

## Citizens of the European Union

### I am a foreign national from another EU Member State. How can the ombudsman assist me?

The ombudsman assists:

- EU citizens;
- citizens of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein;
- family members of the above;

if they are discriminated against on grounds of State citizenship.

#### **Examples:**

*You were told during a job interview that they only hire Czech citizens.*

*Employees without permanent residence in the Czech Republic were subject to collective redundancy.*

*An advertisement for the post of a warehouse operator requires that the applicants' mother tongue must be Czech.*

*A bank where you negotiated a loan required that you submit more identity documents than Czech citizens.*

*Your daughter was not admitted to a school because she was not born in the Czech Republic.*

*Your landlord insists that you pay your rent from a Czech bank account.*

You can approach us in your mother tongue. We will have your e-mail or letter translated to Czech. We will obtain interpreters for meeting in person. In addition, our employees speak English, German and French.

Please see the reverse side for information on how we proceed.

The ombudsman will also help you:

- if you have some other problems with a Czech authority (the leaflet *How to Contact the Public Defender of Rights*);
- if you, or someone who is close to you, have been unlawfully restrained (the leaflet *The Public Defender of Rights and the Protection of Persons Restricted in their Freedom*);
- or if you face discrimination, for example, on grounds of age, disability or gender (the leaflet *Equal Treatment and Protection Against Discrimination*).

The above leaflets are available on our website at [www.ochrance.cz/en](http://www.ochrance.cz/en).

Check the Defender’s Opinions Register to see whether the ombudsman has addressed a case which was analogous to your own situation (<http://eso.ochrance.cz/>). You can look under the heading “discrimination grounds – State citizenship” or by entering your keywords in the “full-text search” section. You can also find the ombudsman’s cases in the collected opinions titled European Union Citizenship (<http://bit.ly/2DMnmWA>).

