

The Council of Europe Office in Belgrade was opened by the Secretary General on 16 March 2001, as a contact point for co-operation with the authorities.

Its main task is to assist Serbia in conducting democratic reforms, thereby also advancing its European integration process. The Council of Europe provides targeted advice and assistance to effectively promote democracy, good governance, human rights protection and the rule of law.

## KEY FIGURES

AS OF 1 JANUARY 2025



### 35 STAFF MEMBERS

- 8 Core Staff
- 27 Project Staff



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC PROJECTS: 9

- 6 actions as part of the EU / Council of Europe Horizontal Facility
- 1 EU / Council of Europe joint programme
- 2 projects funded through voluntary contributions



### REGIONAL PROJECTS: 11



## IN FOCUS: EU / COUNCIL OF EUROPE JOINT PROGRAMME

- Strengthening justice
- Fight against corruption
- Combating discrimination
- Freedom of expression
- Expertise co-ordination mechanism



[horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int](https://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int)

# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



## Media freedom bolstered

New bylaws empower journalists to counter lawsuits limiting public participation, enhance media content, and strengthen the capacity of key media institutions, promoting greater freedom for citizens in Serbia.

## Roma community empowered at local level

Over 700 Roma citizens, including 35% women, and 79 local authorities participated in training on Roma-sensitive budgeting, anti-discrimination, and trafficking prevention, fostering collaborative problem-solving.



## Enhanced human rights protection through judicial dialogue

Strengthened judicial dialogue between domestic legal professionals and the European Court of Human Rights enhanced the effective national implementation of the Court's judgments, thereby improving the human rights protection for citizens in Serbia.

## Judicial independence and accountability supported

35 new bylaws enable full implementation of judicial laws, aligning Serbia's judiciary with Council of Europe standards to ensure transparency and independence.



## Anti-trafficking capacity expanded

The first report from the National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking was published. Through grants supporting civil society involvement, awareness and response to labour, child, and online trafficking was strengthened.

## Enhanced prisoner rehabilitation and security measures in Serbia

Serbia's penitentiary system now fosters effective prisoner reintegration through new tools prioritising vulnerable groups (juveniles, women, and individuals with mental health challenges). It also allowed for the development of targeted assessments and rehabilitation strategies addressing radicalisation of prisoners, ultimately bolstering regional security.



## Strengthened anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism measures

The support of the Council of Europe allowed to conduct a comprehensive National Risk Assessment. This preparatory work paved the way for the preparation of an integrity framework for senior public officials and improved regulation of lobbying activities.

### MORE INFORMATION



[www.coe.int/belgrade](http://www.coe.int/belgrade)



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