



The Human Rights Advisory Panel

Contact details:

Complaints should be sent to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, UNMIK HQ, East Wing, 10.000 Pristina, Kosovo.

For more information contact Mr. John J. Ryan, Executive Officer of the Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel

Tel: +381 (0)38 504604 Ext 5847

Email: ryanj@un.org

Website:

www.unmikonline.org/human_rights/index.htm

***You can
Complain about
Violations
of your Human
Rights by UNMIK***

You can complain about violations of your human rights by UNMIK

UNMIK is responsible for respecting human rights

If you think that UNMIK has violated your human rights, you can make a complaint to the Human Rights Advisory Panel. This is a panel that can hear complaints directed against any of the UNMIK institutions.

What are human rights?

Human rights are rights that are so fundamental that they belong to every person.

Here are some examples of human rights:

- The right to life: protects you against actions that put your life at risk.
- The right to protection against torture and inhuman treatment: protects you against harmful or painful acts, even by public authorities.
- The right to respect for family life: protects your relationship with your husband or wife, your children, your parents.
- The right to property: guarantees that you can enjoy your property, such as your house, land or animals.
- The right to health: assures you a minimum care in case of illness.
- Freedom of movement: gives you the right to

move from one place to another.

- Prohibition of discrimination: protects you against unfair treatment based on your ethnicity, your gender, your age, or any other ground.

There are many more human rights.

What is the Human Rights Advisory Panel?

The Human Rights Advisory Panel is independent from UNMIK. It is composed of three independent, international human rights experts. It has its offices in Pristina.

How can you submit a complaint to the Human Rights Advisory Panel?

Your complaint should be in writing. You should send it, together with all relevant information, including your contact details, the date and the description of the event or the situation complained of, and any supporting documents, to the following address:

*Secretariat of the Human Rights Advisory Panel,
UNMIK Main HQ, East Wing,
10.000 Pristina.*

Are there any conditions for submitting a complaint?

Yes, there are some conditions. The most important one is that you should submit your complaint

within six months of the final decision complained of. You should also have made use, before addressing yourself to the Human Rights Advisory Panel, of any other reasonably available means of obtaining redress. Such means are usually appeals before an independent body.

How are complaints handled by the Human Rights Advisory Panel?

The Human Rights Advisory Panel will first look at whether the complaint is of a type that it can handle, whether you have used up all other remedies, and whether you have submitted your complaint within the time-limit of six months.

If all conditions are fulfilled, the Human Rights Advisory Panel may ask information from UNMIK on the event or the situation you are complaining about. UNMIK will then have to explain why it acted in the way that you consider has been in violation of your rights. If necessary, the Human Rights Advisory Panel may organise a hearing to find out more.

In the end, the Human Rights Advisory Panel will adopt an opinion on whether there has been a violation of your human rights by UNMIK. It may also make recommendations, which will be submitted to the SRSG. Its findings and recommendations will be made public.