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STATE OBLIGATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING CEDAW AND OTHER UN TREATY BODIES' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TAJIKISTAN ON GBV

Expert Discussion

Date: 5 December 2025, Friday

Venue: "Serena" Hotel, Dushanbe

Conference hall: "Millat"

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82845520148?pwd=ZSbrul2bNSV4QGnVFpzBS7rnOJLppy.1>

Meeting ID: 828 4552 0148

Password: 006397

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA), and the NGO "Right and Prosperity", will hold an Expert Roundtable on 5 December 2025.

The event will support the practical implementation of the CEDAW Committee's Concluding Observations (February 2024) on women's access to justice and SGBV, present the findings of the ICJ 2025 report on access to justice for women survivors in Tajikistan, and identify concrete next steps for law, policy, practice, and services.

Participants will examine systemic challenges in preventing GBV and ensuring effective access to justice for survivors, as well as possible improvements in law and practice to secure the protection of human rights and the right to justice. Particular attention will be given to the implementation of the CEDAW Committee's recommendations one year after the State report submission.

The roundtable will provide a platform for dialogue on existing challenges and potential solutions between representatives of the Executive Office of the President; Supreme Court; General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Committee on Women and Family Affairs; Ministry of Health and Social Protection; Bar Association and legal aid providers; judicial training institute; Parliament committees; Ombudsperson's Office; EU Delegation; OHCHR ROCA; UN agencies; specialised CSOs; practising lawyers and psychologists; academics; and ICJ experts.

The activity is conducted within the framework of the Concluding Observations on the Seventh Periodic Report of Tajikistan. In this context, General Recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice recommends, *inter alia*, that the State party review evidentiary rules and their application, ensure transparent, confidential and gender-sensitive judicial procedures to prevent stigmatization and re-victimization of survivors of gender-based violence, strengthen victim protection in the justice system, and abolish requirements for victims to return to the scene of the crime. It is also linked to Chapters 7 and 10, points 54 and 94 of the 2023–2025 Action Plan of the National Human Rights Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan until 2038, which foresees further development of legislation on the right to a fair trial, including access to justice for vulnerable groups (children, persons with disabilities, and women) and the review of gender-related legislation.



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AGENDA

5 December 2025, Friday 	
08:30 - 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 - 09:30	Welcoming remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Representative of Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Safargul Bukhorieva ➤ European Union Delegation to Tajikistan, Programme Manager, Amirbek Saidbekov ➤ Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Programme Officer, Sukhrob Shoev ➤ NGO "Right and Prosperity", Executive Director Ekaterina Smolyakova, ➤ International Commission of Jurists, Temur Shakirov, Director of the International Commission of Jurists' Program for Europe and Central Asia
09:30 - 11:00	SESSION 1: THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS IN SHAPING LEGISLATION AND PRACTICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
	<p>Moderator: Salomat Khakimzoda, Director of the judges' union of the Republic of Tajikistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The role of courts in ensuring implementation of CEDAW and other international obligations in Tajikistan Speaker: Solekh Amin Zavgizoda, Director of the Judicial Training Center at the Supreme Court of the Republic of Tajikistan ➤ Ensuring access to justice for GBV victims: challenges and opportunities Speaker: Shakhlo Salomzoda, Deputy Chief of Committee on Women and Family Affairs ➤ Ensuring access to justice for GBV victims: challenges and opportunities Speaker: Larisa Aleksandrova, Gender expert <p>Q&A/DISCUSSION: Strengthening the role of International Human Rights Treaties in Tajikistan</p>
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee break ☕
11:30 - 13:00	SESSION 2: ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN CRIMINAL CASES: INTERNATIONAL LAW, BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An overview of recommendations to Tajikistan: repetitive and new issues addressed by the CEDAW Speaker: Suhrob Shoev, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Programme Officer ➤ Access to justice for victims of gender-based violence: key obstacles and positive examples from Central Asia Speaker: Niginakhon Uralova, independent GBV researcher

	<p>➤ Nowhere to go: Access to justice for women survivors of gender-based violence in Tajikistan. ICJ mission report's findings and recommendations</p> <p>Speaker: Temur Shakirov, <i>International Commission of Jurists, Acting Director of the International Commission of Jurists' Program for Europe and Central Asia,</i></p> <p>Q&A/DISCUSSION: Seeking ways for effective implementation of the ICJ mission's recommendations</p>
13:00 – 13:15	FINAL REMARKS
13:15 – 14:00	Lunch



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