

Rule of Law Programme – Central Asia

Project title	Central Asia Rule of Law Programme
Beneficiary countries	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Project duration	4 years
Total project budget	€8 889 000

SUMMARY

The Central Asia Rule of Law Programme (2020-2023) is a co-operation initiative based on the partnership between the Council of Europe, the European Union and the authorities of the Central Asian countries. The Programme aims to improve the lives of citizens by reinforcing 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 in line with the policy of the Council of Europe towards neighbouring regions.

The Programme consists of 3 main Actions:

1. Facilitating the creation of a common legal space between Europe and Central Asia and enhancing human rights protection;
2. Promoting transparency and action against economic crime;
3. Promoting efficient functioning of state institutions and public administration.

PLANNED OUTCOMES

Action 1:

1. Awareness is progressively raised about the benefits of a common legal area between Europe and Central Asia based on key Council of Europe conventions open to non-member states and other international standards;
2. Increased policy dialogue and collaboration among Central Asian countries and with Council of Europe member states; and
3. Legal professionals throughout the Central Asian region have enhanced knowledge of European human rights standards through European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) methodology.

Action 2:

1. Business integrity and compliance in the private sector are enhanced, reducing

administrative barriers and ensuring the protection of rights of entrepreneurs in countries Central Asia;

2. The effectiveness of anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and asset recovery systems in the countries of Central Asia are enhanced.

Action 3:

1. Relevant legislation is developed, aligned with international standards, adopted by the parliaments and enforced by relevant actors;
2. The new legislation in the field of administrative law and justice, including the reform of public administration and Alternative Dispute Resolution is prepared and ready for implementation;
3. Representatives of public administration and the judiciary have increased their efficiency.

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