

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF OMBUDSPERSONS FOR CHILDREN (ENOC)

The European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) is a non-profit association of independent children's rights institutions. ENOC links the offices of independent children's rights protection institutions established within the Council of Europe.

The mandate of the organization is to facilitate the protection and promotion of the rights of children, as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

ENOC was established at a meeting in Trondheim, Norway, in 1997, when an initial group of ten institutions met together with UNICEF.

There are two forms of membership in ENOC: full membership and associate membership. Membership is limited to institutions located in the member states of the Council of Europe. Currently, 44 institutions from 34 countries, 22 of which are the EU member states, are members of ENOC.

The Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been a member of ENOC since 2008. The Ombudsman and her staff have participated in ENOC's Annual Conferences and General Assemblies held in various countries, exchanging ideas and sharing experiences.

The Ombudsman's Office has participated in the European Network of Young Advisors (ENYA) project implemented by ENOC over various years. Within the framework of the aforementioned project, the participation of children from Azerbaijan was ensured in events and online discussions held in a number of European countries (France, Northern Ireland, Greece, Spain, etc.).

It should be noted that at the 29th General Assembly of ENOC held on September 19, 2025, in Bucharest, Romania, the Azerbaijani Ombudsman Institution was upgraded from associate membership to full membership.

Thus, taking into consideration the amendments made to the normative legal acts in the field of children's rights at the initiative of the Ombudsman, the powers granted to the Ombudsman, and the institutional reforms carried out, the compliance of the Azerbaijani Ombudsman Institution with the criteria set out in the ENOC Charter has been confirmed.