

### Project objective

Through a common methodology addressing a common framework for open government, the project will include expert training of civil society in the methodology for shaping Open Governance Partnership (OGP) commitments country by country, training of civil society organisations based in advocacy, monitoring, and policy analysis. The project will monitor the impact of government policies, and will develop commitments for governments to make under the OGP Initiative. A mapping of government policy and capacity will be carried out for all six countries, with a view to developing policy-relevant country action plans advocating open government and integrity to address the five challenges around which the OGP commitments are structured. The project will draw on experience from new EU members, critique commitments, and draw up advocacy plans for monitoring achievements in open government.

**Country coverage:** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia

### Expected project outcomes

- Clear action plans and commitments under the OGP initiative, and legislation and reforms of procedures in line with the acquis communautaire. This will be achieved through advocacy and engagement with governments to make government more efficient and more transparent. It will include legislation and procedures on freedom of information, data protection, public procurement, procedures for dealing with public inquiries about information.
- Improved professional standards of handling and processing data in public institutions, including codes of conduct concerning both privacy and open governance – for public officials, politicians, and the private sector.
- The lessons learned and successes in each country (combined with news and social media dissemination) will be evaluated continuously to enable replication in the other countries where appropriate.



### Project activities

1. Mapping of government policies in 5 OGP areas: improving public services; increasing public integrity; more effectively managing public resources; creating safer communities; increasing corporate accountability
2. Opinion poll on trust in government.
3. Needs analysis of CSO capacity to monitor implementation, and CSO environment, e.g. legal framework and access to policymakers.
4. Development of methodology for designing commitments and action plans, monitoring implementation, and setting advocacy goals.
5. Launch project websites (common website and six country websites)
6. Public debates and meetings with government officials to discuss OGP commitments, and country action plans
7. Training on building CSO capacity in each country; finalise advocacy plans to promote commitments and monitor implementation.
8. Monitor implementation, and conduct advocacy with country reports: public debates, campaigns.
9. Final opinion poll on trust in government.
10. Evaluation of project and plans for follow-up, continued monitoring country-by-country



(Project leader)

**PASOS – Policy Association for an Open Society**

Těšnov 1699/3,  
110 00 Praha 1,  
Czech Republic  
Tel: +420 2223 13644  
Fax: +420 2223 13644  
Email: [info@pasos.org](mailto:info@pasos.org)  
[www.pasos.org](http://www.pasos.org)

PASOS, an initiative founded in 2004 to strengthen independent think-tanks to ensure the lessons of transition are understood, shared, and applied, now comprises a network of more than 50 independent think-tanks spanning 28 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

PASOS aims to promote and protect democracy, human rights and open society values – including the rule of law, good governance, and economic and social development – by supporting civil society organisations that individually and jointly foster public participation in public policy issues at the European Union level, in other European and global structures, and in the wider neighbourhood of Europe and Central Asia.

The four key priority areas, set out in the PASOS Strategic Directions, 2010-2014, are:

- Democracy and Human Rights
- Good Governance and Open Economy
- Sustainable Development
- International Co-operation.

**Institute for Democracy and Mediation, Albania**

Rr “Shenasi Dishnica” Nr 37  
Tirane, Albania  
Tel: +355 (4) 2400241  
Fax: +355 (4) 2400640  
E-mail: [info@idmalbania.org](mailto:info@idmalbania.org)  
<http://idmalbania.org/en/>

Founded in November 1999, the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM) is an independent, non-governmental organisation working to strengthen civil society, to analyse and improve Albania’s integration processes, to assist reforms and the consolidation of good governance and inclusive policy-making processes through expertise, innovative policy research, analysis and assessment-based policy options.

IDM is dedicated to developing a profound understanding of contemporary challenges in order to shape sustainable reforming strategies and public policies in key socio-economic and political development pillars, as well as to advance cost-effective regional approaches in support of intra/cross-sectoral co-operation initiatives of key public and civil stakeholders based on comprehensive research, policy assessment and multidisciplinary analysis. These guiding principles and objectives represent the foundation of the mission, on which IDM forms the framework of its programme priorities, shapes the results of its work, and drives its services and contribution to civil society efforts.

IDM’s choice of activities to achieve its strategic objectives is an effort to go beyond simple one-time delivery projects. They form part of a continuing struggle to strengthen shared values and efficient interactions across the broad spectrum of political and non-political actors in Albania. The Institute has continuously contributed to the advancement of achievements in the following key areas:

- Consolidation of civil society and promotion of inclusive policy-making processes
- Security Studies and Security Sector Governance
- Regional co-operation, EU and NATO integration processes
- Decentralisation, Local Governance and Community Participation.



**Analitika – Center for Social Research, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Kralja Tvrtka 11/3,  
71000 Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Tel: +38733215825  
Fax: +38733215825  
E-mail: [info@analitika.ba](mailto:info@analitika.ba)  
[www.analitika.ba](http://www.analitika.ba)

Center for Social Research Analitika is a non-profit, non-governmental, non-partisan policy research organization based in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The mission of Analitika is to conduct high-quality, independent research and, based on such research, offer relevant, innovative and practical policy recommendations that help drive the public policy process forward and promote inclusive policy change responsive to the public interest.

Analitika's areas of research include:

- **Public Administration Reform**

The goal of this research program is to develop and advocate policy options and recommendations that would help improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration(s), and foster citizen engagement in decision-making processes in line with the notions of good governance, with a special focus on local government reform.

- **Public Law and Human Rights**

Public law and human rights research addresses, inter alia, issues of constitutional reform, human rights in the broadest sense, and different aspects of transitional justice. Analitika aims to use the framework of public law to support the introduction of policies that help improve respect for and exercise of human rights, with special focus on the status of marginalized groups and minorities.

- **Public Communication**

Research in this area aims is to introduce policies that improve communication and interaction mechanisms between citizens on one side, and government / public administration on the other, thus creating the conditions for inclusive, deliberative policy-making sensitive to citizens' needs. Special focus is placed on development of the communication capacities of public administration and on enabling different social groups, such as local communities and marginalized groups, to have greater access to means and channels of public communication. We also conduct research on media independence and public service broadcasting reform.



CENTER FOR EURO – ATLANTIC STUDIES

**Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies, Serbia**

Trajka Stamenkovića 2,  
Belgrade,  
Serbia  
Tel: +381113343464  
Fax: +381113343464  
E-mail: [office@ceas.org.rs](mailto:office@ceas.org.rs)  
[www.ceas.org.rs](http://www.ceas.org.rs)

CEAS is a non-profit think tank from Serbia which conducts high quality independent research and provides innovative, applicable recommendations aiming at: strengthening liberal democracy in Serbia; pursuit of transitional justice and reconciliation in the region; prioritizing a comprehensive SSR; accelerating Serbia's Euro-Atlantic integration and increasing its ability of facing global challenges through joint international activities. Eight management and external staff and three unpaid members of advisory body are engaged. CEAS staff are frequently quoted in Serbian, regional and international media and has a well visited website. CEAS was an active member of the Ad Hoc International Coalition for the Arrest of Mladic. CEAS maintains regular contacts with a NATO contact point embassy in Serbia. CEAS website regularly publishes relevant essays, reports and analysis related to the SSR issues. CEAS executive director Jelena Milic writes a column for leading Belgrade daily Danas, a blog for most frequently visited news Internet portal in Serbia Blic Online.



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**Center for Research and Policy Making, Macedonia**

Bul. AVNOJ 114/2  
1000 Skopje,  
Macedonia  
Tel: +389023109932  
Fax: +389023109932  
E-mail: [crpm@crpm.org.mk](mailto:crpm@crpm.org.mk)  
[www.crpm.org.mk](http://www.crpm.org.mk)

The Center for Research and Policy making (CRPM) is an independent, non-profit research and policy institute, created in recognition of the pressing need for independent, impartial, in-depth analysis of the complex issues involved in promoting stability and prosperity in Macedonia. CRPM aims to produce independent, timely research and challenging policy analysis that will facilitate the monitoring and critical scrutiny of policy-making processes in Macedonia.

The goal of CRPM is to invigorate the public policy process in Macedonia by increasing the information base on socio-economic developments, increasing public and government awareness of pressing socio-economic issues, and contributing to contemporary policy debates through new empirical research, and objective and thorough analysis. CRPM seeks to promote stability, democratisation, full respect for human rights of all groups, and economic development of the country and the region by increasing the awareness in government and the general public of contemporary social and economic issues, and promoting debate on issues of importance to Macedonia.



**Centre for Democracy and Human Rights – CEDEM, Montenegro**

Bulevar Dzordza Vasingtona 51/3,  
81000, Podgorica,  
Montenegro  
Tel: + 382 20 234 114  
Fax: + 382 20 234 368  
E-mail: [nenad.koprivica@cedem.me](mailto:nenad.koprivica@cedem.me)  
[www.cedem.me](http://www.cedem.me)

The Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CEDEM) was founded on 2 July 1997 as a non-profit citizens' association with a mission to advance and raise awareness on the importance of proper and successful democratic transition; to research, analyse and follow the process of transition in order to exercise influence by its activities, as much as possible, on the transitional process in Montenegro; to contribute to the strengthening of civil society and the democratisation process as a whole. CEDEM seeks to generate ideas to improve politics and policy, and to give Montenegro's people more power over their lives.

CEDEM's vision is Montenegro as a strong participatory democracy integrated into the European Union and fully committed to European values and the rule of law.

CEDEM acts mostly through:

- organising research and analytical projects in the field of democratic transition and human rights in Montenegro;
- organising conferences, roundtables, meetings, seminars, workshops, training events and other activities oriented towards encouraging the process of democratic transition;
- influencing legislative activities through recommendations for legislation and legislative amendments;
- European Integration projects;
- Publishing its works and results in its own publications or through the most influential independent media; co-operating with other similar NGOs from Montenegro and from abroad.





### The Monitoring Center CEMI, Montenegro

Josipa Broza 23A,  
81000 Podgorica,  
Montenegro  
Tel: +382 20 626 354  
Fax: +382 20 626 354  
E-mail: [cemi@t-com.me](mailto:cemi@t-com.me)  
[www.cemi.org.me](http://www.cemi.org.me)

The Monitoring Center CEMI is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation founded in March 2000, with the main goal of providing infrastructural and expert support for continuous monitoring of the overall process of transition in Montenegro.

CEMI has contributed to political and social changes in Montenegro, and its activities are directed towards legislative initiatives, public opinion research, the fight against corruption, and the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The change of status of the state of Montenegro, and the government's determination to enter the European Union, have had a positive effect on civil society organisations, which have acquired a completely new conceptual framework for their work. In that context, CEMI -- one of the most successful and respected civil society organisations in Montenegro -- has moved closer and closer to the concept of the policy research centre and a think-tank.

Pursuant to this transition, CEMI has become the first think-tank in Montenegro, and has adjusted its mission, vision, and fields of work. Instead of the previous five programmes of work (Elections, Rule of Law, Good Governance, Civil Society, and European Integration), CEMI subsequently established the following three main programme areas:

- Democratisation and Human Rights
- Fight against Corruption
- Euro-Atlantic Integration.

CEMI comprises four departments that provide organisational support for implementation of the three programme areas, namely: Legal Department, Public Policy Department, Department for Public Opinion Research, and Department for Public Relations. Each department is composed of domestic and international experts in the relevant fields.

