



MANNRÉTTINDASKRIFSTOFA ÍSLANDS
ICELANDIC HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE



The Icelandic Human Rights Centre

Introduction



- The Centre was founded at Thingvellir on 17 June 1994 by nine organizations and institutions working in various fields of human rights in Iceland
- Now the partner organizations are 14
- Independent NGO striving to promote human rights in Iceland



Main activities

- Extensive information on human rights on webpage (www.humanrights.is)
- Specialized human rights library
- Publishing
- Research projects on international human rights instruments & national law
- Conferences & seminars
- Human rights education
- Comments on bills of law & governments' action plans
- Educational material on human rights, HREP, *Against all Odds*



Main activities

- Nordic collaboration
- Council of Europe (CoE) – ECRI – reports and communication
- International co-operation with other human rights institutions
- Supplementary reports – “shadow reports” to the UN, CRC, CCPR, CESCR-UPR

- 16 days fighting gender-based violence in Iceland (25 November – 10 December each year)
- European week against racism (13 March – 21 March each year)



Main activities 2011-2012

- EU project PROGRESS
- Comments on bills of law and parliamentary proposals
- Reports to international monitoring organizations (ICCPR, CRC, UPR)
- Participation in various committees and working groups;
 - Committee on the rights of transsexuals,
 - working group for revisiting the guardianship of disabled peoples' rights,
 - Welfare-watch – monitoring the rights of marginalized groups after the economic collapse in 2008,
 - working group on national human rights plans,
 - contractual collaboration on internal matters and justice
- Human rights in crisis – Prohibition of discrimination: European project – two courses on discrimination for NGO's and other interested participants. Held in Reykjavik last fall and in Akureyri 14 March.



- Legal counselling for immigrants in Reykjavik - based on contract with the Ministry of Welfare and the city of Reykjavík
- Grundtvig project - Demanding Fundamental Rights: Legal Literacy in Adult Education
- Publication: Human Rights in Recession , relevant following Iceland's financial crisis and the Rights of transgender people in Iceland.
- Research – parental custody
- Campaigns in 2011-2012: 16 days against gender violence and European Wide Action week against racism



- **Thank you**
- **Please visit our website www.humanrights.is for more information**
- On our web-site you will find:
 - - Information about the Icelandic Human Rights Center and its work.
 - - Information about [Human Rights in Iceland](#).
 - - Access to information from the [Human Rights Education Project](#).
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