

Promotion of diversity and equality in Albania

What is the goal?

- ▶ to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to address national minority protection and promotion, protection of LGBTI rights and combating hate speech in line with the standards and recommendations set by the Council of Europe – especially those of the European Commission on Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and from the Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM).
- ▶ the Action also aims at supporting Albania's accession negotiations with the European Union in the field of fundamental rights.

Who benefits from the Action?

- ▶ the citizens of Albania
- ▶ public authorities, especially equality bodies
- ▶ education professionals, students
- ▶ media
- ▶ civil society organisations engaged in promoting and protecting human rights

How will the Action work?

- ▶ at the policy and legislative level will support the authorities to enhance the compatibility of the legislation
- ▶ at the capacity building level will enhance the implementation of the relevant laws/strategic documents, their monitoring and the data collection and analysis
- ▶ by raising awareness of the dangers posed by hate speech
- ▶ by strengthening cooperation and synergies among Western Balkan equality bodies and/or national human rights institutions, and their interaction with civil society organizations
- ▶ by ensuring a gender sensitive approach

What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ to improve the record of implementation of anti-discrimination policies and legislation, at the central and local level (especially on protection of the rights of LGBTI persons, and on combating hate speech/hate crime);
- ▶ to enhance the dialogue and cooperation between institutions and civil society organizations in promoting and protecting human rights;
- ▶ to strengthen the awareness of citizens on their rights and mechanisms to defend them

Ultimately, to achieve better protection of human rights of the citizens of Albania and build a more diverse, equal and tolerant society.

How much will it cost?

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



Implemented
by the Council of Europe

- ▶ the total budget of the Action is 400.000 EUR
- ▶ the budget allocated to the overall Horizontal Facility programme amounts to ca. 41 Million EUR (85% funded by the European Union, 15% by the Council of Europe)

How to get more information?

- ▶ Council of Europe, website of the Anti-discrimination Department: www.coe.int/antidiscrimination
- ▶ social media: www.facebook.com/coeantidiscrimination
- ▶ Horizontal Facility website: <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/horizontal-facility/home>
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About Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey

The “Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022” is a joint initiative of the European Union and the Council of Europe that enables the Beneficiaries to meet their reform agendas in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy and to comply with the European standards, including where relevant within the framework of the EU enlargement process. This three-year programme covers actions in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, as well as Kosovo* and it is implemented by the Council of Europe from May 2019.

**This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.*

The Council of Europe is the continent’s leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 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.

www.coe.int

The Member States of the European Union have decided to link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

www.europa.eu

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