

JULY 2026

NEWSLETTER



Conference on the Functioning of the Judiciary in Northern Kosovo

On 16 July 2026, NGO ACDC organised a conference in North Mitrovica dedicated to the functioning of the judiciary, access to justice, and the possible return of Serbian judges, prosecutors, and judicial staff to Kosovo's judicial institutions.

Attorneys, legal experts, representatives of the international community, and civil society discussed the challenges of reintegration, improving access to justice, and strengthening public trust in judicial institutions. Participants agreed that the return of Serbian judges and prosecutors could contribute to strengthening public trust in the judiciary and improving access to justice, provided that the process is transparent and based on the rule of law.

The event was organised within the project "Support to Reintegration, Language Rights and Backlog Reduction" with the support of UNMIK.





Final conference of the “Together for Clean Rivers” project

The final conference of the “Together for Clean Rivers” project was held on 29 July 2026 at the EU House in North Mitrovica. A publication based on field research and the mapping of more than 200 critical locations along the Ibar River was presented. These locations include illegal waste disposal sites, direct wastewater discharges, sand and gravel extraction sites, water barriers, and other sources of environmental degradation. 

Representatives of the IWRM-K programme, researchers, and experts discussed the findings, the implementation of the recommendations, and the next steps towards more effective protection of the Ibar River.



Youth environmental initiatives presented

Five local youth initiatives from Zvečan, North and South Mitrovica, Zubin Potok, and Leposavić were presented at Gazivode Lake on 23 July 2026. The initiatives included clean-up campaigns, educational activities, a photography exhibition, the promotion of sustainable water resource use, and the installation of a rainwater collection system. The event concluded with a joint clean-up of the area around Gazivode Lake.

The activities were implemented within the “Together for Clean Rivers” project, carried out by REC and NGO ACDC as part of the Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo Programme (IWRM-K). The programme is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Government of Kosovo and implemented by Skat Consulting Ltd. in consortium with Environment Agency Austria.



“Seeds of Cooperation” project completed

The project “Seeds of Cooperation: Building Multiethnic Green Spaces in Mitrovica” was successfully completed in July 2026.

Young people from different communities improved green spaces, participated in clean-up activities, and developed environmental initiatives. A documentary presenting the implemented activities, achieved results, and joint youth engagement was screened at the final event.

This activity was implemented with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of CARE Deutschland e.V. and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Press Releases

Institutional conduct during the Vidovdan commemoration



ACDC, NSI, Aktiv, InTER, and CASA expressed concern over the conduct of the Kosovo Police during the Vidovdan commemoration, reports of mistreatment, and the confiscation of documents. The competent institutions were called upon to investigate the case and ensure equal protection of the rights of all citizens.

Request to the World Bank concerning Gazivode Lake



Five civil society organisations from northern Kosovo requested that the World Bank conduct enhanced environmental, social, and institutional due diligence before providing any future support to the “Ibar-Lepenac” company, in light of recent property takeovers and demolitions around Gazivode Lake.

Response to the demolition of the “Jezero” Hotel



Civil society organisations called on the prosecution and other competent institutions to examine the legality of the demolition of the “Jezero” Hotel, as well as the conduct of the police and inspectors during the demolition of buildings at Gazivode Lake and in North Mitrovica.

ACDC in the media

During July, ACDC Executive Director Dušan Radaković commented on key political and judicial developments in Kosovo:

- On the possibility of another parliamentary election and growing public fatigue caused by repeated electoral processes. 
- On the consequences of accepting the resignations of Serbian judicial staff for access to justice and the functioning of the judiciary in northern Kosovo. 
- On the participation of the diaspora in political life through existing electoral mechanisms rather than separate seats in the Assembly. 
- On the prospects for the reintegration of Serbian judges and their possible return to judicial institutions in September. 
- On the sequence of steps required to establish Kosovo's institutions following the constitution of the Assembly. 
- On the limited interest of Kosovo Albanian political parties in the dialogue and the future of the Association/Community of Serb-Majority Municipalities. 



ACDC Programme Director Aleksandar Rapajić commented on judicial and political developments in Kosovo:

- On the political and institutional conditions required for the return of Serbian judges and prosecutors, political pressure on the judicial councils and the shortage of qualified Serbian judicial staff. 
- On the political conditions required for the return of Serbian judges and prosecutors 
- On the closure of the administrative path for the return of Serbian prosecutors and judicial staff following the decisions of Kosovo's institutions. 
- On the absence of a political agreement concerning the election of the president and the continuing institutional uncertainty in Kosovo. 



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