

Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in South-East Europe – regional (JUFREX)

Beneficiaries	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo ¹ , Montenegro and Serbia
Funding	Council of Europe/European Union - Joint Programme
Duration	36 months (April 2016 – March 2019)
Main Objective	To promote freedom of expression and freedom of the media in line with Council of Europe standards, with a specific focus on the Judiciary in South-East Europe.
Specific Objectives	<p><u>Support to Judiciary</u> Specific objective 1: To enhance the application of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) case-law in the field of freedom of expression in the daily work of the judiciary through the interpretation and implementation of the legislation in line with European standards.</p> <p>Specific objective 2: To strengthen the capacity of the national training centres, judges' and prosecutors' academies and bar associations to train legal professionals on the ECtHR, the case-law of the ECtHR and other European standards on freedom of expression.</p> <p>Specific objective 3: To increase the awareness and capacity of judges, public prosecutors and lawyers dealing with freedom of expression issues on CoE standards and the case-law of the ECtHR.</p> <p><u>Support to media regulatory authorities</u> Specific objective 4: To enhance the independence and effectiveness of the bodies responsible for broadcasting regulation, in line with European standards.</p> <p><u>Training of media professionals</u> Specific objective 5: To promote rights and responsibilities of journalists and develop professionalism, responsibility and respect of ethical rules among journalists based on the ECtHR case-law and other CoE legal instruments.</p>
Target groups	Judges, prosecutors, lawyers, media regulatory authorities, public media services, journalists and other media actors
Expected results	<p><u>Support to Judiciary</u> Expected result 1: Domestic judgments reflecting application of Article 10 and ECtHR case-law are increased;</p> <p>Expected result 2: The training curricula on Article 10 are developed and the capacity of the national training institutions with regard to freedom of expression and the media are improved;</p> <p>Expected result 3: Regional forum of legal professions is established and it regularly meets to exchange good practices and provide mutual support for the development of domestic case-law in line with ECtHR case-law on media issues, namely Article 6, 8 and 10.</p> <p><u>Support to media regulatory authorities</u> Expected result 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Studies on independence and effectiveness of the regulatory authorities continue to be provided after request of the national authorities;• Regulatory authorities' and employers' professional capacities are strengthened;• Regional co-operation between regulators is developed; exchange of good/bad practices is established. <p><u>Training of media professionals</u> Expected result 5: Structural dialogue between media actors, self-regulatory bodies, judiciary, politicians, parliamentarians, police and human rights defenders is established at national and regional level. Media actors are aware of their duties and responsibilities and their professional capacities are strengthened.</p>

¹ All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text, shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.