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Advocacy Center
for Democratic Culture

NEWSLETTER



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SOCIAL MEDIA



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INTRODUCTION

The June edition of the newsletter contains the latest news, events and activities conducted by ACDC. Two projects have been successfully finished, a three-month internship for young lawyers in the Basic Court in Mitrovica has been completed, a media campaign promoting cultural diversity has been launched, while street activities across Kosovo have continued in order to provide free legal aid to citizens.

CLOSING CONFERENCE OF THE PROJECT FACILITATING ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE MITROVICA REGION



A conference on human rights that served as the final event of the UNMIK-supported project "Facilitating Access to Justice and Promoting Human Rights in the Mitrovica Region", was held on June 21, on the premises of International Business College in Mitrovica. The panelists were Mr. Jerome Bouyjou, Chief of UNMIK Human Rights Section, Ms. Marija Radulović, Deputy Ombudsperson of Kosovo, and Mr. Ljubiša Baščarević, from the Council of Europe Office in Pristina. The conference aimed to emphasize the importance of respect for human rights.

In his opening remarks, Dušan Radaković, NGO ACDC Executive Director, presented the results and achievements of the project, while the panelists presented the work of their institutions and discussed the national and European/international human rights standards and their application.



PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT

Through different activities, the UNMIK-funded project “Facilitating Access to Justice and Promoting Human Rights in the Mitrovica Region” aimed to improve work conditions at the Basic Court of Mitrovica and increase capacities for the promotion of human rights in the Mitrovica region.

The infographic provides the project's achievements from September 2021 up to June 2022.



TRAINING WITH MUNICIPAL OFFICERS FROM THE NORTH OF KOSOVO

In June, NGO ACDC organized training with municipal human rights / gender / non-discrimination / communities / return officers from northern Kosovo, that offered participants the opportunity to learn more about the basic concepts of gender equality, international standards, and the Law on Gender Equality. The training was delivered by Ms. Marija Radulovic, Deputy Ombudsman.



"DEALING WITH THE PAST - MISSING PERSONS"

The conference "Dealing with the Past - Missing Persons" was held on June 13th on the premises of NGO ACDC. The panelists were Mr. Negovan Mavrić and Mrs. Silvana Marinković, Coordinators of the Association of missing persons, Mr. Aid Cerkini, Member of the Resource Center of Missing Persons, and Mrs. Ines Aljović Mihajlović, Program Officer at ACDC.



The conference aimed to emphasize the importance of addressing the issue of missing persons in Kosovo and present the results of the project "Dealing with the Past and Reconciliation in Kosovo through raising awareness of the issue of the missing persons", conducted by NGO ACDC.

MEDIA TALK

Radmila Petrovic, a young poet from Serbia who was staying in Pristina as part of the READ Residency program, and Slobodan Masic, a writer from Kosovo, spoke about their experiences in promotion of the reading culture, challenges, successes, and regional cooperation.



The media talk is part of the project Supporting Young Writers in Intercultural Dialogue and Promoting Cultural Diversity conducted by the NGO ACDC and supported by the EU project Regional Network for Cultural Diversity - READ implemented by Goethe Institute Skopje a lead partner and 5 partners organizations from the region. The goal of the READ project is to promote intercultural reading skills and democratic values through reading culture.



OP-ED

Erzen Isufi, mentor volunteer, licensed by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, wrote an OP-ED on reading promotion. In his text, he referred to the reading culture in Kosovo, emphasizing the importance of motivating young people to read as one of the crucial factors in increasing their learning performance and professional development.

MEDIA CAMPAIGN ON CULTURAL DIVERSITY

In June, NGO ACDC started a media campaign involving citizens from Kosovo to share a message on cultural diversity. Read the messages from Slobodan, Lulzim and Ilda.



The READ-supported campaign aims to raise public awareness and promote understanding and respect for diverse cultures and cultural expressions.

M4Y

In June, the grant selection committee within the project Municipalities for Youth - M4Y met to evaluate the applications received and select the projects to be implemented. During the next month, the signing of the contract and the beginning of the implementation of the project is expected.



FREE LEGAL AID FOR THE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

In June, street actions - "Mobile Legal Clinic" were organized in Zubin Potok and Gračanica, with the aim to raise citizens' awareness of the problems of gender-based and domestic violence, as well as to provide the necessary information on the use of free legal aid for victims of violence.

The project "Initiative for Education against Domestic and Sexual Violence" is implemented by the Center for Legal Aid and Regional Development (CLARD) in cooperation with the Kosovo Institute of Justice and the NGO ACDC.

This one-day activity will be continued in other municipalities in Kosovo with the aim to increase citizens' awareness of the importance of prevention and action against domestic and gender-based violence with an overarching goal to protect women as the most vulnerable group.



THE FOURTH TOWN HALL MEETING

On June 27th, the fourth town hall meeting within the project "Enhancing Institutional Response to Corruption in northern Kosovo" was held.

The panelists were Mr. Visar Prebreza from Kallxo.com, who is also working with BIRN Kosovo, Mr. Zoran Gavrilović from Bureau for Social Research - BIRODI from Belgrade, and Ms. Jovana Filipović, a lawyer from Gračanica, Kosovo.

The meeting addressed corruption in Kosovo and the region, with particular emphasis on corruption in local and central institutions.



KSC INFO SESSION

In cooperation with NGO ACDC, representatives of the Kosovo Specialized Chambers held an info session to present the work and the mandate of KSC. The info session was attended by lawyers and other citizens who had the opportunity to get acquainted with the work of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and the role of the Ombudsperson Institution of KSC.



MOOT COURT TRIAL

On June 29, the interns engaged in the INL-funded project "Enhancing Transparency and the Rule of Law in Serb-majority Municipalities", held a moot-court trial simulation at the Basic Court in Mitrovica, thus ending a three-month internship.

The moot court trial was prepared with the help of judges from the Basic Court in Mitrovica. This activity offered interns the opportunity to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they acquired in working with judges and other court staff.



NGO ACDC Executive Director, Dusan Radakovic for RTS about the energy agreement and the „Valac“ power station.

