

## Fostering women's access to justice in Turkey

### What is the goal?

- ▶ To strengthen women's access to justice in Turkey in line with international and European standards; to improve women's access and gender responsiveness of legal aid and judicial support services and to increase legal awareness and literacy among women in Turkey.

### Who benefits from the action?

- ▶ The Union of Bar Associations of Turkey
- ▶ The Ministry of Justice
- ▶ Local bar associations and legal aid centres
- ▶ Legal aid lawyers
- ▶ Judicial support officers for victims
- ▶ Data collection officers
- ▶ Law faculties
- ▶ Civil society organisations supporting women's access to justice, combating violence against women, promoting gender equality and women's rights in Turkey
- ▶ Women in Turkey, particularly those in vulnerable and disadvantaged situation (such as victims/survivors of gender-based violence, refugee women, women in rural areas etc.) facing difficulties in accessing to justice, legal aid, legal assistance and information.

### How will the action work?

- ▶ Through organising tailor-made capacity building and awareness raising actions for key stakeholders on women's access to justice. These actions include, research on barriers to women's access to justice and legal aid, trainings for legal aid lawyers and judicial support officers, provision of legal aid to women by trained lawyers, awareness raising on measuring women's access to justice and supporting NGOs on their awareness raising on women's rights.

### What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ Knowledge generated among key stakeholders on barriers for women's access to justice and legal aid and support services in Turkey and on how to remove them.
- ▶ Enhanced quality and gender responsiveness of legal aid and judicial support services through capacity building of legal aid and judicial support professionals.
- ▶ Provision of legal aid and assistance to women in selected communities, including those from vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, by legal aid lawyers trained on gender-sensitive and victim-centered approaches.
- ▶ Increased awareness and knowledge among women on their legal rights, how to exercise them and on available legal remedies and services.

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# HORIZONTAL FACILITY FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY 2019-2022

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- ▶ Increased awareness and understanding among key stakeholders, including judicial and statistical authorities, on measuring women's access to justice and legal aid.

## How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget of the action is 945.000 EUR.
- ▶ The budget allocated to the overall Horizontal Facility programme amounts to 41 Million EUR (85% funded by the European Union, 15% by the Council of Europe).

## How to get more information?

- ▶ Council of Europe, Gender Equality Division: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/genderequality>
- ▶ Council of Europe Ankara Programme Office website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/ankara>
- ▶ 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 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](http://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](http://www.europa.eu)

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