

“THE A.D. SAKHAROV ARMENIAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION
CENTRE” NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION



ANNUAL REPORT
2022

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Preface

Dear friends and colleagues,

We kindly present to you “The A.D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Centre” NGO (hereinafter referred to as the Sakharov Centre or the Organization) activity report of 2022 (hereinafter referred to as the Report).

This report summarizes the Sakharov Centre's mission, principles, adopted values, activity goals, scope of beneficiaries, as well as data on the implemented projects and target costs, financial sources and other necessary information.

The Sakharov Centre has always emphasized the observance of the principles of legality, good faith, transparency and accountability of the Organization's activities both to its members, beneficiaries, donor organizations and partners, and to the RA. For this purpose, the Sakharov Centre submitted reports on its activities and financial sources to the State Revenue Committee of the RA and published them on its official website¹, both in previous years and in the period under review, in accordance with the RA Law "On Non-Governmental Organizations" (Law on NGOs).

During the reporting period, the Organization, according to its charter, included almost all social and vulnerable groups (see "Beneficiaries" section) among the recipients of the offered services.

For those groups:

- legal consultations were carried out in individual and group, in-office, outgoing and online ways free of charge, leaflets on legal topics, legal analyses, reports and articles were prepared and distributed, applications were submitted to relevant institutions, the representatives of the organization took part in the protection of rights on various platforms with statements and speeches;
- with the tendency to raise civic consciousness, Civil Society Schools (CSS) and resource Centres were operating in regional branches;
- monitoring was conducted in the problem areas, presenting the results to the interested parties,
- Centres for Research-Analytical and Educational-Methodological Activity formed by young researchers carried out expert and research activities, on the basis of which interest protection strategies were developed and presented to local self-government bodies, regional and state government bodies of the RA.

After the second Nagorno-Karabakh war (44-day war) of 2020, our compatriots forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) were also included in the list of beneficiaries of the Sakharov Centre. More than 50 forcibly displaced people were provided with free legal consultations regarding their rights and fundamental freedoms, their limitations, as well as violations and appeal mechanisms, and the scope of powers of administrative bodies. As a result of the discussion of applications for the use of social assistance and housing provision programs, inaccuracies and unjustified refusals were found, and with the support of the Sakharov Centre's legal services, 5 beneficiaries were able to restore their rights in 2022.

In addition to human rights activities, the Civil Society School (CSS) and the Research-Analytical and Educational-Methodological Centres created by the Organization occupy an important place in the Sakharov Centre. Through them, we contribute to the informal education of the youth of RA communities and civil society organizations (CSOs) and the formation of a law-aware society, because a high level of legal awareness of the society is the basis for the formation of a civil society, and having a law-aware society stems from everyone, both society and in the interests of law enforcers.

¹<http://www.sakharovCentre.org/?page=reports&lng=am&year=2022>

Active young people participating in the CSS have become informal leaders and unifiers in their communities. Many of them, having changed their minds thanks to the courses and developed ideas to stay in the regions, have become active public actors in their communities. The effectiveness of the school is also evidenced by the fact that 7 initiative groups were created in Shirak, Gegharkunik and Syunik regions, 12 civil society structures (CSOs) were registered.

The Research-Analytical and Educational-Methodological Centres also worked quite actively, mainly targeting rural communities. Among the researches carried out by the Research-Analytical and Educational-Methodological Centres, the researches and development of strategies aimed at increasing the stability of CSOs, the development of civic activity in small towns and rural communities and the expansion of public space, the development of constructive dialogue with local self-government bodies, the development of various areas of community development (demography, economy, alternative development projects for education, culture, environmental protection and green technologies), served as the basis for legislative changes and decision-making at different levels of government.

In 2022, the Sakharov Centre also contributed to the improvement of the capacities of start-up and developing organizations and the formation of sustainable practices by providing small sub-grants in the amount of AMD equivalent to 10,200 USD to 8 civil society organizations in a competitive manner within the framework of its grant project. Throughout the implementation of the sub-grants, Sakharov Centre staff supported these organizations in effectively implementing their projects and submitting proper financial reports.

Dear donors, I hope that this report provides the information you need regarding the Sakharov Centre's activities. However, if there are other questions that you do not find the answers to here, please let us know and we will gladly bring them to your attention.

Regards,

Meri Khachatryan

“The A.D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Centre” NGO Director

1. The legal basis of the establishment of the organization

The Sakharov Centre is an independent public association and has the status of a non-profit organization. The organization, which is the successor of "The A. D. Sakharov's Armenian Fund for Progress, Human Rights Protection and Mercy" was founded on October 9, 1990 based on Resolution No. 457 of the Council of Ministers of the Armenian SSR. Since December 26, 1997, the Organization has been registered as a non-governmental organization in the State Register of Legal Entities of the RA Ministry of Justice (registration certificate: N 414).

The organization was re-registered on January 21, 2000, and the new charter was registered on July 14, 2006 (registration number: 211.171.04085). Based on the decision of the meeting of the Sakharov Centre, with the changes and additions of the Organization, the charter with the new edition was state registered on December 8, 2017.

The organization operates in the RA, has three branches in Shirak (1996), Gegharkunik (1997) and Syunik (1997) regions, respectively in the cities of Gyumri, Gavar and Goris. The organization does not limit the geography of its activities only to these three regions, the place of residence of the beneficiaries is not an obstacle when carrying out human rights activities or providing free legal assistance.

The Sakharov Centre independently determines its organizational structure, object of activity, goals and forms. The organization operates on the basis of the constitution of the RA, laws, other normative legal acts, international treaties of the RA and its charter.

Governing bodies of the organization

The governing bodies of the organization are: the supreme body: the Assembly; the executive body: the Director and has a collegial governing body: the Council. The executive and collegial bodies of the organization are elective. Regular meetings of the organization are conducted once in five years, but the Assembly has the right to organize meetings as well, according to the need and urgency of the issues.

The highest governing body of the Sakharov Centre is the Assembly of its members, one of the most important matters of its authority is the approval of the Organization's charter, the making of amendments and/or additions to it or the adoption of decisions on approving the charter with a new edition, the adoption of decisions on the creation of another legal entity or engaging in entrepreneurial activities, and other important issues.

The executive body of the Organization is the director, whose powers include all matters aimed at managing the current activities of the Organization, as well as ensuring the activities of the Organization's management bodies. The director acts on behalf of the Organization without a power of attorney.

The collegial governing body is the Council, which discusses and makes decisions on issues related to the Organization's activities, except for the powers reserved to the Organization's Meeting and the director by the charter. The Council can also exercise other powers provided by the resolutions of the Assembly.

2. The organization's mission, principles, values, activity goals, beneficiaries

Mission

The mission of the Sakharov Centre is to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and promote the development of the democratic system in the RA.

Principles

The principles of the organization's activity are legality, non-discrimination, good faith, voluntary membership, common interests of members, self-management, and accountability.

Values

The values of the Sakharov Centre can be viewed from two perspectives:

- internal values that strengthen the potential of the public Organization to effectively implement its statutory goals,
- external values that contribute to the democratization of RA public life and the supremacy of rights.

Internal values are:

- apolitical nature of the organization,
- continuous improvement of the professionalism of employees,
- high level of discipline and responsibility,
- quick response to challenges arising in Armenia,
- intolerance of any discrimination in public life.

External values are:

- the supremacy of international norms for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- the supremacy of the RA constitution and national legislation,
- equality of natural and legal persons before the law,
- Independence from external and internal influences.

The Sakharov Centre is independent of political and other influences, impartial in its activities and responsible for the results of the work performed.

Objectives of the activity

- Contribute to ensuring the protection of human rights and freedoms.
- Contribute to strengthening the capacities of civil society structures.
- Contribute to ensuring public participation in decision-making and public administration control processes.
- Contribute to raising the level of legal awareness, legal culture and perception of the population.
- Provide free legal services.
- Support the holding of fair and transparent elections in the republic and the establishment of an electoral institution, for this purpose, to carry out public control over elections and referendums, including an observation mission.

- Conduct studies, monitoring and evaluation of the activities of state and local self-government bodies and the programs implemented by them, as well as socio-political, socio-economic, educational, cultural and environmental spheres.
- Participate in the creation of laws and other legal acts and public discussions on the protection of human rights in the RA.
- Carry out other activities in accordance with the goals of the Organization and not prohibited by the legislation of the RA.

Beneficiaries

- Socially disadvantaged citizens of the population
- Pensioners
- People with disabilities
- Refugees, refugee status and temporary asylum seekers
- Citizens of foreign countries
- Migrants and internally displaced people
- Residents of natural and man-made disasters
- Servicemen and their family members
- People with limited functional capacity and persons recognized as incapable
- Trafficked and abused persons
- Children, young people
- Members and beneficiaries of public associations and foundations
- Individual entrepreneurs and legal entities
- Citizen initiative groups
- People forcibly displaced from Artsakh and temporarily or permanently settled in Armenia

3. The main directions of the organization's activity

3.1. Protection of human rights

During 2022, the Yerevan office and branches of the Sakharov Centre provided free individual, group, existing and online legal advice to 4312 people, 3010 of who were women, 1302 were men, including:

Legal advice			
Sakharov Centre office	Total	Woman	Man
Yerevan (central)	742	276	466
Shirak	1357	424	933
Gegharkunik	520	153	367
Syunik	1693	449	1244
Total	4312	1302	3010

600 people participated in 76 group consultations.

Group consultations		
Sakharov Centre office	Times	Participant
Yerevan (central)	3	38
Shirak	44	280
Gegharkunik	12	128
Syunik	17	154
Total	76	600

Online consultations	
Sakharov Centre office	Participant
Yerevan (central)	423
Shirak	164
Gegharkunik	108
Syunik	16
Total	711

174 leaflets related to human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as informative, were developed and distributed.

Leaflets	
Sakharov Centre office	Count
Yerevan (central)	36
Shirak	60
Gegharkunik	41
Syunik	37
Total	174

250 letters, requests, applications were sent to local, regional and central government bodies for the purpose of out-of-court protection of public interests and citizens' rights.

Letters, applications and requests	
Sakharov Centre office	Count
Yerevan (central)	98
Shirak	80
Gegharkunik	59
Syunik	13
Total	250

With the support of the legal service of the Sakharov Centre, charters and founding documents of **12** legal entities were drawn up and submitted for state registration in **2022**, most of which were newly established public organizations.

During 2022, the lawyer of the Organization represented the interests of 5 beneficiaries in the courts.

During 2022, 15 lawsuits, applications, petitions and complaints were drawn up by lawyers on behalf of the beneficiaries in their civil and administrative cases and submitted to various RA courts.

3.2. Strengthening of civil society

In order to strengthen the civil society since 2004 Civil Society Schools (CSS) have been operating in Gyumri, Gavar, and Goris. The CSS were established by the initiative of the Sakharov Center. The main streams of CSSs are: "Management Course for CSOs", "In-depth Course for CSOs", "Training of Trainers", "and Preferential Courses for Different Target Groups", "Media Literacy and Critical Thinking". As a rule, these schools operate in the periods of September-May, conducting long-term courses for students in the above-mentioned streams.

The Sakharov Centre's top CSS attendees are continuously involved in CSS as experts.

For example: 1) during the reporting period, 4 participants who successfully participated in trainings in different streams of the school in the Gegharkunik branch and have an active role in the field of civil society have already joined the ranks of the school's experts. 2) CSS student and volunteer of the branch R.T., on his own initiative, conducted courses on "Social Perception" in schools of Gavar community No. 2 and Gegharkuni village. Many of the students of the CSS also attend the events and educational programs of other institutions. One such is the TumoCentre, which provides a free educational program consisting of self-study, courses and workshops in 14 areas of art and technology, such as animation, graphic design, 3D modeling, photography, web development, robotics, filmmaking, and more.

In total, in 2022, 1005 students participated in all the trainings of the Organization's CSS, 416 of which were in Gyumri, 394 in Gavar, and 195 in Goris.

3.3. Monitoring and Advocacy

In the context of advocacy, 14 short-term and long-term monitoring were carried out **in 2022**, including:

Monitoring	
Sakharov Centre office	Count

Yerevan (central)	2
Shirak	7
Gegharkunik	3
Syunik	2
Total	14

In 2022, 43 analyses of beneficiary cases, phenomena, existing legal regulations and recommendations on 11 draft laws and other legal acts were prepared and presented to interested parties.

Legal analysis and recommendations on draft legislation	
Sakharov Centre office	Count
Yerevan (central)	16
Shirak	16
Gegharkunik	8
Syunik	10
Total	50

3.4. Research-analytical, educational-methodological activity

The research-analytical and educational-methodical activities were carried out in the Shirak, Gegharkunik and Syunik branches of the Sakharov Centre, striving to serve as a unique research-analytical, policy-making, perspective modeling think-tank.

The main directions of activity are:

- Increasing the general stability of CSOs and community-oriented structures and foundations in the RA regions,
- development of civic activism,
- development of ways of cooperation between experienced, specialized and community-oriented CSOs,
- transfer of knowledge, experience and potential of civil society,
- formation of expert councils in Shirak, Gegharkunik and Syunik branches,
- implementation of expert and research activities,
- conducting research by active young people, making reports,
- compilation and analysis of theories of materials related to the field of electronic media, social networks,
- development of educational and thematic plans, methods and technologies of educational modules of the school of civil society,
- work with CSS students, providing feedback,
- Compilation of training manuals, guidelines, databases.

As a successful result of the work of the research-analytical educational-methodological Centre, we can mention the Youth Civic Forum held in March 2022, which was attended by about 42 people: students, listeners, volunteers of Shirak State University, Gyumri branch of the State University of Economics of Armenia, Sakharov Centre, and the mentioned institutions, presenting lecturers, experts, employees of the Shirak branch of the Sakharov Centre. During the forum, groups representing 4 fields held discussions in 4 different rooms using the "6 Thinking Hats" method. After that, speeches and observations of young researchers were presented. Now, an expert group has been formed from young researchers participating in the forum, which will support the process of developing and presenting scientific works of senior students of higher educational institutions of Shirak region.

3.5. Provision of resource Centre services

The community resource Centres formed in the branches provided educational, consulting, public awareness and information dissemination, technical support services to 96 structures (CSO, local government, private structure) and 1120 people, including: Shirak - 43 structure, Gegharkunik - 33 structure, and Syunik - 20 structures.

3.6. Management of press review

In 2022 all branches have prepared monthly press reviews (**48** press reviews in total) on the activities of civil society, violations of human rights, as well as the political, socio-economic situation of the RA. As a rule, conducting press review for the Organization is the basis for legal analysis, monitoring, as well as for applying to the RA state administration and/or local self-government bodies with relevant requests and recommendations.

3.7. Provision of sub-grants

In the reporting year, the Sakharov Centre provided small sub-grants to **8** structures of community-oriented civil society operating in Shirak, Gegharkunik and Syunik regions of RA within the framework of its grant projects to implement their short-term projects. The total amount of sub-grants provided in 2022 was **3 980 000 AMD** (about **10 200 USD**).

In total, 8 sub-grant projects were implemented (3 of which were individual-expert researches), as a result of which:

- 16 electronic and printed articles were published,
- transparency of 23 institutions (university, school, special institutions, local government) was ensured,
- 11 round table discussions were held,
- more than 300 questionnaires were developed, drawn up, distributed and 260 surveys were carried out,
- 36-hour seminar-courses were organized and conducted,
- 2 initiative groups for the protection of the interests of women and children were formed,
- 5 online discussions were held,
- organizational counseling was given to more than 40 children in care institutions,
- resource Centre services were provided to 16 legal institutions and 60 individuals,
- 4 individual-expert studies and 5 reports were prepared,
- A total of 90 recommendations were submitted to the RA National Assembly, RA Ministries, Local Government, Higher Education Institution and general education schools.

For example, the research report "The role of sports schools operating in Gegharkunik region in the promotion and socialization of children's healthy lifestyle" carried out with the help of a sub-grant of

the Sakharov Centre received positive responses from both the urban communities and sports schools of Gegharkunik region, as well as from the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture.

Interest in the above topic is still relevant. For this reason, the problems raised by the mentioned research will continue to be in the focus of attention of the Sakharov Centre and will be discussed with the structures of the republican, regional and local self-government bodies, so that it is possible to contribute to the improvement of the work of sports schools, the solution of the problems and needs raised in the report.

3.8. Cooperation and participation

The Sakharov Centre collaborates with over 100 local and international organisations and has over 60 volunteers. Both the director and the employees of the Sakharov Centre participate in various regional working groups as part of their human rights activities. For instance,

- The RA Urban Development Committee initiates a competition for the old and historical "Kond" district's revitalization concept in Yerevan, where the director participates as a jury member.
- The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Mission Armenia NGO in Yerevan formed a working group in 2021-2023 to solve the problems of stateless persons, in which the lawyer of the Sakharov Centre participated.
- The RA's Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports established a working group in which the Sakharov Centre lawyer was involved in developing the draft of the Law and Concept on Youth.
- The Shirak branch serves as a resource centre in a project that aims to prevent juvenile delinquencies, eliminate the underlying causes of these delinquencies, and eliminate the conditions that contribute to their execution. The head of the same branch and project coordinator are members of the monitoring group for the "Alliance for Sustainable and Green Management" project (Vanadzor, Gyumri, Pila-Poland). Also, he is a member of the "Gyumri Municipality Social Housing Distribution Committee."
- The lawyer from the Shirak branch provides legal aid to the regional commission that addresses gender issues in the Shirak regional governorate.
- At "Gyumri Primary School No. 25," the branch operator is a member of the Board of Management.
- The lawyer of the Gegharkunik branch is involved in the regional coordinating council of the RA Unified Social Service, located at the Gavar territorial centre.

4. Success stories

The most remarkable cases of success in 2022 are presented.

Case 1

A group of residents of Kond district, one of the oldest districts of Yerevan city, appealed to the organization, informing that the Yerevan Municipality is preparing to merge "Polyclinic No. 1" CJSC operating at 17 Leo Street, Kentron Administrative District, with "Polyclinic No. 4" CJSC operating at 13 Moskovyan Street, which they are against and expect legal support. As a result of the professional assistance of our organization's intervention, Yerevan Municipality postponed the consideration of the issue indefinitely; the applicants are satisfied and asked to suspend the consideration of their application.

Case2

The organization was alerted by a group of residents of Yerevan Kond district about the loud musical noise made by the "Dvin" hotel complex operating in their district at night and asked for legal assistance. On behalf of the residents, many complaints were addressed to the RA Police, Yerevan

Municipality, Kentron Administrative District Staff, RA Health and Labor Inspection Authority. The RA Health and Labor Inspection Authority has carried out inspection and measurement of areas several times and recorded many violations, administrative proceedings have been initiated and the business owner has been held administratively responsible. As a result, in 2022 since September 1, the businessman has stopped the night entertainment facility.

Case3

The legal entity was provided with free legal services, as a result of which 2 out of 3 civil cases in the courts of general jurisdiction of the RA were resolved in favor of the applicant company, and in the criminal case, the report on the crime of the applicant company was satisfied by the investigator. Based on the report prepared by the lawyer of the Sakharov Centre, a criminal case was initiated against the business entity that unjustifiably terminated the lease agreement of the premises and blocked the access of the company's staff to the leased premises. The investigation of the criminal case is in court proceedings.

Case 4

The director of "A" CJSC addressed the organization and informed that the publishing house has been carrying out publishing activities on a rental basis for about 50 years in the building owned by the Kentron administrative district of Yerevan. The publishing house received a letter-demand on 14.07.2022 from the head of the Kentron administrative district to vacate the occupied area and remove all movable property belonging to the publishing house. With the said letter, the owner emphasizes that the publishing house is occupying its premises without any legal document; therefore the possession is illegal and subject to eviction. On 12.08.2022 the RA Police actually closed the door of the publishing house and prohibited the entry of the publishing house employees to the premises, and in October 2022, on the instructions of the head of the Kentron administrative district, works were carried out to remove the property of the publishing house from the premises. The director of the publishing house repeatedly appealed to the head of the Kentron administrative district, including the mayor of Yerevan, with a request to remove the restrictions and sign a new contract, but in vain. The application of the publishing house was essentially not discussed by the head of the administrative district or Yerevan Municipality. On behalf of the Sakharov Centre, we submitted an application to the Mayor of Yerevan, in response to which the procedure, conditions and possible cases of leasing communal property were explained, as well as the proposal of the Sakharov Centre to organize a reception and find joint solutions was accepted. As a result, there was an agreement between the parties that with the material support of the Kentron administrative district, the mobile property of "A" publishing house will be moved to another address so that no damage will be done to the property. That is why the director of "A" publishing house asked to stop the consideration of his application.

Case 5

As a result of her husband's threats and violence, the woman did not dare to divorce. The husband also threatened that the child would stay with him. As a result of applying to the Sakharov Centre, the divorce was carried out in the body of registration of acts of civil residence, there was no need to apply to the court, and the child remained with the mother.

Case 6

Legal support was provided to the restoration of the birth registration of N, who emigrated from Azerbaijan in 1988 and now lives in Gavar, Gegharkunik region. The applicant's two children are in an orphanage. Since she does not have a birth certificate and a passport, she cannot pick up the children from the orphanage. Questions related to the fact of restoring birth registration were presented and discussed with the representatives of the regional department of the Civil Residence Acts Registration Authority. A close cooperation was also implemented with the Gavar Orphanage. The orphanage, in its turn, applied in writing to the relevant institutions of the RA to secure the document base of the

beneficiary. The beneficiary was also provided with legal assistance in preparing relevant applications and obtaining information.

Case 7

For months, legal support was provided to L., a resident of Sarukhan village, Gegharkunik region, to appeal the illegal decisions made against the citizen as a result of improper administration of the Road Police. Complaints were prepared on behalf of the beneficiary for the purpose of appealing three administrative acts. On the basis of the 1st and 3rd complaints, the RA Road police service made decisions to annul the decision on imposing an administrative penalty and to terminate the proceedings of the administrative offense case. And in relation to the 2nd administrative act, it was considered unappealable by the RA Road Service and sent to the Service of Enforcement of Judicial Acts of the RA for the confiscation of an administrative penalty, to which the cost of enforcement actions was also added. Thus, due to the consistency of the beneficiary and the legal assistance of the Sakharov Centre, the process of continuously imposing illegal administrative penalties against the citizen was stopped, which could have been continuous if there was no appeal.

Case 8

In 2022, a resident of Karashen settlement of Tegh community of Syunik region contacted the Organization, stating that there is no public transport in the community, which creates a number of difficulties for the residents of the community, because in order to apply to a notary or other structures in order to make transactions, it is generally necessary to reach the urban settlement. Taking into account the well-founded dissatisfaction of the resident, an application was submitted to the municipality of Goris. In response to the Organization's inquiry, the Goris municipality informed that these routes are intra-regional, and their organization is beyond the authority of the head of the Goris municipality.

Then, in order to solve the raised problem, an application was submitted to the RA Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure. The ministry informed that in Syunik region, the intra-regional regular routes "Kapan-Goris", "Kapan-Kajaran", "Goris-Khandzoresk" are operating. And the reason for the non-service of some routes of regular passenger transportation both in the entire territory of the republic and in the Syunik region is the lack of applications for participation in the selection contests of the organizations serving the routes in accordance with the RA legislation. Due to low passenger flow, increase in prices of spare parts, passenger transportation by passenger taxi cars on inter-provincial and intra-provincial routes, many routes have become unprofitable, therefore transport organizations do not want to serve them. The ministry also informed that in order to settle the created situation, the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures of the RA is forming a unified route network on the territory of the republic, the purpose of which is to provide all communities with efficient, high-quality transport service. Timetables of optimal routes are developed taking into account the passenger flow. The process has already been launched in a number of marzes. And after the final specification and approval of the unified routes of the Syunik region, the tender for the selection of the unified operator of the region will be announced.

Case 9

Still in May, 2021, S.O., a resident of Vorotan settlement of Goris community, applied to the Organization, wanting to receive advice on his rights. In his application, the beneficiary stated that at the end of the 44-day war, after the conclusion of the tripartite agreement on November 9, 2020, the region of Sanasar (Kubatlui) was actually handed over to Azerbaijan along with other areas within the border of the Syunik region of the RA. The 147.8 square meter house and plots belonging to S.O. were also included in those surrendered territories. RA Syunik Officer ordered the real estate appraiser to appraise the beneficiary's real estate. This appraising organization, showing a subjective approach, evaluated it much lower than the market prices (about 12 million AMD, 30,770 dollars). The lawyer of the Sakharov Centre provided comprehensive advice to the beneficiary, after whom S.O. applied to a

number of state courts, as a result of which in 2021 in June; the compensation amount was doubled to 25 million AMD (\$64,000).

Of course, the amount of this compensation was incomparable to the actual damage he suffered. Being in a difficult financial situation, S.O. had agreed to receive this compensation amount on November 4, 2021, S.O. and the RA Syunik region Development and Investment Fund signed a monetary donation agreement to provide compensation for the house, after which AMD 25 million was transferred to S.O.'s bank account. But since S.O. had an outstanding loan in the bank, the bank immediately paid off the loan from the compensation amount credited to his account, which is not allowed by RA legislation.

The Sakharov Centre sent relevant applications to the staff of the RA Prime Minister, the RA Ministry of Finance, and the RA Central Bank. In the end, the issue was resolved by the RA government when many people like S.O. made similar complaints.

Case 10

In 2022 the director of C. LLC applied to the organization's legal service, asking to study the RA State Revenue Committee's notice addressed to him and to explain in a more comprehensible and accessible manner what violation he committed and what steps he should take. The lawyer of the organization studied the summons submitted by the beneficiary and informed the beneficiary that the latter committed an administrative offense by not submitting joint calculations of value added tax and excise tax to the tax authority in the manner and time prescribed by law, and the LLC did not submit the 2022 tax return. Calculation of value added tax and excise tax for the month of September. The beneficiary was also presented with the procedure for investigating the administrative offense case, his rights and responsibilities, the procedure for appealing the administrative act, after which the beneficiary was able to independently participate in the administrative proceedings and defend his rights. In practice, RA administrative bodies present the requirements of the laws in a non-accessible manner, from the content of which citizens do not quickly understand the demand, the accusation, or their next steps.

5. Information on the procedure for becoming a member of the Organization

Any citizen of the RA or any foreign legal entity that has reached the age of 18 and accepts the Sakharov Centre's charter and wants to participate in its activities can become a member of the organization.

6. Information about members of the Council of the organization

The members of the Council of the organization are:

1. Meri Khachatryan -chairperson (according to the Charter, the director is the chairperson of the Board),
2. Seyran Martirosyan -member,
3. Lusine Toplaghalsyan -member,
4. Ruzanna Avagyan -member,
5. Gevorg Petrosyan - member.

Scope of powers of the Council:

1. discusses and makes decisions on issues related to the activities of the Organization, except for the powers reserved to the meeting and the director by this charter,
2. gets introduced to all the documents related to the activities of the Organization and submits recommendations to its bodies on issues subject to mandatory consideration in the manner prescribed by the Organization's charter,

3. requests and receives information about the activities of the Organization,
4. defines the procedure and conditions for keeping records of the Organization's members and volunteers, as well as the procedure for applying encouragement and penalty measures to the Organization's members.
5. Carries out other powers provided by the Organization's charter or the decision of the meeting.

7.Partner data

Partners of the Sakharov Centre are:

CSOs

- “World Council of Churches Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table” Foundation
- "DIZAK ART" NGO
- “ECOLUR” Informational NGO
- “Armenian Caritas” Benevolent NGO
- "Biosophia" Centre For Health, Environmental And Agricultural Development (NGO)
- "The Progress of Gyumri" NGOs
- Journalists' Club "Asbarez"
- "Bayazet" Armenian Analytical Research CentreNGO
- “Free Fly” Social-Economic Development Foundation
- “Sarvor” Touristic, Social-Educational, Ecological NGO
- “Pomegranate Seed” Community Development Foundation
- “Agape World” Youth NGO
- “Women for Development” NGO
- “AlvanTsaghik” NGO
- "Shirak Teachers' Union" NGO
- "Contact Plus" Human Rights NGO
- "Stability and Progress" NGO
- "Kanani" Social-Psychological NGO
- Northern Youth NGO
- “Sarapat” NGO
- "SYUNYATS NAKHADPROTSAKANNER" NGO
- Goris Press Club
- “Youth Initiative Club” NGO
- “The Sun From Syunik” NGO
- “Women's Resource Centre” NGO
- "Partnership and Teaching” NGO
- “Clean Goris” NGO
- “Goris Youth Initiative Centre” NGO
- “Tteni” NGO
- The Armenian Red Cross Society

Local Self-Governing Bodies

- Amasiya community hall
- Ashotsk community hall
- Gyumri community hall
- Provincial community hall
- Chambarak community hall
- Sevan community hall

- Vardenis community hall
- Goris community hall
- Tatev community hall
- Local community hall

Other institutions

- Shirak State University
- Gavar State University
- Gavar State Medical College
- Gavar State Agricultural College
- Gavar State Music College
- Goris State University
- Goris State Agricultural College
- Goris State College
- Lawyer's office of Shirak region
- Shirak Regional Prosecutor's Office
- Juvenile Department of Gyumri Police
- Shirak, Gegharkunik, Syunik region schools
- "SyunyatsYerkir" newspaper
- Preschool No. 1 named after VazgenSargsyan of Goris
- Children's library of Goris

8.List of Funding (Donor) Organizations

During 2022, the Sakharov Cebtre have implemented the three-year project "Strengthening of Human Rights Protection and Civil Society in RA Regions, Phase 5" (E-ARM-2021-0172).

However, the Organization has implemented many grant projects throughout the period of its activity since 1990. Here is the list of funding (donor) organizations, with the financial support of which various projects were implemented in different years.



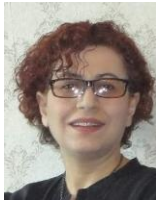



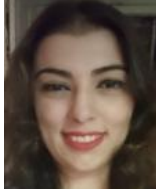

1. U.S. Embassy in Armenia
2. Counterpart International
3. "NGO Centre" Civil Society Development Non-Governmental Organization
4. Eurasia Partnership Foundation
5. Open Society Foundations – Armenia
6. International Organization for Migration
7. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
8. Urban Institute
9. RA Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
10. World Learning
11. Danish Council for Refugees
12. OSCE Office in Yerevan
13. National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
14. British Embassy in Yerevan
15. World Bank
16. Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID)
17. Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO)
18. The European Endowment for Democracy (EED)
19. Brotfür die Welt.

9. Information about the audit firm

The Sakharov Centre must undergo an audit when implementing its grant projects. During 2022, the Sakharov Centre underwent audit in twice. The financial audit of the organization was carried out by "Baker Tilly Armenia" CJSC, which operates on the basis of its company's charter, the indefinite license for the implementation of audit services No. ATS 054 issued by the Ministry of Finance and Economy of the RA.

Baker Tilly Armenia CJSC trading as Baker Tilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities. Established over 25 years ago and based in Yerevan, Baker Tilly Armenia CJSC continues to grow with constant improvements and innovations. The origins of Baker Tilly Armenia trace back to 1996 which was the first to get an auditing license in Armenia with the license number 001. It has been the only accounting and consulting company in Armenia to establish branches in Armenian regions (Marzes). Office location: 22 Hanrapetutyan Street, 0010 Yerevan, RA, Tel: + (374 10) 582 478, 544 301, 544 307, e-mail: info@bakertillyarmenia.com.

10. The staff of the Sakharov Centre

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|---|---|
| 1. | Meri Khachatryan,
Director |  | 2. | Seyran Martirosyan,
Head of the Shirak branch,
Projects Coordinator |  |
| 3. | Ruzanna Avagyan,
Assistant to the Director |  | 4. | Ani Movsesyan,
Accountant |  |
| 5. | Ofelya Galstyan,
Translator |  | 6. | Lusine Toplaghalsyan,
Head of Gegharkunik branch |  |
| 7. | Nane Mnatsakanyan,
Head of Syunik branch |  | 8. | Armen Petrosyan,
Assistant to the head of the Shirak branch |  |

9. Ruben Khachikyan,
Gegharkunik branch
assistant to the head



10. Sona Alaverdyan,
Assistant to the head
of the Syunik branch



11. Naira Avetisyan,
Lawyer, Yerevan



12. Victoria Yeghoyan,
Lawyer, Shirak branch



13. Agapi Manukyan,
Lawyer, Shirak branch



14. Manush Nalbandyan,
Lawyer, Gegharkunik
branch



15. Lilit Hayrapetyan,
Lawyer, Syunik branch



16. Louisa Zakeyan,
assistant to the
Shirak branch



11. Publications

1. "The state of access to health care in rural communities and settlements of the RA on the example of Shirak and Gegharkunik regions", research, Toplaghalsyan Lusine, Hovhannisyan Hermine, Gavar, 2022.
2. "Problems existing in public educational institutions (schools) of Amasia and Ashotsk united communities of Shirak region", research, Hermine Hovhannisyan, Gyumri, 2022.
3. "Studying the criminal behavior of teenagers in criminal sociology. In the context of statistical data analysis of Shirak region", report, Andranik Shahinyan Andranik, Gyumri, 2022.
4. "The concept of "Bullying" in the school environment", report, Andranik Shahinyan, Kristina Kocharyan, Gyumri, 2022.
5. "The role of the Tutoring Institute on the example of general education and secondary professional educational institutions of Shirak region", research, Rima Sargsyan, Gyumri 2022.
6. "As a result of the monitoring of the "Physical Culture" subject in 6 public schools of Goris, for the development of recommendations for improvement", report, Goris, 2022.
7. "Professional orientation in care institutions, report, Liana Hovhannisyan, 2022.
8. «General education», book, Serob Khachatryan, Gyumri, 2022.
9. "Monitoring to study the teaching arrangement of the subject "Physical Culture" in the schools of the newly built districts of Gyumri", report, Hamlet Ghazaryan, 2022.
10. "For the exclusion and detection of illegal modifications that reduce seismic resistance in multi-apartment buildings based on the lessons of Spitak in 1988", book-guide, Sergey Nazaretyan, 2022.
11. "Study of knowledge of foreign languages among schoolchildren of Gavar region", research, Vahram Hoveyan, Gavar, 2022.

12. Acronyms

1. RA–Republic of Armenia
2. NGO–Non-governmental organization
3. CSS - Civil society structure
4. CSS - Civil Society School
5. RAEMC - Research-analytical, educational-methodological activity Centres
6. NA - National Assembly
7. MESCS - Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
8. LSGB - Local self-government body
9. HEI - Higher education institution
10. US - United States of America
11. UN - United Nations
12. HCR - High Commissioner for Refugees
13. OSCE - Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
14. AMD – Armenian Drams
15. USD – United States Dollars

“The A.D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Centre” NGO expresses its gratitude to the current donor, the German organization "Bread for the World", as well as to all previous donor organizations, who enabled the Sakharov Centre to carry out its activities, protecting human rights in the Republic of Armenia for more than three decades!