

In order to develop a common understanding and strengthen the cooperation and solidarity among Ombudsmen regarding to the challenges in terms of protection of human rights during migration flows, **4th International Symposium on Ombudsman Institutions** on the main theme of **“Migration and Refugees”** was held on **2-3 March 2017**, in Ankara. 48 representatives from 33 Ombudsman Institutions from all over the world attended to the Symposium.

Opening Ceremony of the Symposium was held at Presidential Complex with keynote speeches of the Chief Ombudsman Mr. Şeref Malkoç, Prime Minister Mr. Binali Yıldırım and President Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

Symposium started with “Ombudsmen Forum” which provided a basis for sharing the ideas and experiences of participating Ombudsmen on migration and refugees. During the sessions, Ombudsmen, presidents of supreme courts, relevant ministers, bureaucrats and journalists addressed to audiences on the topics: “Migration and Refugee Policies”, “Vulnerable Groups in Refugees: Women and Children” and “Xenophobia, Racism and Islamophobia, in Relation with Migration”.

Symposium closed with final assessment and closing speeches.