

CZ-HUMAN RIGHTS ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT 2022: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, all the remaining calls were closed and all projects were selected within the Human Rights programme. Nowadays, altogether 61 projects are under implementation within all three programme areas - Roma Inclusion, Human Rights, and Domestic and Gender-based Violence. The programme made a significant progress towards its objective, outcomes and outputs. Some outcome and output indicators have even been exceeded.

The Human Rights programme faced two major challenges in 2022 that affected the progress and the direction of the programme towards its objective and towards the objectives of the Grants. The biggest human rights challenge became the Russian aggression and war in Ukraine which caused an unprecedented migration wave of refugees of war in Europe unheard of since 1945. The Czech Republic became the country with the most accepted Ukrainian refugees per capita in the EU and the main goal is the smooth adaptation of Ukrainian refugees of war in the Czech society. The second challenge has been the accompanying energy and economic crisis. Rising costs of oil, gas and energy accompanied by high inflation brought about a significant decrease of income and economic standards. The project promoters have to deal with high inflation rate that has a very negative impact on project budgets as well as with unavailability of construction workers (usually from Ukraine).

Bilateral cooperation between project promoters and their Norwegian partners within twelve projects brings about mutual exchange of experience. As a project example might serve the project *Education for improving human rights situation of people with mental disorder* (LP-HRMGSA-040, CZ-HUMANRIGHTS-0032) realized by the NGO Centre for Mental Health Care Development in cooperation with University of South-Eastern Norway. Main aim of the project is to reduce frequency of use of restraints and train the staff in prevention of restraints and deescalation of conflicts in six involved psychiatric hospitals in the Czech Republic. The Norwegian partner is involved as an expert in reduction of use of restraints and participates in the expert group. Together they created so called Restraint Evidence Methodology in which the Czech Ministry of Health is interested and will publish it as a recommended methodology for other Czech psychiatric hospitals.

The programme implementation in 2022 brought several valuable lessons for the Programme Operator as well as for the project promoters. All stakeholders were faced with the two major challenges. Fortunately however, all stakeholders demonstrated that the situation was manageable and that the programme is valuable and needed.