



NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025



TWO YOUTH CAMPS HELD IN APRIL

As part of the new cycle of youth camps launched in February 2025, two three-day camps were successfully held in April: the first in Gračanica/Graçanicë from April 11 to 13, and the second in Bogë near Pejë/Peć, from April 25 to 27.

The aim of these camps, organized under the YESS – Youth Empowerment through Inclusive Schools and Societies program, is to empower young people through intercultural dialogue, the promotion of shared learning, and the use of both official languages – Serbian and Albanian.

The program included a series of interactive and creative workshops, encouraging participants to exchange experiences and get to know each other in a safe and inclusive environment⁴⁷



The project also continued its media campaign promoting positive stories from youth camps. An Op-Ed by one of the participants was published, titled "Discovering Unity Through Youth Camp Experiences," in which the author describes the importance of intercultural connections, learning through play, and breaking down stereotypes among young people.



The program is implemented within the framework of the project "Youth Empowered through Inclusive Schools and Societies (YESS)", funded by the United Nations Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund, and implemented by UNICEF and IOM Kosovo.

SEMINAR HELD WITHIN THE FORUM FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN OMBUDSMAN AND CSOS



From April 25 to 27, 2025, a seminar was held in Durrës as part of the Forum for Dialogue between the Ombudsperson Institution and civil society organizations, organized by ACDC.



During the seminar, the annual report on the Forum's activities was presented, and participants defined goals and directions for the 2025–2026 period. Special focus was placed on strengthening the role of CSOs in service provision and improving cooperation with institutions.



HUMAN RIGHTS ROUNDTABLE IN PRIZREN



A roundtable held on April 11 in Prizren brought together representatives of the Ombudsperson Institution and civil society to present a report on the state of human rights in the region.

Participants included Kosovo's Ombudsperson Mr. Naim Çelaj, representatives of civil society organizations from the Prizren region, and ACDC's Executive Director Dušan Radaković. The discussion aimed to strengthen cooperation between the Ombudsperson Institution and CSOs, provide space for opinion exchange on the human rights situation, and enable direct communication with citizens about the problems in their communities.

OLD SCHOOL TRIO PERFORMS AS PART OF "CANVAS OF CULTURE" PROJECT

To improve access to cultural content and support young artists, ACDC continues activities within the "Canvas of Culture in Northern Kosovo" project.



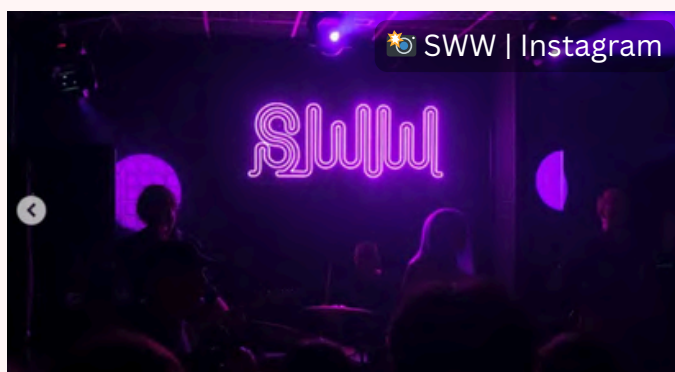
A concert by the band Old School Trio from Štrpce was held at the Private Cultural Center "Aquarius" in North Mitrovica on April 4. The event brought together numerous attendees who enjoyed the energetic performance and popular pop-rock hits.




Supporting such activities remains part of our efforts to strengthen intercultural dialogue, create space for new artistic stories, and connect young people through creativity.

ACDC SUPPORTS ALBUM LAUNCH OF "SOMETHING WENT WRONG" BAND

As part of the same project, ACDC also supported the release of the debut album by the band Something Went Wrong, held in North Mitrovica. Support for this event is part of ongoing efforts to provide platforms for young musicians to express themselves and gain recognition.



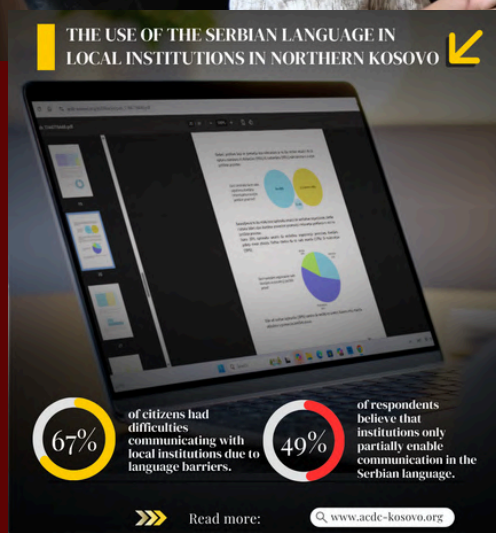
Within the project, an article by Ilda Krama – "When Sound Becomes a Bridge – SWW and the Art That Connects Worlds" – was published, highlighting the creative process behind the album and the role of art in connecting communities. The entire album, consisting of five alternative and electro-pop songs, is available on [YouTube](#). 



ANALYSIS PRESENTED ON THE USE OF THE SERBIAN LANGUAGE IN LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

On April 17, ACDC organized a conference to present the analysis "Voice of Language: Monitoring the Use of the Serbian Language in Local Institutions."

Participants discussed the current state of language rights of non-majority communities in northern Kosovo, particularly issues such as inadequate translations, lack of bilingual information, and institutional neglect.



The document "Voice of the Language" analyzes how municipalities in northern Kosovo comply with legal obligations regarding the use of the Serbian language - through translations, bilingual documents, and communication with officials. The analysis is available on the ACDC website in Serbian, Albanian and English.



SRB



ENG



ALB

A MUSICAL EVENING CELEBRATING TOGETHERNESS AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

In South Mitrovica, on April 27, 2025, a musical evening was organized by NGO REC – Reconciliation Empowering Communities, within a project implemented in partnership with NGO ACDC and supported by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

On an open stage and before a large audience, the Jimmy Mustafa Band and the duo Anisa & Erhan performed, blending different musical styles and cultural identities.



ACDC AT EVENTS

ACDC's Executive Director, Dušan Radaković, participated on April 3, 2025, in a regional panel discussion in Pristina, organized by the Youth Initiative for Human Rights – Kosovo (YIHR KS) and the Ombudsperson Institution. The discussion addressed legal and political challenges faced by human rights defenders – including hate speech, online attacks and digital surveillance.



ACDC Project Manager, Stefan Kalaba, participated in the three-day regional event of the SELDI network entitled "Empowering Change: Anti-Corruption Advocacy and Policy Impact", which took place from 14 to 16 April in North Macedonia. More than 30 civil society organizations from the region participated in trainings, panels and the exchange of good practices in the fight against corruption.



ACDC IN THE MEDIA

Ines Aljović Mihajlović, ACDC's Program Officer, appeared on Radio Mitrovica Sever, where she discussed the issue of suspended child benefit payments to families in Serbian communities in Kosovo. ACDC has supported an informal group of parents who launched an initiative to resolve this problem, emphasizing the importance of institutional responsibility toward all citizens.



ACDC Project Manager, Andrea Todić, participated in a training for journalists organized by the NGO CSD, in cooperation with IOM and the Office of the Language Commissioner. The training was held in Ohrid from 27 to 29 April, and covered the topics of language rights, ethical reporting and the role of language in preserving identity, bringing together journalists from different communities in Kosovo.



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