

Ombudsman received 310 alarm calls

**Ombudsman received 310 alarm calls. Parliamentary Elections 2012.**

The Ombudsman's Hotline 116 was operating twenty-four-hours in the pre-election period and on the day of Elections. In general the Ombudsman received **310** alarm calls concerning realization of the right to vote. During the pre-election campaign the Office received **106** alarm calls **64** out of which were from Yerevan and **42** alarms from regions. During the voting day Ombudsman Office received **204** calls, **114** out of which were from Yerevan and **90** alarms from regions. With respect to **119** cases Ombudsman's Rapid Reaction Groups provided onsite legal assistance.

Statistical data of the Ombudsman Regional Offices' activities concerning electoral issues.

Gyumri office – 22 alarm calls, 15 rapid responses.

Vanadzor office - 28 alarm calls, 25 rapid responses.

Gavar office - 13 alarm calls, 13 rapid responses.

Ijevan office -15 alarm calls, 11 rapid responses.

Yeghegnadzor office- 7 alarm calls, 5 rapid responses.

Kapan office- 5 alarm calls, 3 rapid responses.

Based on the received calls, complaints and information in media Ombudsman Office launched **78** proceedings. **3** out of all cases taken into consideration are completed, the rest is in the process of consideration.

Cases taken by the Office into consideration relate to the early disappearance of stamps in the passports (**64** alarm calls), accumulation of people in the precincts (**18** alarm calls), irregularities in the voting lists (**55** alarm calls), violation of the legislative norms requirements for running and registration of a candidate (**3** alarm calls), violations of the pre election campaign procedure (**12** calls), issues with respect to the realization of the right to vote by people with disabilities (**14** alarms calls), violence and obstruction of the work of journalists, proxies, observers (**12** alarm calls), free transportation of the people to precincts (**24** calls), violation of the requirement for secret voting because of the placement of the voting booths (**2** calls), distribution or promise of bribes (**16** calls), no stamp in passports after voting (**7** calls), double voting by the same person (**8** calls), open voting (**4** calls), public transport route not functioning (**2** calls), violation of the RA legislation

norms for placement of the voting boxes (3calls), violation of the procedure of giving assistance to a person who is unable to vote by himself/herself by another person (14 calls), presence of people at the precinct who were not authorized to be present there (9 calls), violation of the voting procedure (12 calls).

As a follow up of the complaints taken by the Ombudsman's into consideration, official letters were sent to the RA Police, the RA Prosecutor's Office, the RA Central and Territorial Electoral Commissions, Local Self-Government Bodies, the RA Ministry of Transport and Communication.

The Ombudsman's Head and Regional offices, 116 Hotline and Rapid Response services are still receiving alarm calls and are ready to assist the interested persons in voting rights and other issues.

Guided by the Article 17 of the RA Law "On the Human Rights Defender" the Ombudsman Karen Andreyan will develop an **ad-hoc report** on the RA Parliamentary Elections 2012. The report will be elaborated on the basis of the results of the instituted proceedings and the monitoring of the post-election processes carried out by the Ombudsman's staff. The Ombudsman's ad-hoc report will include factual data and the Ombudsman's assessments with regard to activities of some public bodies, electoral committees, the Police, the Prosecutor's Office, as well as other participants of the electoral processes not only in the period of pre-election campaign and the voting day but in the post-election period as well.

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