



Partnership of Public Councils and Media as a democratic platform for promoting freedom of expression, accountability and human rights

"Open communities – open media"

Implementing organisation(s)	<i>Gustav-Stresemann-Institut</i>
Duration	<i>2019-2021</i>
Project budget	<i>Total budget - €631,300 EU contribution - €599,735</i>
Project partners	<i>ProNGO!e.V., Resource Centre for Elderly, Generation 21.</i>
Location	<i>Kyrgyzstan</i>
Keywords	<i>Human rights, freedom of media, Kyrgyzstan</i>
Contract number	<i>EIDHR/2019/ 409-698</i>

Program Development Objective

The Project aims to promote the freedoms and fundamental rights of people through the formation and maintenance of a free information space, freedom of speech and expression in Kyrgyzstan.

Specific objectives

- ✓ Promoted free expression of various opinions on problems in society and public policy and increased media literacy of public councils.
- ✓ Strengthened fulfilment of the right of access to information and to the activities of accountable state bodies and institutions through a targeted media program.
- ✓ Improved inter-sectoral dialogue promoting free exchange of ideas, opinions and information and enabling members of society to form their own opinions on issues of public importance.

Main target groups

Media professionals, members of the Public Councils (PCs), line ministries.

Key challenges that the program helps to address:

- Major restriction of freedom of speech
- Persecution of journalists

Expected outcomes by December 2021

- Promoted public debate and supported free and independent media.
- Transparent functioning of the state through creation of open public discussions/dialogue platforms.
- Enhanced access to information, strengthened media's capacity to guarantee the expression of different viewpoints on issues in society and state policies.
- Supported domestic accountability, rule of law and effective oversight mechanisms and institutions.

Ensured transparency and the public's right to seek and receive information and government data, fostering responsive and accountable public bodies and institutions.

Project activities during the Emergency period (COVID 19)

- Development and organization of online headquarters work.
- Online webinars for mass media, PCs and public.
- Organization of live broadcasts.
- Monitoring / telephone interviewing / online questioning among target groups.

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