democratic reform in the Mediterranean neighbouring countries through cooperation between civil society organisations. AEDH participates in several working groups, «justice», «asylum» and «gender». Also, since 2015, AEDH is represented in its Executive Committee. For more information on EuroMedRights, see http://euromedrights.org/.
- The AEDH is also member of the Board of the European Civic Forum (ECF), a transnational network of over 100 associations and NGOs across 27 European countries actively working to promote civic and popular ownership of Europe. Interested in the European Civic Forum? Visit its website: http://civic-forum.eu/en/.



- The AEDH is also member of EPAM, the NGO Platform on asylum and immigration policies of the European Union. Regular meetings between the NGOs working on these topics allow members to share knowledge and expertise and develop common approaches, see http://www.ngo-platform-asylum-migration.eu/.
- AEDH is a founding member of Civil Society Europe, a permanent coordination of civil society at the European level which aims to promote horizontal exchanges between organizations and effective advocacy for equality, solidarity, integration and democracy. For more information on Civil Society Europe, see http://civilsocietyeurope.eu/.
- The informal network Human Rights and Democracy Network (HRDN) which AEDH
  is a member of –gathers NGOs working for the defence and promotion of Human
  rights, in particular in relations with the EU and third countries, http://www.hrdn.eu/.
- Since 2015, AEDH has participatory status to the Council of Europe and is a member of the Conference of INGOs.

#### AWARENESS RAISING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING



AEDH informs members and citizens about EU policies and legislative developments related to human rights in Europe through press releases, thematic bulletins, newsletters, reports, its website and social media.

AEDH thematic working groups and joint seminars bringing together members of different EU member states are the framework for developing analysis and common positions. AEDH puts its member organisations in contact to share knowledge on national contexts, exchange best practises, inform and give trainings on European policies thus enabling AEDH members to integrate the EU dimension in their daily work and to raise awareness among citizens. This is also a source of dissemination of analysis and positions.

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## ASYLUM &MTGRATION

AEDH ACTIVITIES IN 2016 PROTECTION DES DONNÉES PERSONNELLES

CITOYENNETÉ & DÉMOCRATIE

DROITS ÉCONOMIQUES & SOCIAUX

GENDER EQUALITY

PRIVATION DE LIBERTÉ



#### INCREASING PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS ON ASYLUM AND MI-

AEDH contributes to increasing public knowledge and awareness on developments relevant for the rights of migrants and refugees by publishing brief news, press releases and analysis on European political developments (EU institutions and member states). With its analysis, in particular with its monthly newsletter, AEDH seeks to enable citizens and civil society organisations to decode the issues at stake. In this field, AEDH often leads campaigns

on specific objections or demands together with other European networks. Also, it supports the actions lead by its members.

For more information, have a look at: http://www.aedh.eu/-The-AEDH-and-the-Asylum-and-.html.

## DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO ASYLUM IN THE CONTEXT OF THE REFORM OF THE ASYLUM PACKAGE

Since its foundation, AEDH has been monitoring with a critical eye the developments of the asylum and migration policies of the EU and its member states. It criticises the European Union for the lack of solidarity of its asylum system letting the Southern member states alone deal with the arrival of migrants. AEDH has severely condemned the EU policy of closing its borders to migrants and concluding readmission agreements with third countries that contribute, in practice, to the externalisation of the right to asylum and causing thousands of migrants to opt for expensive and dangerous ways of mafia-type smugglers to reach the EU. AEDH acts for an asylum system that fully implements the guarantees of the Geneva Convention and the application of common norms to all member states. AEDH is objecting the concept of safe countries of origin and condemns the inequalities caused by the Dublin regulation and calls for its abolition.

These migration policies combined with several ongoing conflicts in the EU neighbourhood countries have led to a humanitarian emergency situation on the EU borders and in some member states from summer 2015 onwards.

AEDH has closely monitored the numerous summits and plans the EU designed to react to the ongoing "crisis" at its borders. Its publications such as policy papers and articles in its monthly newsletter have been disseminated to its members and the wider public. AEDH has also lead campaigns towards the European institutions, in cooperation with networks representing European civil society.

#### Most importantly, AEDH criticises:

- The failure of the relocation mechanism showing the lack of solidarity and commitment of member states; insufficient commitments of member states to resettlement
- The failure of the Dublin System, source of inequalities between asylum seekers and of the treatment of persons that does not comply with requirements of human dignity. Several times, AEDH has called on abandoning the system.
- The externalisation of the right of asylum that tends to pushing migrants away from Europe.

#### AEDH insists on:

- The opening of legal avenues to European territory by the real recognition of the right to family reunification
- The abolition of the Dublin regulation in order to allow asylum seekers to freely choose the country in which they want to file their request
- The development of an approach granting humanitarian visas in the countries of departure of refugees
- The refusal of "trading" policies with third countries in the framework of mobility partnerships which do not comply with the real needs of the population of third countries
- AEDH also calls for the abolition of short-term visas.

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## FOR A TRANSPARENT AND UNITED EUROPEAN MIGRATION POLICY RESPECTFUL OF PEOPLE'S RIGHTS!



#### FRONTEXIT CAMPAIGN

As an international campaign of several associations, Frontexit was launched in 2013 with the objective of abolishing the EU agency Frontex because of the incompatibility of its actions with the respect of the rights of migrants and refugees. Through actions of investigation, litigations, raising awareness and political advocacy, the campaign calls for:

- The transparency of Frontex's mandates, responsibilities and actions;
- The suspension of the agency's activities identified as contrary to human rights, especially maritime interception operations and group expulsions;
- Enhanced control by the European Parliament of agreements signed between the agency and so-called 'third' countries.

For several months now, what is found by civil society organisations is worrying: the reinforcement of Frontex's role with regards to expulsions from hotspots, increased autonomy at the European borders, consequent increase in budget, possible access to police data with the clear aim to fight terrorism, increased cooperation with countries that do not respect human rights...All this in the most total opacity.

By joining the Frontexit campaign, AEDH wants to join in the already participating associations with the capacities of its network and knowledge in order to work, all together, for different European migration policies, transparent, united and respectful of the rights and liberties of all.

The objections to the actions of Frontex are perfectly in line with the mission of AEDH to act for the opening of legal migration channels and reception of refugees. AEDH's action is underpinned by the observation that any reinforcement of borders cannot discourage persons seeking protection, but is linked with the risk that those use even more dangerous channels; the numbers – published by Frontext itself – are enough evidence.

For more information, see the AEDH communication on its accession to the campaign: http://www.aedh.eu/AEDH-joins-the-Frontexit-campaign,3145.html as well as the campaign website: www.frontexit.org.

For more information on the development of Frontex:

The new mandate of Frontex agency - The EU obsessed with waging a war against migrants and refugees:

http://www.aedh.eu/Nouveau-mandat-de-l-agence-Frontex.html

A reinforced Frontex agency, EU turns a deaf ear to NGO's warnings: http://www.aedh.eu/The-new-mandate-of-Frontex-agency.html.

AEDH ANALYTICAL NOTE: COERCION AND EXCLUSION DO NOT MAKE FOR A FAIR ASYLUM POLICY!

For the second time in less than a year, the European Commission has presented in 2016 a "plan" to end the European migration and asylum crisis. The Commission's proposals for asylum reform are unacceptable and unrealistic.

http://www.aedh.eu/AEDH-Analytical-note-Asylum-reform.html.

### THE LIST OF «SAFE COUNTRIES»: A DENIAL OF THE RIGHT OF ASYLUM

AEDH, EuroMed Rights and the FIDH warn against the dangers of using the concept of safety in processing asylum applications. No country may be deemed «safe». By adopting such a list, the European Union (EU) and its Members States will institutionalise at European level a practice by which the Member States could refuse to fully comply with their responsibilities towards asylum seekers, in violation of their international obligations.

To read more: http://www.aedh.eu/The-European-Union-s-lists-of-safe.html.

#### **EUROPEAN MIGRATION FORUM**

Every year, the European Migration Forum, organised by the European Commission and the EESC, brings together representatives of civil society organisations, local and regional authorities, member states and EU institutions. Every year, a specific topic is discussed (family reunification, asylum, integration). AEDH has regularly participated in the Forum and has contributed to its preparation.

For further information on the Forum, see: http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.immigration-and-asylum-european-migration-forum.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO EASO CONSULTATIONS

AEDH has been invited to answer to the European Asylum Support Office (EASO)'s call for inputs on its Draft work program for 2017.

Read AEDH's input at: http://www.aedh.eu/Reponse-de-l-AEDH-a-l-EASO-dans-le.html .



## **PROTECTION OF** PERSONAL D A T A

AEDH defends the right to privacy as a fundamental right and acts for the strengthening of the protection of personal data. Security considerations, border protection, immigration control and the fight against terrorism cannot justify eroding these rights.

#### STRENGTHENING THE CONVENTION N° 108 OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

This Convention is the first binding international instrument which protects the individual against abuses which may accompany the collection and processing of personal data and which seeks to regulate at the same time the transfrontier flow of relation to the collection and processing of personal data, it restricts the processing of sensitive data (those relating to a person's race, political affiliation, Convention also enshrines the individual's right to know that information is stored on him or her and, if necessary, to have it corrected or erased.

Since 2011, AEDH has been a member with observer status of the Council of Europe's Bureau of the Consultative Committee tasked with the modernisation of Convention 108. In the process of the modernisation of the convention, AEDH personal data. In addition to providing guarantees in has proposed amendments that would reinforce the protection of privacy and personal data, whether it involved the definition of sensitive data, consent for data collection, opening membership health, religion, sexual life, criminal record, etc.). The to international organisations, or mandatory protection for transfers to third countries. The new version of the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (ETS No. 108) has now been finalised and is still awaiting the vote of the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The T-PD Bureau notably works on recommendations concerning the protection of personal data in the field of PNR data, police data, health data and also in the framework of big data.

#### FIGHTING THE CREATION OF THE «SMART BORDERS» SYSTEM

The smart border system has been proposed by the AEDH condemns the creation of such databases European Commission in 2013 with the announced aim to simplify and streamline the entry of foreign nationals on the territory of the EU. The legislative package is composed of two separate draft laws: an entry/exit system (EES) to record the date and place of entry and exit of third country nationals crossing the external border of the European Union with the aim to fight irregular immigration by automatically calculating the duration of stay of each person and triggering an alert when the deadline of the visa is exceeded and a registered travelers programme (RTP) to allow third country nationals who travel frequently to the EU to use simplified border checks procedures.

collecting and using systematically sensitive personal data as are biometric data and denounces the lack of necessity and proportionality, purpose limitation and the excessive data retention period. Furthermore, the proposal does not respect the principle of non-discrimination. AEDH engages with policy makers to raise awareness of these violations and tries to mobilise civil society.

For more information, read the letter on the EES system sent to the MEPs of the LIBE committee of the European Parliament:

http://www.aedh.eu/AEDH-position-on-EESletter,3606.html.

#### INCREASING PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS ON DATA PROTECTION **ISSUES**

AEDH contributes to increasing public knowledge In January 2016, AEDH organised a public event in and awareness on developments relevant for the the European Parliament with digital rights activists, protection of personal data by publishing brief researchers and experts to celebrate 10 years of the news and analysis on legislative procedures and International Data Protection Day: http://www.aedh. jurisprudence that can be found at: http://www. eu/AEDH-is-celebrating-10-years-of.html. aedh.eu/-The-AEDH-and-personal-data-.html.

#### CONFERENCE ON 27 JANUARY 2016: "10 YEARS OF DATA PROTECTION"

Ten years ago, the Council of Europe decided that date of 28 January would be the International Data Protection Day. At this occasion, AEDH organised a conference at the European Parliament in order to discuss the principles, standards and challenges ahead related to this fundamental right. This conference covered the following topics: "European documents and jurisprudence of the last decade", "Role of Civil Society in the fight for the protection of personal data", and "On-going challenges and challenges ahead". Participants included Peter Hustinx, former European Data Protection Supervisor, Max Schrems, Austrian activist, and Joe McNamee, Executive Director of European Digital Rights (EDRi).

For more information, you can read the summary report of the conference: http://www.aedh.eu/10-yearsof-Data-Protection-Day.html

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#### EURODAC REFORM: RENFORCING CONTROLS OF PEOPLE RATHER THAN A FAIRER ASYLUM SYSTEM

Eurodac is the first European Automated Fingerprint constitute the so-called "Dublin system". Identification System (AFIS). In more technical terms, the Eurodac database functions according to a system of exchange and comparison, each State having to register asylum seekers data of whom it keeps files in its national database and transmits them to a central unit in order to register them and compare them existing ones. The objective of this system is to contribute to the implementation of the Dublin regulation, which aims at identifying the State responsible for the examination of an For more information: http://www.aedh.eu/244asylum application further to taking the asylum seeker fingerprints; Dublin and Eurodac regulations

In the framework of a project to reform the common European asylum system starting in 2016, the Commission envisaged a new revision of the regulation, with notable aim of extending its scope. This strengthening has transversal consequences; from right to asylum to data protection.

The-reinforcement-of-Eurodac.html.

#### UMBRELLA AGREEMENT: NOT ENOUGH PROTECTION FOR EUROPEAN RESIDENTS

In the European Union, investing and prosecuting crime is a legitimate policy objective according to the EDPS. Recently this objective has been increasingly underlined because of the fight against terrorism which implies information sharing with third countries. Yet, the EU does not have a robust common framework in this field. This situation has become more and more unacceptable, especially since Snowden's revelations concerning mass surveillance, particularly concerning exchanges with US. Thus the European Parliament adopted in 2009 a resolution calling for an agreement with the US. The Umbrella agreement has the objective to

ensure a high level of protection of personal data, but its provisions do not fully respect human rights.

For more information/ http://www.aedh.eu/ Umbrella-Agreement-not-enough.html.

## CITIZENSHIP & DEMOCRACY

#### Joint statement on Poland: The collapse of Polish democracy

After the election of a new government in November 2015, several worrying political decisions have been taken limiting rights and freedoms and impacting on democratic life in Poland. AEDH and its Polish member Otwarta Rzeczpospolita have issued a joint statement condemning the restriction of fundamental rights by the Polish government and calling on the EU to ensure continued action after its activation of the rule of law framework. You can read the statement at: http://www.aedh.eu/The-collapse-of-Polish-democracy.html.

#### Call for EU action to safeguard democracy and rule of law in Poland and all other member states

Together with other organisations of Civil Society Europe a newly founded association gathering European networks with the aim of strengthening cooperation among civil society, AEDH published a call for EU action in view of the proposed and adopted legislation of the Polish government. One key request of the undersigning organisations is the call for a regular review of fundamental rights and values in all EU member states by the European Commission. You can read the call at: http://www.aedh.eu/Call-for-EU-action-to-safeguard.html.

#### State of emergency in Turkey: heavy consequences on human rights

EuroMed Rights, AEDH, FIDH, IHD and HRFT express deep worries over the state of emergency declared in Turkey following the July 15 coup d'état attempt in which hundreds of civilians, soldiers and police officers lost their lives. The state of emergency allows the president and the Council of Ministers to rule by decree, therefore bypassing the parliament and undermining democratic standards. It also «partially or entirely» suspends the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including Turkey's obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights.

## & SOCIAL RIGHTS

AEDH acts for a European Union that guarantees economic, social and cultural rights and promotes a European social residence-based citizenship. AEDH regularly takes position on the current orientation of the EU political and social policy through its press releases, its reports and participation in debates and conferences.

#### THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

AEDH contributed to the consultation launched by the European Commission on the European pillar of social rights.

AEDH calls for a strong social Europe protecting all residents of the EU and imposing social rights on economic policies. This should include guaranteeing decent work to everyone, decent resources for everyone, upward social and tax convergence of Member States, equality among all.

AEDH strongly condemns austerity policies which have wrecked social rights for the sake of enhanced competitiveness and increased inequalities between and within Member States.

AEDH also strongly condemns the use of the concept of "flexicurity" which has led to the violation of several social rights and reduced security.

AEDH strongly criticises the mechanism of the European semester which prioritises economic policies at the expense of social rights. Moreover,

AEDH criticises the scale of the pillar, which is limited to the access to work and regrets the lack of the promotion of social rights in general. Furthermore, new residents are excluded from the pillar - AEDH calls for the dignified reception of migrants in the EU.

Lastly, AEDH has serious doubts as to the conception of the legal status of the pillar which would not be legally binding itself but would be politically binding. This does not guarantee the implementation of a social Europe.

For more information: http://www.aedh.eu/ AEDH-opinion-on-the-European.html

## GENDER EQUALITY

Discrimination against and unequal rights for women is still a widespread reality in the European Union. In particular in recent years, we have seen a setback in women's rights in several member states. AEDH has reacted to this development with the creation of a working group on gender equality gathering representatives of its member organisations and individual members. Since 2015, AEDH is an active member of the working group on gender equality of EuroMedRights bringing together women's rights' defenders from North and South of the Mediterranean.

### ACT AGAINST THE GENDER PAY GAP: THE CASE OF INFORMAL CARERS

AEDH has joined as associate partner a European project of some of its member organisations highlighting this phenomenon hindering wages and career development, thus impacting the amount of people's pension in the future. However, little known or unknown, this specific cause of the gender pay gap due to this informal carer's role is not tackled, whereas the number of informal carers is increasing and they play an essential role for providing care for dependent persons at a lower cost for the society. Lead by the French Human Rights League, the project gathers the Austrian and Luxembourgish Human Rights Leagues, the Rhône Alpes General Labour Confederation (CGT), the Italian Association for Culture and Development (ARCS), and is supported by the Institute for Economic and Social Research (IRES).

AEDH and its partners call on political leaders as well as social partners to recognise and fight against these inequalities. We also try to mobilise the public and to raise awareness on this challenge.

For more information: http://www.aedh.eu/ Working-life-Carer-s-life-tackling.html

## COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

AEDH advocates for the ratification and the full respect of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention by the EU and its member states. The Convention establishes minimal provisions on the prevention of violence against women, the protection of victims and the prosecution of perpetrators.

http://www.aedh.eu/Statement-Violence-against-women,3515.html

AEDH stands up against restrictions to the rights of women and promotes equal rights for everyone. It monitors the situation on the EU and national level and informs its members on relevant developments for gender equality.

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#### **DEPRIVATION OF**

## LIBERTY

A NEW WORKING GROUP

The newly composed working group on deprivation of liberty of AEDH gathering member organisations and individual members is currently focusing its work on imprisonment.

In 2016, member organisations have started to work on the issue of health in prisons through monitoring of national situations, exchange of best practices and common



## Communication

#### The website, Facebook page and Twitter account

AEDH website, Facebook page and twitter account give an overview of the human rights situation in the EU by reporting on legislative developments, analysis and statistics, AEDH and its 32 members' activities and publications.

For each theme, the website contains the essential of the European legislation, the positions and activities of AEDH and of members and partners at a regional, national and European level.

#### The newsletter

The monthly AEDH newsletter reports the main developments on human rights in the European Union, on the EU level and in the different member states. It provides an overview on European legislative processes, along with updates on activities and positions of AEDH and its members.

The newsletter is published in English and French and disseminated to about 1500 subscribers, including members, civil society contacts and citizens.

#### Press releases and analyses

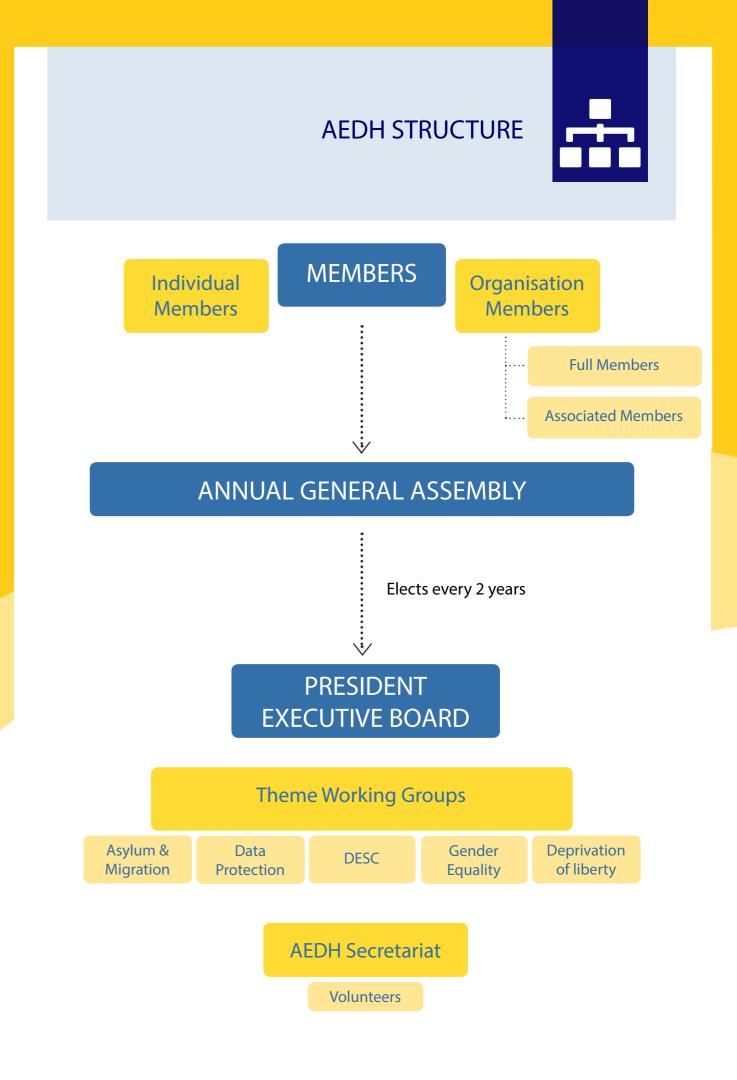
AEDH regularly takes a stand at the European level in order to inform European citizens and to call out the political decision-makers when there is an infringement or a risk of infringement of fundamental rights. By its press releases and analyses, AEDH tries to encourage citizens to seize the opportunity to debate on big European issues and to get involved in the democratic life of the EU. AEDH often releases joint statements with its members' organisations to draw the attention on violations of Fundamental Rights occurring in a member state.

All press releases are widely disseminated to European citizens, parliamentarians, representatives of the European institutions, civil society partners and journalists thanks to the publication in different languages: systematically in English and in French and often also in Italian, German or Spanish.

#### AEDH in the news

AEDH had a large echo in the European and national media (newspapers, radio, TV), for example in Euradionantes, euractiv, Times of Malta, el diario, alternatives économiques and others.

## GOVERNANCE & FUNCTIONING

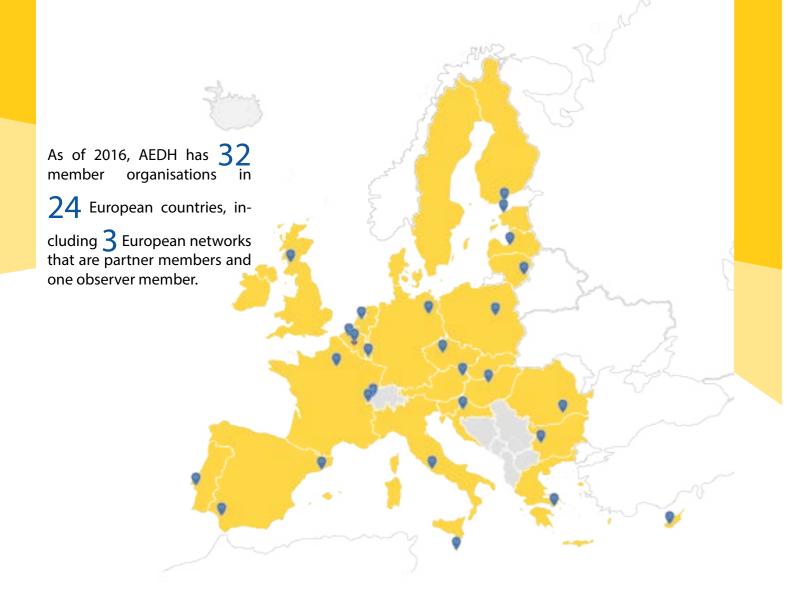




#### **AEDH MEMBERS**

AEDH's strength comes from the knowledge and experience of its members. Its expanding network reinforces its expertise and the legitimacy of its actions towards the European institutions. Affiliation with the AEDH

benefits members by enhancing their understanding of European policies, facilitating the exchange of best practices and supporting joint work and a united front on a European level.



AEDH also boasts a growing number of individual members embodying its commitment to promoting a European civic movement for human rights. The fees paid by member organisations and individuals are essential for that AEDH can operate on a daily basis and commit to building a Europe of human rights. For information on becoming a member of the AEDH please go to http://www.aedh.eu/-Become-a-member-.html

#### 2016 FULL MEMBERS

#### **AUSTRIA**

Österreichische Liga für Menschenrechte

#### **BELGIUM**

Ligue des droits de l'Homme Liga voorMensenrechten

#### **BULGARIA**

Association pour la Défense des droits de l'Homme-Bulgarie (ADHR-BG)

#### **CROATIA**

Hrvatski Pravni Centar/Croatian Law Center

#### **CYPRUS**

KISA – Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

Comité Helsinki tchèque

#### **ESTONIA**

Legal Information Centre for Human Rights

#### **FINLAND**

Ihmisoikeuslitto – Finnish League for Human Rights

#### **FRANCE**

Ligue française pour la défense des droits de l'Homme et du citoyen

#### GERMANY

Internationale Liga für Menschenrechte

#### **GREECE**

Ligue helléniquedes droits de l'Homme

#### **HUNGARY**

Comité Helsinki hongrois

#### **ITALY**

Asociazione Recreativa i Culturale Italiana (ARCI) Lega Italiana per i diritti dell'Uomo Unione Forense per la Tutela dei Diritti dell'Uomo

#### **LATVIA**

Latvian Human Rights Committee

#### **LITHUANIA**

Lithuanian Human Rights Association Lithuanian Human Rights League

#### LUXEMBOURG

Action Luxembourg Ouvert et Solidaire – Ligue des droits de l'Homme (ALOS-LDH)

#### **MALTA**

Malta Association of Human Rights

#### THE NETHERLANDS

Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens

#### **POLAND**

Otwarta Rzeczpospolita – Open Republic

#### **PORTUGAL**

Liga Portuguesa dos Direitos Humanos – Civitas

#### **ROMANIA**

Asociatia Pro Democratia

#### **SPAIN**

Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía (APDHA) Institut de DretsHumans de Catalunya (IDHC)

#### UNITED-KINGDOM

Black and Ethnic Minorities Infrastructure in Scotland – BEMIS

#### **SWITZERLAND**

Ligue suisse des droits de l'Homme

#### PARTNER MEMBERS

#### **EDRI**

Génération 112 Solidar

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#### The General Assembly

The annual General Assembly gathering AEDH members defines the policy of the association, validates the financial report and the activity report. The General Assembly decides on the integration of new organisations and elects the executive board.

#### The Executive Board

The executive board is elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term. It is responsible for implementing the AEDH's general policy, as determined by the General Assembly.

#### The Secretariat

Daniele Ambroglini – Financial Officer Yvonne Ebner – Coordinator Daphna Krygier – Fundraising Officer Barbara Liebshardt – Communication Officer

#### **Honorary Chairmen**

Pierre Barge – Ligue des droits de l'Homme (LDH), France Dan van Raemdonck – Ligue des Droits de l'Homme (LDH), Belgique

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTED IN MAY 2016**

#### President

Dominique Guibert – Lique des droits de l'Homme, France

#### **Vice Presidents**

Rumiana Decheva – European Association for the Defence of Human Rights- Bulgaria (EADHR) Cristian Pirvulescu – Asociatia Pro Democratia (APD), Roumanie Catherine Teule – Ligue des droits de l'Homme, France

#### **General Secretary**

Knut Albrecht – Internationale Liga für Menschenrechte (ILMR), Allemagne Gerard van Vliet – Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens (LVRM), Pays-Bas

#### Treasurer

David Busuttil – Malta Association of Human Rights (MAHR), Malte

#### Members

Maria Vittoria Arpaia – Lega Italiana Dei Diritti Dell'Uomo (LIDU), Italie Maryse Artiguelong – Lique des droits de l'Homme (LDH), France

Claude Debrulle – Ligue des Droits de l'Homme (LDH), Belgique

Jan Gebert – Open Republic, Pologne

Cees Hamelink – Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens (LVRM), Pays-Bas

José Rebelo – Liga Portuguesa dos Direitos Humanos – Civitas, Portugal

Manuel Malheiros – Liga Portuguesa dos Direitos Humanos – Civitas, Portugal

Philippos Mitletton – Ligue hellénique des droits de l'Homme ((HLHR), Grèce

Emilie Pesselier – Individual Member Representative

Marija Staciokiene – Lithuanian Human Rights League (LHRL)

Stoil Tzitzelkov – European Association for the Defence of Human Rights- Bulgaria (EADHR)

Petr Uhl – Individual Member Representative

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#### INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

AEDH regularly takes on three to four interns to work at its office. They provide invaluable support to its daily work. AEDH would like to thank Elena Bosshardt, Anne-Sophie Gantchoula, Hadrien Gaillet, Marius Jammes, Anaïs Kintgen, Mickael Molé, Matthieu Moulonguet, Rebecca Portail, Elvina Rousseau, Véronica Lari, Manon Schilder and Suzanne Seiller for their support in 2016.

AEDH is first and foremost an association for citizens and for active citizenship. It relies primarily on voluntary activism for the majority of its operations. In addition to executive board members, AEDH depends on the support of numerous volunteers for many tasks, including translating publications, interpreting at events, legal and accounting activities and even contributing to specific projects and actions.

#### AEDH WOULD LIKE TO EXTENDS ITS SINCERE THANKS TO

Mathieu Baudouin **Marion Bouvier** Joe Burbridge Rhonda Campbell Mercedes Conde Danielle Conge Isha Dalaya **Emily Divinagracia Emily Duggan** Remi Hoefsloot Teri Jones-Villeneuve Theo Koumakis Viviane de Lafond Andrea Lessard Louise Levicky Niamh O'Brien William Setters Jean-Paul Wald

FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN 2016 AND BEYOND.

#### **2016 FINANCIAL MEANS**

Pubilc Funding	89.352,55
European Commission DG Communication, Europe for citizens	89.352,55
Membership Fees	8.231,50
Membership Fees - Organisation Members Membership Fees - Individual Members	4.500,00 3.731,50
Donations	30.062,45
Total	127.646,50

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