

Accountability and professionalism of the judicial system in Montenegro

What is the goal?

- ▶ To further enhance professionalism, accountability and the overall quality of service of the judicial system of Montenegro
- ▶ To ensure functioning of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils, Centre for Training, as well as of the Center for Mediation on Montenegro in line with European best practices and standards
- ▶ Focusing on ethics, liability and integrity, the Action will further strengthen, improve or in some cases assist to create the relevant ethical codes and mechanisms for monitoring the compliance among legal professions such as lawyers, bailiffs, notaries and court experts

Who benefits from the Action?

- ▶ Citizens of Montenegro, who will benefit from modernised judicial administration and institutions, through user-centered approach, as well as professional and ethical judiciary and legal professionals
- ▶ Judicial Council, Prosecutorial Council, Supreme Court of Montenegro, Office of the Supreme State Prosecutor, Center for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service (JTC), Ministry of Justice of Montenegro, Bar Association, Chamber of Public Bailiffs, Chamber of Notaries, Association of Court Experts, Association of Court Interpreters and Center for Mediation of Montenegro

How will the Action work?

- ▶ Through capacity building of crucial judicial institutions in Montenegro
- ▶ Through creation of ethical codes and mechanisms for monitoring the compliance
- ▶ Through providing expertise to the relevant bodies in Montenegrin justice system
- ▶ Through promotion of the judiciary, mediation and quality of mediation services and tools for their monitoring and improvement
- ▶ The Action builds upon the results achieved by the Action "Accountability of the Judicial System" (HF14), implemented in the Horizontal Facility phase I (2016 – 2019)

What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils, as well as Courts and Prosecutorial offices, improve the financial and administrative management of their institutions and the communication with court users.
- ▶ Judges, prosecutors and other legal professionals improve their application of ethical and disciplinary procedures in line with European standards and best practices.
- ▶ Judges and prosecutors are recruited, promoted and evaluated according to improved standards
- ▶ Center for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution Service is efficient, using confidently and applying new approaches and methods to plan, implement, evaluate and improve training programs for judges and prosecutors.
- ▶ The Centre for Mediation improves its effectiveness and functioning

How much will it cost?

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and the Council of Europe



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- ▶ The total budget of the Action is 800.000 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?

- ▶ European Committee on Legal Co-operation: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cdcj/home>
- ▶ 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.

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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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HORIZONTAL FACILITY FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY 2019-2022

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