

Council of Europe Programme Office in Ankara



KEY FIGURES

38 STAFF MEMBERS

8 Core staff

30 Project staff

10 COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

5 EU/Council of Europe joint programmes

4 actions as part of the EU/Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye

1 project funded through voluntary contributions.

3 REGIONAL PROJECTS

The Council of Europe maintains a comprehensive co-operation with Türkiye, with the aim to strengthen the capacities of the Turkish authorities and to improve the application of European standards at the national level.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Enhanced capacity of the judiciary on the individual application system and protection of human rights

Increased knowledge and practical experience of more than 10 000 judges, prosecutors and lawyers across the country about individual application proceedings and fundamental rights, since 2015.

Modernisation of prison management and civil monitoring of prisons

Implementation of new rules and standards for prison management to better protect human rights, including capacity building for prison staff and improved detention conditions and rehabilitation for prisoners. Adoption of new legislation in 2021 on the effectiveness of the civil boards to monitor the prisons.

AT A GLANCE

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Strengthened democratic citizenship and democracy education in schools

Introduction of a new compulsory course “Human Rights, Citizenship, and Democracy” for 4th grade students of all schools in the country, with an immediate positive impact on democratic school culture and democracy education.

Enhanced capacities in the field of migration and asylum

More than 1 000 representatives of the Presidency of Migration Management, the Human Rights and Equality Institution, the Ministry of Justice, General Command of Gendarmerie, Bar Associations, Ministry of Family and Social Services, and civil society organisations, strengthened their capacities in the field of migration and asylum, combating trafficking in human beings and required protection mechanisms for vulnerable persons, in line with the European standards.

More efficient court management for citizens in the last ten years

Increased efficiency of the courts through restructuring of court management plans and welcome desks for citizens. Strategic road map for a reform in the administrative justice. Revised procedures, guidelines and workflows for the supreme courts in light of advanced IT technology.

Systematised and advanced capacity building for judges and prosecutors in criminal justice

New training modules, curriculum and methodologies in the field of criminal justice, reached approximately 2 000 legal professionals all over the country. A brand-new e-library system became operational in the Justice Academy of Türkiye in 2023.

HIGHLIGHT

During 2014-2017, the first mediation bureaus in the Turkish judiciary system were established by the Ministry of Justice with Council of Europe support. The number of mediation cases increased from 85 to 13 470 during this time frame and the number of registered mediators in pilot jurisdictions increased from 483 to 4 209. European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) Guide on pilot mediation practices was implemented for the first time in Europe. Since 2020, the EU and the Council of Europe jointly continued to support the alternative dispute resolution system in Türkiye.

Over 2 250 members of the judiciary, judges, public prosecutors, court staff, lawyers, mediators, conciliators, arbitrators, and the academia are targeted by the project to ensure a smooth functioning of alternative dispute resolution systems in the country, with the ultimate goal to enable citizens's access to fast, restorative justice.

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MORE INFORMATION

www.coe.int/ankara

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