

**BOARD CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM
EQUINET AGM ELECTIONS 2015**

Please return this form to:
**Anne Gaspard, Executive Director
EQUINET Secretariat**

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Deadline for nominations: 8 September 2015

Member Organisation / Equality Body:	Public Defender of Rights
Country:	Czech Republic
Name of Candidate: <i>(Firstname SURNAME)</i>	Petr Polák
Position in the Member organisation:	Head of the Division of Equal Treatment
Contact Email: Telephone:	petr.polak@ochrance.cz
Year of joining Member Organisation in your country:	2011

Please note that a candidacy form will only be valid with page 2 (overleaf) fully completed and accompanied by a CV/profile in English. Please hand-sign and date the form below.

The Secretariat will also need to receive a picture of the candidate (see page 4 of Elections guide).

Your CV/profile may contain only information that you deem relevant to the position of Board Member (e.g. professional experience) and is NOT required to include personal data (e.g. date of birth, personal address)

Date: 8th September 2015

Signature:

Please note that your candidacy information will be made available to Members prior to AGM and access to this information will be restricted to Equinet Members only.

My motivation for becoming a member of the Equinet Executive Board: (please explain why you would like to sit on the Equinet Executive Board)

As a lawyer handling discrimination cases day by day I have been always inspired by the work of Equinet in the field of non-discrimination (methods of work, peer learning, strategic planning and visible impact on the European agenda). However, since I have become a Head of the Division of Equal Treatment I've realized how important is to contribute actively to different activities of the network – to inspire other members and, vice versa, let them inspire us. That's why I have been constantly pushing former and current management of the Ombudsman Office to allow our employees to be largely involved in all existing working groups and attend Equinet seminars, clusters and conferences on regular basis. The enhanced cooperation and mutual learning create, in my opinion, a core of European integration. Basically, this was the way how Czech Equality body was growing and developing its potential through years of its membership. This goal was fully achieved last year when new Ombudsperson, Ms. Anna Sabatova, was elected for the mandate of six years. Without her support and strong commitment to equality agenda our presence in Equinet would not have been visible as it is nowadays. But time for the next step has come. Czech Equality body, and me personally, is fully identified with Equinet Strategic Plan 2015-2018 and strongly believes in the growing potential of this unique network. It would be absolute privilege to sit on the next Equinet Executive Board, keep defending values of equality on the European level in the eyes of policy makers and partners and contribute to changes at societal level. I'm willing to reflect the needs of all Equinet members, promote innovative methods of peer learning and work hardly on any task which I will be entrusted with. Particularly, the issue of common standards which are essential for the mission of all of us, calls my special attention. I can also promise to be fully committed to developing fruitful cooperation with the Commissioner Vera Jourova. I genuinely believe that all Equinet members (and Secretariat as well) can benefit simply from the fact that we share same mother tongue and have similar legal and historical background.

Additional note or other relevant information relating to your application (if any):

The text boxes are expandable

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