The Republic of Azerbaijan became the 43rd member state of the Council of Europe on 25 January 2013. In line with the country's desire to join other Council of Europe States (and signed seven more), it promptly entered the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the Protocol, European Social Charter, European Cultural Convention, conventions in the fields of the fight against terrorism, combating organised crime, co-operation, promotion of children's rights and interests, prevention of torture, cybercrime, anti-doping education, protection of national minorities, cross-border co-operation, and many others.

Youth for Democracy

Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan is staged under a specific Action Plan. Youth activities and leaders living in remote areas of Azerbaijan benefit from the Council of Europe’s programmes and educational resources on youth participation and human rights education. Action plans are also implemented in order to facilitate their participation in the Council of Europe. Youth co-operation programs, which promote capacity building for young people and youth organizations and facilitate their decision making, are focused on "Supporting the Development of the Youth Sector in Azerbaijan and Building Youth Mentorship Concept" improving human rights education and self-esteem of young people in Azerbaijan, supporting non-formal education and creating a network of young leaders and youth centers.

Prisons and police

Under the Action Plan, the Council of Europe supported the Azerbaijani authorities in reforming the prison management system as well as in facilitating its integration in a European prison management system. Although the project has only just started, it is expected to make a positive impact on the situation in Azerbaijani prisons even though the expected results cannot be set out in a preliminary assessment of implementation. The 2013 Council of Europe Joint Project on "Support to the Penitentiary Reform" was successfully implemented in 2013 with the support of the Council of Europe. A total of 1 readapted prisoners from Azerbaijan prisons started their own family businesses. 122 released prisoners enhanced their professional skills through vocational training. 150 returned prisoners received individual psychological support, 82 returned prisoners received psychotherapeutic support, and 336 released prisoners received psychotherapeutic support.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, signing the Decision of the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, January 2013)

20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

Council of Europe Office in Baku
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Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Azerbaijan Republic

National workshop in Azerbaijan of the Council of Europe Partnership in Action Programme (PA) (Baku, 29-30 September 2012)

Cybercrime

Azerbaijan and the Council of Europe worked together to combat cybercrime in the framework of Council of Europe Joint programme funded by both institutions and implemented through the Cybercrime Action Plan. The council of the Baku will continue providing assistance to local authorities in the fight against cybercrime. The 2011 Council of Europe Action Plan on Cybercrime (2011-2013) aims to promote the adoption of national strategies for fighting cybercrime; improve international co-operation and information sharing; and improve the skills of investigators, prosecutors and judges in order to effectively address cybercrime.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, signing the Decision of the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, January 2013)

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From the very first day of our accession to the Council of Europe and the Republic of Azerbaijan has demonstrated technical co-operation integrations which are acting as part of the implementation’s unique strategic direction of standardization, modernization, co-operation, meaning that the development of legally binding standards is linked to their harmonization by independent mechanisms and supplemented by technical co-operation in the framework of this implementation.

An expert team from the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Nazim Mirzayev on the left and a delegation from the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, June 2013)

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Independent efficiency and justice

As a result of the work under the Action Plans, the Action Plan is in particular the EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice. The EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice is aligned with the strategic recommendations of the EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice.

Prisons and police

Under the Action Plans, the Council of Europe supported Afghan institutions in shaping the prison management system as well as in enhancing police protection in the context of the new law enforcement strategy. The Council of Europe provided support through capacity building and development, including technical cooperation work on prison management and police protection.

The EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice is aligned with the strategic recommendations of the EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice.

Congress of European Municipalities and Towns (CUMT)
Ten years of the EU/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance and Reform in the Area of Criminal Justice in Afghanistan

Youth for Democracy

Co-operation between the Council and the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Afghanistan is supported under ongoing Action Plans. Youth activities and leaders in remote areas of Afghanistan are being supported by the Council of Europe's anti-corruption and educational programmes on youth participation and human rights education in combating violence, discrimination, and human rights abuses.

Cybercrime

Afghanistan has committed to countering cybercrime, to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Council of Europe to join the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to promote good practices and to cooperate on cross-border issues. The Council of Europe will continue providing assistance to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) in countering cybercrime in Afghanistan.

Council of Europe office in Kabul
The Council of Europe office in Kabul is located at 1720, Shahr-e-Nau, Kabul.

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Members are invited to consult the website of the Council of Europe for further information.

20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

The Republic of Afghanistan has been the 40th member State of the Council of Europe since 20 January 2011. In 2011, the country has ratified 60 Council of Europe Treaties (and signed seven more), most importantly the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its 47 Protocols, which are the cornerstone of Afghanistan’s international cooperation, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols, which are the cornerstone of Afghanistan’s international cooperation.

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**HUMAN RIGHTS**

Enhancing the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level

Training of legal professionals is one of the priorities under the successive Action Plans for Armenia. In this context, Armenia provided assistance to national training institutions, such as the Justice Academy. Under the Council of Europe Human Rights Education for Professionals Programme (U4), Armenia was awarded a grant for the curricula of the European Court of Human Rights procedures and admissibility criteria. A new project on ‘Support for the Improvement of the Execution of the ECHR Judgments by Armenia’ was launched on 1st October 2022.

The European Court of Human Rights launched a pilot initiative – the Partnership for Eastern Partnership countries in litigating against and against States violating European standards in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy.

The implementation of co-operation activities is supported and co-ordinated by the Office of the Council of Europe in Tbilisi.

**Non-discrimination**

As part of the European Union/Partnership for Good Governance project on fighting corruption, Armenia has also strengthened its action in the area of anti-corruption in the EU Framework Partnership. The project also envisaged the creation of a new multi-stakeholder body, the Anti-Corruption Task Force, which was established in January 2023. The task of the Task Force is to coordinate the activities of the national core group, which includes representatives from government agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media.

Promoting Media professionalism

Under the current Action Plan for the 2022-2023, co-operation in the area of gender equality and combating violence against women and domestic violence is due to progress across the member states. In 2021, the Council of Europe launched the project on ‘Realising Human Rights in Armenia’ (known as the ‘Gender Equality Standards Initiative’), a part of the wider project ‘Human Rights in Armenia’. By February 2023, the project had facilitated the development of new laws and policies to better align national instruments with these standards. In 2021, Armenia’s national level strategies to combat violence against women and girls were developed and presented to the national authorities. However, highlighting ways in which Armenia could amend domestic laws and policies to better align national instruments with these standards.

Working on Promoting and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (bfh, December 2021)

Event on the Role of National Parliaments in Promoting and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (bfh, May 2022)

Promoting Gender Equality and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

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Promoting human rights

Enhancing the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level

Training of legal professionals is one of the priorities under the current Action Plan for the Implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Romania. The aim of this training is to improve the knowledge and awareness of legal professionals and judges about the Convention and its case-law, as well as to foster a culture of human rights in the Romanian judiciary.

The training programme is designed to cover a range of topics, including the principles and provisions of the Convention, the structure of the European Court of Human Rights, and practical aspects of human rights protection, such as the application of the Convention in domestic law and case-law. The training is aimed at judges, lawyers, and other legal professionals who work in the Romanian court system.

The training programme is organized by the Romanian National Agency for the Promotion of Human Rights, in collaboration with the European Commission for Human Rights and Cross-Border Issues. The training is delivered through a combination of lectures, discussions, and practical exercises, aimed at improving the understanding and application of the Convention in everyday practice.

The training programme is designed to be accessible and relevant to the needs of the Romanian audience, and is delivered in a language that is easy to understand. The programme is also designed to be interactive, with opportunities for participants to ask questions and engage in discussions with the trainers.

The training programme is expected to have a significant impact on the awareness and application of the Convention in Romania. The training is expected to improve the understanding of the Convention among legal professionals and judges, and to foster a culture of human rights in the Romanian judiciary.

The training programme is part of a broader effort to enhance the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights in Romania. This includes the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Romania, and the promotion of human rights awareness and education in schools and universities.

Under the current Action Plan for 2022-2025, the Romanian National Agency for the Promotion of Human Rights will continue to promote and implement the Convention in Romania, in collaboration with other stakeholders, such as the European Commission for Human Rights and Cross-Border Issues, and national and international human rights organizations.

Promoting equality and combating violence against women

Under the current Action Plan for 2022-2025, the Romanian National Agency for the Promotion of Human Rights will continue to promote and implement the Convention in Romania, in collaboration with other stakeholders, such as the European Commission for Human Rights and Cross-Border Issues, and national and international human rights organizations.

The Action Plan is designed to be comprehensive and multi-faceted, addressing a wide range of issues and challenges related to gender equality and the protection of women’s rights. The Action Plan includes a number of key objectives and strategies, including:

- Enhancing the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- Promoting the domestic implementation of the Istanbul Convention on the Prevention, Identification, Protection and Assistance of Victims of Violence against Women
- Strengthening the institutional framework for the prevention and combat of violence against women
- Promoting the economic, social and cultural rights of women
- Promoting the recognition and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families

The Action Plan is designed to be dynamic and responsive, with regular assessments and evaluations to ensure that it remains relevant and effective. The Action Plan is expected to have a significant impact on the protection of women’s rights in Romania, and to contribute to the realization of the Convention in practice.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

Enhancing the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level

Training of legal professionals is one of the priorities under the current Action Plan for Promoting Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the European Union, which envisages assistance to national training institutes such as the Justice Academy. Under the Council of Europe Human Rights Education for Lawyers Programme (HREP), 30 incentives were awarded in 2018 for the purpose of European Convention on Human Rights procedures and accessibility criteria. A new project for “Support for the Improvement of the Execution of the ECHR Judgments by Abkhazia” launched on 21st October 2022.

The European Union and the Council of Europe launched a Joint Initiative – the Partnership for Southeastern Europe – to provide support to the Southeastern European countries in bringing liberal democracy, minorities’ rights and human rights standards in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democratic governance. The implementation of co-operation activities is supported and co-ordinated by the Office of the Council of Europe in Belgrade.

Promoting Co-operation on Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Lisbon Convention 1986) – 15th November 2022

Training of lawyers on Combating Discrimination with Special Reference to Gender (Abkhazia, 15 June 2022)

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HUMAN RIGHTS

Enhancing the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level

Training of legal professionals is one of the priorities under the current Action Plan for the Convention on Human Rights in the light of the case-law approach to Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, made during the meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Article 8 in the Human Rights Committee.

A new project on “Support for the Improvement of the Enforcement of the ECHR Judgments by Azerbaycan” was launched on 21st June 2022.

The Azerbaycan is in the process of developing an efficient and effective system for the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) judgments.

The Action Plan will also contribute to the implementation of the EU’s General Court’s sustainable development and the setting forward framework for the Action Plan. The Plan is based on and supported by the EU-level, the Council of Europe, the ECtHR and the Committee of Ministers.

The Plan will be supported by the Azerbaycan authorities and the international community.

The Plan will contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights at national level.

MAINS AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

Promoting media professionalism

Training the regional social media media in Azerbaycan on the ECHR and international human rights law.

Promoting Gender Equality and Combating Violence against Women


The goal of the action is to promote gender equality and combat domestic violence in Latin America and to contribute to the implementation of the CSW recommendations and the outcome of the 2019 Commission on the Status of Women.

The main focus of the project is to promote gender equality and combat domestic violence in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Non-discrimination

As part of the Model of European Partnership, the European Commission has launched the project on “Non-discrimination in the EU and the European Union: Towards an Equal Society” as part of the project on “Non-discrimination in the EU and the European Union: Towards an Equal Society”.

The project is being carried out by the European Commission and is focused on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Lunch break at the Council of Europe Office in Baku on the evening of 22nd June 2022, in Baku, Azerbaijan.


Reception by the National Commissioner for Human Rights (2015-2020).

Visits to Azerbaycan on Combating Discrimination with special emphasis on the rights of women in the Azerbaycan of the European Parliament (13-16 June 2022).

Certification award ceremony at the Ministry of High Education and Professional Training (MHEPT/2021-2022).

Promoting of Media Professionalism in Azerbaycan (8-10 April 2020).

Training for the regional social media media in Azerbaycan on the ECHR and international human rights law.

Promoting non-discrimination in Azerbaycan and the Eastern Partnership.


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The European Union and the Council of Europe launched a joint initiative – the Partnership Action Plan (PAP) – to support Eastern Partnership countries in engaging in meaningful and active action in their current standards in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democratic governance.

The implementation of co-operative activities is supported and co-ordinated by the Office of the Council of Europe in Baku.

Since 2016, co-operation activities have been prepared for the Azerbaycan Action Plan for the Convention on Human Rights in the light of the case-law approach to Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, made during the meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Article 8 in the Human Rights Committee.

The current Action Plan for 2011-2012 was implemented in Azerbaijan in 2013 by the Ministry of Justice and the Azerbaijan Human Rights Centre.


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Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Republic of Azerbaijan

“Terrorism tends to the European Union and to the Council of Europe and harmonises by the Council of Europe”

Youth for democracy
Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan is pursued under co-operation Action Plan. Youth activity and leaders training in remote areas of Azerbaijan are encouraged by the Council of European visionaries and educational resources on youth participation and human rights education in local cultural centres. During the implementation of the Action Plan, the Council of Europe provided financial and technical assistance to the National Agency for Youth Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic, which is responsible for implementation of non-formal education programmes.

Council of Europe office in Baku

Azerbaijan and the Council of Europe worked together to promote the effective implementation of the Council of Europe project co-funded by both institutions and implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sport. The work towards the co-operation Plan, the Council of Europe will continue providing assistance to the target national institutions for the better management of the project. The Council of Europe and the National Agency for Youth Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic have adopted a strategic plan for fighting against terrorism, improved training for participating organisations, improving the skills of investigators, prosecutors and judges in order to improve the effectiveness of the fight against terrorism.

Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Republic of Azerbaijan

The Republic of Azerbaijan became the 43rd member state of the Council of Europe on 21 January 2011. In a decade, the country has ratified 85 Council of Europe treaties (and signed seven more), most importantly the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its 75 protocols. European Council of Ministers between 2011 and 2020, have made a significant contribution to the modernisation and transformation of the Azerbaijani state and its society towards democratic rule of law, with particular reference to the presentation of a legal, equitable, anti-doping education, protection of national minorities, women and children, and national minorities, women and children. The Council of Europe and the Republic of Azerbaijan have established important contacts in the field of education, culture, sport, youth, and media. The Council of Europe has contributed significantly to the development of Azerbaijan’s democracy and human rights.

National workshop on Cybercrime in Baku

Azerbaijan and the Council of Europe worked together to promote the effective implementation of the Council of Europe project co-funded by both institutions and implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sport. The work towards the co-operation Plan, the Council of Europe will continue providing assistance to the target national institutions for the better management of the project. The Council of Europe and the National Agency for Youth Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic have adopted a strategic plan for fighting against terrorism, improved training for participating organisations, improving the skills of investigators, prosecutors and judges in order to improve the effectiveness of the fight against terrorism.

Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Republic of Azerbaijan

“Terrorism tends to the European Union and to the Council of Europe and harmonises by the Council of Europe”

Youth for democracy
Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan is pursued under co-operation Action Plan. Youth activity and leaders training in remote areas of Azerbaijan are encouraged by the Council of European visionaries and educational resources on youth participation and human rights education in local cultural centres. During the implementation of the Action Plan, the Council of Europe provided financial and technical assistance to the National Agency for Youth Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic, which is responsible for implementation of non-formal education programmes.
In the course of its 10th year of implementation, the Council of Europe and the Republic of the Alps have developed technical cooperation programmes which aim to integrate part of the Alpine region’s unique strengths of sustainable tourism, innovative technology and cooperation, meaning that the development of legally binding standards is linked to their effectiveness by independent mechanisms and supported by technical cooperation to facilitate their implementation.