

Terms of Reference

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project: Programme evaluation

Countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia

Contracting Party: Civil Rights Defenders

Reports to: Goran Miletic, Director for Europe

1. BACKGROUND

Civil Rights Defenders is a non-profit organisation registered in Sweden. We work internationally on four continents in more than 30 countries, and with over 200 partners. We defend civil and political rights and see ourselves as a leading human rights organisation working with human rights defenders.

Our work is based on international human rights law in the form of conventions, treaties and customary international law. We work within the human rights framework and principles in which human rights should be guaranteed to all without discrimination. Human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

Civil Rights Defenders supports the most repressed human rights defenders in a concerted effort to hinder the global trend of democratic backsliding affecting our work and our partners' ability to support the realisation of civil and political rights in the regions where we work. We expand the space for human rights defenders by improving the security and capacity of our partners and by increasing awareness and accountability in relation to civil and political rights.

The work of Civil Rights Defenders in the Western Balkans is guided by the Organizational Strategy which aims to strength the human rights movement to alter oppressive power structures and to ensure that authorities are held accountable in respecting democracy and human rights. Our communication and advocacy activities increase knowledge about rights and rights violations, support critical thinking and help individuals to challenge oppressive practices and demand accountability. Strengthening capacity, security, networks and organisational structures enables impactful human rights work. Collectively, this empowers human rights defenders to join forces, allowing them to challenge oppression and demand accountability in a concerted effort.

Our work in the Western Balkans in the past 2 years has been implemented through programmes focused on supporting mostly human rights organisations and independent media organisations through capacity building, networking and by increasing their organizational

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS IS AN INDEPENDENT EXPERT ORGANISATION FOUNDED IN 1982 IN SWEDEN, WITH THE MISSION TO DEFEND PEOPLE'S CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND EMPOWER HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AT RISK WORLDWIDE.

Head Office
Östgötagatan 90
SE-116 64 Stockholm
Phone +46 8 545 277 30
info@crd.org

Europe Office
Kralja Milana 10/5
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
Phone +381 11 268 1455
belgrade@crd.org

capacities and sustainability. We provide assistance to our partners in international advocacy and lobbying as well as to help them improve their sustainability, through for instance diversification of funding, improved financial control and management, and long-term planning. Our approach also entails facilitating and striving for co-ordination and coalition-building with other NGOs, media organisations, human rights organisations, and other civil society initiatives.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE EVALUATION

The objective of the evaluation is to assess the quality of the implementation of the programme and its results, their sustainability and to propose follow up actions in order to preserve and/or improve the results.

3. PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The purpose of the assignment is to evaluate the impact of the programme Strengthening implementation of European human rights standards in the Western Balkans 2019-2020 implemented by the Civil Rights Defenders. The assessment should deliver findings regarding:

- the main results of the implementation of the programme,
- impact of Civil Rights Defenders' programme to beneficiary groups,
- the effects of the implementation of the programmes on partner organisations,
- the impact of the programme on the EU accession processes of the Region and the role of human rights organisations in the process.

4. SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

While undertaking the assignment, the expert will assess the Strengthening implementation of European human rights standards in the Western Balkans 2019-2020 programme of Civil Rights Defenders.

While doing so, it is expected the assessment to cover the following issues in particular:

4.1 Main results of the programme:

- What are the main results of the programme Strengthening implementation of European human rights standards in the Western Balkans 2019-2020?
- How relevant is the programme for the improvement of the human rights standards in the Western Balkans?
- To what extent are the results of the implemented programme sustainable?
- What are the recommendations for the follow up to the programme in order to preserve sustainability of the programme results?
- How did the programme adjust to the new circumstances in 2020?

4.2 Added value

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- What kind of added value is created through the implementation of the programme?
- What are the main reasons and factors that contribute to creating this added value?
- What is the added value of Civil Rights Defenders support to the EU integration processes in the Region?

4.3 Geographical coverage:

- Has the programme included participants from all countries of the WB?
- To what extent was the programme implemented in all WB6 countries?

5. METHODOLOGY

The overall methodological approach should be founded on the principles of participation, ownership, teamwork and a learning approach. The assessment should include a mixed method methodology comprised of both qualitative and quantitative methods. This should include but not be limited to literature review of project documents, key informant interviews and survey among the partner HRDs. Due to the Covid19 situation it is expected for all activities to take place online. The evaluators shall use the Sida OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation.

6. TIME SCHEDULE AND REPORTING

The reporting will be consisted of:

- Inception Report that will include a detailed work plan, methodology description and tools to be used and proposed structure of the Final report, submitted 7 working days after the start of the assignment;
- Draft Final Report to be reviewed by Civil Rights Defenders, submitted 25 working days after the submission of the inception report; and
- Final report with included revisions is to be submitted no later than 10 working days after receiving Civil Rights Defenders revisions. The final report should not exceed 8 pages, excluding the annexes.

7. BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Qualified candidates and/or teams should send their proposals at the following address: ivana.randjelovic@civilrightsdefenders.org, by 24.12.2020 the latest. The following documents are needed:

- CV of the key expert(s);
- Detailed time-line of activities, including deliverables;
- Relevant past experience;
- Financial offer that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total price.