

# **Quarterly Newsletter**

Edition No. 9 June 2021

This quarterly newsletter provides information on the National Resource Centre's activities, on the latest developments in the civil society sector in Albania, on the funding, capacity enhancement, networking opportunities for CSOs, and other relevant news from the region and beyond.

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Announcements

### The Assembly approves the Draft Law "On the Registration of Non-Profit Organizations"

#### Tiranë, 23 Oershor 202

tet të votohet në seancën plenare të datës 24 qershor 2021. Kjo deklaratë është në vazhdim të gjithë reagimeve që ne kemi bërë në lidhie me këtë proces

tria e Drejtësisë e deri në aprovimin e tij në Komisionin për Cështjet Ligjore, Adm Publike dhe të Drejtat e Njeriut, pavarësisht angazhimit të ekspertizës së huaj, nuk ka respektuar parimet dhe kuadrin ligjor të konsultimit publik në Republikën e Shqipërisë. Përqasja e nstitucioneve nuk ku qenë gjithëpërfshirëse për të mundësuar uljen e gjithë aktorëve liskutim të hapur për një projektligj tepër të rëndësishëm për funksionimin e sektorit. Kom resit ka qenë jotra insparent, duke cënuar mundësinë e përfshirjes dhe dhënies së

Ne konstanjoniej od pi piece etródisalnue e skapetisnieme vi nyritura dhe rekonsundieme vi delma spa sekori per agraminim se delopis ka opazimient, nak joa marta prasnysh den nak joa refektuar në projekt kajin e publikuar nga Korendi i Shqiptotie. Ky projektinj higi priset të hidhet për votin pa quettoinë e nevojihme ti kontore financiure që shqiptoja krijimi dhe administrimi ne regjinirë rektironik. Kyo odhe për faktin sopa-instancione prizjegjese për krjimin dhe manatalnime e regjinirë nak junë dperbar për këte çishtë, Projektinji priset ti mitanden pa si për da kote vi prekatua për krjimin dhe fillima i finksionimi të regjinirë. E gjitha kjo ngre pikëpysje për kohën dhe cilonine e zhutimi të kraj

Për ne, organizatat e shoqërisë civile, projektligji cënon rëndë të drejtën e organizimit vullneta

On June 24, in the plenary session of the Albanian Parliament, the Draft Law "On the Registration of Non-Profit Organizations" was approved, despite the resistance of civil society organizations and the public appeal not to approve the draft law and to open a wide-ranging discussion in response of requests and recommendations received from the civil society sector in the country.

This law is a step back on the path forward for the democratization of Albania. Civil society organizations have asked for President to return the law reconsideration in parliament. If President will enact the law, civil society organizations, as expressed in the last public appeal on June 23, 2021, will contest the constitutionality of the law in the Constitutional Court. Read more

A day before the discussion in the plenary session, 124 civil society organizations addressed the Assembly and each of the deputies personally with a public appeal! Following the statement, other organizations joined. Read the full statement here.

### Continues in page 2

#### THE CODE OF STANDARDS FOR **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN ALBANIA IS LAUNCHED**



organizations to join the Code of Standards to express their interest at

interest is September 15, 2021.







# Advocacy & Policy dialogue

# The Assembly approves the Draft Law "On the Registration of Non-Profit Organizations"

#### **PUBLIC APPEAL**

ON THE DRAFT LAW ON REGISTRATION OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

JUNE 23rd, 2021

From more than a year, since the draft law was made public by the Ministry of Justice until its approval by the Committee on Legal Affairs, Public Administration and Human Rights, despite the involvement of foreign expertise, the principles and legal framework of public consultation in the Republic of Albania have not been respected. The approach of the institutions has not been inclusive and enabling to bring together all actors in an open discussion about an important draft law for the functioning of the sector. The communication with stakeholders has been non-transparent, undermining their ability for a meaningful and significant contribution.

Despite the above, civil society organizations under the facilitation of the National Resource Centre have been actively involved in the consultation process of both the Ministry of Justice and the Assembly giving their recommendations and expressing readiness and commitment to engage in a redesigned process and with a wide participation of all key institutions and interest groups.

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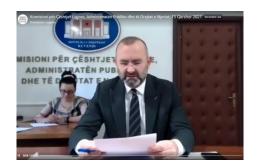
After the hearing session held in February this year, the communication with the Law Commission continued with the constant <u>request to not approve the draft law in conditions of an emergency</u> that undermines the effective consultation with civil society organizations as the main stakeholder and group of interest.

## Discussion of the Draft Law in the Law Commission

On June 15, the Commission for Legal Affairs, Public Administration and Human Rights of the Albanian Assembly, approved the draft law "On registration of non-profit organizations" with 11 votes in favor and none against, nor abstention.

During the discussion, members of the Commission themselves as well as representatives of institutions expressed that there is no budget plan for law enforcement and a technical solution for the establishment of the electronic register accompanied by all the necessary elements and deadlines. Also, the authority of the Assembly over the judiciary to enforce the law remains an open and worrying issue.

For more on the discussions, you can follow the full meeting of the Law Commission here

















# Monitoring Matrix on Enabling Environment for Civil Society Organization, Country Report for Albania 2020

Partners Albania for Change and Development, the National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania, and the Balkan Civil Society Development Network are pleased to present the eighth edition of the Monitoring Matrix on Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development, covering developments in Albania for 2020.

The report presents an analysis of the enabling environment in line with the priorities set out in the Roadmap for Policy Making and Measures for an Enabling Environment for Civil Society 2018-2022. It analyzes several of important legal initiatives, part of the Anti-Money Laundering / Combating Terrorist Financing (AML/CFT) package, including the new law "On the Registration of Non-Profit Organisations", undertaken through a non-inclusive process, disregarded some important recommendations of civil society organizations, thus restricting the freedom of organization and functioning of

CSOs. This report is part of a series of local reports covering the Western Balkans and Turkey. For more on the findings and recommendations, read the full report here

# Activities from the regional offices of the National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania







The Regional Offices have provided a series of Help Desk services to local NPOs by assisting them in registering on various platforms that enable networking of organizations and partnership building, and also have facilitated meetings and activities of organizations both online and in the premises of the Resource Center. The regional offices have also assisted CSOs for the registration in the Register of Beneficiary Owners (RPP) and have identified the needs of organizations in terms of their Working Standards.

. Regional Offices Vlora— Shkodra



During a series of information sessions with students of the University "Luigi Gurakuqi" Shkodra on volunteering and active citizenship - **Regional Office Shkodra** 



The network of NPOs for the Protection of Soda Forest, following the petition and in cooperation with the local government and citiziens participated in an awareness campaign for the cleaning and placement of waste bins in the area. - Regional Office Vlora



From the meetings of the Pact for Youth Development Network in Shkodra to coordinate and discuss with organizations and institutions on the provision of services for young people - **Regional Office Shkodra** 

# Increasing Transparency and Accountability of CSOs

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# Development of self-regulatory and accountable mechanisms for the non-profit sector - Exchange of experience with organizations from the region

In the past months, we had the pleasure to participate in several regional events and share our experience with the Code of Standards for NPOs, a self-regulatory mechanism for increasing transparency, accountability and good governance of the non-profit sector aiming to improve effectiveness of the activity of NPOs and increase of public trust.

With the initiative of the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation - MCIC, on May 20 was organized an experience exchange event with the participation of 30 organizations from

Northern Macedonia, part of the informal platform for transparency and accountability. As part of the introductory presentations we shared with colleagues from North Macedonia the latest developments regarding the Code of Standards in Albania, the drafting process it went through as well as the challenges and lessons learned so far. During her speech Ms. Ariola Agolli, Manager at NRC highlighted the need for inclusiveness and cooperation within the sector to establish such self-regulatory mechanisms, and briefly presented the structure and content of the Code and the Self-Assessment Framework which contains a set of verifiable indicators for compliance with each of the standards.

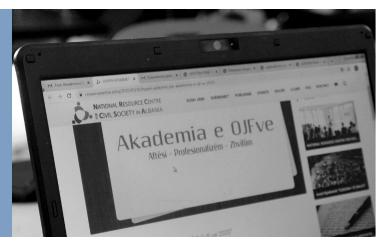
Other meetings will be organized in the following, in order to promote, share experience and strengthen regional cooperation in the implementation of these self-regulatory and accountable mechanisms for the non-profit sector. Read more



# **Capacity Building**

# **NPO ACADEMY**

During this period the NPO Academy continued with 4 more lectures on Organizational Development & Management, Financial Management, Proposal writing and management – EU Grants and Strategic Planning.













# Assistance and mentoring sessions for

### NPO Academy participants

In addition to the lectures, as part of the Academy several mentoring and assistance sessions were held in groups and individually according to the needs of the participants of the Academy, guiding and assisting them in improving their internal organizational policies and procedures, in project proposals writing and also to get acquainted with the recent changes in the legal framework of non-profit organizations, how it affects organizations and their activity and the measures to be taken by each organization in compliance with the law.



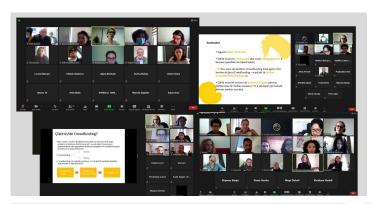
# Training Programs for CSOs

During these months the National Resource Centre has continued with the organization of the online training programs dedicated to the non-profit sector based on their needs or requests.

About 234 representatives of CSOs from Vlora, Fieri, Berati, Korça, Kuçova, Përmeti, Saranda, Puka, Kukësi, Lezha, Malësi e Madhe and Gjirokastra participated in regional trainings and further increased their knowledge on the topics:

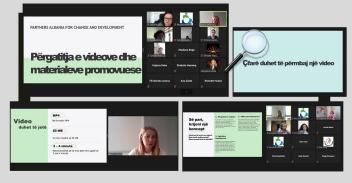
- ♦ Fundraising and Revenue Generation, Crowdfunding and other alternative sources of funding;
- ♦ Impact Measurement and Evaluation of CSOs work
- ♦ Effective Communication and use of Social Media;
- Prepare videos and Promotional Materials to support the work of CSOs.

Financial sustainability, increasing visibility and public image as well as measuring the impact of the sector's activity, remain among the main challenges of CSOs, so trainings on such topics are followed with interest.













# Training programs on "Fiscalization"

From January 1, 2021, has started the implementation of Law no. 87/2019 "On the Invoice and the turnover monitoring system". By law from July 1, 2021, all invoices that will be issued and received among taxpayers (including NPOs), must be Electronic Invoices and exchanged only through the Central Invoice Platform.

Give the large number of the requests and the high interest from civil society organizations in this issue, during June the Resource Centre and Partners Albania conducted a series of trainings on Fiscalization with the participation of 130 representatives of civil society organizations from across the country. The legal framework and the fiscalization process, focusing concretely on its steps as well as the necessary elements for Fiscalization were the main issues addressed during the trainings.

For more find  $\underline{\text{here}}$  a summary of the most frequently asked questions and key Fiscalization issues



# Code of Standards

for NPOs in Albania

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INITIATIVE so far.....



After an active process of almost two years of consultation and cooperation between civil society organizations throughout the country, we are pleased to announce the establishment of the Code of Standards (CS) for Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) in Albania.

The Code of Standards introduces a self-regulatory mechanism for the sector, aiming to improve the work effectiveness of nonprofit organizations, good governance, transparency and accountability.

Conceived as a sector contribution to the sector, the Code is a practice established based on international and regional experiences and models of standards for civil society organizations such as the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) and The Global Standard for CSO Accountability.

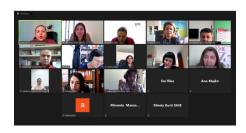
The working group consisting of 16 civil society organizations, worked and further adapted the Code of Standards to the dynamics of development of the non-profit sector in Albania and drafted the Code of Standards as well as an implementation framework that enables monitoring and selfassessment of the organization.



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For more information, visit:

- The **full document** of the Code
- Member organizations (part of the initiating group) as well as implementing structures
- The membership process



# Legal and regulatory framework on the prevention of money laundering and the fight against terrorism financing for the nonprofit sector in Albania



As part of the educational, promotional and advocacy initiative undertaken for several months by Partners Albania for the effective involvement of civil society in the debate on the prevention of money laundering and the fight against terrorist financing (AML / CFT), as well as to prevent restrictions on CSOs on behalf of AML / CFT, SP has prepared and published a series of promotional materials and organized several roundtables with CSOs on these issues.

Meanwhile, the drafting of risk assessment methodology for nonprofit organizations has begun through a structured and participatory process with state institutions and civil society groups.

During March 2021, Partners Albania held a series of roundtables and

discussions on "Legal and regulatory framework on the prevention of money laundering and the fight against terrorist financing for the non-profit sector in Albania" at the local level. Furthermore, a regional workshop was organized where civil society organizations from all Western Balkan countries and Turkey shared experiences about their engagement in risk analysis for the NPO sector and cooperation with Financial Intelligence Agencies in the respective countries. Read more on this initiative



# Public Consultations for the European Commission's 2021 Annual Report on Albania





Every year, the Delegation of the European Union in Albania is preparing the Annual Report of Albania 2021. The structure of the Annual Report of 2021 will be the same as the Report of 2020

During April 2021, the EU Delegation organized a three-day consultation with civil society organizations on Albania's Annual Report 2021.

About 100 CSOs representatives, shared with the EU Delegation their views and assessment of the country's performance in key areas of democracy and fundamental rights, rule of law, and various chapters of the acquis communautaire - the body of EU law.

As part of the consultation, the National Resource Center presented all the developments of recent months, especially regarding the legal framework affecting the sector, focusing on the Draft Law "On registration of non-profit organizations", the numerus problematic issues in this regard and lack of progress in implementing the measures of the Roadmap of civil society etc. Furthermore, based on the invitation for written opinions, an extended information on the above issues was send to the EU Delegation by the Resource Center.

Every year, the European Commission adopts its strategic document for the enlargement area. It assesses each country's progress and sets out the way forward, as well as recommendations for the coming year. This year's report from the Commission to the Council will be published in Autumn 2021. Read more

# Consultation meeting with the Agency for Civil Society Support (ASCS) on the Roadmap 2019-2023



Agency for Civil Society Support – ASCS with the support of the Office of the Prime Minister and the assistance of the representatives of the European Union delegation is organizing several meetings with CSOs as part of an awareness campaign for the Roadmap 2019-2023 and its promotion.

In the meeting held in Tirana, the Resource Centre raised a series of concerns regarding the (non) implementation of the measures of the Roadmap, although two years have passed since its drafting and most of the measures should have been implemented. Even in the measures

for which work has started, as in the case of the Law on Registration of NPOs, the approach with CSOs as a stakeholder directly affected by it, has been non-inclusive. In conditions when there is no progress in the enabling environment for civil society organizations, which is the purpose of the Roadmap, and when there are almost two years left to implement the plan of this strategic document for the sector, it is necessary for the government to make a presentation for the implementation of each of the measures and the plan for their subsequent drafting.

As part of discussions by NRC, but also other participants was the lack of functioning of the NCSC and the need to improve its representation and activity in relation to government and the sector. Establishment of monitoring structures for the implementation of the Roadmap, drafting of annual monitoring reports, appointment of contact persons in each institution, enabling legal framework for NPOs, for Volunteering and its promotion, the involvement NPOs in the integration process as well as in the work of the National Council for European Integration (NCIE), etc were some of the measures that were cited as unimplemented as part of the discussion.

# Online meeting for the presentation of the draft - "Manual of public participation in the decision-making process of the Assembly"



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Following the consultation process with civil society organizations for the drafting of the "Manual of public participation in the decision-making process of the Assembly" The Albanian Parliament held an on-line meeting in order to present the document which reflected the comments sent by CSOs.

National Resource Centre has been part of this process since and in cooperation with Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM), a few months ago organized a consultation with the participation of 21 NPOs, whose comments and suggestions were sent to the Assembly. We find that some of the suggestions related to the terminology used, the register of petitions, the consultation platform and access as NPOs, the formats of requests to the Assembly, etc. have been taken into account. Meanwhile, the non-addressing of some issues related to the consultation deadlines, the reflection of feedback and the return of responses, etc., remains a concern. These concerns were brought again by NRC at the attention of Assembly representatives. as part of the meeting with the Assembly. The Assembly will soon share the revised draft.

For all CSOs interested in giving their opinion, the <u>MANUAL</u> is still available on the Assembly's public consultation platform.



# The first fundraising platform from the public is launched in Albania: www.Smile.al



Each non-profit organization (NPO) now has the opportunity to present on the platform projects in the defined areas and after selection by relevant experts according to established criteria, the winning projects will be officially launched on the platform calling on the public to contribute funds or become parts as volunteers.

For the first time in Albania, the innovative platform <a href="www.Smile.al">www.Smile.al</a> will enable crowdfunding from all persons anywhere in the world for projects with social contribution.

The platform <a href="www.Smile.al">www.Smile.al</a> is an initiative of the Credins Foundation, 100% owned by Credins Bank, and comes as an initiative of the Bank's management to motivate people to contribute to the implementation of projects necessary for the development and well-being of Albanian society.

Credins Foundation comes in strategic partnership with some of the most famous institutions in the field of social responsibility in the country such as: Partners Albania for Change and Development, Vodafone Albania Foundation and Grant Thornton Albania. Read more

# Local Democracy Week 2021 "Year of Civic Engagement"

Democracy Week has already turned into an event dedicated to debates and discussions on local democracy, proper local governance, civic activism, civil society, etc.

The activities organized during June 2021, brought together young people and students, teachers, activists and volunteers, informal groups, community-based organizations, more consolidated and experienced organizations as well as experts in civil society and various fields for contribute with views, to raise concerns and give their proposals and recommendations. The role of civic engagement in addressing important issues was the common denominator of

#LDW2021 activities which served among other things as a platform for knowledge sharing, through which LevizAlbania has the opportunity to give voice to achievements, distribute products and tell about engaged civil society actors. **Read more** 



### Europe Weeks 2021



During May, the Delegation of the European Union organized the Europe Weeks 2021 in a different format this year.

The program contained a series of activities, meetings and exchange events with the wide participation of citizens and local communities, government institutions, civil society organizations and other partners in a 21-day traveling exhibition from North to South of the country about the EU, politics and its values, its financial assistance to Albania together with the EU Member States. Read more





### National Volunteer Conference 1.0

On May 31, 2021 was organized the National Conference of Volunteering 1.0, by <u>Beyond Barriers PVN Albania</u> and <u>Progress Development Center.</u>

The conference brought together about 100 representatives of important actors of state institutions at national and local level, civil society organizations, business representatives and citizens.

As part of the Conference Panel, Ms. Ariola Agolli, Manager of Resource Centre, discussed volunteerism in the perspective of CSOs: (non) enabling environment, infrastructure, capacity, challenges and opportunities for the development of volunteerism in the country! For all those interested, find <a href="here">here</a> once again, the full Opinion on the legal framework for Volunteering in Albania.

In cooperation with Beyond Barriers and other organizations part of the initiative for the development of volunteerism in Albania, the

Center remains committed to advancing dialogue in the sector and with institutions for a more enabling environment. For more about the Conference





# International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia - IDAHOT 2021 in Albania



IDAHOT Week in Albania was organized from 14 to 25 May through various visibility and awareness raising initiatives engaging LGBTI communities and supporters and aims to use this opportunity to involve the larger public through videos, performances, online campaigns and videos, photo exhibitions, podcasts and flash mobs. Read more on the activity

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia - May 17, was established as such in 2004 to draw attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

# OSCE conference on joint efforts to combat trafficking in human beings in Albania in Tirana



On 17 June, the OSCE Presence in Albania and the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beingsorganized a conference in Tirana on joint efforts to combat trafficking in human beings in Albania.

The focus of the conference was to promote the importance of partnerships and a a multi-agency approach to enhance co-operation to address trafficking in human beings within the OSCE region and in Albania. Conference participants representing central and local institutions, parliament, judiciary, law enforcement institutions, the international community, civil society and academia discussed the importance of strengthening a human rights and victim-based approach to all actions. against trafficking. Read more



# GREEN 27 + Group publishes civil society opinion report on Chapter 27 of Albania's EU negotiation process

As part of the CSOs efforts to contribute to fulfilling the conditions to open the negotiation process with the EU, mainly on Chapter 27 "Environment and Climate Change" which is one of the most complex chapters, the GREEN 27+ Group published the report "Alternative Perspective on Environmental Progress, Albania's EU Negotiations and Chapter 27".

The main partners of the GREEN 27+ Group: Environmental Resource Center (REC Albania), Environmental Center for Development, Education and Networking (EDEN), the Institute for Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA) and the Urban Research Institute (URI), are engaged in developing a support and capacity building program for civil society, aiming at enhancing Albania's EU integration process, stimulating dialogue between

government institutions and CSOs on environmental acquis. With the support of 20 environmental organizations from across the country, the first pilot program is an enhanced contribution to the process, developing and articulating the position of CSOs in the EU-Albania negotiations, in relation to the topics of Chapter 27. Read the report findings here





# The Regional Conference "Green Economy and Sustainable Development"

On May 27-28, 2021, the EDEN Center held the regional online conference "Green Economy and Sustainable Development", organized with a series of panels and discussions by participants from all Western Balkan countries.

About 30 panelists in the two-day conference sessions shared their insights and experience and discussed the involvement of CSOs in the transition to a green economy; fostering networking of actors, CSOs and youth to improve the environment and mechanisms for state-civil dialogue at all levels; building bridges of future initiatives for green relocation of the region; raising public awareness of the importance of environmental protection, green economy, green entrepreneurship and sustainable development. For more follow the live activity here

Ms. Ariola Agolli, Manager of Resource Centre , moderator of the panel on environmental CSO networking for a sustainable region, facilitated discussions between panelists and participants. Supporting and assisting CSO networks has been one of the important components of the Resource Centre activities for two years now, aiming at their empowerment and effective advocacy in the areas the Network's operate.

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# Regional Conference on Youth: More Support to Western Balkan Youth Voices

On May 11 and 12, RYCO and UNFPA Albania organized the Conference "Youth and Peacebuilding in Tirana".

The conference aimed to empower young people in public decision-making that affects their lives, as well as strengthen them to be a key factor in building and maintaining safe and peaceful environments in their communities.

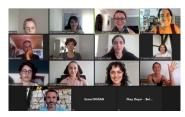
The conference brought together about 100 participants, representatives of the six Western Balkan governments, international organizations, high schools, civil society organizations and young people. Read more







### Regional Activities- TACSO 3

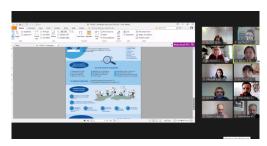


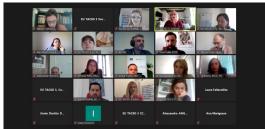


Over the last two months, EU TACSO 3 has continued to organize a series of online activities under the capacity building programs of civil society organizations from the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Human rights and gender mainstreaming, storytelling, volunteerism and social change, quality standards and principles of good governance for regional CSO networks and cooperation between CSOs and state institutions were the topics of the organized trainings. For more information on EU TACSO 3 training and other activities read here

# Coordination meeting between TACSO 3 and National Resource Centres for Civil Society development in Western Balkans and Turkey





On 28 April, the third coordination meeting was organized between the National Resource Centres in the Western Balkans and Turkey, representatives of DG NEAR and EU Delegations.

Presentation of activities and initiatives undertaken by the Centers for capacity building of CSOs, needs for new knowledge and exchange of regional and international experience as well as activities for further promotion of the EU Guide to Civil Society Support, were among key issues discussed throughout the meeting. Representatives of the Resource Centre in Albania contributed to the discussions on the above issues, as well as presented and shared with colleagues the latest developments in civil society in the country. Read more

# #EUSES2021 European Social Economy Summit

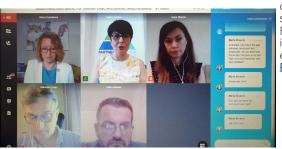
On 26 and 27 May, the European Social Economy Summit #EUSES was organized, a Digital Conference co-organized by the European Commission and the City of Mannheim. The conference aimed to strengthen the social economy in Europe and use its contribution to economic development, social inclusion as well as green and digital transitions. Discussions with 3,000 participants, 600 guests and over 80 sessions focused on three dimensions such as Social Economy digitalization, (social) innovation, inter-state and cross-sectoral cooperation.



Part of the two panels at the Conference were also representatives of Partners Albania Mrs. Juliana Hoxha and Mrs. Klotilda Costa,

respectively in the panels "Social Enterprise in the Western Balkans: Ways to open the fast track to sustainable development"

Discussions in these panels and beyond highlighted the need for enhanced partnership and



cooperation among key stakeholders at #regional and European level, to scale up the initiatives in support of social enterprise and social economy. Read more





## Civil Society & Think Tank Forum: Road to Berlin

On June 1 – 2, 2021, the Aspen Institute Germany, in cooperation with the Southeast Europe Association and supported by the German Federal Foreign Office, organized the Western Balkans "Civil Society & Think Tank Forum I: Road to Berlin" of this year's Berlin Process Summit.

During the two days of multiple panel discussions and working groups, civil society representatives from the Western Balkans discussed a range of problems that the region is facing. Representatives of the German government, the European Commission and other EU and regional institutions were also present at the forum. Experts and civil society activists exchanged best practices and developed concrete policy recommendations on topics such as the Green and Connectivity Agendas, the democracy promotion, digitalisation, media freedom and minority rights.

Read more on Policy Recommendations from the Forum





### Civil Society & Think Tank Forum II Berlin 2021

July 05, 2021 I Digital Conference



#CSFBerlin

# European Parliament and Council reach agreement on €14 billion IPA III





The European Parliament and the Council agreed on the new Instrument for Preaccession Assistance (IPA III), with a total budget of over €14 billion, for the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework period.

This instrument supports candidate countries and potential candidates on their path towards fulfilling the EU accession criteria through deep and comprehensive reforms. Today's agreement will now be translated into legal texts, which will need to be approved by the European Parliament and the Council. Read more

# Public Opinion Poll: Trust in Governance 2020







The eighth edition of the public opinion poll "Trust in Governance 2020", conducted by the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM) during the period November-December 2020 across the 61 municipalities of Albania has been published. The main purpose of the survey is to is to explore public perceptions and attitudes on issues such as trust in public institutions, transparency and institutional accountability, corruption, level of citizen engagement in policy-making and decision-making, satisfaction with public service delivery and implementation, non-discriminatory laws and policies.

Although 38% of respondents believed that suggestions from civil society are taken into consideration, 65% felt that local public hearings are formal events. Meanwhile, 35% agreed with the statement 'municipal councilors represent local communities'. Read the full report.

# Freedom House report "Nations in Transition 2021"



The report highlights the decline in the enabling environment of civil society and independent media during 2020.

The non-involvement of NPOs in policy-making, financial sustainability and concerns over the legal and fiscal framework remain among the main challenges of the sector. As part of the report are mentioned the legal initiatives of the last year of the draft law "On the registration of NPOs", the law "On the central register of bank accounts", etc. The concerns of civil society organizations on them, their reaction, public hearings with institutions and recommendations given! Read the full report

























Flase note that the domain name Europecket has been regisced by intermibilistical Participations of the Process of the Constance of the Consta

Cross-border programme Albania - Kosovo  $\xi$  under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II ) 3rd call for proposal

Programme: PreAccession of Type: Action Grants

Status: Open » 14/07/2021 Budget: 1,600,000 (EUR)

open Geographical Zone: Albania Published: 18/05/2021 Updated: 01/07/2021 Reference: EuropeAid/171146/DD/ACT/AI











### **QUARTERLY CALENDAR**

# Mark your calendar! Be involved in our upcoming events!

Korrik 2021							
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				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
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### **CONTACT US:**

### Office in Tirana

Elbasan Street, Park Gate Building, 10th Floor, Ap. 71/73, Tirana

(in the premises of "Partners Albania for Change and Development") Tel/Fax: +355 4 2254881

E-mail: info@resourcecentre.al

### Office in Shkodra

Str. Studenti, Square of Democracy, 7nd Floor, the building near Shkodra Radio , Shkoder (në mjediset e Shogatës "Gruaja në Zhvillim")

E-mail: <a href="mailto:shkodra@resourcecentre.al">shkodra@resourcecentre.al</a>

### Office in Vlora

Neighborhood 29th November, Str. Dede Ahmet Amataj, Mother's Day 15, 2nd Floor, Vlora (in the premises of "Aulona" Center)

Tel: +355 3 3224531

E-mail: vlora@resourcecentre.al

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