



CIVIL SOCIETY
RESOURCE
CENTRE

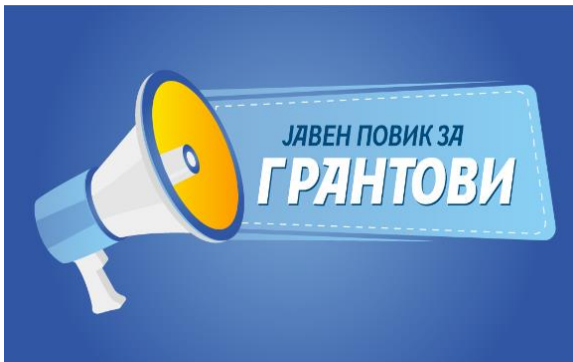
Newsletter #3
April 2019



This project
is funded by
the European Union

i, the citizen!

Activities of the Civil Society Resource Centre in April 2019



Open call for partnership grants for organisational development

This open call will support joint applications of small local organisations with more developed organisations, whereas the developed organisation will have a role of a mentor that will provide support in the process of improving the internal structure and strengthening the small local organisations beneficiaries of the mentoring support.

[Open call for partnership grants for organisational development](#)

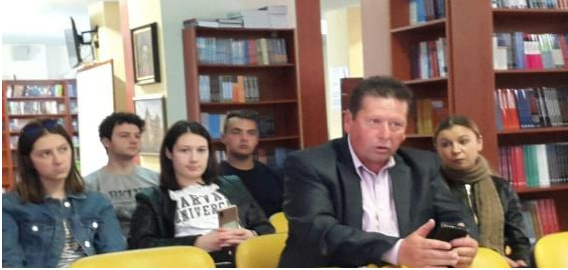


Four information sessions implemented

The Civil Society Resource Centre organised four information sessions in Skopje, Strumica, Kicevo and Bitola for the open call for partnership grants for organisational development. More than 60 CSOs' representatives had opportunity to ask questions and receive answers and clarifications for the open call.

[Read more about the information sessions](#)

[Questions and answers for the call for partnership grants for organisational development](#)



Organised meetings of the Mobile Resource Centre

In April the Civil Society Resource Centre organised visits of the Mobile Resource Centre to Radovish and Bogovinje. In Radovish the organisations emphasised the good cooperation between the smaller and the more developed organisations, mainly focused on providing premises and other resources in organising activities.

On 4th April in Bogovinje a meeting was organised with the Mayor Aljbon Dzemaili with a focus on the support that the municipality provides for the organisations and the need for stimulating civil society actions in the municipality.

Read more about the visit of the Mobile Resource Centre in [Radovish](#).



In Vivo - from a group of enthusiasts to a functional organisation

The Civil Society Resource Centre can be crucial link for an organisation to become stronger and to make important social changes. Such was the case with the Association of Citizens for Social and Economic Development In Vivo from Skopje.

The Civil Society Resource Centre assisted them during their establishment, and later on through consultations and trainings transferred to them basic knowledge on the operation of CSOs.

[Read more](#)

Support provided by the Civil Society Resource Centre in the period 15 February 2018 – 30 April 2019

Responded to 358 help-desk requests. Interested organisations may pose their questions using the [request for support](#) or to contact directly the offices of the resource centres in Skopje, Shtip and Gostivar.

243 E-mails with relevant information sent to the CSOs. If you want to receive information, joint the [mailing list](#).

131 events organised in the premises of the Civil Society Resource Centre by other CSOs or other stakeholders. If you need to use the premises, fill in the [respective request](#).

Prepared and shared 15 monthly overviews of funding opportunities for CSOs with 155 open calls in total. Read the [monthly overviews of funding opportunities](#) for CSOs.

Prepared and shared 38 weekly overviews with information about opened law-making processes and draft-laws published on ENER and ten monthly overviews from the monitoring of the openness of the law-making processes. Read the [weekly and monthly overviews](#).

May Events of the Civil Society Resource Centre

Calendar of activities

- **Mobile Resource Centre in Debar**, 21 May 2019, Debar
- **Mobile Resource Centre in Prilep**, 28 May 2019, Prilep
- **Mobile Resource Centre in Probishtip**, 30 May 2019, Probishtip

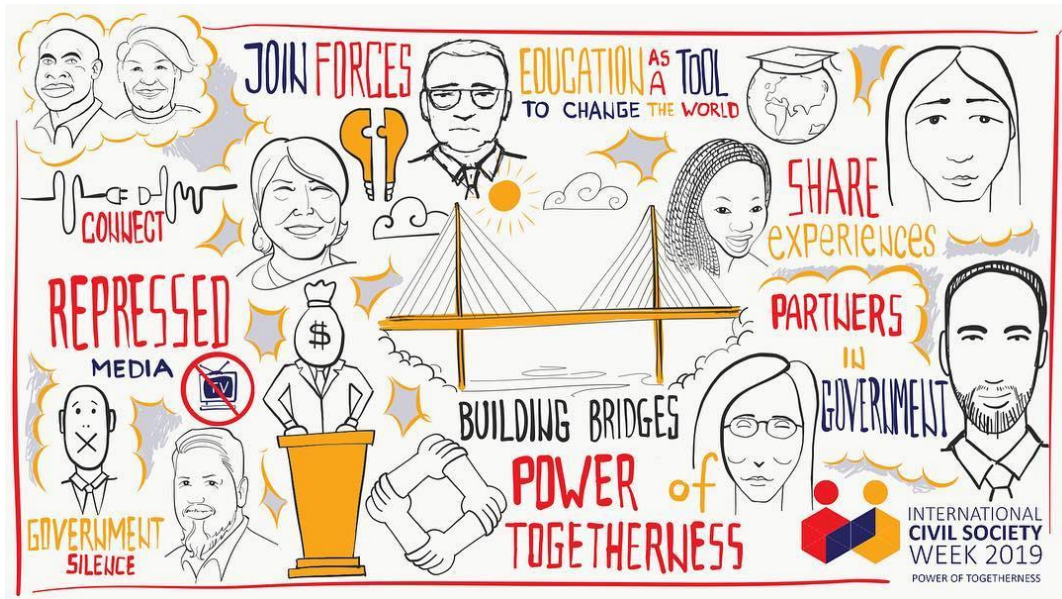
Key information for civil society and enabling environment for CSOs

This section of the Newsletter is dedicated to important information for the civil society in the country undertaken by other stakeholders

The need to amend the Law on Donations and Sponsorships in Public Activities in accordance with the good practices of regulation of philanthropy in the European Union, recent changes in the tax treatment of CSOs, their role as employers, the new active labour market measures that can be used in order to increase employment in the country, were some of the topics discussed at the **Conference on laws suitable for CSOs** held on 23rd April 2019. The event was organised within the project “**Changes for Sustainability**” funded by the European Union and implemented by the Association **Konekt** in partnership with the Apollonia Foundation and the Center for Tax Policy.

[Download Information and conclusions from the Conference](#) (in Macedonian)

From 8 to 12 of April, the annual **International Civil Society Week** was organised in Belgrade, co-hosted by **CIVICUS** the global civil society alliance and the Serbian Association Civic Initiatives with the support of Balkan Civil Society Development Network. This year's theme was "**The Power of Togetherness**".



The ICSW 2019 Programme focused on three tracks:

- **Bridges** – exploring how the current regional and global civil society context is changing, and connect participants and strengthen collaboration;
- **Streets** – looking at ways to build constituencies and deepen the skill sets needed for successful civil action; and
- **Stairs** – seeking to identify ways to build and sustain collective impact, and connect local and global efforts.

[Read more \(Civicus\)](#)

[Read more \(BCSDN\)](#)

European Economic and Social Committee organised its 7th **Western Balkans Civil Society Forum** in Tirana on 16-17 April 2019.

The main topics of the agenda were the role of CSOs in promoting regional cooperation (trade and investment, connectivity and people to people relations), the state of social dialogue, as well as enabling civil space in the Western Balkans. The Forum brought together approximately 180 participants, including a broad range of civil society representatives from the EU and the Western Balkans, as well as representatives of the EU institutions, international organisations and governments of the region.

A final declaration with recommendations from CSOs was issued at the end of the event.

[Read more](#)

The project “National Resource Centre for Civil Society Organisations” or shortly Civil Society Resource Centre is funded by the European Union and implemented by Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation and the project partners Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) from Gostivar and Media Plus from Stip. The project duration is 15.02.2018-14.02.2021 and the total budget for the project is 507.820 EUR.

The project overall objective is empowered civil society that actively takes part in decision making and contributes to strengthened participatory democracy in the country, whereas the specific objective is to provide services for building the capacities of CSOs to be effective and accountable independent actors and to contribute to environment that is conducive to civil society. The primary target group of the project are civil society organisations in the country, however, the project will also target relevant state institutions and other civil society actors.

Three resource centres are opened in Skopje, Gostivar and Shtip.

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МЕГУНАРОДНА
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