

ALBANIA

- **1. Do you share our analysis concerning the current state of the settlement of disputes of a private character to which an international organization is a party?**

Immunities and privileges are an indispensable instrument for the well-functioning and effectiveness of international organizations, but given the importance of protection of human rights at national and international level, the question of finding remedies for the settlement of disputes of a private character between individuals and international organizations deserves appropriate consideration. Overall, the settlement of disputes involving private parties and international organizations must be governed by international law and specific dispute resolution mechanisms.

- **What is your experience with the settlement of disputes of a private character to which an international organization is a party in your legal system?**

From 2016 in Albania has its headquarter the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), and from 2017, Western Balkans Fund has its headquarter in Tirana.

There have been only a limited number of cases concerning employment relations between the country offices of international organizations or UN specialized agencies operating in the country and Albanian local staff, which been resolved according to the provisions employment contract.

- **In particular, are there examples in your legal system of perceived shortcomings in the settlement of disputes of private character to which an international organization is a party leading claimants to turn to the member States?**

There are no evidences of such cases.

- **Do you consider that the strengthening of the settlement of disputes of a private character to which an international organization is a party merits attention?**

Due to the increasing of number of cases worldwide where international organizations have been a party to disputes of a private character this matter merits an appropriate attention. Effective dispute settlement mechanisms ensure that the rights and interests of parties at a private character dispute settlement process, are protected.

The strengthening of the settlement of disputes of a private character to which an international organization is a party merits attention and is essential for promoting stability, protecting rights, enhancing access to justice, maintaining peace and security. To this aim a thorough legal analysis on this matter would be useful.

- **Specifically in respect of settlement of private claims in UN peace operations, how do you see the merits of the possible measures described above?**

The measures proposed in the Dutch paper may be employed in relevant cases. We also share the view that particular attention should be given when drafting new provisions on immunities and privileges of international or regional organizations to be established in future by granting only functional immunities instead of absolute ones. The respect for settlements of private claims in UN peace operations helps to advance the broader goals of the mission.