

January 2025

# NEWSLETTER

DIRECTORATE OF FREE LEGAL AID

## **SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND UNDP REGARDING THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE IMPACT OF FREE LEGAL AID SERVICES ON CITIZENS' LIVES**

The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Minister of Justice, Mr. Besfort Lamallari, and the Resident Representative of UNDP Albania, Ms. Randi Davis. This cooperation aims to renew the partnership between the two institutions through the improvement of the legal framework, investment in justice sector professionals, and the strengthening of service provider networks, in order to increase awareness and enhance the tangible impact of free legal aid services for those most in need.



## **SIGNING OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DIRECTORATE OF FREE LEGAL AID AND THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS**



The Acting Director General of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, Ms. Patricia Pogaçe, was received in a meeting by the Director General of the National Agency for Employment and Skills, Mr. Klevis Hysa. During the meeting, the parties exchanged views on strengthening interinstitutional cooperation, the case referral mechanism, and interaction at the local level aimed at increasing the efficiency of services for the benefit of citizens. The meeting concluded with the signing of the Cooperation Agreement between the two institutions.

## MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LUARASI UNIVERSITY

The Acting Director General of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, Ms. Patricia Pogaçe, held a meeting, within the framework of cooperation with higher education institutions, with Mr. Admir Belishta, Dean of the Faculty of Law at Luarasi University.



## INTERVIEW OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DIRECTORATE OF FREE LEGAL AID FOR UNHCR



The Acting Director General of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, Ms. Patricia Pogaçe, conducted an interview with representatives of UNHCR Albania. The interview focused on state-guaranteed free legal aid for refugees and asylum seekers.

## MEETINGS WITH PRIMARY LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS



The Acting Director General of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, Ms. Patricia Pogaçe, held group meetings with all staff members of the Primary Legal Aid Service Centers to discuss and coordinate the Annual Work Plan for 2026. These meetings primarily aimed to strengthen cooperation, facilitate the exchange of experiences, and plan activities that will ensure increased access for citizens to free legal aid services.

## MEETING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND MINORS IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW



The Directorate of Free Legal Aid, in cooperation with the Penitentiary Institution of Kavajë and the Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Durrës, conducted an informational session on state-guaranteed free legal aid with young people and minors in conflict with the law. Representatives of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid also held individual meetings with minors who expressed interest in benefiting from free legal representation.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE PRIMARY LEGAL AID SERVICE CENTERS

The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Kukës, on 30 January 2026, hosted an informational meeting at the Primary Legal Aid Service Center with students from the Havzi Nela School.



The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Gjirokaštër, on 14 January 2026, within the framework of the International Braille Day, carried out an awareness-raising activity with the participation of a citizen with visual impairment (blind status).

The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Gjirokaštër and the Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Përmet, on 26 January 2026, conducted an awareness-raising activity within the framework of the World Education Day, held at the Gjirokaštër-Libohovë Education Office.



The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Gjirokaštër and the Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Përmet, on 26 January 2026, participated in an activity held at the Albanian Red Cross, with the participation of representatives of the Red Cross and representatives of UNHCR.

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The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Tirana, on 28 January 2026, organized an interinstitutional roundtable with the staff of the Institute of Romani Culture in Albania (IRCA), within the framework of interinstitutional cooperation and the implementation of Law No. 111/2017 "On State-Guaranteed Legal Aid."

The Primary Legal Aid Service Center of Tirana, on 27 January 2026, conducted an informational activity at the Sami Frashëri High School, within the framework of World Education Day.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Dibër, on 28 January 2026, carried out an activity at the Directorate of Social Affairs, Municipality of Dibër.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Vlorë, on 15 January 2026, carried out an activity at the Regional Directorate of Road Transport Services of Vlorë, holding a meeting with its Director, Mr. Nimet Dapaj, to discuss opportunities for practical cooperation aimed at improving access to services for citizens with disability status.

The Free Legal Aid Center of Vlorë, on 23 January 2026, carried out an activity at the 4 Heronjtë 9-Year School, within the framework of the International Day of Education and in implementation of the Annual Activity Calendar approved by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid.



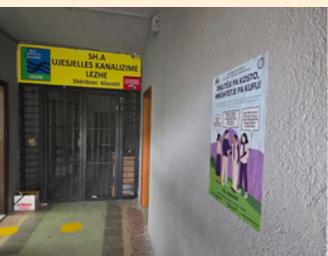
The Free Legal Aid Center of Vlorë, on 29 January 2026, organized a meeting with representatives of UNDP at its premises. The meeting was conducted in the form of interviews with a citizen benefiting from the service, as well as with staff members of the Free Legal Aid Center of Vlorë.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Vlorë, on 23 January 2026, held a meeting at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction of Vlorë with Judge Dorina Stroka, Chief Registrar Frida Gani, and Ms. Etleva Doraci, Specialist for Public, Media, and External Relations.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Tropojë, on 23 January 2026, carried out an activity at the Konferenca e Bujanit 9-Year School, within the framework of the International Day of Education. The purpose of the activity was to inform students about Law No. 111/2017 “On State-Guaranteed Legal Aid,” the beneficiary categories, and the services provided by the Center.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Lezhë, on 29 January 2026, carried out the posting of informational posters at several key locations in the city. The posters were displayed near the Association of the Blind - Lezhë Branch, at the entrance of the Association of Orphans - Lezhë Branch, as well as in the premises where citizens make water bill payments at Water Supply and Sewerage Company JSC.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Lezhë, within the framework of the International Braille Day, organized a meeting with Mr. Zef Lleshi, President of the Association of the Blind - Lezhë Branch.



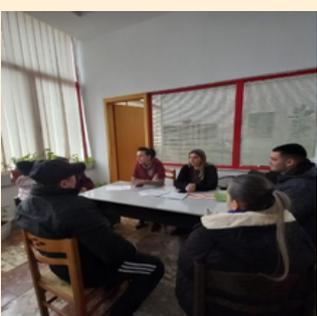
The Free Legal Aid Center of Durrës, on 23 January 2025, within the framework of the International Day of Education, carried out a “Street Law” activity at the premises of the Don Nikoll Kacorri School, located in the former Këneta area of Durrës.

The Free Legal Aid Center of Shkodër, on 23 January 2026, within the framework of the International Day of Education, held a meeting at the premises of the Marin Barleti Public Library with staff member Ms. Denisa Mesi.



The Free Legal Aid Center of Elbasan, on 19 January 2026, was invited to participate in the meeting of the Municipal Referral Mechanism of Elbasan, with the aim of discussing and identifying solutions for a case of domestic violence.

The Free Legal Aid Center of Elbasan, on 26 January 2026, conducted an informational “Street Law” activity within the framework of 24 January - the International Day of Education. The purpose of the activity was to inform citizens about Law No. 111/2017 “On State-Guaranteed Legal Aid.”



The Free Legal Aid Center of Korçë, on 21 January 2026, in cooperation with the Directorate of Social Care, held an informational meeting with beneficiaries with disabilities.

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**The Free Legal Aid Center of Korçë, on 22 January 2026, within the framework of the International Day of Education, held an informational meeting with the Director of the Regional Directorate of Pre-University Education of Korçë, Ms. Vinjola Rota.**



**The Free Legal Aid Center of Mat, on 14 January 2026, signed a “Cooperation Agreement for the Continuation of the Functioning of the Coordinated Referral Mechanism (CRM) for Domestic Violence Cases in Mat.”**

**The Free Legal Aid Center of Mat, on the occasion of 24 January - the International Day of Education, carried out an activity at one of the nine-year schools in the city of Burrel.**

