



**THE AIRE CENTRE**  
Advice on Individual Rights in Europe



**GENDER AND THE JUDICIARY**  
in the Western Balkans



**FemPlatz**  
UDRUŽENJE GRABANKI

## **CALL FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS & SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **Monitoring of Femicide and Gender Based Violence Court Cases**

In January 2023, the AIRE Centre launched a multi-year project, „Gender Equality and Fight against Gender Based Violence and Femicides in the Western Balkan“, supported by the Government of the United Kingdom.

The goal of the Project is to increase access to justice for the victims and survivors of Gender Based Violence (GBV) by improving the understanding of gender issues among the judiciary of the Western Balkans.

We plan to achieve this ambitious project goal by working closely with the judicial institutions in the Western Balkans. Some of our activities will focus on alignment of the case law on GBV and femicides with good practices and international standards. In addition, the Project Team will work on increasing the knowledge and awareness of gender issues, as well as on building the capacity of judges and other court practitioners. The project activities will focus on strengthening the judicial network, introducing new training programmes to raise awareness about gender issues and organising high-level events. The activities planned under the Project will be conducted in close cooperation with judicial training institutes across the region, as well as a regional network of judges committed to advancing gender equality in the Western Balkans (the Gender Champions in the Judiciary – GCJ Network).

The AIRE Centre is inviting civil society organisations/women's organisations committed to improving the position of women, securing women's rights, and combating gender-based violence to apply for grants for **Monitoring of Femicide and Gender Based Violence court cases**.

The AIRE Centre and FemPlatz will select one partner organisation from the following countries of the region: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia (five partners in total), which will be monitoring court proceedings in the cases of femicide, attempted femicide and other forms of gender-based violence against women in their respective countries. The trial monitoring will be conducted in line with a trial monitoring methodology developed by the project. After the partners have been selected, two members of each partner organisation will attend a two-day training programme to learn how to implement the trial monitoring methodology, which, among other things, will include the selection of cases to be monitored, the course of the monitoring process, monitoring reports, and the like.

The training will take place in Belgrade, in the second half of March 2023, and the organiser will cover all the participation costs. After the training programme, each organisation will work with the organisers to prepare a detailed activity plan, select the cases to monitor and begin the implementation of the project. Each organisation will be able to rely on the support of

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professionals and consultants throughout the Project. **The total value of the grant to be awarded to each organisation is 5,000 British Pounds**, and it can be used to cover all the necessary costs involved in the trial monitoring and the engagement of experts.

At the end of the Project, each organisation will deliver a trial monitoring report. The Project Team will use the national reports to compile a comparative regional report. The national reports and the regional compilation thereof will be presented to the GCJ Network, and promoted to reach the broader public through social networks and media campaigns.

### Stages of the Project:

Activity	Deadline
Opening a public call for women's organisations interested in monitoring the trials involving femicides and attempted femicides in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia)	Early February 2023
Applications to be submitted	25 February 2023
Partner selection process/partner appointment	Early March 2023
Two-day training programme for members of the partner organisations to familiarise themselves with a trial monitoring methodology	Second half of March 2023
Allocation of grants and preparation of a detailed activity plan using the methodology	During April 2023
Delivery of the first draft of the report	10 January 2024
Publishing consolidated reports for the Western Balkans	15 March 2024
Realisation of the Project	From April 2023 to March 2024

We are looking for partnerships with women's organisations whose goals and core activities are to promote the status of women, women's rights and/or to combat violence against women. In addition, the organisations are supposed to

- be registered under the regulations of the country in which they operate, have at least three (3) years of experience in the programmes supporting combat against violence against women and gender-based violence, also including the provision of direct services to women in a situation of violence, legal counsel or support, advocacy, research;
- have previous experience in research on violence against women and/or femicide (individual research or research in partnership with other organisations/actors);
- have at least one lawyer in their team to conduct the monitoring, who is well familiar with the legislative framework for protection of women against violence (particularly in the

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criminal proceedings – criminal and misdemeanour proceedings), and equally familiar with the relevant stakeholders for the protection of women against violence and court proceedings at home.

## Partner Selection/Appointment Process

The Project Team will set up a selection committee to review all the applications and to mark each organisation against mandatory criteria and individual scorecards, after which it will nominate selected partner organisations.

Description of mandatory criteria	Yes/No
Organisation is registered in one of the Western Balkan countries and exists for at least three years	
Priorities of the organisation are to advance the position of women, promote women's rights and combat violence against women, and these goals are clearly stated in the Statute of the organisation.	
The organisation has delivered proper and complete documentation within the deadline.	
Scorecard rewards from different aspects of the application	
Application clearly reflects the needs and goals of the call	20/100
Organisation has relevant experience in line with the needs of the call	40/100
Team to conduct the monitoring	30/100
Added value	10/100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100/100</b>

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