

26 February 2018 Yerevan

## From now on Non-Governmental Organisations have no obligation to bring their Statutes in Line with the Provisions of the Law on NGOs and re-register them

Twelve representatives of the civil society organizations (CSOs) received basic knowledge on the changes made to the Law on Non-Governmental Organisations at the training organized on February 23 within the framework of the EU-funded "Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" project.

According to recent amendments, NGOs currently have no obligation to bring their statutes in line with the provisions of law and re-register in the State Register of Legal Entities. The trainer, Marat Atovmyan, Coordinator of the "Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" project incubators, told this to the participants of the training.

He noted that at present there is no responsibility for the non-compliance of the statute with the law and registration of legal persons in the State Register. However, in case of registration a 5000 AMD fee is charged.

The new regulations of the NGO legislation, which have become applicable in the last year with the adoption of a new law, were also presented during the training.

"The pivotal changes that were made in the legislative field were highlighted. It was very important for us to learn about changes in volunteer issues, since we often have volunteers and now we have to be careful to have contracts with those volunteers," Ms Silva Svazyan, representative of the Eurasia Partnership Foundation said.

According to Ms Diana Hovakimyan, President of the International Academy of Advanced Training for Doctors" NGO, such trainings are effective and good if they have a continuous nature. "I believe that if you are aware of the law, you will be able to work properly and there will be no problems," she said."

It should be noted that most of the participants were women.

If you also are a civic activist and want to receive legal support, please contact us at <a href="mailto:info@armla.am">info@armla.am</a>, register for the upcoming training to receive legal advice.

The "Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" project is implemented with the financial support of the European Union by a Consortium of civil society organisations, which are the Armenian Lawyers' Association (lead organisation), Agora Central Europe (NGO based in the Czech Republic), the Armenian Centre for Democratic Education-CIVITAS, the International Centre for Human Development, the SME Cooperation Association and the Union of Communities of Armenia.







The project aims to enhance the influence of civil society organisations (CSOs) and CSO coalitions/networks on public policies in Armenia. This will allow organisations that are already working in sectoral coalitions to access additional resources, new groups of civil society experts to come together and encourage place their causes on the local and national policy agenda, to identify common concerns and priorities and approach government bodies with constructive and strategic policy engagement initiatives.

The project will provide sub-grants to CSOs and CSO coalitions for developing public policies and bringing significant changes in the 9 target sectors selected within the project, including those of justice, education and business.

The **Armenian Lawyers' Association** (ALA) was established in 1995 with a mission to promote to the establishment of the rule of law, democracy and formation of the civil society in Armenia, where the people are aware of their rights and where their rights are protected. Before February 2016, ALA used to be called Armenian Young Lawyers Association.

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