



# Supporting Freedom of Expression in South-East Europe

JUFREX highlights 2019



Implementation Review  
and Major Results

Cooperation  
Programme

Information Society  
Department

**Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in South-East Europe (JUFREX)**

Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented  
by the Council of Europe



## Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in South-East Europe (JUFREX)

Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented  
by the Council of Europe

## Implementation Review and Major Results

*“JUFREX has brought in a real change in the behaviour, attitude and understanding of the judiciary over Freedom of Expression cases”*

Mirjana Lazarova Trajkovska

Former European Court of Human Rights Judge for North Macedonia

*“The trainings revealed that there is both great need for and significant interest in digesting ECHR jurisprudence on freedom of expression - by judges, prosecutors and other legal professionals involved. It is also important to continue to provide trainings for the next generation of magistrates, given the ongoing justice reforms in Albania - including for the judges of the higher courts who tend to deal more frequently with Article 10 issues.”*

Darian Pavli

European Court of Human Rights Judge for Albania

*The opinions expressed in this work are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Council of Europe.*

All requests concerning the reproduction or translation of all or part of this document should be addressed to the Directorate of Communication (F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex or [publishing@coe.int](mailto:publishing@coe.int)). All other correspondence concerning this document should be addressed to the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law.

Layouts: Information Society Department  
Photos: Shutterstock

This publication has not been copy-edited by the SPDP Editorial Unit to correct typographical and grammatical errors.

© Council of Europe, October 2019  
Printed at the Council of Europe

## Executive summary

The Council of Europe and the European Union Joint Programme *“Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in South-East Europe (JUFREX)”* is a three-year programme, composed of one regional and six national actions, implemented in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Kosovo<sup>1</sup>.

The overall objective of the project is to promote freedom of expression and freedom of the media in line with Council of Europe standards, with a specific focus on the judiciary in South-East Europe. The project consists of 3 components:

1. The major component is focused on the training of judges, prosecutors and lawyers;
2. Support to media regulatory bodies and
3. Training of media actors

The main beneficiaries and partners are (i) Judicial Academies/Training centres, Bar Associations and other associations of judges, lawyers or prosecutors, (ii) media regulatory authorities, (iii) associations of journalists and Press Councils, in general, all media actors.

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## Overall assessment at the end of year three

With the activities carried out in the last year of implementation, JUFREX achieved all objectives, as it can be verified against the indicators table (Annex), and went well beyond the initially foreseeable impact.

In the course of the whole project, nearly 250 activities have been carried out, reaching out to more than 4000 people.

As regards component 1 (Judiciary), 111 JUFREX certified trainers among judges, prosecutors and lawyers have attained a very good level in terms of providing training to their peers on freedom of expression, not only in terms of knowledge of the content, but also in terms of dynamic adult training methodology. Their enthusiastic feedback and the one of their respective National Training Institutions (NTIs) speak loud for it (see list of quotations/feedback received from beneficiaries, partners and experts in Annex).

All NTIs have integrated the training curriculum on freedom of expression developed under JUFREX in their regular training programme also for the years to come, which ensures the sustainability of the results.

Training materials produced under JUFREX is being used as a support by the national certified trainers also beyond JUFREX activities.

A number of judgements from domestic courts have been delivered on freedom of expression issues, where the reference to the European Court of Human Rights case law has been made explicit as well as the adoption of its reasoning, including the three-step test, etc. (see list of quotations/feedback received from beneficiaries, partners and experts in Annex).

Also, at regional level, the events for legal professionals ensured more in-depth trainings for national trainers on freedom of expression; enabled networking and exchange of experiences and good practices between participants, also ensuring up-to-date information on new trends and developments relating to freedom of expression and case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

As to component 2 (Media Regulatory Authorities), the regional activities steered the direction for activities at national level, focusing on improvement of capacities, efficiency of regulatory authorities in the region on topic such as hate speech, protection of minors, media literacy, co-regulation, etc. All activities were conducted with the aim of reinforcement of Media regulatory authority's staff through understanding of specific and/or technical topics relevant for their work, in line with European standards. Two regional publications have been produced and made available in all local languages.

At national level, the intervention has been quite varied, some examples worth-mentioning being:

- In Albania, with the support of JUFREX, the regulator approved a strategic plan for the next 3 years. It also increased capacity to efficiently manage digital frequencies and updated the software that can do it. Specialised staff can now better manage and reissue frequencies expanding the licence pool.
- In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the staff members of the regulator has played a major role in providing its knowledge and expertise among their beneficiaries, meaning licence bearers- representatives of broadcasting media outlets. It should be mentioned that the Communication Regulatory Agency plays also a leading role on many activities at regional level.
- In Montenegro, the above mentioned Media Sector Inquiry brought to the adoption of a series of media reforms at national level. The Council of Europe in cooperation with the European Union are supporting this process. Three media related laws are being amended and an Action plan based on JUFREX recommendations has been adopted by the Mongering Government in January 2019.
- In Serbia, the regulator requested Council of Europe expertise through JUFREX on a number of subjects. The most relevant to be mentioned being (i) the Study - The independence and functioning of the regulatory authority for electronic media in Serbia, an assessment using the INDIREG methodology, and (ii) Study Regulatory Authorities for Electronic Media and Media Literacy - Comparative analysis of the best European practices. The Draft Media Strategy prepared by the Government with involvement of other media actors makes reference to the INDIREG and media literacy studies done under the JUFREX.

As to component 3 (Media Actors), although representing only 15% of the project, this component allowed for the organisation of 67 events across the different countries/locations, mostly in the form of training for journalists on European standards on Freedom of the Media and Inter-professional seminars that gathered journalists and media actors, as well as representatives of the judiciary and media regulatory bodies. It is worth noting that the inter-professional seminars have resulted in the establishment of a stronger dialogue between two professional categories (magistrates and journalists) traditionally characterised by a certain animosity.

In the context of simplifying also the communication between these two professional groups, a Dictionary for Media and Legal Professionals has been published as a pilot exercise in Bosnia and Herzegovina and it has been re-adapted and tailored in most of the other countries of the region.

Other positive examples to be mentioned are: the publication on the right to access to public documents developed in cooperation with the Press Council of Kosovo and the support provided to the Press Council in Albania. The Albanian Media Council (AMC), a relatively young body, has received recognition and acceptance in the

journalist community and donors. Participation in its events was very high, and its work has been reflected in the national media. Other media and civil society organisations have extended invitations for collaboration. The organisation works regularly as does its Complaints Board which regularly receives public complaints. The updated Ethics Code for journalists which JUFREX supported separately came in the right time for the work of the organisation.

In the course of the overall implementation, JUFREX has negotiated 23 grant agreements (list in Annex and excerpts of their reports) with all major partners and has ensured the proper implementation of all activities foreseen or re-adaptation of work-plan as needed. This has ensured a good level of ownership by the beneficiaries, as it is testified in several quotations reported in annex. This can be mentioned as a capacity building activity in itself as most partners, or at least the institutional ones, had no previous experience with managing projects of this kind and have benefited significantly from Council of Europe support. All grant agreements have been completed and activities implemented successfully.

All JUFREX activities paid special attention to gender balance, in terms of participation, presence of experts, trainers, or selection of topics.



## ANNEXES

### 1. Number of activities

COUNTRY	Component 1 Legal professionals	Component 2 Media Regulatory Authorities	Component 3 Media actors	TOTAL
REGIONAL	16	7	1	24
ALBANIA	29	10	13	52
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	14	7	12	33
KOSOVO	14	3	9	26
MONTENEGRO	16	9	11	36
NORTH MACEDONIA	20	8	9	37
SERBIA	21	9	12	42
TOTAL	<u>132</u>	<u>49<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>67</u>	
<b><u>GENERAL TOTAL:</u></b>				<b><u>246<sup>3</sup></u></b>

---

<sup>2</sup> 3 activities under component 2 were common between Serbia and Montenegro, therefore the total is lower than the actual sum.

<sup>3</sup> Idem, as above.

## 2. Number of participants

COUNTRY	Judges	Prosecutors	Lawyers	Media Regulatory Authorities Employees	Media actors – including journalists, students, public employees, legal professionals and media regulators	Total by country
<b>REGIONAL</b>	138	40	61	71	57	<b>367</b>
<b>ALBANIA</b>	171	134	189	30	367	<b>891</b>
<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</b>	107	30	88	5	259	<b>489</b>
<b>KOSOVO</b>	125	53	98	13	197	<b>486</b>
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	139	39	104	15	257	<b>554</b>
<b>NORTH MACEDONIA</b>	176	22	177	81	192	<b>648</b>
<b>SERBIA</b>	186	66	81	52	453	<b>838</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1042</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1782</b>	<b><u>4273</u></b>

### 3. Number of JUFREX certified trainers

COUNTRY	Judges	Prosecutors	Lawyers	Total by country
ALBANIA	5	4	7	16
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	13	4	15	32
KOSOVO	4	2	5	11
MONTENEGRO	7	1	2	10
NORTH MACEDONIA	10	5	6	21
SERBIA	10	6	5	21
TOTAL	49	22	40	<u>111</u>

## 4. Examples of domestic courts' cases on article 10 with reference to ECtHR case law

### *Albania:*

At least four cases have been verified where judges proceeding over the cases and having taken JUFREX training, made extensive reference to ECtHR jurisprudence that set the standards of interpreting Article 10 of the ECHR and used techniques taught during training like the three-step test. It is worthy of mentioning that JUFREX trained lawyers representing the parties of these cases also used ECtHR case law and standards in their arguments. Most cases are still pending and two judgements have reached the final stage with good reference to Art 10 ECHR and Strasbourg case-law.

***Bosnia and Herzegovina:*** In the defamation case of applicant Štefica Galić, AP-965/17, the Constitutional Court has partially accepted the applicant's appeal, and the judgment follows the reasoning of the ECtHR (three-step test) that should be standard practice when deciding on the cases relevant for Article 10 of the Convention, and that was missing in the judgements of the lower court instances (municipal court, cantonal court and Supreme Court of FBiH). It has been reported by national lawyers that several new decisions made reference to Art. 10 ECHR and Strasbourg Court reasoning.

***Kosovo:*** There are no records on the number of judgements on freedom of expression. The lack of is information is as a consequence of how the cases are registered; ex. all civil cases are registered together and not separated per each field, therefore even the Kosovo Judicial Council and the Academy of Justice have difficulties to identify FoE cases. However, based on desk research and media monitoring, we have identified several judgements (2017-2019):

- Klan Kosova TV v YIHR - in this case the right to freedom of expression triumphed. The case concerned a report written by non-governmental organisation YHIR claiming that television Klan Kosova is biased in reporting. The organisation got sued while the judge of the case, who has actively participated to JUFREX trainings and asked many questions during the trainings about value judgements, decided in favour of the organisation citing Article 10.
- R. Haradinaj v G. Muhaxheri - Kosovo Prime Minister indicated the major of Peja municipality Mr Muhaxheri because of comments the later made in the Austrian newspaper "Der Standard". The plaintiff considered these comments as defamatory and demanded a reimbursement of 250 thousand euros. The lawsuit was dismissed by the court.
- Defamation injunction - in this case the judge who participated to the Training of trainers made explicit reference to the Art. 10 ECHR.

### *North Macedonia:*

- The Constitutional court rendered its first decision concerning an Article 10 related case, brought in front of the Court by a JUFREX trainee from among the lawyers.
- Recent judgments of the Basic Court – Skopje II, related to Article 10 cases, are a positive example of adjudicating cases in line with CoE’s standards on the matter, with a clear and well-substantiated reference to the Article 10 case law of the ECtHR.

*Montenegro:* the list of judgements provided by partners is reported below. From the Academy’s report: “Bearing in mind the number of judgments, as well as the increasing the quality of the legal reasoning within the decisions when it comes to the make reference to ECtHR case-law and application of the CoE standards, we can say that this project has already given the expected results.

In favour of it there are responses and comments of the training participants which are given in the evaluation sheets in which they say that the knowledge they have gained in the trainings are very useful and will be practically applied in resolving cases related to freedom of expression and the media.” (Source: Final report/Center for training in judiciary and state prosecution)

<u>Court</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Year</u>
Basic court DANILOVGRAD	P	397	2017
Basic court NIKŠIĆ	P	1685	2017
Basic court NIKŠIĆ	P	363	2017
Higher court BIJELO POLJE	GŽ	293	2017
Higher court BIJELO POLJE	GŽ	915	2017
Higher court BIJELO POLJE	GŽ	1771	2017
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	556	2017
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	1607	2017
Supreme Court	REV	148	2017
Supreme Court	REV	248	2017
Supreme Court	REV	395	2017

<u>Court</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Year</u>
Higher court BIJELO POLJE	GŽ	2356	2018
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	4808	2018
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	355	2018
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	6793	2018
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	4908	2018

Basic court Cetinje	P	240	2018
Supreme Court	REV	147	2018
Higher court PODGORICA	GŽ	662	2018
Basic Court PODGORICA	P	3206	2018

*Serbia:* the list of judgements provided by partners is reported below. The documents have been provided

JA Serbia has official requests to Courts that took part in JUFREX programme, with aim to collect information on freedom of expression/media cases. In their request they asked for data for 2017 and 2018 . Here is collected data:

- Court of Appeal Novi Sad (1, use of ECHR, reference number Gzh 3576 18)
- Court of Appeal in Kragujevac (0 judgments)
- Higher court in Novi Sad (2 judgment, use of ECHR standards, judges passed JUFREX ToT, reference number P.1344/2017 and Gzh. 200/2017 )
- Court of Appeal in Belgrade, 26 cases (All make reference to ECHR. Also reasoning becomes better and better, making reference to ECtHR case law. JUFREX trainers were involved with some of these listed proceedings but also are their colleagues who attended our trainings. As mentioned at the beginning, JUFREX trainers are consulted by their colleagues during ongoing freedom of expression proceedings),

## 5. Feedback received from beneficiaries, experts and partners

### Albania

“The trainings revealed that there is both great need for and significant interest in digesting ECHR jurisprudence on freedom of expression - by judges, prosecutors and other legal professionals involved. It is also important to continue to provide trainings for the next generation of magistrates, given the ongoing justice reforms in Albania - including for the judges of the higher courts who tend to deal more frequently with Article 10 issues.” Darian Pavli, European Court of Human Rights Judge for Albania.

The Director of the School has stated that “JUFREX offered the right incentive and motivation to fulfil the proper training of media magistrates to fulfil their important role in the future.”

The training on FoE issues has been received with high enthusiasm and many have pointed out that the topics discussed have been scarce in previous years. JUFREX interactive methodology has received particular praise from participants and partner institutions. The School of Magistrates has already incorporated JUFREX methodology and programme in in-service trainings. It plans to include modules in the pre-service human rights course in the coming years.

A new law that was passed created a new role at courts and prosecutor’s office—media magistrates. This will be the person who would be the interface between the legal institutions and the media. The School of Magistrates was assigned to include their training in the in-service training. Benefiting by the opportunity that JUFREX offered, the School of Magistrates used the cascade training to train these people in issues of FoE and the media’s right for access to information.

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

Judge Svjetlana Milisic Velickovski, JUFREX certified judge, said: “We the local trainers who have developed our training skills in the issues of application of Article 10 of ECHR within JUFREX, are now using those skills when holding trainings on these issues organised outside of JUFREX. For example, I will be using the CoE methodology for the next training I will hold in April, on application of the Law on Defamation of FBiH”.

She is now holding CEST FBiH trainings for judges on article 10 also outside of JUFREX.

### Kosovo

Mr Lumni Sallauka, certified judge, said that the he was surprised how wide the field of freedom of expression is. According to him the trainings served to change the perception about the concept of freedom of expression in general. “In Kosovo, FoE is relatively new concept so the activities of JUFREX were a good opportunity to be

introduced to the very wide jurisprudence of the ECHR - which I have used in relevant local cases”, he said.

Moreover, another certified judge Mr Sulltan Dobraj said that information and the knowledge he took during the trainings were significant as it facilitated his work in a complicated case on freedom of expression.

Trained new judges started to work and most of the cases on Freedom of Expression are allocated to them. Materials disseminated to the trainees started to be used as main source of reference during their daily work. Also, the certified judges are being invited to the events where the topic of Freedom of Expression is tackled.

### **North Macedonia**

Former ECtHR Judge stated that she has noticed a “real change in the behaviour, attitude and understanding of the judiciary over Freedom of Expression cases”.

### **Montenegro**

**Judiciary:** “Almost all participants (97%) said that these trainings were very useful for them when they must to decide on cases relating to freedom of expression and definitely helped them to increase their knowledge on the topic/subject from the one they had before the trainings.” (Final report/Center for training in judiciary and state prosecution)

“Bearing in mind the number of judgments, as well as the increasing the quality of the legal reasoning within the decisions when it comes to the make reference to ECtHR case-law and application of the CoE standards, we can say that this project has already given the expected results.

In favour of it there are responses and comments of the training participants which are given in the evaluation sheets in which they say that the knowledge they have gained in the trainings are very useful and will be practically applied in resolving cases related to freedom of expression and the media.” (Source: Final report/Center for training in judiciary and state prosecution)

**Lawyer:** “I cannot even verbalize just how much the proceedings of Montenegrin courts has changed in these years, when we speak about application and reasoning based on ECHR. I am absolutely sure that JUFREX has been a great contributor to this because the Convention began to be mentioned in practice only for Article 6 (where there were various trainings on several occasions) and Article 10 .... and the other articles are not being mentioned/used in proceedings, except incidentally”. (Sinisa Gazivoda, JUFREX trainer).

**Media Sector Inquiry:** The Minister of Culture has started a series of legal reform upon MSI and has adopted an action plan for the implementation of JUFREX Recommendations.



Podgorica, (MINA – news agency, 18 January 2019) – “The Government has adopted a plan for the implementation of recommendations from the Media Sector Inquiry for Harmonization with the Council of Europe and European Union Standards, drafted under the Council of Europe’s JUFREX project.

Minister of Culture Aleksandar Bogdanovic stated that the analysis included all the relevant legal instruments and institutional mechanisms safeguarding the freedom of expression.

According to a press release from the Ministry of Culture, the plan identifies the measures for implementing the Council of Europe recommendations that have been developed through interdepartmental coordination.

Those measures are intended to bring the Montenegrin media legislation in line with the standards of the Council of Europe and the EU.

In addition, the measures seek to ensure greater transparency of government advertising, guarantee freedom of expression in line with CoE and EU standards and secure media freedom and safety of journalists.”

<https://www.mina.news/english/government-adopts-plan-for-implementing-council-of-europe-media-sector-recommendations/>

## **Serbia**

“After the Training of trainers organized under the JUFREX (March 2017) and in line with prepared Handbook for the trainers, JA has developed the syllabus for the training of judges and prosecutors in the area of freedom of expression.

According to the syllabus, the training in the area of freedom of expression aim to raise awareness about the importance of the freedom of expression, its restrictions and basic standards that judges and prosecutors should apply in everyday work.

In addition, the agenda with which we have done the training so far will be integrated into future regular programs of the Judicial Academy, primarily in the field of human rights. This is very important because we want to use the program that we have developed so far in future training, both initial and continuous.

Also, a team of lecturers was formed, who in the future will be able to easily implement a training program on the subject of freedom of expression, but also similar topics in the field of the European Convention on Human Rights. In addition, we would like to extend this team in the upcoming period with new lecturers.” (Final report/Academy of Judges).

## 6. List of tangible outputs

- Regional Network of Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers (twice a year)
- Regional Network of Media Regulatory Authorities (annual)
- 6 Pool of trainers
- 111 JUFREX certified trainers
- 5 HELP online courses on Freedom of Expression, Data Protection, Hate Speech, Reasoning of Judgements and Introduction to ECHR available in local languages and tailored to the local legislation and case-law (total of 25 courses)
- 6 Handbooks – training material for trainers available in local languages and tailored to the local legislation and case-law
- 2 Regional Publications on Media Regulatory Authorities (Hate Speech and Protection of Minors)
- 12 national versions of the above-mentioned publications
- 4 Dictionaries for Media and Legal Professionals
- 1 Legal opinion on draft law (Albania)
- 1 Publication on the right to access to public documents (Kosovo)
- 1 Media Sector Inquiry (Montenegro)
- 1 Study on media regulatory framework and the online media (North Macedonia)
- 1 Policy paper on Media Literacy (North Macedonia)
- 1 Publication on Regulatory Authorities for Electronic Media and Media Literacy - Comparative analysis of the best European practices (Serbia)
- 1 Study on European Co-Regulation Practices in the Media (Serbia)
- 1 Study on the independence and functioning of the regulatory authority for electronic media, INDIREG, (Serbia)
- 5 Study Visits
- 23 Grant agreements

## 7. List of 23 grant agreements

Number	Country	Partner	Component	Successfully completed
1	<b>Albania</b>	School of Magistrates	1	Yes
2		Bar Association	1	Yes
3		Albanian Media Council (Press Council)	3	Yes
4		Albanian Media Institute (Media NGO)	3	Yes
5	<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	Centre for Education of Judges and Prosecutors FBiH	1	Yes
6		Centre for Education of Judges and Prosecutors RS	1	Yes
7		Bar Association of FBiH	1	Yes
8		Bar Association of RS	1	Yes
9		Association of Journalists BiH	3	Yes
10		Press Council BiH	3	Yes
11	<b>Kosovo</b>	Academy of Justice	1	Yes
12		Kosovo Bar Association	1	Yes
13		Kosovo 2.0 (Media NGO)	3	Yes
14		Press Council of Kosovo	3	Yes
15	<b>Montenegro</b>	Center for training in judiciary and state prosecution	1	Yes
16		Association of professional journalists of Montenegro	3	Yes
17	<b>North Macedonia</b>	Macedonian Academy for judges and public prosecutors – “Pavel Shatev”	1	Yes
18		Macedonian Young Lawyers Association	1	Yes
19		Macedonian Bar Association	1	Yes
20		Macedonian Institute for Media (Media NGO)	3	Yes
21	<b>Serbia</b>	Judicial Academy of Serbia	1	Yes
22		Bar association of Serbia	1	Yes
23		Press Council of Serbia	3	Yes

## 8. Indicators

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Level of achievement
<p><b><u>Support to Judiciary/legal professionals</u></b></p> <p><i>ER/SO 1: Domestic judgements reflecting application of Article 10 and ECtHR case-law are increased;</i></p> <p><i>ER/SO 2: Training curricula on Article 10 are developed and capacity of the national training institutions with regard to freedom of expression and the media are improved;</i></p>	<p><b><u>Support to Judiciary/legal professionals</u></b></p> <p><i>ER 1: at least 30% of judgements related to freedom of expression make reference to ECtHR case-law (not necessarily explicitly but applying the standards)</i></p> <p><i>20% decrease of condemnations/ amends for defamation</i></p> <p><i>Up to 1000 judges and prosecutors and 500 lawyers are trained on national legislation and case law on freedom of expression as well as relevant European standards</i></p> <p><b>ER 2:</b></p> <p><i>At least 60 judges and prosecutors will be trained (minimum 10 per country) on freedom of expression and adult learning methodology.</i></p> <p><i>At least 30 judges and prosecutors (minimum 5 per country) are specialised as certified trainers.</i></p> <p><i>At least 24 lawyers (minimum 4 per country) are trained on freedom of expression and adult learning methodology.</i></p> <p><i>At least 12 lawyers (minimum 2 per country) are specialised as certified trainers.</i></p> <p><i>25 HELP on-line courses are made available (5 courses on freedom of expression, hate speech, data protection, European Convention of Human Rights, Reasoning of Judgments are translated and uploaded to the HELP Platform in the 5 project languages).</i></p>	<p><b>ER 1:</b></p> <p>Impossible to identify the precise % due to the lack of database at national level to collect such information. However, surveys carried out by grantees together with their analysis of court decisions involving judges, prosecutors and lawyers that attended JUFREX trainings show a clear improvement in terms of reference ECtHR case-law on Article 10.</p> <p>Number of legal professional trained: 1426 judges and prosecutors and 798 lawyers trained (see detailed table below)</p> <p><b>ER 2:</b></p> <p>Nearly 100 judges and prosecutors have been trained on FoE and adult learning methodology (always more than 10 per country)</p> <p>71 judges and prosecutors qualified as JUFREX certified trainers (always more than 5 per country/location)</p> <p>About 50 lawyers have been trained on FoE and adult learning methodology</p> <p>40 lawyers qualified as JUFREX certified trainers (always more at least 2 per country/location)</p> <p>25 HELP courses made available (5 courses in the 5 languages)</p> <p>6 tailored Training Handbooks in local languages made available</p> <p>7 thematic PPTs made available in 5 local languages for a total of 35 PPTs for training</p> <p>132 trainings implemented on FoE by the NTIs and all training curricula updated and integrated in the regular training programme of the 6 NTIs</p>

<p><b>ER/SO 3:</b> Regional forum of legal professions is established and regularly meets to exchange good practices and provide mutual support for the development of domestic case-law in line with ECtHR case law on media issues, namely Article 6, 8 and 10.</p>	<p><i>6 Training Handbooks on Freedom of Expression developed in local languages and tailored to the 6 countries' legislation and case law</i></p> <p><i>6 Manuals on Freedom of Expressions developed in local languages and tailored to national legislation and case law innovative training curricula on freedom of expression developed in each national training institution and integrated in the annual programme.</i></p> <p><i>Some trainings take place on an yearly basis in each country dedicated to freedom of expression in the academic/centres' training curricula</i></p> <p><b>ER 3:</b> Regional forum for cooperation and networks between legal practitioners (judges, prosecutors, lawyers and training institutions) established</p> <p><i>Agreement on priorities at regional level is reached through the Regional Launch Conference gathering all beneficiaries</i></p> <p><i>Regional exchange is made available on the following priorities: Freedom of expression (FoE) and the internet, FoE and the right to privacy, FoE and good administration of justice (FoE of judges, lawyers and media reporting on court proceedings)</i></p> <p><i>At least 38 judges, prosecutors and lawyers qualify as certified trainers and attend a regional event on training methodology</i></p> <p><i>National progresses and best practises are exchanged at regional level through the Final Conference. Toolkits, databases and other measures are put in place</i></p>	<p><b>ER 3:</b></p> <p>All 6 activities carried out as foreseen and addressed all topics identified.</p> <p>About 50 judges, prosecutors and lawyers qualified as JUFREX certified trainers actively participated to each of the 6 regional events.</p> <p>Best practises shared at the final conference and proposal to put in place a mailing list for updates to be done under follow-up project.</p>
---	--	--

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Level of achievement
<p><b><u>Support to media regulatory authorities</u></b>  <b>ER/SO 4:</b>  1) Studies on independence and effectiveness of the regulatory authorities continue to be provided upon request of the national authorities;</p> <p>2) Regulatory authorities employees' professional capacities are strengthened;</p> <p>3) Already established regional co-operation between regulators is improved; exchange of good/bad practices is established on a regular basis.</p>	<p><b><u>Support to media regulatory authorities</u></b>  <b>ER 4:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 (1 per country) ad hoc expert opinions on the independence and effectiveness of regulatory authorities (or other relevant study/expertise provided: e.g. media sector inquiry, etc.) are carried out</li> <li>• Up to 180 employees of the regulatory authorities (30 per country, counting attendance to trainings) are trained on their roles and skills as employees of independent authorities</li> <li>• Tools for RAs' prerogatives (methodology for media market analyses, support to strategy development, guidelines development for monitoring of media content, publications, etc.) are developed</li> <li>• Regional network of regulatory authorities meets regularly on an yearly basis and 6 thematic working groups are created</li> </ul>	<p>7 studies provided upon request of media regulatory authorities. Some countries requested more than 1 study while others did not request any (see details in the country/location description).</p> <p>267 employees trained (counting attendance). See table below for details. In some countries the number has been lower than 30 for various different reasons explained in each country/location description. For example, in BiH, it has been agreed with the regulator to replace the training for the employees with inter-professional events between the regulator and other media actors.</p> <p>2 regional publications have been developed as a collective work by the regulatory authorities, one on hate speech and the second on protection of minors. A Media Sector Inquiry has been carried out in Montenegro, including a media market analysis. In Albania, the 3-year strategic plan of the regulator has been developed and adopted, a study on the audience measurement has been provided as well as a legal opinion on the draft anti-defamation package. In Serbia an INDIREG study has been carried out on the independence of the media regulator, as well as a study on co-regulation and one n media literacy. In North Macedonia, a comparative study on new media has been provided as well as a policy paper on media literacy.</p> <p>Regional network of regulatory authorities has met regularly on an yearly basis and has worked on 6 thematic sub-topics: hate speech, protection of minors, co-regulation, media literacy, distribution of foreign channels and election campaigns, media pluralism.</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Level of achievement
<p><b><u>Training of media actors</u></b></p> <p><b>ER/SO 5:</b></p> <p>1) <i>Structured dialogue between media actors, self-regulatory bodies, judiciary, politicians, parliamentarians and human rights defenders is established at national and regional level.</i></p> <p>2) <i>Media actors' are aware of their duties and responsibilities and their professional capacities are strengthened.</i></p>	<p><b><u>Training of media actors</u></b></p> <p><b>ER 5:</b> <i>exchange mechanisms and other tools to improve mutual understanding are established and functioning for media actors and legal professionals</i></p> <p><i>Media and journalist organisations engage into informed dialogue with the judiciary in coordinated manner.</i></p> <p><i>Up to 500 media actors are trained on their professional skills, duties and responsibilities according to European standards</i></p> <p><i>Public recognition of quality journalism, including investigative journalism, is acknowledged</i></p> <p><i>20% decrease of condemnations/ amends for defamation</i></p>	<p>About 20 inter-professional seminars have brought together media actors and legal professionals or representatives of the media regulatory agencies.</p> <p>In most countries, representatives of the different professional categories have reported a change of attitude in dealing with the other categories. The only reported exception was North Macedonia where some animosity persists, as detailed in the description below.</p> <p>67 activities have been carried out involving 1782 media actors, including journalists, students, media regulators, public employees, legal professionals, civil society, etc.</p> <p>The Regional Summer School and other lectures with faculties of journalism, political sciences and law have contributed to higher recognition of the importance of quality journalism and investigative journalism.</p> <p>The percentage of defamation related cases is not available, as mentioned above. Where data exist (Bosnia and Herzegovina), they do not allow for segregated analyses of cases concerning journalists.</p>

**JUFREX** is a Joint Programme funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union, which builds on the previous Council of Europe work targeting specific needs in the field of freedom of expression and media in South-East Europe.

The programme comprises a series of training activities targeting the judiciary through the innovative HELP methodology, as well as specific activities directed to regulators, journalists and public service media, relating to the interconnected segments, which are significant for freedom of expression and exercise of human rights, in line with Council of Europe and European standards.

The beneficiaries of the programme are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo\*.

A regional component of the programme is dedicated to creating opportunities for exchange of best practices and finding common solutions for similar problems.



The European Union gathers states committed to enhance peace and the well-being of their citizens; to offer freedom, security and justice; to promote sustainable development, a competitive market economy, full employment and social progress; to ensure environmental protection, to combat social exclusion and discrimination; to promote scientific and technological progress and to enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion.

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are 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.



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE