



NEWS REPORT

Date: 11 May 2011
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Title: Report on cases of discrimination on grounds of disability reveals that usual sanction issued is administrative warning
Country: Romania
Context
Issue at stake: Analysis of the jurisprudence of the national equality body in cases of discrimination on grounds of disability evidences that the preferred sanction is not adequate and not dissuasive
Ground of discrimination: Disability
Source: Report
Field: Miscellaneous

Content

Development: On April 15th 2011, the NGO *Institutul pentru Politici Publice* [the Public Policies Institute (PPI)] released an analysis based on all the complaints received by the national equality body, the National Council on Combating Discrimination (NCCD) in the last three years, on grounds of disability.

The research showed that between 2008 and 2011, 58 petitions on grounds of disability had been received and in only nine cases, the NCCD found that discrimination occurred. In the remaining cases, the NCCD found that it did not have a legal mandate (16 cases), that the facts complained against did not meet the legal conditions of discrimination according to the legislation (16 cases) or the cases were shelved due to the lack of evidence or for not complying with the statute of limitations and filing the complaint too late.

Most of the complaints had as object access to fiscal benefits, public transportation or other gratuities persons with disabilities are legally entitled to depending on the type of disability. There were also complaints filed regarding access to employment, access to services (such as banking services), lack of accessibility of public space or discriminatory statements of public personalities. Notably, the complaints were mostly against public



institutions such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Environment, Library of the Romanian Academy, the mayor of Oradea, of Bucharest or of Covasna, the general directions of social assistance and for the protection of children in Bacau, Bucharest.



The report found that in the few cases when the national equality body found that discrimination occurred, the sanctions issued were “minor and very generous with the perpetrators, meaning warning or a recommendation so that it is unlikely that they would have the impact desired on acts of discrimination against persons with disabilities which still continue.” It is also found that “no fine had been issued in any case of discrimination on grounds of disability.”

Internet link source and additional information: Report available at: <http://ipp.ro/pagini/n-ultimii-ani-cazurile-de-discriminare.php> (11.05.2011).