



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
AGENCY FOR THE SUPPORT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Newsletter

January – February – March 2020

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AGENCY FOR THE SUPPORT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

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Empower together...

ALTERUM Center organizes a round table on the rights of minors

Tirana, 18 January 2020



The representative of the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), Mr. Ferhat Aga, participated in the roundtable on **“The rights of minors in conflict with the law and their equal treatment during the continuation of the educational process”** organized by ALTERUM Center, in the framework of the project “Protection and procedural guarantee of rights and the re-socialization, reintegration and rehabilitation of minors / youth in conflict with the law”.

The project, financially supported by the ASCS and in particular, the activity of 18 January 2020, focuses on sharing the findings of the study and organizing a discussion on the issues and recommendations taken to improve the situation of minors in conflict with the law.

Others present at the event were Mrs. Valbona Treska – President of the Order of the Psychologist, who also delivered welcoming remarks encouraging attendees to raise their awareness on the rights of minors in court proceedings.

Mr. Klodjan Skenderaj - Assoc. Prof. Dr. - expert at the ALTERUM Center, shared with the attendees the procedural position of the minors during the criminal process, Ms. Arbesa Kurti - Msc. Av. - experts at this Center shared findings and statistical data on the level of minors delinquency during the period 2018 – 2019.

Starts the public consultation online with CSOs on defining priorities for the Call for Proposals No. 13

28 January – 20 February 2020

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), in the framework of its mission and in the function of providing financial assistance to civil society organizations, launches the public consultation process with stakeholders on defining the priorities of the next Call. In this context, representatives of CSOs are asked to submit the Suggestions / Comments / Remarks in order to help the organizations and projects that they want to achieve.

Send comments and suggestions during **28 January – 20 February 2020**,
by e-mail at: info@amshc.gov.al
or through the link: <http://www.amshc.gov.al/web/prioritetet.php>

We point out that a special part of the fund will be channeled into project proposals in the function of the government's strategic priority in the fight against corruption in the country.

For this purpose, the Agency will hereby notify you about the organization of consultative meetings on definition and specification of the Call priorities.



Call for nomination of candidates for civil society members to the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS)

3 February – 3 March 2020¹

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), in its role of Technical Secretariat of the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS), announces the call for nomination candidates for civil society members to the NCCS, for 4 (four) vacancies created due to completion of 2-year mandates, respectively:

- **2 (two) members** for Field “A. Democratization, the rule of law, human rights and EU integration”
- **1 (one) member** for Field “B. Economic-territorial-environmental development”
- **1 (one) member** for Field “C. Improving well-being, social services, health protection and quality of life”

At this stage, all civil society organizations are invited to submit their proposals for candidates by completing the "**STANDARD APPLICATION FORM**"² – For the proposal of candidates from the

¹ On 04.03.2020 is announced the extension of the application deadline until 08.03.2020

² Download online at the link: <http://www.amshc.gov.al/kkshc/>

representatives of civil society organizations to NCCS and send it by e-mail to kkshc@amshc.gov.al, with the correct reference of the subject: **“Propozim Kandidature për KKSHC”**.

The stage of the process of Proposing Members Candidate of the NCCS is open **from February 3, 2020 to March 3, 2020**, time when the candidacies are presented and supporting documentation are submitted, by both the candidate proposer organizations and by candidates.

You must send the STANDARD APPLICATION FORM and all the following supporting documents within the specified time, by e-mail to kkshc@amshc.gov.al or by mail to the address:

**Agjencia për Mbështetjen e Shoqërisë Civile (AMShC)
Rruga "Frosina Plaku", Nr. 58, Kati II, Tiranë, Shqipëri**

CRITERIA FOR CANDIDATES AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Documents to be submitted by organizations nominating candidates:

- Application Form, published by ASCS
- Copy of the court registration document
- Confirmation from the tax office that the organization has "active" status

2. Criteria to be met by NCCS candidates:

- To have at least 3 (three) years of leadership experience in civil society organizations in the field where you are running
- No coordination or leadership roles in political organizations or political parties

3. Documents to be submitted by the nominees:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of motivation from the candidate to explain the contribution he can make in the NCCS
- Confirmation letter from the civil society organization that the candidate has at least 3 (three) years of experience in the field where he is running;
- Five letters of support from other organizations that support the candidate

NOMINATIONS AND VOTING PROCEDURE:

- All registered and active Civil Society Organizations nominate their candidates, taking into consideration that each **entity can nominate only one candidate for a member of the NCCS**.
- Applicants have **the opportunity to appeal within 3 (three) days** after the publication of the list of valid nominations, in case their nominations are considered invalid.
- The Technical Commission of the ASCS at the NCCS publishes on the website the **Public Calls for Voting** valid Candidates. Entities vote for candidates from the list of candidates compiled by the ASCS's Technical Commission, **respecting the principle that an organization can vote only once for the preferred candidate for each field**.
- The ASCS's Technical Commission continues to count the votes (in an open and transparent session) and the candidates with the largest number of valid votes are automatically announced as members of the NCCS.

For more information visit www.amshc.gov.al/kkshc, and for questions please write to us at kkshc@amshc.gov.al.

Week of Integrity / The Forum of Civil Society Against Corruption

Tirana, 5 February 2020



Representative from the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) participated in the **“Forum of Civil Society Against Corruption”**, organized by the Minister of Justice, and at the same time the National Coordinator against Corruption, which was held at the Ministry of Justice.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Gjonaj presented the new draft of the Anti-Corruption Strategy for the period 2020-2023, which includes the fight against corruption on the public administration and will focus on the preventive approach, the repressive and punitive approach and the awareness one.

The representative of the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), Mr. Aga briefly presented the role that ASCS has in supporting civil society

initiatives in projects undertaken in the framework of anti-corruption, transparency, accountability and integrity.

Other guests at the forum, representatives of civil society organizations and anti-corruption experts which presented various projects in the fight against corruption, pro-integrity, accountability and transparency.

This forum is organized in the framework of “Week of Integrity”, an initiative which is made possible in cooperation with the International Chamber of Commerce in Albania and the support of the Delegation of the European Union and the Dutch Embassy in Albania.





Partners Albania / The Ceremony of Philanthropy Awards 2019

Tirana, 7 February 2020



Representative from the Agency for Support of Civil Society (ASCS) participated in the ceremony of announcing the winner of the competition "Philanthropy Award 2019", organized by Partners Albania, which was held at the Rogner Hotel.



The award is a gratitude to individuals and active companies in the support of social causes in Albania during 2019.

Participants in the ceremony were personalities from the Albanian government and members of Albanian Parliament, representatives of diplomatic bodies accredited in Albania, international institutions and donor agencies, representatives of

the business sector, nonprofit organizations and media.

The Award for Contribution at National Level was granted to SIGAL UNIQA Group AUSTRIA with motivation: For the outstanding contribution in health, education, environment, sport, art and financial education in insurance field, specifically: Mobile Medical Clinic at country level, reconstruction of "Matosh Uka" high school in Fierza, Tropoja and the Sport Palace in Përmet, as well as establishment of the "Art and Culture" Club for citizens of Durrës." Ms. Anila Denaj, Minister of Finance and Economy presented the award to Mr.



Avni Ponari, General Director of SIGAL UNIQA Group Austria.

The Award for Contribution at Local Level was granted to Mrizi i Zanave with motivation: For the contribution in promotion and development of traditional values of Fishta area in Lezha, turning it into a touristic and culinary attraction, strongly based in the development of family economy and employment of residents of the area. Mr. Silvio



Pedrazzi, CEO of Intesa SanPaolo Bank Albania, presented the award to Mr. Anton Prenga and Mr. Altin Prenga.

The Award for Individual Contribution was granted to Ms. Suela Bala, with motivation: For the establishment of “Mobile Library” as an educational platform, and an integration window for children and youth in Lezha municipality, by creating a successful model that was transformed into an inclusive movement across the country”.



H.E. Mr. Soreca, Ambassador of European Union in Albania, presented the award.

“Pioneer of Philanthropy” Award was granted to Mr. Hamza Rama (posthumously), with motivation: “For the generous help and valuable contribution in alleviation of poverty and improvement of health condition of citizens and families in need in Lezha and surrounding villages, and for the financial support to Sports Club “Bardhyli” of Lezha”. Ms. Mira Rakacolli, Deputy Minister of

Health and Social Protection, presented the award.



Civic Engagement Recognition Award was granted to Ms. Delina Fico, with motivation: “For the valuable contribution to the protection of human rights and various social causes in the country, in particular for the protection of women’s and girls’ rights and the promotion of gender equality in Albanian society”. Ms. Marinela Jazoj, Executive Director of Foreign Investors Association of



Albania and Honorary Consul General of Norway in Albania presented the Award.

Special Award was granted to Mr. Arben Cara, with motivation: “For the utmost heroism and devotion in fulfilling the duty as firefighter, in the search and rescue efforts of the lives affected by the devastating earthquake of November 26, 2019, putting the mission of the profession first, even in the most extreme personal circumstances”.



Special Award was granted to the Municipality of Prizreni, with motivation: “For the generous and



unconditional help in hosting and accommodating Albanian citizens affected by the devastating earthquake of November 26, 2019, part of the

tremendous support and solidarity of the brotherly people and institutions of Kosovo.”

Mr. Petro Koçi, Deputy Minister of Defense, presented the Special Awards.

This ceremony was scheduled to take place on November 26, 2019, but due to the earthquake hit it was held on February 7, 2020.



Info sessions and public consultations with CSOs

31 January – 20 February 2020

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), in the framework of its mission and in order to provide financial assistance to Civil Society Organizations organized in several cities of the country info sessions and public consultations with representatives of civil society organizations:



1. On the process of selecting four new members from the civil society to the National Council for Civil Society
2. On the process of determining the priorities of the Call for Project Proposals no. 13

For Civil Society Organizations, it was also possible to send online comments and suggestions on the priorities of Call no. 13 by e-mail or the official website www.amshc.gov.al, from January 28 to February 20, 2020.

The meetings took place in the cities of **Vlora, Korca, Gjirokastra, Kukes, Berat, Shkodra** and **Tirana**.

In the meetings organized as well as from the review of all materials obtained electronically and in hard copy, where the representatives of NGOs and interest groups listed the suggestions, some of them are summarized as follows:

- *Providing assistance to lonely people with a focus on coping the damage of the November 26, 2019 earthquake by survivors mainly heads of families and children;*
- *Fight against corruption;*
- *The right to information, access to justice, following the strategies for involving young people in governance, transparency of public institutions;*
- *Health through the implementation of projects that preserve and provide information about physical and mental health, focusing on women and youth;*
- *Encouraging, stimulating and strengthening volunteerism;*
- *Environmental protection and rehabilitation; capacity building for the prevention and management of natural emergency situations (floods, fires, earthquakes, etc.);*
- *Promotion and preservation of historical, ethnographic, tourist, artistic, cultural values, tourist guides, collectors, religious tolerance, etc. as the historical value of the Albanian nation and obligation to future generations;*
- *European integration, regional economic integration (Balkan, etc.), recognition of democratic standards, discussion, debate, dialogue, dissent and the ability to listen; development of regional ideas and initiatives, etc.;*
- *Good governance (Central and Local Government), transparency, accountability, the fight against corruption, accountability and integrity, justice reform, capacity building, innovation, monitoring, partnership, etc.;*
- *Civic education in function of integration processes (family, school, community, business, state institutions, etc.)*

ASCS announces the Call No. 13 for project proposals

2 March – 10 April 2020

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) announces Call No. 13 for project-proposals and invites interested NGOs to bring project proposals that have as object and cover the priority area:



1. Social Development and Social Services:

- *Increasing the capacity of groups, organizations that have as their mission social services;*
- *Providing assistance to lonely people with a focus on coping the damage of the November 26, 2019 earthquake by survivors mainly heads of families and children;*
- *Increasing care for the vulnerable and people in need, as well as issues of minority representation (Roma, Egyptians, LGBT, etc.);*
- *Encouraging, stimulating and strengthening volunteerism;*
- *Health through the implementation of projects that preserve and provide information about physical and mental health, focusing on women and youth*

2. Fight against Corruption and Legal Education of the Public:

- *In the field of Procurement;*
- *In the field of Education;*
- *In the field of Health and*
- *Law Enforcement;*
- *The right to information, access to justice, following the strategies for involving young people in governance, transparency of public institutions*

3. Environment, Tourism and Sustainable Development:

- *Environmental protection and rehabilitation; capacity building for the prevention and management of natural emergency situations (floods, fires, earthquakes, etc.);*
- *Activism and volunteerism, important factors in protecting a healthy and competitive environment of sustainable development*
- *Promotion and preservation of historical, ethnographic, tourist, artistic, cultural values, tourist guides, collectors, religious tolerance, etc. as the historical value of the Albanian nation and obligation to future generations*
- *Trainings for traditional crafts that are in danger of extinction (crafts, master restorer of characteristic houses, etc.)*

4. Integration - Civil society as an important factor, actor and partner in the processes of European and regional integration of the country:

- *Awareness, capacity building for an enabling environment in integration processes;*
- *European integration, regional economic integration (Balkan, etc.), recognition of democratic standards, discussion, debate, dialogue, dissent and the ability to listen; development of regional ideas and initiatives, etc.;*
- *Good governance (Central and Local Government), transparency, accountability, the fight against corruption, accountability and integrity, justice reform, capacity building, innovation, monitoring, partnership, etc.;*
- *To see the strengthening of new associations and the increase of their capacities as a priority;*
- *Civic education in function of integration processes (family, school, community, business, state institutions, etc.)*

ANNOUNCEMENT

for suspension of the Call 13

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) within the measures against the spread of the COVID-19 virus announces:

Suspension of the application deadline for civil society organizations for financial support through Call no. 13 from 17.03.2020 until a second notice. Applications received by post during this period will be considered upon expiration of the suspension period.

For more information, visit the official website:

www.amshc.gov.al

VETËKARANTINA
COVID-19

Self-quarantine on COVID-19

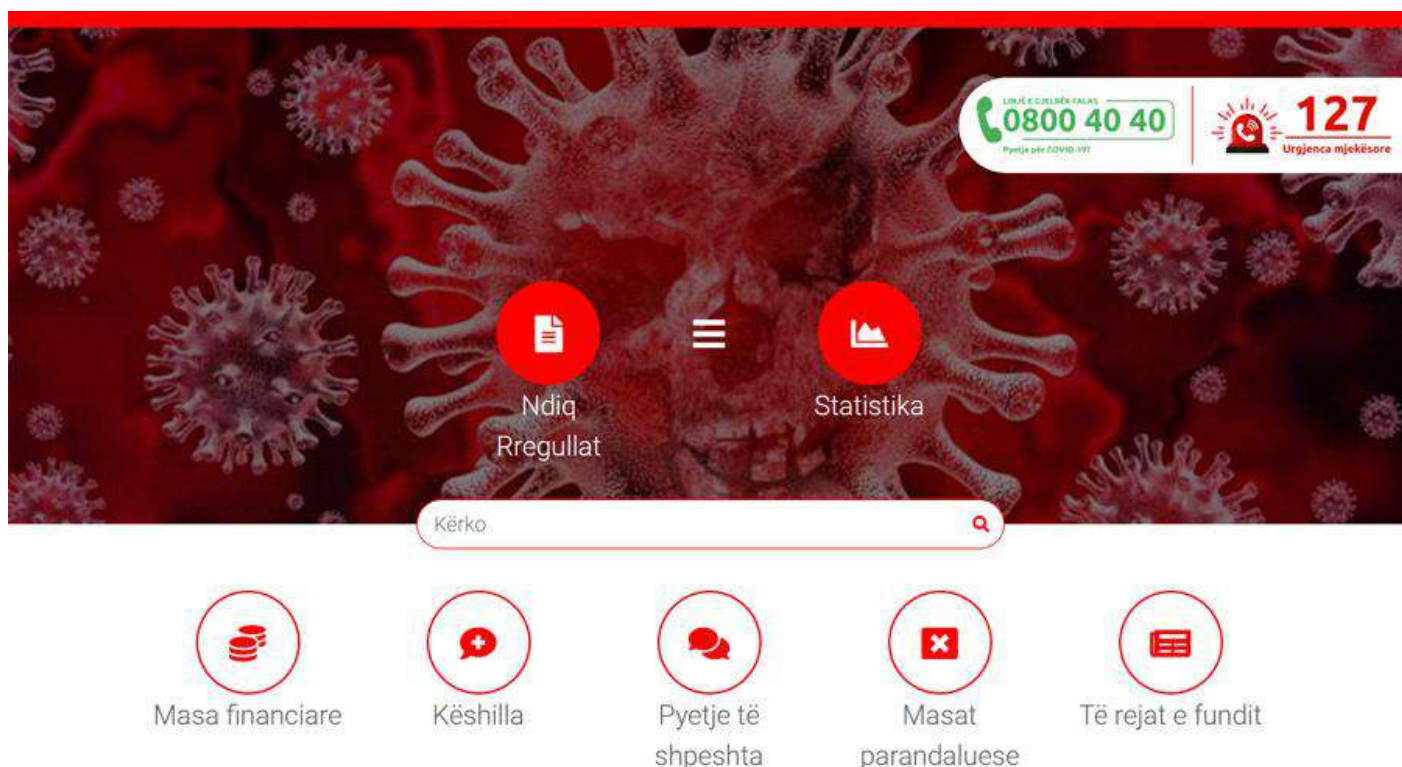
12 March 2020

Individuals who may have been exposed to individuals suspected of having COVID-19 should self-quarantine and monitor their health for 14 days from the last day of possible contact.

Seek immediate medical attention if you experience any of the symptoms, especially fever, respiratory symptoms such as cough, and difficulty breathing or diarrhea, contact immediately 127. All citizens are advised to avoid going out in public and stay at home while respecting the rules of hygiene.

The informative platform WWW.CORONAVIRUS.AL is launched

27 March 2020



The online platform "CORONAVIRUS ALBANIA" offers in real time rules and advice, statistics and coverage of the latest news on the situation caused by COVID-19 in Albania. Also on this platform you'll find information on preventive measures, legal acts and the consequences of misdemeanors, financial measures, etc.

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