

Register of Magistrates, Proposal of Civil Society Action Plan OGP, Component Open Government for Access to Justice and Digital Governance

Subject: Proposal of Civil Society 2021-2022 Action Plan OGP, Component Open Government for Access to Justice and Digital Governance

Proposed by: NPO Albanian Institute of Science / Open Data Albania
To: Technical Committee for 2021-2022 OGP Action Plan
CC. Mrs. Etilda GJONI, Minister of Justice
CC. Mirlinda KARCANAJ, Director of National Agency for Information Society

Dear Senior Officials of the Technical Committee,

Expressing our deepest considerations about your work, and wishing you much success in preparing the 2021-2022 Open Government and Partnerships Action Plan on behalf of the Albanian Government, our organization wishes to submit to you an official proposal for an activity deemed by us important, actual and concrete for Albania.

The Albanian Institute of Science (hereafter AIS) is a nonprofit organization registered since 2011 in the Nonprofit Organizations' Register near Tirana District Court. The organization is known for promoting Open Data in Albania and has implemented a variety of projects in the fields of transparency, accountability and good governance. We have participated in drafting action plans and consultations since the beginning of the process in 2012, as well as proposed several activities afterwards implemented by Governments. Innovation and New Information Technologies are part of the Objectives of our work and expertise as well.

In the framework of the 2021-2022 OGP Action Plan our request and proposal is the following:

- **The Creation of the Register of Magistrates, Respectively the Parts of Administration and Public Access, as a digitalized electronic register.**

This activity is indeed a legal obligation provided by Law no. 96/2016 "On the Status of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", Article 38. This Register should become a unique database, and as such, requires a *software solution*. Categories of activities should be about Data Mine systems.

This activity should be provided in the OGP Action Plan as part of the two Components out of four in total. Respectively, in the Component Access for Justice and Component Digital Governance. The institutions committed for drafting the Register of Magistrates are several. The direct beneficiaries are two new public institutions created as part of the Justice Reform such as HJC and HPC. The budget for this service should come from public finances and donors. The expertise may be local or international. The intervention pertains to four phases: Completion of bylaws; software infrastructure; hardware infrastructure and raising staff capacities.

The creation of the Register of Magistrates is an activity, which has an impact on the Integrity of the Reforms and on the Judicial Sector. This archive is an infrastructure precondition for developing processes on the performance, career and evaluation of Judges and Prosecutors. Public trust is also associated with the well-functioning of the Register respectively the access to the public. The creation of the Register is one of the standards related to the importance of the Reforms in the Judicial Sector.

Currently, our organization is working for a pilot model of the Register, created with well-structured data and documents in a database aiming access to information. The objective is to facilitate the work of journalists and individuals who request information, and easy access.

Database Access for Justice Information created by AIS <http://ais.al/new/>

Notification Access for Justice Information: <http://ais.al/new/akses-info-drejtesi-nje-regjister-publik-per-magjistratet-krijuar-nga-nje-organizate-jo-qeveritare/>

Beyond our efforts, it is very important that the Register is created and functions in line with the legal obligations by the institutions themselves. Activities for achieving the Register of Magistrates as part of the Action Plan of the component Open Government for Access to Justice, is a very concrete and useful objective for the 20021-2022 Action Plan.

Hoping that our proposed activity will become part of the Albanian Government OPG Action Plan, we remain available for further cooperation and consultations.

Respectfully,

Aranita BRAHAJ
Executive Director
Albanian Institute of Science