

## ENHANCING EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION IN GEORGIA



**Project Goal: Enhance protection from and provide effective redress for discrimination and hate crimes against people from diverse ethnic, religious groups, and LGBTI individuals.**

**Start date: 01/01/2024, End Date: 31/12/2025**

**OBJECTIVE 1: Justice system representatives exhibit heightened efficiency in addressing hate crimes, offering improved victim support for affected ethnic, religious minorities, and LGBTI individuals, and adeptly utilise gathered data to formulate policies grounded in evidence.**

### KEY DELIVERABLE 1.1

**Law enforcement and judiciary personnel improve their effectiveness in preventing hate crimes, particularly those directed at LGBTI individuals, by conducting thorough investigations, prosecuting offenders effectively, ensuring fair adjudications, and offering comprehensive support to victims of hate-motivated incidents.**

Output 1.1.1. - MIA, Prosecutor's Office, SIS and judiciary representatives are trained to effectively handle hate crime, focusing on enhanced victim support, with a particular emphasis on 'race', ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

Output 1.1.2. - Coordination formats and guiding tools are further refined to establish a synchronised approach among judiciary, law enforcement, PDO and civil society representatives in preventing and addressing hate crime and discrimination cases. This approach aligns with Council of Europe recommendations, with a particular emphasis on hate crimes targeting LGBTI individuals.

Output 1.1.3. - Best practices and related tools in countering discrimination, hate crime, and hate speech, with a particular emphasis on ensuring safety during public events such as PRIDE gatherings and other public assemblies are disseminated among law enforcement practitioners.

### KEY DELIVERABLE 1.2

**Law enforcement and judiciary system representatives undergo further refinement in their capacity to utilise advanced data collection methodologies on hate-motivated crimes.**

Output 1.2.1. - Law enforcement officials, the Prosecutor's office, and the Courts are equipped to implement internal guidelines for the analysis of hate crime data, using it to formulate evidence-based policies and recommendations aimed at addressing discrimination and hate crime. This focus particularly emphasises categories such as race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

**Objective 2: Stakeholders from the private sector, civil society organisations, resource officers and media representatives adequately employ awareness-raising tools to effectively champion the rights of minority groups and promote understanding of available redress mechanisms.**

## KEY DELIVERABLE 2.1

**Business sector representatives enhance their understanding of tools aimed at combating discrimination, promoting equality, and fostering diversity. This is achieved through collaboration with the Public Defender's Office (PDO) and is aligned with relevant CoE standards.**

Output 2.1.1. - Businesses, in partnership with the Public Defender's Office (PDO), are equipped to educate their staff on standards and mechanisms pertaining to discrimination and hate speech. Additionally, the PDO is provided with a compilation of international best practices concerning collaboration with the private sector and addressing discrimination.

## KEY DELIVERABLE 2.2

**Resource Officers, civil society organisations, PDO, private sector and media engaging with minority groups enhance their understanding of effectively utilising educational and awareness-raising tools to advance the causes of equality and diversity.**

Output 2.2.1. - Collaboration with municipalities, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and Resource Officers serving minority communities is facilitated to disseminate information on human rights standards, equality, and avenues for redress.

Output 2.2.2. - Media representatives, including media managers, undergo training to proficiently cover discrimination cases and related topics while adhering to ethical standards and ensuring responsible reporting.

Output 2.2.3. - Joint efforts among representatives from public agencies, the Public Defender's Office (PDO), civil society entities, and media are promoted to raise public awareness regarding equality and the adverse effects of discrimination.



- The Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Prosecutor's Office
- Public Defender's Office
- Special Investigation Service
- Courts of General Jurisdiction
- Civil society organisations
- Private sector
- Office of Resource Officers of Educational Institutions
- Members of religious, ethnic and LGBTI organisations, private sector businesses and their staff



## The Project is funded through the Council of Europe Action Plan for Georgia 2024-2027.

[www.coe.ge](http://www.coe.ge)

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.