



**Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen &
The Commissioner for Administration and Protection of Human Rights of
Cyprus**

“The Venice Principles in strengthening the Ombudsman Institutions”

Nicosia 10 December 2019

Venue: Hilton Park Hotel- Nicosia

PROGRAMME

Monday 9 December 2019

All Day Arrival of delegates

20.15 – 22.30 Informal dinner hosted by the Commissioner for Administration and Human Rights for Cyprus. **Meeting at reception at 20.00 Hrs.**

Restaurant: Pantopoleio “Kali Orexi”, Metochiou 38, Egkomi (Phone 357 9907 5151)

Tuesday 10 December 2019

9.00 – 9.30 Registration

9.30- 10 .00 Opening Speeches

Mr Zacharias Zachariou, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Institutions, Merit & Commissioner for Administration for Cyprus

Mr. Peter Tyndall, President of IOI and Irish Ombudsman and Information Commissioner

Mr. Andreas Pottakis, President of AOM and Greek Ombudsman

Ms. Maria Stylianou- Lottides, Cyprus Commissioner for Administration and Protection of Human Rights

10.00 – 10.30 *Coffee Break*

10.30 – 12:30 Plenary Session 1- Venice Principles as a strong tool in strengthening the independence of the Ombudsman

Chairman:

Dr Michael Frendo, Vice President Venice Commission

Panelists:

Ms. Emily O' Reilly, European Ombudsman Video Message

Mr. Peter Tyndall, President of IOI and Irish Ombudsman and Information Commissioner

Mr. Igli Totozani Expert, Venice Commission

Dr Richard Kirkham, University of Sheffield

Mr Zoran Pašalić, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia

Interventions from **Albania, Austria, Greece, Israel, Message from Mr Rafael Ribo** & the final comments.

12:30 – 14.00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 15.30 Plenary Session 2 – *The Challenges ahead for Ombudsman in taking forward the changes. Where we are, where we want to be.*

Chairman:

Mr. Andreas Pottakis, President of AOM and Greek Ombudsman

Panel:

Ms. Lydie Err, Member of the Venice Commission for Luxembourg

Mr. Myron Nicolatos, President of the Supreme Court of Cyprus, Cypriot Member of the Venice Commission (*Mr Nicolatos could not join us for the morning session, his presentation is entitled "Venice Principles perspective on the role of Ombudsmen"*)

Ms. Caroline Martin, Legal Officer Venice Commission

Professor Edward Warrington, Professor Public Policy Dept. University of Malta

Interventions from **Albania, Spain, Portugal.**

Final Comments and wrap up

15.30 -16.00 Concluding Remarks

17:30 – 20:00 *Cultural visit followed by dinner hosted by AOM. Meeting at Reception at 17.00.*

Restaurant: Chateau Status, Markou Drakou 12, (opposite Ledra Palace Hotel) 1102 Nicosia. (Phone 357 7777 1167)