

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



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ՅՅ Yerevan ՅՅ

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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 2023 (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 Public Organizations".

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:

- a) 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,
- b) with the tendency to raise civic consciousness, Civil Society Schools (CSS) and resource Centres were operating in regional branches,
- c) monitoring was conducted in the problem areas, presenting the results to the interested parties,
- d) Centres for Research-Analytical and Educational-Metgodological 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 Artsakh war (44-day war) of 2020, our compatriots forcibly displaced from NagornoKarabakh (Artsakh) were also included in the list of beneficiaries of the Sakharov Centre. As a result of the 44-day war unleashed by Azerbaijan and the military operations of September 19, 2023, more than 100,000 Armenians were forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh, who were taken under temporary protection in the RA. The forced displacement of Artsakh Armenians created a humanitarian and cultural crisis in Armenia. it faced internal and external challenges and trials to almost all structures of RA, and non-governmental organizations were not left behind. In this regard, the Sakharov Centre was no exception either, which focused on the legal and social problems of these persons, and which contributed and continues to contribute to the solution of these challenges with its activities.

More than 60 people forcibly displaced from NagornoKarabakh (Artsakh) were provided with free legal consultations regarding their rights and fundamental freedoms, their limitations, as well as violations and appeal mechanisms, the scope of powers of administrative bodies. As a result of

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

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, 12 beneficiaries were able to restore their rights in 2023.

In addition to human rights activities, the Civil Society School (CSS) and 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.

In 2023, the organization underwent an [external evaluation](#) and, among other things, the services of the Civil Society School (CSS) were highly praised. This is evidenced by the fact that active young people participating in the school 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 8 initiative groups were created in Shirak, Gegharkunik and Syunik regions, and 6 CSOs were registered.

Research-Analytical and Educational-Methodological Centres also worked quite actively, mainly targeting rural communities. Among the researches carried out by the CSOs, 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, the development of alternative development projects for education, culture, environmental protection and green technologies), which served as the basis for legislative changes and decision-making at different levels of government.

In 2023, the Sakharov Centre also contributed to improving the capacity of start-up and developing organizations and building sustainable practices by providing small sub-grants in the amount of 8200 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

In 2023, the Yerevan office and branches of the Sakharov Centre provided free individual, group, existing and online legal advice to **2881** people, **2139** of who were women, **742** were men, including:

Legal advice			
Sakharov Centre office	Total	Woman	Man
Yerevan (central)	885	228	657
Shirak	1101	275	826
Gegharkunik	516	185	331
Syunik	379	54	325
Total	2881	742	2139

544 people participated in **91** group consultations.

Group consultations		
Sakharov Centre office	Times	Participant
Yerevan (central)	1	3
Shirak	72	301
Gegharkunik	9	122
Syunik	9	118
Total	91	544

Online consultations	
Sakharov Centre office	Participant
Yerevan (central)	435
Shirak	237
Gegharkunik	141
Syunik	50
Total	863

165 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	54
Gegharkunik	39
Syunik	36
Total	165

224 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)	74
Shirak	73
Gegharkunik	49

Syunik	28
Total	224

With the support of the legal service of the Sakharov Centre, charters and founding documents of **6** legal entities were drawn up and submitted for state registration in **2023**, most of which were newly established public organizations.

During 2023, the lawyer of the Organization represented the interests of 5 beneficiaries in the courts.

During 2023, 17 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 Centre. 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.

In total, in 2023, 1015 students participated in all the trainings of the CSS, 438 of who were in Gyumri, 370 were in Gavar, and 207 were in Goris.

3.3. Monitoring and Advocacy

In the context of advocacy, 14 short-term and long-term monitoring were carried out **in 2023**, including:

Monitoring	
Sakharov Centre office	Count
Yerevan (central)	3
Shirak	6
Gegharkunik	3
Syunik	2
Total	14

In 2023, 24 analyses of beneficiary cases, phenomena, existing legal regulations and recommendations on **28** 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)	27

Shirak	12
Gegharkunik	4
Syunik	9
Total	52

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.

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 110 structures (CSO, local government, private structure) and 1205 people, including: Shirak - 51 structure, Gegharkunik - 35 structure, Syunik - 26 structure.

3.6. Management of press review

In 2023 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 sum of sub-grants provided **in 2023** will be AMD equivalent to **8200 USD**. In total, **8 sub-grant projects** were implemented (3 of which were expert researches), as a result of which:

- 12 electronic and printed articles were published.
- the transparency of 16 institutions (school, preschool, day care Centre, local government) was ensured,
- 17 focus group and round table discussions were held,
- a cooperation network of structures dealing with migration was created,
- more than 300 questionnaires were developed, drawn up, distributed and 280 surveys were carried out,
- 40-hour seminar-courses were organized and conducted.
- a support Centre for young people with special educational needs and young people with disabilities was established,
- 3 online discussions were held, organizational advice was given to 15 CSOs,
- resource Centre services were provided to 9 legal entities and 120 individuals,
- 3 individual-expert studies and 5 reports were prepared,
- in total, more than 120 recommendations were submitted to the Gyumri territorial department of the Shirak regional department of the RA Statistical Committee, the migration service of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, 7 municipal governments of Shirak, Gegharkunik, Syunik region, the RA Ministry of KGMS, the RA Ministry of Territorial and Infrastructure, Aragatsotni, Ararat, Armavir, Gegharkunik, Kotayk, Lori, Shirak, Syunik, Tavush, VayotsDzorregions, Gyumri, Gavar, Goris municipal administrations, "Gavartrans" LLC, 10 general education schools.

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, and 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 2023 are presented.

Case 1

The citizen applying to the organization stated that a 5-year contract "On the provision of accommodation and social services" was signed between him and the Yerevan No. 1 boarding house organization, and he received a demand to vacate the apartment immediately due to the expiry of the term and the invalidation of the relevant decision of the RA government. Since the beneficiary was going to be on the street with his mother and at that moment did not have the opportunity to move to another apartment or get any other accommodation, the Sakharov Centre applied to the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs with a corresponding petition and asked to take into account the above-mentioned circumstance and allow that family to temporarily live in Yerevan no. 1 in a boarding house until they acquire another place of residence and the relevant decision of the Government of the RA is adopted. The petition was granted, the citizen was allowed to live in the accommodation allocated to him until April 2023 inclusive, until the adoption of the relevant decision of the Government of the RA.

Case2

The family forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh settled in Gyumri, Shirak region, RA, but did not receive social benefits due to lack of registration in Gyumri and had a problem of securing an apartment. With the legal support of the Sakharov Centre, this family was registered at the address of its actual place of residence, and the issue of receiving social benefits was resolved. It should be noted that the family was included in the list of beneficiaries of the housing provision program in the territory of the RA approved by the decision of the Government of the RA dated February 17, 2022 N 169-L.

Case3

27 students of Shirak State University, European Regional University, Vocational Schools No. 1 and No. 4 of Gyumri, Shirak State Agricultural College of the National Agrarian University of Armenia, 11 of them were enrolled in the Sakharov Centre's CSS courses and graduated successfully. Two of the participants founded a non-governmental organization through the legal service of the Sakharov Centre and are already independently implementing a grant project.

Case 4

Female leaders of civil society organizations, individual entrepreneurs, and other legal entities of Shirak region took an active part in the activities dedicated to the International Women's Day at the Shirak branch office. They were provided with legal and organizational consultations, as well as an opportunity to join and participate in the work of the platform for women's economic empowerment created in Armenia. Moreover, two of them won individual grants.

Case 5

In 2023 the citizen applied to get introduced to the procedure for the privatization of the house and the plot of land belonging to it and to obtain legal assistance in the matter of privatization.

Since the land was under the restrictions set by the RA Land Code, the Gyumri Municipality did not allow privatization. Meanwhile, the study showed that another plot of land in the same area was privatized back in 2015. Based on that circumstance, an application was submitted to the head of the Gyumri community to change the operational significance of the plot and implement a uniform administration. In the meantime, by the decision of the Council of Elders, the operational significance of the plot was changed and a decision was made to legalize the plot and the house built on it.

Case 6

The Gegharkunik branch will open in 2023 with a request to support 83-year-old A.M., a resident of Gavar city. In June, the elderly K.A., who took care of him, addressed him, stating that A.M. lives alone and needs social support. The Gegharkunik branch presented the description of the citizen's difficult social situation to the Gavar municipality's chief staff specialist. The municipality promptly addressed the organization's concern, leading to the provision of a food package for the citizen. They agreed to continue providing periodic social support and hygiene measures to the citizen going forward. The Regional Centre of Unified Social Support in Gavar also discussed the issue of providing social support to the same individual. The Sakharov Centre submitted that there are other adult family members registered at the same address as the citizen who do not actually live with him; there are absent family members who live outside of Armenia and do not lend a helping hand to the elderly person. Consequently, the list of family benefit recipients has included the 2023 citizen since August.

Case 7

On the initiative of the Armenian Caritas Gavar "Little Prince" social Centre and the Sakharov Centre, the beneficiary parents of the Centre were hosted by the territorial Centre of the Unified Social Service (USS) of Gavar on a familiarization visit. During the meeting, one of the participants presented the difficult social situation of his family and the below-mentioned problem, to which he managed to give a positive solution. The beneficiary is a disabled person of the 3rd group, has one minor child, does not own an apartment, they live on rent. The husband had worked at "Gavar Community Communal Service and Improvement" JSC, which was dissolved by the decision of the community council and formed as "Gavar Community Communal Service and Improvement" community institution. Undecided about the structural changes, the citizen submitted a dismissal application, not wanting to continue working in that institution. After applying for release, he changed his mind, but was forced to apply to the same organization again. Responding to the request of the citizen and his wife, a meeting was held with the representatives of the community institution "Communal maintenance and improvement of Gavar community", as a result of which the citizen was re-employed.

Case 8

According to the requirement of Article 11, Part 8 of the RA Law "On Local Self-Government"², "The drafts of normative legal acts developed by local self-government bodies are published on the official website of the community, which must be ensured by interoperability with the unified website for the publication of drafts of legal acts." And according to Order 180-N³ of the RA Minister of Justice dated 07.05.2018, the official publication of normative legal acts in electronic form is carried out by publishing them on the unified website of ARLIS (<http://www.arlis.am>).

²RA Law on Local Self-Government: <https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=188985>

³The order of the Minister of Justice of the RA on submitting normative legal acts to publication, publishing them on the unified website, making corrections to them and defining the procedures for official incorporation: <https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=145009>

The Sakharov Centre regularly conducted observations of the process of publication of the drafts of sub-legislative normative legal acts developed by the local governments of Gegharkunik region and the decisions adopted, on the basis of which the municipalities were suggested to be consistent in fulfilling the legislative requirements. The implementation of the legislative requirements was fully ensured by the Sevan municipality and the Gavar municipality in 2023. In December, he published drafts of sub-legislative normative acts on the e-draft.am website.

Case 9

During the reporting period, the Sakharov Centre conducted legal analysis on many topics, the most notable of which is the topic "The current situation and causes of violence against women and minors in the RA". At the same time, the Armenian society definitely does not accept and perceive the phenomenon of "violence" as an unacceptable behavior and act. This opinion applies equally to the abuser, to the person being abused, and to the witnesses of violence. Some types of violence and their separate manifestations are not recognized by the victims (they are not recognized and accepted as violence). Children are not sufficiently aware (in accordance with their age) of the means of protection against violence (they do not know who to turn to, when to report the incident, they are not sure that they will not be punished for it or speaking about it). Therefore, both the legislative reforms and the measures stipulated by the law cannot ensure efficiency in these matters.

Our studies and the results of inquiries addressed to the RA state authorities show that they do not keep separate statistics on cases of violence against women and minors⁴. The RA Investigative Committee verbally informed that they are taking our letter into consideration in order to conduct relevant statistics in the future. In fact, the RA state authorities, particularly the law enforcement agencies, do not conduct statistics on many key issues regarding the cases of violence. We hope that RA law enforcement agencies will conduct relevant statistics next.

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

Any citizen of the RA or any foreign legal entity who 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 - chairman (according to the Charter, the director is the chairman of the Board),
2. Seyran Martirosyan - member,
3. Lusine Toplaghatsyan - member,
4. Ruzanna Avagyan - member,
 1. Gevorg Petrosyan - member.

Scope of powers of the Council:

⁴We were informed about it by the RA Investigative Committee 24.01.2024. N 12/12/21734-2024 and 24.01.2024. N 12/12/21706-2024 notes, RA Ministry of Internal Affairs Police 30.01.2024 N 5/4-1-110 and 29.01.2024 N 5/4-2-104 notes, Judicial Department of the RA 09.02.2024 NDDV-1E-895 notes.

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 Centre NGO
- “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 2023, the Sakharov Centre 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. 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



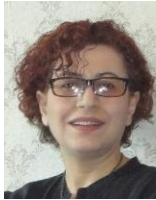



13. National Endowment for Democracy (NED)
14. British Embassy in Yerevan
15. World Bank
16. Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID)
17. Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO)
18. The European Endowment for Democracy (EED)
19. Brotfür die Welt.

9. Information about the audit firm

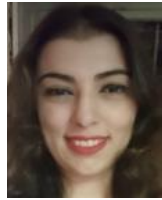
The Sakharov Centre must undergo an audit when implementing its grant projects. During 2023, the Sakharov Centre underwent audit in twice. The financial audit of the organization was carried out by "Baker Tilly Armenia" CJSC, which operates on the basis of its company's charter, the indefinite license 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. 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,
Project Coordinator |  |
| 3. | Ruzanna Avagyan,
Assistant to the Director |  | 4. | Ani Movsesyan,
Accountant |  |
| 5. | Ofelya Galstyan,
translator |  | 6. | Lusine Toplaghalsyan,
Head of Gegharkunik branch |  |

7. NaneMnatsakanyan,
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. SonaAlaverdyan,
Assistant to the head
of the Syunik branch



11. Naira Avetisyan,
Lawyer, Yerevan



12. Victoria Yeghoyan,
Lawyer, Shirak branch



13. AgapiManukyan,
Lawyer, Shirak branch



14. ManushNalbandyan,
Lawyer, Gegharkunik
branch



15. LilitHayrapetyan,
Lawyer
Syunik branch



16. Louisa Zakeyan,
assistant to the
Shirak branch



11. Publications

1. The study, "Existing problems in public educational institutions (schools) of Amasia and Ashotsk united communities of Shirak marz", VarduhiGolchenko, Gyumri, 2023
2. "Media Literacy Teaching Guide", AgapiManukyan, 2023.
3. "Labor migration as an initiative of youth maturity and status change, sociological study", AndranikShahinyan, 2023.
4. "Procedures of implementation and control of individual construction", book-guide, Sergey Nazaretyan, 2023.
5. "Collection of research works", Gavar, 2023
6. "Access to public transport in Gavar community", report, Gavar, 2023.
7. "Monitoring access to education in remote rural communities of Shirak marz", Esther Grigoryan, Gyumri, 2023.

8. "Assessment of the capacities of CSOs of Syunik, Gegharkunik and Shirak marzes of RA and analysis of their level of public perception", Report, Goris, 2023.
9. "Guide-manual for teachers' research works", KarineAleksanyan, 2023.

12. Acronyms

1. RA –Republic of Armenia
2. NGO–non governmentalOrganisation
3. CSS - Civil society structure
4. CCS - 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. USD – UnitedStatesDolars
12. AMD –Armenian Drams
13. UN - United Nations
14. HCR - High Commissioner for Refugees
15. OSCE - Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

“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!