



# **FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS PLATFORM**

**of the European Union  
Agency for Fundamental Rights**

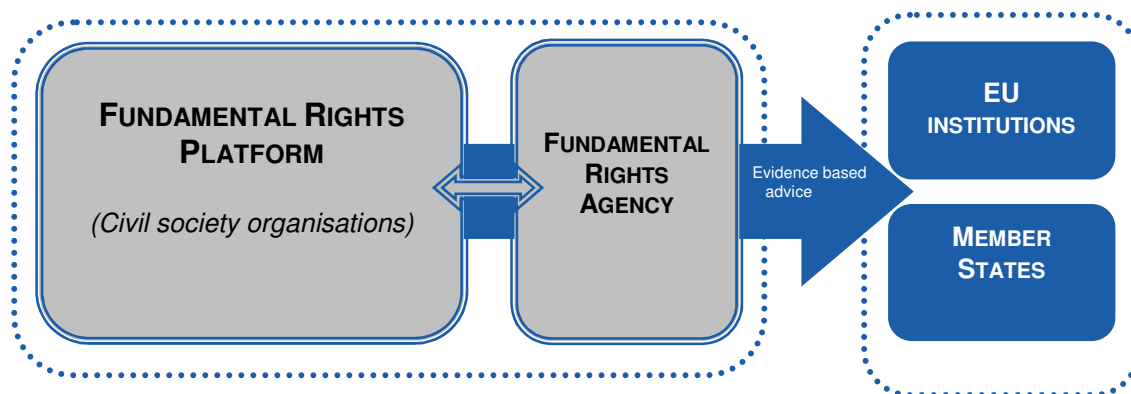
## WHAT is the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)?

The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) established the **Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)** as a network for cooperation and information exchange between the Agency and civil society.

## WHAT does the FRP DO?

FRP members are involved with the FRA's research and awareness raising projects right from attending inception meetings to the evaluation stage. They are invited to help **shape the Terms of Reference** of a project and assist in ensuring that the Agency's work contributes to **finding practical solutions** to problems on the ground. Some FRP members also act as researchers or external contractors.

FRP members are invited to make suggestions for the Agency's Annual Work Programme, which sets out the topics to be covered in its work. FRP members also provide feedback on the Agency's Annual Report. By **influencing the FRA agenda**, FRP members have the potential to influence policy at EU level.

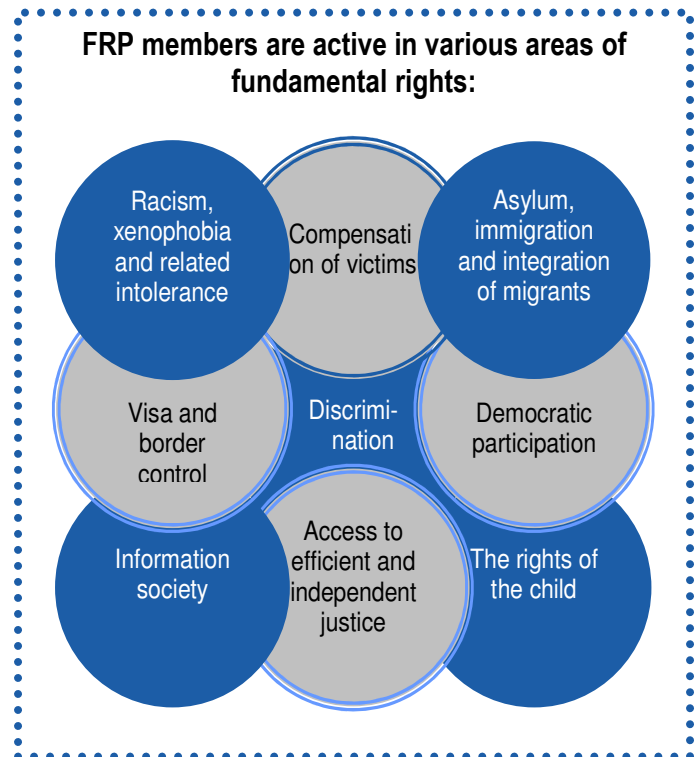


FRP members are among the first to receive the findings of the FRA's research and act as important partners in **disseminating research results**. The members of the FRP meet once a year at the **Fundamental Rights Platform Meeting**, which allows the FRA to listen to concerns and suggestions from civil society and provides a forum for discussion of current human rights issues. In 2009, the FRP Meeting was devoted to the topics of underreporting of human rights violations and the impact of economic crisis on rights protection.

## WHO can be part of the FRP?

The Platform is open to all civil society organisations that meet the following criteria:

- committed to respecting fundamental rights and to working for their advancement, protection and promotion;
- based in one of the EU Member States;
- active in at least one area of the Agency's work;
- have specific expertise, proven experience and engagement in areas of the FRA's work;
- representative in their field of competence at national, regional, European or international level;
- have the ability and capacity to act as a link between local, national and European networks and the Platform;
- able and willing to raise awareness of the FRA's work in their country.



The FRP includes non-governmental organisations dealing with human rights issues, trade unions and employers' organisations, social and professional organisations, religious, philosophical and non-confessional organisations, think-tanks and universities.

In 2008, the FRP brought together 142 organisations from across the European Union. In late 2009 the FRA launched a new call for participation in the Platform, which is expected to bring the number of participants to more than 300.

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights  
Agence des droits fondamentaux de l'Union Européenne  
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