



HELP

Human Rights Education
for Legal Professionals ■

Project “HELP (**H**uman Rights **E**ducation for **L**egal **P**rofessionals)
for UKRAINE including during wartime”

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Project developed /implemented under the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023-2026

Approved by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Dec 2022

- use of the methodology and implementation/integration of all relevant **HELP courses** on **professional training in Ukraine**
- support the inclusion of HELP courses or its adaptation in the area of national and international human rights mechanisms (focus on European ones) **for students of the law faculties/universities**
- strengthen the **professional capacity of lawyers**, quality of **legal education**, and support the development of the **Ukrainian National Bar Association**, other legal associations and civil society organisations, and the system of **free legal aid**



Project main goal: Enhancing the capacities of **current/future legal professionals in Ukraine** (judges, prosecutors, lawyers, other court staff and law students) in order to **apply the European (CoE + EU) human rights standards efficiently** including during **wartime**.

Expected impact: Ukrainians benefit from better **human rights protection and remedies** against HR violations during wartime.

Duration: 2023-2024

The total budget of the Project amounts to **EUR 626 000**.

It is a follow up of a 2022 Project “Supporting contextualization of HELP modules/courses for legal professionals in times of war in Ukraine”



The Project is being implemented thanks to donors of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2023-2026

European Union, Germany, Norway, Finland, Sweden, HRTF, Ireland, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Poland, Netherlands, France, Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Romania, Lithuania, Portugal, Andorra, Malta



Project's objectives

- The Project supports **justice training institutions** and the Ukrainian **National Bar association**, as well as **Law faculties/universities** to strengthen their institutional capacities to improve the qualification of current and future legal professionals on the standards and practices of the Council of Europe.
- In the challenging situation of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, legal professionals (primarily judges, prosecutors, investigators and lawyers) should have the necessary **knowledge and skills to apply the European and international human rights standards to protect human rights** and access the information needed for informed decision-making.
- Moreover, **law students** need constant improvement in their knowledge of European human rights standards (**including in times of war**), as this category will soon become practicing legal professionals.

Project`s partners

- The National **School of Judges** of Ukraine
- The **Prosecutor`s Training Centre** of Ukraine
- The Coordination Center for **Legal Aid** Provision at the **Ministry of Justice** of Ukraine
- **Law Faculties** in Ukraine
- The High School of Public Governance
- The National Bar Association of Ukraine



Training of future Ukrainian lawyers and their acquiring of skills to perform the new tasks during the war is a top priority for the new Council of Europe Project “HELP (Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals) for Ukraine including during wartime”.

- The Project received **political support by the Ministry of Education and Science**: the introduction of the HELP courses was widely encouraged by the Ministry as a form of non-formal education in the curricula of higher education institutions that train future lawyers
- On 18 April, more than **95 representatives of higher education institutions** from different regions of Ukraine took part in the **online presentation of the HELP Programme and courses**
- The project is a member of the **donors working group on the reform of legal education in Ukraine**
- The Project is developing the **Strategy of the introduction of HELP courses in the legal education in Ukraine**



Organisation of training of trainers workshops to share knowledge on the methodology for developing distance learning courses and expand the HELP community of tutors (ToT)

- 20 tutors-professors of universities passed ToT in Kyiv and received certificates
- One more on-line ToT for the professors of the universities will be organised on 14-15 December 2023
- More ToTs are planned for 2024



Cooperation with Ukrainian universities and law schools

Presentations of HELP courses for educational institutions were held:

- *National Academy of Internal Affairs for representatives of departments, April
- *National Aviation University for 150 teachers and students, September
- *Lviv University of Trade and Economics for 75 teachers and students, September
- *Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs, September
- *Ukrainian State University named after Mykhailo Dragomanov



The Strategy on introduction of HELP courses in legal education in Ukraine

- The Strategy is developed by experts with CSO “Commission on Legal Education and Awareness”
- The Strategy will provide an **overview of existing practices of recognition of non-formal education in Ukraine**
- **Practical recommendations for effective implementation** of HELP courses in educational process
- **Proposals for further development of the process of integration** of HELP courses
- It is planned to present the Strategy to all Ukrainian legal universities in January 2024 in **partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine**

Development of HELP course on International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

- The course will help to **raise the knowledge of legal professionals** (prosecutors, investigators, lawyers, academics and students) on (i) International Humanitarian Law (IHL), which is the legal framework applicable to situations of armed conflict and occupation and which aims, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of the said conflict and (ii) **related standards of the International Human Rights Law (IHRL), and in particular the ECHR**, as the HR protection it affords does not cease in the case of armed conflict.
- The course is expected to be finalised in 2023.



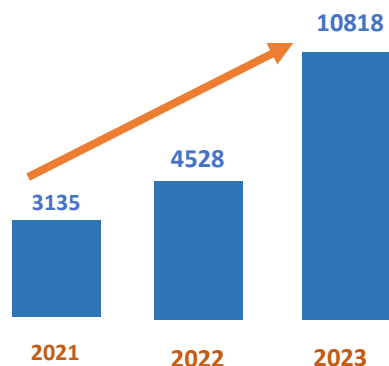
International Students Day in Ukraine

- 17 November is widely celebrated as an International Students Day. Despite Russian aggression Ukrainian universities joined this celebration by organising meetings between the students and the representatives of national authorities and international partners.
- On this occasion and on the initiative of the Council of Europe Project HELP for Ukraine, the presentation of the HELP programme was organized for the professors and students of the **Ukrainian State University named after Mykhailo Dragomanov**



Success of HELP courses in Ukraine

- The number of HELP Platform users from Ukraine has grown from **6472** in December 2022 to **10818** in December 2023
- Ukraine is on **3rd** place according to N. of users after Türkiye and Italy
- **782** participants from Ukraine passed tutored courses and received the certificates
- **49** tutored courses have been launched in Ukraine (Internal Displacement, Bioethics, Antidiscrimination and Hate Crime and Hate Speech were launched most often)



TOP-10 courses in Ukrainian (according to N. enrolled participants as self-learners)

1. Introduction to the **ECHR** and the ECtHR
2. Admissibility Criteria
3. Asylum/Migration
4. **Internal Displacement**
5. International Cooperation in Criminal matters
6. **Labour** rights
7. Access to **Justice for Women**
8. **Children's** Rights – Key Challenges
9. **Ethics** for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers
10. Introduction to the **European Social Charter**

Plans for cooperation with universities in Ukraine

- **Trainings for trainers** for professors of the universities
- Wide **presentation of the Strategy on introduction of HELP courses** in legal education in Ukraine
- **Study visit** for the representatives of beneficiaries to Strasbourg
- Organisation of **presentations** of HELP Programme and courses to Ukrainian universities
- Creating an **informal network of university teachers** on introduction of HELP courses in universities



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PROJECT

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



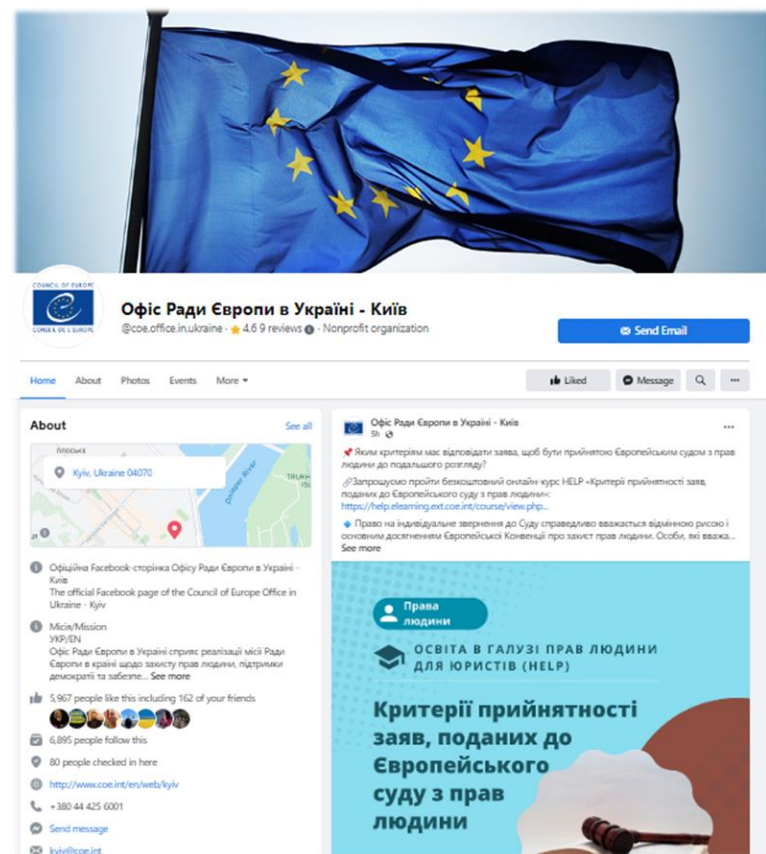
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