

The legal position of victims in Serbia: achieved development and directions for future changes

Project The legal position of victims in Serbia: achieved development and directions for future changes began realizing on the 1st of August 2007th and lasted until 28th of February 2008th year. The project implementation included the following activities:

1. Analysis and evaluation of development in the area of crime victims rights in Serbia realized from 1997th to 2007th year, as well as analysis and evaluation of the role of civil society in achieving the achieved level of development, which resulted in presentations at an international conference.

2. International Conference named Legal position of victims in Serbia: achieved development and future directions of change, 24th of November 2007th year. The main goal was to compare the experience of Serbia in terms of legal protection for victims with the requirements of international standards and best practices in the world, in order to reach conclusions about the direction of further development. Speakers at the conference were: prof. Dr. Marc Groenhuijsen, director of the International Victimology Institute Tilburg, the Netherlands, and vice president of the World Victimology Society, prof. Dr. Hidemichi Morosawa, chairman of Tokiwa University, Japan; prof. Dr. Oliver Bačanović, Police Academy, Skopje, Macedonia; prof. Dr. Ivanka Marković, Faculty in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as prof. Dr. Nataša Mrvić-Petrović, prof. Dr. Slobodanka Konstantinović-Vilić, prof. Dr. Nevena Petrušić, Dr. Mirjana Dokmanović, Mirjana Tejić, mr Biljana Simeunović-Patić, mr Sladjana Jovanović, prof. Dr. Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, prof. Dr. Milan Škulić, mr Ivan Stevanović and mr Sanja Čopić.

3. Calling a competition for the best student paper on the topic Victims of gender-based violence and their legal protection in Serbia. The competition was open to students of basic and postgraduate studies at universities in Serbia. The aim of the competition was to animate young people to the problems of the victims, particularly victims of gender-based violence. Authors of the best works were awarded cash prizes, complete edition of Victimology Society of Serbia and annual subscription to the magazine Temida. Award-winning papers, as well as other papers that jury assessed to deserve, will be published in the journal Temida. The decision on the awards brought a jury composed of: prof. Dr. Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, prof. Dr. Slobodanka Konstantinović-Vilić and prof. Dr. Nevena Petrušić.

Organizing the Conference and calling for competition for the best student paper on victims of gender-based violence were part of the program of marking the 10th anniversary of the VDS and efforts to improve the position of victims in Serbia. As part of the marking of this Jubilee, Celebration was organized at which the honored members of the Society and the best student works on gender-based violence were awarded.

In addition to exhibitors at the conference, prof. Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, mr Sanja Čopić, Jasmina Nikolić, Marina Kovačević-Lepojević, Sanja Jović and volunteers of the VDS info and victim support service were directly involved in the project.

The program of marking 10 years of VDS is organized in cooperation with and supported by the Open Society and the OSCE Mission to Serbia, and with the help of the National Assembly and the President of the Republic of Serbia Protocol.