

COUNCIL OF EUROPE OFFICE IN PRISTINA

RESULTS IN 2025



The Council of Europe has been a committed partner in Kosovo*, helping institutions, civil society, and communities put European standards into practice. Through technical co-operation and expertise, the Council of Europe Office in Pristina has helped ensure that **human rights are protected in law and in practice, resulting in fairer justice, safer communities, and more inclusive institutions.**

Judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers, and correctional staff have strengthened their understanding of European human rights standards. Civil society, local authorities, and media have gained skills to promote transparency, accountability, and diversity. The Office has also supported reforms in education, anti-corruption, gender equality, and the protection of cultural heritage, foundations for a more democratic and resilient society.

BY THE NUMBERS: A PLATFORM FOR ACTION | AS OF JANUARY 2026



25 DEDICATED STAFF MEMBERS INCLUDING 18 PROJECT STAFF.



11 REGIONAL AND 10 BENEFICIARY-SPECIFIC PROJECTS INCLUDING:

- 3 FLAGSHIP EU AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE “HORIZONTAL FACILITY FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKİYE” ACTIONS.
- 7 PROJECTS FUNDED THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

**READ THE OVERVIEW
OF CO-OPERATION
ACTIVITIES IN
KOSOVO***



WHY YOUR INVOLVEMENT MATTERS

Progress in Kosovo* is built on collaboration. Each reform, each new standards applied, reflects the joint effort of local actors, the European Union, and Council of Europe donor member States. Continued partnership ensures that human rights are not an abstract principle, but part of everyday life for everyone.

*All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

IMPACT OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE WORK IN KOSOVO*



ADVANCING RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE

Consistent use of European human rights case law. The Constitutional Court reports significantly improved quality of judicial decisions, with 98% now referencing European Court of Human Rights case law in their reasoning. Case processing has also become more efficient by drawing on European Court of Human Rights good practices.

Stronger, safer media environment. Domestic legal practice now mirrors European standards in protecting journalists against Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs). Better handling of defamation cases and improved safety procedures are helping create a more secure environment for media professionals.

EQUALITY, INCLUSION, AND MINORITY PROTECTION

Advancing equality: the first LGBTI Action Plan. For the first time, a National Action Plan on Promoting and Protecting the Rights of LGBTI Persons (2025-2027) was produced and approved by all ministries. This landmark framework will guide public institutions in advancing equality and combating discrimination. (Awaiting Government adoption after elections.)

Stronger minority rights protection. A new Monitoring and Reporting Tool for the Technical Working Group implementing the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FNCM) now ensures more systematic data collection and stronger follow-up on recommendations, reinforcing the protection of minority communities.

SAFETY, DIGNITY, AND PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

Breakthrough in addressing domestic and gender-based violence. A six-month psycho-educational programme piloted in Dubrava Prison has been integrated into the “National Programme for Treatment of Perpetrators of Violence against Women,” marking a significant step that links rehabilitation, prevention, and justice in tackling gender-based violence.

Safer prisons and healthier lives. Improved tools and mechanisms aligned with the Istanbul Protocol are improving how self-harm risks and ill-treatment are monitored and documented in prisons. The result: a measurable protection in suicide rates and stronger human rights safeguards for people deprived of liberty.

INTEGRITY AND FINANCIAL SECTOR RESILIENCE

Modern tools against financial crime. The Central Bank’s first manual on risk-based supervision for preventing money laundering and terrorist financing is now in use. It introduces risk-based oversight and significantly strengthens the financial sector in Kosovo*.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Local democracy in action. Kosovo* completed its first comprehensive review of the European Charter of Local Self Government, setting a new benchmark for municipal accountability. This milestone paves the way for more participatory, transparent, and citizen-oriented local governance.

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