



The EIN community in a nutshell

June 2024

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MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

ACCEPT-Association	
<p><u>ACCEPT</u>, established in 1996, at a time when homosexuality was incriminated in Romania, is a human rights organization and the first Romanian non-governmental organization that defends and promotes the rights of LGBT persons at national level. The Association's mission is to improve the situation of LGBT people in the Romanian society, to decrease the level of discrimination and stigmatization for this group and, at the same time, to advocate for equal rights for all Romanian citizens. Their main objectives are defending, by all legal means, the persons whose fundamental rights and liberties, as guaranteed by the Romanian Constitution and the international treaties ratified by Romania, were infringed due to their SO or GI. ACCEPT, during the past 4 years, acquired extensive experience in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the ECHR judgement in MC and AC v Romania.</p>	
Location	Bucharest, Romania
Member since	2020
Contact details	Teodora Roseti-Ion-Rotaru, Executive Director teodora@acceptromania.ro

The AIRE Centre (Advice on Individual Rights in Europe)	
<p><u>The AIRE Centre</u> litigates before the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court Of Justice and has been involved in over 100 cases since the organisation was founded in 1993. Our policy has always been to offer our litigation expertise in whatever form it is needed, which may mean acting as representatives on the record, sharing our expertise on procedural and substantive law, or intervening as an expert third party in cases which we are not assisting in the representation. The AIRE Centre works to ensure that all people enjoy their rights under European Law. We provide a unique service on the interrelationship between the two European legal orders and international Human Rights Law.</p>	
Location	London, UK
Member since	2021
Contact details	Matthew Evans, Director mevans@airecentre.org

APADOR-CH	
<p>The <u>Association for the Defence of Human Rights in Romania – the Helsinki Committee</u> (APADOR-CH) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization, established in 1990. APADOR-CH's Mission is to take action for the protection of human rights and the establishment of equilibrium when they are in danger or infringed upon.</p>	
Location	Bucharest, Romania
Member since	2017
Contact details	Ecaterina Georgiana Georghe, Executive Director ggheorghe@apador.org

THE BULGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE (BHC)	
<p>The <u>Bulgarian Helsinki Committee</u> was established on 14 July 1992 as an independent non-governmental organisation for the protection of human rights. It is the largest and most influential human rights organisation in Bulgaria. The objectives of the committee are to promote respect for the human rights of every individual, to stimulate legislative reform to bring Bulgarian legislation in line with international human rights standards, to trigger public debate on human rights issues, to carry out advocacy for the protection of human rights, and to popularise and make widely available human rights instruments. Their current spheres of intervention are: discrimination of the ground of gender, disability, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation/belief/age, freedom of association and peaceful assembly, conditions of detention, right to asylum, protection from torture and ill-treatment. Through its Legal Defence Programme, BHC has achieved pioneering changes in the domestic legislative and policy frameworks in a number of human rights spheres. BHC is actively involved in advocating for implementation of ECtHR judgments both at the national and international levels.</p>	
Location	Sofia, Bulgaria
Member since	2018
Contact details	Dr Krassimir Kanev, Chair of Board krassimir@bghelsinki.org

**COMMITTEE on the
ADMINISTRATION of
JUSTICE (CAJ)**



The [Committee on the Administration of Justice \(CAJ\)](#) was established in 1981 and is an independent non-governmental organisation affiliated to the International Federation for Human Rights. CAJ seeks to ensure the **highest standards in the administration of justice in Northern Ireland** by ensuring that the government complies with its responsibilities in international human rights law. CAJ takes no position on the constitutional status of Northern Ireland and is firmly opposed to the use of violence for political ends. Its membership is drawn from across the community. CAJ works closely with other domestic and international human rights groups and makes regular submissions to a number of United Nations and European bodies established to protect human rights.

Location	Belfast, Northern Ireland
Member since	2017
Contact details	Gemma McKeown, Solicitor gemma@caj.org.uk

**ITALIAN COALITION
FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES
AND RIGHTS (CILD)**



Founded in 2014, the [Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights \(CILD\)](#) is a network of 37 civil society organizations. It defends and promotes the civil liberties and rights guaranteed by the Italian Constitution and by international law, fighting against abuses and violations through a combination of advocacy, public education and legal action. The idea behind CILD is that civil liberties and rights are intertwined, and that through their promotion and protection it is possible contribute to the establishment of a more cohesive and equal society. For this reason, the Coalition works on several themes. CILD's mission includes immigration and asylum, promoting an informed debate and supporting the dignity and rights of refugees and migrants through projects such as Open Migration; equality and anti-discrimination, fighting against racism and xenophobia, as well as against every form of discrimination based on sexuality or gender; justice, fostering the establishment of a penal and penitentiary system that is more respectful of rights; civil liberties in the digital age and national security. CILD's goal is to increase knowledge, civil identity and awareness of everyone's rights.

Location	Rome, Italy
Member since	2019
Contact details	Andrea Menapace, Executive Director amenpace@cild.eu

EUROPEAN CENTRE (ALBANIA)



The [European Centre](#) is a non-profit and independent organization, founded in June 1999 in Albania. Its mission is to contribute on the consolidation of the rule of law, with a special focus on **human rights** standards, and improving the general knowledge on the process of EU integration of **Albania**. The main aim of the European Centre is the expansion of knowledge and understanding of the European realities, by **promoting** and encouraging rule of law, democracy, **human rights**. One of their strategic objectives is particularly relevant to EIN: "Dissemination and promotion of knowledge and comprehension of the European values and European organizations, particularly focusing on the (...) Council of Europe, which comprises democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights".

Location	Tirana, Albania
Member since	2017
Contact details	Ina Xhepa, Executive Director inaxhepa@euro-centre.eu

EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY CENTRE (EHRAC)



[EHRAC](#) was founded in 2003 to litigate cases of **gross human rights violations** arising out of the Chechen conflict in Russia at the European Court of Human Rights, in partnership with Memorial Human Rights Centre. Since then, EHRAC has grown its activities to cover **the South Caucasus and Ukraine**, challenging a wide range of serious human rights violations, from repression against civil society to discrimination against marginalised groups, in partnership with committed local lawyers. EHRAC aims to secure justice for victims of human rights violations and their families and bring about lasting systemic change in the region. We set new international legal precedents which improve human rights standards, and advocate to ensure that state authorities fulfil their human rights obligations. We are a team of expert lawyers and NGO-management professionals, specialising in international human rights law, primarily the European Convention on Human Rights.

Location	London, UK
Member since	2016
Contact details	Joanne Sawyer, Lawyer j.sawyer@mdx.ac.uk

EUROPEAN ROMA RIGHTS CENTRE (ERRC)



Founded in the mid 1990's by activists inspired by the legal victories of the civil rights movement in the United States, the [European Roma Rights Centre \(ERRC\)](#) is a Roma-led international public interest law organisation working to **combat anti-Romani racism and human rights abuse of Roma** through strategic litigation, research and policy development, advocacy and human rights education. Since its establishment in 1996, the ERRC has endeavoured to provide Roma with the tools necessary to combat discrimination and achieve equal access to justice, education, housing, health care and public services. The ERRC has consultative status with the Council of Europe, as well as with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Location	Budapest, Hungary
Member since	2017
Contact details	Vivien Brassoi vivien.brassoi@errc.org

FAIR TRIALS Europe



[Fair Trials](#) is a human rights organisation that works to **improve respect for the fundamental human right to a fair trial**. FT believes the right to a fair trial is an essential part of a just society. Despite the importance of fair trials being recognised by the international community, this basic human right is being abused day-in-day-out in countries across the globe. FT is working to put an end to these abuses, towards realising our vision of a world where every person's right to a fair trial is respected. FT relies on a global network and works on lobbying, making it a strong member for EIN. Fair Trials coordinates a pan-European network of European criminal justice experts, the Legal Experts Advisory Panel (LEAP). The LEAP is composed of representatives of over 150 criminal defence law firms, academic institutions, and civil society organizations. Fair Trials can positively contribute to the work of the EIN, providing knowledge and experience with the status of fair trial rights across Europe and helping further inform the EIN through the LEAP Working Group on Implementation of Judgments.

Location	Brussels, Belgium
Member since	2018
Contact details	Rose Michaels rose.michael@fairtrials.net

FORUM for HUMAN RIGHTS



FORUM is a Central European legal non-governmental organisation focusing on international human rights litigation and advocacy in Central Europe. FORUM works to ensure that human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled in accordance with relevant international human rights standards, using litigation and advocacy to promote human rights before national and international courts and domestic and international human rights bodies. It provides support and leads domestic and international litigation and advocacy activities. FORUM is active before the UN human rights bodies, the European Court of Human Rights, and the European Committee of Social Rights. Besides the organisation represents dozens of cases before national courts. In the case of implementation activities, the Forum has been monitoring the implementation of e.g. D.H. and others v. Czech Republic for several years and has made submissions under the Rule 9.2 rules of procedure.

Location	Prague, Czech Republic
Member since	2023
Contact details	Maroš Matiaško, senior legal counsel matiasko@forumhr.eu

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ASSOCIATION (İFÖD - İfade Özgürlüğü Derneği)



Freedom of Expression Association (İFÖD - İfade Özgürlüğü Derneği) was established in 2017 as a non-profit and non-governmental organization which aims to protect and foster the right to freedom of opinion and expression in Türkiye. The Association was set during the State of Emergency period during which the government pressure on human rights defenders was increasing and the rule of law was deteriorating in the country. İFÖD received Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council ("ECOSOC") of UN in 2023. In short, İFÖD's overall goal is to advance the right to free expression, promote transparency and strengthen democracy in Türkiye. The association is unique in terms of working in the field of freedom of expression with a specific focus on Internet freedom, academic freedom, and freedom of information rather than focussing just on media and journalists related issues. Within the scope of İFÖD's Enhancing and Developing Legal Strategies in Freedom of Expression Related Jurisprudence programme, İFÖD provides legal assistance and pursues strategic litigation. İFÖD regularly lodges [third party applications](#) with the European Court of Human Rights in relation to ongoing cases involving Türkiye and also regularly lodges [Rule 9.2 submissions](#) with the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers in relation to the execution of key judgments of the European Court involving freedom of expression and Türkiye. Finally, İFÖD's systematic work on monitoring and documenting Internet Censorship in Türkiye continue through the publication of its [annual censorship reports](#) since 2018.

Location	İstanbul, Türkiye
Member since	2024
Contact details	Not publicly available

GENTIUM	
<p><u>GENTIUM</u> is a non-profit and independent organization formed by a group of lawyers and professionals linked to different areas of the social and legal world who work to ensure full respect for the fundamental rights of the most unprotected and underrepresented groups. GENTIUM's scopes of action are strategic litigation, strategic consulting, training, awareness-raising and research. GENTIUM has been involved in the implementation of the Saber and Boughassal case v Spain case and wants to increase its commitment for the full implementation of pending ECtHR cases v Spain which concern its fields of action.</p>	
Location	Madrid, Spain
Partner since	2020
Contact details	Rafael Cid Rico, President and Director of Legal Strategy rcid@gentium.org

GREEK HELSINKI MONITOR (GHM)	
<p>Greek Helsinki Monitor (GHM), founded in 1993, monitors, publishes, lobbies, and litigates on human and minority rights and anti-discrimination issues in Greece and, from time to time, in the Balkans. It also monitors Greek and, when the opportunity arises, Balkan media for stereotypes and hate speech. It issues press releases and prepares (usually jointly with other NGOs) detailed annual reports; parallel reports to UN Treaty Bodies; and specialized reports on ill-treatment and on ethno-national, ethno-linguistic, religious and immigrant communities, in Greece and in other Balkan countries. It operates a general website and a specialized website on racist crimes and three Facebook pages (here, here and here) covering human rights issues and especially racist crimes and comprehensive and comparable presentations of minorities in the Balkan region. GHM is a member of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) SOS Network and GHM's Spokesperson Panayote Dimitras is an OMCT General Assembly member. GHM is also a member of Justicia European Rights Network, the International Detention Coalition (IDC), the Network Against the Extreme Right, the Campaign for the access to asylum, and the Greek Network for the Right to Housing. Panayote Dimitras is the correspondent of Hope not hate in Greece.</p>	
Location	Athens, Greece
Member since	2017
Contact details	Panayote Dimitras, Executive Director panayotedimitras@gmail.com

**GEORGIAN YOUNG
LAWYERS'
ASSOCIATION (GYLA)**



Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA) is a non-profit non-governmental organization, founded in 1994. The major mission of GYLA is to protect individual human rights (free legal aid) and to make a more systemic impact on the environment in Georgia. GYLA works on improvement of human rights environment through strategic litigation in domestic, Constitutional, and international courts, advocacy and awareness raising and participation in Parliament's work to draft and amend the laws in Georgia. GYLA has also been recognized by its partners and peers – being elected as chairing organization for all major national councils/commissions/NGO coalitions, GYLA is one of the leading umbrella organizations, providing legal support to among others, other human rights defenders in Georgia. For its achievements in the human rights protection, GYLA was a 2013 finalist of Vaclav Havel international competition on human rights.

Location	Georgia
Member since	2019
Contact details	Tamar Oniani, Head of the international Litigation Team toniani@gyla.ge

**HELSINKI CITIZENS'
ASSEMBLY VANADZOR**



The Helsinki Citizens' Assembly-Vanadzor NGO (HCA Vanadzor) was founded on March 21, 1998, as a branch of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Armenian Committee. It is a non-political, non-religious, non-profit NGO dedicated to **peace, democracy and human rights**. The geographical scope of the organization's activity covers the Lori Region; however, based on different projects, it covers the whole **Republic of Armenia**.

Location	Vanadzor, Armenia
Member since	2017
Contact details	Mariam Antonyan, Legal Analysis and Initiatives Department Coordinator mantonyan@hcav.am

**HELSINKI FOUNDATION
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
(HFHR)**



**HELŚIŃSKA FUNDACJA
PRAW CZŁOWIEKA**

The [Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights](#) was founded in 1989 by the members of the Helsinki Committee in Poland. The HFHR mission is to promote the development of a culture based on the **respect of freedom and human rights in Poland and in the post-soviet region**. Its main focus is education, litigation and monitoring of human rights violations. Since 2007 they have had a consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The HFHR is a member of international and national networks and platforms of cooperation acting for human rights protection and has extensive experience in submitting Rule 9.2 to the Committee of Ministers.

Location	Warsaw, Poland
Member since	2016 (Founding member)
Contact details	Marcin Szwed marcin.szwed@hfhr.pl

**HUMAN RIGHTS
ASSOCIATION (İnsan
Hakları Derneđi - "İHD")**



1986

The [Human Rights Association \(İnsan Hakları Derneđi – "İHD"\)](#) is a non-governmental, independent, and voluntary organization. The association, founded in 1986, is the oldest and largest human rights organization in Turkey and its sole and specific goal is to promote "human rights and freedoms." İHD issues special reports on various human rights issues, including annual reports on human rights violations in Turkey. İHD also submits shadow reports before committees at the United Nations and the Council of Europe as well as submitting Rule 9.2 communications.

Location	Ankara, Türkiye
Member since	2024
Contact details	Hüseyin Küçükbalaban, Co-Chair genelbaskan@ihd.org.tr

HUMAN RIGHTS HOUSE ZAGREB



[Human Rights House Zagreb](#) was established in 2008 with the aim of protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms. During the last decade, HRH Zagreb has become the centre of expertise on human rights and publicly recognized as a central organization for the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Croatia. The work of HRH Zagreb is organized in three main programs: (a) democracy and human rights, (b) justice and human rights, and (c) economic, social, and cultural rights. In order to protect, promote, develop and advance the human rights and fundamental freedoms, HRH Zagreb is working on research, monitoring, public advocacy and education in accordance with the international and regional instruments for the protection of human rights of the United Nations and Council of Europe.

Location	Zagreb, Croatia
Member since	2019
Contact details	Ivan Novosel, Director of Programs ivan.novosel@kucaljudskihprava.hr

HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING INSTITUTE (HRMI)



[Human Rights Monitoring Institute \(HRMI\)](#) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit public advocacy organisation. Since its establishment in 2003, HRMI has been advocating for full compliance of national laws and policies with international human rights obligations and working to ensure that rights are real and effective in practice. The team of HRMI lawyers and social and political sciences experts carries out [research](#), drafts legal and policy [briefings](#), compiles [reports](#) to international human rights bodies, undertakes strategic [cases](#) before domestic and international courts, provides [expert](#) consultations and legal [services](#), engages in various national and international [projects](#), delivers [conventional](#) and [distance](#) trainings to law enforcement officers and other professionals.

Fields of activity: rights of crime victims (*domestic violence, human trafficking and other victims of crime*); prohibition of discrimination (*on the grounds of disability, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin and other*); rights of suspects and accused (*right to a lawyer, information and translation, pre-trial detention*); rights of people in detention (*in prisons, psychiatric establishments, care homes*); protection of privacy and digital rights (*protection of private data online*); freedom of expression (*free speech, right to information*); human rights and corporate social responsibility.

Location	Vilnius, Lithuania
Member since	2019
Contact details	Meta Adutaviciute, Advocacy Director meta.adutaviciute@hrmi.lt

HUNGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE (HHC)



HUNGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE

Founded in 1989, the [Hungarian Helsinki Committee](#) is a Hungarian non-governmental watchdog organization that protects human dignity and the rule of law through legal and public advocacy methods. The Hungarian Helsinki Committee helps those whose human rights the state violated. Our clients are refugees, detainees, and discriminated people. Our focus areas are: protection of the rule of law; protection of the rights of refugees; protection of the rights of detainees. Today the Hungarian Helsinki Committee is an organization of some thirty professionals. Our colleagues include lawyers, attorneys, economists, sociologists, and journalists as well. In the early years our work centred around free legal assistance and representation while today our portfolio also includes research and professional training activities spanning through a wide range of fields.

Location	Budapest, Hungary
Member since	2017
Contact details	Zsofia Moldova, Law Enforcement Programme Director zsofi.moldova@helsinki.hu

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS (ICJ)



Composed of 60 eminent judges and lawyers from all regions of the world, the [International Commission of Jurists](#) promotes and protects human rights through the Rule of Law, by using its unique legal expertise to develop and strengthen national and international justice systems. Established in 1952 and active on the five continents, the ICJ aims to ensure the progressive development and effective implementation of international human rights and international humanitarian law; secure the realization of civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights; safeguard the separation of powers; and guarantee the independence of the judiciary and legal profession. The regional programme for Europe and Central Asia works at a regional level (including Council of Europe and EU) and at a country level in Council of Europe Member States including Greece, Italy, Spain, Malta, Belgium, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Poland, Ireland, Turkey, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, and Russia. Particular areas of focus include access to justice, the independence of judges and lawyers, accountability for violations of human rights, development and effectiveness of international human rights mechanisms, protection of human rights in counterterrorism and security, and human rights in migration.

Location	Geneva, Switzerland
Member since	2020
Contact details	Temur Shakirov, Senior Legal Adviser, Europe and Central Asia Programme, ICJ temur.shakirov@icj.org

JUDGMENT WATCH



Judgment Watch is chaired by [Malcolm Langford](#). Malcolm is a Senior Researcher at Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) and Co-Director of the Centre on Law and Social Transformation, University of Bergen and CMI. He is also the Co-Director of *Global School on Socio-Economic Rights* and Co-Coordinator of *Metrics for Human Rights*. He leads a range of other research consortiums and acts as an advisor to different UN bodies, governments and NGOs. He is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute. Previously, Langford was a Research Fellow at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Director of its [Socio-Economic Rights Programme](#) (2010-2014) and Leader of the Human Rights and Development Research Group, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo (2007-2009). He was also a Senior Legal Officer at the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions, Geneva (2001 to 2006) and has been a Visiting Fellow at the University of California (Berkeley) (2013), University of Mannheim (2006), University of Stellenbosch (2010) and University of NSW (2009).

Location	Switzerland
Member since	2016 (Founding member)
Contact details	Malcolm Langford, EIN Board member (based in Norway) malcolm.langford@jus.uio.no

THE LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (YUCOM)



YUCOM was founded in 1997 as an expert, voluntary, non-governmental organization whose members are legal experts engaged in promoting and advocating the idea of the rule of law and the upholding of human rights, raising public awareness, conceiving, designing and leading civic initiatives, rendering legal assistance to victims of human rights violations, as well as developing co-operation with national and international organizations involved in human rights protection and promotion. YUCOM is recognized as an **organization advocating human rights** and promoting active participation of citizens in legal initiatives. It has profiled itself and gained much recognition as a human rights defenders' organization. Since 2005 YUCOM started filing cases to the ECtHR and is currently in the procedure before the Court with cases that received a confirmation of priority before that Court. YUCOM is coordinating the [Coalition for Equality](#), which advocates for **human rights on a regional level (Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina)** and focuses on the different areas of discrimination, including LGBT rights, strengthening the role of women in politics and public life and monitoring court procedures for discrimination. In 2011 YUCOM formed the Human Rights House Belgrade. HRH Belgrade along with four prominent CSOs and became a member of the Human Rights House Network, based in Norway.

Location	Belgrade, Serbia
Member since	2017
Contact details	Katarina Golubovic, Director, k.golubovic@yucom.org.rs Kristina Todorovic, EIN Board member, kristina@yucom.org.rs

**LEGAL RESOURCES
CENTER FROM
MOLDOVA (LRCM)**



Legal Resources Center from Moldova (LRCM) is a nonprofit organization that contributes to **strengthening democracy and the rule of law in the Republic of Moldova** with emphasis on justice and human rights. Our work includes research and advocacy. We are independent and politically non-affiliated. Our lawyers represent applicants before the ECtHR in strategic litigations. We are training lawyers, prosecutors, and judges in the field of ECHR. In 2012 and 2015 LRCM published two reports about execution of judgments of the ECtHR by the Republic of Moldova. The report highlights the problems in execution of ECtHR judgments and makes recommendations for improvement of the situation. We make periodic 9.2 submissions for the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Since 2014, we are advocating for creation in Moldova of a domestic mechanism of oversight of execution of ECtHR judgements.

Location	Chisinau, Moldova
Member since	2017
Contact details	Vladislav Gribincea, Executive Director vladislav.gribincea@crjm.org

**MACEDONIAN YOUNG
LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION (MYLA)**



Macedonian Young Lawyers Association

The Macedonian Young Lawyers Association (MYLA) is an independent, non-profit professional organization funded in 2003, which provides legal aid and strategically litigates to protect human rights. By using the knowledge and innovative capacities of young lawyers, MYLA promotes the rule of law and influences policy through research and advocacy. MYLA strives for a society in which the rule of law is established, and people proactively strive for the respect of human rights. The organization's work focuses on three programs: **1. Legal aid (free legal aid and strategic litigation); 2. Legal education and training; and 3. Research, policy, and advocacy.** MYLAs target groups are victims of human rights violations, marginalized groups, civil society organization, public institutions and lawyers. Core values of the organization are the social responsibility, professionalism, innovation, creativity, respect of team spirit, dedication, thoroughness, openness, the thirst for knowledge, equity and collegiality, and flexibility. The organization provides legal aid to asylum seekers and refugees, migrants, stateless persons, victims of human trafficking, socially and financially impaired persons, children, prisoners (convicted persons), persons with disability.

Location	Skopje, North Macedonia
Member since	2017
Contact details	Angela Shumkoska, Project coordinator ashumkoska@myla.org.mk

**THE NETHERLANDS
HELSINKI COMMITTEE
(NHC)**



The [NHC](#), a foundation registered in the Netherlands, sets out to reinforce and support the activities of institutions and non-governmental organizations in Europe and Eurasia for **human rights protection** and upholding of the rule of law. The NHC has an active role in several pan-European human rights and civil society networks. After countries in Eastern Europe joined the Council of Europe, the NHC has coordinated projects to train lawyers to submit cases to the ECtHR. The latest of these was focused on Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia (between 2016 and 2011). The logical following step is to contribute to promoting implementation of Court verdicts in national law and practice, and to work on awareness-raising about the importance of the ECHR across Europe.

Location	The Hague, the Netherlands
Member since	2018
Contact details	Antanina Maslyka, Programme Manager amaslyka@nhc.nl

**OPEN SOCIETY JUSTICE
INITIATIVE (OSJI)**

**OPEN SOCIETY
JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

The [Open Society Justice Initiative](#) is an operational program of the Open Society Foundations—rather than giving grants, the Justice Initiative’s team of human rights lawyers and staff pursue **legal work** that supports the broader mission and values of the Open Society Foundations. Since 2007, Justice Initiative lawyers have represented scores of individuals **before domestic and international courts**, in cases that have sought not only to vindicate individual claims, but to establish and strengthen the law’s protection for all.

Location	New York, US
Member since	2016 (Founding member)
Contact details	Mariana Pena, Director of Litigation Outreach mariana.Pena@opensocietyfoundations.org

PROMO-LEX	 <i>Advancing democracy and human rights</i>
<p><u>Promo-LEX</u> Association is a non-governmental organization that aims to advance democracy in the Republic of Moldova, including in the Transnistrian region, by promoting and defending human rights, monitoring the democratic processes, and strengthening civil society. Promo-LEX Association was established in 2002 and was registered at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova on July 19, 2002. Registration number – 2278. Promo-LEX Association is a not-for-profit and politically independent organization. Promo-LEX Association holds the Certificate of Public Benefit. Promo-LEX Association is a national level organization and operates throughout the Republic of Moldova. The Promo LEX is working through two main programs – Human Rights Program and Monitoring Democratic Processes Program. The overall goal of the Human Rights Program is to promote and implement international human rights standards in the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>Priority areas of research under the Human Rights Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting access to justice and effective legal remedies for Transnistrian inhabitants; • Combating torture and inhuman or degrading treatment; • Promoting and defending liberty and security of persons; • Preventing and combating gender-based violence; • Combating discrimination and promoting equality. 	
Location	Chisinau, Moldova
Member since	2018
Contact details	Vadim Vieru, Human Rights Programme Director vadim.vieru@promolex.md Alexandru Postica, Strategic Development Adviser alexandru.postica@promolex.md

STICHTING JUSTICE INITIATIVE	
<p><u>Stichting Justice Initiative (SJI)</u> and its partner organizations are dedicated to the legal protection of victims of human rights violations connected to armed conflict and counter-terrorism operations, torture and gender-based violence in the post-Soviet region. We strive to ensure that victims of such abuse have access to effective legal remedies on the domestic level, and utilize international mechanisms, including the European Court of Human Rights, when domestic remedies are inadequate. In 2018 SJI won its 200th case at the European Court of Human Rights. The work of SJI encompasses all stages of domestic and international litigation, including implementation of European Court judgments. In the latter areas, it has ensured in-depth follow-up on over 50 judgments on the domestic and international level in Strasbourg.</p>	
Location	Headquarters: Utrecht, the Netherlands Main place of action: Russia
Member since	2018
Contact details	Vanessa Kogan, Executive Director kogan@srji.org

**UKRAINIAN HELSINKI
HUMAN RIGHTS UNION
(UHHRU)**



UHHRU, established in 2004, is an independent non-profit and non-partisan organization. The UHHRU constitutes itself as the part of the Helsinki movement and continuator of traditions and activities of the Ukrainian Public Group to Promote the Implementation of the Helsinki Accords. Its mission: working for the **realization and protection of rights and freedoms** by promoting practical implementation of humanitarian articles of the Final Act of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe adopted in 1975, other international standards based on it and international obligations accepted by Ukraine in human right and freedoms sphere.

Location	Kiev, Ukraine
Member since	2017
Contact details	Mykhailo Tarakhkalo, Strategic Litigation Director tarakhkalo@helsinki.org.ua

**VALIDITY FOUNDATION
(Mental Disability
Advocacy Center) -
Validity**



Validity is an international non-governmental human rights organisation that uses legal strategies to promote, protect and defend the human rights of people with mental disabilities worldwide. We are a dynamic community of legal professionals and volunteers brought together by a desire to reverse injustice and segregation faced by people with mental disabilities worldwide. We act on the instructions of the disability rights movement and people with disabilities themselves. Our goal is to promote equality, inclusion, and justice for all, through the use of strategic litigation, law and policy advocacy, capacity-building, research, community mobilisation, media and a variety of other tools. We are a specialist legal resource to the disability rights movement and act as a watchdog, calling out human rights violations and pushing for change. Validity has a strong track history of expanding disability rights discourse and jurisprudence for over sixteen years. We operate at the global level as well as at domestic and regional levels in Europe and Africa.

Location	Budapest, Hungary
Member since	2019
Contact details	Steven Allen, Co-Executive Director steven@validity.ngo

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

<p>ACCOUNTABILITY UNIT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACCOUNTABILITY UNIT</p>
<p><u>Accountability Unit (AU)</u> is an independent NGO which advances conflict-related gender-based rights through litigation, advocacy, policy advice and mentoring. AU works with partners in countries where there is an urgent need to legally support women, girls and others facing severe human rights violations because of their gender. AU is concerned with procuring the equal and non-discriminatory promotion, protection, and enforcement of international human rights law where it relates to sex and/or gender roles. The organisation has four strategic work streams: litigation, advocacy, policy-advice, and mentoring. Those work-streams seek to advance legal accountability for gender based human rights violations through petitioning international and national legal bodies, raising awareness of gender-based harm amongst stakeholders and harmonising domestic state practice with international legal obligations. AU works primarily in the South Caucasus and the Middle East with a key focus on Turkey. The rationale for our work in these regions is two-fold: the current need for technical legal assistance to states, international organisations and non-governmental organisations operating in those regions; and the relative preponderance of violations of gender-based rights in these regions without adequate mechanisms for prevention, protection, and redress. AU joined EIN to work towards the effective implementation of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) concerning gender-related human rights violations in Turkey.</p>	
<p>Location</p>	<p>London, UK / The Hague, The Netherlands</p>
<p>Partner since</p>	<p>2018</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>Aarif Abraham, Executive Director, aabraham@accountabilityunit.org</p>

<p>ALEVI PHILOSOPHY CENTRE (ADO)</p>	
<p><u>Alevi Philosophy Center (ADO)</u> is an NGO established in 2015 with the aim of conducting research on the Alevi belief system, promoting its roots and protecting its rich cultural heritage. Among ADO's main objectives is also to support and defend activities aimed at promoting democracy, human rights and religious freedom. ADO is working on follow up activities of lawsuits, lobbying, monitoring implementations of ECtHR judgments in Turkey and other countries, wherever and whenever Alevi communities rights are involved. ADO cooperates with organizations of other belief groups, NGOs and human rights defenders whenever possible and necessary. ADO joined EIN in order to work more effectively in implementation processes of various ECtHR judgments in Turkey and North Macedonia.</p>	
<p>Location</p>	<p>Istanbul, Turkey</p>
<p>Partner since</p>	<p>2020</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>Dogan Bermek – President, dbermek@gmail.com</p>

ANTIGONE



The Association **Antigone** was founded in 1991. It deals with the promotion of the rights and guarantees in the criminal system. Every year Antigone issues a report in which all the data collected during the volunteers' visits are disclosed. Since 2008 Antigone has been authorized to visit all juvenile detention centres in Italy. The Ragazzi Dentro website monitors the Antigone's Observatory on the Prison Conditions of Minors, where four reports on the Criminal Institutes for Minors have been published. Since 2003 Antigone has been leading a European Prison Observatory, realized thanks to the European Union grants, which currently involves nine European countries. The Observatory operates through comparative work and research on the penitentiary systems of the countries involved and does an advocacy activity with the aim to influence national and supra-national criminal and penitential policies and to strengthen human rights protection mechanisms in places of detention. In 2008 Antigone established the Prisoners' Ombudsman, a group of lawyers, practising attorneys and experts in prison law that offer free legal advice to prisoners in all Italian prisons. Antigone also created legal information desks inside prisons in various cities.

Location	Rome, Italy
Partner since	2019
Contact details	Alessio Scandurra scandurra@antigone.it

ASTRA ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTION



ASTRA was established in 2000 as the first actor to raise the issue of **human trafficking in Serbia**. ASTRA applies a holistic approach to the human trafficking problem, i.e. it deals with all forms of human trafficking and all categories of survivors – women, children and men, focusing its activities concurrently on direct victim assistance and reintegration, prevention, education, public awareness raising, research and networking, advocacy at a strategic and operational level and supporting the building of a functional and efficient counter-trafficking system which fully respects victims' rights. Through EIN membership, ASTRA wants to increase its capacities to more effectively engage in implementation processes and be better and more efficient in advocating for the Government of Serbia's effective implementation of judgments. With the huge experience in the fields related to human trafficking, missing children, human and child rights, labour exploitation, as well as the experience in working with migrant population, ASTRA can contribute to the EIN with expertise, knowledge, and the experience from the direct contact with victims. Another ASTRA's strength is monitoring of trials and analysis of trial procedures and verdicts in the view of respect of victims and human rights.

Location	Belgrade, Serbia
Partner since	2018
Contact details	Marija Anjelkovic, CEO, astra@astra.rs / am@astra.rs

HAFIZA MERKEZI (Truth Justice Memory Centre)

HAKİKAT ADALET HAFIZA MERKEZİ
TRUTH JUSTICE MEMORY CENTER



[Hafiza Merkezi](#) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation founded in 2011 and based in Istanbul, Turkey. It aims to contribute to peace and democracy by way of uncovering the truth concerning gross violations of human rights, supporting survivors in their pursuit of justice and struggle against the impunity of state actors, and contributing to the dissemination of narratives outside of official discourse in Turkey. The work of its Tackling Impunity Program involves various activities, such as legal documentation, analysis, and publications, trial monitoring, and legal interventions as a third party or *amicus curiae* before national and regional courts and bodies. The Tackling Impunity Program also endeavours to build international collaborations and pursues tools and methods to strengthen the legal fight for the establishment of a more democratic rule where human rights are respected.

Location	Istanbul, Turkey
Partner since	2012
Contact details	Özlem Zingil, zingil@hafiza-merkezi.org Melis Gebes, melis@hafiza-merkezi.org

HIAS Greece



[HIAS Greece](#) (a branch of HIAS Inc., a New York not-for-profit corporation) provides legal services to asylum seekers and refugees in Lesvos and Athens. HIAS Greece is of the view that the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) have traditionally had a decisive impact on the **protection of the rights of asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants in Europe** and, more specifically, in Greece. However, with many of the identified violations remaining, or even exacerbated, HIAS Greece is convinced that civil society organizations operating in the field must step up their advocacy and engagement in the implementation processes, both in the Council of Europe and at the national level. HIAS Greece is particularly interested in contributing information in relation to the asylum procedures and the reception conditions in the Moria hotspot, arbitrary detention of migrants, including asylum-seekers, and ill-treatment and hate crime against migrants. It intends to submit Rule 9.2 submissions on cases linked to conditions of detention of asylum seekers and the access to asylum proceedings.

Location	Lesvos, Greece
Member since	2018
Contact details	Vassilis Kerasiotis, Country Director vassilis.kerasiotis@hias.org Elina Sarantou, Project Coordinator elina.sarantou@hias.org

HUMANRIGHTS360



HumanRights360 is a civil non-profit partnership established in Greece. Its mission is to protect and empower the rights of all, with no discrimination but with special focus on the most disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. HumanRights360 is part of the worldwide human rights movement that is struggling for a world where fundamental human rights are enjoyed by all. It gives priority to addressing the most pressing human rights violations, both acute and chronic, as a prerequisite for maintaining the rule of law in our society. The organisation aims to put together greater alliances not only in Greece but also at international level, and to work in the direction of building vibrant and tolerant societies whose governments and societies reject Far-Right rhetoric, extremism, racism and xenophobia, while are accountable to and encourage participation of all the persons in their territory without discrimination. In that context, HumanRights 360 implements both service provision and advocacy throughout all of their activities.

Location	Greece
Partner since	2020
Contact details	Eleni Takou, Deputy Director and Head of Advocacy eleni.takou@humanrights360.org

**KISA – Action for
Equality, Support,
Antiracism**



KISA is a NGO, established in 1998, and its vision is the promotion of an all-inclusive, multicultural society, free of racism, xenophobia and discrimination and where, through the interaction and mutual respect of diverse cultures, there will be equality and respect for the rights of all, irrespective of race, nationality or ethnicity, colour, creed or beliefs, gender, sexual preference or orientation, age, inability or any other diversity. KISA's action is focused on the fields of Migration, Asylum, Racism, Discrimination and Trafficking, and it includes awareness-raising of the Cypriot society as well as lobbying in order to influence the legal and structural framework, the policies and practices in these fields. KISA is engaged in strategic litigation cases brought before national courts and the European Court of Human Rights. KISA was the initiator of the *M.A. v Cyprus*, series of cases to challenge the lack of effective remedies against refoulement and detention of migrants and asylum seekers and has been following the developments at national level for compliance with the Court's Judgement. In addition, KISA initiated the case of *Mustafa Haghilo v. Cyprus*, challenging the conditions of detention of migrants pending their deportation as being in violation of Article 3 of the Convention.

Location	Nicosia, Cyprus
Partner since	2019
Contact details	Nicoletta Charalambidou, Member of the Steering Committee nicoletta.c@kisa.org.cy

REDRESS

REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

REDRESS is an anti-torture NGO based in London and The Hague that works with torture survivors to bring legal claims to obtain justice and reparation on their behalf. Our clients are often from profoundly marginalised communities – refugees and survivors of torture who find themselves with nothing, while trying to deal with the life-changing physical and psychological impact of their ill-treatment. We bring legal cases on behalf of individual victims of torture, and advocate for better laws to provide effective reparations. We combine our legal representation with other civil society techniques such as advocacy, communications, and activism to ensure there is impact after the judgment, a community behind the client, and a cause beyond the case. We seek to adopt a holistic approach that ensures all of the needs of the torture survivor are taken into account. We conduct research and advocacy to identify the changes in law, policy and practice that are necessary. We work collaboratively with international and national organisations and grassroots victims' groups.

Location	London, UK / The Hague, The Netherlands
Partner since	2020
Contact details	Rupert Skilbeck, Director rupert@redress.org

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Kerem Altıparmak

Kerem Altıparmak was director of Ankara University Faculty of Political Science Human Rights Centre and the chair of the human rights department at Ankara University until 2017. Specialised in the European Convention on Human Rights, Kerem has a long standing experience of delivering courses, supporting civil society and litigating cases before the European Court of Human Rights and the Turkish Constitutional Court. Kerem resigned from his academic post in October 2018. He continues to work on human rights law as a litigator and advisor. Kerem holds a law and a masters degree from Ankara University and a PhD in Law from University of Leeds.

Adam Bodnar

Adam Piotr Bodnar is a Polish lawyer, educator, and human rights activist. He was the [Polish Ombudsman](#) for Citizen Rights from 2015 until July 2021. He was a member of the Helsinki Human Rights Foundation (*Helsinkińska Fundacja Praw Człowieka*), before he served in 2008 as an expert at the [European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights](#) (FRA) where he specialized in the observance of [human rights](#) in Poland. In 2019, he was awarded the Rule of Law Award conferred by the [World Justice Project](#) for his "outstanding efforts in strengthening the rule of law in difficult circumstances". Adam Bodnar is Minister of Justice of the Republic of Poland under the government of Donald Tusk since he was appointed on December 13, 2023. ([Source](#)).

Prof. Dr Başak Çalı

Founding member

[Başak Çalı](#) is Professor of International Law at the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin and Director of the Center for Global Public Law at Koç University, Istanbul. She has been a Council of Europe expert on the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) since 2002. She has extensive experience in training judges, prosecutors and police forces as well as lawyers and non-governmental organisations on Convention standards in over ten Council of Europe member states since 2002. Başak was an academic expert on the long-term reform of the European Convention System for the Committee of Ministers. She received her PhD in International Law from the University of Essex in 2003. She was Secretary General of the European Society of International Law between 2014-2018, is Editor-in-Chief of Oxford University Press United Nations Human Rights Case-Law Reports, a Fellow of the Human Rights Centre of the University of Essex.

Christian De Vos

[Christian De Vos](#) is Director of Research and Investigations at Physicians for Human Rights and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science, Columbia University. He is a former senior advocacy officer with the Open Society Justice Initiative, based in the New York office.

De Vos has worked as a human rights advocate, attorney, and researcher for organizations including Amnesty International, the United States Institute of Peace, the War Crimes Research Office, and Leiden University's Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies. From 2007 to 2009, he served as a law clerk with the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. As a consultant for the Justice Initiative, he coauthored *From Judgment to Justice*, a report on the implementation of human rights judgments, as well as a companion report, *From Rights to Remedies*. He is also a coeditor of the volume *Contested Justice: The Politics and Practice of International Criminal Court Interventions* (Cambridge University Press, 2015). He received his JD from the American University Washington College of Law and his PhD from the University of Leiden in 2016.

Andrew Drzemczewski

Founding member

[Andrew Drzemczewski](#) is a Visiting Professor at Middlesex University School of Law London. He worked at the Council of Europe from 1985 to 2016, was intricately involved in the drafting Protocol No.11 to the ECHR and from 2005 to 2016 was Head of the Legal Affairs and Human Rights Department in the Parliamentary Assembly. He is a barrister, has a PhD from the LSE and is the author of 'European Human Rights Convention in Domestic Law. A Comparative Study' (OUP, 1983). He was a founding member of Interights (co-initiator of the first-ever 3rd party intervention before the ECtHR in the *Malone* case) and, since 1986, has been legal correspondent for *The Times* newspaper, London (Human Rights Law Reports, Strasbourg; nearly 390 law reports published).

Dr Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou

Founding member

[Dr Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou](#) took a MA in European Studies from the University of Sussex. In 2007 Kanstantsin began working on his PhD project 'European Consensus in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights' (UCD Dublin, Ireland) which he successfully defended in 2011. Kanstantsin

moved to the University of Liverpool in 2015. He is also a visiting professor at the European Humanities University (Lithuania), he cooperates with international inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations as an expert in international and European human rights law. His research interests spread between interpretation of the European Convention of Human Rights, reform of the European Court of Human Rights, administration of international justice, comparative and constitutional law.

Prof. Philip Leach

Founding member

[Philip Leach](#) is Professor of Human Rights Law at Middlesex University, a solicitor, and was Director of the European Human Rights Advocacy Centre (EHRAC: ehrac.org.uk), also based at Middlesex University. He has extensive experience of representing applicants before the European Court of Human Rights, in particular against Russia and other former Soviet states, as well as the UK and Turkey. He researches and publishes widely in the field of international human rights law. He was a member of the Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody from 2009-2015 and a member of the Harris Review (2014-2015). He was appointed Specialist Adviser to the Joint Committee on Human Rights for its inquiry into mental health and deaths in prison in 2016-2017. He is Vice-Chair of the European Implementation Network EIN, a member of the Advisory Board of the Open Society Justice Initiative, and a former trustee of the Media Legal Defence Initiative and the Human Dignity Trust. He is the author of 'Taking a Case to the European Court of Human Rights', 4th ed., Oxford University Press, 2017.

Dr Ramute Remezaite

[Ramute Remezaite](#) is Implementation Lead at EHRAC and has a PhD from the School of Law, Middlesex University. Her PhD thesis focused on the impact of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in fragile democracies, such as former Soviet Union states. Prior to this, Ramute was based in Azerbaijan, where she litigated civil rights cases before the European Court of Human Rights and the UN bodies together with local human rights lawyers. She also ran a project on the implementation of judgments of the European Court for Human Rights in the South Caucasus region and has done research and consultancy work for Article 19 and the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute. Ramute has published a number of articles on human rights issues in Azerbaijan. Before that, she worked as a Program Officer at the Bertha Justice Initiative in London, and at the Human Rights House Foundation in Oslo, Norway where she worked with a network of NGOs in former Soviet Union states. Ramute graduated from Oslo University, Law School with LL.M. in Public International Law and Master's Degree in Law from Vilnius University.

Anne-Katrin Speck

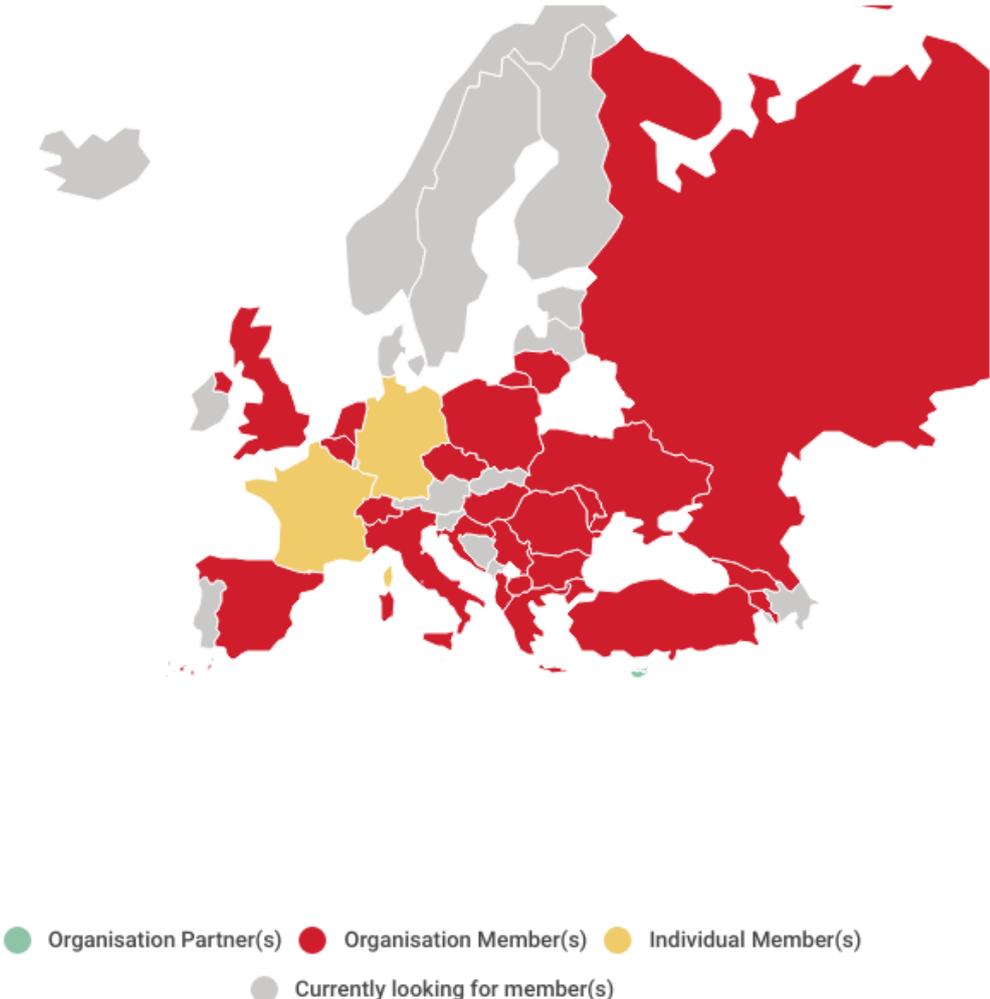
[Anne-Katrin Speck](#) holds an LL.M. in International Human Rights Law and worked as a Co-Director of EIN for 1.5 years before returning to academia in June 2020. They currently work as a full-time doctoral researcher at Ghent University. The implementation of Strasbourg Court judgments has been a fixture of their professional life ever since they acted as a Co-Secretary to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Between 2015 and 2018, Anne was a Research Associate at Middlesex University London, where they were involved in a large [research project](#) that explored the factors that impact on the implementation of human rights judgments and decisions in Europe, Africa, the Americas and the UN system. Anne has co-authored

several peer-reviewed articles and shorter pieces on the implementation of ECtHR judgments. As EIN Co-Director, they contributed to growing the network, overhauling EIN's training methodology, advising NGOs on their advocacy strategies, and compiling and drafting guidance on domestic advocacy aimed at promoting the implementation of ECtHR judgments.

Nigel Warner (former member)

Founding member

Nigel Warner has been active in LGBTI rights since the mid-70s. He became involved with the International Lesbian and Gay Association soon after its foundation in 1978 and served on its Financial Secretariat between 87 and 93. Since 1998 he has worked as a full-time volunteer with ILGA-Europe, as board member and treasurer between 2000 and 2005, and representing ILGA-Europe at the Council of Europe from 1998 to early 2019. In this role he began supporting domestic NGOs in their work to ensure implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights. Believing strongly in the importance of this area of work, he was very happy to become a founding member of the EIN board in 2016. Nigel stepped down from the organisation in October 2021.



EIN members and partners, as of April 2024