

HELSINKI
CITIZENS
ASSEMBLY

annual report

2014

ANNUAL

REPORT

2014

Introduction

The year behind us was marked by two things - social unrest in the Federation and the terrible floods. Both of these events have greatly influenced or opted work of the organization in 2014. Wanting to show solidarity and understanding for the protests organized by the citizens of Tuzla, we organized, in February 2014, a rally in Banja Luka, after which we were placed on the so-called Blacklist of organizations, media and individuals, who are, allegedly, trying to "collapse the constitutional order of the Republic of Srpska". Because of these serious but unfounded and arbitrary accusations that affected the image and reputation of the organization, we have filed a lawsuit for libel to the Basic Court in Banja Luka. In May, again wanting to show solidarity and understanding, we have instantly organized ourselves and got involved in providing various kinds of help to flooded households, which included cleaning, transshipment, collection, distribution of humanitarian aid (food, clothing, mattresses for children's cribs, etc.) and informing . Part of the planned project activities, we modified ad hoc and adapted to the current situation. Thus, the exhibition "Peace with female face" had a charitable character where we were collecting packages for women within "Woman to Woman" action, and one of the breakfasts with journalists and the closing conference of the project "X-Press II, was dedicated to ways in which government institutions collect and share help and the ways in which the media reported on the floods. For us, 2014 was significant because of an important anniversary. The Helsinki Citizens celebrated its 18th birthday. And for 18 years we have done much more. The conditions in which we are today are not great, but that's why we're here. To create an environment and a climate in which we can all feel good, productive and live dignified and fulfilling lives, where people will be valued according to their effort and work, and not on ethnicity, gender or political affiliation. And finally, many thanks to all women and men, girls and boys who have worked and shared with us their time, energy and knowledge.

And as someone who signed these introductory lines, I take the opportunity to thank the great people I work with, without who the Helsinki Citizens Assembly would not be what it is - to Jelena, Aleksandar, Svjetlana, Željka, Vesna, Ivana, Mladen, another Jelena, Edin, Clara, Nikolinas, Mirjana, Ruža, Meliha, Tajana and Slađana.

Dragana Dardić

ABOUT US

hCa Banja Luka was registered on 16 August 1996, as a local NGO in Republic of Srpska / Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since that time, hCa Banja Luka has been actively involved in promoting, strengthening and networking of civil initiatives at local and regional level, and it has been working on reconciliation and empowerment of marginalized social groups for political activism.

Our mission: hCa is an organization that supports and encourages autonomy and freedom for all citizens, including marginalized social groups, especially women and young people in democratic processes.

Our vision: a society of equal opportunities for all.

Priorities of hCa's activism:

- Empowerment of marginalized groups, especially women, youth and minority groups for political activities and improvement of their position in society;
- Influencing the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to improve legislation and public policy towards these groups;
- Increased and better representation of women, youth and minorities in the media;
- Raising awareness of citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina on discrimination of marginalized groups and mechanisms to protect their rights;
- Strengthening cooperation with other organizations and institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also at international level;
- Convergence of educational programs, literature, knowledge and skills related to peace-building, development of civil society and human rights of BH citizens;
- Continuous training of hCa staff and efforts to maintain sustainability of the organization.

In 2013, hCa carried out its activities in three program areas:

- Strengthening Civil Society and the Transformation of Public Authorities into Citizens' Service
- Advocating for Gender Equality
- Creating Conditions for Active Involvement of Young People in Public Life

Educational programs – hCa Banja Luka gathers trainers for its own and other organizations' needs that conduct training sessions in the following areas: strengthening the capacities of nongovernmental organizations (strategic planning, fundraising, campaigns, public relations, etc.), non-violent communication, conflict resolution, human rights and gender equality. In this way, hCa Banja Luka promotes its goals and policies to other social groups that are not directly covered by the projects, and contributes to its financial sustainability.

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 Buletin 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);

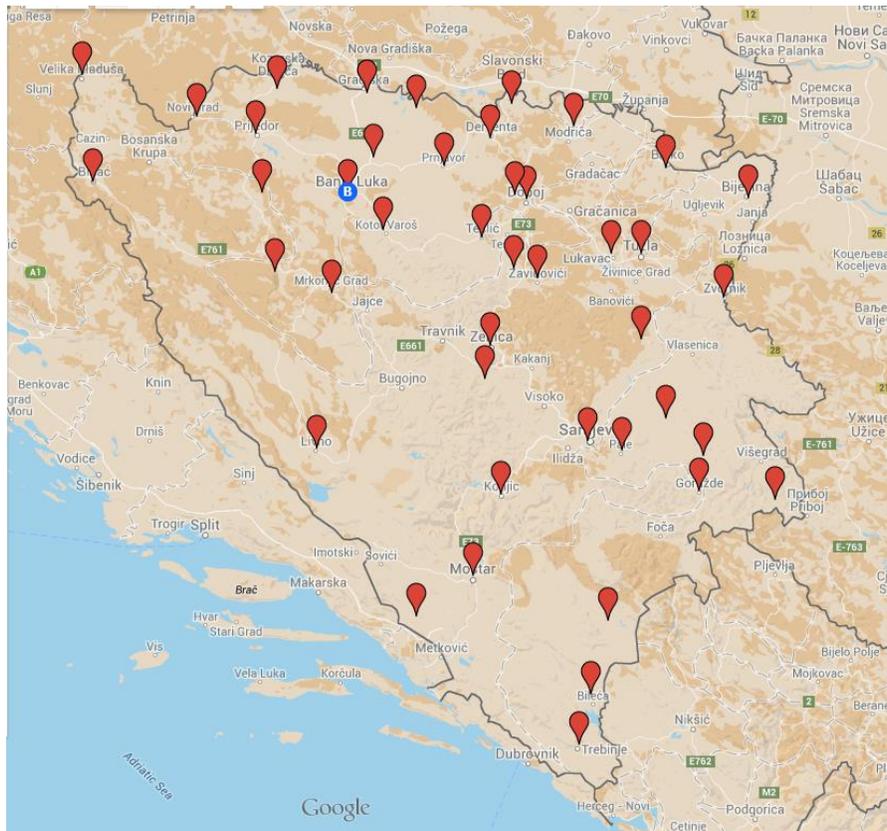
22. Nominating Slađana Ujić, a member of the BiH Women's Alternative Government and president of the SNOP association for “Award for Women's Creativity in Rural Life“ (Slađana Ujić is the first woman from BiH who received this important award and recognition);

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/SHADOWREPORT_final.pdf



The cities where Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka implemented activities during 2014: Sanski Most, Prijedor, Kotor Varoš, Sarajevo, Kladanj, Banja Luka, Bihać, Pale, Brčko, Tuzla, Goražde, Bijeljina, Sokolac, Trebinje, Zvornik, Velika Kladuša, Gacko, Bileća, Ljubuški, Rudo, Zenica, Doboj Jug, Zavidovići, Lukavac, Teslić, Konjic, Mostar, Doboj, Derвента, Busovača, Livno, Brod, Ribnik, Rogatica, Novi Grad, Gradiška, Kozarska Dubica, Laktaši, Mrkonjić Grad, Prnjavor, Žepče, Srbac, Šamac i Odžak.

Program Area:

Strengthening Civil Society and the Transformation of Public Authorities into Citizens' Service

The objectives of this program area are building and strengthening democracy through raising public awareness about democratic principles and processes, encouraging citizens to run various initiatives and participate in decision making at all levels of government. Through various activities under this program area we strive to establish better cooperation between citizens and government institutions.

PROJECT IN

In early July 2013, the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, in partnership with the Organization of amputees "Udas" Union of Associations for Helping Mentally Challenged Persons RS, the Association of Paraplegics and poliomyelitis from FBH and the Association of the Blind of Canton Sarajevo, began with the realization of the two-year project titled "IN - Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities in BH". The project aims to contribute to an equal integration of persons with disabilities (PWD) in social processes and provide the sole enjoyment of the rights and freedoms of PWD throughout BH. The purpose of the project is to improve the living conditions of persons with disabilities, through the harmonization of national legislation with the UN Convention, to strengthen the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities, their networking and promotion of the concept of human rights as the main approach to solving the problems of people with disabilities.

ACTIVITIES

In 2014 under the project were held the following activities:

- Nine trainings for strengthening the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities on the topic "Writing project proposals and preparation of local action plans in the field of disability". The trainings were held in Bihać, Teslić, Banjaluka, Zenica, Sarajevo, Bijeljina, Mostar, Trebinje and Lukavac.
- After the organization of trainings in September we published the call for awarding grants of up to 5000 EUR designed for organizations of persons with disabilities. 88 organizations from BH applied on the call.
- Based on the five-month work working group completed a draft of analyzes of BH legislation harmonization with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Suggestions and recommendations from the analyzes were presented through seven rounds of public consultations held in Banja Luka, Sarajevo and Brčko District with the participation of representatives of disability organizations, government at all levels, as well as representatives of other relevant institutions such as the Centers for Social Work, mental Health Centers, health Funds, Funds for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, the Pedagogical Institute, the Chamber of Commerce and others. Comments and suggestions collected for each specific area of Analyses will be incorporated in the final version of the document will be completed in early 2015.
- In early 2014, work on the creation of the Strategy of effective models of cooperation between organizations of persons with disabilities began, which will offer new ways of cooperation and improve the disability movement in the fight for equalization of opportunities.

- The strategy was completed in December 2014, and the process of making implied two meetings of working groups and three workshops with representatives of the umbrella organizations of persons with disabilities on the topics of the SWOT analysis and creating goals, priorities and measures.

- During the year, we organized three meetings of the Council for Persons with Disabilities in Zenica, Banja Luka and Sarajevo.

In the part of **visibility actions** to raise the awareness about people with disabilities as part of the project we organized the following activities:

- At the end of the year we started with the implementation of the program of swimming for people with disabilities which includes recreational swimming and swimming lessons for those who do not know how to swim. The program began in late October 2014 and will last until the end of June 2015 and will include more than 80 children and adults with disabilities.

- In order to increase the visibility of people with disabilities and the challenges they face every day, we organized practice for students of journalism in the organizations of persons with disabilities. In two months, the students will have the opportunity to visit 10 organizations, with which they will do the stories that will be published on the website of the project and some local portals.

- Five video clips of people with disabilities were done, from which four portray persons with disabilities in a positive provocative manner, their challenges, problems and opportunities, while fifth video clip represents the Council for Persons with Disabilities and their work on equalization opportunities for persons with disabilities in BH. Video clips will be broadcast on commercial and public TV services in prime time.

- In order to point out the misuse of parking spaces for people with disabilities we organized a street action called "I'll be back in 15 minutes" which is usually the excuse of people who park in place for people with disabilities. As part of this action, we reverse the process and "parked" wheelchairs on parking lots with the message "Be back in 15 minutes".

- Within 3rd December, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, we organized action "Silhouettes". For this purpose we have created specially designed black silhouettes of people with disabilities who have been placed along the main pedestrian zone in the center of Banja Luka, which symbolized the invisibility of disabled persons in BH society. We wanted to send a message that persons with disabilities continue to face discrimination and prejudice on a daily level, and it is high time that the problems get tackled in practice, not just on paper.

- We organized two shows on public TV services. The first was organized in the framework of the program "In Focus" where we discussed the topic of education and employment of persons with disabilities, while the second issue was held on BHTV1 on the topic of social protection.



- In October 2014, the World White Cane Day in cooperation with the Special Library for the Blind and Visually Impaired RS we launched an initiative with the actors from the theater in Banja Luka to read and record books. Large number of actors responded to Initiative and activities are ongoing.

Results:

- Total 205 members from 157 organizations of persons with disabilities adopted the basic knowledge about writing projects in 10 training events organized throughout the country. Based on this training we establish database of disability organizations in BH.
- 22 PWD project were approved for financing under the project IN. The projects have started with the implementation on 1st November 2014 and will last until 30th April 2015. In order to provide maximum support for organizations engaged in project implementation 10 mentors will be available to organizations, helping them to implement activities, writing reports, and monitor.
- From the 88 organizations that applied to the call for grant 43 participated in training to strengthen capacity, and of that number, 18 organizations received a grant which can be considered as a direct impact of training courses on the subject of "Writing project proposals and preparation of local action plans in disability".
- Draft of Analysis of harmonization of BH legislation with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is completed.
- Strategy of effective model of cooperation between organizations of persons with disabilities is created.
- We made five video clips of people with disabilities that will be broadcast on commercial and public TV services in BH to draw attention to everyday problems and challenges that this population faces, but also showing their capabilities for the same and equal participation in society.
- From November 2014 until the end of June 2015, more than 50 children and adults with different types of disabilities will have the opportunity to acquire basic swimming skills, while 30 of them who could swim are able to enjoy the pool with recreational swimming.

Plans for 2015

In 2015, the following activities are planned:

- The organization of two round tables in Banja Luka and Sarajevo, where we will promote two publications - Strategy of efficient model of cooperation between organizations of persons with disabilities in BH and analysis of harmonization of BH legislation with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on two round table in Banja Luka and Sarajevo.
- Continuation of awarded grants monitoring
- Promotion of video clips about people with disabilities and broadcasting two special shows on public and commercial television services
- Organization of a minimum of three sessions of the Council for Persons with Disabilities BiH
- Organization of media events and visibility actions to draw attention to various problems and challenges of people with disabilities, but also examples of good practice
- Continuation of swimming school and recreation and rehabilitation on pools in Banja Luka and Sarajevo

Ukljuci.in

Portal of the project IN www.ukljuci.in for very short time has become known throughout BH with the number of visits that is constantly increasing. In the period from January to December 2014. the portal has recorded an average 2400 monthly visits, and the highest number of visits was 4437 in April 2014. Visit it yourself and see why it is one of the most informative portals made for persons with disabilities. As a special recognition of portals work , editor Ana Kotur received a special award of UNICEF - for the promotion, protection and reporting on children's rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina with an emphasis on children with disabilities.



Winner of journalism award "Srđan Aleksić" Dragan Bursać delivers special certificate of UNICEF for contribution in reporting and promoting the rights of children to Ana Kotur.

PRO FUTURE - Reconciliation, Understanding, Responsibility for the future

Catholic Relief Service (CRS), in partnership with the Foundation Mosaic, Caritas of the Bishops' Conference of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Forum of Tuzla Citizens and Helsinki Citizens' Assembly from Banja Luka, carried out a four-year project aimed at building reconciliation and trust among citizens of all ethnic groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The aim of the project is that BH citizens, encouraged by key social actors, advocate for social change. PRO Future operates in 30 municipalities in order to build peace within and between communities, which are divided by the entity lines. A special focus is on young people, women and minorities who will have the opportunity to participate in training courses, peace camps and conferences and other events in order to maximize the impact of these groups on social change and build solid base for reconciliation. Within the project at the state level the Supervisory Board was established, and in 30 selected municipalities were established municipal working groups which build the foundation of support for reconciliation and consensus within the local community.

The highlight of this four-year plan will be platform for Peacebuilding, the roadmap that will be created by citizens, and which will form the basis of legislation that should contribute to the development of the country in which citizens of all ethnic groups jointly and severally advocate for social change.

Project PRO Future is financed by USAID, and the realization of the project began in October 2013.

ACTIVITIES

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka is one of the key partners in the project PRO Future, which is responsible for the operation and strengthening of the Network for Peacebuilding and support to women's initiatives.

Meetings: In 2014, there were 12 meetings of the working bodies of the Network for Peacebuilding - Steering Committee and Working Groups. At the meetings decisions about membership, strengthening the structure and the celebration of important dates were made.

Five meetings with members and potential members of the network were organized, where they were presented with the Network and Project PRO Future through which, among other things, will be implemented a program of small grants for non-governmental organizations and informal groups of young people. Meetings were organized in Prijedor, Dobo, Tuzla, Sarajevo and Mostar.

Debates, conferences and other events:

Peace Building Network, Belgrade multi-religious and intercultural Center and Student eFM Radio organized a panel discussion entitled "Youth and Peace in South East Europe" which took place on January 4, 2014. The panel was opened by the Rector of the University of Sarajevo, Prof. Muharem Avdispahić, and the main panelist was Stjepan Mesić.

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I in Sarajevo, from 6 to 9 June 2014, the **Peace event Sarajevo 2014** was organized. Peace Building Network has been a key partner organization from Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the three days over 200 different events, conferences, concerts, workshops, debates, roundtables, forums, exhibitions and performances were organized. It was attended by about 2,000 people from all over the world in total.

Peace Building Network in cooperation with members, partner organizations and institutions marked the **Week of peace building** called "The citizens in solidarity for peace". 67 activities in 39 cities were

organized, including the Women and the art colony which was attended by 10 artists, and the colony was organized by the Women's alternative government. Also, on 23rd September in Sarajevo, Peace Building Network has awarded, for the second time, the Peace Prize, which this year went to our famous football expert Ivica Osim.

To support the celebration of Week of Peace Network has awarded five small grants to organize various activities.

On the occasion of Week of Peace, Peace Building Network has organized the 5th **journalism award Srđan Aleksić**, or another since they took over ownership of the prize. The ceremony was organized in Banja Luka on 22nd September 2014. Winner of journalism award Srđan Aleksić Dragan Bursać, columnist of the portal Buka. Bursać received the award because, as jury explained , his writings “have an important journalistic and civic courage to oppose relativism crimes and are standing on the side of the victims, without departing from the principles of good journalism, as well as of its ethical commitment to building a better and more humane society in which we will all live better. ”



Award ceremony of journalism award Srđan Aleksić, Banja Luka on September 22, 2015.

Peace Building Network was a partner on **Festival of tolerance** which was held on 7 and 8 November 2014. The festival screened 14 films which were attended by over 1200 people.

On the occasion of 10th December - **Human Rights Day** Peace Building Network, along with members and other organizations, organized 37 events in 17 cities, and a joint calendar of events was made. In Banja Luka, we organized the action of cleaning offensive graffiti and round table discussion on "The role of women and minorities in the process of building trust."

Peace newsletter: During 2014. we published five issues of Peace Newsletter.

RECIPES FOR PEACE

We continued to implement the project "Recipes for Peace" in 2014 through the training of intercultural learning "Coloured glasses" and "the Olympics of peace".

From 24th and 26th July in Banja Luka in Library for blind and visually impaired, we organized training for 12 participants of camps "Recipes for Peace" from Jajce, Mrkonjic Grad, Bratunac, and for young people from Prijedor. Our goal was to involve young people in the active promotion and implementation of better quality non-formal education. So these twelve young people adopted the necessary knowledge and skills on the method of "Coloured glasses" developed by the German youth committee for understanding, and adapted to our context, for the purposes of training, by Nikolina Gavrić. The concept of Coloured glasses explains the concepts of stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and culture. The core of each unit consists of some kind of simulation and interaction, so our participants had the opportunity to make crucial decisions for the survival of their imaginary state, create a map of the world, and to be in privileged, but also subordinated position in relation to other members of the group.



Training "Coloured glasses", Mladen Stojanović Park, Banja Luka, 24.07.2014.

As a final activity of Recipe for Peace we left a set of peacekeeping Olympics. Thus we gathered almost 100 young people aged between 8- 25 years in Prijedor, Sanski Most and Kotor Varoš and organized unforgettable games without frontiers from 27th August to 27th September. The first Olympics of Peace was held on August 27th in hotel Monument for about 50 participants. With our 10 participants from Prijedor in games attended forty participants from the camp "Dialogue of the Future", organized by the "Don" from Prijedor. Prijedor residents they met with young people from Maglaj and Šamac, municipalities affected by last year's floods. Next Olympics was 14/09/2014. in Sanski Most and we feel quite safe to say that it had international character. In Sanski Most, except by members of the organization Center for Peacebuilding, with us were young people from Romania, Germany, Italy and America. Last Peace Olympics was organized on 27th of September 2014. in Kotor Varoš for over 20 members of the Red Cross. In this workshop participated all volunteers of the Helsinki Citizens' and in such way celebrated the final activity of the project through which they made their first voluntary steps.



The "Recipes for Peace" was realized in the period from April 2013 to October 2014, and was funded by the US Embassy in Sarajevo. The project was designed for the promotion of a culture of dialogue and multiculturalism through cooperation and networking among young people from four cities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

X - PRESS II: Social inclusion through the media

In June 2014, we completed the 30-month project "X-Press II" which the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka implemented in partnership with the Foundation "Cure" from Sarajevo. The aim of the project was to sensitize the media for reporting on marginalized and vulnerable groups in our society.

ACTIVITIES:

As part of the X-Press II which began in late 2012 and ended in June 2014 we made the following activities:

Breakfast with journalists: We organized 50 "breakfasts with journalists" which aimed to familiarize journalists with problems and issues affecting marginalized and vulnerable groups in our society. Some of the topics that were discussed at the "breakfasts" were: poverty and public kitchens, reproductive health, women with disabilities, Down syndrome, problems of the Roma, violence, hate speech in the media, hepatitis, inclusion of people with disabilities, ecology, flood, etc.



Breakfast with journalists: Inclusion in Education, Banja Luka March 29, 2014

Workshops with students: Eight workshops with students of journalism were organized in Sarajevo, East Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Tuzla and Mostar in order to introduce students with the specifics of journalistic reporting on marginalized and vulnerable groups and the concept of socially responsible journalism.

IT trainings: 6 IT trainings for journalists and non-governmental organizations in six different regions in BH were organized. The aim of the workshop was to provide knowledge and skills in the field of new (online) media. Participants had the opportunity to learn how to use social networks to promote their activities, in order to develop a site or to improve existing, and were introduced to plenty of online tools that can facilitate their daily work.

Conferences: Within two and a half years project, we have organized three conferences called "Professional and ethical standards in reporting on marginalized and vulnerable groups". Conferences brought together journalists, editors, media experts and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The aim of the conference was to exchange experiences in the field of reporting on marginalized groups, improvement of professional reporting and the development of socially responsible journalism. Conferences have offered space for the exchange of views between journalists - Representatives of NGOs, as well as establishment of better cooperation between them. As part of the conference were organized Awarding ceremony of journalism award Srđan Aleksić.

Small grants: Within the project we have allocated 12 small grants for joint projects of non-governmental organizations and the media, and grants were implemented between November 2013 and April 2014.

The methodology for monitoring of media: We created universal methodology for monitoring of media coverage on the basis of which 12 media (by 4 daily newspapers, TV stations and of the portal) in BH was monitored in the period of two months. The aim was to determine the frequency, quality, trends and media bias in reporting on three marginalized groups in BH- women, members of national minorities and persons with disabilities. Findings and recommendations are published in the publication entitled "Reporting of marginalized and vulnerable groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Analysis of media content" that was printed in 500 copies and distributed to schools, NGOs, media and institutions.

Meetings with editors: We held eight meetings with editors of newspapers, television and portals on the Internet, we presented the results of their two-month media monitoring and discussed the possibility of adopting internal codes to which each media outlet individually regulated relations and rules of work and behavior, which would include recommendations to employees in order to report on the marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Media events: The project organized 17 different media events. There have been several exhibitions of photographs of marginalized and vulnerable groups in Banja Luka and Sarajevo, which arrived through open competition which have been announced. From the top 12 calendar for 2014 was made. In 2014 we organized a celebration of 8th March in Banja Luka where we have promoted women with specific occupations, and the book "Turbo-folk star" by Zlatan Delić, and in Sarajevo Women's map of Sarajevo was presented. On Earth Day, we organized action in Ugljevik. The goal was to draw public attention to the pollution coming from the use of fossil fuels, such as coal.



Action on the occasion of Earth Day, Ugljevik, 22 April 2014.

Through action Peace with female 11 women from eleven different cities who have distinguished themselves with their courage, kindness solidarity, were presented and at the beginning of June we joined the organization of the Peace event Sarajevo 2014, on the occasion of 100 years the beginning of World War I. In Banja Luka, we organized the first celebration of International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia "IDAHO" together with the Banja Luka Association of queer activists B.U.K.A, and in partnership with the Coalition for Sana, which includes 22 organizations, we organized

a trip to the source of the river Sana in order to prevent illegal construction of mini hydro power plant on source of Sana.



RESULTS

- Close to 7,000 people were directly involved in different activities of the "X-Press II", while indirect beneficiaries were many more. Our assessment is that more than 500 000 people were informed, through traditional and online media, about the activities of the project.
- For 30 months, which was the duration of the project, we organized 100 different events (breakfasts with journalists, conferences, IT training, workshops for students, media events) which was published in over 400 media reports and contributions.
- 12 joint projects of NGOs and the media has been successfully implemented, which, through the project, were supported with small grants. Some of the results of these joint projects are establishment of a unified database of persons with autism in the Republic of Srpska, engaging 27 students on the portal eTrafika, and the establishment of cooperation between individual organizations and the media with government institutions.
- Journalism Award Srđan Aleksić has become one of the most recognizable awards in Bosnia & Herzegovina. From the establishment of awards in 2010, a total of 17 prizes were awarded to journalists in Bosnia and Hercegovini for professional and continuous reporting on marginalized groups and vulnerable groups. The award was passed into the ownership of the Network for Peacebuilding and thus "continued to live" after the completion of the project.

Program area:

Advocating for gender equality

The overall objective of the program area is to reduce all forms of gender discrimination and creating an environment in which women and men have equal opportunities. We realize it through networking and support to initiatives related to gender issues, empowerment of women who are currently the largest marginalized groups to participate in public and political life, education of women and men on issues of gender equality, training for women in developing different skills, campaigns, surveys and policy analysis.

Within the program area in 2014, we worked on the project "Women and Law today 17" and "Women's Side of Politics II".

WOMEN AND THE LAW TODAY 17

Project Woman and the law today is implemented in partnership with Foundation United Women Banja Luka, with the aim of reducing all forms of gender-based discrimination and creating an environment in which women and men have equal opportunities. Project is financed by the Swedish Foundation KtK for 17 years, and the focus in 2014 was on women victims of violence, increasing women's political participation, development of a strategic approach for the empowerment of women and promotion of gender equality in local communities, and the articulation of women's attitudes related to the change of the Constitution.

Activities:

- 7 visits to mayors and presidents of municipal assemblies / cities Gradiška, Banja luka, Prijedor, Mrkonjić Grad, Prnjavor, Laktaši and Novi Grad;
- 1 Advanced workshop of skills development for young women politicians and women interested in political participation;
- 4 capacity building workshops for women politicians and candidates in general elections;
- 1 workshop for planning a campaign by women's organizations supporting candidates in parliamentary elections;
- 1 follow-up workshop "A new generation of activists." The workshop aimed at, among other things, creation of a database of young activists in order to promoted their knowledge, skills and special knowledge as resources within civil society and beyond. The workshop was held in Teslić during the period from 16th to 18th June 2014 and brought together 18 activists from across the country.
- continued work on monitoring of the adoption and implementation of laws and public policies in the field of protection of women's human rights and gender equality.

Results:

- 53 representatives of the executive and legislative authorities of the 7 assemblies/municipalities in RS familiarized with the importance of the existence of gender-responsive budgeting and financing of safe houses;
- 15 young women politicians and women interested in political co-operation from five political

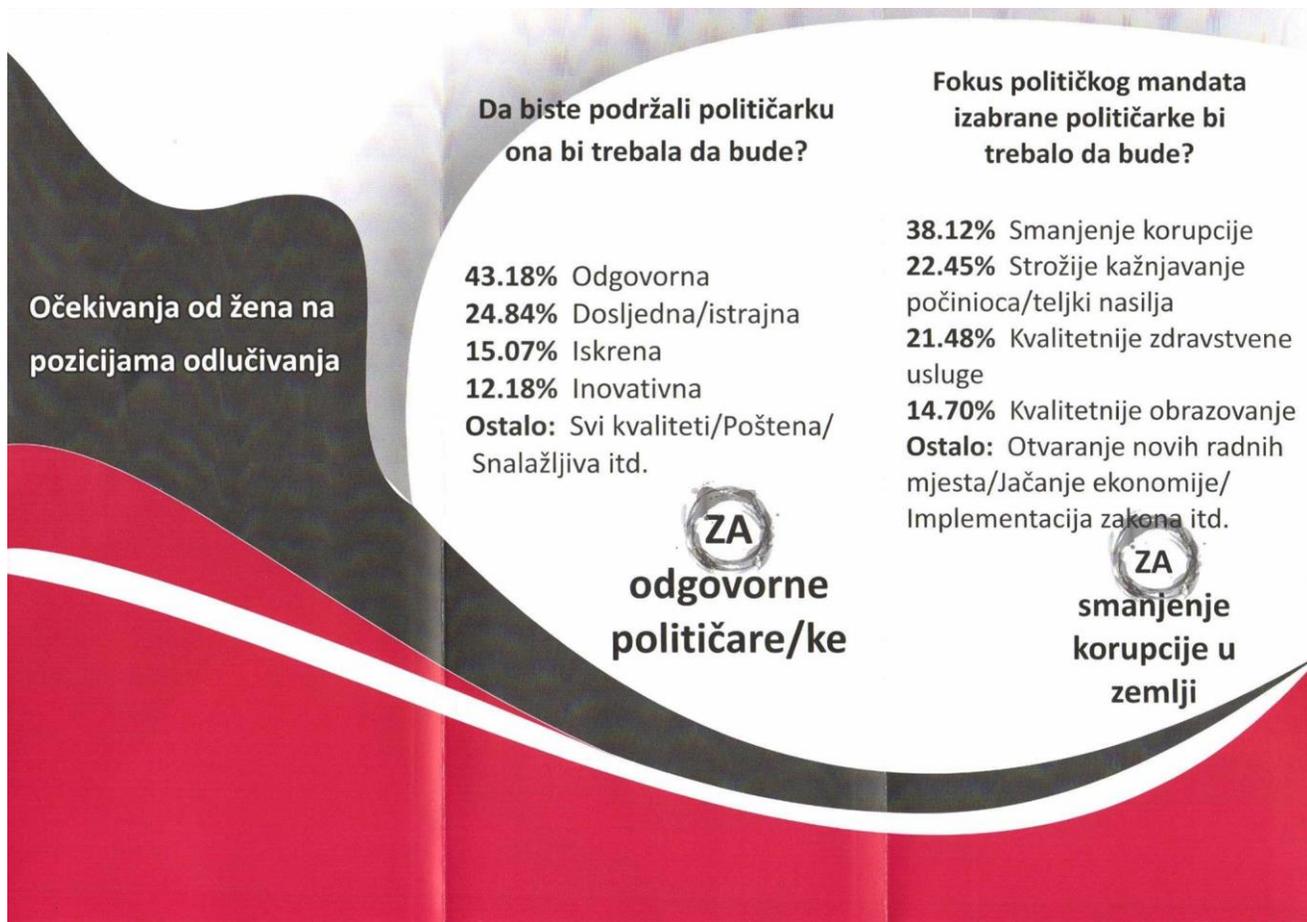
parties adopted knowledge in the field of protection and promotion of gender equality, media representation and advocacy;

- 73 representatives of political parties and candidates at general elections familiarized with practice on political campaigning;



Workshop with women politicians, 6th to 8th September 2014, Neum

- Database of young activists created,, New generation of activists ". Base "counts" 19 names of young activists and is available at: <http://www.mreza-mira.net/11596-baza-podataka-mladih-aktivistkinja/>
- Within humanitarian action "Kad školsko zvono zvoni" we collected 100 school packages for children from Doboj, Željezno polje and Topčagić polje
- Promotional material for support to woman candidates in general elections called Women in Government Accountability! prepared and distributed



Action Kad školsko zvono zvoni! (Jun-August 2014)

Humanitarian action „Kad školsko zvono zvoni“ was organized by, in the period from June to August 2014, young activists from several civil society organizations throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Action aimed at collecting school supplies and school bags for the children from the areas affected by floods and landslides - Željezno polje (municipality Žepče), Topčić polje (Zenica Municipality) and Doboј municipality, so that children, regardless of the natural disaster that hit our country, smoothly and as painlessly as possible continue their education. The organizations that were responsible for the collection of relief were CURE Foundation Sarajevo, Center for Legal Assistance to Women Zenica and the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly. We created a number of promotional posters, and in cooperation with supermarkets Maxi Ltd. and Moj market in Banja Luka, in several locations, were placed baskets in which customers would put school supplies. The collected donations were presented for 100 of the most vulnerable pupils from these three areas and at the request of families from Banja Luka who were affected by floods, another 10 packages for children in this area.

Women's side of politics II

During 2014, we continued to implement the project "Women's Side of Politics II" which is financially supported by the US Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project, whose implementation started in October 2013, entered the 23 participants of the second generation of the Women's Political Academy, who will through three modules that include theoretical and practical work, acquire theoretical and practical knowledge and skills needed to become more visible and influential in BH social and political scene, work of Women's alternative government continued as well as the work on making database of bosnian woman experts.

ACTIVITIES:

During 2014 the following activities were realized:

- As part of the Women's Political Academy II, there were two (2) Module that dealt with thematic units "Gender and Politics" and "Gender and Peacebuilding". For the first module, in mid-March 2014 in Banja Luka Academy participants listened to lectures on gender stereotypes and prejudices, electoral systems and woman quotas in BH, the awakening of political awareness among women and the history suffragettes movement in BH and the world, the women's movement in post-Dayton Bosnia and Herzegovina, Miss Irby and Staka Skenderova, life of several woman from Banja Luka who, almost anonymously, left their mark in the life of the city on the Vrbas. On the last day of this Module, four politicians, Besima Borić, Member of the House of Representatives of the Federation Parliament and member of the SDP, Divna Aničić from SNSD and the Mayor of Mrkonjić Grad, Radmila Kocić Čučić, a member of DNS and the RS National Assembly deputy and Milica Ristović, Councillor of the municipality of East Ilidža from the ranks of the SNSD and one of the participants of the first generation of our Women's Academy, spoke about their origins and past experience of doing politics, a profession that is with us still perceived as a male profession;
- The second module, held in late June in Sarajevo, dealt with issues such as gender-based violence, transitional justice, peace-building and security, Balkan women and popular culture, Resolution 1325 of the UN and its application in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the conclusions of the Conference and the Global summit on sexual violence, held in May 2014 in London, construction of femininity in old and new names of streets of Banja Luka. Under this Module, academics were presented with two women police officers of Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Srpska and woman brigadier from the Ministry of Defence;
- Also within the Academy, participants of the second generation completed the implementation of 10 (ten) small grants to promote the concept of gender equality and for pointing out some important issues regarding the position of women in BH society. Grants / actions on the promotion of the fight against violence, women's soccer, important woman, former women's newspapers, etc. were implemented in the following cities: Sarajevo, Kladanj, Banja Luka, BHać, Pale, Prijedor, Kotor Varoš and Tuzla;
- The online platform for third module "Gender and Media" has been created, which is a complete novelty, not only for the future Women's Academy, but also for the very organization that seeks to fully integrate the new information technologies in their work;
- Women's alternative government (which in the meantime became "richer" for two new young members) in June produced a form for data entry to create database of woman experts potential in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which will bring together in one place information about women

who have an enviable professional knowledge, high academic titles and have published professional papers in different areas of life or have, in turn, contributed to the development of the communities where they live and work with their activism. Soon the members of Government with the assistance of persons working on the project, sent an invitation letter and form to over 500 e-mail addresses across the country;

- Women Government BH visited the Women Government of Serbia in April 2014 as part of a two-day study visit, and contacts have been established, as well as two (2) meetings with the heads of municipalities of Doboju and Mrkonjić Grad. Member of the Government visited Brussels and some EU institutions and introduced the Government and its results so far. The other members of the Government had the opportunity to visit the Institute for Inclusive Security where they participated in a series of workshops on the first Academy for national action plans for the implementation of Resolution 1325;
- As part of the media presentation of Women's Government, 14 public events were held in Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Tuzla and Rogatica within which they presented BH woman innovators; women working in, for our social conditions, (not) common occupations; woman artists. These events were about the problems of education, women's reproductive health, women in war, professional and ethical reporting on marginalized groups and socially responsible journalism, and the reform of the Constitution from a gender perspective. Part of media promotion included publishing six texts on women in sports and the same number of articles about young artists;
- In March Women's government met with Mora Keefe, chief of cabinet of US Senator Jeanne Shaheen and Laura Rabiner, also head of the cabinet of US Senator Richard Blumenthal and on that occasion they discussed the experience and position of women in society;
- Women's government was involved in drafting the Alternative Report on the progress of BH towards European integration, submitting a report with recommendations on how to improve the position of women in sport in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- During May floods, the worst in last hundred years, Women's government has stepped in to assist the population in affected areas through the provision of psychological assistance to children whose homes have been affected and the collection and distribution of humanitarian aid;
- Through the Facebook page of Women's Political Academy <https://www.facebook.com/groups/397538856940046/>, Women's alternative government of BH <https://www.facebook.com/ZAVBH> and Site www.zenskastranapolitike.hcabl.org we continued to promote the concept of gender equality, but also that we network women from politics, civil society organizations, academia and the media.

RESULTS:

- • Two modules of Women's Political Academy II successfully implemented and the third module, "Gender and Media" prepared in the on-line form, by which our Association joined civil society organizations that use modern technologies in non-formal education;
- Realizing 10 small grants - actions of our Academicians in 8 (eight) cities BH, we contributed to the promotion of the concept of gender equality to BH. society. As a result of one of the mini-grants, Academician has revived "Dulistan", in digital form, a magazine for cultural and social awareness of Muslim women in 1926;
- Cooperation with the Serbian woman government was established creating the basis for future projects and initiatives, as well as with the heads of municipalities Mrkonjić Grad and Doboju Jug;
- Young artists and women who play sports in Bosnia and Herzegovina were promoted;

- Database of women experts potential in BH was developed and promoted, which currently contains biographies of over 70 women experts in various fields with a tendency to increase this number;
- In line with their commitment to, in their own way, contribute to the celebration of important international days, Women's government made a statement with pertinent texts on the occasion of Day of social justice, the eighth of March and 14th of February in the "One billion rising" against violence against women and girls and the Day of earth.

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2015.

Since the project ended on 31st of March 2015, it is planned that academics listens to the third and final online module "Gender and the Media"; then will be organized final conference of the Academy, to which will be invited the first generation of Academicians, as well as Women's government and the results of the project will be summarized; we will continue updating database of of women experts potential, organize a study visit to the Government of Zagreb, visiting heads of Novi Grad and Visoko and record several sessions in order to "round" the online platforms of Women's Political Academy.

ANTRFILE

Text about Milkica Milojević, our associate and one of the first women soccer judge in Yugoslavia, which was published on the website zenskastranapolitike.hcabl.org within a series of articles about women in sport, found its place in the book "Records - Women and Public Life in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the 20th century ", published by the open Centre -http://soc.ba/site/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Zabiljezene_Zene-i-javni-zivot-Bosne-i-Hercegovine.pdf. The book presents an activist response to the systematic neglect of women's contribution to culture, science and politics in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through repeated inscription in time and space, the book presents brave, interesting and successful women who did not approved blind obedience and defied the rules of the environment in which they lived and fought for better conditions, among them Milkica found her place.

ANTRFILE

Within four educational workshops on sexual and reproductive health of women, which the Women's government held during 2014 in rural parts of the Tuzla Canton and Borike in Rogatica municipality, we gave our contribution in raising the health culture and emphasizing the importance of preventing cancerous diseases of the breast and cervix uterine self-examination and regular medical examinations. At one of these workshops in Mihatovići, held in April, by doing selfexamine of their breasts that was due at the end of the workshop, two women have found certain changes in the breast that , during the subsequent medical examination, discovered to be at the beginning of malignant disease.

Woman initiative for constitutional changes

Woman initiative for constitutional changes has intensively worked on capacity building and promotion of their activities in 2014.

First Regular Meeting and the Strategic Planning Initiative “Woman for constitutional changes ”

Seventeen members of the Initiative,, Woman for constitutional changes "gathered in Banja Luka in the period from 3rd to 5th November at the first regular Assembly of initiative under which they elected a new coordinating organization of initiative, coordinating committee of initiative and the Committee to monitor the application of the Code. Helsinki Citizens' Assembly was selected for the new coordinating organization and will perform this function until the end of 2017. At the same time, there was the strategic planning which resulted in the Two-Year Strategic Framework of initiative, with the aim of strengthening the internal capacity and setting priorities for further action of initiative in the process of reforming the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Meetings with gender mechanisms

Members of the Initiative held a meeting with representatives of the Gender Centre of the RS Government on 15th of December in order to make them more aware of the recent activities and future plans regarding reform of the BH Constitution. The meeting noted that the Gender Centre already worked on meaningful consultation with representatives of executive and legislative authorities and civil society organizations regarding the reform of the Constitution and inclusion of a gender perspective. Meeting with the Director of the Agency for Gender Equality Samra Filipović was held on 18th of December in Sarajevo. On that occasion, it was said that the Agency is working on the empowerment of women in terms of greater participation in political life for many years, including the process of constitutional reform. Since 2007 and conference which was named,, Gender equality and equal opportunities as a segment of human rights in the light of constitutional changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina ", the Agency opened the possibility of gender sensitizing of the Constitution.

Conference “Gender perspective of Constitution”

First conference devoted to a somewhat different view of the reform of the Constitution was held for 40 guests on December 17th in hotel Bosna, in Banja Luka. Representatives of academia, several municipalities / cities in BH, civil society organizations and representatives of minorities and persons with disabilities participated on this conference, with the aim of encouraging public debate on the reform of the Constitution from the perspective of gender as well as the possibilities of significant participation of civil society in this process. On this occasion, the first panel, called "Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the possibilities of participation of citizens in the reforms" represented a good opportunity to open the discussion about the legal and political conditions under which the BH Constitution can be changed, as well as the perception of the public on this issue. Anes Makul, president of the Association of Alumni Center for Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies (ACIPS), spoke on the subject of the Civil Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, where he noted that the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is legally binding document to which the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina calls on and on the basis of which the judgment in the case Sejdić - Finci was brought, which has to be respected. The representative of the Center for Constitutional and Administrative Studies from Sarajevo, Armina Mujanović, opened the discussion on the basic challenges that civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina meets during the debate on the reform of the Constitution. In particular, she drew attention to the possibility to define the mechanisms adopted

by some countries like Iceland and Albania in order to facilitate public participation in the processes of making and reforming the constitution.

In the second panel, on the topic of reform of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, potentials of a gender perspective, talked members of Woman initiative for constitutional changes.

Creating Blog of initiative

Blog Woman initiative for constitutional changes was created with the intent to promote the activities of the Initiative, enabling users to access the Initiative and to summarize current efforts of civil society organizations to reform the Constitution.

Blog is available at: <https://gradjankezaustavnepromjene.wordpress.com/>

The priorities of Woman initiative for constitutional changes part of December requests of the Initiative for the monitoring of EU integration

Representatives of the Initiative for monitoring European integrations presented the document The December requests for the term 2014-2018. The document, which contains 78 requests, to improve the lives of citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina, improve the social situation, to strengthen the fight against corruption, were sent to the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of BH. The priorities of Woman initiative for constitutional changes concerning the introduction of affirmative measures and expanding catalog of rights-related provisions in the area of health, family and social protection are integrated part of December requests (third and fourth request).

The intention of the document is to support programs of political parties, but also to measure the work of institutions in the next four years, when it comes to BH's progress towards European integration.

Peace with woman's face

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly was part of the project "Peace with women's face" in the 2014 which, with the financial support of the Foundation KtK, was realized by Lara from Bijeljina and Horizonti Tuzla. As part of this project workshops on dealing with the past for 20 activists from NGOs were carried out, workshops with women in NGOs, women in politics and women in education and educational training for trainers on dealing with the past and peace activism. The project, with its carriers, included 11 organizations from BH: UG "Budućnost" Modriča, Fondacija CURE Sarajevo, MOST Višegrad, Centar za pravnu pomoć ženama Zenica, "Forum žena" Bratunac, "Žena BH" Mostar, "Udruženje građanki Grahova" Bosansko Grahovo, "Glas žene" BHać, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka and Foundation Udružene žene Banja Luka

Bearing in mind the inadequate participation of women in the public and political life, the goal of this project was to empower women in the 11 communities across BH to take active participation in peace activism and to be promoters of coexistence and reconciliation. After successfully conducted workshops for activists, politicians, and educational workers in October 2013. Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka prepared and realized the exhibition as part of activities "Woman caravan of peace". In Banja Luka student theater, on 29th of May 2014, we held an exhibition "Peace with women's face" on which we promoted the stories of 11 women who were distinguished by their kindness, courage and solidarity in the past and participated in the building of another, post-war society in a very special way. The exhibition promoted an initiative to increase the number of streets with a woman's name in our city, as well as the initiative to establish a "Day of Remembrance of _ suffering of women in the war in BH". Our guests were Professor Biljana Babić, who told us about the famous woman from Banja Luka, and Mr. Srdjan Šušnica from whom we heard more about the streets of our city, which bear the names of novel women. This activity, as it was organized shortly after the flood, had a humanitarian character. Within the campaign "Woman to Woman" we collected hygiene products for women packets that were later distributed to women in flooded areas.



Programme Area:**Creating conditions for more intensive involvement of young people in public life**

The objectives of this program area are creating conditions for more intensive involvement of young people in public life, empowering and connecting young people by interest areas for active participation in public life, as well as increasing the number of young people in political life. We realize it through educational activities, campaigns, analyzes the situation of youth in different areas of society and the promotion of youth activists.

VOLUNTARY PROGRAM

During 2014, hCa has continued to work on strengthening its voluntary program, attempting to establish a network of volunteers interested in working in the organization. In September we received a new volunteer from Germany, Clara Utsch, who will stay with us one year, again, we have organized a free language course, as well as a series of workshops for volunteers. As in previous years, we have participated in the program Youth in Action, as well as in seminars and educational workshops of other civil society organizations.

Stand up and get lucky

Voluntary Sector of hCa Banja Luka in 2014 was part of the project Stand up and get lucky, realized by the organization Young volunteers Visoko. This project involved the other organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina, as follows: „GRAD“ Goražde, „ANEA“ Gračanica, „ToPeer“ Dobož, „BOSPO „ Tuzla, „PRONI“ Brčko, Asocijacija mladih Foča, Youth Association Foca, ONAuBHand Youth Council of the City of Mostar. The project is financially supported by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the main objective of empowering young people to identify key problems that are caused by the political situation and in order to influence the resolution of these problems by raising citizens' awareness and promotion of culture of democratic participation in communities. Within the project on September 13, a workshop was organized with 30 young people older than 18 years on the topic of elections, the electoral process in our country, and the role of young people in elections in the Institute for youth and community development Perpetuum mobile. Through interactive exercises and discussions participants gave their views and attitude on how youth are essential aspect of the electoral process, how many are active, and how much they know about the elections and the functions that are selected on the impending elections. Part of this project was the street action "Change bad habits - Vote on 12th October", which we organized on 3rd October with the association of citizens Oštra Nula. The aim of this campaign was to motivate young people not to neglect the importance of the elections, as well as their voice, and to come out and vote on 12th October. Promotional leaflets in which we enumerated benefits and costs of the BH authorities in the last four years were distributed on the streets of Banja Luka, and we asked residents what elections are bringing them, and what to those we choose. Moto of the action was "Guilty!" through what we tried to awaken the responsibility for the results of the upcoming elections.

Weekend of activism

In 2014 our volunteers got a chance to try themselves as independent trainers. “Ostra nula” association organized for the second time the Week-end of Activism. hCa’s volunteers were in charge of team building, holding a training titled “Stereotypes – Prejudices – Discrimination: Diversities – Multiculturality – Acceptance. These trainings were composed of a series of interactive workshops aimed at trust building, overcoming existing prejudices and stereotypes and as efficient as possible work in a group.



German Language Course

With a lot of positive feedback hCa Volunteer Clara Utsch started teaching German in October 2014. More than 12 advanced learners attend class twice a week to improve primarily their speaking and listening skills. By playing role games, discussing about controversial topics in a relaxed atmosphere and additional short grammar units the students continuously upgrade their level of German and feel more familiar with the language. Thanks to many different conversation exercises like for example speed-dating, in which the students are talking about their private life and their own opinions, the group also comes closer to each other on a personal level.



Volunteer's service web site

The fact that our volunteers are creative is the creation of a mini web site of volunteer's service of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly. After a few trainings about social networks and on-line marketing, our Mirjana Ribić decided to prepare and design a web site combining all information about volunteer's service. Soon other colleagues joined her deciding to open a new announcement for more volunteers at our organization. For that purpose they prepared different promotion contents and volunteering teams in a very unique and creative way. What came up as a result of this can be seen at: <https://volunteers4hcabl.wordpress.com>

Šuplja stijena

Nikolina Gavric, a hCa's volunteer led a BiH team at work of EU Spring School in Šuplja Stena near Belgrade from May 3 – 10, 2014. The School gathered around 60 young people from 12 different countries who learnt about institutions and functioning the European Union during seven days as well as problems, advantages and challenges the Union meet. There was a discussion about unemployment of young people, EU extension and concept of civil citizenships and a feeling of belonging to the EU. Most

of participants agreed that identity of national states is still considered stronger than joint European identity. As Youth in Action is a program for promoting and inspiring mobility of young people, gaining knowledge about different topics as well as learning about new cultures, inescapable part of the seven day long program was intercultural evening when all countries had the opportunity to present its culture, tradition, food and customs.



INFO CORNER

Protest walk

Wishing to show our solidarity and support to workers in Tuzla, a hCa team organized a spontaneous walk from RS National Theatre to Square of Krajina on February. About 100 citizens of Banjaluka joined us. As the organization tackling for protection and respect of human rights, we thought it was our obligation to go to street and demonstrate people from Tuzla that we support their justified requests to be paid their salaries, work experience, provided with minimum medical protection and process of privatization re-investigation, in particular, bearing in mind that many companies in Republic of Srpska found themselves in a similar situation. After this walk, there appeared a publication in the public, edited by SNSD, titled “Destruction of Republic of Srpska - Technology and Theory of Revolution” with names on so-called “black list” of organizations, media and individuals being accused of destroying the constitutional order of Republic of Srpska. Amongst them there was our organization.

Because of revealing the name of our organization on the “black list” and highly unargumentative but very serious accusations to destroy the RS constitutional order, we filed a complaint for slander together with Transparency International BiH, Centre for Informative Contamination of Young, Svetlana Cenic and Tanja Topic.



Sarajevo 2014 Peace Event

As part of marking the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War and peace and non-violence promotion, there was organized the Peace Event Sarajevo 2014 in Sarajevo from June 6 – 9th, 2014. It gathered more than 2000 people from 32 world countries. Several peace organizations from Germany, Italy, France, Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina took part in organizing this event. Helsinki Citizens' Assembly took part both in organizing and realizing this event.

In the eve of the mere event, on June 5th we welcomed a peace caravan from Italy in Incel centre. We presented our organization and projects we work on to a group of 50 Italian peace activists. We exchanged experiences about peace and culture building and the guests said they would like to visit us again.

Within Youth Camp in Ilidza gathering more than 150 young people from the country and abroad, we organized music workshops and grafites making. A music band "Aurora" from Banjaluka along with other camp's participants worked on composing a song The Change which was performed at closing of the Peace Event in Sarajevo on June 9th. Except this, the band "Aurora" participated at a humanitarian concert at "Sloga" club on June 7th. A workshop of grafites was attended by around 10 participants of the camp who designed and drew grafites which were left to decorate the walls of the Spajalica – educational centre of the Kult association in Sarajevo.

We participated at Peace Fair with other peace organizations from different countries of the world, we supported the organization of a conference titled "Participation and Situation of Women at War from 1914 to 2014". The conference was a unique opportunity to analyze the experiences and roles of women at war and peace building. They are different, complexed and unlimited with the role of a victim.



A closing ceremony of "Sarajevo 2014 Peace Event", June 6th, 2014

Team building in Vlačić

Activists m/f of hCa gathered in Vlastic within a workshop of capacity building whose aim was for the staff and volunteers to exchange experience and knowledge in different fields on February 24 – 27th in Vlastic. Also, this was the opportunity to learn more about the organization's work and determine the ways of further work. All workshops were entirely created and led by the mere participants of workshop. Different team activities involved an unforgettable search for treasure on hills of Vlastic, playing card and other social games and, of course, guitar playing.



RS Committee against hate speech

A representative of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka Aleksandar Žolja is one of the Republic of Srpska Committee against Hate Speech on internet. Forming this Committee was initiated by RS Ministry of Family, Youth and Sport in accordance with international campaign of the Council of Europe. The Committee is composed of representatives of six ministries, Education Pedagogical Bureau, RTRS, Ombudsman for Children, youth and NGOs.

The first meeting of the Committee, which was held on April 7th, was attended by guests from Croatia and Serbia who presented their campaigns against hate speech. The RS Committee will be in charge of information and sensitivity of people, young people primarily in RS and BiH about hate speech on internet and its consequences.

Bejing Declaration and Platform for Action

In 2015 there will be a twentieth anniversary since Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action were adopted. It is one of the most crucial international documents in protection and promotion of women's human rights. In order to create a report by Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, BiH Agency for Gender Equality organized a series of consultative meetings. One like that was held in Banjaluka on April 23rd, 2014. A representative of the Agency Adnan Kadribašić declared that a lot has been done in the field of gender equality, "many laws, strategies and action plans were adopted but a matter of its enforcement in practice remains unsolved". At the meeting was talked about achievements and challenges in 12 priority fields, as defined in the Beijing Platform. After this meeting, Helsinki Citizens'

Assembly delivered to the Agency several reports and documents describing the extent of progress in accomplishing the women's human rights in some fields.

Michael Slaby in Banjaluka

Together with the USA Embassy to Bosnia and Heregovina, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly organized a guesting of Michael Slaby, one of the leaders of digital strategies and social media in the USA. This event was held in "Incel" social cultural centre on May 25th.

In his saying Slaby underlined the importance of using new media, mobile applications, Twitter and Facebook for NGOs work stressing that new media can highly contribute to impact and greater visibility of CSOs.

Inter alia, Slaby took part in Barack Obama's pre-electoral campaign was part of advisory team in different on-line campaigns and organizations such as UN, US State Department, Fuck Cancer, Bright Pink, "I am that girl", "LiveStrong", "Citizen Effect" and Jumo. Some of his specialties are "understanding networked world", "integrating on-line technologies and political actors", "empowering civil resources in changing community", etc.

FLOODS

Activists m/f of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka in cooperation with other organizations private firms and individuals got involved in actions of helping and aid collection the first day the catastrophic floods.

Actions were mainly spontaneous. We got engaged in cleaning the flooded houses, packing aid parcels, loading and re-loading, collecting different sorts of aid from clothes and shoes, baby food and mattresses, hygiene parcels for women within "Woman to Woman" action.

Via Twitter and Facebook profile, hCa also published all relevant information, important telephone numbers, addresses to deliver aid, warning related to mines or contagious diseases.

With approval of the RS Institute for Public Health and Minsitry of Health and Social Protection prepared 11500 leaflets titled "What to do after flood" containing important telephone numbers in case of floods for thirteen endangered municipalities / towns in Republic of Srpska. These leaflets have been shared during visits to flooded areas.



Solidarity Fund

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, TI BiH, Helsinški parlament građana, TI BiH, Centar za životnu sredinu and "Oštra nula" submitted comments to proposal of Solidarity Fund Law of the RS Government on June 12th to parliament's members in the RS National Parliament. The basic suggestions referred to this unclearly written text, the lack of transparency, composition of Managing Board (its majority comes from the Government), ways of collecting money to the Fund (from salaries, pensions, registration tax, etc.).

Support to "Duga" association

Members of the Duga association and a smaller group of men and women citizens gathered in front of this association to cease eviction from their space on June 27th. With protesting posters saying the "City gave but the city took away" and "Our Duga accommodated 150000 women users", members of the association tried to draw attention that women from the most vulnerable groups, women victims of war, single mothers and many others gather in its space as well as many others that the system did not help. Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, as a non-governmental organization which experienced something similar, gave its support to the Duga association. We think it is important to show solidarity with those who have no power and cannot make decision to fight against mishandling and manipulations. Administration service of the city of Banjaluka obliged to develop and advance the cooperation with CSOs but it demonstrates it by depriving space to organizations it used to give it to have at disposal. Although they have a legal foundation for it, it takes just a bit of efforts and good will to offer some other solutions. The humanitarian association "Duga" has been awarded by the city for its year-long humanitarian work as the association that helped 150000 persons, women primarily, children and their families as well as a great contribution to prevent the poverty and health of women and children keeping.

A follow up training of Integrated Security in Georgia

A training which was held on January 22 - 25th, 2014 in the capital of Georgia was attended by hCa representative Svjetlana Marković.

This training is a follow up of a training from 2013 aimed at re-gathering of activists women from the Balkans and Caucasus to exchange experiences in applying the concept of integrated security in their communities and additional empowerment in view of providing new trainings in this field.

A regional workshop for young women leaders

Representatives of hCa and Foundation "United Women" took part at a regional training for young women leaders which was held in the beginning of May in Skoplje. The training gathered young women activists and leaders from Albania, BiH, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia to discuss and learn how to run organizations and develop a future cooperation. The workshop was a great opportunity for young women to additionally develop their capacities and knowledge about feminism, leadership, exchange of information, good practices and regional networking.

Day of Fascism and Anti-Semitism

Within the campaign of international network UNITED (<http://www.unitedagainstracism.org/>), Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banjaluka in cooperation with the Committee against hate speech and Institute of Development of Youth and Community "Perpetuum Mobile" marked the International Day of Tackle against Fascism and Anti-Semitism – 9 November. In the space of "Perpetuum Mobile" a film "Event-how racist are you" was shown which monitored the experiment of American Jane Elliot. This teacher from Iowa has been conducting a world- wide experiment since 1970 demonstrating that there still has been a lot every day threat of fascism. Elliot's practice is to divide a group of experiment- subjected by color of their eyes by putting light-eyed persons into position of being discriminated during the interview she simulated a process of segregation to brown-eyed specific for fascism orders. The film monitored this experiment in England and it can be watched at: <http://youtu.be/6MYHBrJIIFU>.

A visit to Israel

Activists of eight NGOs from BiH including Helsinki Citizens' Assembly visited Israel mid November during which they met Palestinian and Israeli representatives of civil society organizations tackling violence against women and working on peace building. A visit involved a meeting with representatives of Centre for Women's Studies in Nablus which has been working since 2002 with women who lost their dearest in violence and conflicts and who cooperate with Israeli women whose sons or husbands were killed at war.

“For reconciliation and dignity: the role of women and minorities in trust building process”

On occasion of 10 December, the International Day of Human Rights, academic team of University Edinburgh, Centre for Empiric Research of Religion (CEIR), Peace Building Network and Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka organized a round table titled “For reconciliation and dignity: the role of women and minorities in trust building process”. At the round table were presented the results of stances of women and men citizens regarding reconciliation and trust building in 13 cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina including Banja Luka. The research was conducted on a sample of 2.606 citizens of both sex which makes this research the biggest about the topic of reconciliation in BiH since 1995.

“If looked on average of all 13 local communities, it is interesting that two third of citizens support the process of reconciliation and has positive attitude about this process. Of course, there are variations between local communities. For instance, citizens of Banjaluka support these processes more than average than in Bijeljina and Srebrenica. It is interesting that categories supporting the most these processes are those who have been directly involved in war – war invalids, ex-camp detainees, soldiers. They have mutually built relations and joint initiatives” it was said by Davor Marko from researching team of Edinburgh University.

He stressed that these processes are the least supported by young people born after this war. “In our search for causes, we got answers that young people are already socialized in divided society dominated by political narratives in which different are exclusive“, said Marko adding that traditional classical media contributed to such stances advocating only interests of certain political parties, then family and school. The research also showed that reconciliation and greater trust amongst citizens can happen only if social and economic situation is improved in entire country.

A study visit to Brussels

A representative of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly and assistant of BiH Women's Alternative Government Svjetlana Marković, from November 10 – 15th participated in a five-day long study visit to institutions of European Union in Brussels within which was a two-day long training of advocating for women's human rights and gender equality in view of European integrations.

Within the study visit, participants had the opportunity to visit a delegation of European Commission in charge of EU Extension, Committee for Foreign Policy of European Parliament, European Service for Foreign Policy as well as the Committee for Gender Equality Affairs. Except hCa, activists for human rights from Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo visited Brussels too. The visit was funded by Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, Sweden.

Celebrating 18th birthday of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly

On the occasion of 18 years of work and existence, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly organized a 29th birthday party in December 2014. This was a great opportunity to thank all the people, with whom we work(ed) for cooperation, assistance and support all this years, to summarize the results of our work, but also in a good atmosphere, with nice people and good music, to relax and have fun . Because we deserve it!



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFER

Civil Society and Human Rights

Basic Training

Name of training

Topics

Civil Society and Activism

the concept of civil society; the concept of non-governmental organizations, their role, status and legal framework in BH; the process of forming and registering an NGOs, the concept of activism, etc.

Human Rights in My Community

human rights and their history; the concept of discrimination, mechanisms for human rights protection, vulnerable groups, models of influencing the authorities for protection of human rights, etc.

Gender Equality

concepts of gender and sex; the concept of gender-based discrimination, gender stereotypes and prejudices, sexuality, the status of women and men in BH society, the legal framework for gender equality in BH, etc.

Advanced Training / Training for Professional Groups

Title

Topics

Gender-Sensitive Policies

The concept of gender analysis; gender-sensitive and gender-responsible practical policies, etc.

Media Reporting on Diversity

The role of media in modern society, stereotypes and prejudices in the media, socially marginalized groups and their representation in the media, discrimination in the media (it is possible to focus on specific topics), etc.

Gender-Sensitive Reporting in the Media

The role of media in modern society, the portraits of men and women in the media, discrimination in the media, the legal framework for the media in BH, gender analysis of media content (it is possible to focus on specific topics), etc.

Organizational Capacity-Building

Title

Topics

Managing

the NGO

and the concept of non-governmental organizations; the legal

Fundraising framework for NGOs; the structure of non-governmental organizations and decision-making process; mission, vision, and program activities of NGOs, fundraising for NGOs, etc.

Strategic Planning Strategic planning and the importance of planning; mission and vision; problem analysis; program planning, goals and results; analysis of internal and external conditions for the realization of the plan; allies and opponents, etc.

Development of Project Proposals The concept of the project proposal; analysis of problems, objectives and results; the logical framework matrix; filling out the form of the proposal; the financial aspect of the project and project budget, contract with donors, etc.

Basics of financial management in NGOs The specifics of NGOs work and legal framework; financial obligations of NGOs towards the state and donors; harmonization of donor requirements and domestic financial institutions; organization of financial operations in the NGO.

Personal Capacities Building

Title

Topics

Public Advocacy, Campaigning, Lobbying The concept of advocacy; planning advocacy actions; advocacy target groups; the concept of the campaign, the concept of lobbying, etc.

Public Relations and Media Presentation Skills The concept of public relations; PR communication methods, media relations; how to become news; how to communicate with the media; press releases, press conferences, specific of television and radio appearances, etc.

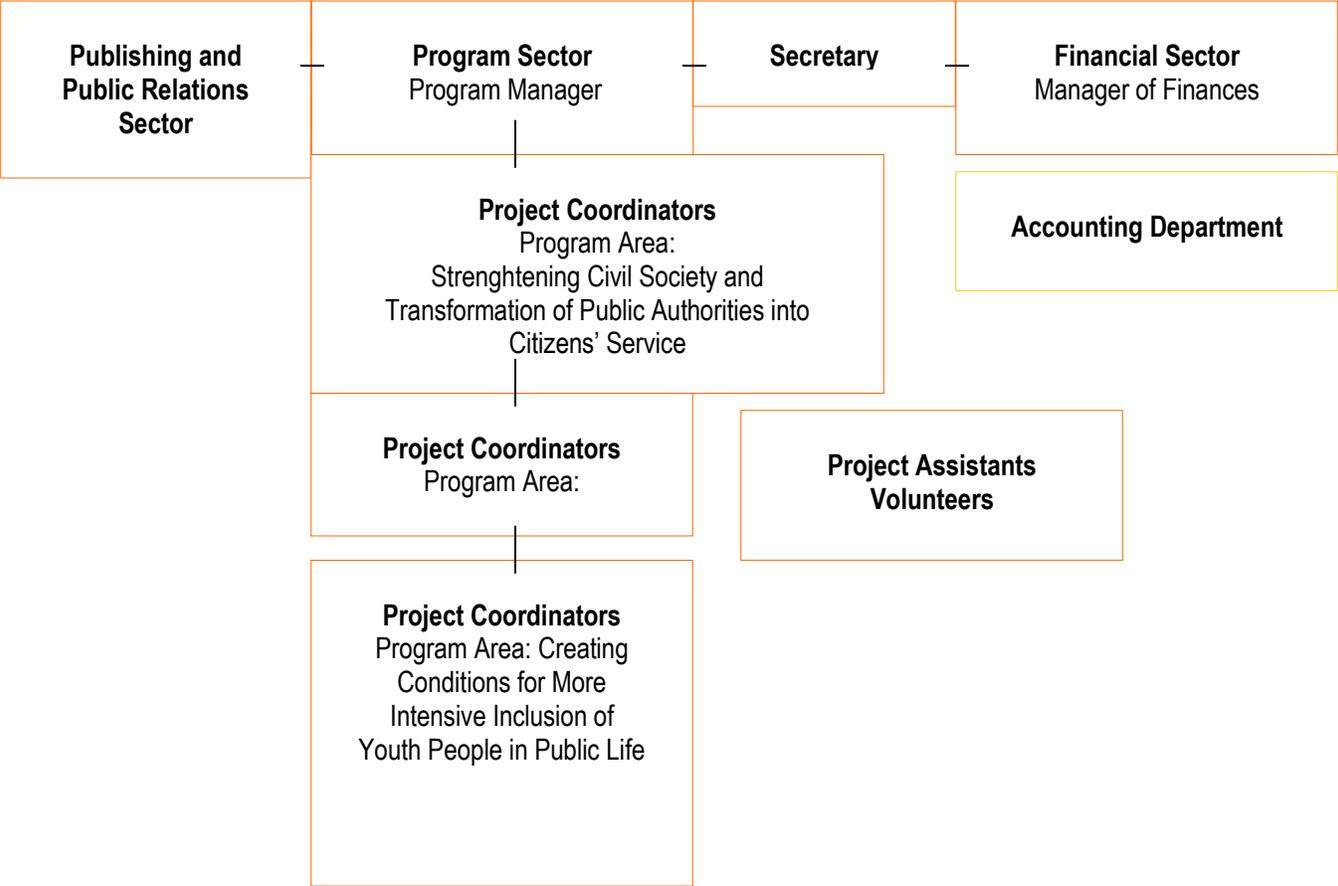
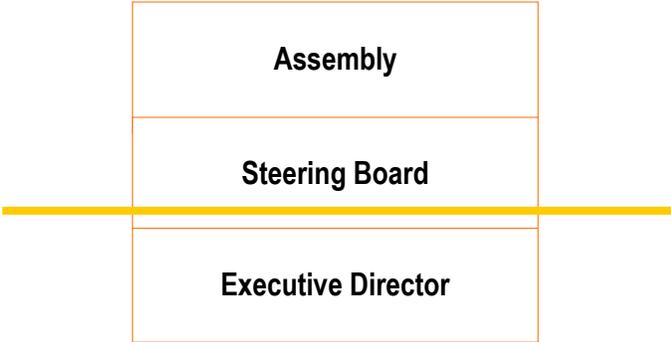
Conflict Resolution, Negotiating, and Non-Violent Communication The notion of conflict; ways of conflict resolution; interest-based conflict resolution; the positions and interests in the conflict; reconciliation and mediation; communication skills - non-violent communication, etc.

Negotiation The concept of negotiation, interest-based negotiating; positions and interests; negotiating obstacles and the path to an agreement; the phases in the process of negotiation; analysis of options and establishment of proposals, etc.

Facilitation and Decision-Making The concept of facilitation; group decision-making; communication skills; compromise and consensus; the path to consensus, voting, etc.

Integrated security The concept of integrated security, identification of challenges and threats, analysis of the context, creating a safe space for the work and activities, development of strategies for the application of the concept of integrated safety ...

Organizational Structure of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka



OVERVIEW OF AVAILIABLE FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES IN 2014	AMOUNT IN BAM	AMOUNT IN EUR
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Funds available for 2014		
Unspent funds from 2013	525401.99	268633.77
Receipts from partners / donors	1015793.09	519366.76
Individual donations	12928.38	6610.18
Membership fees	8724.00	4460.51
VAT refund	2625.38	1342.34
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR 2014	1565472.84	800413.55

EXPENDITURES FOR 2014		
Net salaries	111350.30	56932.50
Taxes and contributions for net salaries	70491.01	36041.48
Office costs (rent, electricity, water, heating ect.)	7671.52	3922.39
Communication costs (phone and internet)	3037.82	1553.21
Accounting and auditing costs	19130.90	9781.47
Bank charges	3979.44	2034.66
Costs of project activities	753474.03	385245.15
TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR 2014	969135.02	495510.87

Total funds available for 2014	1565472.84	800413.55
Total expenditures for 2014	969135.02	495510.87
Unspent funds from 2014	596337.82	304902.69

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