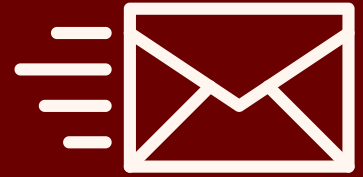


# NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2024



## Public Discussion on the Work of the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo

As part of the UNMIK-funded project "Advancing Human Rights through Increased Public Awareness," on March 7, 2024, at the Civic Energy Center (CEC) in North Mitrovica, a public discussion was held with representatives of the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo (PIK).

The discussion aimed to deepen the understanding of the PIK's work at the local level, especially from the perspective of affected communities living in northern Kosovo.

The discussion was attended by Mr. Arber Beka, Chief of the Division for Public Relations and International Cooperation, the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo, Mr. Zoran Ristić, the Investigator at the Investigation Department, Mr. Jerome Bouyjou, Head of Human Rights Section at UNMIK, Mr. Dušan Radaković from ACDC, media representatives, civil society representatives, UNMIK, EULEX, KFOR, embassy representatives, and citizens.

PIK representatives presented their mission and scope of work since its establishment in 2006. They emphasized PIK's responsibility in ensuring an accountable, democratic, and transparent police service under Kosovo legislation. The discussion covered a wide range of PIK activities, including prevention, detection, and investigation of crimes committed by Kosovo Police employees, as well as inspection of police structures and functions.

## Final Conference of the project "Promoting Interethnic Dialogue in Local Government"



As part of the project "Promoting Interethnic Dialogue in Local Government" implemented by the NGO ACDC with the support of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) a public discussion was held on March 28th at Civil Energy Center at North Mitrovica.

The panelists included Executive Director of the NGO ACDC Dušan Radaković, The Deputy President of the local assembly in North Mitrovica, Skender Sadiku and Deputy Prime Minister of Kosovo, Emilija Redžepi.

Dušan Radaković emphasized during his address that this project started two years ago and that despite numerous problems and challenges in the field, the project has been successfully implemented.

Deputy Prime Minister of Kosovo, Emilija Redžepi, said she believes that building trust and the participation of minority communities in political life are key to solving the problems of all communities and that this should be fought for through institutions.

Within the project, several initiatives have been implemented. One such initiative included the organization of the play titled "With What, With Whom in the EU???" by author and director Dragan Tešić and it was performed at the Cultural Center Kadri Kadriu and Private Cultural Center "Akvarijus."

The play aimed to bring together people from different communities to enjoy a shared cultural experience, connecting the two cultural centers and supporting cultural diversity.



## The Ombudsperson met the representatives of NGOs in North Mitrovica



The Ombudsperson, Naim Qelaj and his deputy, Srdjan Sentic, met representatives of civil society organizations as well as representatives of local authorities of the Mitrovica region. The meeting was organised by NGO ACDC and supported by UNMIK.

The Ombudsperson, Naim Qelaj spoke about the cases that have been handled by him for the complaints brought in the last meeting with the NGOs in North Mitrovica, the issues that are under the jurisdiction of the Ombudsperson's Institution (OI).

On the other hand, representatives of non-governmental organizations raised some of the issues such as non-respect of the law on languages by the authorities, the issue of the property of some returned families of the Serbian community in the municipality of Klinë, the issue of the Abbot of the Monastery in Zveçan, as well as the issue regarding the equipment of citizens of the north of the country with documents of Kosovo.

Such meetings aim to facilitate cooperation between the Ombudsperson's Institution and civil society organizations, whose main goal is to increase awareness, cooperation, and general promotion of human rights.



## New project

NGO ACDC in March signed a grant agreement with CDF for a new project under the HumanRightivism project, aiming to continue empowering non-majority communities.



## Meeting of Dusan Radakovic with Gabriel Escobar

Gabriel Escobar, the US State Department's Special Representative to the Western Balkans, was staying in Kosovo for discussions regarding the ongoing challenges and issues affecting the Serbian community. During his visit, Escobar has been meeting with representatives of the Serbian community, including those from civil society, and Dušan Radaković, the Executive Director of the NGO ACDC, to gain a deeper understanding of the situation.



## New Project Signed - Building inter-ethnic bridges among youth in Kosovo

The NGO ACDC has signed a contract with IOM for a new project aimed at facilitating inter-ethnic cooperation among communities in Kosovo through cultural and communication initiatives. Supported by IOM and the European Union in Kosovo, the project seeks to promote understanding and collaboration between non-majority and majority communities.



## New Team Members

We are pleased to announce that two new interns joined our team: Fatjona Musliu, a fourth-year law student, and Andrea Todić, a passionate activist for human rights. We are excited to have them on board and look forward to the contributions they will make to our organization's mission.



## Publication of OP-EDs

At the beginning of the month, two op-eds were published.

Manuela Petrović discusses the challenges for non-majority communities in Kosovo, citing slow progress in basic human rights due to political tensions between Belgrade and Pristina.



Gazmen Salijević emphasizes the need for better implementation of progressive legislation and improved coordination among public institutions to ensure equal treatment and opportunities for Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities in Kosovo.



NGO ACDC also launched a new series of texts on art and culture. In the first text, Milijana Mojsilović, an art historian, emphasizes the importance of art for society and the individual.



In another text, Slobodan Mašić, explores how art and culture can connect people, overcome stereotypes and prejudices, and promote understanding, respect, and diversity.



## ACDC in Media

Dusan Radakovic, Executive Director for Kosovo Online



Aleksandar Rapajić, Program Director for Kosovo Online



Aleksandar Rapajić, Program Director for Kosovo Online



Slobodan Stosic, Program Manager for Kosovo Online



Ines Aljovic Mihajlovic, Program Officer, Round table on the position of women at Kossev



Ines Aljovic Mihajlovic, Program Officer, in the RTK2 show "If women ask"

