

Support to Human Rights Protection in Armenia

General Information

<u>Sector:</u>	Human rights
<u>Duration:</u>	4 years
<u>Implementation period:</u>	2016-2019
<u>Overall Budget:</u>	EUR 17 mln
<u>Budget support:</u>	EUR 15.7 mln
<u>Complementary support:</u>	EUR 1.3 mln

Project Description

Objective: To support the protection of human rights in Armenia.

Specific objectives: **Objective I:** To improve the protection of human rights through enacting and implementing relevant legislation in the areas of right to free elections, torture prevention, anti-discrimination (including minorities, people with disabilities, refugees and other vulnerable groups), gender equality and child protection. **Objective II:** To enhance coordination and cooperation in the area of human rights and to increase capacity of relevant stakeholders.

Scope of reforms:

- Approximation of the electoral system to the Council of Europe and OSCE/ODIHR recommendations to ensure free and fair elections;
- Conduction of legal, investigative and enforcement reforms aimed at progressing in torture prevention;
- Improvement of the legislation for ensuring greater protection of people belonging to minorities, people with disabilities, refugees and other vulnerable groups against discrimination;
- Enhancement of gender equality mechanisms and protection of victims of domestic/gender-based violence and abuse;
- Improvement of child protection system including deinstitutionalisation of children;
- Strengthening capacity of the Ministry of Justice for the implementation and annual revision of the Human Rights Action Plan and international human rights commitments, as well as capacity of Human Rights Defender office, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the National Assembly Standing Committee on Protection of Human Rights and Public Affairs in addressing concerns of vulnerable groups.