



INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER «LEGAL SPACE»

REPORT 2019 - 2020

Content

- ◆ **1.Mission, purpose and tasks of the organization** **3**
- ◆ **2.Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period** **4-12**
- ◆ **3.Organizational structure: collective governing bodies, team** **13-15**
- ◆ **4.Financial part** **16-17**
- ◆ **5.Partnership information (coalitions, networks, movements);
Contact information** **18**

1. Mission, purpose and tasks of the organization

Mission

We disseminate best practices and standards; unite professional communities to ensure access to justice for everyone.

The purpose

of the Organization is the development of civil society through strengthening of legal capabilities and ensuring access to justice for the population in Ukraine, dissemination of legal knowledge, development of legal practices, assistance to governmental and non-governmental organizations providing free legal aid, protection of historical and cultural monuments, implementation of public control over the legislation observance in the field of protection and use of cultural heritage, carrying out of cultural and educational work, development and implementation of innovative projects and programs of city development.

Tasks of the Organization:

- promoting the practical realization of national, regional, local and international programs aimed at implementing reforms in the legal system, observance of the human rights and strengthening the supremacy of law;
- elaboration of proposals for improving the forms and methods of providing legal aid in general and free legal aid in particular;
- development and improvement of a system for ensuring high quality legal aid;
- strengthening the impact on the legal system through the development of new forms and standards of legal aid and their transformation into established practice;
- creation and development of networks, coalitions, institutions, associations, organizations;
- establishing relations, experience exchange and various forms of cooperation with other public associations, charitable organizations, international and foreign public, charitable organizations;
- conducting educational work among the population to strengthen the people's ability to defend their rights;
- assistance in organizing and conducting of round tables, press-conferences, training seminars, film clubs, including the event announcements;
- supporting the dialogue between key partners in the field of access to justice;
- collection, analysis, systematization and dissemination of information on programs, trends and problems of legal and social development in Ukraine;
- study and analysis of the real state and trends of development of public consciousness of Ukrainian citizens to develop on this basis the recommendations concerning the society consolidation and democratization of various life spheres intended for public authorities and local governments, political parties and public associations, charitable organizations, scientific and educational institutions;
- comprehensive assistance in the protection of human rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of a person and associations of citizens;
- support of public initiatives aimed at the development of the people's self-organization and promotion of sustainable development of civil society in Ukraine;
- involvement of citizens, collectives of enterprises, educational and cultural-educational institutions, scientific institutions and public organizations to participate in the identification, study, protection, restoration and promotion of historical monuments;
- identification and scientific research of monuments, making proposals for their state registration. Development of projects of targeted complex programs, concepts and recommendations on protection and usage of historical monuments;
- participation in consideration of projects of planning, building and reconstruction of cities and other historically established settlements;
- broad cooperation with state authorities, public and amateur formations, whose sphere of activity is protection of cultural heritage;
- execution of public control over the observance of the legislation of cultural heritage protection;
- organization and participation in scientific expeditions to identify, study and protect historical monuments;
- study of international experience in protection of cultural heritage, development of new scientific problems in this field; promotion of the experience of public participation in the protection of cultural heritage, holding meetings, seminars, conferences on the protection of historical monuments;
- participation in the organization of lecture, tourist, excursion, exhibition activities aimed at educating of historical memory in the people, a sense of patriotism, profound respect for the historical and cultural heritage of Ukrainians and other nations living in Ukraine and abroad;
- attract funds of compatriots and foreign citizens, government offices, enterprises and organizations of all forms of ownership for the implementation of measures for the protection and usage of historical monuments;
- providing organizational support and coordination of efforts aimed at approving and implementing the city's strategy;
- Conducting of research, including marketing and sociological ones to determine public opinion, prospects for the city development as a whole as well as its separate branches;
- Establishing partnerships with international organizations in order to attract external experience, knowledge and funds for the implementation and financing of urban development programs in Ukraine as well as other investment projects;
- Influencing the processes of community development by involving broad masses of population to improve social, cultural, spiritual and other needs of the citizens, to create favorable conditions for improving the social and economic development of cities, for effective usage of internal resources of local community, for development, implementation and protection of intellectual achievements of community members.

2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

◆ Activities in the field of access to justice

The Kherson office of Legal development network has been operating at the NGO Information Resource Center (IRC) "Legal Space" since 2015, the date of establishment of the public association. In the office professional lawyers and attorneys provide free primary legal aid to all those in need, including vulnerable groups, preferential categories of citizens.

History in short: early in 2015 there was no systematic organization of primary free legal aid to citizens in Kherson. There was neither a specific algorithm for solving the problems of the city's residents, nor a specific place where people could receive free legal aid. This resulted in that Kherson residents had to go "where the eyes could see" with their legal problems: to the city officials and authorities whose competence did not include legal aspects at all. Thus, the organization of assistance to people in the legal field needed a solution.

The way out of the situation in Kherson with free primary legal aid to the people was found in cooperation between the mayor office and Kherson Office of Legal development network attached to NGO IRC "Legal Space". The director of the public organization Natalia Bimbirayte and the city mayor Volodymyr Mykolayenko decided to organize the provision of free legal services to Kherson residents on the basis of the Office of Legal development network at IRC "Legal Space". At the same time the mayor's office together with representatives of public organizations had to complete the current local regulatory framework concerning the organization in the city of a systematic work on providing the citizens with free primary legal aid.

In 2020, the Kherson City Council (KCC) assigned a sum of 100 hryvnias from the city budget to provide free primary legal aid to vulnerable groups of the Kherson city community by NGO "IRC "Legal Space". Lawyers of the Organization held a reception in the administrative building of Kherson City Council at 37 Ushakova Ave., office 115 (ground floor). The premises were provided for the free usage of the Organization for the placement of legal reception of the City center for free primary legal aid in accordance with the decision No 1291 of KCC session dated 30.03.2018.

During the reporting period the lawyers of NGO "IRC "Legal Space" provided 532 legal advices (including written legal documents).

◆ Facing the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic

During the quarantine period due to the spread of coronavirus COVID-19 and to protect clients from the infection, our lawyers switched to remote regime of the free legal aid:

- **by the phone: +380 99 468 38 48, from Monday to Thursday from 9:00 till 17:00.**
- **through the Facebook page of IRC "Legal Space":** <https://www.facebook.com/legalspace.org>
- **via email:** kherson2@ldn.org.ua
- **Skype "Правовий простір" ("Legal space");**

* Primary legal aid included: providing legal information, counseling; preparation of applications, complaints and other legal documents (except for procedural documents); providing extracts from the legislation; providing assistance in a person's access to secondary legal aid and mediation.

◆ 8 hotlines were opened

On April, 15th eight telephone hotlines were launched in Kherson region to provide legal and social counseling, psychological support for women and men in difficult life circumstances due to quarantine, domestic violence and for other vulnerable groups of women and their families.

The work of telephone hotlines was coordinated with Department of social protection of the population at the regional state administration. The activity of telephone hotlines in Kherson region is a joint action of the informal partnership of public organizations in Kherson region facing the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic:

Public organization NGO "Public Center" New Generation ", NGO " Kherson Regional Center "Successful Woman", Charitable organization Community Foundation of Gola Prystan' "St. Olga", NGO "All Yours", NGO "Informational Human Rights Protection Center "Edelweiss", NGO "Perspective", NGO "Information Resource Center "Legal Space", Charitable Organization "Charity and Health Foundation".

The informal partnership is supported on the basis of the Interregional resource center for development of women's organizations capacity, established by the NGO "Public center "New Generation" within the frameworks of the project "Women of Ukraine: involved, able, undefeated", implemented by organization Pact Ukraine with the financial support of Embassy of Canada in Ukraine.

2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

◆ Public headquarters to fight the spread of coronavirus in Kherson "COVID-2019 INFO Kherson"

The Public Headquarters is an initiative that unites active Ukrainians in fighting the spread of coronavirus in Kherson. It is a coordination platform for those who need help and those who can help in this crisis situation related to the virus spread.

The initiative works in the following directions: legal, psychological, informational and educational.

The basic activity: to provide remote legal and psychological assistance, professional explanations and dissemination of verified information in certain groups in social networks dedicated to informing the community of Kherson and Kherson region about the coronavirus: clarification, advices on the innovations in legislation, means of struggle, prevention, as well as informing about the spread, the fight against the pandemic in the city and the region, preventing the spread of fake news. Everyone can find the initiatives to join in their region. And those who need help - find those who can help.

◆ Legal and psychological support during the crisis.

Influence of the coordination center is to prevent the spread of panic and harmful fakes, violation of the quarantine regime and to defeat the coronavirus jointly in difficult conditions of minimal social contact. Motivate people to stay calm, take care of their health and help each other, encourage them to volunteer to support vulnerable people, especially aged ones. The initiative brings together journalists, businessmen, communicators and just the responsible citizens who are ready to use their knowledge and skills to actively confront the consequences of the pandemic together with active civil society representatives.

◆ Some author's publications in the media:

"How to pay for a credit during quarantine: a lawyer advises"

"For violation of quarantine rules - penalty and what rules are introduced in Kherson"

"New rules for obtaining benefits for housing and communal services for children of WWII"

"Personal protective equipment: is everything so obvious?"

"Insurance payments in the event of illness or death of medical personnel due to infection by severe acute respiratory sickness COVID-19" caused by coronavirus"

"What is self-isolation and how to follow it properly: Kherson lawyer explains"

"How to protect yourself from the offender and violence in the quarantine conditions"

"What is domestic violence and what are its symptoms: psychologist says"

"How to escape from domestic violence: advices from a psychologist"

"Procedure for providing financial assistance for partial unemployment for the quarantine period"

"Quarantine: whether all consumer credits are prohibited from imposing penalties"

◆ Video on Suspilne TV (Public TV) Kherson "[Public organizations united to help quarantine victims in Kherson region](#)"

Facebook page "STOPCovid-19 Kherson" - more than 120 posts, collected more than 4 thousand interactions and coverage - more than 40 thousand.

The project was designed for a month, from April, 17th to May, 18th. We consider the fulfillment of all the goals set to be a key achievement. We continued to work and after the completion of the project, we managed to attract additional funding in the amount of 500 euros from a Lithuanian citizen born in Kherson.

We managed to:

- Establish the work of the team. The main team included experienced and authoritative specialists: 2 lawyers, psychologist, journalist, social media manager, 3 experts in the areas of: coordination with volunteers and assistance to hospitals of Kherson region, coordination of work with headquarters and authorities, human rights and advocacy campaigns / information communication tools.

- Stable communication has been established in the team as well as with residents of the city and region.

- The number of subscribers is growing steadily. Our posts in the Facebook group created on April, 17th and at the page "STOPCovid-19 Kherson" collected.

We also managed to quickly form a coalition of 8 non-governmental and charitable organizations at the beginning of the quarantine to help people who were in difficult life circumstances due to quarantine or faced domestic violence. To do this, 8 hotlines have been started, where lawyers and psychologists provided consultations.

2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

Some stories

The appeal from a large family in the city of Kherson was impressive. The mother was unable to obtain the status of a large family timely to receive appropriate assistance from the state. The family was on the verge of starvation. The call was made by a friend who could no longer support this family by herself. It should be noted that due to the father had lost his job, the family did not have access to the internet and did not have the funds to top up mobile phone account.

According to the request of the mother, social support was organized for the family, during the quarantine month food was organized and delivered at the expense of the funds of Red Cross, "Voice" and "Petro Poroshenko" parties, and other private individuals which were involved in providing the help. Consultations were also provided on the procedure of obtaining the status of a mother with many children and further state aid.

In August of 2019, the Ministry of Social Policy reported that about 3.2 million Ukrainians work abroad on a permanent basis, and during a certain period - from 7 to 9 million people. According to NBU (National Bank of Ukraine), in 2019 the inflow of money transfers to Ukraine amounted to about \$12 billion.

Labor migration has both positive and negative effects, but we will not going to analyze and compare for now, we will talk about facts.

The matter concerns the case when a 30-year-old resident of a rural area from Kherson region, the veteran of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) having the veteran's certificate, went to work in Estonia. He needed urgent assistance in returning to Ukraine. The man has been operated in Estonia (craniocerebral trauma after a fall under unknown circumstances, currently does not speak, declared to be disabled, bed-patient, in need of transportation by medical transport, the condition is stably severe; is in hospital with his mother who cares for him).

The consul in Estonia requested assistance in organizing the return of the citizen back home to Ukraine, as the term of insurance and stay time in the country expired at the end of May, the family had no funds for his return, and consular expenses do not cover such support and transportation. The situation is complicated not only by the patient's condition, but also by the fact that the transportation must cross the borders of four countries (Estonia, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine) and take into account the quarantine conditions, risks of COVID-19 contagion on the way during refueling of specialized vehicle, technical stops, border crossings etc.

The project expert consulted with the head of Kerson regional state administration (KRSA), Yuri Gusev, and with the management of Department of Health of KRSA, Viktor Korolenko, with representatives of Ministry of public health, State emergency service of Ukraine.

Project expert A. Lytvynenko took part in a joint meeting organized by KRSA Deputy Chairman, Svitlana Chepiha with representatives of Veterans department, Health care department, and the Department of social protection. It had been decided that it was optimal to transport the patient with his mother by air medical service when taking into account the above mentioned risks. The consultations were held on the preparation of appeals and the mailing of letters signed by the head of KRSA were organized to Ministry of foreign affairs, the Ministry of public health, and the State Emergency Service with a request to provide air medical service for transporting a sick Ukrainian from Estonia.

The Consul in Estonia assisted and provided the opportunity by the Tallinn Airport to receive the air ambulance from Ukraine, and an ambulance had taken the patient from the hospital to the airport.

Deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the people, public organizations of veterans, and the media were involved in positive resolving of the issue as well as in making a decision on the providing of air medical service.

Assistance to medical institutions of Kherson region was coordinated by Maryna Voitenko in cooperation with the NGO "Patients of Ukraine" and Serhiy Prytula. Total items transferred free of charge:

- on April, 21, 2020: 250 ffp3 respirators to UNE "Kherson city clinical hospital named after Aphanasy and Olga Tropiny";
- on April, 21, 2020: 650 ffp3 respirators to district hospitals: 100 respirators to Verkhniy Rogachyk CDH and CFMSH, 300 to Oleshky CDH and 150 to Oleshky CFMSH;
- on May, 5, 2020: 730 ffp2 respirators to Oleshky CDH;
- on May, 13, 2020: 8 reusable suits to Kherson regional anti-tuberculosis dispensary;
- on May, 20, 2020: 220 bioprotection suits to Oleshky CDH

2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

Activities in the field of establishing the interaction between the police and the population

In early 2016, the platform of tripartite cooperation "Safe City" was created in Kherson between NGOs, police and city residents. Its participants make efforts to increase the legal awareness of the population, to increase the professional level of patrol police, to increase the level of interaction between local governments, police and the public, as well as to create a safe environment in our city. In 2018, the director of the organization, Natalia Bimbirayte, became a member of the Public Advisory Group for the creation of the first public space in Kherson city.

Kherson City code

NGO "IRC "Legal Space" has joined the project on the research and creation of public spaces, which was created in partnership with urban curators, scientific and artistic platform "Island", the program "City Code", design studio Formografia, Texty.org.

The purpose of the project is to understand the development of the city and the processes in it, to make a decision about creating an urban space based on data and results of spatial research and interviewing the residents as well as designing new spaces in two cities: Kherson and Berdyansk. "Interaction Constructions" is an educational and research project of "City Code" program for the study and development of urban space and the creation of human-oriented architectural forms. The focus is on participatory work with local communities in Kherson, Berdyansk and Zhytomyr. The method is based on spatial research, interviewing the residents and analysis of the city open data.

The first stage was the participation of teams from Berdyansk and Kherson, which had the ideas for the creation of public spaces in the Interdisciplinary school "Constructions of Interaction", which took place from September, 28th to October, 4th in Zhytomyr. As a result of Kherson team participation, a location was chosen for the new space: near the planetarium in Suvorova Street.

The second stage was the participation of Kherson residents in focus groups and discussion of the future of the new public space.

The third stage: from 6th to 11th of November, a team of architects together with active residents of Kherson led by "Ormografia design studio" explored the city in order to identify areas and places for potential transformations. As a result of the analysis of locations and the interviews conducted, the place was chosen for which the architectural project of the public space is being developed currently. This is an abandoned area between the planetarium and the building of Korabelny district council (between 29 Suvorova Str. and 14 Vorontsovska Str.).

The presentation of the results of research and the space developed is scheduled for the beginning of 2021.

The project was created in partnership with urban curators, the scientific and artistic platform "Island", the program "City Code", design studio Formografia, Texty.org.ua and is implemented with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

In order to make the project possible, NGO Information Resource Center "Legal Space" signed a [MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION in the implementation of "Creating a public space in Suvorov Str."](#). The memorandum was signed between Kherson city council, Main department of national police in Kherson region, Patrol police department in Kherson region, NGOs "KRC "Successful woman", "IRC "Legal space", "Center of cultural development "Totem".



The method is based on spatial research, interviewing the residents and analysis of



2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period



Kherson public has been going to this day for two long years. Because a lot of efforts had to be made to convince the city authorities and, in particular, the deputies about the need to create a modern multifunctional public space in the city center, where every initiative Kherson resident could realize his/her creative, social and cultural ideas.

In accordance with the terms of this Memorandum, the Parties agreed to unite the efforts and to begin jointly "Creation of a public space in Suvorova Str." on the following principles of public spaces: multifunctionality, individuality of space; integration: harmonious combination with other spaces and environments (analysis of the historical environment); balance of design; accessibility: regardless of social status, gender and age, as well as open to low mobility groups, in different weather conditions and seasons; use of ecological strategy during the choice of materials, technologies and forms; security: controllability; comfort: convenience, importance to a person, comprehensibility of geometry. Public space includes the placement of recreational and educational functions and should become a social magnet of Suvorova Street. This zone will include a park area with podiums, lawns for convenience, an educational area and exhibition areas.

A comfortable public space is able to bring profit, revive business and cultural activity in the city, improve the microclimate and increase the value of urban lands. The initiative group includes Kherson city council, Main department of national police in Kherson region, Patrol police department in Kherson region, NGOs "KRC "Successful woman", "IRC "Legal space", "Center of cultural development "Totem", Business association "We are Kherson citizens".



Sheriffs for New Communities

"Sheriffs for New Communities" is a joint project of CO "Charity and Health Foundation" and NGO "IRC "Legal Space" launched in 2018 and designed to share the successful experience of rural communities in organizing safe environments. In the frameworks of the project we collect information and discuss public security issues in rural areas in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Poltava and Khmelnytsky regions.

The project is administered by CO "Charity and Health Foundation" with the support of Mott International Foundation.

In 2020 to establish the contacts with united territorial communities, to identify the impact of community police officers and sheriffs (in various organizational forms) on the security situation in the communities of 6 regions, to reveal successes and faults in the work and to analyze the security programs adopted in UTC, we added regional coordinators to the project team. Thus, Mykolaiv and Kherson regions were coordinated by Iryna Ukhvarina, Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions - by Yuriy Chumak, Poltava region - by Serhiy Zhuk, and Khmelnytsky region - by Victoria Ilchysheva.

During the reporting period **45 trips** were made (Kherson and Mykolaiv regions - 17, Poltava region - 9, Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions - 13, Khmelnytsky region - 6); based on the results, **84 articles** were prepared and published on the "Sheriffs for the New Communities" website <https://sheriffua.org>. Except for the Ukrainian experience, 6 papers were published in the section "World Experience", in particular, the experience of "sheriffs" in the USA, Canada, Lithuania, Estonia, and 6 more papers - in the section "Analytical Articles". There are also **186** publications on the project's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ukrainiansheriff/> and **69** publications in the online newspaper "Vgoru" <https://vgoru.org/special-projects/bezpeka-v-gromadax>.

Police reform in Ukraine started in 2015. In 2018 the project "Police officer of the community" was initiated and was officially launched on May 29th, 2019 when 34 community police officers began their service in 22 territorial communities of Dnipropetrovsk region. The Ministry of Internal Affairs planned to complete the project by the end of 2020. But this did not happen. As of November, 2020, community police officers serve only in 13 regions: Volyn, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Zaporizhia, Kirovohrad, Luhansk, Lviv, Rivne, Cherkasy, Kharkiv, and Khmelnytsky. Currently, 365 community police officers serve 3,313,998 people in 4,256 places (229 UTCs).



2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

- ◆ **The main goal of the project "Police officer of the community"** is to provide each united territorial community of Ukraine with a professional officer who will become its integral part:
 - will take an active part in the life of own community;
 - will establish personal contact with every person in it;
 - will carry out preventive work among the local people (topical meetings, speeches in schools, joint initiatives, etc.);
 - will cooperate with residents;
 - will help to resolve conflict situations;
 - control the observance by individuals and legal entities of the rules and procedures for storage and usage of weapons;
 - will fight against raiding and poaching;
 - will ensure order and security in the territory of his/her community (quoted from the state website <https://decentralization.gov.ua/news/12696>).
- ◆ **Features.** Community police officers (CPO) not only work in a particular UTC, but mostly live there as well and, therefore, are the part of the community. Each CPO is equipped with a service vehicle (Renault Duster), in contrast to a district police officer.
- ◆ **As a result of the reform!** Prior to the police reform, one district militia inspector had to serve about **2.2 thousand people**, and after the reform, the area served by one district police officer (DPO) - a district police station - should have a population not exceeding **6 thousand people** in rural areas and **7 thousand people** in cities. Actually, as it was found out by the project team, the number of people served by one district police officer reaches 24 thousand people, the district includes up to 26 settlements. In remote villages people often complain that they see their district officer once a six months or less.
- ◆ **The second reform** which has been going on since 2014 and significantly affecting the security is **Decentralization reform**: it means the transfer of powers and finances from the state authorities to the people as close as possible, i.e. to the local governments. The first stage took place in 2015–2019. In Ukraine, 982 united territorial communities (UTC) were established on a voluntary basis. These UTCs include about 4,500 former local councils. 11 million people live in UTCs. In February, 2020, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Community and Territorial Development, Denis Shmygal said that the decentralization reform would be completed in 2020 by holding local elections in autumn on the new territorial basis of the communities. During the year the Government approved a new administrative-territorial structure of the basic level. According to the orders of the Cabinet of Ministers, after the local elections in Ukraine there will be 1469 territorial communities, which will cover the entire territory of the country. In July, 2020, Verkhovna Rada (the Parliament) of Ukraine adopted Resolution № 3650 "On the formation and liquidation of districts." According to the document, now there are 136 districts in Ukraine. The former 490 districts were liquidated by the parliament. Also the Resolution 3809 on holding of regular local elections on October 25th, 2020 was adopted. The Verkhovna Rada adopted changes to the election law. As a result, after the regular local elections held in autumn, 2020 on the new territorial basis of districts and communities, authorities between the levels of government had to be differentiated on a subsidiary principle. Community residents should be provided with mechanisms and tools for the influence on local government and for participating in decision-making. On October, 20th, 2020 the Minister of Community and Territorial Development Oleksij Chernyshov stated that the decentralization reform should be completed in 2021. The changes are expected to be made in the Constitution concerning the decentralization, which are needed for further advance and finishing of the reform. <https://decentralization.gov.ua/about> According to experts, the first stage of decentralization, which ends in 2020, does not solve the problem of disproportion between the territories yet. In particular, in the issues concerning the quality and quantity of services provided at the local level. The division of powers between state and local authorities in the context of administrative reform results in a number of problems faced by UTCs. "The problem that will arise next year is the balancing of powers between the local authorities and the state ones. There should be the full functioning of local self-government, but there is resistance to this, because no one wants to take the responsibility, since the state subventions are decreasing and the burden on the local budget will increase," - [Danilov said](#). At the same time, according to him, there are no tools for local governments to exercise their powers.



2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

Video content

Since May 2019, the project team has been negotiating with the Kherson branch of public broadcasting – "Suspilne Movlennja" about the possibility of joint production of documentaries about the life of communities and sheriffs in Kherson region. Last year the project was selected at the open competition "Create with the Sushilne". But due to problems related to the reform of "Suspilne" network in the regions of Ukraine, the production of videos began in the summer of 2020 and continued until the end of October.

"The Program "Sheriffs for New Communities" is the number of stories about unusual citizens of Kherson region who work in their communities "instead of a policeman." [Since November 9th, 2020, 12 episodes of the TV magazine "Sheriffs for New Communities" are broadcast on all of the regional TV channels of "Suspilne" every Monday at 9:35pm.](#)

In the agreement with "Suspilne" about the production of TV episodes "Sheriffs for New Communities" there is a condition that we can also publish the episodes on the platform <https://sheriffua.org/> and <https://vgoru.org/> and at their social networks' pages in 30 days after the broadcast of each episode on the branches of "Suspilne". During the reporting period, 3 of 12 new episodes had already been posted. The rest will be posted till March, 2021.

UA: ХЕРСОН

Телепрограма

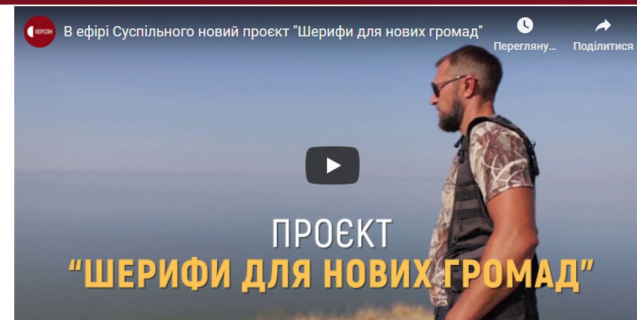
Новини

Програми

Онлайн

Новини компанії

Контакти



9th Civil Society Development Forum "Immunity to Illusions" December, 17th, 2020

For the first time, the Forum took place in the form of an All-Ukrainian telethon, which united all regions of the country. 25 communication platforms in all regions of Ukraine have formed an interactive map of civil society which demonstrates unity in times of uncertainty. The topic "Immunity to Illusions" focused the Forum on the process of capabilities development of civil society organizations (CSOs) in a changing and complex environment. Particular attention was paid to the role and mission of CSOs in formation of the country's GDP as an "added value" of civil society, as well as to promoting cross-sectoral partnership between civil society, business and government. Separate sections were devoted to the interaction between civil society and state and local authorities.

The regional partner of the Forum in Kherson region was Public center "New Generation" and Public platform of Kherson, which provided the offline local platform of the Forum. Within the framework of the Forum there was a presentation "Successful models of organizing of a safe environment in rural communities. Ukrainian and international experience" conducted by Natalia Bimbirayte, Head of the joint project of CO "Charity and Health Foundation" and NGO "IRC "Legal Space" – "Sheriffs for New Communities".

To learn more about the results of the project is possible at the website <https://sheriffua.org/>



2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

"Public budget" is a kind of competition for the most interesting ideas of improving the city's sights and infrastructure. The money for their implementation is allocated from the city budget. And by voting the residents themselves chose what exactly will be implemented.

The information and promotional campaigns of the public budget of the city of Kherson for 2020 was conducted by: NGO "IRC "Legal space", NGO "Global view", CO "Charity and health foundation", newspaper "Vgoru" and with the support of Kherson city council.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, the second Public budget of Kherson still took place.

Due to the quarantine the applications reception started later: on June, 15th, while last year – on April, 15. Kherson residents had to write down the idea of the project and calculate the budget. Unlike the last year, when projects could be submitted in paper form, this year all the projects were submitted through the electronic platform ["Public Project Kherson" exceptionally](#).

This year the [School of Public Budget](#) opened its doors to interested Kherson residents. The coaches taught citizens how to implement their ideas at the expense of the Public budget free of charge. Kherson residents had the opportunity to attend the training "How to submit your project to the public budget?", where they were told about the features of each stage: from the submission of idea to its implementation. As well as two workshops were available: "Electronic platform "Public project" and "How and where to collect the votes to win?"

Also, the authors of the projects of both years had the opportunity to meet in an informal atmosphere during the meetings of "Club of project authors" and to discuss the implementation of last year's winners, victories and failures of their own project "campaigns", as well as to express their proposals to the public budget process in the city.

Last year, the authors of the projects presented their ideas to citizens at public discussions. Unfortunately, due to the quarantine rules acting in Ukraine, the authors were unable to speak publicly about their projects this year. But they could record a short video (up to 3 minutes) or make presentations, which were placed at the city council's website. Also the information about each project was published at the Public budget page on [Facebook](#).

In total, Kherson residents submitted 97 projects, 85 of which [were allowed to be voted for](#).

Voting took place from 5th to 19th of October. Large projects had to obtain at least 500 votes, small ones - 300. The winners were determined by the rating system since the total funding of the winner projects was limited to 10 million hryvnias.

"This year, more people voted online. In addition, Kherson residents were more active, many projects received more than 1,000 votes, while last year to determine the winners, we even had to reduce the minimum number of votes to win from 250 for small and 500 for large to 200 and 400 votes, respectively," said the Head of the coordination committee on Public budget of Kherson, Lyudmila Kuzmenko.

In 2 weeks, 17,527 Kherson residents voted, giving a total of 50,349 votes. According to the results, [18 projects won](#): 5 large and 13 small.

[All the winner projects will be implemented during 2021](#). The winner projects are implemented by local executive power bodies. Authors of ideas are not engaged in their direct implementation and do not receive money. However, they have the right to watch for the implementation and control the actions of officials in the process of implementing of their ideas.

All the news of Public budget and events announcements can also be found on Facebook page ["Public Budget of Kherson"](#).



2. Main activity and projects completed during the reporting period

◆ Collective exit from PA Legal development network

NGO "IRC "Legal Space" together with partners (9 organizations) terminated their membership in Legal development network. The reasons were explained publicly by publishing a collective statement at the [Public space portal](#) and the websites of their organizations.

The collective statement says: "On December, 10 we celebrate Human rights day. Precisely because human rights are the highest value for us, today we have made an important and responsible decision to terminate our membership in the Public Association "Legal development network", which we declare publicly with the explanation following.

During the last year, we have revealed numerous facts of violation by the Executive Director of the Network of the norms of the Statute of PA "Legal development network". We have not been able to obtain accountability from the Executive Director to the Management Board, the Supervisory Board and the members of the Network. We can no longer tolerate gross violations by the Executive Director of the values, regulations, policies and procedures adopted by the Network, ignoring the decisions of the highest governing body of the Network - the General Meeting of the Association, as well as the differences we found in their activity.

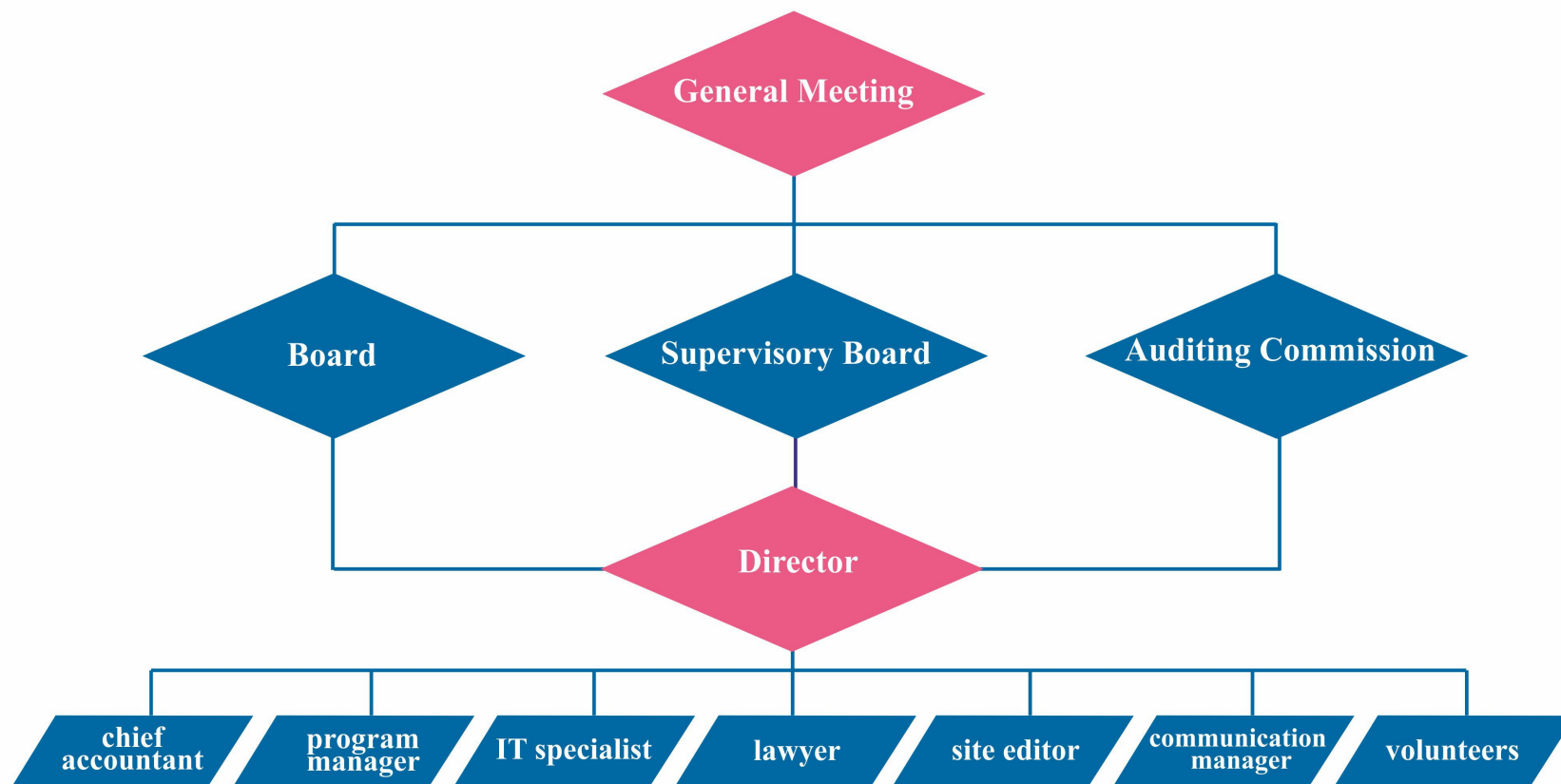
◆ We have no idea from which donors for what activities and what funds the organization receives and we do not know how their Executive Director spends them. At the same time he reports to donors using the activities of 23 member organizations of the Network, including the activities and successes of our organizations.

Under such conditions, we consider it impossible for our organizations to continue cooperating in the Network and forbid the "Legal development network" to report to their donors and to use in their public reporting the assets and results of our organizations activity as well as copyrighted texts, photo and video materials of members of our organizations in operational and financial reports submitted by the Executive Director.

On the portal "Public Space" one can read the full text of the [Collective statement for termination of membership](#) and [The comment of the members of Supervisory Board of "Legal development network" on the Collective statement for termination of membership of 9 NGOs in the Network](#).

3. Organizational structure: collective governing bodies, team

The management system of the Organization consists of:



3. Organizational structure: collective governing bodies, team

The team



Serhiy Plakhotniuk
lawyer, head of Kherson Office
of Ministry of Regional Development
attached to NGO "IRC "Legal Space"



Natalia Bimbirayte
director of the organization



Olena Pavlovskaya
accountant of the organization



Vyacheslav Lyakh
lawyer



Natalia Yushko
lawyer



Maxim Magda
lawyer



Tatiana Len'
communication manager



Dmytro Zhukov
IT specialist



Yulia Sytnyk
program manager

3. Organizational structure: collective governing bodies, team



4. Financial part

The main projects completed during the reporting period 2019 and sources of financial support

Services for provision of free primary legal aid to vulnerable groups of the community of Kherson city, year 2019, funding from the budget of Kherson city council	21 000 UAH	13%
Information and promotional campaign of the public budget of the city of Kherson for year 2019. Financing from the budget of Kherson city council	149950 UAH	
«The energy of change: the legal dimension» year 2019, funding from International Foundation "Renaissance"	349550 UAH	86%
Development of the institutional capacity of the «Legal Dimension portal», year 2019, funding from International Foundation "Renaissance"	812621 UAH	
Private donations	16494 UAH	1%
TOTAL	1349615 UAH	
Participation in partnership projects		
"Sheriffs for New Communities", a joint project of CO "Charity and Health Foundation" and NGO "IRC "Legal Space" launched in 2018 with the support of Mott International Foundation. Administered by CO "Charity and Health Foundation"	50 000 USD	

Costs	
Administrative Costs	385976 UAH
Program Costs	963639 UAH
Total	1349615 UAH

4. Financial part

The main projects completed during the reporting period 2020 and sources of financial support

Services for provision of free primary legal aid to vulnerable groups of the community of Kherson city, year 2020, funding from the budget of Kherson city council	100,000 UAH	%
Information and promotional campaign of the public budget of the city of Kherson for year 2020. Financing from the budget of Kherson city council	171,745 UAH	80%
Public Headquarters to fight the spread of coronavirus in Kherson "COVID-2019 INFO Kherson", year 2020, funding from International Foundation "Renaissance"	50,000 UAH	15%
Private donations	18,890 UAH	5%
TOTAL	340,635 UAH	
Participation in partnership projects		
"Sheriffs for New Communities", a joint project of CO "Charity and Health Foundation" and NGO "IRC "Legal Space" launched in 2018 with the support of Mott International Foundation. Administered by CO "Charity and Health Foundation"	50,000 USD	

Costs	
Administrative Costs	45000 UAH
Program Costs	295635 UAH
Total	340635 UAH

5.Partnership information (coalitions, networks, movements); Contact information

Participation in coalitions, networks and movements

"IRC "Legal Space" is a co-founder of "[Public Platform of Kherson](#)" (which includes 15 organizations), a member of the coalition "[Kherson is a territory free of violence](#)" (includes 17 organizations), Public advisory group on creation of Public Space together with MDNP in Kherson region, informal advocacy group for the protection of communal property objects and cultural monuments of the territorial community of Kherson, a member of the coalition for the protection, research and saving of the common cultural heritage of Ukraine and Lithuania in Kherson region territory.

Partners

Charitable organization "Charity and Health Foundation"
 NGO "Docudays"
 Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union (UHHRU)
 Regional center of free secondary legal aid (FSLA) in Kherson region
 Kherson local center for free secondary legal aid
 KRO of Committee of voters of Ukraine
 NGO "Belozerka center of regional development"
 NGO "Center of cultural development "Totem"
 NGO "Global view"
 Regional branch of the Association of Ukrainian cities
 KCPO "Cultural center Ukraine-Lithuania"
 NGO "Nova Kahovka society of cultural heritage protection "
 NGO "Public center "New generation"
 NGO "Successful woman"
 CO "Charitable Foundation "Future of Kherson region"
 CO "Foundation of Kherson community "Zahyst" ("Protection")
 NGO "Urban Re-Public"
 NGO "Zhyva-Ya" ("Alive Me")
 NGO "All-Ukrainian organization of persons with disabilities "VALID"
 NGO "Business association "We are Kherson residents"
 CO "Another one"
 NGO "Impulse of Kherson region"
 CO "Positive women"
 NGO "Sunny children of Kherson region"
 NGO "August Virlich foundation"
 NGO "League of socially responsible women"
 CO "Community foundation of Gola Prystan' "St. Olga"
 NGO "Usi svoi" (Our people), Skadovsk
 NGO "Human Rights Information Center "Edelweis", Chaplynka
 NGO "Perspective", Nova Kahovka

Contact information:

Address: NGO "Information Resource Center "Legal Space ", 73003, Kherson, 2 Borys Mozolevsky Str. (former Frunze Str.), office 6.
Phone number: +380 99 468 38 48
Website: <http://legalspace.org>
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/legalspace.org/?ref=ts&fref=ts>

