



Communication on Engagement 2020/2021

Statement by the chief executive or equivalent expressing continued support for the UN Global Compact and renewing the participant's ongoing commitment to the initiative

Center for Democracy Foundation (CDF) has been a Global Compact participant since 2008. CDF fully supports the UN Global Compact and the ten principles regarding human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

CDF is a not-for profit, non-governmental and non-partisan organization which, along 25 years of operation, has undertaken more than 100 projects. Our mission is to encourage and mobilize citizens for building a democratic society based on solidarity and sustainable development, and advance economic, social and cultural rights and advocate for responsible and efficient institutions through research, education and public dialogue.

CDF is one of the leading organizations in Serbia in the field of socio-economic development which in the last 14 years has been constantly increasing its expertise and experience in the monitoring of economic, social and labor rights in a changing economic environment and in the context of the development perspective. CDF has become recognized and credible interlocutor on related topics, invited as consultant and associate by domestic and foreign organizations and institutions. CDF has a wide network of partners and associates, in public and business sector. It influenced public policies through recommending modification of legal and institutional framework. This expertise earned the CDF a position of a Chair of the Working group for monitoring Chapters 2 and 19 (free movement of workers, social policy and employment) within the National Convention on the EU (NCEU).

CDF will continue its commitment and support to the UN Global Compact and its principles through CDF's future activities and projects.

On behalf of the Centre for Democracy Foundation,

Žanka Panić

Secretary General

Belgrade, 3 March, 2020

A description of the practical actions that the organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative

CDF actively supports the UN Global Compact initiative and principles through its activities and projects.

CDF is one of the leading organizations active in Serbia in the socio-economic field where CDF advocates for the policies of sustainable economic and social development policies, through a wide network of partners and associates, from trade unions to employers, and from academia to civil society.

By constantly increasing its expertise and experience in the monitoring of economic, social and labor rights in a changing economic environment and in the context of the development perspective, CDF influenced public policies through recommending modification of legal and institutional framework.

This expertise earned the CDF a position of a Chair of the Working group for monitoring Chapters 2 and 19 (Freedom of Movement for Workers and Social Policy and Employment) within the National Convention on the EU (NCEU), the largest CSOs umbrella organization in Serbia.

CDF directs its activities in the field of economic and social rights to the needs of vulnerable target groups, such as women, young people, elderly citizens, members of the LGBT community, etc. The Foundation has provided direct legal advice to more than 20,000 people.

Center for Democracy Foundation implements its activities through 3 main programs: Program 1 – Promoting EU values in Serbia through democracy, rule of law and human rights; Program 2 – Labour rights, employment and social cohesion; Program 3 - Promoting Public Dialogue.

Program 1 – Promoting EU values in Serbia through democracy, rule of law and human rights

Regional Youth Compact for Europe is a three-year project (2018-2021), financed by the European Commission, implemented by Center for Democracy and 13 partners from the Western Balkans Region. Various activities aims to contribute to empowerment of CSOs, particularly the youth organizations in WB and Turkey, to more effectively participate in reforms relative to the EU accession negotiation process, to dialogue with governments and influence policy through consolidating platforms for regional cooperation, fostering participative culture and promoting active citizenship, accountability of government to citizens and society and nurturing common European identity.

Project LAWGEM, supported by the Erasmus + Program, led by the Faculty of Law from Belgrade, with Center for Democracy as a partner, aims firstly, to build a fully innovative systemic curriculum of master legal studies (the main intellectual outcome), which would encompass all relevant fields of legal education and legal practice, as well as non-legal relevant fields such as the economic analysis of law, criminology, and other social-psychological fields of research and knowledge. It started in December 2019.

Public Reading of the EC Report on Serbia – Setting the Tone for Debating the Report, in cooperation with the European Western Balkans with goal to present to domestic public key findings of the European Commission regarding the progress towards reforms on the Serbian road to European Union.

Program 2 - Labour rights, employment and social cohesion

Labour Rights are Our Rights – 4 year lasting project supported by the Olof Palme International Center, implements set of activities with aim to contribute to improvement of implementation of DECENT WORK STANDARDS and protection of labour rights, which includes different stakeholders (state institutions, trade unions, NGOs, citizens...). Some of the activities are Annual Report on the Status of Labour Rights in Serbia (2018, 2019), Launched Platform against Cheap Work (2018) addressing the need for improved social dimension of the reforms, Statistics and Decent Work - A Critical Analysis of the Political Interpretation of Labour Statistics, 2017; Initiative for Intergenerational dialogue through workshops and focus groups (2019)...

Policies for the Benefit All – Measuring Social Impact of Public Policies through Empowerment and Inclusion of Citizens – The project aims to contribute to strengthening of the social dimension of the process of Serbia's accession to the EU, through promoting the European Pillar of Social Rights, through the creation of a methodology for measuring impact of public policies onto society and through empowerment and inclusion of citizens in debating public policies and providing inputs through their organizations, groups and movements. The project aims to advance cooperation among different stakeholders so as to make more voices heard in the process of policy design. Project lasts from 2019 to 2020.

Health and Safety on Work Place, experience of the Western Balkans Countries – (2018-2019) The aim of the project was to contribute towards the improving the respect of labour rights in our societies with a special focus on the right to healthy and safe workplace, in the context of EU perspective of the Western Balkans and the EU Pillar of Social Rights as adopted in 2017.

Program 3 – Promoting Public Dialogue

Since 2007, CDF brings together policy makers, experts, businessmen, journalists and social activists to engage in debating key issues and search for common approaches in finding solutions.

The CDF Platform Dialogue in the Center is a place for public dialogue, where scholars, activists, politicians and analysts exchange their views on key strategic issues and development challenges

CDF participates in all relevant EU accession-related fora and events, such as in the meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee EU-Serbia on civil society and annual briefings at the EU Delegation on the EC report on Serbia.

Issues Addressed in 2019:

- ✓ Towards a Political Solution - Civic Protests as a Response to a Deficit of Justice and Weak Institutions
- ✓ Where are Labour Rights on the Agendas of Political Parties?
- ✓ Europe ahead of Elections – The New Session of the European Parliament
- ✓ Violence Against Women in the Public Space

- ✓ Poverty and the Environment
- ✓ Today's Civil Society – NGO or GONGO, Watchdog or Strategic Partner, Think-Tank or Do-Tanks
- In 2019 CDF became a member of the European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA
- Membership in Foundation for Progressive Studies FEPS
- Membership of the Balkan Youth Network
- Cooperation agreement signed with Trade Union Independence and with CATUS
- Lead Partner in Regional Youth Compact for Europe, a 14-member consortium of CSOs and think tanks from WB, Turkey and Europe

Measurement of outcomes

Dedicated to Promoting EU values in Serbia

- ✚ **Public Reading of the EC Report on Serbia** – Setting the Tone for Debating the Report, in cooperation with the EWB, (2019) – for 40 representatives of CSOs, trade unions, business sector, political parties
- ✚ Contributions for the EC Report on Serbia (annually)
- ✚ **School Politeia** Goes Regional organized in ReSPA for 25 students from WB (2019)
- ✚ Established **Regional Youth Forum** through RYCE Project (2019) for more than 50 young people from Western Balkans
- ✚ Study visit to National Convention on the EU for BNLD (Balkan Network for Local Democracy) members as exchange tool for lessons learned in monitoring EU accession negotiations (2018) – 13 organizations from Western Balkans
- ✚ International Conference **Call to Europe in the Western Balkans** on EU Elections Impact on the WB in cooperation with FEPS – Brussels (2018) – more than 50 representatives of CSOs, trade unions, business sector, political parties
- ✚ Launched advocacy initiative **“European Social Fund for the WB”** – amendment based on our initiative adopted by the Joint Parliamentary Committee of the EP and the NARS (2018)
- ✚ Public campaign **Justice Above Politics – Pravda iznad Politike®** (2018) – total reach, including social media – more than 30.000 citizens
- ✚ National conference **Towards a Democratically Change of the Constitution**: Key stakeholders debating the change of the Constitution, with YUKOM, Belgrade Center for HR, Association of Judges, FOS and IPSOS (2017)
- ✚ Monitoring report and recommendations on **Employment and Fight against Corruption in Public Administration** (2012-2017)

Advocating for a Stronger Social Dimension of the EU integration process

- ✚ **Analysis: Draft Action Plan for Chapter 19** – Employment and Social Policy (2019)
- ✚ Annual **Report on the Status of Labour Rights** in Serbia (2018, 2019)
- ✚ On-field survey “Precarious work in Serbia – report from a research”, 2019;
- ✚ Coordination of a coalition of NGOs for the National Strategy of Social Protection (2019) for the modification of the Social Protection Law and of the draft Strategy
- ✚ Initiative for Intergenerational dialogue through workshops and focus groups (2019)
- ✚ Analysis: Treatment of Older workers in European and national documents, legal and other regulations and the media, 2019.
- ✚ Launched **Platform against Cheap Work** (2018) addressing the need for improved social dimension of the reforms
- ✚ Analysis: Employment policies in Serbia - Encouraging (non) Decent work, 2018;
- ✚ **Statistics and Decent Work** - A Critical Analysis of the Political Interpretation of Labour Statistics, 2017;
- ✚ Desk Research: **Women in Labour Market** 2017;
- ✚ **Profiles of the Employed through Private Employment Agencies**, in cooperation with the SIPRU Team for Social Inclusion and Reduction of Poverty (2017)
- ✚ Pilot **Platform for Monitoring** of the Implementation of the Economic Reform Program- ERP and the Employment and Social Reform Program-ESRP (2017)
- ✚ **Citizens for Inspections Reform**: 5 new mobile & web applications created „Green Inspector “, „Inspector Citizen “, „Invisible Worker“(2016-2017).

Promoting Public Dialogue

- ✚ 106 Public Debates since 2007 with 2780 participants
- ✚ Through Synergy to Enlarged Impact in Youth Related Programs: established dialogue among CSOs networks in the Western Balkans (2018)