



ombudsman
Kancelář veřejného ochránce práv



V4 PUBLIC DEFENDERS OF RIGHTS' MEETING

29. – 31. May 2019

Bratislava

During their meeting in Bratislava on the 29. – 31. May 2019, the public defenders of rights of the V4 countries agreed on the following memorandum:

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child they wish to underline the necessity to respect the best interests of the child in all matters concerning children. This is particularly important when it comes to the alternative family care. Every child has a right to grow up in a family, regardless of social origin or disabilities. When searching for a new family, emphasis shall be placed not only on the rights of persons who decided to care for the child but also on the fundamental rights and freedoms of the child, since we are “providing a child with a family, not a family with a child.”

The right to education is equally important in a child's life. The public defenders of rights emphasise that the access to a high-quality education is not only a constitutional right, but it also forms the basis for future economic success and prosperity of the individuals in question as well as for society as a whole. In respect to children from socially disadvantaged environment, it is also a way to lift them out of the cycle of generational poverty. Therefore, the public defenders of rights shall take all reasonable efforts to ensure that the existing guarantees of equal access to the educational system for all children regardless of their nationality, ethnicity and living conditions are implemented into the practice.

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