

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIOLATION AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Some NHRIs have complaints-handling or quasi-judicial functions in relation to issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. NHRIs may have powers similar to courts in dealing with human rights violations. NHRIs may have the power to investigate allegations of human rights violations that raise issues of equality and non-discrimination, minority rights, religious rights, employment opportunities or other violations. NHRIs may encourage conciliation between disputing parties and mediate between them. In some cases, NHRIs can take measures or make recommendations to remedy the violation. NHRIs may also provide legal assistance to victims of human rights violations, to help them bring cases to court where they do not have the resources to do so themselves.

NHRIs work in a number of ways to enhance public awareness, promote cultural and religious diversity, and encourage harmony between different races. Many NHRIs conduct campaigns and distribute information for minority groups about their entitlements and relevant standards of non-discrimination. The focus of these activities