

STRENGTHENING LAWYERS LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND COOPERATION WITH PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES, TO PROTECT VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING RIGHTS IN THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

European Commission, Justice Program, Action
Grants to Support European Judicial Trainings Priority
Reference Criminal Law.

Project Coordinator: Association Pro Refugiu, Bucharest, Romania,
www.prorefugiu.org

Contact Person Name: Ms Silvia Berbec (Project Manager)

Contact Person E-Mail: berbecsilvia@prorefugiu.org

Project Partners:

- Scandinavian Human Rights Lawyers
Uppsala Sweden
- ECPAT Freiburg Germany
- KOK German NGO network against trafficking
in human beings, Berlin Germany
- Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation,
Sofia Bulgaria

Project Website: www.project-ecjusticeprogram.prorefugiu.org

Duration: 1 June 2016 – 30 May 2018

Budget: 149,556.48 EURO (119,639.28 EURO, EU
contribution 80%)

Contract Number: JUST/2015/JTRA/AG/EJTR/8686



Asociatia
PRO REFUGIU.org



SCANDINAVIAN
HUMAN RIGHTS
LAWYERS



German NGO Network against
Trafficking in Human Beings



Project Summary

Human trafficking cases are complex, multi-dimensional and many times implies several legal procedures in origin and destination countries as well. There is a strong need for competent legal representation in the judicial matters involving victims of human trafficking. The quality of legal aid is an essential component in achieving access to proper justice by the victims. Countries as Romania and Bulgaria are one of the main origin states for victims of human trafficking and the number of specialized lawyers to protect their rights in the judicial proceedings is an insufficient one. The need to train lawyers and increase the number of victims represented by specialized legal practitioners is an important aspect that stays at the basis of the project's development.

The project's main objectives consist in: Strengthen Romanian and Bulgarian lawyers legal knowledge, cooperation with prosecutors and judges to protect victims of human trafficking rights in the judicial proceedings according with EU normative acts. Enhance knowledge upon different legal systems among member states (Romania-Bulgaria-Sweden-Germany). Project main activities consist in: *Train the trainers in Germany and Sweden* (provide to a group of Romanian and Bulgarian legal professionals with the appropriate competencies that will enable them to affectively facilitate knowledge acquisition and skills, in delivering quality dynamic trainings for further legal professionals in their countries).

Develop program and materials for the blended learning process (prior-trainings assessment of the legal needs of participants; elaborate legal practitioners manual). *Implement the blended learning process* (organize trainings in Romania and Bulgaria, use of the e-learning platform where legal professionals can find legislation and models of defence strategies to protect victims of human trafficking rights in the judicial proceedings).

STRENGTHENING LAWYERS LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND COOPERATION WITH PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES, TO PROTECT VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING RIGHTS IN THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Project Results

- Increased number of specialized Romanian and Bulgarian lawyers able to protect victims of human trafficking rights in the judicial criminal proceedings, in accordance with EU legal standards, capable to correlate the EU legal provisions with the national ones.
- The national capacities in Romania and Bulgaria to train and retrain lawyers are strengthened. Romanian and Bulgarian trainers able to deliver interactive legal trainings by using a blended learning process, act also as mentors providing guidance for their peers.
- Increased number of lawyers equipped with necessary knowledge on the ECtHR procedures in cases in which victims' rights were violated by the national legal authorities (learn to develop appropriate legal arguments in ECtHR cases).
- Improved core legal practitioners' skills (including the ability to prepare, manage cases or legal arguments both orally and in writing in courts proceedings; capacity to identify the relevant EU legal instruments that can be invoked in THB cases).
- Increased knowledge on the use of legal terminology in national languages and in an international language such as English.
- Enhanced collaboration, networking among lawyers-prosecutors – judges as result of common involvement in the blended learning process.
- Consolidated knowledge upon partners' legal systems, practical experienced shared, identification of best practices from the German and Swedish legal systems that can be transferred into the Romanian and Bulgarian ones.
- Increased knowledge of e-learning tools, interactive legal training techniques.

Target Groups

- 7 Romanian, Bulgarian lawyers, prosecutor, judges attend train-the-trainers events in Germany, Sweden.
- 40 Romanian, 10 Bulgarian participants (lawyers, judges and prosecutors), first training Romania
- 40 Romanian, 5 Bulgarian (lawyers, judges and prosecutors), second training Romania
- 30 Bulgarian, 7 Romanian (lawyers, judges and prosecutors), third training Bulgaria
- 100 lawyers, prosecutors, judges as users of the website
- 40 Romanian stakeholders / launching conference in RO and 30 Bulgarian stakeholders / launching conference in BG
- 40 Romanian, Bulgarian, Swedish, German participants, final conference in RO

The project is funded with the financial support of the European Commission Justice Program. This publication reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.