

Consolidation of justice sector policy development in Ukraine

Project summary

Project title	Consolidation of justice sector policy development in Ukraine
Country	Ukraine
Budget	1 115 000 €
Funding	EU/CoE Joint Programme
Duration	24 months (January 2015-December 2016)
Partners and beneficiaries	17 key Ukrainian justice sector institutions, including decision-makers (members of the parliament and of the Government of Ukraine, primarily the Ministry of Justice), members and staff of judicial self-governing authorities; judges, prosecutors, lawyers, criminal investigators, police and penitentiary officials, staff of the Ombudsperson's Office, members of the civil society and media outlets involved in promoting justice reforms
Main objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to give the Ukrainian justice sector stakeholders access to rapid and tailored expertise and advice on Council of Europe standards so that (a) conformity of the reform with Council of Europe standards is ensured, and (b) the targets and benchmarks for implementing the Justice Sector Reform Strategy (JSRS) can be met 2. to accompany the reform by capacity building of stakeholders' staff in order to enable them to implement the reform 3. to facilitate the review of the progress of the reform of the Ukrainian justice sector 4. to contribute to ensuring public information and debate with civil society on the justice sector reform with a view to achieving broad understanding of and support for the reform.
Outputs and results achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recommendations provided on the implementation of the JSRS to streamline the reform process and the reformed justice sector with Council of Europe standards in the course of 18 activities, including in particular on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o competencies and working procedures of the High Council of Justice;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ protection of human rights by courts at times of conflict, including through harmonizing court practice; ○ developing judges’ qualifications and evaluating their performance; ○ implementing the right to individual constitutional complaint, etc.; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the mechanism in charge of coordinating the justice sector reform (Justice Reform Council) supported in its coordinating function, in particular through assisting the Special Advisor of the Secretary General of the CoE for Ukraine to carry out his role of JRC observer and provide advice on implementing and coordinating the justice reform; - the function of the JRC as the body monitoring the implementation of the JSRS and assessing the results of the reform strengthened by developing and putting at its disposal a comprehensive reform monitoring tool – Progress Review Methodology of Justice Sector Reform in Ukraine (PRM); - capacity of justice sector stakeholders to implement the reform strengthened in the course of 23 activities with the participation of judges, lawyers, prosecutors, trainers of justice sector training institutions, staff of Verkhovna Rada secretariat, SBU, police, migration and prison officers, staff of the Ministries of Justice, Defence and Health and of the Ombudsman Office, journalists covering court proceedings; - public awareness of and support of the civil society to the reform fostered by advocating for the adoption of constitutional amendments with regard to justice before legislators, supporting discussion platforms for reform modalities enabling exchange of views between justice sector institutions and the civil society; supporting selected justice sector institutions in developing and implementing communication strategies, including by training judges-speakers and journalists on exchanging and presenting information on court proceedings to the public at large or producing and disseminating informational material.
<p>Some activities implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Comparative Study on the Role of the Councils for the Judiciary in the Legislative Process in Selected Council of Europe Member States” - High-level Conference “Constitutional Reform in Ukraine: Outcomes and Perspectives” - A series of seminars for judges working in the regions bordering

	<p>with territories outside the control of the Government on safeguarding human rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A series of trainings on the ECHR for judges, lawyers and staff of the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat- Forums on the implementation of constitutional amendments with the participation of key NGOs and the judiciary- 2 study visits to the CoE and ECtHR in Strasbourg- Translation of the case of <i>Baka v. Hungary</i> into Ukrainian- Development of the Progress Review Methodology of Justice Sector Reform in Ukraine- Publication and dissemination of a new edition of the “Manual on Judicial Journalism”, accompanied by seminars for court journalists and judges-speakers
Links to websites or relevant documents	www.pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/consolidation-justice-ukraine