

A Memorandum of Cooperation between Chamber of Advocates and Human Rights Defender

A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the RA Chamber of Advocates and RA Human Rights Defender on June 7, 2016. The signatories to the Memorandum were Mr. Ara Zohrabyan, President of the RA Chamber of Advocates, and Mr. Arman Tatoyan, RA Human Rights Defender.

Mr. Tatoyan and Mr. Zohrabyan congratulated the guests participating in the ceremony, on signing of the Memorandum, noting that it will elevate the cooperation with the Chamber of Advocates to a new level. He underlined that in contrast to ordinary memoranda, the current Memorandum is not a collection of wishes but application of concrete mechanism of cooperation.

Mr. Tatoyan prioritized that according to the Memorandum, the Human Rights Defender's staff will have the opportunity to hold courses for the students of the School of Advocates which will enable the Human Rights Defender to more actively and fully integrate with the human rights lawyers' community. According to the Memorandum, the Human Rights Defender's reports will be included in the curricula of the School of Advocates. Courses covering the activities of the Human Rights Defender's Institution will be organized at the School of Advocates.

The President of the Chamber of Advocates attached importance that the Human Rights Defender can file applications to the RA Constitutional Court regarding the conformity of provisions of laws with the RA Constitution. Mr. Zohrabyan also touched upon the problem raised by the lawyers regarding violations of human rights, as well as torture in detention facilities. He underlined that the lawyers will have the opportunity to record such incidents through Rapid Response Group of the Human Rights Defender's staff.

The Memorandum has entered into force upon its signature.

**The Office of the Human Rights Defender
of the Republic of Armenia**