

Strengthening the Kosovo Assembly

An effective parliament is a cornerstone of a stable democracy, and for the Kosovo Assembly to fulfil its tasks properly, it needs a professional and effective civil service. This is why the EU funded a twinning programme to boost the capacity of the Assembly's administration. This not only increased skill levels, but also put the Assembly in a better position to align the country with EU rules and best practices.

CLOSER LINKS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The project was implemented by the Hungarian National Assembly with the involvement of more than 70 experts from ten EU Member States, working with their colleagues from Kosovo on improving the legislative and oversight capacities of the Assembly, including the role of committees, Assembly Presidency and the EU law approximation process. The results were stronger financial management and better use of staff, a smarter document management system, closer links with civil society, and improved organisation of international and interparliamentary activities.

In particular, the project raised the profile of the Assembly's Committee on European Integration, supported the foundation and development of the research services, and widened awareness of staff and members of the Assembly on issues relating to the EU.

EU integration. Efforts to establish a professional and accountable administration in the Kosovo Assembly, free from undue political interference, are important steps towards creating a legislative organ that operates on the basis of evidence and the needs and wishes of the electorate. This is a way to advance the standard of living of Kosovo's citizens and to support progress towards European integration.

IMPROVED SKILLS IN DRAFTING LEGISLATION

Technical skills are required to scrutinise and to draft legislation in line with EU norms, to monitor implementation after adoption and to prepare the country for the different phases of



*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 /1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)

Kosovo

IPA – AN INVESTMENT IN EUROPE. AN INVESTMENT IN RULE OF LAW.

The Vice-Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly, János Latorcai welcomed the progress. And the Speaker of the Kosovo Assembly, Jakup Krasniqi, said: "I am pleased the purpose of the project has been achieved after great work over two years, including new work

procedures, guidelines, and training manuals, as well as a new regulation on the Organisation, Responsibilities and Job Description of the Kosovo Assembly Administration and a training strategy 2013–2016 for assembly staff."

PROJECT DETAILS – Support to Kosovo Assembly

Partners:

Hungarian National Assembly
Kosovo Assembly

Total cost in €:

€1.5 million

EU Contribution in €:

1.5 million (100%)

Start date:

November 2011

End date:

December 2013

Results:

Increased professional capacities to ensure that the Kosovo Assembly; fulfils its tasks in the field of legislation, oversight function, human resources; implementation of e-parliament tools; budgetary and financial management; external relations; EU law approximation; research and library services; as well as the increased knowledge on EU integration and EU norms, rules and standards

Techniques:

Preparation of analyses, guidelines; recommendations and organisation of roundtable discussions; training programs and study visits