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Civil Society Week 2024!

For the third consecutive year, returns Civil Society Week in Albania!

With a series of events, Civil Society Week will provide a dedicated space for the promotion and advancement of the activities of civil society organizations and activists across the country, between May 27th and June 2nd, 2024.

The week creates opportunities for all actors of civil society to come together, as engines of positive changes in society, to discuss and create solutions and joint actions in the future.

Every year has a given theme, in line with international events or important developments for the civil society sector in Albania.

In alignment with the European Commission's decision to prioritize skills as the overarching theme for the European Year 2023-2024, this year's Civil Society Week will maintain continuity with the previous year's event. The theme remains "Skills for All: To Learn, Work, and Engage."

For all organizations interested in becoming part of the Week, find here the [Information Brochure](#) and the [Application Form](#), or write to us at info@resourcecentre.al.

For more on last year's event, find the [Civil Society Week 2023 Recap here!](#)



National Resource Center for Civil Society, throughout 2023!

We are pleased to share with you a summary of the results of [the work of the National Resource Center for Civil Society throughout 2023](#).

Throughout 2024, we will continue providing our services through our central office in Tirana as well as two regional offices in Shkodër and Vlora.

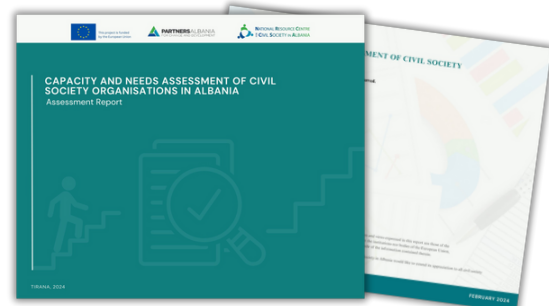
To become part of our programs, write to us at info@resourcecentre.al



Capacity and Needs Assessment of Civil Society Organisations in Albania

Following its work and efforts to strengthen the sector's capacities, during January-February 2024, the NRC developed the study "Capacity and Needs Assessment of Civil Society Organisations in Albania".

[Read more about the report's findings here.](#)



This project is funded by the European Union



PARTNERSALBANIA
FOR CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

LEGAL SERVICE

The National Resource Centre continues to provide legal services to NPOs and civil society activists. The Legal Service is offered every Wednesday, ONLINE, from 14.00-17.00. For more information on the legal service and how to benefit from it, [read here](#).



ACTIVITIES FROM THE REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IN ALBANIA



During the meeting with the Independent Women's Forum of Oriku, the Vlorë Regional Office discussed the community's priority needs and issues that require attention from the Municipality of Vlorë.



The Vlorë Regional Office, as part of the Gender-Based Violence Referral Mechanism, participated in the awareness campaign organized by the Psychosocial Center "Vatra" on the occasion of March 8th.



Meeting with the new representative of the People's Advocate Office in Vlorë to present the activities of the National Resource Center and to discuss opportunities for strengthening collaboration between the two institutions.



Helpdesk meeting with representatives of "YMCA Shkodër" regarding the organization of training sessions for journalists in the city of Shkodër.




Helpdesk meeting with association "you, For you" representatives regarding calls for projects and organizations providing services for autistic children in Shkodër.



Shkodra Regional Office during an informational session with the youth of Shkodër on civic activism and volunteerism.



573 ONLINE and ONSITE requests addressed

200  NPOs and activists assisted

50  Requests for Legal Counseling

273 **Calls for Project Proposals, notifications on Public Consultations, training opportunities, events, studies, etc., SHARED with the sector.**

27 Regional Meetings and Forums

574 CSOs, Activists and Stakeholders participants

165 Registrations in the online NPOs Directory

**NPO ACADEMY
2024**



During February and March, were held the first three lectures respectively on "Legal Framework for NPOs in Albania", "Membership in the European Union and the role of NPOs", as well as "Organizational Development and Management".



Legal Framework for NPOs in Albania



Membership in the EU and the role of NPOs



Organizational Development and Management

ASSISTANCE AND MENTORING FOR ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS

As part of the program, mentoring sessions with academics were held along with the development of lectures, focusing on the tax regime, participation of CSOs in the consultation process within the European Integration, the right to information and public consultation in Albania, as well as the manual of internal organizational procedures and the development of personnel policies.



EU ACQUIS

CSO PARTICIPATION, AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE COUNTRY'S EU INTEGRATION PROCESS



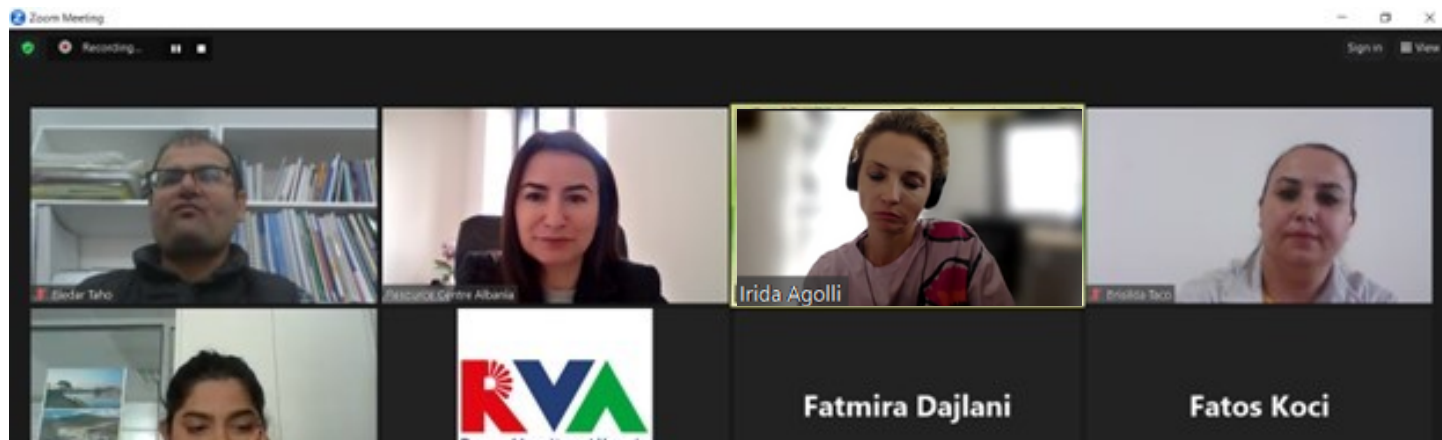
The European Movement in Albania (EMA) and the National Resource Centre, in the frame of the capacity-building program in strengthening CSOs involvement in the country's EU integration process, have continued with the organization of workshops on priority strategic and political measures during the drafting and the approval of the Rule of Law Roadmap, as well as the next steps to implement them. Also, the importance of the involvement of civil society in the consultation and monitoring of the founding Round Table of chapter 24 within the Partnership Platform was emphasized.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CSO NETWORKS



The informal group "Without plastic, with nature, for health" in Korça, with the support and facilitation of the National Resource Centre, after the end of the advocacy plan, is continuing with the implementation of the initiative to reduce environmental pollution in the Korçë region, especially that from the use of plastic bags. A series of meetings have been organized with actors and interest groups to come together and mobilize in this initiative. The institution of Korçë Prefecture, after the meeting with representatives of the group, has evaluated the initiative and the creation of a comprehensive local network with key local actors such as the community, local businesses, responsible institutions, and experts in the field and academia.

The Network "Without plastic, with nature, for health" marks a joint initiative led by Act Think Center in cooperation with other local organizations such as Korça Alpin, Green House, and environmental experts and activists in the city of Korça. Together, they aim to advocate for environmental pollution awareness and push for measures to mitigate its impact in the region.

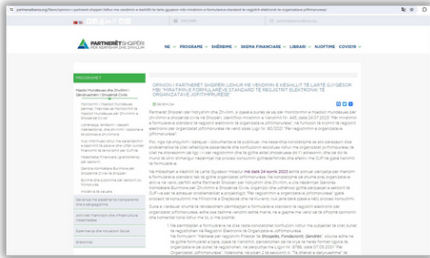


As of December 2023, another coalition has joined the CSO Networks Assistance program. The National Coalition for the Integration of Roma in Albania, an informal network consisting of 10 organizations from around the country that work mainly in the field of the rights of the Roma and Egyptian community, has undertaken an advocacy initiative for the integration and promotion of successful practices for the integration of this community. The significant decline in the participation of Roma and Egyptian youth in higher education was assessed as a key priority to be addressed, starting from the current period of drafting guidelines for the new academic year.

After a comprehensive detailed analysis of the issue, in March of this year, the coalition addressed a letter to the Ministry of Education and Sports. Based on and in accordance with similar legal provisions for minorities (such as that of graduates from Albanian-speaking areas), the coalition proposes the exclusion or reduction of the average as an acceptance criterion in higher education for young people from the Roma and Egyptian community. Currently, the request has been accepted and a response is awaited to discuss further.

LETTER

TO THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL ON DECISION NO. 455



Partners Albania for Change and Development, as part of its work for monitoring the enabling environment for the development of civil society in Albania, identified the adoption of Decision No. 445, dated 24.07.2023 "On the approval of the standard forms of the electronic register of non-profit organizations", in the function of the creation of the electronic register for non-profit organizations in the country according to Law No. 80/2021 "On the registration of non-profit organizations". [Read here](#) for further details..

2023 CHANGES ON FATF RECOMMENDATION 8 AND BEST PRACTICE PAPER

This paper highlights the main focus of Recommendation 8 from the perspective of Non-Profit Organizations, analyzing how and why the recommendation should be interpreted through critical observation. This overview provides paragraphs with useful information for responsible authorities, banks, and other stakeholders. [Read here](#) the information document prepared by the European Center for Non-Profit Law (ECNL), and translated into Albanian by Partners Albania for Change and Development.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL SOCIETY MEETING IN 2024



At the first meeting of the National Council for Civil Society for the year 2024, held in Tirana on February 12, it was discussed the issues related to the electronic register of NGOs, the applicability of the VAT Exemption Law for CSOs, the updating of The New Guidelines for Civil Society, the proposals for the activity calendar of KKShC for this year, as well as for the changes in Law no. 81/2017 "On Protected Areas". For more information, [read here about the meeting](#), and here about the minutes held according to the [agenda](#) and discussions of the council.

REGIONAL MEETING "THE GROWTH PLAN FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS AND ITS INFLUENCE ON ACCELERATING RULE OF LAW REFORMS"



The National Council of European Integration (KKIE) and European Movement Albania (EMA) organized the regional meeting with the theme "The Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and its Influence on Accelerating Rule of Law Reforms". The meeting, which was held on March 12, focused on discussing the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and the importance of regional economic cooperation for the advancement of rule of law reforms. [For further details, read here.](#)

TACSO 3 - EVENTS

During the first quarter of 2024, TACSO 3 has organized a series of activities for CSOs in the region with a focus on the further development of national capacity building activities and practices.

Among the main meetings and activities we mention: the Consultative Meeting of the "Community of Governance Practices"; Meeting on "DG NEAR Guidelines for EU Support to Civil Society for 2023"; "EU Visibility and Communication Requirements" etc. [For more, follow here for the latest news from TACSO.](#)

QUARTERLY CALENDAR
MARK YOUR CALENDAR! BE INVOLVED IN OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

MAY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- NPO Academy
- Trainings & Seminars for CSOs
- Advocacy & Networking
- Public Forums and Events

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

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