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National Convention on European Integration

The Volunteering Law in Albania: As a priority for the Strengthening of the Civil Society's Enabling Environment

Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 10:00 – 12:00
Imperial Room 2, Xheko Imperial Hotel, Tirana

This activity is organized by the **Minister of State for Youth and Children** and the **European Movement in Albania**, in cooperation with **Ministry of Economy, Culture and Innovation**, **Partners Albania for Change and Development** and **National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania**, under the **National Convention on European Integration**, with a special focus on the new draft Law on Volunteering that is being developed in Albania. The activity is dedicated to civil society actors, activists, youth, and volunteer networks in the country.

Through this draft act, it is aimed to improve and address the issues that were concerning during the implementation of the **Volunteering Law 45/2016**, including the involvement of civil society actors in the entire process of drafting, consulting, and monitoring. Revising the Law on Volunteering is one of the priorities set in the Roadmap for the Functioning of Democratic Institutions in the framework of the country's European integration process, and this draft legal act must be **approved by 2025**, with the aim of strengthening the enabling environment for civil society in the country for more inclusive participation, effective cooperation, and substantial contribution of civil society in the process.

This meeting will bring together representatives of civil society, active and contributing organizations for volunteering in Albania, as well as youth and volunteers to discuss this draft law by offering recommendations and suggestions together with representatives from the Minister of State for Youth and Children, Ministry of Economy, Culture and Innovation, other relevant public institutions involved in the working group. Sharing of the Slovak experience and the best European practices regarding the legal framework and implementation of successful policies for volunteering will be part of the activity.

** This activity takes place within the framework of the project "Building Partnership on Fundamentals: Empowered CSOs in the EU Accession Process", with the financial support of the European Union - IPA Civil Society Facility 2021*





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PROGRAM

- 09:30 – 10:00 Registration of participants and welcome coffee
- 10:00 – 10:40 Opening of the meeting and welcome remarks
Ms. Bora Muzhaqi, Minister of State for Youth and Children
Mr. Blendi Gonxhja, Minister of Economy, Culture and Innovation
H.E Mr. Silvio Gonzato, Ambassador of the European Union to Albania
Mr. Gledis Gjipali, Executive Director, European Movement Albania
Ms. Arjola Agolli, Manager of National Centre for Civil Society in Albania, Partners Albania for Change and Development
- 10:40 – 11:20 Enhancing Albania's Volunteerism Framework: Role of Institutions and CSOs at the Forefront
Revising the Law on Volunteering: Process, objectives and intended infrastructure -
GoA Inter-institutional working group Representative
- Creating an enabling environment for volunteering: CSOs perspective –*
Representative from CSOs
- Insights and Best Practices from the EU: Shaping Effective Volunteering Policies -*
doc. PhDr. Alžbeta Brozmanová Gregorová, PhD, Associate Professor at Matej Bel University and President of Platform of Volunteer Centers and Organizations in Slovakia
- 11:20 – 12:00 Q&A Session – Open Discussion
- 12:00 Wrapping Up: Key Takeaways and Networking Cocktail

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