

## Supporting effective remedies and mutual legal assistance - SEMA

### *Project summary*

<b>Project title</b>	Supporting effective remedies and mutual legal assistance - SEMA
<b>Country</b>	Serbia
<b>Budget</b>	650,000 EUR
<b>Funding</b>	European Union/Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
<b>Duration</b>	18 months (1 January 2017 - 30 June 2018)
<b>Partners and beneficiaries</b>	Judges, prosecutors, lawyers, staff members of the High Judicial Council, State Prosecutorial Council, Republic Public Prosecutor's Office, Supreme Court of Cassation, the Serbian State Agent before the ECtHR and the Judicial Academy.
<b>Main objectives</b>	to support the provision of effective domestic remedies for systemic human rights violations and to strengthen mutual legal assistance
<b>Expected outputs and results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- co-operation and coordination between authorities and legal professionals on how to prevent systemic human rights violations and facilitate effective remedies are enhanced;</li> <li>- capacity of the Judicial Academy to support legal professionals in addressing systemic human rights violations (including mutual legal assistance) is strengthened;</li> <li>- capacities of legal professionals, judges, prosecutors, lawyers and legal assistants, to apply the provisions of the ECHR and the ECtHR case law are reinforced;</li> <li>- capacity of the Judicial Academy to train legal professionals on mutual legal assistance is enforced.</li> </ul>
<b>Implemented or planned activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- establishment of the working group in charge of revision of the main causes responsible for a lack of domestic remedies for systemic human rights violations;</li> <li>- comprehensive needs-assessment aiming at identifying systemic human rights violations, analysing comparable good practices in neighbouring countries, developing effective solutions and identifying two specific themes to be integrated in the training programme of the Judicial Academy;</li> <li>- establishment of a regional think-tank for the exchange of experiences among legal professionals on elimination of</li> </ul>

	<p>systemic or structural problems highlighted by the ECtHR and identified in the needs-assessment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- development of training curricula and materials for continuous education of legal professionals, including judicial assistants, on two specific themes identified during the needs-assessment and integration of the developed materials in the training programme of the Judicial Academy;</li><li>- training sessions on newly developed training curricula and materials;</li><li>- development of a manual on effective implementation of the ECHR and the ECtHR case-law harmonisation at the national level;</li><li>- development of a manual on effective investigation with reference to the Articles 3, 6, 8 and 14 of the ECHR;</li><li>- working seminars for judges, prosecutors and legal assistants on the ECHR effective implementation and the ECtHR case law harmonisation at the national level;</li><li>- adaptation of existing HELP curricula on the topic of mutual legal assistance and training materials (compendiums of key concepts, handbooks, case studies) to the Serbian context;</li><li>- awareness raising activities for legal professionals, including legal assistants, on systemic human rights violations and judicial dialogue between the courts.</li></ul>
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