



PRESS RELEASE

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Yerevan

Legislative Amendments on Non-Governmental Organisations have been presented to Shirak Marz NGO Representatives

A training course on the New NGO Law and the recent amendments to it was organised today in Gyumri for the representatives of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Shirak Marz.

The training discussion was organised in the scope of the EU funded “Commitment to Constructive Dialogue” project. Mr. Marat Atovmyan, Coordinator of the project incubators, introduced legislative innovations to more than 15 CSO representatives. Most of the participants were women.

"We have received detailed information on new legislation. Now I am working on changes in the charter and I have made a lot of notes that I can include in it. The procedure of engagement in entrepreneurship, involving NGO members, and conducting audit was very important as well," Mr. Levon Igityan, President of “Akhuryan” Youth NGO said.

Ms Roza Avagyan, representative of “AGATE” Rights Defense Centre for Women with Disabilities NGO noted that the provisions on conducting audit were new, and specifically the condition that in the case of receiving over 5 million AMD from public funding, a compulsory audit should be conducted, and in addition it should be conducted on NGO’s expenses.

Marat Atovmyan presented the “Commitment to Constructive Dialogue” project mentioning that its main objective is to strengthen CSOs' influence in Armenia in the process of developing public policies.

At the end of the training Marat Atovmyan answered the questions and informed that legal advice and assistance on the NGO activities are provided within the framework of the project.

If you also are a civic activist and want to receive legal support, please contact us at info@armla.am, 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



This Project is funded
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The European Commission is the EU's executive body. The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

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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