



26.10.2010

Dear Colleagues,

On 05/25/10 in the capacity of the Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia I presented to public and state authorities an Ad-hoc Public Report on "The Right to Peaceful Assembly in the Republic of Armenia". The Report touches upon the current situation of the exercise of the right to Peaceful Assembly in the RA, gaps and shortcomings in the legislation as well as in law-enforcement practice. Acknowledging the importance of the issue I took up an exceptional step for the HRD Institution initiating the preparation of a new Draft RA Law "On Conducting Meetings, Assemblies, Rallies and Demonstrations". The initiative was supported by the Administration of the President and Government of the Republic of Armenia. A working group was consequently created from the experts of the RA HR Defender's Institution as well as GTZ Coordination Office Armenia. Currently the draft law is forwarded to the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) for expert analyses.

The presentation of the Draft Law is scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> of November, 2010 at Marriot Armenia Hotel, Tigran Mets Hall, at 10.00 am. The working languages of the event are Armenian and English.

In view of the fact that it is for the first time that the Ombudsman initiates the preparation of a draft law I cordially invite all the interested parties to the above mentioned event.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Armen Harutyunyan".

Armen Harutyunyan