



ANNUAL REPORT

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Review of the Year

2021 was HumanRights360's fourth year of operation in an environment full of challenges and difficulties. During this second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the civil society organizations' resources condensed significantly. This was very crucial for the population that constitutes the fundamental beneficiaries of HumanRights360; immigrants and refugees, homeless Greeks and other vulnerable groups, victims of hate crimes, victims of the economic crisis, users of psychotropic substances, convicts and ex-convicts, people with disabilities face increasing difficulties in accessing essential services and goods.

At the same time, the response to the geopolitical developments in the wider region was part of our intervention. The capture of Kabul by the Taliban in August 2021 created new needs to protect our persecuted fellow human beings and the humanitarian crisis on the Polish-Belarusian border, where the rhetoric of instrumentalization of refugees and the "hybrid war" - first implemented on the Greece-Turkey border crisis in 2020- was repeated and this was also at the centre of our intervention.

Thus, HumanRights360 is making a considerable effort to expand its intervention to meet the needs, both through its project implementation and through its donation management activities, mainly through the Grant Management of the "Local Development and Poverty Reduction" and "Asylum and Migration" programs (EEA Grants). The social integration program continued to support people, and our presence at the Evros land border, both in the Reception and Identification Center and in the unit of monitoring violations occurring at the border, continued systematically. At the same time, we managed to maintain the legal support program for homeless people in Athens. Our efforts to monitor and map hate crimes continued while we managed to undertake legal representation for victims of racist violence in many critical cases.

Finally, we regularly highlighted human rights violations and pushed for meaningful change through advocacy and strategic communication interventions. The HumanRights360 team has grown significantly throughout 2021, welcoming new colleagues who bring their own experience and dedication to defending human rights and share the same vision for a better future.



SOCIAL INTEGRATION SERVICE

HR360

Social Integration Service

2021 Context & Challenges

By 2021, beneficiaries of the Social Integration Service had to tackle several challenges related to the living conditions and their integration process. Regarding COVID-19, several changes in protection measures (curfew hours, seasonal protection measures, fines, submission of certificates) were only provided in Greek through the official information sites. Vaccination procedures were held with severe challenges as the temporary Health and Social Security Number (PAAYPE) was not accepted in the public system, and persons who didn't have this number (due to the delays of the asylum card renewals) could not have access to the system.

As for administration, delayed renewals of international protection applicants and beneficiaries tackled the hiring of refugees as the digital system of Ergani could not recognize their social security numbers as active. The continuance of the cash assistance programme by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, along with the changes in the criteria of the cash assistance programme for asylum seekers (residence only in the accommodation schemes – Open accommodation facilities – ESTIA programme), created three months delay or termination of support to the ones who have been self-accommodated. This has resulted in challenging everyday life needs.

Finally, weather conditions for those who have to reside in tents and blackouts in sites with electrical heating supplies, law changes related to admissibility criteria for the asylum process

& Skaramagkas open accommodation facility closure have also influenced our beneficiaries.

What we have achieved

Within this context, the Social Integration Service that operated in 2021 in Skaramagkas and Eleonas Open Accommodation Facilities and the ECHO Hub Athens has managed to support persons that were struggling to enter asylum processes, asylum seekers, recognized refugees, refugee youth that transitions to the adulthood and persons that could have an alternative to detention measures.

Following our methodology with an individualized approach to our beneficiaries, in 2021, we kept supporting them to create social integration plans, targeting their needs and ambitions. These have been achieved by supporting documentation issuance, access to the labour market, continuing education and participating in city life events. More specifically, the Social Integration Service succeeded in the following results in 2021:

The REFUGEE RIGHTS online platform on Human Rights has been launched in collaboration with Curing the Limbo Project and the University of Athens. The platform aims to become an informative digital space for human rights in Greece on issues regarding, mainly, the everyday life of refugees and migrants.

Publication of a thorough situational analysis report that takes stock of our integration activities and policy developments over the past year. The report can be [found here](#).

Research results on companies' attitudes towards the employment of migrants and refugees have been shared on our website.

SOCIAL INTEGRATION SERVICE RESULTS

HR360 2021

Along with ECHO100Plus and Common Ground, the first pilot course for front-end developers (programming) has been launched.

The Intechgration pilot project offers code classes in the ECHO HUB Athens to 10 persons, 17 – 56 years old. Students have been supported with laptops, internet data (from ECHO100Plus), and transportation stipends (HR360).

HumanRights360, along with the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) and Reality Learning Ltd., was awarded the Platinum award for the eLearning Design in Australia's annual LearnX Best Pandemic Training Awards. This is part of our work for the [Night Becomes Day](#) documentary. All resources are free to use and can be accessed at learning.wfot.org.










Support the right to access health care with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA).

Participation in the first Consortium of Regional Mental Health chaired by PIN organization from Serbia

Supporting Afghan women who flee from the Taliban regime

HumanRights360 welcomed a group from Afghanistan, mainly women with their families, cooperating with the Greek authorities. The Integration Team supported the families during their arrival at the airport in all bureaucratic procedures upon arrival and accommodation. The team conducted several informative sessions (in groups and one-to-one) to provide a clear picture of the situation in Greece and the options they can follow. Increased requests for legal counselling and escorts to Greek Asylum Offices. All beneficiaries who wish to

proceed with asylum application have been supported in all processes (accommodation, rapid test controls, escorts in all procedures including interviews, health appointments, and mediation with the organization responsible for their apartments). Practical support and referrals to other stakeholders tackled livelihoods and health issues. Moreover, five Afghan households have been supported in processing their applications for relocation to other countries.

	Households		145	50	20
	Beneficiaries		226	73	23
	Male		112	38	13
	Female		40	5	6
	Found employment		81	15	
	Employability / livelihoods	Sessions	1723	520	20
	Psychological		46		74
	Legal		290	20	60
	Contacts with public authorities		631	42	46
	Official letters and meetings		125		
	Information messages		120	120	120
	Number of scholarships for continuing tertiary education		18	2	

Community-based alternatives to detention in Greece

At the end of 2021, the pilot phase of the project “Community-based alternatives to detention in Greece” was officially completed. As a general observation throughout the implementation of the project, we have identified that during the last years, the migrant and refugee population has been facing more and more challenges in obtaining a solid legal status. For extended periods, this population lives in precarious conditions under the immediate risk of being placed in administrative detention for long periods, without even having access to vital services (healthcare, accommodation etc.). Many detainees still remain in police stations for months, under completely inappropriate conditions and without access to fundamental rights. The constant legislative amendments on the administrative detention of third-country nationals under the return process (mainly Art. 51, L. 4686/2020) have clearly shown that the existing governmental policy is based on the general imposition of administrative detention indiscriminately as a deterrent policy and namely to prevent new arrivals in the country, marginalizing human rights. Simultaneously, in the field of asylum seekers’ detention, we have identified a significant increase as a result of inadequate access to the asylum process for long periods, putting this population at risk of being under detention for a prolonged period or/and being pushed back. At the same time, the number of returns the recent years remained extremely low. However, no official data have yet been published for 2021, which raises even more concerns about the imposition of prolonged detention. All this, in conjunction with the provisions of the proposed EU Pact on Asylum and Migration, which on the one hand, provides the increase of administrative detention and returns without even temporarily

regulating the legal status of persons without legal documentation, and on the other hand introduces the “sponsorship return” approach, evidence that Europe’s priorities have heavily shifted towards measures of direct or indirect deterrence, which are making EU member States less attractive through detention. Also, the Covid-19 reality, the stance EU and national governments take concerning border crises (e.g. Evros border crisis in 2020, Poland border crisis in 2021), as well as the EU statements on Afghanistan, are striking examples of a border militarization heavily invested on human rights violation including the widespread use of detention.

In 2021

The main legislative changes in 2021 emphatically confirm the government's policy of rapidly increasing the number of undocumented persons in the country as the primary means of pursuing a deterrent policy. The designation of Turkey as a “safe third country” in a national list for asylum seekers originating from Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Somalia resulted in a large number of asylum applications submitted by people of these nationalities being rejected as “inadmissible”, leaving thousands of people virtually without access to the asylum process, especially at a time when no returns are taking place in Turkey which has completely suspended the readmission process as early as March 2020. Also, L. 4825/2021 provided the abolition of the possibility of illegally residing third-country nationals (TCNs) being employed in the rural economy without any replacement by another law provision, as well as the complete abolition of the possibility of direct referral of vulnerable rejected asylum seekers by the Appeal Committees to the Migration

Committees for the issuance of a residence permit for humanitarian reasons. Finally, through a Circular of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, it was decided that the Asylum Offices operating on the mainland will no longer proceed with the registration of asylum applications of persons that had not passed through Reception & Identification Procedures upon their arrival in Greece (on the islands or land borders), while the possibility of scheduling an appointment via skype is interrupted (excluding subsequent asylum applications). On the contrary, this relatively large population that tries for months to make an appointment with the Asylum Offices on the mainland to register their asylum application will be informed about the possibility of submitting an asylum application only at specific entry points in the country (in islands or land borders) or at specific camps on the mainland, which still remain unknown.

Furthermore, the rapid increase of Covid-19 cases led to a strict lockdown from the beginning of November 2020 to mid-May 2021, causing particular difficulties to the undocumented population, who could not justify to the Authorities the reason for their daily movements, even for the coverage of vital needs (e.g. Supermarket, pharmacy etc.), due to the lack of legal documents. But further than that, another huge issue that emerged in 2021 was the initial complete exclusion of undocumented persons from the national vaccination plan against Covid-19, which was already being implemented since the beginning of the year. And especially when in many cases, undocumented persons were already facing serious health problems without having access to health care due to a lack of necessary documents. Finally, only by the end of 2021 and following continuous interventions from HumanRights360 and other civil society actors

and stakeholders, there was a legislative amendment according to which there was access to the vaccines against Covid-19 also for the undocumented population as well as for the detainees in administrative detention, without the risk of deportation during the vaccination process.

In that quite challenging context, HumanRights360 continued the implementation of the Community Based Alternatives to Detention project, based on the individualized case management approach through the provision of holistic support to the individuals in the legal casework field as well as in the field of psychosocial or survival support. The methodology that was followed, which was proven to be quite effective, was specialized in the following stages:

- Receiving case referrals from other Organizations or self-referrals.
- Screening of potential cases.
- Case management - Case planning by setting short-term and long-term goals.
- Personalized evaluation/assessment.
- Collaborations with other Organizations or Civil Society actors to offer a more complete and multifaceted framing of each case.
- Follow-up - case monitoring.
- Case resolution or prospecting for case resolution.
- Case closure.

It is worth noting that within 2021 the requests for legal, psychosocial and other types of assistance from people who were in the country without documentation increased significantly. To this direction it has also contributed the significant acceleration of the asylum process, the high numbers of rejection decisions, the limitation of deadlines for many asylum processes and the tightening of the asylum

system in general following the recent law amendments. In many cases, people lived under challenging conditions without accommodation and access to food or other vital services. Our team, responding to the ongoing request for assistance even to cover the first survival needs, tried to immediately provide information and guidance to all interested persons on where they could get fresh food, clothes, vaccines for the babies and some medical support. Even further, recognizing the vast need of the beneficiaries for access to essential goods, our team distributed vouchers to each beneficiary needing a super-market. This provision was very helpful for their well-being, at least for some time.

Moreover, the complete lack of temporary accommodation structures for people without legal documents continued to be a huge challenge, as there was no change in this direction.

Inevitably, their exposure to all these difficulties strengthens feelings of despair and frustration, leading to severe psychological depression and feelings of isolation and resignation. Our team provided, in some extreme cases, regular psychological support and monitoring, while in many cases, it was necessary for some cases to be referred for psychiatric assistance to other NGOs.

Finally, we continued at a steady pace our advocacy actions, indicatively, by engaging the authorities both in the Greek and European context to achieve the gradual change of mindset as regards administrative detention, by developing advocacy messaging to change practices on the use of detention, as well as by submitting reports to the Racism Violence Recording Network where our beneficiaries were involved in incidents of racist violence.



HR360 Integration Service team communicates with a beneficiary.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Community-based Alternatives to detention in Greece

2 decisions for the lift of geographical restriction, 1 suspension of execution of deportation decision for a vulnerable single man and 1 revocation of deportation decision for a mother with a newborn child were issued by Kos, Lesvos and Samos competent Police Authorities, permitting these persons to proceed with their legal procedures in Athens and not to return to the islands.

The case of a single man who had been finally rejected from the asylum process was finally resolved since he was granted a residence permit for exceptional reasons. The man was constantly remaining in the country for over 7 years, and a few years ago, he was a victim of a savage racism attack.

A highly vulnerable single man who remained without legal documentation for almost 10 years had his asylum application fully registered with the Asylum Service, and he was granted refugee status.

Asylum Service set an appointment for the complete registration of the subsequent asylum application of a vulnerable single man (officially certified as a victim of torture).

Asylum Service finally set an immediate appointment for the complete registration of the asylum application of a vulnerable young single man that was trying to apply for international protection for over 2 years and following relevant failed requests of at least two other NGOs. The person was in despair and had threatened to hurt himself.

2 beneficiaries completed their participation in Vocational Trainings on computers and received Certificates of Attendance.

The head of household of a 6-member core family, who had been supported to access the asylum procedure after many months of failed attempts and following the provision of accommodation under ESTIA II, was supported also to find a job immediately through regular employability meetings. Also, all the children were supported to be registered to school.

5 beneficiaries received regular psychological support from the psychologist of the Social Integration Service. Upon initial psychological screening and evaluation all 5 beneficiaries needed to be referred for psychiatric evaluation. All beneficiaries received their prescribed psychiatric medication.

1 undocumented single man was issued with a temporary Social Security Number (PAMKA) and was fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and also received the relevant Certificate of Vaccination from the Citizens' Service Centers (KEP).

A vulnerable single woman (victim of trafficking) who had been supported to get a lift of geographical restriction and who was supported to access the asylum process in the mainland and then offered accommodation under ESTIA II started attending various vocational training, Greek and English language courses and also received employability sessions and finally managed to be hired by a private company.

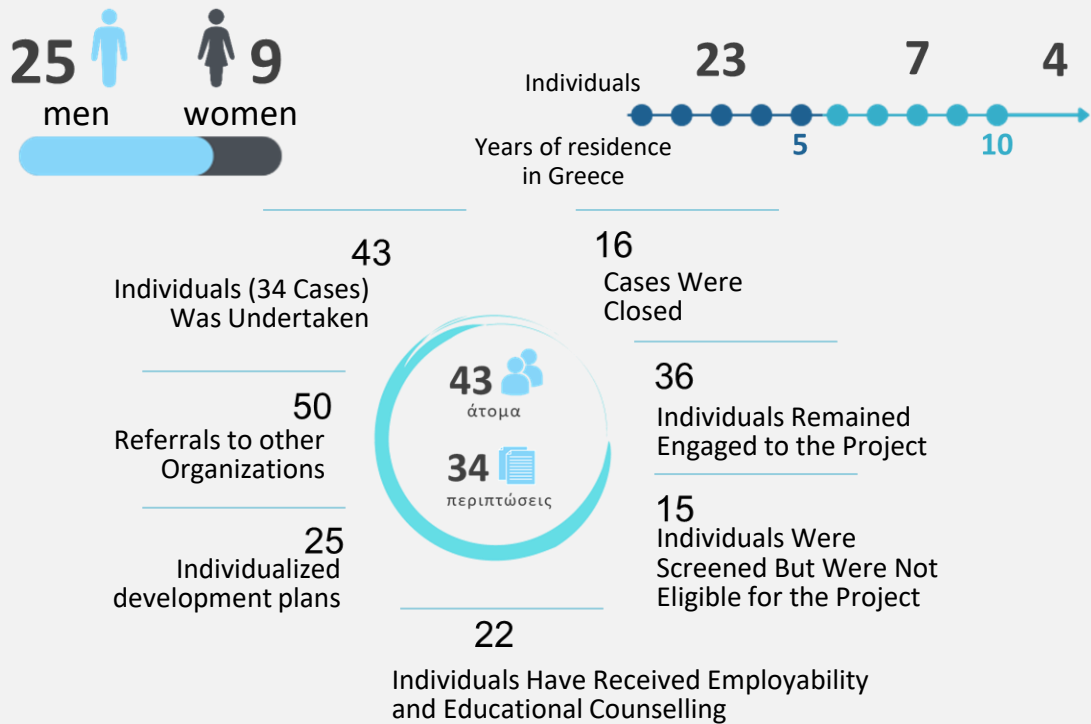
5 beneficiaries found an undocumented work; 2 in a restaurant in an island and in Athens respectively, 1 in a warehouse, 2 (women) at the farms for harvesting period.

5.260 euro in vouchers for supermarket were distributed to our beneficiaries in order to cover their basic needs.

1 of our beneficiaries succeed with our support to gain scholarship for University of People.

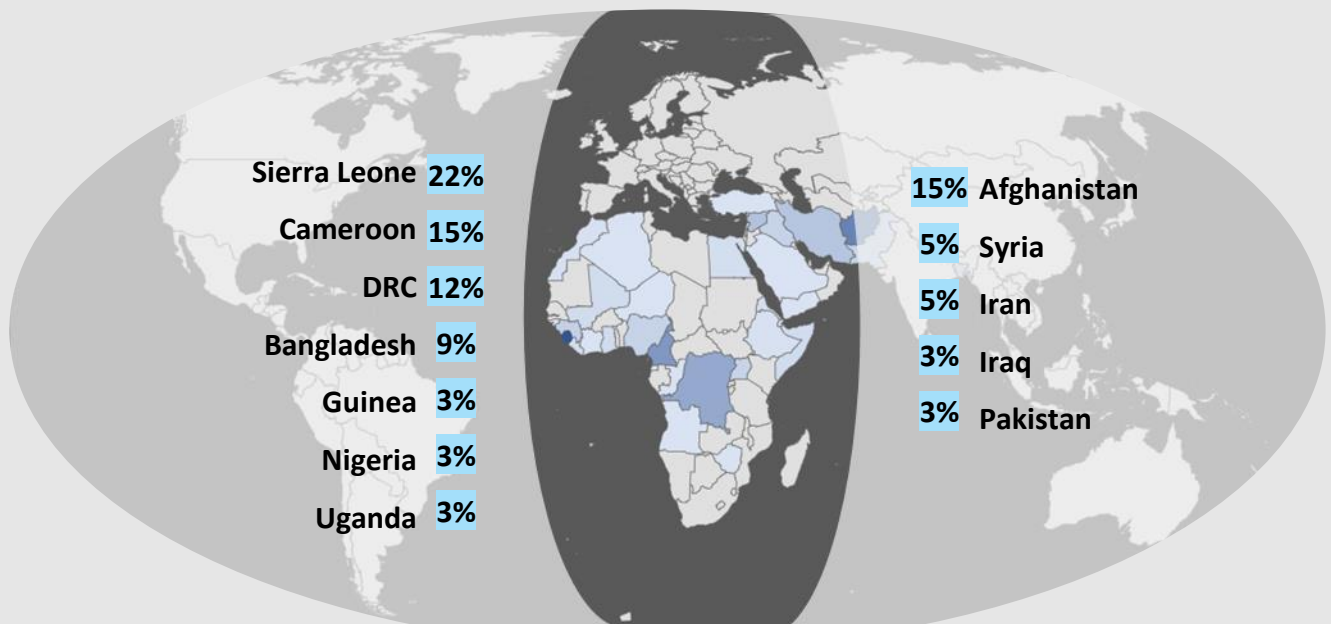
2019-2021

Community-based alternatives to detention in Greece



2021

Social Integration Service Top Countries of Origin



STREET LAWYERING



2

HR360

Street Lawyering

Providing Legal Counseling to the Homeless

Defending and Promoting the Rights of People in Street Situations

HumanRights360 has been a member of the Greek Housing Network since 2018, acknowledging that homelessness is one of the most extreme forms of social exclusion. On the streets of Athens, in the midst of the pandemic, many people find themselves in a state of marginal survival; homeless persons, users of psychoactive substances, sex workers, refugees, migrants, persons lacking legal documents, people with mental health issues.

HumanRights360, identifying the need for legal assistance for this population group, decided to work in the field together with Steps. This organization operates on the streets daily, consisting of street work groups, offering food and harm reduction materials to people living on the street and persons abusing psychoactive substances.

Since the end of August 2020, when the Street Lawyering pilot program began, the lawyer of HumanRights360 has been following the Steps street work team three times a week and has been actively participating in the project to offer legal counselling, provide information to people who are in homelessness, in transitional facilities or precarious housing conditions about their rights and to identify the problems that these population groups are facing, to promote and defend the rights of the persons of concern and to contribute to a change through documented advocacy actions and public interventions.

Penal cases

Working with vulnerable groups on their pending penal cases is usually challenging. Penal cases are generally urgent, demanding and require care. Legal consequences are often rigorous for this part of the population, and we have to work carefully and quickly. At the same time, this population has peculiarities that make it even harder (difficulties keeping in touch with people while solving their cases, suddenly losing people for some time, taking into consideration addictions, etc.) to possible succeed (they don't manage to do their part, they forget our appointments, they lose their documents, etc.). Overall, our frequent presence and consistent and reliable efforts on the street, together with the help of the escorts team, bring the desirable results.

To be properly able to handle penal cases, we asked for authorization from the prosecutors involved to be able to take control of those cases, which are often severe and numerous. We also use a consent form to inform people about their personal data (confidence, anonymity, platform etc.). After checking either in the prosecutor's office (in Athens & Piraeus) or in several police stations, we inform them of pending legal cases, decisions and sanctions imposed on them, and the best way to handle those issues, which is often imperative. Many want to know when their trial will be held or what happens next with penalties or fines already imposed. However, the most challenging part of handling is some people that

are dealing with pending decisions based on which they can go (back) to prison.

Furthermore, we deal with some cases, explaining particularities and emergencies that were usually urgent. We face cases where we have to explain carefully to our beneficiaries in which way, they could solve their pending cases; we answer their questions and try to find definitive solutions. We also search for published warrants and inform our beneficiaries about them. A prevalent request also is to resolve presence issues with the police station or the prosecutor's office that usually cause severe concerns to the beneficiaries. People living on the street struggle with being punctual and most services avoid helping them. With our help and cooperation with police officers, we manage to control their loose ends. In most cases, our beneficiaries can re-start without any record of absence.

Administrative- civil

People that live in street conditions (women, sex workers, users, refugees) usually face many difficulties in being serviced by the Authorities. They need us to accompany them there or explain the processes in analytical steps. Sometimes they need help to collect necessary papers, and some others face obstacles that we have to deal with (legal issues/ shortcomings/weaknesses) or procedural concerns where we can also help. We inform them concerning allowances for which they can apply, we explain to them the process they must follow, and if needed, we support them until they take the allowance.

A ubiquitous request is this of issuing a new ID. The loss or theft of personal documentation is very common for people living on the street. As a result, before handling someone's case, we often need to resolve fundamental issues such as the id.

Migration law (refugees - asylum seekers)

Every month more people need help with their documents because they cannot understand the process or the delays that usually are really exhausting. The requests vary between the absence of essential documents because of theft, delays in issuing residence permits and travel documents and, of course, questions of people who have no documents. We advise those people on the process by providing them with websites and email addresses and explaining the sequence of steps. Among them, some do not have phones or access to the internet. Accordingly, we made the applications for them and created email and skype accounts for them for the first time. Overall, we advise numerous people concerning the loss and renewal of their documentation (passports, residence permits, IDs), and we accompany some of them at the Asylum Service (Alimos, Katehaki, Neos Kosmos, Pireus) and Allodapon (Petrou Ralli) or at the police stations to follow the necessary processes. We answer many questions about the process and explain possible ways to handle their cases. Every day on the street, we have been checking the validity of documentation and informing people about the extensions given because of COVID-19 or the specific steps they must follow to renew their documentation. We often help them with their expenses (documentation, photocopies, photographs, etc.).

A quite nodal and lengthy part of our work during this period was the Asylum process. Most of the people that we met face numerous issues dealing with it. We try to help people to register themselves for asylum while we assist others who have already received their first or second (and last) rejection.

Cooperation and organizations:

We collaborate in many cases with different organizations, helping one another. Such collaborations help us with urgent cases and allow us to fulfil the holistic approach that we strive to have. They also help us keep in touch with our people, follow their everyday routines and create a stable and safe environment where we can meet colleagues, get to know different approaches and aspects of work and keep learning valuable simple things referring to our field of interest.



We work closely and in cooperation with OKANA. We use their space for our appointments and are in touch with them during the week. We have already formed a close, trustworthy relationship which works comfortably and frequently.



We have also formed a relationship with KATHEA MOSAIC. We also started using their space for our appointments. They ask for our legal advice very often. We also work very close with KETHEA EXELIXIS, which trusts us as our communication becomes more frequent.



In the same way, we continue with 18ANO. We are building a relationship with referrals between us and by consulting the therapists trying to solve the legal cases.

Additionally, we have a very frequent relationship with [Ithaca](#), [Not just a refugee](#) and [UNESCO's dormitory](#). They all refer to us, asking for help with legal cases concerning migrant and refugee issues. We stay in touch with these

three organizations that always try to help us with housing problems and other social requests of our beneficiaries.

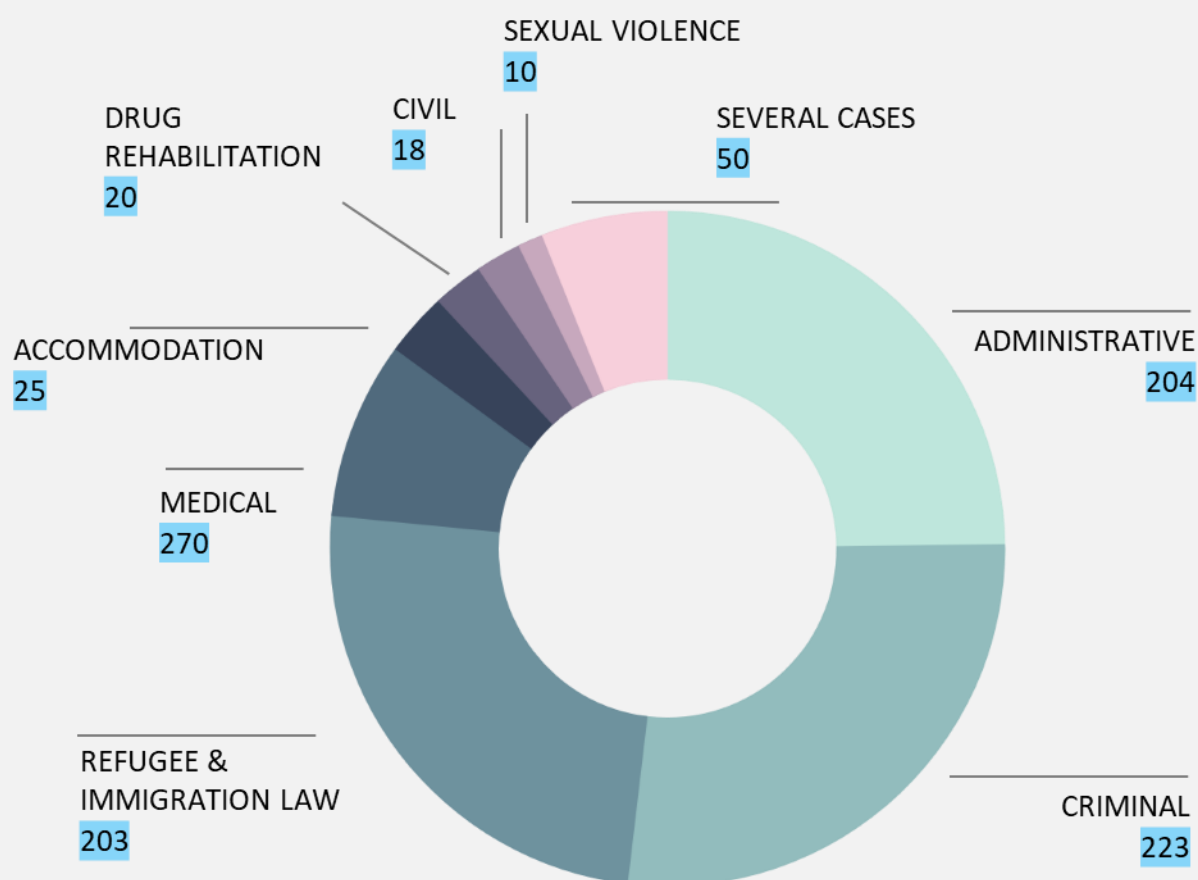
We also participate in the meetings of the platform for addiction with the National Coordinator for Drugs monthly, which provides the opportunity for further discussion and cooperation on issues that arise in the field and concern persons with issues related to drug use.

Additionally, we participate in the meetings of the Secretary-General for Social Solidarity and the Fight against Poverty: Working Group for the preparation of the National Action Plan for Homeless Persons.

Event «Support, Don't punish!»

On the occasion of the International Day of Action, we organized a day at the Trianon cinema on the "trauma" of people who make problematic use of toxic substances. Based on the scientific positions we attended, we discussed the difficulties of use, the burden of co-morbidity and the personal experiences of the people who participated.

2021 | Street Lawyering Number of Cases for 2021



Prison RE-INTEGRATION

A large, stylized number '3' is the central focus. It features a blue-to-white gradient and is surrounded by a pixelated, cloud-like shadow in shades of blue and white.

HR360

PRISON RE-INTEGRATION

HumanRights360 always tries to extend the field of its intervention to identify the most vulnerable populations. In this spectrum, we have implemented, since November 2019 and throughout 2020, the project «Convicts Upskilling Pathways». For numerous reasons, former convicts in Greece are undoubtedly a group with a high rate of vulnerability. First, for reasons connected with their imprisonment situation, which is characterized by overpopulation, limited visiting hours, limited access to education and healthcare etc. Their vulnerability is also linked with a kind of «stigma» of being a convict or a former convict, which is not easy to deal with upon their return to society and «normal life». Those are some significant reasons why we find it crucial to empower those people to reintegrate into the community. The project, with a duration of 36 months funded by the EU's Erasmus+ programme, aims to design and pilot training modules for the upskilling of women and men prisoners in 6 European prisons while also providing the necessary tools to evaluate the impact of these upskilling paths and promoting the social reintegration of prisoners. CUP is an international partnership spanning 4 EU countries, including Italy, Greece, Cyprus and The Netherlands.

HumanRights360 and Epanodos are the two Greek partners of the project. Specifically, the project aims to: Design successful training modules (e.g., modules based on technical skills as a means of embedded learning for soft and basic skills) to enhance the medium and long-term employability of convicts and ex-convicts.

Promote an overall culture of evaluation: CUP aims to offer an evaluation kit that prison administrations and third-sector organizations can use to measure the progress and the impact of their upskilling actions. Develop a “Call to Action” advocacy strategy targeting policymakers and stakeholders to counteract stigma and a disabling environment for the social reintegration of convicts.

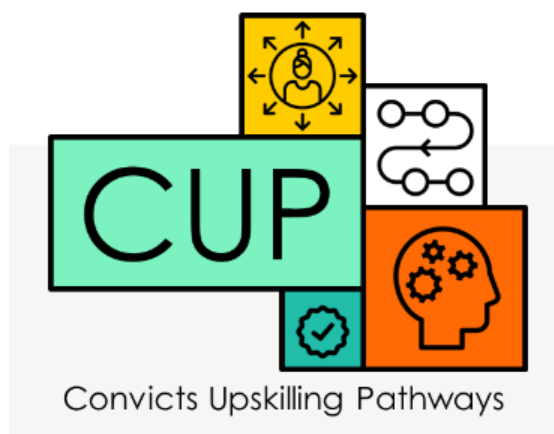
The work of the conference was welcomed by the Deputy Minister of Citizen Protection, Eleftherios Oikonomou, saying that "For about two years now, a serious effort has been made for the holistic modernization of the country's prison system, and one of the pillars of our strategic program is the integrated post-prison policy and care".

Christina Zafonitou, professor and president of the Board of Directors of the NPID Epanodos, speaking about the program, underlined that "it aims, within 36 months of its implementation, to strengthen the medium and long-term employability and social reintegration of a total of 210 male and female prisoners in 6 European prisons from Italy, Greece, Cyprus and the Netherlands". Referring to its implementation, she clarified that the goal would be achieved through the design and implementation of innovative training and monitoring tools, providing the tools required to evaluate practices and promote their social reintegration.

The speakers of the conference covered with their speeches and presentations the whole

range of critical steps that must be taken for the smooth reintegration of prisoners after serving their sentence, highlighting at the same time the possibilities but also the shortcomings that exist, such as they have recorded them during their long course in the specific field but also at the given time.

The three panels of the conference developed in a multifaceted way the themes of education and work, the family and social support framework and culture as the main pillars of social reintegration.



Sharing lessons on education in prison and employability for detainees

HATE CRIME



HR360

HATE CRIME

The incidents of racist violence are still a warning reality in Greece. It is directly linked to the European policy of the “unwelcome refugee” and his representation as a threat to national sovereignty. At the same time, during the year 2021, we have seen police officers committing racist crimes, such as the murder of Roma Nikos Sabanis in October. Furthermore, Human Rights 360 has published reports and policy papers on far-right extremism in Greece.

JANUARY '21

Report to the Greek Ombudsperson regarding the violation of refugee children in Ritsona camp on their right to public education.

MARCH '21

HumanRights360 provide legal aid to the Coordinators of Refugee's Education to report the violation of refugee children's right to public education.

HumanRights360 has submitted its input into the RVRN contribution to the UN's Universal Periodic Review.

MAY '21

Publication of the article '[The Rise and Fall of Golden Dawn](#)' by HumanRights360's Deputy Director Eleni Takou on The Brown Journal of World Affairs.

FEBRUARY '21

Mission to Crete, Tympaki. Representing a victim of a hate crime before the police and judicial authorities.

APRIL '21

HumanRights360 published a Press Release following the [racist attacks against migrant workers in Tympaki village in Crete](#).

HumanRights360 closely monitors the specific cases and developments in the region, having recorded incidents of racist violence attacks and filing a criminal complaints against individuals who directly incite to commit crimes against migrants. At the same time, HumanRights360 has undertaken the legal assistance and defence of victims of racist violence.

The results from recording incidents of violence with racist motives during 2020 were presented on April 22 by the Racist Violence Recording Network in an [online Press Conference](#). This is the tenth Annual Report published by the Network, capturing the quantitative and qualitative trends of racist violence in Greece. HumanRight360, since its beginning, has been a member of the Network and a legal team representative contributing to the press conference. More information and the annual report can be found [here](#).

JUNE '21

Our lawyer was summoned to testify and provide digital evidence regarding the hate speech in Crete, Tympaki, during August – September 2020.

Article «[The pandemic fostered the racism](#)» regarding the racist attacks in Tympaki.

JANUARY '22

Submission of a supplementary defence statement on behalf of a victim of a racist attack and record of a discrimination action against a homeless man.

Cooperation with the Social Change Initiative and publishing a policy brief entitled "[Golden Dawn: Lessons from Greece in Tackling Extremism](#)" to draw out lessons from some of those involved in helping to defeat Golden Dawn in Greece. HumanRights360 and Social Change Initiative organized the event and [press conference](#) about "Far-right extremism in Greece: lessons from the past, challenges for the future".

MAY '21

HumanRights360 published a [report](#) investigating how the [prosecutorial authorities in Greece \(have not\) confronted criminal actions conducted with a racist motive](#). This study was conducted by Thanasis Kampagiannis, the lawyer for the civil action of the Egyptian fishermen in Golden Dawn's trial.

OCTOBER '21

HumanRights360 undertook a case of [police arbitrariness and racist crime](#) representing the victim before the judicial authorities and recorded a racist attack.

FEBRUARY '22

HR360 participated in the EStAR Diagnostic Workshop organized by ODIHR as a member of [RVRN](#).

HR360 submitted a supplementary report to the Greek Ombudsperson for the violation of education rights of 200 refugee children who live in the Ritsona camp.

HumanRights360 released [a video depicting the murder of Roma Nikos Sabanis](#) by the police.

LEGAL & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

EVROS REGION



HR360

LEGAL & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

at Evros Region

More than 4.826 asylum seekers have crossed the Evros border seeking protection during 2021, rendering the area the preferable passage to Europe. At the same time, 4.331 asylum seekers reached the greek islands. Most people crossing the Evros border are citizens from Turkey, Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Iraq. 2021 was a year stigmatized by :

⊕ The constant violations of human rights at the land borders of Evros resulting in the exposure of migrants and refugees to possible ill-treatment or/and abuse.

⊕ The implementation of the JMD 42799/2021 – GovGaz 2425/B/7-6-2021, issued by the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, according to which Turkey has been designated as a safe country for asylum seekers from Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Somalia, which significantly accelerated the procedures and arose many important problematics. The Asylum Service started its implementation immediately and examined the asylum applications of nationals of these countries of origin only on admissibility grounds. HumanRights360, along with 40 other organizations, co-signed a [letter](#) addressing the matter to the Greek Authorities.

⊕ The JMD 9889/2020 – GovGaz 3390/B/13-8-2020 concerning the determination of the minority of

third-country nationals or stateless persons entering the country without meeting the legal formalities. HumanRights360 Evros Team expressed concerns about the application of the new age assessment legal procedure. Following Ministry's guidelines and the Ministerial Decree, in case of doubt, the age assessment procedures take place only after the official reference of the Director of the RIC and include three compulsory stages.

⊕ The absence of a permanent guardianship program within the RIC creates significant issues and deficits in the representation of UASC, especially the youngest ones (>15 years old), bringing back severe gaps in the RIC and Asylum procedures.

⊕ The abolition of “protective custody” since the law amendment of 9th-11-2020 (article 43 L. 4760/2020) that put many challenges on the status of UASC at the borders and, on top of all the above, as the legal status of the minors that continue to enter the RIC of Fylakio has not yet been cleared up.

⊕ The continuation of Covid-19 restrictions, the compulsory 14-day quarantine applied to all the beneficiaries entering the RIC and the direct and strict measures adopted by the Greek government subsequently complicated the procedures at the RIC of Fylakio, Orestiada.

In 2021, the HumanRights360 Evros team consisted of two Lawyers and two Social Workers. HumanRights360 remained present at the RIC of Fylakio, Orestiada, in a daily rotation system in accordance with the guidelines regarding safety measures against COVID-19. It worked in the best interest of the UASC and the most vulnerable beneficiaries. In that context, during 2021, the HumanRights360 team provided legal and psychosocial support to 197 beneficiaries during their stay in the RIC of Fylakio, Orestiada and the PRDC or their presence within the border Evros region. Most of the beneficiaries we assisted were males (190 out of 197), many of them were younger than 15 years old (62 out of 197), a few of them were vulnerable adults (28 out of 197), and the rest of them were between 16-18 years old, mainly coming from Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Egypt and Iraq.

Providing Legal counselling and legal representations

- Providing multiple legal counselling services on asylum issues & preparation for the asylum interviews, at the RIC and RAO of Fylakio, according to the new JMD 42799/2021 – GovGaz 2425/B/7-6-2021 and the JMD 9889/2020 – GovGaz 3390/B/13-8-2020.
- Following legal preparation and representation by our Lawyers, 6 of our UASCs from Afghanistan, Syria and Pakistan have been granted refugee status, and 1 UASC from Afghanistan received an extra vulnerability by the NPHO after our intervention. As RAO of Fylakio continues to issue decisions for adult applicants and UASC over 15 years, following the new JMD 42799/2021 - GovGaz 2425/B/7-6-2021, most of the findings still declare the applications for international protection

Activities Against & Beyond Targets & Impact

HR360 2021

inadmissible, expressing concerns regarding further detention to PRDC of these applicants. Fortunately, almost all UASC cases our team handled were finally accepted as admissible, and the applicants were further called for an interview to be examined on the merits.

- Lodging 11 administrative appeals against the age assessment decisions, according to the JMD 9889/2020 – GovGaz 3390/B/13-8-2020, 4 of them were accepted by the Direction of the RIC and the beneficiaries were considered to be minors. After a joint letter sent by HR360 and ARSIS teams to the Special Secretariat of UASC to accelerate the UASC transfer to shelters, they were finally transferred after almost 5-6 months of detention within the RIC.
- Supporting and submitting 40 family reunification applications of UASC, having immediate success in two cases, which the Switzerland Dublin Unit approved. In one case, in May 2021, the UASC from Afghanistan was anticipated to be reunified with his stepbrother only a few days after its submission. In the other case, one female UASC had been placed in a shelter and departed from RIC to travel to Switzerland in the middle of December 2021. Many other cases in which we contributed have also been accepted by various European countries and further handled by the shelter where the UASC were transferred or referred to proper bodies, especially regarding family reunification cases with relatives in the UK, after the Brexit provisions.
- Following up on the criminal cases of two

Turkish persons that have been sentenced for illegal entry on the 1st of March 2020. In August 2021, the asylum interview for one of them was held at the RAO of Alexandroupolis in the presence of one of our team's lawyers. The beneficiary was successfully granted refugee status.

Providing psychosocial support and access to protective services

- Providing multiple psychosocial sessions& assessments. Supporting and working in coordination with the NHPO on the assessment of a minor's SGBV case, which concluded to be assessed as an SGBV victim and finally granted a refugee status.
- Intervening in a UASC's case, who has stated a false date of birth as an adult during his registration at RIC while he was a minor. As a result, he would have been transferred to a PRDC for further detention, but following our team's intervention to the RIC's direction, an age assessment was conducted by the NPHO's psychosocial unit, determining his exact age at 16 years. He was afterwards transferred to a shelter for UASC. Intervening, also, in one female UASC case who entered the RIC as married to an adult man. She explained that she was forced to marry the man, and our team immediately intervened properly so that the minor was placed in a safe shelter.
- Intervening in a UASC's case, whose family was split after the minor had been forced to illegal pushback. Finally, our team succeeded in her reunion with her parents at Oinofyta camp. Moreover, 2 of our UASC cases were placed in Agia Eleni's safe zone through EKKA, and they were about to depart in the middle of April. However, their departure was cancelled as positive covid-19 cases were detected among the safe zone

residents, but our team immediately intervened and managed to place them in another shelter.

- Intervening constantly to the National Center for Social Solidarity (EKKA) and the General Secretariat of UASC for beneficiaries to be prioritized in the process of finding a suitable shelter due to specific factors of risk within the RIC. The very early age of the average of minors, the psychological exhaustion, the negative emotional burden, severe dermatological issues and psychosomatic symptoms were the main factors of risk.

Empowering and providing a holistic support in all fields

- HR360 team participated in various empowerment activities and offered commemorative gifts to participants in a "Women in Leadership" event organized in the RIC to honour International Women's Day.
- In close collaboration with NGO ARSIS colleagues, our team also participated in two activities regarding the social empowerment of unaccompanied girls.

Strengthening collaborations to support the access of vulnerable population in protective Services

- Following up on one of our beneficiaries from Morocco, who was transferred to PRDC of Xanthi after reaching adulthood. An application at the Housing Department of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum was submitted by the HR360 team and accepted due to the vulnerability of our beneficiary, and an apartment was found in Athens. Subsequently, an application was submitted to the competent Police Directorate, among with psychological evaluation and hospital documents, it was accepted, and our beneficiary was released. HR360 team

assisted him by buying the bus tickets and accompanying him to the bus station in Athens.

- Started important cooperation with the Health Units SA in PRDC of Xanthi. Psychologists who work within the PRDC of Xanthi refer to our team when they locate a vulnerable case that needs legal aid and advice.
- Providing medical products to vulnerable beneficiaries when needed, tuned to the official instructions and requests by the NPHO. HumanRights360 also started a collaboration with the NGO GIVMED and has gained access to the platform Med for NGOs to provide essential medicine to beneficiaries within the RIC.

Participating in reports and follow up on refolement cases

- Contribution to a report released by Amnesty International entitled “Greece: Pushbacks and violence against refugees and migrants are de facto border policy.”
- HumanRights360’s Evros field team, along with other NGOs operating on the RIC of Fylakio, produced a [video](#) against racism occasioned by the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, published by the Ministry of Migration on the 14th of April.
 - Contribution to Heinrich Boll Stiftung’s research entitled [«Protection in a Precarious Context: Researching Asylum in Greece after Eidomeni»](#).

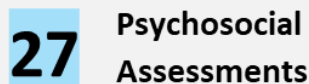
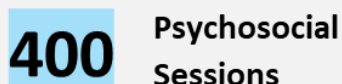
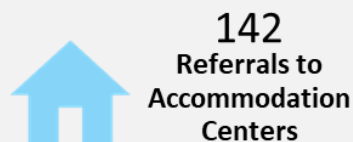
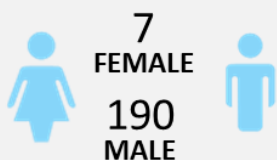
THE DOCTRINE OF THE
“INSTRUMENTALIZATION” OF
REFUGEES. THE BORDERS OF EVROS
IN THE ERA OF THE SECURITIZATION
OF BORDERS”

VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
IN GREECE IN THE «LIGHT» OF
EUROPEAN PACT ON ASYLUM
AND MIGRATION «FIGHTING IN
THE DARK»



THE EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL
ASYLUM POLICY AT THE LAND
BORDERS OF EVROS

HUMANRIGHTS360 CONTRIBUTION
TO THE EASO 2021 REPORT



for custody cases assigned to relatives

373

Legal Counselling Services Regarding Asylum Procedures

At the RIC and RAO of Fylakio, according to the new JMD 42799/2021 - GovGaz 2425/B/7-6-2021 and the JMD 9889/2020 - GovGaz 3390/B/13-8-2020 (collection of ID or medical documents, intervention and correction of false registered information, document translations, case transfer), family reunification (contact with members of family within Europe or Country of Origin, collection of necessary documents), protection custody etc.

331

Preparations &/or Presentation on Applicants for International Protection support the registration of their claim and preparation &/ or presentation of the interview.

According to the new JMD 42799/2021 - GovGaz 2425/B/7-6-2021, at the RIC and RAO of Fylakio.

40

Family Reunifications Cases

(Dublin III) were submitted by our team

11

Administrative Appeals were Lodged Against the Age Assessment Decisions. 4 of them were accepted by the Direction of the RIC and the beneficiaries were considered as minors.

(JMD) 9889/2020 - GovGaz 3390/B/13-8-2020.

6

UASC have been granted refugee status. Most of them were young males from Afghanistan, one from Pakistan and some of them SGBV survivors, who were legally prepared and represented by our team.

1

UASC from Afghanistan received an extra vulnerability by the NPHO, after our intervention and legal support.

BORDER MONITORING



HR360

BORDER MONITORING

In 2021, the monitoring of violations at the land borders of Evros has faced multiple challenges. Our research and reports have focused on the militarization of the borders and the national and European legislative framework and policy of preventing the newcomers from entering and avoiding secondary movement in Europe. Additionally, our reports focus on the systemic and constant violation of the non-refoulment principle, pushbacks and massive expulsion. Finally, our last report entitled "the doctrine of the 'instrumentalization' of refugees. The borders of Evros in the era of the securitization of borders" refers to the events on the borders between Poland and Belarus. It attempts to criticize this doctrine which is constantly invoked by the political leaders of the European Union and deliberately removes from the refugees' human condition. In strategic legislation, HumanRights360 has provided legal support to survivors of pushbacks and has taken on their representation before national and European bodies. Furthermore, HumanRights360 has collaborated with Forensic Architecture European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights and participated in the Endpushbacks partnership. Concretely, HumanRights360 has carried out the following:

DENYING FOOD: INSTEAD OF RECEIVING PROTECTION PEOPLE GO HUNGRY ON EU SOIL

GREECE DEEMS TURKEY "SAFE", BUT REFUGEES ARE NOT: THE SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION OF ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IS THE ONLY SAFE SOLUTION FOR REFUGEES

GREEK CIVIL SOCIETY REQUESTS EUROPEAN COMMISSION ASSESSMENT ON RESPECT OF EU ASYLUM LAW SAFEGUARDS AT THE GREEK BORDERS

BORDER MONITORING

HR360 2021

On February 28th, 2022 HumanRights360 and Hias Greece reported to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants.

On February 21st, 2022, HumanRights360 along with GCR, HLHR, Equal Rights Beyond Borders filed an application for leave to intervene in 31 applications, Greece communicated on 2nd of December 2021

On February 2th, 2022 #HumanRights360, along with ECCHR - European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights and Forensic Architecture presented in a press conference with the participation of Kostis Tsitselikis from Hellenic Union for Human Rights and Nils Muiznieks from Amnesty International the evidence of Parvin A. case, a female refugee survivor who has experienced several pushbacks.

On December 16th, 2021, HumanRights360 participated in the webinar of the Center of Migration Research of University of Warsaw about the Humanitarian Crisis at the Polish-Belarusian frontier – old and new diagnoses from external EU borders. During this roundtable our recently-publishes report was discussed.

On February 17th, 2022, we participate in the PICUM meeting in order to share update on the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and other ongoing legislative procedures.

On February 1st, 2022, HumanRights360 in Cooperation with ECCHR and Forensic Architecture submitted complaint / individual communication to the Human Rights Committee under Article 2 of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

On December 4th, 2021 HumanRights360 signed the Joint Statement: Call on the EU: Restore Rights and Values at Europe's Borders

In October 2021, Participation in the hearing of UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders with human rights defenders engaged in solidarity with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece.

On February 21 st, 2022, HumanRights360 submitted her input to the Asylum Report of EUAA.

On February 7th, 2022 Eleni Takou of #HumanRights360 has been invited in the radio broadcast of Eleonora Orfanidou and Eleftheria Koumandou and spoke about the pushbacks in the area of Evros along with the story of the survivor Parvin A.

We contributed to the EASO Asylum Report 2021 providing input in the main areas of its expertise. Civil society's contribution in Institutional' organizations report aims to underline the asylum-related developments and violations, as identified in the field, in order to present a more concrete and accurate picture and to enhance its efforts for institutional changes.

On November 25th , 2021 HumanRights360 presented the latest report on its work at the border of Evros, for the period July – October 2021, titled “ the doctrine of the “instrumentalization” of refugees. The borders of Evros in the era of the securitization of borders.

BORDER MONITORING HR360 2021

In September 2021, HumanRights360 in cooperation with the Greek Embassy in Istanbul provided legal support to a recognized refugee, survivor of pushback in order to re-enter successfully Greece legally. Our lawyer and the survivor have testified the facts of his pushback in response to interrogation by authorized police officers after filling a report to the Greek Ombudsman.

On September 9th, 2021 Participation in the [Policy brief Walling of Welcome: New reception facilities in Greece reinforce a policy of refugee containment and exclusion.](#)

Participation in [NCHR's](#) initiative on the establishment of the Informal Forced Returns Recording Mechanism.

On April 27th 2021, Submission of a [joint letter](#) to the European Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson requesting the Commission's assessment of compliance by Greece with procedural requirements attached to the non-refoulement principle and obligations to provide access to asylum at its land and sea borders.

An article for the A' University Psychiatric Clinic of the University of Athens in the topic "Contemporary Versions of the Refugee Issue: Aspects and Opinions". Its publication is still pending.

In May 2021, Article on [Border Criminology blog.](#)

In May 2021, we participated in the NCHR meeting about the New European Pact on Immigration and Asylum.

In April 2021, we participated in the ODIHR webinar BORDER POLICE MONITORING IN THE OSCE REGION: upholding a human-rights approach to migration.

In July 2021, HumanRights360 presented the [report](#) on its work at the border of Evros, for the period March – July 2021, titled "Violations of human rights in Greece in the "light" of European Pact on Asylum and Migration" - "Fighting in the dark".

On March 30th 2021, a Joint action for the creation of initiative of [organization in relation to pushbacks](#)

On March 18th, 2021, HumanRights360 [filed an appeal](#) before the European Court of Human Rights on 18.3.2021, representing Mr. Z.I., a survivor of pushback and beneficiary of subsidiary protection recognized by the German authorities.

On February 2021, ECRE has mentioned our report in the [ECRE weekly bulletin.](#)

In February 2021, HumanRights360 [presented the report](#) on its work at the border of Evros, for the period October 2020 – February 2021, titled "The European and National Asylum Policy at the land borders of Evros"

Contribution with input to the Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in cooperation with other NGOs.

Participation in the [End Pushbacks](#) Partnership and launch of the relevant campaign during summer 2021 through social media

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



HR360

Sustainable Development

HumanRights360 organized the 'Green Ideas Greece 2021' competition in collaboration with HIGGS in the context of the '[Balkan Green Ideas](#)' competition, a project of the [Balkan Green Foundation](#). It aims to stimulate and encourage innovation for green ideas while engaging local communities to generate green initiatives that utilize local resources and community-based networks. By supporting innovative, local, sustainable economic

development initiatives, Green Ideas aims to contribute to building a peaceful, competitive, and prosperous Balkans. Through the process, three innovative ideas were supported to implement their projects, out of which one secured a prize in the Balkan Green Ideas competition in Belgrade in October 2021, enabling them to develop their vision further. The project is supported by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Helidoni Foundation, Whitetip Investments, and the EU Erasmus+ programme.



Learn more on the competition:

[Green Ideas Greece](#)



EEA GRANTS

HR360

EEA Grants

On 1 January 1994, the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA Agreement) entered into force. The Agreement brought together the 28 EU Member States and the EEA EFTA States — Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway — in a single market, referred to as the "internal market". In connection with this, the EEA and Norway Grants are established. The objective of the Grants is to reduce social and economic disparities in the EEA, strengthen bilateral relations between the donor and beneficiary countries, and put the beneficiary countries in a better position to make use of the internal market. On 31 October 2017, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway signed a new cooperation agreement with Greece on new programs under the EEA Grants 2014-2021.

SOL CROWE, in collaboration with HumanRights360, acts as the Fund Operator for two (2) of the nine (9) Programmes which are being implemented under the current funding period: "Local Development and Poverty Reduction", with a total budget of € 6.5 million and "Asylum and Migration" (Addressing urgent needs for the reception and screening of asylum seekers and the accommodation of vulnerable groups), with a total budget of € 16.5 million.

PROGRAMMES

«Local Development and Poverty Reduction»

«Asylum and Migration»



Fund Operator of the EEA Grants

HumanRights360, in collaboration with SOL CROWE, was selected on 19 February 2019 by the Financial Mechanism Office to act as the Fund Operator for the Programmes "Local Development & Poverty Reduction" & "Asylum & Migration".

Undertaking such a role is very important for our organization because, on the one hand, it enables us to use our many years of expertise in the field and develop collaborations with public entities and civil society organizations (international and non-international). On the other hand, it creates a valuable experience in the re-granting management scheme, which is a key pillar of the organization.

The design and implementation of the Projects' monitoring mechanism to achieve the objectives of the EEA Grants, the establishment Web based systems as means of submitting applications and project promoter reports, lodging complaints and forwarding inquiries, and the provision of transparent procedures for the selection of projects, the funding cycle and their successful implementation, and providing appropriate guidance and support to organizations in submitting proposals and subsequent project monitoring and reporting, are an essential legacy for our organization.

EEA Grants Greece

EEA Grants

As a result of the excellent management of the programs is the efficient implementation of nine (9) projects up to date (December 2021):

- Five (5) projects related to the accommodation and services provided to Unaccompanied Minors asylum seekers & vulnerable women asylum seekers, with total funding of 7,6 M Euro.
- One (1) project related to the Capacity Development for dignified reception and protection of the rights of migrants and asylum seekers, with total funding of 3.5 M Euro (ongoing).
- One (1) project related to the Quality assurance of asylum procedures and free legal aid to vulnerable asylum seekers, with total funding of 3 M Euro (the project was completed in 2020).
- One (1) project related to the inclusion of Refugee Children in Greek Schools, with a total funding of 1.5 M Euro (ongoing).
- One (1) project related to the increase of opportunities for social inclusion for the vulnerable population, with total funding of 2 M Euro (ongoing).
- One (1) project related to the reintegration of the unemployed into the labour market and the empowerment of businesses in Athens, with total funding of 2,5 M Euro (ongoing).

In 2022, two more projects are expected to start, which are related to:

- a) enhancement of social inclusion opportunities for vulnerable people, and
- b) the provision of voluntary return and reintegration assistance to migrants wishing to return to their country of origin. In addition, the initiatives of Bilateral Cooperation of the Programmes, amounting to 175,000 euros, are expected to start. The strengthening of bilateral relations between NGOs in Greece and organizations from donor countries, intending to promote collaborations and the exchange of knowledge and good practices, is one of the central objectives of the EEA Grants for the period 2014-2021.

Skills on Demand

Increased opportunities for the integration of unemployed residents in the labor market

**Athens Development and
Destination Management Agency
(ADDMA) Athens Municipality**



The project will establish a system to promote the employment of vulnerable unemployed residents of the Municipality of Athens. The main objectives are the certification of the development of skills and the empowerment of the beneficiaries to (re) enter the labour market, as well as the promotion and fulfilment of the needs of the labour market at a local level.

The project started in September 2021. During its implementation, it is expected to benefit: 1000 vulnerable fellow humans & 500 businesses will participate in establishing a network of local companies with defined skills needs.

Schools for All: Inclusion of Refugee Children in Greek Schools

The European Wergeland Center (EWC)



64 Schools

33 Trainees,
Across Greece

TRAINING

835

Trainees

184

Official
Coordinators

52

School
Directors

3

Webinars to
Enhance the
School Network

1

National Conference with
theme: Inclusion Through
Education- European
Perspectives

7

Implementation
Regional
Academies

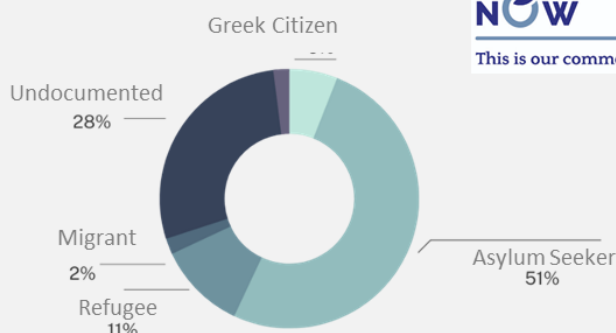
Athens Solidarity Center

SolidarityNow



7,630
Beneficiaries

33% Female
67% Male



Social
service

1,670 Beneficiaries

Employability
service

944 Beneficiaries **34%** of the employability service
beneficiaries were successful in finding a job

Legal service

975 Legal
Representations **65%** of asylum applications and family
reunification applications were successful

Psychosocial support
service

2,796 Sessions **254** Beneficiaries

Accounting service

1,714 Tax Declarations

Accommodation and Services provision

Unaccompanied Refugee Children and Vulnerable Women Asylum Seekers

ARSIS Association for the Social Support of Youth, International Rescue Committee Hellas,
Doctors of the World, METAdrasi, SMAN - Society for the Care of Minors and Youth



267

110

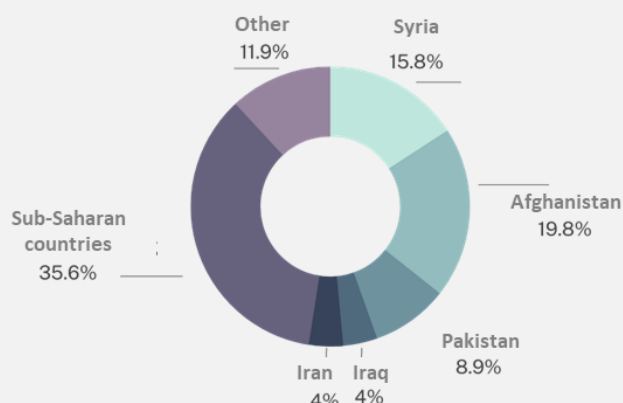
Unaccompanied Children
Vulnerable women
asylum seekers



24%



76%



126 Children Were Accommodated at Shelters

77 Children Were Accommodated at Sils

171 Women were Accommodated both at Apartments & Shelters

Capacity Building in Greece

Capacity Development for dignified reception and protection
of the rights of migrants and asylum seekers in Greece

NORCAP/NRC



Presence in **33** regional offices of the Reception and Identification Service

978 Front-line professionals have been trained in Human Trafficking issues as well as in the tools and role of the National Reporting Mechanism.



26 Experts of various specialties in collaboration with RIS and National Center for Social Solidarity

15 Experts in RIS and the Ministry of Migration and Asylum

187 Trainees

28 Trainings RIS

461 Reports

Re-granting



9

HR360

Re-granting

Documatism

Documatism is a civic, non-profit company aiming to educate and raise awareness of society, strengthen culture's importance, and highlight its role in enhancing human bonds and relationships. Documatism has been active since 2009, intending to redefine reality through art, utilizing the true power of document as an essential starting point for an art relevant to creative social interventions. The real power of document can be a vital starting point for an art that would be contemporary and topical, with creative social interventions: outside the restrictive borders of galleries and museums, ensuring the active participation of the protagonists themselves in the result, without them being approached just as subjects of depiction.

Documatism, in collaboration with HumanRights360, continued in 2021 the AfroGreeks project that aimed at the abolition of restrictions, divisions and stereotypes as they occur, the acceptance and integration of young Athenians with art as the primary weapon, and the ability to express African-Greek artists - who in most cases are limited-, the creative dialogue of Afro-Greeks with artists from Greece and abroad, creating a "roof" where this creative dialogue can continue and take place and finally gave access to African-Greek artists. The goals of the AfroGreeks project were met through a series of public discussions, open events, pedagogy groups and workshops, participation in festivals and research efforts. The Global Whole Being Fund has supported the project.

WE NEED BOOKS

Provided general operating support for We Need Books, a multilingual library that is a reading and lending library. Their work aims to create a society free of discrimination by ensuring free access to knowledge through a space that encourages communication, imagination, and joy. The library and its programs promote interculturalism and empathy in the daily lives of the people of Athens. Funding was provided by Gregory Maniatis.

MAZI HOUSING PROJECT

Mazí Housing Project exists to create safe, stable housing and support for young, displaced men who are homeless and unaccompanied in Athens and are at the bottom of the list for housing and other essential services. The implementation of the Community Space Project funded by a grant given by the Open Society Foundations (OSF) / Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) to Mazi Housing Project on April 1st, 2021, for the launch of and partial funding of running costs for a community space for Mazi Housing Project's participants. Residents, alongside volunteers and staff of Mazi, renovated the space, turning an office space in disrepair into a beautiful, functional space that is now used for classes, casework meetings, food distribution, clothes and household and hygiene items, team meetings and office work. The kitchen space was opened to provide a more welcoming space to visitors. A wall was placed in one large room to divide into a classroom and a computer lab. Working

together was a necessary learning experience for everyone. It increased residents' staff and volunteers' cultural competence levels and allowed residents to interact with Mazi differently. English, Greek and Sexual Health classes have all been held, with 52% participation in English classes and 25% in Greek courses. English classes have significantly benefited from having a dedicated classroom in a space that is accessible and where residents feel comfortable. One of the project's most impactful and essential elements is that casework meetings can take place in a safe, reliably accessible, and confidential space. Taking these meetings out of the apartments and into a neutral third space that is not the resident's home has provided a consistent and stable environment to conduct these meetings. This has contributed to increased openness and building relationships between staff and residents.

Common Ground

In 2020, five civil society leaders identified and set out to overcome certain impediments to Greece's handling of the climate crisis, the pandemic, socio-political polarization, and geopolitical tensions. The old ways of addressing issues through silos failed to protect society from these increasingly complex, dangerous, and interconnected threats. In response, they founded Common Ground (and now serve on its steering committee) as a platform for holistic, cross-sectoral problem-solving, the first of its kind in Greece. Common Ground serves as connective tissue, identifying and cultivating synergies between field aid workers, scholars, policy experts, entrepreneurs, and the people whose lives are directly affected by policy decisions in the belief that together we can achieve more than the

sum of our parts. We serve the most vulnerable members of society through strategic support to the NGOs providing direct services. In 2021, the work of Common Ground was supported by both The Global Whole Being Fund and ECRE.

Some indicative initiatives are the following:

- Common Ground and IRC implemented a project about the best use of EU funds for the integration of asylum seekers, migrants, and refugees in Greece, resulting in organised meetings with authorities, a workshop and created a policy brief with recommendations to national authorities based on the above actions, as well as recommendations on how to address Covid-19-related challenges and on the best use of the EU Action Plan for integration in Greece ([“EU funding for the integration of migrants and refugees in Greece: The clock is ticking”](#))
- In the spring of 2021, Greenpeace Greece and Common Ground formed the Alliance for a Green and Just Recovery, which includes more than 80 NGOs. The Alliance Working Group has developed project proposals to accelerate the transition to a carbon-neutral and more inclusive economy.
- **#INTECHGRATION**: The tech industry is burgeoning in Greece. It brings well-paid jobs and training opportunities only to those with the requisite skills and access. InTECHgration project implemented with the support of ECHO100Plus, HumanRights360 and Common Ground reduces barriers to competing in this market for aspiring techies with limited resources. Students receive free in-person coding instruction plus everything they need to follow the course (take-home laptop with internet and transportation stipend). The 10-month program includes professional networking, resume writing,

mock interviews, and help with job placement. It offers Greek and English language classes and primary computer and digital literacy for those who need to catch up on prerequisite skills.

SKEP - Association of Social Responsibility for Children & Youth

Since 2008, SKEP has been implementing Disability Awareness Educational Programs aiming to deconstruct stereotypes and reshape attitudes, starting from the early school years to society. SKEP envision an all-inclusive society where everybody feels accepted and valuable, and its mission focuses on the social inclusion of people with disability and socially vulnerable groups. Following 14 years of experience creating and effectively implementing innovative educational programs in schools, the association actively supports the inclusive education process in Greece and abroad.

Through the support of the Kahane Foundation, SKEP organized disability awareness educational programs, within the school curriculum, at all levels of the education system, starting from the early school years. The aim was to maximize the impact of educational awareness programs, paving the way to inclusive education, which will lead to an all-inclusive society where everybody feels accepted and valuable. Aligned with the UN's principle of participation and the motto "Nothing About Us Without Us", SKEP's programs were conducted by youth with disabilities.

THEAMA Theatre Group

The theatre group THEAMA – Theatre for the Disabled – is the first professional theatre ensemble mainly composed of disabled artists, established in Athens in 2010. They are all Greek Association of Actors members, asserting their right to equal representation in the performing arts. THEAMA applies an inclusive concept, so actors/performers with no disability are also part of the ensemble. It operates a Drama Workshop for all aspiring to establish the first-of-its-kind Drama Academy within an inclusive framework for disabled and non-disabled artists. The disabled represent about 9% of the population, and as active citizens, they have equal obligations and rights. One of the rights they actively challenge is the right to become professionally acclaimed actors, performers, and artists on equal terms.

Ten (10) training hours of inclusive and accessible online training addressed to cultural operators, actors-in-training, directors, and theatre technical accessibility professionals were supported by the Kahane Foundation. The training was based on two subject matters/cases: a) how to produce and technically support online accessible performances, b) Sign Language on stage, a director's perspective. Professionals in Sign Language, Audio Description and Captions undertook the task of providing necessary tools for participants with sensory impairments.

The recorded versions were available for viewing by a large audience of participants.

Off Stream

'Off Stream' is a common ground for experimentation, new ideas, creativity, and inclusion. They use contemporary art and culture as our main mediums, aiming at a more inclusive society where different cultural, artistic, and social positions find space for expression. They aspire to present projects that challenge, inspire, and show another way of thinking. Using the artistic form of "Sound Poetry" as a point of departure, the "Sonic Memorabilia" project organised a series of online workshops where the participants were invited to observe, experiment, improvise, conceive, and compose their own "Sonic Memorabilia" in the form of poetic (often wordless) audio recordings. A series of 4 workshops were implemented with the guidance and support of three sound artists, and the outcome was a collection of audio recordings. The project was addressed to people who experienced visual impairment along with general audiences and was supported by the Kahane Foundation.

LIMINAL

Since 2016, Liminal non-profit organization has been promoting inclusion and equal access to arts and culture, contributing to a more prosperous and more diverse creative industry by fostering the equal participation of all individuals in the artistic process. Liminal's activity focuses on three key areas: Accessibility Services, Inclusive Education, and Production. The team of Liminal has extensive experience working with theatre groups, cultural institutions, and NGOs, adapting cultural events, information campaigns, and services for audiences with disabilities. Digital workshops were designed and catered to the

characteristics of each class member for the lessons to be perceivable and empowering to everyone. Disabled students entered a unique and hard-to-find environment of inclusivity, while nondisabled students understood the value of human diversity in an experiential way (including sign language interpretation services). The workshops included Devised Theatre, Cinema - Acting on camera and Stand-up comedy and were made possible through the support of the Kahane Foundation. 30-50% of the participants were persons with disabilities.

ARTOGETHER – Art of People With and Without Disabilities

Art is not a luxury. It's a universal human need. Based on this belief, since 1990, ARTOGETHER has worked to promote the human right of people with disabilities in art expression and creation and their equal access to cultural life. The initiative funded by Kahane Foundation was an online exhibition of artworks titled "*What if your whole life was in quarantine? - Exclusions*". Via an open call for paintings that reflect the notion of exclusion posed either by the COVID-19 pandemic or by discriminatory practices against persons with disabilities, the audience was invited to contemplate the numerous continuous exclusions faced by disabled people. The open call was addressed to amateur or professional visual artists with and without disabilities. The online exhibition was hosted on the ARTOGETHER website and social media platforms in November 2021. The exhibition opening was enforced by a digital performance of ARTOGETHER's inclusive dance group, titled "Exclusion", and has been audio-described for blind and visually impaired people ([ΑΠΟΚΛΕΙΣΜΟΣ | EXCLUSION Videodance Battles - Artogether](#)).

Arxipelagos

'Archipelagos' is a Social cooperative of Limited Liability, a specific form of a cooperative organization (i.e., social enterprise) which serves economic and social purposes. It was established in June 2014 and aims to create jobs for people with mental health problems, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and other socially vulnerable people, contributing to their vocational and social (re-)integration and psychosocial rehabilitation and self-sufficiency.

Throughout 2021 and with the support of the Open Society Foundations (OSF) / Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI), the Social Cooperative 'Archipelagos' has continued effectively addressing the complex needs and challenges emerged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This project has offered valuable support for continuing the cleaning services and maintenance activity and even increasing job positions. For the employees of 'Archipelagos', their job has proved to be an essential means of their integration, psychosocial rehabilitation, and autonomy. The Cooperative has also managed to secure the necessary replacements of employees in the case of absences due to illness, mental health complications, or possible quarantine. At the same time effectively supports, by different means, the psychosocial needs of our employees.

SOLOMON

Solomon is a non-profit, independent, investigative media organization devoted to covering refugees and migration in Greece while also focusing on three other areas of investigation: the accountability and transparency linked to those in power, food justice, and the environment. Solomon

publishes its content in English and Greek, distributes it through different channels, and the main part of its readership comes from European countries and the US. It also regularly collaborates with other European media organizations and journalists, giving our stories a pan-European perspective. Since its establishment in 2016, Solomon has also developed an educational hub to provide young journalists with sources and hands-on training on collaborative and investigative journalism. In a media environment of distrust, and absence of pluralism, in which only a handful of small outlets remain independent from political or business interests, Solomon, and its partners, provide responsible journalism, offering fair reporting and fighting intolerance and discrimination.

The independence of Greek media has been strongly jeopardized over the last two years, also resulting in the surveillance of Solomons' journalists and media workers by the national intelligence service. To that end, the emergency support from Open Society Foundations (OSF) / Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) was used to ensure the safety and protection of the Solomon team and, more specifically, for the equipment of its premises and staff with new equipment (laptops, cell phones, VPN, router), but also to ensure a budget for legal fees to cover consultancy, support and defence where needed.

The police Action for Human Rights

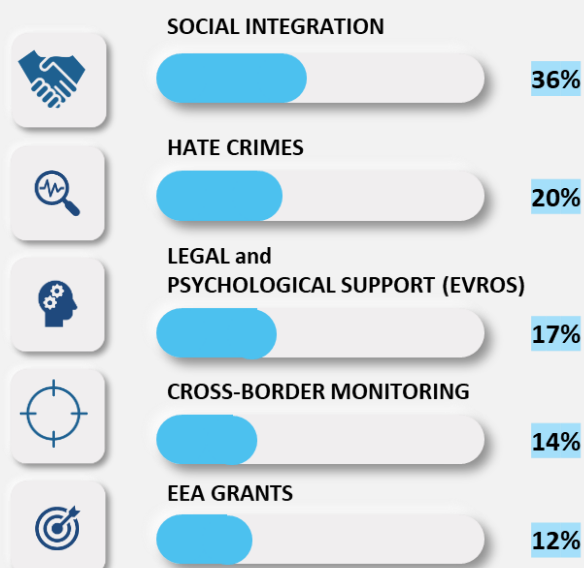
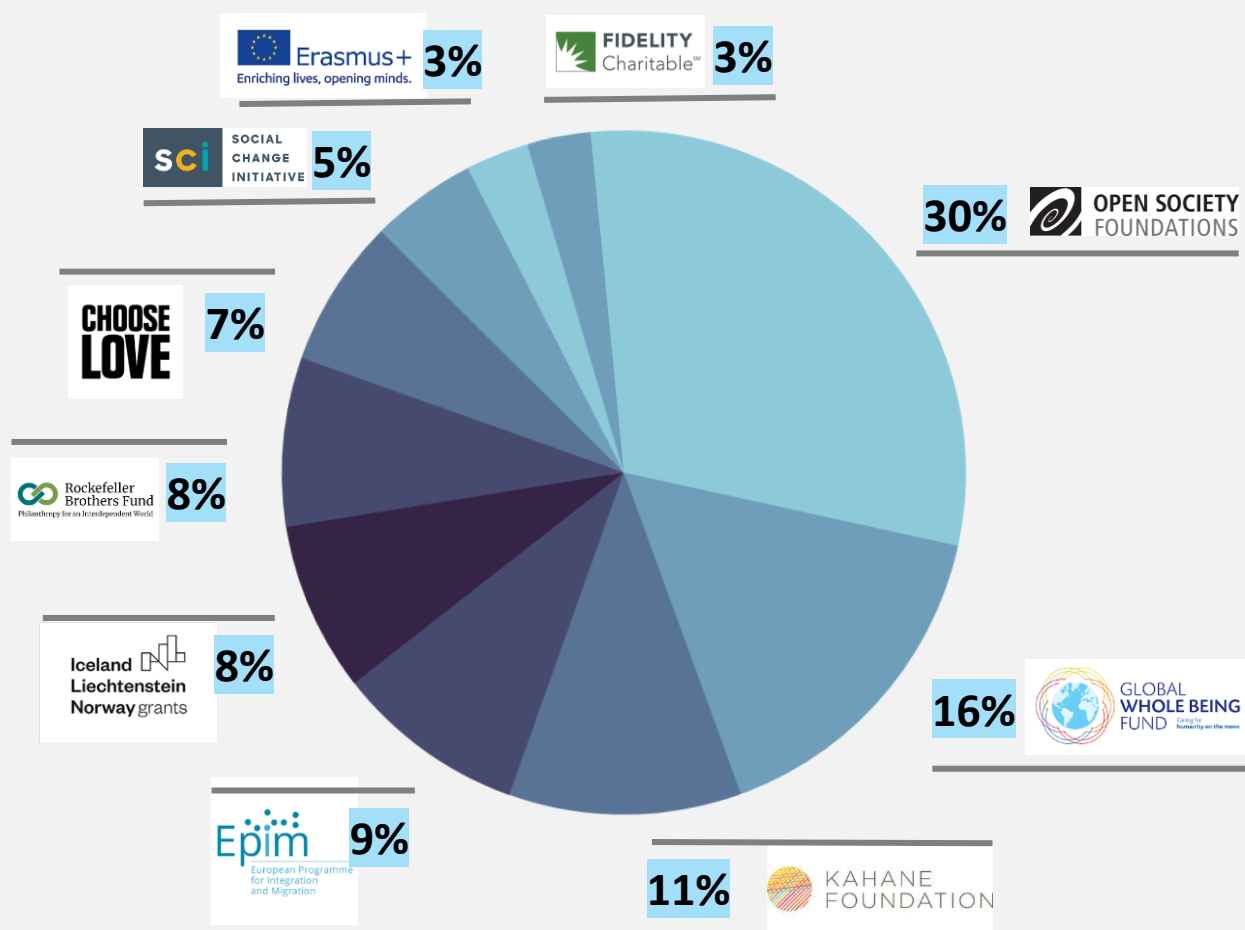
The European LGBT Police Association, or EGPA for short, was founded in 2004 by a group of police officers who wanted to improve the working conditions of LGBT police employees across Europe and help improve the relationship between the police service and the

LGBT+ community. To facilitate the sharing of best practices, the EGPA organised a biennial conference hosted by a different country each time. Previous conferences have been held in Amsterdam, London, Stockholm, Barcelona, Vienna, Dublin and Berlin. The grant from Open Society Foundations (OSF) / Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) was used to support the implementation of the 2022 2-day conference in Athens with the participation of Police officers from European countries. The main theme of the conference is 'Building Bridges' and focuses on the assessment of strategies to build bridges between the Police and society, especially the LGBTQI community; LGBTQI communities will be keynote speakers at the conference. The conference will also be supported by academics and institutions so that we can all jointly develop the issues surrounding the relationship of trust between the Police and the LGBTQI community, the general Equality of LGBTQI individuals and the policies required to achieve it.

Intercultural Center for Social Integration "Academia" **Municipality of Ioannina**

Funded by Open Society Foundations (OSF) / Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI), the Intercultural Center for Social Integration "Academia" started its operation in the Municipality of Ioannina, aiming to the effective integration of refugees. The team consists of a project manager, a social worker and three interpreters. Communication with communities' information material and information material for all public authorities and NGOs operating in Epirus has been drafted and disseminated.

Donors & Funding





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