



Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media in Kosovo* - JUFREX

What is the goal?

- ▶ The action will promote freedom of expression (FoE) and freedom of the media (FoM) in Kosovo and contribute in improving the application of European standards in this field. Building upon the results and experience of the previous phase of the programme the action will continue to work with a range of actors, responsible for the applications of these standards, such as: judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers, representatives of media regulatory authorities, journalists, students and other media actors.

Who benefits from the project?

- ▶ During its implementation the action will support the building of capacities of local training institutions for legal professionals, assist the Media Regulatory Authority in enhancing the regulatory framework and strengthening its capacities and engage in its activities Universities/Faculties of Law and Journalism, the Association of Journalists as well as judges, prosecutors, police officers, lawyers and journalists.

How will the project work?

- ▶ The Council of Europe intervention on freedom of expression and the media is based on a holistic approach that aims at involving and engaging all relevant actors and stakeholders in improving the application of freedom of expression, based on the European standards and best practices. To achieve this, the action will work with and support (1) legal professionals; (2) the Media Regulatory Authority (3) Journalism institutions and other media actors, building their capacities by adopting a dynamic methodology and using an inclusive approach in order to generate dialog between the different actors and relevant stakeholders.

What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ During and by the end of implementation the action expect to achieve the following results:
 - Members of the judiciary, legal professionals and police officers are more aware on improving the application of European Convention on Human Rights and the Court case-law on Freedom of expression;
 - Media Regulatory authority's professional capacities are further strengthened and consolidated in exercising its authority in human rights protection.
 - Media actors and relevant stakeholders, including Universities, Civil Society cooperate and contribute to an enabling environment for freedom of expression and freedom of the media.

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



Implemented
by the Council of Europe



How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget of the action is 425,000.00 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 do we get more information?

- ▶ Directorate General I: Human Rights and Rule of Law:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression/ufrex-2>
- ▶ Martina Silvestri, Programme Manager, Martina.SILVESTRI@coe.int, +333 90 216 339
- ▶ Gresa Musliu, Project Officer, Gresa.MUSLIU@coe.int, +383 (0) 38 40 77 50 121
- ▶ Horizontal Facility website: <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/horizontal-facility/home>
- ▶ Marija Simić, Horizontal Facility Communication Officer, Marija.SIMIC@coe.int, +381 63 601 337
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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 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.

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.

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