

**Advocacy Center**  
for **Democratic Culture**

# NEWSLETTER

## MEETING WITH THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF ZVECAN

Within the project "Municipality for Youth (M4Y)", the Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture held a meeting with the Office of the Mayor of Zvečan. The meeting was attended by: Mr. Momčilo Gvozdić, Head of the Mayor's Office, Mr. Srđan Milosavljević, Chairman of the Municipal Assembly, and Mr. Milan Radomirović, department for sports and youth.



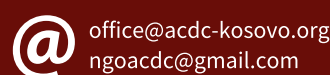
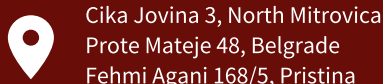
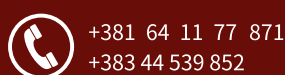
The ACDC project team briefed participants on the purpose, plans, and goals of the project. The municipal representatives of Zvečan expressed great interest in the project and project activities and will provide full support to the project, especially in the process of selecting and recruiting young people to participate.

The M4Y project is a grant from the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) administered by the World Bank. It is focused on increasing socioeconomic opportunities for marginalized youth, aged 15 to 24 across 10 municipalities in Kosovo.

## M4Y - PUBLIC CALL

After the outreach activities, campaigns, and initial contact with youth and meetings with the mayors and other stakeholders, the call for applications was opened, calling on young people (15-24) to apply for training.

- Online application form in Serbian
- Online application form in Albanian



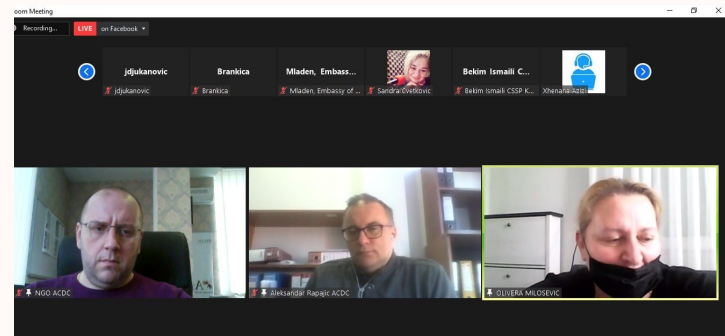
## FREE LEGAL AID

As of 1 February 2022, the NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture will provide Free Legal Aid services to support the Free Legal Aid Agency Mobile Office in northern Kosovo. Two legal associates, assigned to the Mobile Office for the period of four months, will seat at the premises of Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture (Cika Jovina 3, North Mitrovica) and provide legal assistance to legal aid claimants. On this note, NGO ACDC calls on all those who have problems in exercising their rights in Kosovo to visit our office and contact the legal associates who will provide free legal services, information, and advice.

This initiative is implemented within the project “Facilitating Access to Justice and Promoting Human Rights in the Mitrovicë/Mitrovica Region” supported by UNMIK.

## NEW PROJECT

On February 4, 2022, the initial conference of the project "Promoting Interethnic Dialogue in Local Government" was held. The conference aimed to acquaint the public with the goals, activities, and ways in which the project will be implemented. The project aims to increase the level of interethnic interaction and the level of cooperation between different communities in the municipality of North Mitrovica. It will last a year and will be implemented through a number of activities aimed at promoting inter-ethnic engagement in local self-government in northern Kosovo.



The project is supported by the National Endowment for Democracy and implemented by the Center for Advocacy of Democratic Culture.

## DEPUTY AMBASSADOR OF NORWAY VISITS NGO ACDC



On the 8th of February, we hosted the Deputy Ambassador of Norway to Kosovo, Mr. Henrik Width. During the meeting, we had the opportunity to introduce Mr. Width to the work of our organization through ongoing projects, as well as through a project funded by the Norwegian Embassy in Kosovo and implemented by KCSF and PA. We also discussed the political situation in northern Kosovo and how to further strengthen cooperation between the Norwegian Embassy and the NGO ACDC.

Earlier that day, the deputy ambassador visited the Zvecan municipality. The visit of the Deputy Ambassador was extremely important and useful. On this occasion, it was announced that the Ambassador of Norway will soon visit the municipalities in the north of Kosovo.



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## SECOND TOWN HALL MEETING

On February 22nd, a town hall meeting was held on the premises of ACDC and streamed live via the Zoom platform. The meeting included prominent members of the civil sector that gave their insight into the situation in northern Kosovo regarding corruption and problems encountered so far.

The panelists were Marko Milenković from New Social Initiative from Mitrovica, Vladan Trifić from Centre for Peace and Tolerance from Gračanica, Caleb Waugh from NGO Aktiv from Mitrovica, and Aleksandar Rapajić, Program Manager at ACDC.

Aleksandar Rapajić presented the project and info-graphic with the results from the research conducted by ACDC regarding corruption in the north.

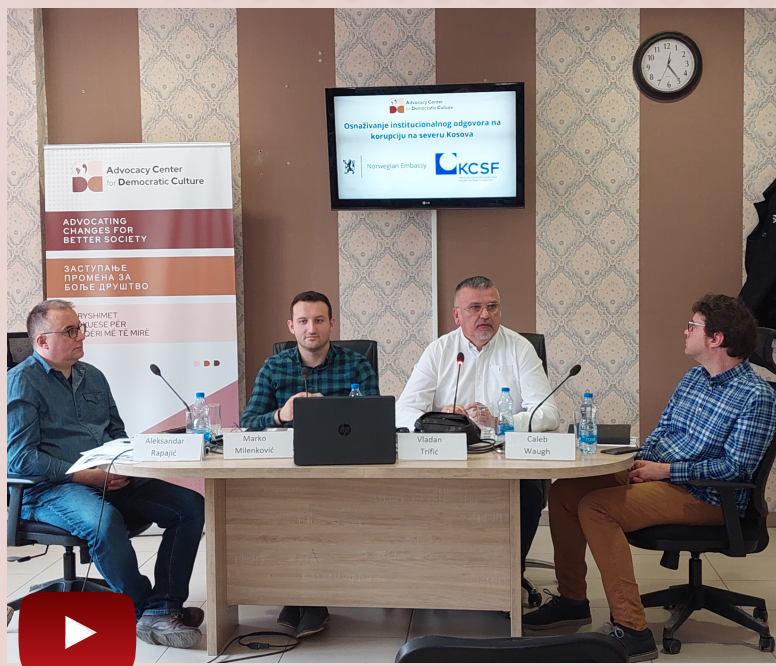
The overall conclusion of the town hall meeting is that much work needs to be done, but that the entire society should take part in solving this problem. Additionally, CSOs must take a greater part in dealing with corruption.

Links for info-graphic in three languages:

- SRB
- ALB
- ENG



The meeting was part of the project “Enhancing Institutional Response to Corruption in northern Kosovo”. This grant is supported by the ‘Civil Society programme for Albania and Kosovo’ financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and managed by Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) in partnership with Partners Albania for Change and Development (PA).



## KOSOVO ONLINE INTERVIEW

In an interview for Kosovo Online, NGO ACDC Executive Director, Dusan Radaković spoke about the visit of EU and US Special Envoys Miroslav Lajcak and Gabriel Escobar. He also spoke about the Idea of **Kosovo partition** and **Comprehensive Agreement and Association/Community of Serb majority municipalities in Kosovo**.

## FOCUS GROUPS

As part of the project "Women for Women - United in Power", during February, NGO ACDC organized two focus groups with women in politics and female students of Law and thus started desk research on the position of women in the north of Kosovo.

The project has been supported by Reactor - Research in Action and their partners through the Action "Furthering Gender Equality through the EU Accession Process". This Action is funded by the European Union and co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.



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## ACDC OFFICE OPENED IN PRISTINA

The ACDC office in Pristina was officially opened at the beginning of the month.

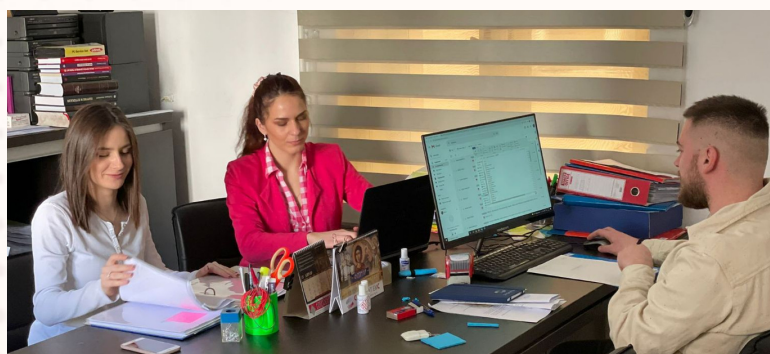


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On February 21st, the ACDD team met with partners from CSSP in Pristina in a fully equipped and functional office. Establishing adequate office space will significantly improve the capacity of NGO ACDC and thus create a precondition for better work.



## OFFICE IN BELGRADE COUNTINUES ITS WORK



Our team in Belgrade is working actively and hard to promote our work in the office which aims to strengthen regional cooperation and contribute to a greater influence of NGO ACDC.

In the upcoming period, we will inform you about future activities that we will carry out through the office in Belgrade.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### MEDIA PROMOTION OF THE OIK

NGO ACDC has started with the activities aimed to promote the Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo. TV information spot and brochures on the work of OIK are in the process of development and will be published in March.

### JOB VACANCY

Due to the increased workload, Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture opened a call for applications for the position of Project Assistant. The successful candidate will be announced next month.