

No Impunity for Violations and Breach of Human Rights in Montenegro

Civic Alliance (Montenegro), Belgrade Center for Human Rights (Serbia) and International Commission of Jurists-European Institutions (ICJ-EI) are currently implementing the project **“No Impunity for Violations and Breach of Human Rights in Montenegro”**. The project is implemented with support of the European Union through IPA and Civil Society Facility (CSF).

Within 20 months of project implementation, we strive to contribute to consolidation of democracy in Montenegro through the inclusion of CSOs in decision-making processes and strengthening of the rule of law, as well as protection of fundamental rights in Montenegro in accordance with the negotiation process. The project will also contribute to the strengthening of judiciary, justice and protection of basic human rights in Montenegro, with focus on vulnerable groups.

There are two basic pillars on which the project is based, i.e. rule of law and protection of human rights.

The concept of rule of law implies that the project will deal with efficiency and transparency of judicial system and police in providing justice related to protection of basic human rights, with focus on the rights of detained and imprisoned persons and prisons with an emphasis on abuse and torture in closed institutions. The focus of action will be on increasing the capacity of police employees, judges and prosecutors, as part of the continuous process of strengthening the capacity of institutions in facing challenges and implementing upcoming reforms. Furthermore, other stakeholders such as CSOs, human rights activists, lawyers, doctors and students will be involved in capacity building as related actors with the justice, law and human rights sector. On the other hand, the project will also treat the problems of detained and imprisoned persons, as well as the lack of awareness and information about their rights.

In parallel with the above, the project will also focus on strengthening local initiatives by local CSOs in the area of rule of law and protection of human rights.

Finally, in order to bring issues of the judiciary and the connectivity between justice and human rights into everyday discourse, the project will focus on public dialogue. Hence, we will work on raising citizens' awareness of these topics, which will result in an increase in the efficiency of the judiciary, justice and protection of human rights from the aspect of responsibility and building trust between authorities and citizens.

The ICJ-EI will draft a report on the judiciary and the rule of law in Montenegro in 2024.