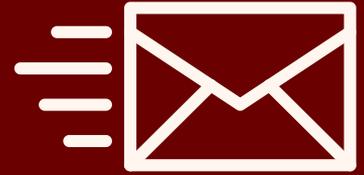




# NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2023



## Empowering Youth in Municipalities: M4Y Project



As part of the project, a call for proposals for small grants was published targeting informal groups and NGOs, focusing on individuals aged 15-24 in the municipalities of Gračanica, Ranilug, Kosovo Polje, Srbica, and Vučitrn. ACDC is entrusted with the administration of the grants in these municipalities.

In a recent meeting between the Mayor of Ranilug, Katarina Ristić Ilić, and members of the NGO ACDC, Dušan Radaković, and Aleksandar Rapajić, discussions focused on projects supporting the youth through the Municipalities for Youth (M4Y) initiative.

The project "Municipalities for Youth (M4Y)" is designed to empower young people to fully participate in the planning and implementation of local socio-economic activities.



## Cleaning action in North Mitrovica



As part of our commitment to environmental preservation, we organized a riverbank cleanup event in North Mitrovica. Volunteers joined hands to remove waste from the riverbanks, contributing to the preservation of the area's natural beauty and environmental protection.

This initiative was not only aimed at cleaning the riverbanks but also at raising public awareness about the importance of safeguarding rivers as essential water resources and public spaces.

## Info session - Kosovo Specialist Chambers



Collaborating with the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, NGO ACDC facilitated an informational session at the Civil Energy Center (CEC) in Gračanica. Representatives from the KSC provided detailed insights into their mandate and work regarding cases of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other serious criminal offenses.

# Human Rights Initiatives

Continuing our commitment to human rights advocacy, we have been actively engaged in various initiatives. The text published in October explores the significance of freedom of expression within the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly analyzing its impact on Kosovo.



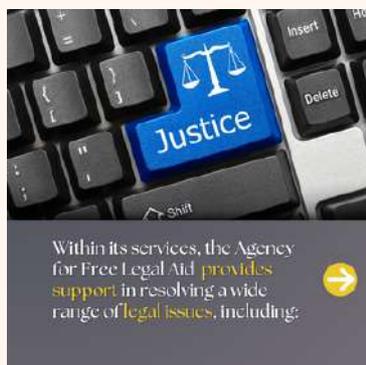
Throughout October, our campaign to promote human rights continued, with a diverse group spreading awareness and advocating for human rights principles and democracy. The aim is to address challenges related to human rights in Kosovo and foster greater protection and respect for these rights within the community.



## Free Legal Aid services

As part of our ongoing initiatives, we published information on the services provided by the Free Legal Aid Agency to raise awareness about the available legal assistance in various areas.

Additionally, ACDC continuously provides free legal aid services to support the Office for Free Legal Aid in the North of Kosovo. In this capacity, NGO ACDC invites all individuals facing difficulties in exercising their rights in Kosovo to visit the office and connect with legal associates who will offer free legal services, information, and advice.



## SMART Balkan visit



The recent visit from the SMART Balkans team to NGO ACDC was focused on assessing the progress of our initiatives, reviewing the attained results, and addressing the challenges encountered.



### New Project Announcement

We are excited to announce a new project funded by UNMIK focused on advancing human rights through increased public awareness. The project aims to strengthen the Forum of Cooperation between the Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo (OiK) and Civil Society. It also aims to develop online complaint forms on the OiK's website, and enhance awareness of human rights and redress mechanisms. Furthermore, the purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the residents of northern municipalities on their rights and fundamental freedoms.

### Flood Prevention Campaign and Local Plan Development

As part of the flood prevention campaign carried out by ACDC, a Local Plan for the Municipality of North Mitrovica, aimed at reducing the risk of floods and ensuring an appropriate response in emergency situations, has been developed. This plan is available on our website in all three languages.



### Skills Development Opportunities for Youth

As part of a project funded by GIZ, a call was made for participation in workshops and training sessions, offering young individuals a unique opportunity to enhance their skill set and acquire valuable knowledge in different fields. These training sessions are scheduled to commence in November.

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