



annual report



Editorial

A year behind us has been a challenging, dynamic and motivating too. We met new and great people and the number of organizations and individuals we cooperate with was increased. We strengthened our volunteers' sector, all projects were completed but we also succeeded to be active in other "non-project" fields.

We successfully organized with our colleagues from other organizations a campaign "One Billion Rising" at Trg Krajina in Banjaluka; we were involved in a campaign "European Action Week against Racism"; tree planting as part of action "Let's Do It – Million Seedlings in One Day; protests of European Federation of Journalists in front of the European Commission in Brussels due to drastic imprisonments for five journalists from Turkey; organizing a great international peace event "Sarajevo 2014"; etc.

Besides, in 2013 we continued our projects "Woman and Law Today" and "X-Press: Social Inclusion through the Media", starting the completion of new ones such as: "PRO Future", a project "IN" targeted to equal integration and improvement of position of persons with disability in our society, "Women's Side of Politics II".

There are so many things to write about in the Editorial of annual report of an organization because so many things happened during 12 months of our work. But the Editorial is a space we would like to use to thank wholeheartedly all people we worked with and who, one way or another, supported our activities and without whom everything we do would not make any sense.

Priorities and problems we are trying to sort out are changing. However, the principles and values we believe in are not. And we believe that only together we can change the society we live in for better. In which everyone, regardless of his/her social status, gender, national and religious belonging, will live a life dignified of man without discrimination, belittling and violence.

Dragana Dardić

ABOUT US

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka (hCa) was registered on August 16th, 1996 as a local non-governmental organization in Republic of Srpska / Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since then, hCa Banja Luka had been actively involved into promotion, strengthening and connecting civil initiatives at local and regional level working on reconciliation and empowerment of marginalized social groups for political action.

Our mission: hCa is the organization supporting and stimulating autonomy and freedom of all citizens by involving marginalized social groups, women and youth in particular, into democratic processes.

Our vision: Society of equal opportunities for all.

Priorities of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka actions:

- Empowerment of marginalized groups, women, youth and minorities in particular, for political action and advancement of their position in the society,
- Impact on BiH institutions due to advancement and public policies towards these groups,
- Increasing representation and better presentation of women, youth and minorities in media,
- Strengthening of BiH citizens' conscience about discrimination of marginalized groups and mechanisms of protection of their rights,
- Strengthening of cooperation with other organizations and institutions in BiH but at international level too,
- Harmonization of curriculums, literature, knowledge and skills regarding peace building , development of civil society and human rights of men and women citizens of BiH,
- Continuous education of hCa's Banja Luka staff and work on sustainability of the organization.

hCa Banja Luka has implemented its activities in the two program areas in 2013:

- Strengthening of civil society and transformation of public authorities in service of citizens
- Advocacy for gender equality
- Creating conditions for more intensive involvement of youth in public life

Education programs– hCa HPG Banja Luka gathers trainers, men and women who run trainings from the following fields for the purpose of ours and other organizations: strengthening capacities of NGOs (strategic planning, fundraising, PR, etc.), non-violent communication, conflict solving, human rights and gender equality. This is the way hCa Banja Luka promotes its aims and policies to other social groups which are not directly involved in projects. It also contributes to financial sustainability of the organization.

ACHIEVEMENTS

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESULTS OF HELSINKI CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY BANJALUKA 1996 – 2014

Since its establishment in 1996 to this date, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly implemented more than 60 projects at a local and regional level targeted at empowerment of various marginalized groups for more active engagement in public and political life. We would like to stress out our most significant achievements:

1. Organizing the first post-war youth gathering in BiH and establishing Youth Network of BiH which is still active with over 1000 members, youth organizations and individuals;
2. Establishing an Academy for young political leaders, men and women (the Academy is nowadays in charge of "Perpetuum Mobile", a Banjaluka-based NGO;
3. Support to registration of Alliance of National Minorities of Republic of Srpska and successful advocating of the Law on the Rights of National Minorities in RS;
4. Initiating of start-up of a special show on RTRS public broadcaster (it is a show called Bono Home which is not broadcasted anymore on RT RS while the show "Korijeni", dedicated to national minorities issues and nowadays broadcasted once a month on radio of Republic of Srpska);
5. Raising an issue and discussion about discriminatory item "Others" in the Constitution of BiH;
6. Advocating and support of founding an Alliance of National Minorities as a special advisory body of National Assembly of Republic of Srpska;
7. Initiating and signing the Memorandum on cooperation between Banjaluka and Pula (Memorandum was signed on March 28th, 2011) with the aim of promoting multiculturalism, intercultural dialogue and improvement of trans border cooperation between national minorities rights);
8. Youth campaign „Give us back our spaces“ in which we took an active participation and which resulted in allocating the space to youth organizations in 11 municipalities in BiH (2000);
9. In cooperation with City Administration of Banja Luka, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka set up a Bulletin of City of Banjaluka which is nowadays printed once a month.
10. Participation in advocating actions regarding the adoption of the Law on Gender Equality 2003;
11. Analysis of enforcement of the Law on Gender Equality from the aspect of court practice and based on analysis in 2009, initiating of bringing changes and amendments of the Law on Gender Equality (our most important amendment that was adopted and fitted into changes and amendments of the Law refers to obligatory of state bodies at all levels of authorities and bodies of local self-management to ensure the representation of 40% of one of the genders in management, decision-making and representation);
12. Participation in preparation of BiH Gender Action Plan;
13. Coordination and creation of the Alternative Report on CEDAW Implementation and the state of women's human rights in BiH for the year 2010 (the report was presented to CEDAW Committee in Geneva in July 2013);
14. Initiating and creating (in cooperation with women's NGOs in BiH) of the Platform of Women's

Priorities for constitutional changes with amendments to the BiH Constitution from gender perspective (2013). Amendments were sent to the Board of the House of Representation of Parliamentary Assembly of BiH for consideration;

15. Delivery of amendments to the RS Family Law with the aim of defining the category single "parent" in legal text in accordance with real situation on ground and needs of single parents, initiating the foundation of Alimony Fund in RS (changes and amendments of the Law Family have not been on agenda of parliament's procedure;
16. Signing the Memorandum on cooperating with RS Employment Bureau aimed at empowerment of position of single mothers at market of labor (signed in June 2012);
17. Participation in „Global Media Monitoring 2005 (GMMP)” in which, except BiH, 75 countries took part;
18. As a member of BiH Coalition of NGOs „Working and Succeeding Together“ we worked on creating the Agreement on Cooperation between the BiH Council of Ministers and NGO sector in BiH“, “Strategy of BiH NGO Sector Development“, “Code for BiH NGO Sector“ and “Standards of Service Quality between the BiH Council of Ministers and NGO sector in BiH“.
19. Establishing the Journalist Award “Srđan Aleksić” for professional and engaged reporting on marginalized groups in BiH (since 2011 we organized three awarding ceremonies and since September 2013 this Award is the “ownership“ of BiH Peace Building Network);
20. Establishing the Women's Political Academy for young women from political parties and civil society organizations (in the beginning of 2014 there was enrolled the second generation of the Academy's attendees);
21. Initiating and establishing the BiH Women's Alternative Government as an informal body on political scene of BiH (the Government was officially promoted in autumn 2012);
22. Nominating Slađana Ujić, a member of the BiH Women's Alternative Government and president of the SNOP association for “Award for Women's Creativity in Rural Life“ (Slađana Ujić is the first woman from BiH who received this important award and recognition);
23. Networking and strengthening capacities of the least 100 civil society organizations in BiH by education and small grants allocation;
24. Selection to perform the function of Peace Building Network Secretariat;
25. As our achievements we would also like to state many researches and analysis we worked on which resulted in publishing 35 publications available at our web site. According to available server data, the greatest number of visits refers to section Publications and downloading available publications.
26. Owning a library with over 2000 books in fields of women's human rights, violence/non violence, philosophy, political sciences, LGBT, human rights, which all can be borrowed and served as resources for analysis and writing scientific papers in humanities.
27. Through informal coalition of NGOs, we supported the preparation and writing of Shadow Report on BiH Progress for 2013: http://cps.ba/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/SHADOW-REPORT_final.pdf

Program area:

Strengthening civil society and transfor- mation of public authorities into citizens' service

The goals of this program area are building and strengthening democracy by raising awareness of citizens about democratic goals and principles, encouraging citizens to start up different initiatives and participate in decision-making at all levels of authorities. Through various activities within this program area we make attempts to establish as better as possible cooperation between citizens and institutions of authorities.

Within the program area in 2013 we completed the project „Recipes for peace“, we began the completion of the project „IN – Implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities“ and „PRO Future“ and continued the completion of project „X-Press II: Social Inclusion through Media“.

RECIPES FOR PEACE

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka has completed, in the course of the other half of 2013, "Recipes for peace" which was financially supported by the Embassy of United States of America in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project was designed for promotion of culture of dialogue and multiculturalism through cooperation and connecting young people from four towns of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

ACTIVITIES:

- Within the project there were 3 camps for 40 young people from Jajce, Milići, Mrkonjić Grad and Kladanj. Except educational workshops from intercultural education, discrimination, on-line activism and gender equality, the participants had an opportunity to express their stances through a set of creative workshops of photography, painting and peace recipes writing.
- The first camp was held in Plivska jezera from July 4 – 7 and it gathered 26 young boys and girls aged 14 to 25 from Mrkonjić Grad and Jajce, while the second camp hosted 20 young people of the same age from Bratunac, Milići, Bosanska Krupa, Sarajevo and Srebrenica. The participants of both camps met together at a final activity in Banjaluka in the end of November when they were given certificates of "Cook book for peace". The conference in Banjaluka was specific because participants had a chance to talk with veterans of the last war from ReMi Network by using "Human library" method.
- All three activities were full of various debates, films and volunteer-based actions contributing to communication and trust building among young people from these towns.



Conference in Banjaluka, November 2013.

- On-line community for exchanging not only information about project's activities but other useful details and thoughts.
- One of the results of joint time and learning was the creation of publication containing recipes for peace.
- Besides project's activities, the project was presented at grant fair of the US Embassy in September 2013 at which, except our organization, were 50 organizations from the whole country.

Kuhar za mir

Kolačići mira

5 šoljica ljubavi
 5 šoljica bratstva
 5 šoljica sestrinstva
 5 šoljica prijateljstva
 4 šoljice ekonomske sigurnosti
 Govor mržnje
 Nepoštovanje
 2 supene kašike korupcije
 Sloboda
 Poštovanje

U kipuću vodu dodati 2 supene kašike korupcije
 i kuhati na temperaturi od 100 stepeni
 dok se isparavanjem ne dobiju 4 šoljice ekonomske sigurnosti.
 Zatim isključiti i sačekati dok se smjesa ne ohladi.
 Nakon što se smjesa ohladila dodati po 5 šoljica
 ljubavi, bratstva, sestrinstva i prijateljstva.
 Sastojke treba miješati dok se ne dobije čvrsta, jedinstvena masa.
 Dobijenu smjesu oblikovati kalupom poštovanja.
 Dobijene kolačiće peći na 200 stepeni 10 minuta.
 Nakon 10 minuta izvaditi kolačiće,
 te ih po izboru posuti prelivom od slobode.
 Poslužiti bez govora mržnje i nepoštovanja uz laganu smirujuću muziku
 i čitajući lagano štivo o očuvanju prirode.



*"Mir ne znači odsustvo sukoba, razlike će uvijek biti tu.
 Mir znači rješavati razlike mirnim putem, kroz
 razgovore, obrazovanjem, znanjem i na human način"*



RESULTS:

- 40 young people from Jajce, Mrkonjić Grad, Milići, Bratunac, Srebrenica, Sarajevo and Bosanska Krupa were introduced with concepts of intercultural learning, equality and non-discrimination and models of on-line activism.
- Established cooperation with organizations "Youth Centre Jajce", "Centre" Mrkonjić Grad, Association of citizens "Odysseus" Bratunac and Association of Citizens "Equality" Milići.
- On-line community, established during the project, continues to work and connect both participants of the camps and other young people from the country and region.
- Published and distributed publication "Recipes for Peace" composed of series of recipes that were made by participants of the camps.

PROJECT IN

In the beginning of July 2013 in cooperation with "UDAS" Organization of the Amputees, Alliance of Associations of Mentally Impaired Persons of RS, Alliance of Paraplegic and diseased from children paralysis of Federation of BiH and Association of the Blind Persons of Sarajevo Canton, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka started to complete a two-year long project titled "IN – Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in BiH".

The aim of the project is to contribute to equal integration of persons with disabilities into social processes and provide a unique exercising of rights and freedoms of persons with disabilities in the whole BiH. The purpose of the project is to improve living conditions of persons with disabilities through harmonization of domestic legislative with the UN Convention, strengthening capacities of organizations of persons with disabilities, its networking and affirmation of concept of the human rights as the main approach in solving issues of persons with disabilities.

ACTIVITIES:

- In the beginning of the project's completion there was the first **meeting in Sarajevo with partner organizations** aimed at agreeing on realization of project's activities, share of obligations and responsibility and signing the Protocol on cooperation.
- Establishing of **working groups for analysis of BiH legislation harmonization with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in BiH** in 5 areas (social protection, health, education, employment, culture and sport) and the first meeting of working groups held in October in Banjaluka. The aim of the meeting was to create methodology for analyzing BiH legislation, selection of legal acts which will be subjected to analysis and share of responsibility and obligations within working groups.
- Aimed at organizing as efficient as possible trainings for representatives of organizations for persons with disabilities there was established a **Team for trainings** whose task at **joint meeting in Banjaluka** was to create methodology of work on trainings, chose criteria for training participants criteria, make a list of organizations of persons with disabilities who may participate at trainings, creating an application form and budget to be used at trainings and evaluations of allocated grants.
- **Web page of IN Project** was open – www.ukljuci.in with regular exchange of information and news relevant for persons with disabilities. Except regular reports on realization of project activities, various documents and publications such as laws, strategies, action plans and policies referring to the rights of persons with disabilities can also be found at this web page. A special column is designed for the Council for Persons with disabilities as the main coordination body in charge of monitoring the UN Convention implementation.
- Holding the **tenth meeting of the Council for persons with disabilities was held and the first one within the IN project**. Members of the Council discussed about preparation of report for 2013 as well as thorough monitoring of the implementation of the Policy in the field of disabilities, entities' strategies and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the purpose of which were formed working groups. Part of the meeting was dedicated to creating operative plan for 2014 and planning promotional activities of the Council. Support to the work of the Council for Persons with Disabilities in BiH as of July 2013 has been provided within the IN project.
- With the aim of better visibility was made the **promotional material** of the IN project which includes folders, bags, mugs, pencils and notes. The material will be used for all activities of the project such as trainings, meetings, etc. Within **promotional activities of the Council for Persons with Disabilities in BiH** were made **promotional flyers** with description of

activities and field of work of the Council. The flyers were distributed during marking December 3rd, International Day of Persons with Disabilities in Sarajevo, Brčko District and Banja Luka.

- **The first out of ten planned trainings for representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities with topic “Writing project proposals and creating local action plans in field of disability”** was held from December 13 – 15, 2013 in Banjaluka. At a training participated 18 participants who had an opportunity to gain new knowledge about writing projects and get introduction about procedures regarding bringing local action plans in disability field. The aim of the training was to strengthen capacities of persons with disabilities, in particular, those from smaller local communities who as yet had no opportunity to take part at similar activities.



Training “Writing project proposals” in Banjaluka, December 13 – 15, 2013

- Of activities out of the project plan we emphasize 6 presentations of IN project during organization of various activities for persons with disabilities, 4 meetings with entities’ ministries aimed at expanding cooperation and involvement of government institutions into the project. Except it, several meetings were organized with other organizations implementing projects for persons with disabilities or have similar activities with the aim of establishing a cooperation and synergy between the projects.

RESULTS:

- Signed are protocols on cooperation with partner organizations through which were defined the obligations and responsibilities during realization of project activities.
- Setting up a web page of project - www.ukljuci.in with relevant information for persons with disabilities.
- Forming of working groups for analysis of harmonization of BiH legislation with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities in 5 fields (health, social protection, employment, education, sport and culture); establishing a methodology of analysis and selected the laws that will be included into analysis.
- Agreed methodology for organizing a training titled “Writing project proposals and making local action plans in field of disability” which defined the plan and program of training, criteria for selection of participants/organizations, application form and budget to be used at

trainings as well as for grant allocation within the project and way of monitoring and evaluation of allocated grants.

- At the first meeting of the Council for persons with disabilities were formed working groups for making reports for the previous year and creating operative plan for 2014.
- At the first training held in Banjaluka 20 representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities acquired the knowledge about writing project proposals and process of making and applying local action plan in field of disability.
- Agreed the cooperation in principle with several entities' ministries and organizations of persons with disabilities.

PLANS FOR 2014

In 2014 the plan is to continue with all project activities such as: to hold trainings titled "Writing project proposals" for organizations of persons with disabilities, to go forward with grants allocation for organizations of persons with disabilities, a follow-up of analysis of harmonization of BiH legislation with the UN Convention, to hold public discussions and finalize analysis with specific recommendations for changes and amendments of laws. It is also planned to work on creating strategy of effective model of cooperation of organizations of persons with disabilities for the purpose of which there will be 3 workshops for representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities. Within the support of the Council for persons with BiH disabilities, there will be minimum 4 meetings of the Council.

X – PRESS II: SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH MEDIA

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka, in partnership with Sarajevo-based Foundation "Cure" Continued the realization of project "X-Press II – Social Inclusion through Media" in 2013 aimed at sensitizing the media for reporting about marginalized and vulnerable groups in our society. The intention of the project is to impact on media to report more often and in a professional way about marginalized and vulnerable groups and its associations and also to impact on relevant institutions to improve public policies towards these categories of population.

ACTIVITIES:

- In the course of 2013 we organized **20 brunches with journalists** in Sarajevo, Banjaluka and Tuzla. At sessions we talked about topics not being covered enough in the media such as problems of young people and women in BiH society, persons with disabilities, single parents, violence issues, hate speech, environment, etc.
- We held **4 IT trainings** in Zenica, Tuzla, Bihać and Konjic at which members of NGOs and the media had an opportunity to acquire knowledge about use of new information communication technologies such as web applications, Face Book, Twitter and various tools for connecting and easy use of web generally speaking.
- We organized **4 workshops for students of Journalism and Communicology** in Istočno Sarajevo, Mostar and Sarajevo about professional reporting about marginalized and vulnerable groups. Students had an opportunity to hear what marginalized groups are, how these people are portrayed in the media and how reporting should be like, concepts about socially – responsible journalism and talk to experienced journalists.
- We held a **conference on professional and ethical standards in reporting about marginalized and vulnerable groups** that gathered 46 representatives of NGOs, media and media experts. Within this two-day long conference, we held the **third awarding of "Srđan Aleksić"** for "professional reporting about marginalized and vulnerable groups". 10 TV and radio stories and 21 web and press stories received at vacancy. Five journalists were awarded by the Jury's decision. In category of print media, two first awards were given to Fahrudin Bender, a journalist of "Oslobođenje" from Bihać and Danka Savić from "Slobodna Bosna". The first category in web portal was given to Mladen Lakić, a journalist of novinar.me portal while the second award went to Đorđe Vujatović, a journalist from RTRS web portal. The second award for TV story was given to Enisa Alibalić, a journalist of RTV and Tuzla canton.



- Also, in 2013 was open **competition for selection of the best photos** with topic “Marginalized and vulnerable groups in BiH”. That is why we organized **6 exhibitions** about marginalized groups in Sarajevo and Banjaluka which were exceptionally visited. Based on voting of audience, 12 best photos were selected and they will be printed in **Calendar for the year 2014**.



- Within actions of media visibility, a day-long program at an ex – industrial site “Incel” we marked the International **Day of the Human Rights**. With a series of activities we pointed out the continuous breach of human rights in BiH. Participants of debate titled “Human Rights in Balkans way” reminded of laws and international documents being broken most frequently in BiH. In cooperation with Banjaluka “Kratkofil” we presented short documentaries about human rights in BiH.
- In this year we had the open Call for delivery of project proposals titled “Marginalized Groups and media” within which we allocated **12 small grants** for 12 organizations and their media partners dealing with young people, persons with disabilities, women and returnees issues. Their projects will be implemented by March 31st, 2014.
- In cooperation with media analytic Davor Marko we created the **methodology for media reporting monitoring** about marginalized and vulnerable groups in BiH and monitored 12 media in BiH. **Analysis of media content in BiH**, i.e. media monitoring about marginalized groups (women, national minorities and persons with disabilities) we got printed 500 copies on the basis of two-month long media monitoring.

RESULTS:

- About 100 journalists attended the “brunches with journalists” at which was discussed about current topics and issues of various marginalized groups in our society. Over a hundred of stories were published from these “brunches with journalists” in BiH media.
- More than 100 students of Journalism and Communicology in Sarajevo, Mostar and Istočno Sarajevo were introduced with concept of socially – responsible journalism and marginalized groups.

- Through 4 IT trainings about 60 representatives of civil society organizations and the media acquired the knowledge about on-line media, functioning social groups and connecting on-line and off-line activism.
- For the third time, journalist awards “Srđan Aleksić” for professional reporting about marginalized and vulnerable groups were given.
- Journalist award “Srđan Aleksić” for continuous reporting about marginalized groups became “ownership” of BiH Peace Building Network which organized the first journalist awarding for Edina Fazlić, a journalist of TV Tuzla canton.
- The Calendar for 2014 with selected photos witnessing about position of various marginalized groups in our society was distributed to relevant institutions at entity and state level.

PLANS FOR 2014:

In 2014 we enter the final stage of the project “X-Press II – Social Inclusion through Media”. It is planned to organize 12 brunches with journalists, two workshops for students and sum up results of small grants allocation to CSOs and the media by June 30th. Also, the plan is to hold meetings with owners, managers and editors-in-chief who we intend to inform about results of media monitoring and give suggestions for advancement of ethical journalist codes to create a sensible public for issues of marginalized and vulnerable groups.

PRO BUDUĆNOST – RECONCILIATION, UNDERSTANDING, RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUTURE

Catholic Relief Service (CRS), in partnership with “Mozaik” Foundation, Caritas of Bishops Conference in BiH, Forum of citizens Tuzla and Helsinki Citizens’ Assembly Banjaluka, implements a four-year long project aimed at building of reconciliation and trust amongst the citizens of all ethnic groups in BiH. The aim of the project is to have BiH citizens, encouraged with key social actors, advocating for social changes.

In order to accomplish this goal, the project will work with citizens so that they accept alternative, political and historical courses and encourage the key influential actors to support local initiatives of reconciliation.

“PRO Budućnost” will operate in 30 municipalities with the aim of building peace inside and amongst communities that are divided by entities lines. A special focus will be given to young people, women and minorities who will have an opportunity to participate at trainings, peace camps and conferences and other events so that an impact of these groups to social changes is to increased to the maximum and solid foundations for reconciliation built.

Young people, victims of war, women, minorities and civil society will have an opportunity to work jointly through actions and by small grants to be allocated by “PRO Budućnost”.

Peace Building Network will have a key role in promotion, achievement and coordination of a broad specter of project’s activities.

Inside the project and at a level of the state will be formed the Supervisor Committee. In selected 30 municipalities will be formed municipal working groups which will make foundations of support and consensus inside local communities.

The peak of this four-year plan will be the Platform for peace building, a map of road to be created by citizens and which will present the foundation for laws to contribute to development of the country of all ethnic groups to advocate with solidarity for social changes.

The project “PRO Budućnost” is funded by USAID and the completion of the project began in October 2013 with a meeting of partner organizations, establishing a method of project results monitoring and opening a Call for municipalities to get involved into the project.

Program area:

Advocacy for gender equality

The general goal of the program area is reduction of all forms of gender discrimination and creation of environment in which women and men have equal opportunities. We complete it by networking and supporting initiatives related to gender issues, empowerment of women who are the greatest marginalized group in public and political life, education of women and men about issues of gender equality, trainings for women to develop various skills, campaigns, researches and analysis of public policies.

Within program area in 2013 we completed the projects "Woman and Law Today 17", "Women's Side of Politics" and started "Women's side of Politics II".

WOMAN AND LAW TODAY 17

The project Woman and Law Today is completed in partnership between Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka and Foundation "Udružene žene" Banja Luka aimed at diminishing all forms of gender-based discrimination and creating environment in which women and men have equal opportunities.

Over the last seventeen years the project has been funded by Swedish foundation Kvinna till Kvinna and the focus in 2013 was on women victims of violence, increasing women's political participation, development of strategic approach for improving women's position and advancement of gender equality by local communities as well as articulating women's stands regarding the change of the BiH Constitution.

ACTIVITIES:

- 8 visits to newly - elected mayors/presidents of local assemblies of Gradiška, Kozarska Dubica, Prijedor, Mrkonjić Grad, Prnjavor, Laktaši, Novi Grad and Srbac,
- One workshop of strategic planning with mayors/ m/f and presidents of 8 local assemblies, one workshop at topic of "Priorities of women in processes of reform of BiH Constitution", forming a working group for creating women's platform and amendments to the BiH Constitution,
- 8 presentations of "Platform of women's priorities for constitutional changes with amendments to the BiH Constitution from gender perspective" in Sarajevo, Banjaluka, Tuzla, Bratunac, Modrica and Zenica.



Presentation of "Platform of women's priorities for constitutional changes with amendments to the BiH Constitution from gender perspective" in Parliament of BiH, 22 October 2013

- 2 round tables about gender-based violence with focus on funding safe houses for women, victims of domestic violence,
- 2 workshops "Basics of development of skills for young women politicians and women interested in political participation",
- Continuous monitoring of adoption, changes, amendments and enforcement of laws and public policies in field of protection of women's human rights and gender equality.

RESULTS:

- 74 representatives m/f of executive and legislative authorities in 8 BiH local assemblies introduced with importance of gender responsible budgets and funding safe houses;
- 18 representatives of local legislation and executive power created a strategic approach to improvement of women and advancement of gender equality within their local communities;
- Representatives of academic community, international officials, students m/f and representatives of civil society organizations introduced with importance of gender-responsible Constitution of BiH and "Platform of women's priorities for constitutional changes to the BiH Constitution from gender perspective";
- Contributed to Commission to accomplish gender equality in House of Representative of BiH Parliamentary Assembly for sending gender-responsible amendments to the Boards of House of Representative of BiH for procedure;
- 31 young politician women acquired knowledge from public advocacy, public presentation and women's human rights;
- Advanced communication with media and sensitize the public about importance of women's participation in constitutional reform.

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2014:

In 2014 within the project there will be organized a new series of working visits to gender equality commissions in 7 municipalities (Gradiška, Kozarska Dubica, Prijedor, Mrkonjić Grad, Prnjavor, Laktaši, Novi Grad); one advance workshop of development of skills for young women politicians interested in political participation, 3 workshops for capacities building for women politicians, candidates to forthcoming elections, workshops of planning promotional material with which women's organizations will support women candidates at parliamentary elections in October 2014. During the project, we will continue, like by now, to maintain continuum in monitoring the adoption and enforcement of laws and public policies in the field of protection of women's human rights and gender equality.

INTEGRAL SECURITY

A representative of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Svjetlana Marković took part at a week-long training for trainers about Integral security from September 1 – 7, 2013 in Kazbegi, Georgia. She took part there together with representatives of NGOs, supported by KtK, from BiH, Serbia, Macedonia and countries of southern and northern Caucasus.

The goal of the training was to get introduction with concept of integral security and acquiring skills of training in this field to create the possibility of holding trainings and transfer knowledge to individuals and organizations about this topic.

After the first training, participants held mini trainings about it in their communities. The second part of the training is planned in 2014 with intention to provide additional knowledge to trainers in this field.



Training in Georgia „Integrated security“

NEW GENERATIONS OF WOMEN ACTIVISTS

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly was the organizer of networking meeting of organizations, funded by Kvinna till Kvinna foundation from December 9 -12, 2013. The title of the meeting was “New generation of women activists” and was attended by representatives of 11 organizations from entire BiH, members of KtK foundation as well as guests from Croatia and Serbia.

The goal of the meeting was networking of new generations of women activists, identifying challenges that new generations of activists face with and introduction with models and ways of overcoming barriers that can occur by withdrawing older activists women, mainly founders of organizations. Also, other topics discussed about at this meeting were introduction with concept “integral security”, considering options of more active engagement of men and more efficient use of new technologies in every day work and strengthening the roles of younger activists inside women's movement in general.

As one of the main challenges that younger women activists face was identified the lack of clear strategies for integration of new “powers” in organizations and the lack of trust into possibilities and capacities of younger women activists. Through panel discussion with the title “Shift of generations and transitions inside organizations” participants discussed specific shifts of generations in women's NGOs both in BiH and the region. At a workshop about Integral security participants were introduced with the significance of the term, different levels of security and models of applying so they can ensure good and safe working conditions for themselves and the organization and bear every day obstacles at work. At the meeting was talked about importance of men's involvement and more efficient applying of new communication technologies in activism.



Networking meeting „New generation of activists“

TRAINING “FACING THE PAST”

Members of hCa BL participated at the training “Facing the past” in Banja Vrućica from April 5- 11. The training was organized by Association “Horizonti” Tuzla and “Lara” organization of women from Bijeljina.

The aim of the training was to empower women to get involved into peace process of BiH taking into account that peace and non-violence are the topics that citizens, men and women of this society should talk about actively regardless of age, gender or ethnic belonging. After basic training, participants had additional training for facilitating workshops about facing the past after which representatives of academia, young and political parties passed the knowledge about reconciliation and importance of facing the past.



Involvement of women into peace process in BiH is crucial for building the peace on principles of equality of all citizens. Only by being active, women and children who have been exposed to sexual and any other form of violence can achieve satisfaction and understanding. By women taking part, peace building will have aspects of demilitarization of social conscience and deconstruction of patriarchal society which are the key process for building tolerance and non-violence. Peace and non-violence are the fundamental values of all movements for women's rights whose followers we are. At the same time, peace is the key contextual frame for completion of all other aims related to gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence and discrimination of women.

WOMEN'S SIDE OF POLITICS

A two-year project "Women's Side of Project" whose aim is to empower women in political parties, especially in management structures, and CSOs so that they can equally take part in decision-making processes and affirming the concept of gender equality in all parts of our society was completed in December 2013.

The two most important results of the project are the establishment of Women's Political Academy and BiH Women's Alternative Government.

The project was funded by Foundation of Open Society Institute.

ACTIVITIES:

- Within the Political Academy, there was held the third and last module titled "Gender and Power – Social Responsibility" in mid March with 25 attendees having the opportunity to listen to lectures and workshops about processing sexual violence before BiH Court, women's peace activism, monotheistic religious communities, gender budgeting and strengthening leaderships skills in local community, the relation between the woman and patriarchy from anthropological-historical aspect and development of women's movement in post-Dayton BiH.
- In the end of November we organized a final conference for the Academy to give certificates to the first generation of the Academy's attendees. The lecturer Nada Ler Sofronić, Ph.D. introduced the attendees about the beginning of feminism in the ex-Yugoslavia with a special focus on famous feminist conference "Comrade m/f" which took part in 1978 in Belgrade. She also talked about development of women's/gender studies in ex-Yugoslav countries.
- In February was held the strategic planning for ministers of the Women's Alternative Government to define the mission, vision and goals of the Women's Government and a drafts of two strategic documents such as Code of Rules of the Government and Ways of Communication. During the year, the Women's Government held three meetings at which, inter alia, it was decided to open a public call for donation allocation to women's organizations and individuals in rural and undeveloped parts of BiH, during which in total 62 requests for help were received.
- In March we nominated the minister for rural development in the Women's Alternative Government Slađana Ujić who founded, still the only, women's organization in Han Pijesak, Rogatica and Sokolac in 2005 for the Prize for women's creativity in rural life by Women's World Summit Foundation.
- During the year, alternative ministers wrote several public notifications and comments as their reaction to current social happenings in BiH.
- Within Reading forums there were held, like in the first project's year, 8 reading sessions in Banjaluka and Sarajevo at which we hosted famous names from journalism, academia and socio-political scene of BiH who talked about position of women and men, globalization, motherhood in neoliberal capitalism, transition, politics, etc.
- A group of 15 students from University of Sarajevo visited five NGOs in Banjaluka which are very active in improvement of women and youth position in this part of BiH on July 25 – 26.
- In the beginning of the year we opened the Public call for scholarship allocation for post - graduating students in universities of BiH in gender equality field. We have received 12 application forms from Master and Doctoral studies.
- We prepared and printed the Collection of paper works of the Women's Political Academy combining 18 lectures from the Academy.

- Via Face Book page of the Women's Political Academy, Women's Alternative Government and web site: www.zenskastranapolitike.hcabl.org we continued promoting the concept of gender equality and networking of women from politics, CSOs, academia and the media.

RESULTS:

- We have successfully “grown” the first generation of the Women's Political Academy which was organized through three modules with attendance of 25 attendees.



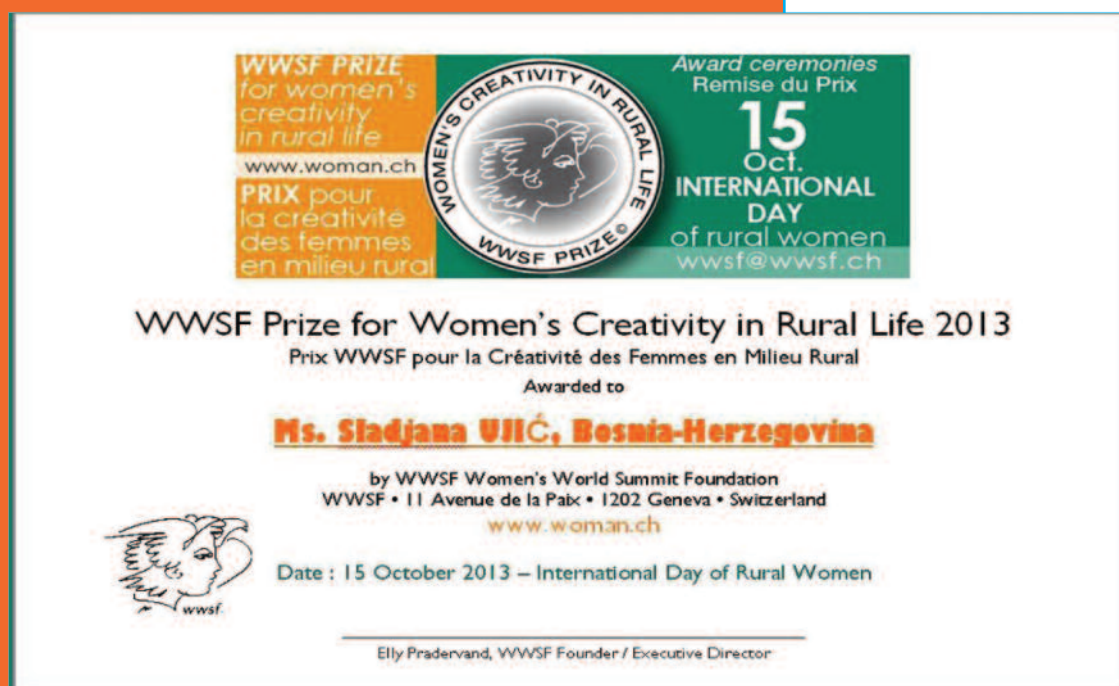
The first generation student of the Women's Political Academy

- The Collection of paper works of the Women's Political Academy that we prepared and published within the project certainly remains as an excellent literature for future generations of Academy's attendees and as one of the rare books of this kind in BiH which affirms the feminist theory and thinking about position and role of women in society as informal education.
- Women's Alternative Government of BiH supported, in total, 12 women's organizations and individuals from undeveloped and rural parts of BiH having allocated donations as support to their small projects for self-employment, employment and education. Thanks to training provided by the Women's Alternative Government, the Association of women “Izvor” from Sanski Most received the funds for the best written business plan. On the other hand, women of “Batkusa” got an offer for training by Gender centre of Republic of Srpska, also thanks to help of the Women's Government.
- Year-long efforts of Slađana Ujić for improvement of rural women have been awarded by World Women Summit Foundation with the Prize for women's creativity in rural life. She is the first woman from Bosnia and Herzegovina to have received this Prize in 2013.
- Having given 4 scholarships for making 2 Master and 2 Doctoral thesis in gender equality, we have contributed to scientific –research work in this field.

PRIZE FOR WOMEN'S CREATIVITY IN RURAL LIFE

Sladana Ujić, from village of Podgaj, Rogatica municipality is the woman who founded the Association of women "Snop" Rogatica in 2005, the only association that deals many women's issues in the three municipalities Rogatica, Han Pijesak and Sokolac. That determination and energy, no matter how hard life circumstances can be, are not just phrases, the completion of more than 15 projects is an evidence of it. Let us mention here just a few of them: adaptation of an old school building and water supplying system, purchasing 14 green houses and self-employment of women in that area, purchasing 3 weaving machines and start – up of a workshop to reaffirm women's handcraft and development of rural tourism to keep the rich peoples' tradition in that area. Except the projects, Sladana Ujić is active in many campaigns, initiating actions for better life of rural women. She even has time for her personal education. Sladana Ujić was born in the countryside and has been living there her entire life which qualifies her as the right person who knows the real life, problems and potentials of rural women. With her personal example, she showed and proved that the change of world begins in ourselves first. Although there were so many ups and downs on her life path, she was never abandoned by faith that things can be better.

In September 2012 Sladana Ujić was elected for minister for rural development in the BiH Women's Alternative Government. In 2013 she became the first woman from BiH who received the international Prize for women's creativity in rural life by World Summit Women's Foundation (www.woman.ch) which is one more confirmation that quality and dedication are always observed.



WOMEN'S SIDE OF POLITICS II

Activities of the Women's Side of Politics will be continued during 2014 thanks to financial support of the USA Embassy to BiH.

The project "Women's Side of Politics II" has officially started in October 2013 with the goal of strengthening and connecting women from various spheres of life, promoting women's expert potentials and affirming the concept of gender equality in all fields.

ACTIVITIES:

- Opened a Public call for enrollment of the second attendees of the Women's Political Academy II from November 25 till December 25, 2013 which was sent to representatives of political parties and NGOs within which we received close to 50 application forms of young women and girls interested from all parts of BiH.
- Aimed at strengthening the capacities of the Women's Alternative Government of BiH, there was held the first training of the Women's Government in Banjaluka from November 21 – 23, 2013 at which 8 young girls, the attendees of the first generation of the Women's Academy, joined the Government at status of assistants. At the training were agreed the ways of internal communication and future joint activities.
- Face Book of the Women's Government, <https://www.facebook.com/ZAVBiH?ref=hl> was made and is administered by one of the Women's Government's assistants.
- In accordance with determination of the Government to join and mark, in its capacities, important international days, the Women's Government made a public notification titled "Zero Tolerance for Violence against Girls" on October the 11 – International Day of the Girls.

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2014:

In 2014 within the project there will be organized the following activities: three modules of the Women's Political Academy of which one will be on-line; working meetings of the Women's Alternative Government and visits of its members to women mayors in 5 municipalities, the Club of Women Parliament members of Federation of BiH and CSOs; two study visits to Women's Government in Serbia and Regional Women's Lobby; small grants allocation to attendees of the Women's Political Academy in their communities and creating the data base of women's expert potentials in BiH.



Training of Women's alternative Government B&H, November 21-23, 2013 in Banja Luka

Program area:

Creating conditions for more intensive inclusion of young people into public life.

The goals of the program area are the creation of assumptions for more intensive inclusion of young people into public life, empowerment and connecting young people by interest area for more active participation in public life as well as increasing the young people in political life. We complete it in three education activities, campaigns, analysis of young people position in various socio fields and promotion of young activists.

VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

In the course of 2013 hCa continued to work on its volunteering program trying to keep up a broader network of volunteers, male and female, interested in work at the organization. In September we have received a new volunteer from Germany, Nico Stubbe who stays with us for a year. During the summer we had a volunteer from France, Nesrine Aissani. Again, we organized a course of German language as well as a series of workshops for volunteers. Like the year before, we took part in marking the International Volunteering Day in Banjaluka and program "Youth in Action" including seminars and educational workshop of other CSOs.

WORKSHOPS FOR VOLUNTEERS

In January 2013 hCa organized workshops for our volunteers about writing a CV, an article in newspaper and project proposals.

Education of volunteers continued in April and May by holding a series of workshops titled "Colored Glasses" ran by Lina Hegemann, our volunteer from Germany. At these creative workshops participants learnt more about terms of culture, sub-culture, stereotypes, discrimination and ethno-centrism. The goal was to promote the inter-cultural understanding. The idea was to have these workshops as participative so that participants could experience some of aspects of cross-cultural interaction as well as to understand feelings and experiences of people who face it on every day basis, in real life.

Besides, these, volunteers of hCa took part at series of workshops which were held during March on Wednesdays at office of "Perpetuum Mobile". We had our volunteers Nikolina Kunić, Nikolina Čeko and Ivana Stanković who were lecturers at these activities. More precisely, they presented these topics: "Young Ambassadors of Reconciliation", "Colored Glasses" and "Public Appearance".

HUMANITARIAN ACTION - KARAOKE PARTY

Volunteers of hCa Banjaluka, helped by resources of "Random Acts of Kindness" organized a big humanitarian karaoke party on June 14, 2013 in "Index". The goal was to collect books for library of the Rada Vranješević orphanage which lacks books minding the number of its users. Volunteers have made a great effort in making the party successful so many visitors enjoyed the music and danced to their favorite hits of domestic and foreign music. The entry to the party was only 2 KM or, even better, instead of ticket, visitors could bring book what made collecting books for the library much easier. Finally, 130 books were donated to the library which was another unselfish dedication and readiness to help of our volunteers



MILLION SEEDLINGS FOR A DAY!

A volunteer action of seedlings called "Let's Do It – A million of Seedlings for a Day", organized by the Ruke Association from Sarajevo and "Mozaik prijateljstva" also from Banjaluka, was held on October 31 across BiH. A volunteer from Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Nico Stubbe, together with 80 other participants, planted the seedlings near Čelinac. The idea for the action "Let's Do It – A Million of Seedlings for a Day" came out from knowing that BiH does not care about forests as one of the greatest natural resources in our country. Forests are being illegally cut every day, they are not protected systematically from pathogen and other damaging insects, with no efficient against-fire protection. Every year we have fires causing million-cost damages. Great amount of forests are covered in mines (more than 100.000 hectares).



A WEEK-END OF ACTIVISM

Although very successful at their actions, volunteers of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka are very keen on taking part at activities of other organizations. They took part in series of workshops organized within event "Week-end of Activism" by "Oštra nula" association on September 7-8, 2013. The aim of the workshops was to introduce young people about non-violent and socially-responsible activism.

CENSUS MONITOR



Cooperation with the Oštra nula association of citizens will be continued by completing their action called "Census Monitor". The goal of this action is to inform population about census scheduled for October 2014. Volunteers distributed leaflets and there were information stands. Cooperation with volunteers of the Oštra nula was successful and many inhabitants were informed about details of census.

DELIBLATO – RECONCILIATOR

Volunteers of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka participated at a training called "Reconciliatory" in Deliblato, Serbia from June 3 – 11, 2013 as part of the program "Youth in Action". 36 participants from 6 countries (Macedonia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Turkey and Croatia) took part. Topics learnt and discussed about were related about reconciliation and facing the past given the fact these are the primary conditions for future cooperation and joint progress of European countries. At lectures and creative workshop was talked about prejudices, the lack of "real" information, interpretation of media, the lack of communication between authorities and people.



TRAINING SEMINAR "PATH FOR BETTER FUTURE"

Volunteers Nikolina Gavrić and Nikolina Čeko represented our organization on training seminar "Path for better future" held in Deliblato, Serbia from 9th to 16th of July. Organizers were „Young Europeans of Serbia “from Belgrade and seminar was part of European program "Youth in action". As program partners, organizations from several countries (Estonia, FYR Macedonia, Italy, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania) had an opportunity to send their representatives. Topic was minorities, their position in Europe and problems and constitutional obstacles they face. Participants tried to make concrete suggestions on how to involve civil society in minorities' issues through interactive workshops, simulations and discussions. Besides being educational, a seminar



was also based on promotion and respects of interculturalism and each organization had a chance to present part of their tradition and culture to other participants. One of program days was aimed for organizations promotion, so our volunteers presented work of hCa, our projects, activities, and emphasized importance this organization has for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG LEADERS, ACTIVISTS AND FEMINISTS



Helsinki Citizens Assembly volunteers Nikolina Gavrić and Nikolina Kunić participated at Regional conference “Sustainability strategy four young leaders, activists and feminists”, held in Sarajevo from 10th to 13th of September. The goal of the conference was to familiarize young women with main characteristics of feminism as well as with gender inequality issues and woman’s role on this territory. Young leaders had an opportunity to find out how they can influence positive social changes and to gain leading role in setting better and more equal society. Young activist exchanged their experiences and attitudes with peers from region and attended lectures of extraordinary professionals in this field. One of the conferences’ goals was to motivate and encourage young women to set concrete conclusions and suggestions on what their future work and activities should be based, and how they can connect and achieve regional co-operation.

REGIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE “YOUTH FOR BALKANS”

Regional peace conference of West Balkans youth, organized by Youth Center AUCTUS, was held in October in Banja Luka. Its goal was experience exchange between young peace activists from West Balkans, and connection with European youth council. Helsinki citizens’ assembly was presented by volunteers Nico Stubbe and Nikolina Kunić who promoted our engagement in the fields of gender equality, media cooperation and youth integration. A representative of the Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo, Meno Etma pointed that the aim of the conference was to connect young people from the region and set cooperation and trough reconciliation process. According to him, there is a great chance for success when young people start initiative.



GERMAN LANGUAGE CLASSES

HCA volunteer Nico Stubbe started with German language course on 11th of November. He has seven students and works on improving their vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Our colleague from Germany says that after completion of the course, participants will be able to cope in different everyday situations and to speak German!

FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM

Our volunteers gave their contribution to world campaign “European week against racism” and made a photography collage on 21st of March that traveled the world through UNITED network. With this gesture Helsinki Citizens' Assembly showed that fighting against all forms of discrimination is an imperative in our work and together with more than 100.000 people from over 48 organizations across Europe strongly said NO to racism.



E – VOLUNTEERING

Cultural youth center- Bitola organized E-volunteering training course from 7th to 14th of April for 20 activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia and Turkey. Helsinki citizens' assembly was presented by our volunteer Lina Hegemann. During workshops participants gained knowledge from the fields of volunteers' management, efficient web tools usage and social media. Besides adopting new methods like Human library, participants got chance to connect and continue networking.



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING

Besides Nico and Lina from Germany, who volunteered in hCa based on cooperation agreement between our organization and German Friedenskreis Halle from Halle, during the summer of 2013th we have had a volunteer from France Nesrine Aissani. She came on exchange program organized by French NGO European Citizens' Assembly and worked with us on preparation of Sarajevo Peace Event 2014. Her bright spirit and guitar playing skills have instantly drawn her to our team, which besides hard work, knows exactly how to have fun.



Nesrine Aissani with her guitar on farewell party organized by Lina Hege-mann

PEACE EVENT SARAJEVO 2014

Helsinki citizens' assembly Banja Luka is one of Bosnian organizations included in organization of Peace event that is going to be organized in Sarajevo from 6th to 9th of June named "From world of war and violence to culture of peace and nonviolence". During 2013th numerous meetings with national as well as international organizations were held, and it has been decided that the main 5 topics of this event are going to be "Peace and social justice", "Culture of peace and nonviolence", "Gender equality, women and peace", "Reconciliation and confronting past" and "Militarism and its alternatives". It is also agreed that in addition to international forums (plenary sessions, workshops, round tables) Peace event is going to offer numerous cultural activities (exhibitions, plays, movies, street games), as well as the youth camp. We expect several thousands of visitors, and you can find out more on <http://www.peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu/>.

CONTRIBUTION TO VOLUNTEERISM PROMOTION

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka received a letter of gratitude for the contribution the project "Get a job volunteering, volunteer to be hired." Conference held on 30th of March was attended with plentiful guests from East Sarajevo, Bijeljina, Doboj and Banja Luka along with representatives of Education and culture Ministry of RS, Council of Peoples and different NGO's. Conference was organized by Youth communication center Banja Luka within project that aimed at encouraging students to work voluntarily and gain experience in addition to collecting ECTS points through engagement in local NGO's. Within this project we hosted 10 volunteers, mainly students from Faculty of political science on University Banja Luka and Independent University Banja Luka.



ONE BILLION RISING

Couple hundred of citizens joined global campaign One billion rising and gathered dancing on Krajina Square in Banja Luka on February 14th. Banja Luka was one of 37 Bosnian cities that marked V-day and protested against gender based violence. Banja Lukas campaign joined numerous NGO's, dancing and sports clubs, civil society activists and many celebrities. After the dance, gathered citizens made photography



in memory of the women who were victims of domestic violence in the Republic Srpska. Overall 194 organizations and institutions were included in this campaign, and Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of 200 countries that stood up appealing and complaining to the fact that one

billion women are daily exposed to various forms of violence. Photography of this dancing performance got to the list of most powerful photography's that marked 2013th on BUKA portal <http://www.6yka.com/novost/48500/najmocnije-fotografije-buke-u-2013.godini-foto>

MEETING WITH THE MANDATE ŽELJKA CVIJANOVIĆ

Representatives of non-governmental organizations Helsinki Citizens Assembly, United women, Lara from Bijeljina, Future from Modriča and organization Bridge from Višegrad used a meeting held on 10th of March 2013th to familiarize mandate Željka Cvijanović with problems and suggestions on how to improve women's position in RS, especially female



war victims, but also other vulnerable categories. Mandated attention was focused to the fact that funding of shelters for women victims of violence from local budgets is still inconsistent, we pointed that development of exit strategies for women who are staying in safe houses is of the great essence as well as woman victims of war tortures who do not have any rights in RS. It has also been suggested to form a consultative body which would be joined by representatives of women's non-governmental organizations that were at the meeting. The need to systematically solve the problem of co-financing of EU projects for NGOs from governmental budget was also a topic of this meeting, and mandate generally accepted it.

SPEAK UP II

On 20th of June Brussels hosted a conference on freedom of speech and media in the Western Balkans and Turkey - Speak Up! which brought together about 400 journalists, representatives of international, regional and national organizations dealing with freedom of speech and government representatives from the EU and the candidate countries. The introductory part of the conference highlighted that without ensuring full freedom of speech as a fundamental human right, no country will be admitted to membership of the European Union. EU Enlargement Commissioner Stefan File repeated that freedom of speech is the foundation of democracy, adding that the EU's message is a clear: "There must not be double standards when it comes to freedom of speech. The same standards are applied to Member States and those who run for membership in the EU. "The aim of the conference was to review the state of media freedom in the Western Balkans and Turkey, what has been done since the first Speak Up conference that was held in May 2011 and what are the next steps to be taken in order to reduce political pressure on the media and violence against journalists. One of the participants of the conference was the executive director of the Helsinki Citizens assembly Dragana Dardić.



WOMEN AND PEACE BUILDING IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Public debate entitled "Women and Peace-building in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Trough understanding to reconciliation with cures", was held on June 5, 2013th in hotel "Bosna", and was organized by the Association "Women to Women" and the Foundation "Friedrich Ebert", in co-operation with the Helsinki citizens assembly Banja Luka. Topic was introduced by Minister of Family, Youth and Sports in the government of Republic of Srpska Nada Tešanović and Helsinki Citizens' Assembly activist Lidija Živanović. Participants of the discussion find that women can significantly contribute to reconciliation, if they are given enough space and equal opportunities as men. Minister Tešanović pointed out that after

the war women were the first to begin building of good relationships, starting from their communities, and then beyond. "Now we need to look at where we have not had a chance to take part in, official negotiations, starting from Dayton onwards, in order to come to the conclusion of what should we do next," she said. Activist of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Lidija Živanović spoke about women's achievements so far. She pointed out that in our country there are laws governing respect for human rights, but that these laws are incompatible between local and state level.

„JOURNALISTS ARE NOT TERRORISTS!“



The European Federation of Journalists <http://europe.ifj.org> organized protests against the imposition of lifetime prison sentences of four Turkish journalists and penalties on seven and a half years in prison for one of them on 8th of November 2013, in front of the European Commission in Brussels. All five were convicted on the basis of anti-terrorist laws Turkish on suspicion that members of outlawed Marxist Party. The protest was organized under the slogan "Journalists are not terrorists", which was to point out the unacceptable jurisprudence of punishment and imprisoning of journalists on the basis of anti-terrorist laws. The verdict, which has been imposed to five Turkish journalists was made under political influence and is a serious violation of freedom of speech and the rights of journalists, said from European journalists' federation that requires from Turkish government to urgently open the possibility of lodging an appeal against the verdict. According to data from the European Federation of Journalists Turkey has closed at least 59 journalists so far. Executive director of hCa BL Dragana Dardić joined protestants in Brussels and supported their demands.

PARTICIPATION OF HCA IN THE WORKING BODIES OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITIES

As a representative of an independent non-governmental sector executive director of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Dragana Dardić was elected into the Ad Hoc Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH for the election of new members of the Council of Communications Regulatory Agency. The tasks of six-member Commission were starting a competition for the selection of new members of the Council, selection

of applications, interviewing candidates and forming a list of 14 names / candidates for members of the Council of the CRA, which has been completed. In accordance with the procedures, the list was submitted to the Council of Ministers, and the final decision on the election of seven members of the CRA Council should have been adopted by the BiH Parliamentary Assembly. In addition to involvement in the Ad Hoc Committee, hCa representative Aleksandar Žolja has been proposed as a member Committee the RS to combat hate speech on the Internet. Forming of the Committee was initiated in accordance with the international campaign of the Council of Europe, whose aim is to inform and sensitize young people about hate speech on the Internet and its consequences.

HCA DAY IN DUBOKA

Despite many activities and duties, HPG team has found time for relaxation and fun in nature. On a day trip on May 9 in Duboka near Banja Luka, we barbecued, played cards, hiked and played volleyball, and here are strong evidences - see pictures:



REACTIONS

Throughout the year hCa has been monitoring and responding to the violations / non-compliance with human rights and the failures of government. Thus we have sent an appeal to the Collegiums House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina to annul the decision to ban and allow the Centers for Civic Initiatives presence at the sessions of Parliament in order to inform the public timely and to give citizen initiatives control and participation in decision-making processes. As a member of the Women's Network of BiH we protested on several occasions due to inadequate prosecution of perpetrators of domestic violence and impunity for perpetrators of attacks on the LGBT population, we have also reacted on the occasion of the failure to adopt the Law on Personal



Identification Number. In our country, a child gets the identity once it enters the birth register, which is the basis for the introduction of other human and civil rights. However, because of the interests of politicians and non-adoption of the Law on social security, all children born after 12 February 2013th year, remained without a personal identification number and in accordance with this without rights to travel and to medical treatment. This behavior of parliamentarians led to a spontaneous protest in front of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, where several thousands of people asked from politicians to immediately and unconditionally adopt the law on social security. hCa representatives supported the protests and demands of citizens.

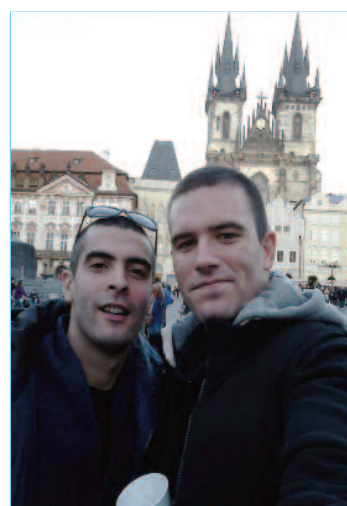
TRAININGS

During 2013th Helsinki Citizens Assembly led three trainings for Youth Center KVART from Prijedor. We lectured on "Writing project proposals and project cycle", "Civil society and activism" and "Public advocacy and lobbying". The aim of the training was to educate young people from three youth organizations in the Prijedor region about advocacy skills, online activism and writing proposals.

UNITED NETWORK CONFERENCE IN CZECH REPUBLIC

Helsinki Citizens Assembly has once again participated on annual UNITED network conference, held from 25th to 30th of October in Czech city Meljnik. This years' conference motto was "Wipe out hate! - United in solidarity". We were represented by our volunteer, Miodrag Simic, who actively participated in workshops and debates, but also in a protest walk organized to draw attention to the frequent attacks on Roma settlements in the Czech Republic along with about 100 people from all over Europe. Namely, the conference participants came to the news that right-wing organizations are planning to attack a Roma settlement. Participants have organized ad hoc action in the center of Prague, i.e. spontaneous peaceful protests, and from the city where attacks were intended came the information that the local Roma rose up against the invaders and that the police arrested a large number of attackers. That day was a double victory for the human rights of Roma in the Czech Republic.

Otherwise, the focus of the conference was the strengthening of the right-wing populist organizations across Europe and the ways in which their influence can be countered.



Publications in 2013

ANALYSIS OF MEDIA CONTENT

In order to investigate and analyze which of the roles, and to what extent, the Bosnian media mostly achieve when reporting on marginalized groups, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka and CURE Foundation from Sarajevo, in cooperation with the media analyst Davor Marko, from the University of Belgrade, created methodology for monitoring media coverage of marginalized groups in Bosnia and monitor 12 media in BiH.

In this publication we present the results of two months of monitoring, as well as the methodology that you can use adapting it to your needs, pattern, scope and objectives of the research. This methodology, like any other, can be improved, but our intention was to offer a set of indicators / variables that correspond to the key issues related to the presentation of marginalized groups in the the results of media, and to create the possibility of continuous monitoring and comparison of media monitoring in BiH.



COOKBOOK FOR PEACE

One of the results of creative work of youth involved in the "Recipe for Peace" is a publication Cookbook for peace.

In this publication we have presented recipes for peace with inspiring names and ingredients: "Cookies of peace", "Muffins of peace", "The cake - Song", "Cake of youth", "Pancakes with the dressing of love", "Love Cake", "The cake of tolerance" "Cake of communication", "Bisque of unity", etc. Project and recipes creation process included more than 40 young people from Mrkonjić Grad, Bosanska Krupa, Srebrenica, Milići, Jajce, Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Bratunac.



COLLECTED WORKS OF THE WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACADEMY

This publication was created at the first Women's Political Academy, whose program was composed of three modules, and which was realized in the period from February 2012th until March 2013th year. Women's political academy was established by the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka through Women side of politics project with the aim of empowering young women, members of political parties and civil society organizations to be more visible and more influential in public and political life, which can only contribute to the further development of the entire society. This publication is consisted of 18 works prepared by our lecturers for the needs of Academy. Our issue presents valuable theoretical material that will benefit not only future attendees of the Women's Political Academy, but also the wider community, as Academy is designed as a space for connecting the world of academia, NGOs and political parties, in which young men and women build their identities and transform relations in society based on the concept of gender equality, promotion of human rights and generally accepted social values.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFER

CIVIL SOCIETY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Basic Training

Title	Topics
Civil society and activism	Civil society, nongovernmental organizations, their role, status and legal framework in BiH, establishment and registration of an association, community activism, leadership ...
Human rights in my community	Human rights, their history, discrimination, mechanisms of protection of human rights, socially discriminated groups, models of influencing the public authorities for protection of human rights ...
Gender equality	Sex and gender, gender based discrimination, gender based stereotypes and prejudices, sexuality, position of women and men in BiH society, legal framework for gender equality in BiH...

Advanced Training / Training for Professional Groups

Title	Topics
Gender sensitive policies	Gender analysis, gender sensitive and responsible practical policies...
Reporting diversity in media	Role of media in modern society, stereotypes and prejudices in media, socially marginalized groups and their portrayal in the media, discrimination in the media (with possibility of focus on specific social groups)...
Gender sensitive reporting in media	Role of media in modern society, portrayal of women and men in media, legal and regulatory framework for media in BiH, gender analysis of media content (possibility of focus on specific topics)...

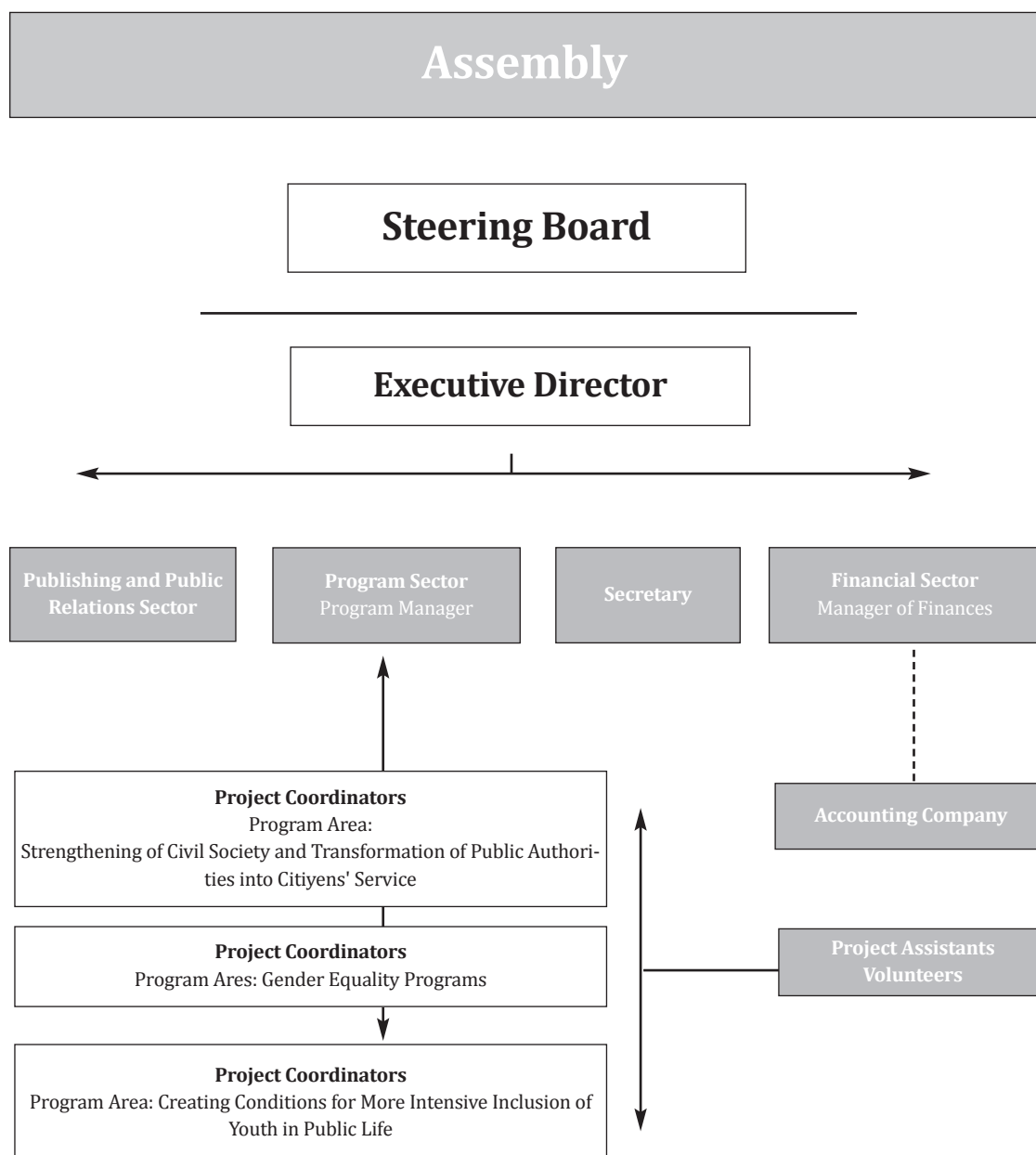
Organizational Capacity-Building

Title	Topics
Management of nongovernmental organizations and fundraising	Nongovernmental organizations, legal framework for functioning of nongovernmental organizations, decision making, mission, vision, and program activities of nongovernmental organizations, fundraising ...
Strategic planning	Strategic planning, importance of planning process, mission and vision, problem analysis, program planning, goals and results, analysis of internal and external preconditions for implementation of action plan, allies and enemies...
Project proposal preparation	What is project proposal, problem analysis, goals and results, logical framework matrix, form of the project proposal – outline financial aspect of the project and proposed budget, contract with donors...
Basics of financial management in nongovernmental organizations	Specifics in work of nongovernmental organizations, legal framework, financial obligations towards tax institutions and donors, harmonization of procedures to meet donors and tax institutions requests, organization of financial management within NGO

Personal Capacities Building

Title	Topics
Public advocacy, campaigning, lobbying	Public advocacy, planning of advocacy action, target groups of public advocacy, campaigning, lobbying...
Public relations and media presentation skills	Public relations, methods of communication in public relations, media presentation, how to become news, press release, press conference, specifics of TV and radio program
Conflict resolution and non violent communication	Conflict, methods and approaches to conflict resolution, interest based conflict resolution, positions and interests, conciliation and mediation, communication skills – non violent communication ...
Negotiation	Negotiation, interest based negotiation, positions and interests, obstacles to negotiation and road to settlement, phases in negotiation process, option analysis, and defining of proposals...
Facilitation and decision making	Facilitation, decision making in a group, communication skills, compromise, and consensus, voting...
Train the trainers program with possibility of mentoring	Principles of adult education, defining training objectives, planning and designing the triaging program, forms and methods of work, exercises and games for relaxing and concentration, this training can also include mentoring – advisory support to students in his/her first trainings...

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE HELSINKI CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY BANJA LUKA



FINANCIES

INCOMES AND EXPENCES IN 2011	IZNOS U KM	IZNOS U EUR
Unspent Funds from 2011	184585.75	94377.20
Rest of unspent Funds 2011	184585.75	94377.20
INCOMES in 2013		
Donor contributions	829208.13	423967.38
Revenue from City Administration Budget	1200.00	613.55
Individual donations	10205.83	5218.16
Interests	2.93	1.50
Positive exchange variances	0.01	0.01
Other not mentioned incomes	4.49	2.30
TOTAL INCOME	840621.39	429802.89
AVAILABLE RESOURCES IN 2013	1025207.14	524180.09
EXPENCES in 2013		
Salaries (net)	100208.26	51235.67
Taxes and contributions	65974.60	33732.28
Costs of the activities	333502.96	170517.36
TOTAL EXPENCES	499685.82	255485.30
REST OF UNSPENT RESOURCES IN 2013	525521.32	268694.78

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka Staff:

Aleksandar Žolja
Dragana Dardić
Edin Vehabović
Željka Umićević
Ivana Stanković
Jelena Babić
Svjetlana Marković
Jelena Despotović
Vesna Stojanović
Mladen Protić



Members of the Steering Board:

Goran Bubalo
Jasmina Čaušević
Milkica Milojević

Members of the Advisory Board:

Gordana Katana
Lidija Živanović
Sandra Dukić
Siniša Marčić
Srđan Puhalo
Vladimir Turjačanin

Volunteers:

Anja Mrđa
Dijana Majstorović
Dragan Subotić
Ivana Stanković
Jelena Mihajlović
Jelena Ružičić
Marko Lakić
Milica Janjić
Miodrag Simić
Mirjana Ribić
Nikolina Čeko
Nikolina Gavrić
Nikolina Kunić
Sanja Stakić
Slađana Koljančić

Donators who supported our work in 2013:

European Union
Foundation "Kvinna Till Kvinna" Sweden
Foundation of Open Society Institute - FOSI
Embassy of the United States of America to BiH
City of Banja Luka