



PRESS RELEASE

27 April 2018

Yerevan

Issues in the Sectors of Justice, Human Rights and Public Finance Management were discussed

On 27 April, presentation, discussion and summarisation of the issues identified in the sectors of justice, human rights and public finance management in the framework of the “Commitment to Constructive Dialogue” Project and presentation of the activities to solve the identified issues was held.

35 representatives of relevant government agencies and civil society organisations, as well as experts in the area of justice, human rights and public finance management attend the event.

“In this crucial period for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia, I believe it necessary to once again highlight the importance of continuing realisation of the commitment to constructive dialogue that we undertook within the framework of the EU-funded " Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" Project to support reforms in 9 areas of the public life of our country, " Karen Zadoyan noted and added that three topics of today’s agenda are related to three of those target areas of the project.”

Deputy Minister of Justice Vigen Kocharyan positively assessed the outcomes of public discussions over the above mentioned issues and noted that the overwhelming majority of proposals submitted by civil society organisations have been widely discussed and adopted by the Ministry.

In his speech, he highlighted the importance of constructive dialogue as well. "It is a necessary precondition for success and solving various problems."

President of the Chamber of Advocates Ara Zohrabyan noted that the issues in the human rights, justice and other spheres are important and it is also important to identify them. "At present the transparent and public discussions of the public issues is crucial and the Chamber of Advocates continues to provide expert opinions on legislative initiatives," Ara Zohrabyan said.

The participants discussed the following topics:

The issues identified in the sector of human rights:

- 1. Improving Public Policies in combating discrimination through monitoring and policy development (Adoption and implementation of the RA Law on Equality).*
- 2. Monitoring of community-based services for PWDs, including development of a monitoring tool for CSOs.*



This Project is funded by the European Union.

Delegation of the European Union to Armenia
Tel.: +37410 54 64 94



Armenian Lawyers' Association
Address: 7 Nalbandyan Str., Suite 2,
Yerevan, Armenian, 0010

Tel.: +37410 54 01 99
Fax: +37410 58 02 99



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.

3. Adoption of internal guidelines on anti-discrimination by 3 different public institutions, etc.

The issues identified in the sector of justice:

- 1. Increasing the access to justice of vulnerable groups.*
- 2. Improved enforcement of court decisions.*

The issues identified in the public finance management sector:

- 1. Effective introduction of child- and gender-sensitive budgeting at national and local level, as well as within CSOs and CSO coalitions*
- 2. CSO participation in discussions on the Simplified State Budget*

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.

Astghik Karapetyan
PR Coordinator

Tel.: 540199,
E-mail: info@armla.am,
URL: <http://www.armla.am>, <http://ccd.armla.am>



This Project is funded by the European Union.

Delegation of the European Union to Armenia
Tel.: +37410 54 64 94

Armenian Lawyers’ Association
Address: 7 Nalbandyan Str., Suite 2, Yerevan, Armenian, 0010

Tel.: +37410 54 01 99
Fax: +37410 58 02 99

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.