

Support to coherent implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova

Project summary

Project title	Support to coherent implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova
Country	Republic of Moldova
Budget	600 000 €
Funding	Norway/Voluntary contribution
Duration	25 months (1 January 2014 – 29 February 2016)
Partners and beneficiaries	Ministry of Justice (including the Government Agent to the European Court of Human Rights), Supreme Court of Justice, Prosecutor's General Office, Superior Council of Magistracy, Office of the People's Advocate (Ombudsperson Institution), Constitutional Court, National Institute of Justice
Main objectives	To improve the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova by developing the capacity of judicial authorities to effectively implement the ECHR and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights
Results achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laws and draft legislation which have or might have an effect on the level and efficiency of the protection of human rights were assessed by the Council of Europe; - legal assessments and recommendations formulated under the project were followed; - awareness about the standards of the ECHR was raised and a favourable environment was created for its harmonised implementation by the law enforcement and judicial bodies. - the criminal procedure contains procedural guarantees required under the ECHR and case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR); - procedural guarantees for human rights protection are applied correspondingly by all responsible institutions and state agents. - a pool of national ECHR trainers was reinforced; - more CoE HELP training materials are available to legal professionals of the Republic of Moldova
Implemented activities and outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Draft Law on Government Agent and the Draft Law to amend the Criminal Procedure Code were reviewed by the CoE upon the request of the Ministry of Justice to assess their compliance to the ECHR standards and the European best practices. Findings and recommendations of the assessment reports were discussed with the representatives of the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry of Justice

subsequently informed the Project team that the majority of recommendations had been taken into account and the draft text was amended accordingly. In January 2015, the draft laws were submitted to the Government for a subsequent approval and submission to the Parliament.

- The assessment of the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plans (NHRAP) 2004 – 2008 and 2011 – 2014 was done. The assessment report was prepared in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR) in Moldova. The conclusions of the evaluation were presented at a round table, organised jointly with the Ministry of Justice in Chisinau on 28 September 2015.
- More than 20 human rights capacity building activities were organized for judges, courts' legal advisers, lawyers, prosecutors, the Constitutional Court and staff members of the Ombudsperson Institution. Those included a comprehensive training-of-trainers programme on the ECHR for the trainers of National Institute of Justice (NIJ), training seminars for staff of the Ombudsman Institution and Constitutional Court, study visits to Strasbourg for judges and prosecutors, for the staff of the Ombudsman Institution and for the judges and legal advisers of the Constitutional Court.
- The CoE HELP courses were officially introduced into the curriculum of the National Institute of Justice
- An International Conference "Bringing human rights home: commitments, challenges, education and cooperation" was organised by the CoE on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the accession of the Republic of Moldova to the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice and the NIJ (4-5 November 2015, Chisinau). Among the Conference participants were the President of the Parliament, the Minister of Justice, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, the President of the Constitutional Court and the Prosecutor General.