

# Council of Europe Office in Tirana



## KEY FIGURES

### 25 STAFF MEMBERS

7 Core staff

18 Project staff

### 8 COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

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

2 projects funded through voluntary contributions.

### 10 REGIONAL PROJECTS

The Council of Europe supports Albania in meeting its commitments and obligations as member state, including its reform agenda towards integration into the European Union. The Council of Europe Office in Tirana implements co-operation assistance focusing on: strengthening justice; fighting corruption, economic crime and money laundering; promoting anti-discrimination and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups; promoting and protecting freedom of expression and freedom of the media; strengthening public administration capacities and good governance practices at local level and enhancing democratic citizenship skills of young generations.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Improved justice efficiency and quality for citizens

Better accountability, independence and performance of courts.

### Consolidated capacities of public authorities to enforce property rights and execute ECtHR judgments

Improved property rights legislation following recommendations of the ECtHR decisions and the Venice Commission, including the harmonisation of the domestic judicial practice.

### Awareness on property rights

Over 15.000 people informed on the registration of agricultural titles and property rights legislation, in 10 districts of Albania with more than 522 people receiving tailored legal assistance through a dedicated helpline.

### Enhanced rights, rehabilitation and re-integration of all categories of inmates

Improved training capacities, curricula and infrastructure of the General Directorate of Prisons along with Standard Operating Procedures for the treatment of forensic patients.

## AT A GLANCE

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

#### **Improved effectiveness in the fight against corruption and organised crime**

Operationalisation of the Electronic System of Declaration of Assets and Conflict of Interest and the Central Election Commission (CEC) Electronic Platform on Financial Reporting to increase public scrutiny and accountability in political financing.

#### **Enhanced protection from discrimination towards vulnerable groups**

Increased institutional responses to discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes in cooperation with civil society, and heightened public awareness on diversity and equality throughout Albania.

#### **Improved application of European standards on freedom of expression**

Improved training capacities and curricula of the School of Magistrates and Bar Association on freedom of expression and freedom of the media. Amendment of the Audiovisual Media Authority's Broadcasting Code providing clearer guidelines to media operators on the limits to their broadcast programmes.

#### **Democratic school governance improved**

Better skills, knowledge and tools for teachers, students and parents of 75 selected schools to strengthen democratic culture at school and engage in community-based projects jointly with civil society organisations.

#### **Sustained Public Administration Reform at Local Level**

Enhanced capacities for the Local Government Units to manage human resources effectively and strengthened institutional framework for training and development of local officials and elected representatives.

### HIGHLIGHT

The Council of Europe supports Albanian institutions and civil society fight discriminations in line with article 14 of the European Convention of Human Rights. A short video illustrates the challenges faced by different vulnerable groups in Albania <https://vimeo.com/554696469>

Information provided dated as of 31 December 2023.

### MORE INFORMATION

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