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Advocacy Center
for **Democratic Culture**

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NEWSLETTER



office@acdc-kosovo.org
ngoacdc@gmail.com



Cika Jovina 3, North Mitrovica
Prote Mateje 48, Belgrade
Fehmi Agani 168/5, Prishtina



11TH
Anniversary

LOCAL INITIATIVES IN MULTI-ETHNIC DISTRICTS OF MITROVICA

Within the project “Promoting Inter-Ethnic Dialogue in Local Government”, funded by the National Endowment for Democracy, three small projects in multi-ethnic districts of Mitrovica were supported.

Local project initiatives that address the needs of local communities have been developed and initiated by the communities with the support of Community Committees and local representatives.



Sports playgrounds used by young women from all communities have been renovated in the Bosnjacka neighborhood.



A children's playground was constructed within a building used by socially disadvantaged families in Mikronaselje.

The work of the cultural center in Brdjani was supported by the procurement of the necessary equipment.



NGO ACDC supported initiatives in all three multi-ethnic settlements in North Mitrovica in order to establish a friendly and sustainable environment for different communities. Projects will benefit all groups, with a special emphasis on culture, youth, and children. These small initiatives demonstrate to local communities that with their participation we can improve the living conditions of all communities.

The overall objective of the project “Promoting Inter-Ethnic Dialogue in Local Government” is to facilitate inter-ethnic cooperation among communities in North Mitrovica municipality.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



To mark International Human Rights Day, NGO ACDC organized a street action in South Mitrovica that aimed to disseminate information and spread awareness of the UDHR and the role and competencies of the Ombudsperson Institution in the advancement and protection of human rights and freedoms.

The activity was carried out within the UNMIK-funded project "Further Support to Access to Justice and Human Rights in the Mitrovica Region".

TV SHOW

Jelena Savić, manager of the Business Center in Zvečan and associate on NGO "Santa Maria" projects, spoke about the position of women in the north of Kosovo. The TV show is realized as part of a media campaign aimed at empowering women from non-majority communities to participate in decision-making processes and raising awareness among men about the importance of their inclusion.



Women for women - united in power project, implemented by Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture (ACDC), 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 Sweden. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the NGO ACDC and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union or Sweden.

GRANT AGREEMENT SIGNED



NGO ACDC was among 20 beneficiaries who signed grant agreements with Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC). The project will start as of January 2023 with the goal of increasing the knowledge about the Law on Labour and raising awareness about the position of pregnant women and young mothers.

The grant scheme is funded by the European Union in Kosovo, in the scope of the "Protecting and Promoting Labour Rights of Vulnerable Groups in the Labour Market" project, implemented by ATRC in partnership with BIRN Kosovo.

NEW TEAM MEMBER



NGO ACDC is pleased to announce our new colleague Dušan Vukomanović, who has joined the team in the position of legal associate.

Dušan graduated from the Faculty of Law at the University of Pristina. Prior to joining our team, he completed his internship in the Law Office of Dejan A. Vasić, where he gained experience in criminal, civil, and family law.

We are sure that he will make a great contribution to ACDC's work and help the team in our everyday tasks.

NGO ACDC'S 11 ANNIVERSARY

The month of December is particularly important for us. On December 29, 2011, the NGO ACDC was established and ambitiously set out on the path of change and creation of a better society. Through project activities and advocacy, we remain dedicated to our mission of identifying community needs and supporting the interests of citizens and Kosovo society.



NGO ACDC will continue to pursue its mission in 2023, and continue its activities aimed at fundamental values such as the democratic culture, the rule of law, and equal opportunities for all.



STATEMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL DAYS

In December, NGO ACDC supported the observance of numerous UN international days in order to raise public knowledge and bring attention to some important political, social, cultural, and human rights issues, as well as to encourage social changes.

In a statement released on December 1, the NGO ACDC called for non-discrimination against HIV-positive persons.



On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, we stressed the importance of respect for human rights and the equal participation of people with disabilities in the management of the society in which they live.



In honor of the International Day Against Corruption, we have encouraged citizens to testify against corruption.



On the Human Right Day observed on December 10, ACDC issued a statement and emphasized the importance of respecting the Declaration's guiding principles.



Shortly after the end of the 16 Days of Activism campaign on December 11, we reminded that prevention is the most effective way to stop gender-based violence.



On the occasion of the International Day of Migrants, which is observed every December 18, we addressed the migrant problem.



PRESS



Executive Director, Dusan Radakovic for RTK2 on the elections



Executive Director, Dusan Radakovic for Radio Gorazdevac on the work of the Anti-Corruption Agency



Program officer, Ines Aljovic Mihajlovic for Radio Gorazdevac on inheritance rights of women



PRESS RELEASES

Tensions in the north of Kosovo culminated in early December when Kosovo Serbs set up barricades in northern Kosovo in protest of the arrest of Dejan Pantic, a former member of the Kosovo police. On this occasion, NGO ACDC, together with other organizations, published a press release calling on the international community and relevant institutions to react in order to protect the rights of Mr. Pantic to communicate with his lawyers and family.

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In addition, we issued a statement condemning the ban on the Serbian Patriarch's entry into Kosovo and urged Pristina authorities to apologize to the patriarch, stating that the current crisis in Kosovo must not be used as an excuse to violate the law and the constitution.

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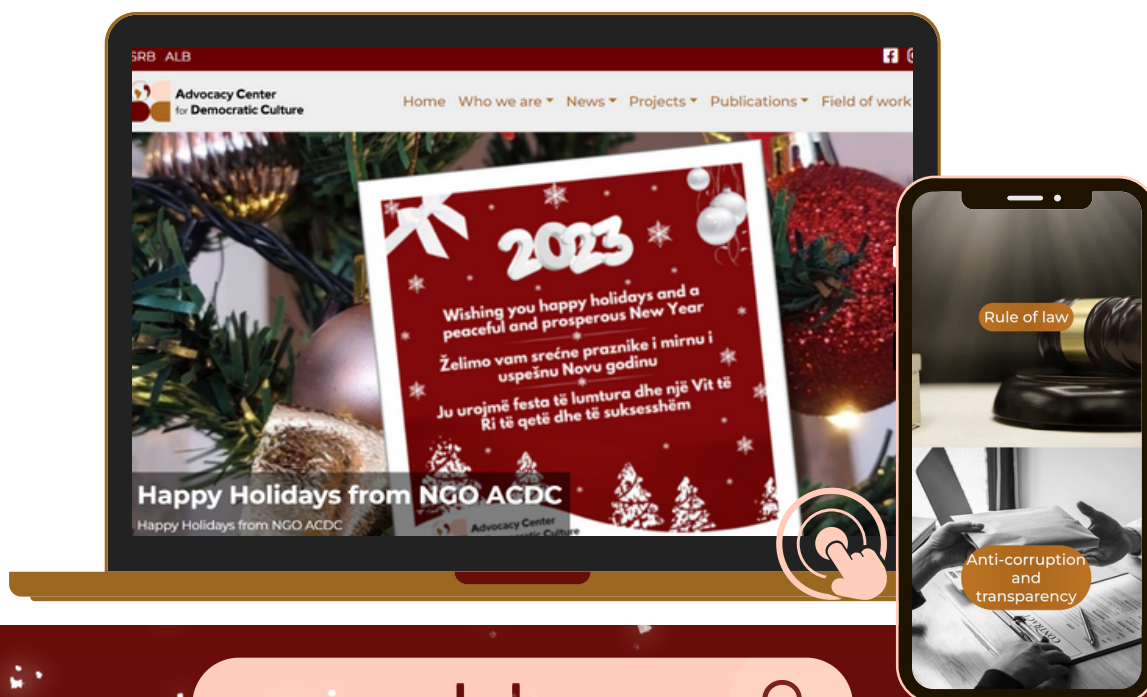
A diverse group of civil society organizations from Kosovo and Serbia, including NGO ACDC, have adopted the joint statement calling for new constructive voices – voices that look to the future.

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The coalition of non-governmental organizations for election observation "Democracy in Action" (DiA) issued a press release stating that insistence on holding elections in the four northern municipalities of Kosovo was tactless in the current circumstances.

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Our website has been redesigned. Check it out!



www.acdc-kosovo.org