

# European Union and the Council of Europe

## SUPPORTING STRUCTURAL REFORMS IN EU MEMBER STATES 2018-2024

The Council of Europe is an important partner of the EU in implementing reform projects of the Technical Support Instrument (TSI) in the areas of human rights, rule of law and democracy, tailored to the needs of EU member states. Since 2018, this work has been carried out in close cooperation with the EU's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM).



Action in **most EU member states** to achieve structural reforms

- A total of **60 projects** since 2018
- Worth of approximately **€ 33 million**

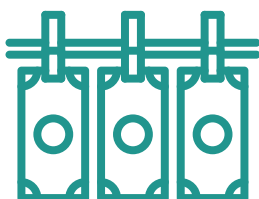
### FIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Slovakia, 2019-2021



#### Delivering Good Governance in Slovakia

Supported by the Council of Europe and the European Union, Slovakia developed a more robust legislative framework in order to reinforce institutional structures and enhance collaboration between local, regional, and central authorities.



Bulgaria, 2020-2023



#### Tackling money laundering and terrorist financing in Bulgaria

With the support of this project, the Bulgarian authorities adopted a strengthened Action plan for mitigating risks of money laundering and terrorist financing (ML/TF). Bulgaria:

- reduced the country's money laundering and terrorist financing risk exposure
- improved the effectiveness of the prevention, detection and combating of money laundering and terrorist financing through legislative, regulatory, institutional and operational measures



## Modernising the Civil Procedure Rules in Cyprus

This project, implemented in 2022, allowed Cyprus to modernise the Civil Procedure Rules, marking the first major reform of civil procedure in Cyprus in 60 years. The key achievements were:

- the successful adoption of the new Civil Procedure Rules (CPR) by the Supreme Court of Cyprus
- the preparation for the application of the new CPR, through communication strategy, awareness raising events and training programmes, particularly for legal professionals



## Improving the juvenile justice system in Slovenia

Thanks to this project, Slovenia has successfully drafted a new law to improve and modernise its juvenile justice and penitentiary systems, marking the first major reform since the 1970s.

As a result, the justice system is more child-centred and has a greater focus on risk and needs assessment on an individual approach, in line with the latest European and international standards.

In addition, there is a better reintegration of prisoners, an increase in the professionalism of penitentiary staff and a more developed human resources policy.



## Barnahus: Supporting child victims of sexual abuse in Finland

Barnahus, the leading European initiative dedicated to supporting child victims of sexual abuse, is implemented in Finland around the core of five university hospital expert units specialising in forensic psychology/psychiatry. The project:

- addressed legislative gaps through advocating for a Barnahus-specific bill
- improved the quality of the judicial system's response to child sexual exploitation and abuse
- innovated in terms of training on forensic interviewing supported by AI
- equipped professionals with the tools to respond to and manage cases in a child-friendly manner



More about  
structural  
reform projects

Funded  
by the European Union



Implemented  
by the Council of Europe