

Inclusion of Foreigners in WB – Access to Social and Economic Rights (FOSTER)

Duration: 01.03.2023 - 31.08.2026

Countries:

North Macedonia



EU contribution: € 1 121 538

Total budget: € 1 246 153

Implementer:

Group484, Serbia, Belgrade Center for Human Rights (BCHR), Serbia, Albanian Helsinki Committee (AHC), Albania, Civil rights program Kosovo (CRP/K), Kosovo,

Website(s): onlineresourcecenter.migracije.org/

Project description:

'Inclusion of Foreigners in WB – Access to Social and Economic Rights (FOSTER)' is a regional project aimed at improving access to social and economic rights for vulnerable migrants and foreigners across the Western Balkans. Implemented by a network of civil society organisations within the Balkan Refugee and Migration Council (BRMC), in partnership with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the project addresses challenges related to migration, labour market inclusion, and protection from discrimination and exploitation.

The action strengthens the capacities of civil society organisations and independent human rights institutions through training, networking, re-granting schemes, and policy advocacy. It also supports field monitoring, legal and policy analysis, and the development of national and regional recommendations aligned with EU human rights standards. Through national platforms, regional cooperation, and public awareness activities, the project promotes inclusive policies and evidence-based decision-making. By fostering cooperation among institutions, civil society, and local stakeholders, FOSTER contributes to stronger regional coordination and improved protection and inclusion of foreigners in the Western Balkans.

Expected results:

- Strengthened capacities of civil society and independent human rights institutions through regional and national training, networking, and cooperation mechanisms.
- Improved access to knowledge and coordination through the establishment of an online resource centre and strengthened national platforms in all Western Balkan countries involved in the project.
- Enhanced support to grassroots initiatives through implementation of national and regional sub-granting projects focused on improving access to rights for vulnerable foreigners.
- Increased availability of evidence-based data and analyses through monitoring reports, legal assessments, and regional comparative studies supporting alignment with EU standards.
- Strengthened advocacy, policy dialogue, and public engagement through regional campaigns, stakeholder events, and cooperation with media and public institutions.