



**GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY PROJECTS**

**Projects implemented in 2001**

## **ALBANIA**

**ANDA debating preparation.** Assisted the Albanian National Debate Association (ANDA) with the preparation of materials to organize local debating competitions for university students and high-school students on matters affecting their lives, such as the electoral process, democratic freedoms, and decision-making processes, in six local debating centres: Tirana, Shkodra, Elbasan, Vlora, Korca, Gjirokastra (5,000 euros).

## **BULGARIA**

**Participation of Roma in parliamentary elections.** Raised awareness among various Roma communities about political models of participation in the parliamentary elections 2001 and helped increase participation in the electoral process by publishing and disseminating "Vote" brochures among Roma communities and initiating meetings among Christian Orthodox and Muslim Roma in the Rudari parliamentary constituency (1,500 euros).

## **ESTONIA**

**Publication of a reference book on constitutional law.** Translated the *Practical Guide on Constitutional Studies* into Estonian to support the Centre for the Study of Constitutional Law (1,609 euros).

## **GEORGIA**

**Caucasus Women's Resource Centre.** Supported a conference on the establishment of a multipartite resource and service centre for women's NGOs from Georgia, Abkhazia, South Ossetia, Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Azerbaijan as a conflict-prevention measure; supported NGO networking for strengthening civil society and women in the Caucasus (2,217 euros).

## **KAZAKHSTAN**

**Regional NGO public forums on mass-media-advocacy campaign.** Encouraged the participation of civil society in the decision-making process on adopting legislation of importance to society -- in this case, on mass media -- through debates in nine regions of Kazakhstan, with the aim of making the government aware of the public voice (4,896 euros).

**Publication of materials for women's-rights-awareness seminars.** Published three types of brochures with information on labour legislation, family/marriage legislation, and marriage agreements (1,730 euros).

**Preparation and publication of a brochure called "Women's Questions and Answers about Violence in the Family".** Prepared, published, and distributed free-of-charge brochure on legal aspects of domestic violence with the aim of raising awareness of women's rights and to support NGO legal advisors, crisis centres, legislators, district

police, and civil administration. The brochure is being distributed mainly in the provinces and rural districts of Kazakhstan (3,400 euros).

**Televised student debate "Azamat".** Through twice-weekly televised debates, encouraged young people to engage in public discussions and debate on the present and future of their country and state policies, including the introduction of private ownership of land, the introduction of local elections, the limitation of freedom of speech, the death penalty, independence of the judiciary (5,000 euros).

**Preparation of a training manual for a youth gender seminar.** Developed and published a manual for gender training seminars in various youth groups (5,000 euros).

**Monitoring children's rights to information in orphanages.** The goal was to receive objective and well-founded information about children's rights in two orphanages in Kazakhstan and to serve as a pilot monitoring project in order to extend it to other orphanages. (1,462 euros).

## **KYRGYZSTAN**

**Translation and distribution of the OSCE Copenhagen Document in Kyrgyz and Russian.** Distributed the OSCE Copenhagen Document in order to familiarize the population of Kyrgyzstan with OSCE standards on human rights protection and to encourage the country to meet its international obligations. (2,700 euros).

**Assistance to the Sixth Regional Summer Course for Law Students on International Legal and Human Rights.** Supported a regional summer course on international law and human rights for 26 participants from all Central Asian countries. (5,000 euros).

## **LATVIA**

**Expert review of the functions of the National Human Rights Office and ombudsman.** Reviewed the functions, mandate, and capacity of the Latvian National Human Rights Office in order to provide recommendations in relation to the establishment of an ombudsman and with respect to best international practices on promotion and protection of human rights in Latvia (5,000 euros).

**Publication of *Aspects of Minority Integration in Latvia*.** Published a study on the status of minorities and relevant international and domestic legal documents to be used as teaching material by law students, policy makers, and interested individuals (820 euros).

**Support for an assessment of the National Human Rights Office and Baltic Conference.** Discussed the function and activities of the Latvian National Human Rights Office and ombudsman and provided a forum for the exchange of experiences among Baltic ombudsmen/human rights institutions (2,026 euros and 4,000 euros).

## **MOLDOVA**

**Artists as bridge-builders in the Transdniestrian conflict.** Engaged Moldovan and Transdniestrian artists and NGOs in confidence-building measures between Moldova and

Transnistria, giving an artistic impetus to the negotiation process for the political solution of the Transnistrian conflict (4,000 euros).

**Debate manual for school debates on both banks of the Dniestr River.** Provided support for a manual for regional and national school debates on human rights and democracy in Moldovan and Transnistrian schools (3,000 euros).

## **POLAND**

**Europe 2021: beyond visible and invisible borders.** Together with the British Council in Poland, supported a debate on the concept of borders and how to improve cross-border co-operation in a series of pan-European meetings on multinational Europe and the rights of people in that context (5,000 euros).

**Polish Refugee Board Conference on refugee protection in Central Eastern Europe.** Provided assistance to the publication of the proceedings of a regional conference on the occasion of Poland's 10th anniversary of joining the UN Convention on Refugee Protection (1,231 euros).

**Democracy and human rights for youth in rural environments.** Raised awareness on human rights and tolerance among youth in rural environments in south-eastern Poland with mixed ethnic populations and created networks and ongoing workshops (3,000 euros).

## **ROMANIA**

**Participation of Roma Contact Group in an OSCE conference.** Brought together members of the informal Roma Contact Group at the OSCE conference on "Equal Opportunities for Roma and Sinti: Translating Words into Facts" in order to increase the level of Roma participation in decision-making processes and to facilitate co-operation among Roma NGOs (5,000 euros).

## **RUSSIAN FEDERATION (CHECHNYA)**

**Assistance to youth centre.** The goal was to establish more-structured conditions for youth in the district of Znamenskoye and two IDP tent camps as a means of integration and preventive measures against potential conflict, illegal activities, and drug abuse (5,000 euros).

## **SLOVAKIA**

**Co-operation between Slovak and Czech Roma NGOs;** Organized a three-day conference for Roma NGOs from the Czech Republic and Slovakia on co-operating towards recognition of the problems and potential of the Roma minority in both countries (4,070 euros).

**Roma Slovakia census information campaign;** Assisted Roma communities and Roma organizations achieve better recognition in the country and to mobilize Roma residents for political and other public participation (3,393 euros).

## **TAJKISTAN**

**Khujand Institute for Human Rights.** Assisted a local human rights organization to be able to provide free-of-charge legal advice and engage in human rights monitoring activities (4,000 euros).

**Follow-up to national conference on protection of the rights of children.** Supported an NGO contribution to a discussion on preparing a UN report on the rights of children (3,100 euros).

**Civic education classes.** Continued awareness-raising on human rights for the population of southern districts of Tajikistan (3,500 euros).

## **TURKMENISTAN**

**Course on international human rights law.** Supported a joint OSCE Centre in Ashgabad and UNHCR Turkmenistan five-day course on international human rights law for 50 participants from all of Turkmenistan, including officials and legislators (3,225 euros).

**Assistance to a review of religion legislation.** Provided assistance to review local legislation on religion and religious communities in light of difficulties encountered by various religious communities (3,860 euros).

**Assistance to the Legal Resource Centre at Ashgabad Magtumkuli University.** Supported the establishment of a Legal Resource Centre on human rights at the local library, Faculty of Law, in co-operation with ABA/CEELI (5,000 euros).

**Joint UN ODCCP conference on civil society and anti-drug campaigns.** Provided an expert on the involvement of civil society in the struggle against drug addiction among young people (2,140 euros).

## **UZBEKISTAN**

**Education in basic human rights and maintaining peace in the Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya districts.** Promoted basic knowledge of human rights among schoolteachers and students in the two multiethnic districts on the border to Afghanistan in two series of courses (1,385 euros).

**Training in monitoring of women's rights.** Supported a series of training sessions for women NGOs on monitoring women's rights (4,900 euros).