

Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals Programme (HELP) in Central Asia

What is the goal?

- ▶ Facilitating the creation of a common legal space between Europe and Central Asia and enhancing human rights protection

The Project contributes to raising awareness of Council of Europe legal instruments among national stakeholders to promote understanding and effective implementation of European human rights standards, which in turn will enhance the human rights protection. To do this, the Project will use methodology of European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP). Relevant HELP e-learning courses will be adapted to the national legal context in Central Asia states and implemented among legal professionals.

Who benefits from the Project?

- ▶ The HELP Programme targets legal professionals (judges, prosecutors and lawyers), with the aim to improve their knowledge of European human rights standards;
- ▶ Ultimate beneficiaries of the Project are citizens of the Central Asian states;
- ▶ Other stakeholders responsible for application of human rights standards and universities also benefit from the courses on the HELP online platform.

How will the Project work?

- ▶ The Project will determine the actual needs of legal professionals in terms of human rights training. This needs assessment will serve to identify which online courses need to be adapted to national contexts. The Project will create a pool of national HELP trainers and implement HELP courses on the ground. The Project will facilitate training of legal professionals and will advocate for inclusion of HELP courses into regular training programmes;
- ▶ The Project will be built upon the arsenal of regularly updated HELP courses and will utilize the experience, the methodology and the network of the HELP Programme.

What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ To contribute to raising awareness of benefits of a common legal space between Europe and Central Asia based on key Council of Europe conventions and international standards;
- ▶ To enhance the knowledge of Central Asia legal professionals about European human rights standards through the European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP).

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by the European Union



Co-funded and implemented
by the Council of Europe

How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget of the Action is 818 970 EUR
- ▶ The budget allocated to the overall Central Asia Rule of Law Programme amounts to 8 890 000 EUR (90% funded by the European Union, 10% by the Council of Europe).

About Central Asia Rule of Law Programme

The 4-year Council of Europe/European Union Joint Programme in the field of Rule of Law aims to reinforce human rights, rule of law and democracy in accordance with European and other international standards, based on a demand-driven approach. The Programme is open to all Central Asian countries wishing to benefit from the Council of Europe expertise and meeting the conditions for co-operation as claimed by the policy of the Council of Europe towards Neighbouring regions, in particular: to help to promote good governance, on the basis of the relevant Council of Europe standards, mechanisms and instruments; and to reinforce and enlarge the Council of Europe regional action in combating trans-border and global threats.

How to get more information?

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- ▶ Help in Central Asia website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/national-implementation/help-human-rights-education-for-legal-professionals-in-central-asia>
- ▶ Central Asia Rule of Law Programme website: <http://central-asia-eu.coe.int/>
- ▶ Kirill ZARIFULIN, Central Asia Rule of Law Programme Officer, Kirill.ZARIFULIN@coe.int

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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The Member States of the European Union have decided to link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

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