



PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR JUDGES AND LAWYERS

SAMARKAND, 11 May 2022 - Today, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA) in cooperation with the Supreme School of Judges (SSJ) are organizing a training workshop on international law and standards on economic, social and cultural rights for judges and lawyers in Samarkand in the framework of EU-funded project "Enhancing the Quality of Uzbekistan's Application of international Law (EQUAL)".

During the two-day workshop, judges and lawyers will be trained in four aspects of international human rights law: the right to work and workplace rights, the right to adequate housing; the right to health; the rights of persons with disabilities. The training will be conducted by the experts of the ICJ, the OHCHR and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Each module, will be followed by a discussion of the main issues concerning the specific right under international law and its implementation in Uzbekistan. The modules have been developed by the ICJ based on the relevant international treaties, the documents of the UN Treaty Bodies and other international standards.

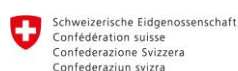
"As European Union, we think that awareness about international human rights law and standards is important for judges and lawyers, who are responsible for applying this law in the courts of States which are parties to international human rights instruments. It is therefore essential for judges and lawyers to increase their knowledge about these international instruments and rights. Today's seminar will give judges and lawyers an opportunity to improve their skills in applying international law in the field of economic, social and cultural rights in their practice." – said Alessandro Liamine, Acting Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation to Uzbekistan.

"Economic and social rights, like civil and political rights, are binding on States who are parties to international treaties. Through such training seminars we aim to bring international law to the national realities of Uzbekistan in the most direct manner. We are sure this will help apply international law for the protection of those who seek justice through the justice system of Uzbekistan. It is particularly timely as the UN CESCR and CEDAW Committees recently issued recommendations to be implemented by Uzbekistan. Among others, the Committees recommended that the relevant international treaties are used by domestic courts." – said Temur Shakirov, Senior Legal Adviser of the ICJ Europe and Central Asia Programme.

"The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) is one of the first international documents ratified by our country since independence. Three years later, it will be 30 years since we signed this document. All aspects of this international document are reflected in our national legislation. However, it is also important to know how the rules, set out in our legislation, are applied. We also joined the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) last year. So, we have assumed a number of obligations but what needs to be done in this regard? Improvement of legislation, implementation of legislation and other measures. Thus, it is a relevant topic today. In this sense, this trainings are of high importance to us and organized at the right time", – said Bobur Bekmurodov, Chairman of the Nationwide Movement "Yuksalish".

The event is organized within the framework of the Project "Enhancing the Quality of Uzbekistan's Application of international Law (EQUAL)" funded by the European Union and implemented by the ICJ. The main objective of the EQUAL project is to promote, by supporting civil society, equal protection of ESC rights for groups particularly vulnerable to discrimination in Uzbekistan.

Background



Embassy of Switzerland
Swiss Cooperation Office in Uzbekistan

With the support of the
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)

This is the second training workshop conducted within the framework of the EQUAL project funded by the European Union. The trainings aim to build the capacity of judges and lawyers to apply international law on economic, social and cultural (ESC) rights. These trainings follow another training series conducted within the ACCESS (Advancing Civil Society in Promoting ESC Rights Standards) project implemented by the ICJ under the support of the EU Delegation in Uzbekistan between 2017 and 2021.

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