

Press Release

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Council of Europe Anti-Racism Commission to prepare report on Lithuania

Strasbourg, 30.11.2010 - A delegation of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) visited Lithuania from 22 to 26 November 2010 as the first step in the preparation of a monitoring report. During its visit, ECRI's delegation gathered information on the implementation of the recommendations it made to the authorities in its previous report of 2006 and discussed new issues that had emerged since.

The delegation held meetings in Vilnius with representatives of all relevant ministries, public officials, human-rights NGOs and minority groups. It visited a Roma settlement and a neighbouring school.

Following this visit, ECRI will adopt a report in which it will make a fresh set of recommendations on measures to be taken by the authorities to address racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance in the country. Among these, three will be revisited two years after the publication of the report as part of an interim follow-up procedure.

In its 2006 report, ECRI expressed concern about the lack of awareness within society of discrimination and its manifestations, the insufficient guarantees provided to refugees, asylum-seekers and persons enjoying humanitarian protection and the disadvantages and prejudice faced by the Roma.

ECRI is a human rights body of the Council of Europe, composed of independent experts, which monitors problems of racism and intolerance, prepares reports and issues recommendations to member states. For more information on ECRI: www.coe.int/ecri

[Link to the 2006 ECRI report on Lithuania.](#)

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