

NEWSLETTER

10th BIRTHDAY

On December 29, ACDC officially celebrated ten years of its existence. Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture was founded in 2011 in North Mitrovica by a group of enthusiasts - civil society activists from various communities in northern Kosovo with many years of experience in civic activism and project management. During the past 10 years, we have successfully implemented approximately 100 projects, published over 50 publications, organized hundreds of activities aimed at strengthening democratic culture and rule of law, improving social policies, identifying and promoting the interests of citizens, creating opportunities for free intercultural exchange, increasing the transparency of municipalities and other institutions, improving the position of young people in northern municipalities, and promoting human rights education.

Since the establishment, our programs have been based on the needs of citizens and, motivated by successes and achievements so far, ACDC will continue its activities aimed at advocating changes for a better society, which fosters democratic culture, the rule of law, and equal opportunities for all.

29.12



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On December 16th, 2021, a celebration was held to mark ten years since the establishment of ACDC and its continuous work on advocacy and promotion of the effective rule of law and democratic values with the aim to advocate changes for a better society. The celebration of this solemn jubilee was attended by numerous representatives of institutions and organizations, civil society, associates, and friends of the organization. In his address, the executive director of the ACDC, Dušan Radaković, said that the tenth birthday is only the beginning and motivation for better and more dedicated work, for a better future for all of us.

A video about the ten-year work of the Center was shown at the celebration. The video begins with a brief introduction to the work and vision of ACDC, followed by photographs from various activities taken over the past decade that testify to the successes and achievements of our organization. The video features the executive director, Dušan Radaković, who thanked everyone who contributed to the development and success of ACDC, as well as our partners and colleagues who commented on their experience in working with our organization and wished us all the best.

Huge thanks to everyone who participated in the video and attended the celebration event! We are proud of what we have achieved and look forward to the coming years!

16.12



MOBILE LEGAL CLINIC

Within the project “Establishment of effective cooperation between CSO-s with Court presidents and Chief Prosecutors and promotion of legal aid services”, on the 2nd of December 2021, ACDC organized an activity entitled Mobile legal clinic and installed a booth in North Mitrovica, where the citizens had the opportunity to inform about using Free Legal Aid for the victims of domestic and gender-based violence.



02.12

TRAINING - UN HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS AND THE ROLE OF THE OMBUDSPERSON IN KOSOVO

On the 10th of December 2021, ACDC marked Human Rights Day by organizing a training session on UN human rights mechanisms and the role of the Ombudsperson in Kosovo. ACDC invited Deputy Ombudsperson, Ms. Marija Radulović, and a human rights expert, Mr. Ljubiša Baščarević, as lecturers. Graduate students, lawyers, and civil society activists attended the event, which was aimed at increasing the participants’ knowledge and understanding of existing UN human rights mechanisms and the role of the Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo (OiK). This activity is part of the UNMIK-funded project "Facilitating Access to Justice and Promoting Human Rights in the Mitrovica Region".



10.12

CSD TRAINING

On the 13th and 14th of December, a two-day training was organized in Prevalac, Prizren for Civil Society Organizations from the Mitrovica region, including ACDC. The training was dedicated to implementation and monitoring of Citizen Participation Plans, unique democracy mechanisms to strengthen civic engagement in local decision-making processes, developed with the support of the Inclusive Development Programme, implemented in partnership with UN-Habitat, PAX, and Community Building Mitrovica. ACDC’s representative was Brankica Timotijević.

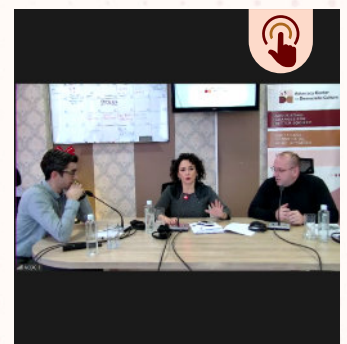


13.12

TOWNHALL MEETING AND PRESENTATION OF THE RESEARCH

On the 22nd of December, ACDC organized a public town hall meeting and presented research on the attitudes of citizens on corruption in northern Kosovo. In the second part of the meeting, the work of municipalities in northern Kosovo, corruption, public procurement, and publicly available information were discussed with Adrijana Hodzic, the deputy mayor of North Mitrovica. On that occasion, she said that every type of corruption is important and should be reported.

A survey conducted by ACDC showed that 49% of respondents were forced to pull some strings or pay for a service afterward, while 39% answered that they would report corruption if they met with it at an institution in northern Kosovo. During the presentation of citizens’ attitudes about corruption, it was pointed out that increased transparency of institutions, as well as more intensive cooperation of institutions with citizens and civil society organizations, is a condition to reduce corruption, along with changing the perception of citizens about the existence of it in institutions in northern Kosovo. The complete research analysis is available on [our website](#).



22.12

M4Y MEETINGS

On December 25th, M4Y organized a youth orientation meeting in Zvečan, to promote applying to training and grant possibilities for youth there. Key participants were youth organizations and Roma youth, with coaches and trainers Stefan Kalaba and Snežana Janković. M4Y is conducted by Community Development Fund (CDF) in cooperation with ACDC.



25.12

FREE LEGAL AID

During this month, in cooperation with the Agency for Free Legal Aid, every Tuesday and Thursday at the premises of ACDC, we continue to provide free legal aid services to all those who have problems with exercising their property rights in Kosovo.

TV SHOWS - PROJECTS PROMOTION

Our **Executive Director**, Dušan Radaković, and Project Manager, Slobodan Stošić, guested on the TV show broadcasted by RTV MIR, in which they talked about the new project "[Enhancing the Institutional Response to Corruption in Northern Kosovo](#)" and presented the project's results, objectives, and activities which are going to be implemented. In the second TV show, they spoke about the project "[Enhancing Transparency and Rule of Law in Kosovo-Serb Majority Communities](#)", which is supported by INL. TV Shows are available on our YouTube channel.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE CELEBRATION

KosovaPress - "The goal is, on the one hand, to be a service to citizens and help institutions, and at the same time a criticism to be as transparent as possible." Radakovic said in a statement for KosovaPress in Serbian.

TB Moct - In a statement for TV Most, the executive director of the Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture said "Human rights are violated every day and we, like other civil society organizations, try to present those rights to citizens, because that is our goal. We hope that the rights of the Serbian community will improve. We deal with serious topics and topics that require dedicated work. There were all kinds of prejudices, but the citizens finally started to trust the non-governmental sector."

