

HELSINKI FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

International Seminar for Leaders of Central and Eastern European NGOs on Strategic Litigation

29 – 31 May 2008
Dębe near Warsaw

Seminar is supported by
Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe
www.cectrust.org

AGENDA

Thursday, 29 May 2008

- 20.00 Arrival of participants to Dębe near Warsaw
- 20.00 – 21.00 Informal meeting with lawyers from the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
/Adam Bodnar, Mikołaj Pietrzak, Maja Pietrzak, Paweł Osik/

Friday, 30 May 2008

- 9.00 – 9.30 Official opening of the seminar. Introductory notes by:
- Danuta Przywara, President of the Board of the HFHR
- Lidia Kołucka-Żuk, Program Director at Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe
- 9.30 – 11.15 Strategic litigation in Central and Eastern Europe – presentation of participants and activities of their organizations in the field
- HFHR - Strategic Litigation Program (20 minutes) – *Adam Bodnar*
- Via Iuris (Slovakia) */each organization – 5 minutes/*
- League of Human Rights' Activists (Slovakia)
- Center for Legal Resources (Romania)
- Legal Information Centre for NGOs (Slovenia)
- Peace Institute (Slovenia)
- Association for European Integration and Human Rights (Bulgaria)
- Hungarian Helsinki Committee
- TASZ – Hungarian Civil Liberties Union
- Zvule Prava (Czech Republic)
- Iuridicum Remedium (Czech Republic)
- 11.15 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 13.00 Strategic litigation – concept, history, pre-conditions, role of NGOs and lawyers, impact on the rule of law and advancement of ideas */Adam Bodnar – 30 minutes presentation, discussion/*
- 13.00 – 14.00 Dinner

14.00 – 15.30	International dimension of the strategic litigation / <i>Andrea Coomber, Interights</i> /
15.30 – 17.00	Stages in strategic litigation: objectives, strategy, finding a case, proceedings, winning the case, enforcement of judgments / <i>Adam Bodnar, Maciej Bernatt, HFHR – 30 minutes presentation, discussion, case studies</i> /
17.00 – 17.30	Coffee break
17.30 – 19.00	Strategic litigation in Poland and in CEE countries – viewpoint of former NGO activist, current justice of the Constitutional Court and former member of the Advisory Board of the Strategic Litigation Program / <i>Professor Andrzej Rzepliński</i> /
19.00 – 19.30	Break
19.30 – 21.00	Informal panel on pro bono legal aid / <i>Marita Dybowska-Dubois, Mikołaj Pietrzak, Filip Wejman, Agata Waclawik-Wejman, Katarzyna Woroszyńska</i> /
21.00 -	Social event

Saturday, 31 May 2008

9.00 – 9.30	Special issues for strategic litigation - transitional justice and settlements with the past / <i>Mikołaj Pietrzak, HFHR</i> / - CIA rendition flights and freedom of information laws / <i>Dawid Sześciło, HFHR</i> /
9.30 – 11.00	Role of NGOs in shaping the rule of law and human rights' protection / <i>Professor Mirosław Wyrzykowski, judge of the Polish Constitutional Court</i> /
11.00 – 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 12.30	Participation of NGOs in court and administrative proceedings. Amicus curiae briefs / <i>Adam Bodnar, Dorota Pudzianowska, HFHR – 30 minutes' presentation, discussion</i> /
12.30 – 13.15	Dinner
13.15 – 14.30	Travel to Warsaw
14.30 – 16.00	Meeting with Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
16.00 – 16.30	Break
16.30 – 17.45	Strategic litigation – missing link in the development of civil society in CEE countries / <i>Professor Wiktor Osiatyński, member of the Board of Directors of OSI, professor at the Central European University in Budapest</i> /
17.45 – 18.00	Coffee break
18.00 – 19.15	Role of media in strategic litigation / <i>Agnieszka Jędrzejczak, Sylwia Czubkowska, Maja Ruszpel</i> /
20.00 – 23.00	Banja Luka restaurant in Warsaw
23.00 -	Return to Dębe