

**Strengthening the application of the European Convention on Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights in Armenia**

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*Project summary*

<b>Project title</b>	Strengthening the application of the European Convention on Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights in Armenia
<b>Country</b>	Armenia
<b>Budget</b>	1 000 000 €
<b>Funding</b>	Voluntary contribution - Government of Denmark
<b>Duration</b>	27 months (01 October 2013-31 December 2015)
<b>Partners and beneficiaries</b>	Court of Cassation, Justice Academy, Ministry of Justice as well as judges from the Court of Cassation and lower courts, prosecutors, judicial servants, trainers from the Justice Academy, staff of the Department for Relations with the European Court of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice.
<b>Main objective</b>	to improve the effective implementation of European human rights standards in Armenia
<b>Outputs and results</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the capacity of the Court of Cassation to ensure a harmonised application of European human rights standards at national level was strengthened:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 high-level thematic workshops on the ECHR were organised for all judges of the Court of Cassation, judicial assistants and staff of the Judicial Department,</li> <li>- a study visit to the French Court of Cassation facilitated peer-to-peer exchanges,</li> <li>- a human rights structure was established within the judiciary and its staff was trained to provide internal support of the ECHR and ECtHR case law,</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Database of judgments Datalex was improved.</li> </ul> <p>2. the training capacity of the Justice Academy on human rights as well as the knowledge and skills of judges, prosecutors and judicial servants to apply European human rights standards in their daily work were enhanced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a pool of 20 certified trainers on human rights was created,</li> <li>- 4 standardised training courses were developed and integrated into the curricula of the Justice Academy,</li> <li>- 183 judges and prosecutors, included candidates, improved their knowledge on the ECHR through cascade seminars and thematic workshops,</li> <li>- the HELP online course on Introduction to the ECHR was implemented</li> </ul> <p>3. the capacity of the Ministry of Justice, in particular its Department for Relations with the European Court of Human Rights, to ensure the application of European human rights standards at national level was strengthened:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a conference on the role of government agents, workshops on various ECHR aspects and ECtHR case law, round tables and exchanges of best practices through a study visit to the Belgian Government agent's office and the Council of Europe were organised,</li> <li>- support for the creation of a website of the Government agent's office was provided.</li> </ul>
<b>Follow-up</b>	<p>A follow-up was ensured through the EU/CoE Programmatic cooperation framework, with a new project on supporting the criminal justice reform and the fight against ill-treatment and impunity (with the Ministry of Justice and the Justice Academy). Another action with the judiciary was developed.</p>