Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo



KEY FIGURES

32 STAFF MEMBERS

7 Core staff

25 Project staff

13 COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

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

7 projects funded through voluntary contributions

10 REGIONAL PROJECTS

The Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo has been providing support to Bosnia and Herzegovina - its authorities, institutions, and people - to give practical meaning to the principles of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. The Council of Europe Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2022-2025 is the third strategic document adopted by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers since 2015. It provides a framework for the technical assistance carried out by the Organisation through its Office in close co-operation with institutions and civil society organisations in the country.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

More coherent and efficient justice

Better protection of human rights by the judiciary to deliver quality justice in line with the European Court of Human Rights case law. Increased capacities of the authorities to collect better judicial statistical data, according to the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) tools.

Fighting economic crime

First-ever comprehensive support based on GRECO and MONEYVAL recommendations to create enhanced capacities for corruption prevention and improved execution of antimoney laundering measures.

Protection of human rights in prisons and deradicalisation

Ongoing work with the police, prisons and psychiatric establishments to prevent ill-treatment. Support to the newly established National Preventive Mechanism. Facilitated electronic exchange of prison data and strengthened practical skills of prison staff to manage violent extremist prisoners.

AT A GLANCE

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

KEY FIGURES

ACTION PLAN BUDGET

20 428 286 Euros Funded: 77%

More freedom of expression

Assistance to judges and prosecutors to protect journalists and align adjudication of defamation cases with ECHR Article 10 case-law. Adoption by the Press and Online Media Council of a new set of recommendations on gender equality in news reporting.

Increased citizen engagement

Increased citizen engagement through deliberative democracy creating partnerships between municipal councillors and citizens in Mostar, Banja Luka and in other municipalities to improve management of urban spaces and to promote youth entrepreneurship.

Anti-discrimination

Adoption of a first-ever Action Plan to protect LGBTI rights and strengthened institutional responses to hate speech.

Better quality education

Increased number of initiatives and projects at local level created by pupils and teachers to advance inclusiveness and a culture of dialogue thanks to promotion of democratic culture in schools in divided communities. Assistance to the Council of Ministers in adopting the *Policy Recommendations with a Roadmap for improving inclusive education*.

Fighting trafficking in human beings

Empowered NGOs to make an active contribution to the government's anti-trafficking response.

HIGHLIGHT

On 28 July 2022, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the LGBTI Action Plan 2021-2024 to improve the human rights situation of LGBTI persons in the country. This is the first Action Plan of its kind in Bosnia and Herzegovina and was developed with the support of the European Union and the Council of Europe. The Sarajevo Open Centre, a local NGO which focuses on this field, called the Action Plan "an essential strategic document" and a "clear and unambiguous institutional step" made by the government.

Information provided dated as of 31 December 2023.

MORE INFORMATION

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DOWNLOAD THE ACTION PLAN FOR BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 2022-2025

