



Activities of the Civil Society Resource Centre in May 2019



Eight partnership grants for organisational development awarded

The procedure for selection of grantees under the open call for partnership grants for organisational development has been completed. Grantees are:

- Association Nov most, Prilep
- Association of lawyers “Legal think” Shtip
- Nexus, Civic concept, Skopje
- Anglunipe, Association for Roma Education, Tetovo
- Association Network of young farmers, Debarca
- Association Veles Biking
- CSRD Prizma, Skopje
- Center for educational and development initiatives, INOVA LAB, Bitola



Organised meeting with CSOs on informal education

The simplification of the procedure for verification of programmes for informal education and verification of institutions as providers of those programmes is one of the main requests of the organisations at the meeting “**The role of CSOs in providing high-quality informal education**”. The meeting was held on 27th May in the Civil Society Resource Centre upon an initiative by the organisation Educational cultural centre “Nana”.

[Read more](#)



Organised visits of the Mobile Resource Centre

In May the Civil Society Resource Centre organised visits of the Mobile Resource Centre to Debar, Prilep and Probishtip.

The Council for cooperation with and development of the civil society was in the focus of the meeting with CSOs in Prilep. Key challenges of Probishtip organisations were lack of premises and trained staff in CSOs as well as the low interest for volunteering. The organisations in Debar pointed out that the largest risk is the sustainability and the brain-drain in the organisations. In addition, CSOs in Debar have problems with ensuring offices and equipment for their smooth operation.

Read more about the visits of the Mobile Resource Centre in [Debar](#), [Prilep](#) and [Probishtip](#).



Equinox Scout – organisation that revived scouting in Shtip

“Our relation with the Civil Society Resource Centre is something special and it started even before the official establishment of Equinox Scout. This relation started even with the birth of our idea to establish an organisation through the advice, the information, the motivational words received from the Resource Centre in Stip and we are extremely grateful for that” said Darko Tomic from Equinox Scout.

[Read more](#)

Support provided by the Civil Society Resource Centre in the period 15 February 2018 – 31 May 2019

Responded to 395 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.

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

145 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 16 monthly overviews of funding opportunities for CSOs with 172 open calls in total. Read the [monthly overviews of funding opportunities](#) for CSOs.

Prepared and shared 40 weekly overviews with information about opened law-making processes and draft-laws published on ENER and 11 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

- **Promotion of grantees**, 12 June 2019, Skopje
- **Mobile Resource Centre in Kumanovo**, 13 June 2019, Kumanovo

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

On May 15, an event for the promotion of the national Social Enterprise Network was held in Skopje. At the event, a Declaration was signed by which all stakeholders expressed their readiness to contribute to the eco system for the development of social entrepreneurship in the country. The establishment of the network was initiated by the Association for Research, Communication and Development "Public"

[Read more about the Social Enterprise Network](#) (in Macedonian)

At the conference Reform of the of the State Funding System for Civil Society Organisations organized by Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation on May 22, it was stressed that the objectives of the improved reformed model for state funding of CSOs should be: to increase the funds intended for financing CSOs; to provide institutional support for CSOs; to provide co-financing of activities supported by other donors; to discontinue the practice of one-year and uncertain financing and to raise awareness and practice for multi-annual organisational and project support; to increase the size of individual grants; to promote transparency, effectiveness and accountability of the procedure for distribution of funds; to increase accountability and transparency of CSOs for the received state funds; to ensure adequate geographical distribution of state support for CSOs.

[Read more about the conference](#) (in Macedonian)

In May, several consultations of the Government with CSOs were organised for the preparation of the National Strategy for the Development of the Concept for One Society and Interculturalism. This consultative process will continue in June.

[Read more](#) (in Macedonian)

In May, the consultative process for the drafting of the Law on youth participation and youth policy started. Coalition of youth organizations SEGA and the National Youth Council of Macedonia are part of the working group for drafting the Law. Comments to the proposed Law can be submitted by June 30.

[Read more](#) (in Macedonian)

Regular and intensive cooperation, simplification of procedures for civic initiatives, updated lists for communication with civil society organizations, more information and more frequent regular meetings with CSOs were the main conclusions of the National Forum of CIVICA Mobilitas "Cooperation between the Parliament and CSOs" held on May 28, 2019

[Read more](#) (in Macedonian)

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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