



## Partnership for Good Governance 2019-2021 (PGGII)

### Project: Implementation of judicial reforms

#### Component 1: Support to the judicial reform – enhancing the independence and professionalism of the judiciary in Armenia

##### What is the goal?

- ▶ To promote judicial independence, the effectiveness of legal proceedings and access to justice in Armenia

##### Who benefits from the project?

- ▶ The general public, including persons seeking the protection of their rights in courts;
- ▶ Judges, judicial self-governing bodies, lawyers, members of the Parliament of Armenia who will apply improved legal acts in their daily work;
- ▶ Policy and decision-makers of the field of justice;
- ▶ Mediators and arbitrators;
- ▶ Civil society organisations.

##### How does the project work?

- ▶ With a tailor-made approach to meet the emerging needs of the justice reform in the country;
- ▶ Through providing legal drafting support to the justice reform;
- ▶ By enhancing the application of mediation and arbitration in accordance with Council of Europe standards and recommendations
- ▶ By engaging the main national partners, civil society and other stakeholders to strengthening the local ownership of the project;
- ▶ Through bilateral meetings as well as multilateral exchange of experience;
- ▶ Through advice and expertise on the legislation, reviews and substantive recommendations;
- ▶ It builds on the results of co-operation in the field of Justice under the PGG Phase I (2015-2018).

##### What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ National legal acts on the judiciary are developed, revised and implemented in line with Council of Europe standards.
- ▶ Transparency and efficiency of the work of the judicial self-governing bodies, namely the newly established Supreme Judicial Council and the General Assembly of Judges are enhanced.
- ▶ Equal access to justice and legal certainty is strengthened and the efficiency of the performance and management of the courts are improved.
- ▶ Practical application of arbitration and mediation in Armenia is improved.
- ▶ Access to justice for the public is facilitated for the , the backlog of cases is reduced.

##### How much does it cost?

##### What is the project duration?

- The total budget is EUR 905,000.
- 80% is funded by the European Union and 20% by the Council of Europe. The project is implemented by the Council of Europe.

The project runs from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021.

### Where do I learn more?

- ▶ Justice and Legal Co-operation Department Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe.

- ▶ Ms. Lilit Daneghian, Head of Justice Sector Reform Unit (Strasbourg) [Lilit.DANEGHIAN-BOSSLER@coe.int](mailto:Lilit.DANEGHIAN-BOSSLER@coe.int)
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## Component 2: Supporting the criminal justice reform and harmonising the application of European standards in Armenia

### What is the goal?

- ▶ The Project aims at supporting Armenia in the criminal justice reform through legislative, methodological and capacity-building assistance.

### How does the project work?

- ▶ Through providing expert advice in the process of formulating and applying criminal and criminal procedure policy by key justice sector stakeholders.
- ▶ Building capacity of the Justice Academy to train judges and judicial servants, as well as training staff of criminal justice sector institutions.
- ▶ Through of the provision of tailor-made advice and expertise, analytical reviews, substantive and methodological recommendations, capacity-building
- ▶ Closely co-operating on all capacity-development activities with the European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals – HELP ([www.coe.int/help](http://www.coe.int/help)).
- ▶ Building on the results of co-operation in the field of Justice under PGG Phase I (2015-2018)

### How much does it cost?

- ▶ The total budget is EUR 515,000.

### Who benefits from the project?

- ▶ General public;
- ▶ Civil society;
- ▶ Partner institutions and their staff: Ministry of Justice, Justice Academy, other judiciary bodies,
- ▶ Representative of the Republic of Armenia before the European Court of Human Rights,
- ▶ Parliament,
- ▶ Office of the General Prosecutor,
- ▶ Special Investigation Service,
- ▶ Investigative Committee,
- ▶ Human Rights Defender's Office.

### What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ National criminal justice policy and practice are better aligned with European standards;
- ▶ Harmonisation of national jurisprudence with the ECtHR case-law facilitated;
- ▶ Capacity of the Justice Academy to train judges, candidate judges and judicial servant on criminal justice and human rights is strengthened.

### What is the project duration?

- ▶ The project runs from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021.

- ▶ 80% is funded by the European Union and 20% by the Council of Europe. The programme is implemented by the Council of Europe.

### How do we get more information?

▶ Human Rights National Implementation Division, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI), Council of Europe

- ▶ Ms. Maria Oreshkina, Project Co-ordinator (Strasbourg) [maria.oreshkina@coe.int](mailto:maria.oreshkina@coe.int)
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*This project is a bilateral project with Armenia implemented under the Partnership for Good Governance Programme (phase II also referred to as PGGII).*

*In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed that targeted co-operation activities with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus – the EU's Eastern Partnership countries – would be implemented under the Partnership for Good Governance programme. The phase I of the programme (PGGI) started in 2015 and was completed in 2018; the second phase of the programme (PGGII) was launched in 2019 and will run until 2021.*

*These co-operation activities aim to strengthen the capacity of the Eastern Partnership countries, which are member States of the Council of Europe, with the exception of Belarus, to implement domestic reforms to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.*