

11 May, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Presentation of the project Equal Rights for All Coalition

Today, a conference was organized in Prishtinë/Priština to present the establishment of the new *Coalition* and the four (4) years project “*Equal Rights for All Coalition (ERAC)*”. The conference was opened by *Mr. Christof Stock*, Head of Operations, European Union Office in Kosovo who emphasized the importance of civil society on the protection and promotion of human rights, the implementation of the legislative framework of Kosovo, and the cooperation between civil society and government institutions. Mr. Stock stated that the establishment of ERAC and the project is a great initiative which brings together *seven (7) medium-size* and *nineteen (19) grass root NGOs* that work in the domain of *rule of law* and *fundamental rights*, with a particular focus on the protection and promotion of the fundamental rights of vulnerable and/or marginalised groups (VMGs) which are *minority communities, women, youth* and *LGBT community*.

In addition, representatives of ERAC presented the aim of the establishment of the Coalition, who the members of the Coalition are and the activities to be implemented in a period of four (4) years. Furthermore, *Mr. Nenad Rašić*, representative of the Commission on Human Rights, Gender Equality and Missing Person and Petition, *Mr. Hilmi Jashari*, Ombudsman of Kosovo, and *Ms. Sadete Demaj-Kajtazi* Coordinator in the Office of Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister spoke about the institutions they represent and their readiness to support ERAC on reaching the overall goal of the project.

ERAC Aim and Objectives

- ❖ To form a cooperative network of grassroots and medium-sized NGOs that provide efficient aid and support to members of VMGs with limited access to fundamental rights;
- ❖ To establish meaningful and informed participation in the government’s decision and policy making processes on the promotion and protection of fundamental rights of VMGs on the basis of multi-disciplinary policy research;
- ❖ To strengthen the participating NGOs’ (a) institutional capacities (b) interdisciplinary skills;
- ❖ To raise general awareness of the role of civil society in participatory democracy and in particular with regard to fundamental rights for all.



An EU funded project managed by the
European Union Office in Kosovo