



Albania and the Council of Europe Technical co-operation in action

Albania is currently benefiting from **15 country-specific projects** implemented by the Council of Europe - including six actions under the EU and Council of Europe joint programme “Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye”, two EU and Council of Europe joint programmes and seven projects funded through voluntary contributions from **Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and the Human Rights Trust Fund (HRTF)**.

Since early 2025, the scope and impact of this co-operation has grown significantly, supporting additional priority reform areas. These include efforts to **combat money laundering and corruption, strengthen local governance and civic engagement, improve election integrity, advance constitutional justice** and enhance the **judicial application of standards on the right to liberty and security**.

Albania also benefits from **11 regional projects** implemented across **South-East Europe**, further amplifying the reach and sustainability of Council of Europe standards in the region.

Key results of co-operation work across **six priority thematic areas** are highlighted below.

STRENGTHENING JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



230+

court staff **trained in CEPEJ tools** (European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice), improving judicial efficiency and quality.



45+

staff from the **State Cadastre Agency** trained to deliver more transparent and citizen-focused public communication.



2 700

people **supported with legal aid and property rights** since 2023.



80+

judicial professionals **trained on the right to liberty and security** under the **European Convention on Human Rights**.

COUNTERING ECONOMIC CRIME



Asset Recovery Office Law adopted in 2025: a landmark step in strengthening Albania's capacity to recover illicitly obtained assets and disrupt organised crime networks.



First-ever Lobbying Law adopted in 2026: a milestone to advance transparency and anti-corruption standards.

EDUCATION AND DEMOCRACY



20 000

young people in 335 schools **reached through voter education programme**, building democratic awareness from an early age.

Two **digital electoral platforms reported and monitored 4 691 activities** during the 2025 electoral campaign, enhancing transparency and accountability.



All **61 municipalities** are now using the new **digital tools** to deliver public services more efficiently to citizens.

3 000+

educators **trained in democratic teaching methods**, embedding democratic values across Albania's education system.



PROMOTING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY



Reintegration programmes established for extremism-related offenders and for women offenders returning from Syria, supporting rehabilitation and social reintegration.

Trauma-informed therapy introduced for women in detention, focusing on mental health, resilience, and dignity in prison rehabilitation.



3 new minority rights by-laws developed, strengthening the legal framework for the protection of minority communities.

500+

participants in person and **32 000** people online took part in the **Week against Discrimination 2026**, demonstrating **growing engagement** with equality and human rights among citizens.



PROTECTING MEDIA FREEDOM AND JOURNALISTS' SAFETY



The **"State Police Guidelines for the Safety of Journalists"** have been adopted, providing a clear framework for protecting journalists and activists in the field.



120+ stakeholders are actively engaged with the **Open Dialogue Platform** on the safety of journalists and media freedom.