

TUSEV E-Newsletter, No. 7, June-August 2010

Civil Society Law Reform

New Report on "Turkey: Openness and Transparency in Turkish Parliament and Civic Participation in Legislative Process"

Coordinated by CLS-Sofia and financed by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation Bulgaria Office, Openness, Transparency and Civic Participation Project was implemented in Serbia, Albania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. Turkish partner of the project, the Association of Committees for Monitoring Parliament and Elected Officials (TUMIKOM), released a report entitled "Turkey: Openness and Transparency in Turkish Parliament and Civic Participation in Legislative Process". The report focuses on the legal and institutional framework for an open parliamentary system, current practices and transparency in the Parliament, participation in legislative process. The report also includes a stakeholder analysis and recommendations. Please visit <http://www.tusev.org.tr/content/detail.aspx?cn=543&c=68> to read the report.

A New Global Online Resource Centre on Participatory Governance

Launched on 24 June 2010, PG Exchange is a global virtual platform for knowledge development, sharing and learning on participatory governance. It targets participatory governance practitioners from around the world, including both civil society and government actors, and will also be of interest to members of academia and the donor community. The PG Exchange website www.pgexchange.org offers free access to: (i) succinct, user-friendly information about a wide range of participatory governance practices and tools that aim to promote active citizenship and more transparent, responsive, accountable and effective governance at both the local and national level; (ii) a global virtual "Community of Practice" where participatory governance practitioners can share information, ask questions, seek resources and participate in online discussion groups. The site will also include (iii) an online global calendar of participatory governance events. The PG Exchange "toolkit" represents one of the most exhaustive online reference hubs available today on PG tools and methods. It currently contains "how to" operational information on 33 approaches and tools and this number will grow over time. The website includes also a Global community of practice (CoP) which is a shared and facilitated space where PG practitioners can interact and learn from one another through thematically and geographically based discussion groups. (Source: www.civicus.org)

News from the Third Sector

1st Global Assembly of the CSO Development Effectiveness, 28-30 September 2010, Istanbul

The **First Global Assembly** of the Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness will be hosted by TUSEV and will take place in Istanbul from 28 to 30 September 2010. In the run-up to the Global Assembly, dozens of platforms and networks of CSOs have organised over 70 national and thematic consultations, most of which have taken place from March to July 2010. The results of these national and thematic consultations will be consolidated and circulated before the Global Assembly, and then presented and discussed at the event as a draft holistic framework for CSO development effectiveness. The proposed framework will remain under discussion in the months following the first Global Assembly until a second Global Assembly in mid-2011, where CSOs will finalise the proposed framework and mobilise for the High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Seoul in late 2011. Please visit <http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/-global-assembly-2010,033-.html> for further information and registration.

ANI Dialogue: Call for Applications

The South Caucasus and Turkey Offices of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung in cooperation with the Caucasus Institute are initiating and establishing the ANI Dialogue process between civil society organizations in Turkey and Armenia. The dialogue process aims at strengthening mutual understanding, reducing prejudices and putting pressure on governments to continue towards the opening of the border as well as the normalization of the bilateral relations. During the ANI Dialogue 2010, participants will work in five working groups on culture and heritage, education and research, environment, human rights and democratization, and media and journalism. The simultaneous translation will be provided during the events and all costs of the participants will be covered. Applicants should be involved in civil society organizations, be interested in dialogue between Armenia and Turkey and be motivated to establish links with CSOs. The deadline for

applications is August 25, 2010. Please visit <http://www.ani-dialogue.eu/> for more information and application.

Public Expenditures Monitoring Platform is established

Initiated by the Istanbul Bilgi University NGO Center, Public Expenditures Monitoring Platform is established with the participation of 30 civil society organisations. The platform aims to monitor the process through which the Parliament decides on the distribution of the public expenditures, to ensure transparency during this process, and to advocate increasing the share and attaining efficiency of social protection expenditures. The members of the Platform gather at least once in every year during the Public Expenditures Monitoring Camp. The results of the studies conducted during this camp, the data and information produced by the Platform, and the related suggestions are shared with the public, NGOs, parliamentarians, and the bureaucrats. Dissemination of information is realized via the media and other means of communication and/or by publishing electronic or printed material. Moreover, the Platform also regularly and continuously shares all the information, data and suggestions it gathers from its members during similar joint studies and activities. Please visit www.kamuharcamalariniizlemeplatformu.org for further information.

CIVICUS World Assembly, 20-23 August 2010, Montreal-Canada

The 9th World Assembly will take place in Montréal (Quebec), Canada between 20 - 23 August 2010, and will continue to be hosted in Montréal in 2011 and 2012. CIVICUS will be hosting the Montréal series of World Assemblies in partnership with Institut du Nouveau Monde at the Palais de Congrès. The overall theme of the World Assemblies is 'Acting Together for a Just World'. This theme will be explored in 2010 through the focus theme of Seeking Out Solutions: Economic Justice. Cross-cutting themes of development effectiveness and climate justice will add to the debate, which will include the perspectives of women, indigenous groups and the youth. The World Assembly is known as the primary convening event for civil society, but also invites members of government, business, donors and the media to participate. For more information on registration, the themes and programme details, please visit the World Assembly website: www.civicusassembly.org

News from Our Members

Ahmet Kocabiyik Received the Austrian Decoration of Honor for Science and Art

Chair of the Board of the Borusan Holding and Board Member of the Borusan Kocabiyik Foundation, Ahmet Kocabiyik was awarded to the Austrian Decoration of Honor for Science and Art, the highest state honor of Austria given only to people who have received general recognition and a preeminent reputation due to outstanding creative achievements in the fields of science or arts. The Federal President Dr. Heinz Fischer awarded Mr. Kocabiyik with the highest honor of the Republic of Austria within a ceremonial act at Salzburg Festival on 25 July 2010. Kocabiyik's contribution to the establishment of the Ephesus Foundation and to the archaeological excavations and his support to the promotion of Austrian artists by including them to the Borusan Art Collection has influenced the decision of the President.

Güler Sabancı: Our Gender Equality Programs A Potential Model For Afghanistan

A high level delegation from the Afghanistan government expressed great interest in the activities implemented within the framework of the "Joint Program to Promote and Protect Human Rights of Women and Girls" led between 2006 and 2010 in partnership with the Turkish Ministry of Interior, all United Nations Agencies in Turkey, Sabancı Foundation and Sabancı University. Sabancı Foundation was the main donor and implementing partner, allocating a total of 1,6 Million US Dollars. The delegation came from Afghanistan to Turkey to observe program outcomes and explore how they may adapt the program to promote gender equality in Afghanistan. Following a circular issued by the Ministry of Interior in early 2010, the Sabancı Foundation continues to support the program's efforts in the six cities (Izmir, Kars, Nevsehir, Sanliurfa, Trabzon, Van) to expand the model in other cities across Turkey. More information:

http://www.sabancivakfi.org/eng/?basin/duyurular/toplumsal_cinsiyet_esitligi/toplumsal_cinsiyet_esitligi.html

Call for Applications: Umut Foundation 16th Traditional Awarded Contest on "Awareness of Citizenship and Prevention of Discrimination"

Aiming to make individuals respect the rule of law and seek peaceful solutions to conflicts by developing their conflict resolution skills, the Umut Foundation organizes a scientific research and analysis award contest on **Awareness of Citizenship and Prevention of Discrimination**. Individuals, who study on fields and disciplines such as law, sociology, communication, forensic medicine, anthropology, philosophy, psychology and social psychology, criminology, communication sciences, media and academicians, scientists, researchers, investigative/quizzical journalists, and researchers, independent researchers and contemplators who are awarded with master and bachelor degrees from the Social Sciences institutes of the universities may participate into this contest. Deadline for the applications and participant researches is August 31, 2010, Tuesday until 17:30. Applications shall be delivered by the Umut Foundation Contest Secretary in return of a minute at the address of Umut Vakfı Yıldız Posta Cad 52, Esentepe-İstanbul. Please visit <http://www.umut.org.tr/en/page.aspx?id=20431> for more information.

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