

REGULATION
ON THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING
OF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT OMBUDSMAN (OSO)
WITHIN THE POLICE ACADEMY “STEFAN CEL MARE” OF MIA

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on December 10, 1948, enshrines human rights and fundamental freedoms. The institution of ombudsman was created in order to ensure and guarantee these rights. This institution exists in over 90 countries of the world, occupying an important place in the system of legal subjects that exercises the control and supervises the bodies of the state power. The Ombudsman’s function is to protect citizens’ rights against the self-government of public authorities.

1.2. An important role among the higher education institutions, including the Academy “Stefan cel Mare” (hereinafter referred to as “the Academy”) has the Office of Student Ombudsman (OSO). This student entity provides free counseling and assistance to the members of the academic community, connected with the settlement of conflicting situations and issues concerning violation of the rights and freedoms provided by the legislation in force, the University Charter, the Code of Ethics and Academic Integrity, and the Internal Regulations of the Academy.

2. THE STATUTE OF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT OMBUDSMAN

2.1. The OSO consists of the person of Student Ombudsman and the Office Staff. It is represented by a student (usually a master or doctoral student) who has the power to offer consultations, represent and protect the rights, freedoms and interests of students admitted to studies within the Academy, including those who are the citizens of the other states.

2.2. The Student Ombudsman is elected from among master students or doctoral students who study at the Academy and is approved by a Faculty Council.

2.3. The Student Ombudsman must have good knowledge on the organization and functioning of the Faculty of Law and Academy in general.

2.4. The Student Ombudsman may not have more than two assistants from the Academy students elected and confirmed under the conditions set out in p.2.2. of this Regulation.

2.5. The Student Ombudsman mandate is for 2 years, with the right to be re-elected for a second term.

2.6. OSO activity can not be used to relay on the lawful ways which have Academy students offended in their rights.

2.7. OSO operates impartially and independently of the leaders and employees of the structural subdivisions of the Academy.

2.8. OSO is under the obligation not to disclose confidential data and information, as well as personal data that has become known in connection with the activity performed.

3. FUNCTIONS, ATTRIBUTIONS AND COMPETENCES OF OSO

3.1. OSO has the following functions:

3.1.1. Promotes human rights and freedoms in the academic environment of the institution, including among students, periodically informing the student community about the activity carried out and the results obtained in this field;

3.1.2. Considers the demands of the Academy's students regarding the observance of their legitimate rights, freedoms and interests and decides on how to solve them;

3.1.3. In case of the event of conflicts involving the students of the Academy, identifies ways of solving and provides the necessary support to overcome the problems and avoid the possible consequences;

3.1.4. In its activity related to the protection of the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of students, interact with the governing bodies of the Academy, the heads of the structural units and other officials of the institution;

3.1.5. Together with members of the academic community is involved in the elaboration and implementation of educational projects and programs aimed at the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3.2. OSO has the following attributions and competencies:

3.2.1. Takes decisions on examining applications and takes all possible steps to restore students' violated rights;

3.2.2. Ensures the independent, impartial and confidential examination of applications with which is notified;

3.2.3. Undertakes actions to prevent violations of the rights, freedoms and legal interests of the students of the Academy;

3.2.4. Helps parties involved in a conflict identify different ways to resolve it by providing them with consultations and assistance in this respect;

3.2.5. Promotes and supervises the implementation of the programs and projects of social interest to ensure the protection of the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of the students of the Academy;

3.2.6. Makes proposals to modify and refine the rules and to implement good practices in the field of protection of the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of the students of the Academy;

3.2.7. May also carry out other useful activities provided by the normative acts in force or those arising out of OSO competencies in the field of protection of the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of the students of the Academy.

4. RECEIVING PROCEDURES AND EXAMINATION OF THE COMPLAINTS

4.1. Petitions addressed to OSO should be in written form, with clear content about the violation of petitioner's student right, freedom or legal interest.

4.2. Anonymous petitions are not recorded and can not be reviewed.

4.3. Students whose rights or freedoms have been violated may refer to the OSO within the framework of the audience program, offered according to the timetable of activity.

4.4. In cases when the Ombudsman has information apart from the petitions that the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests have been violated he can investigate the case on its own initiative.

5. FINAL PROVISIONS

5.1. Any changes or additions to this Regulation may be made by a simple majority of the General Assembly of Students and approved by the Council of the Faculty of Law of the Academy.

5.2. This Regulation has been approved at the session of the Council of the Faculty Law of the Academy on **15 November 2018**, date on which it enters into force.

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