

Mr Adam Bodnar
Commissioner for Human Rights
Aleja Solidarnosci 77
00-090 Warszawa
Poland

VA-5600/0003-INT/2016

Vienna, 20 February 2019

Dear Colleague,

It is with great concern that we have learned about the lawsuit brought against you as an individual by Polish public TV in response to a statement you made on the topic of hate speech in your official function as Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of Poland.

European members of the IOI are currently meeting at a conference in Athens to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Greek Ombudsman and conference participants have unanimously expressed their support for you and your office to your Deputy, Dr. Hanna Machińska.

Following the IOI's [fact finding mission to Poland](#) in 2016, we have continued to keep a watchful eye on the developments in your country. As announced back then, the IOI stands ready to continue its assistance and to offer its full support to you and your office in the future.

The IOI fully endorses the [official statement](#) issued by the European Network of NHRIs (ENNHRI) in cooperation with the Global Alliance of NHRIs (GANHRI) on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Günther Kräuter
IOI Secretary General



Peter Tyndall
IOI President



Rafael Ribó
Regional President IOI Europe