ABOUT US

The **Bulgarian Helsinki Committee** (BHC) is an independent non-governmental organisation for the protection of human rights: civil, political, economic, social and cultural. In our work we place a special emphasis on protection of the rights of the most vulnerable groups in Bulgaria: ethnic minorities, underprivileged groups, persons deprived of their liberty, people in institutions, children, women. The BHC objectives are to promote respect and support the protection of human rights, to lobby for bringing Bulgarian legislation in line with international standards, to promote public debate on human rights issues and popularize the human rights cause among the public at large.

BHC was founded on 14 July 1992.

The organisation is registered at the Central Register of NGOs working in the public benefit at the Bulgarian Ministry of Justice (Certificate No. 001/12.07.2001).
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BHC IN 2017

In 2017 the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee (BHC) marked 25 years from its establishment.

Five permanent programs worked on the wide range of human rights activities that the BHC carried out - Research and Monitoring Programme, two legal programs - one for strategic litigation and legal advocacy and one for the legal protection of refugees and migrants, supported in their work by the specialized Campaigns and Communications Programme and Programming and Administration.

Work during the year included research work in various priority areas, monitoring of institutions and services for children and adults in the community, strategic litigation with potential long-term implications for the protection of large groups of people, legal assistance to the most vulnerable, legal support for asylum seekers and refugees. These activities were accompanied by public campaigns aimed at giving additional visibility and bring attention to the problems facing human rights in the country.

A number of studies, specialized reports, and alternative reports were published and submitted to different bodies.

Experts working for the organization engaged in advocacy with domestic and international stakeholders and provided support to partner NGOs as a third party in cases before international courts.
During the year, the Monitoring and Research Programme carried out research activities in closed institutions, childcare institutions, children's crisis centers. Programme staff participated in working groups upon the invitation of different ministries to participate in the drafting of proposals for legislation reform. The programme produced a number of studies and specialized reports that it used in advocacy before national and international human rights bodies. In 2017, as in previous years, programme staff had a key role in the preparation of the BHC annual human rights report – a staple document outlining the trends in human rights during the past year, which is published annually since 1993.

HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING

Closed institutions monitoring, domestic and international advocacy for reform in the penitentiary system

In 2017, at the invitation of the Chief Execution of Penalties Directorate, BHC researchers participated in four working groups in connection with the implementation of the project "Support for the Implementation of European Court of Human Rights Judgments" (focused on prison reform). In recent years, the institution responsible for the enforcement of penalties in Bulgaria has started to appreciate the work of the BHC and to seek the expertise of the organization in the development of projects related to the prevention and fight against prison overcrowding and protection of prisoners' rights.

In the spring of 2017, BHC started work on a special report devoted to the punishment "life imprisonment without parole". The main purpose was to justify the need to repeal life imprisonment without parole from the system of penalties. For the purposes of the survey, all male prisons in Bulgaria were visited, interviews with a significant proportion of inmates serving this sentence and prison officers were interviewed and the conditions under which this most severe punishment was being served were investigated. At the end of 2017, a thematic report on Life Imprisonment without Parole: Recent Changes and Continued Reasons for Concern was published (for more information on special reports and links to them, please see BHC Reports below).

At the end of January 2017, the National Assembly adopted a package of amendments concerning penitentiary legislation. The legislative reform was a positive step towards bringing the national legal framework for the execution of the custodial sentence and the detention order in line with the requirements of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the recommendations of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture. In 2017, a BHC expert took part in the discussions at the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Affairs prior to the vote on the amendments to the Detention Under Remand Act. At the invitation of the Ministry of Justice, in the spring of 2017, the BHC nominated its representative to the Council for the Execution of Penalties (a body for execution of the penalties at the Ministry of Justice).

BHC drafted an opinion on the case of Mitev v. Bulgaria concerning the problems of access to a lawyer during the police detention. BHC experts also took part in the discussion and planning of advocacy activities in the field of juvenile justice, initiated by UNICEF Bulgaria.

Prison monitoring and penitentiary-related advocacy activities in 2017 were carried out by the following BHC staff: Stanimir Petrov, Dilyana Angelova, Kaloyan Stanev and Antoaneta Nenkova.
Monitoring of crisis centres for children victims of violence or human trafficking

At the beginning of 2017, the data from the main BHC study of the Child Crisis Centers in Bulgaria, which took place in the period May - September 2016, were analysed. At the beginning of 2017, additional visits were carried out at the centres in Balvan, Pernik, Sofia, Dragoman, Veliko Tarnovo and SBS - Podem, where some of the children from the crisis centres were transferred.

The survey covered 21 crisis centers for children (17) and persons (4) victims of violence or victims of trafficking. The BHC's observation focused on the actual state of the social service in two strands - the procedure for accommodation and length of stay and the provision of access to education for children. The analysis also analyzed statistics provided by 15 crisis centers on the placement and access to education of children during the school year 2015/2016.

At the beginning of 2017 BHC published its analysis (with an executive summary in English). Expert opinions and information from the survey were provided to the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the State Child Protection Agency. Recommendations were made that were based both on the issues identified in the course of field monitoring and violations of children's rights, as well as on the views expressed by managers and experts in social services during the interviews with them.

Antoaneta Nenkova and Krassimir Kanev worked on this project.

Monitoring of juvenile reformatory institutions

In 2017, BHC monitored the specialized boarding schools for children with anti-social behavior – social boarding schools (SBS) and correctional boarding schools (CBS). Between March and May 2017, BHC researchers visited the six children's institutions for educational supervision on the territory of the country - four SBS and two CBS. BHC study found that in 2017 closed-type specialized boarding schools had nearly 50% unoccupied capacity. During the visits to the functioning SBS and CBS, 136 children were accommodated. Only six children on the six boarding schools were minors up to the age of 14. The monitoring revealed evidence of violence (from interviews with children and staff and from personal monitoring in Dragodanovo, Zavet, Kereka, Podem). Among the problems in correctional children's institutions was illegal accommodation. It was established in CBS - Podem a case of court accommodation in violation of the provisions of the Juvenile Delinquency Act. Three cases of placement of children with mental illness and established diagnoses and therapies were also established. The cases were reported to SACP, MES and MLSP.

During the monitoring, for the first time BHC access to children from the institutions was hindered by the directors of the institutions. The researchers were not allowed to talk in private with children in CBS and SBS because of "internal rules" and a "new access procedure". The only exception was the SBS - Dragodanovo, where the access and discussions with the children with the BHC researchers was not limited.

The BHC sent letters to the Ministry of Education and Science and the State Agency for Child Protection for a formal opinion on restricting the access of BHC to SBS and CBS. In his reply, the Minister of Education stated that the new procedures were developed in accordance with the methodological guides and instructions provided by the State Agency for Child Protection, according to which "the Director has the right to prevent persons who interfere in any way with the normal performance of the school's activity ".

The monitoring of CBS and SBS in 2017 was carried out by Antoaneta Nenkova and Krasimir Kanev.
PROJECTS RELATED TO THE STOCKHOLM PROGRAMME FOR AN OPEN AND SECURE EUROPE SERVING AND PROTECTING THE CITIZENS

In 2017, the Monitoring and Research Programme participated in several projects related to the right of access to legal aid and the guarantees of suspects or accused persons during detention. They were funded by the European Union and implemented in partnership with other European non-governmental organizations.

“Strengthening procedural rights in criminal proceedings” Project

In 2016, the BHC launched a two-year project "Strengthening procedural rights in criminal proceedings: effective access to a lawyer / legal aid under the Stockholm Program of the European Council". The initiative is implemented in partnership with non-governmental organizations from five countries - Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovenia, Lithuania and Poland, among which the BHC has a leading role as coordinator. In 2017, the following activities were carried out: finalizing the project country study, including a review of 150 completed criminal cases of a general nature in 15 courts in the country; interviews with prisoners; focus groups with lawyers; preparation of work on international standards on the right of access to a lawyer and legal assistance (in Bulgarian and English), work on a national report; preparation of five seminars for lawyers; preparation of an international conference to be held on 9 March 2018.

During the year work on the project was performed by Dilyana Angelova, who is the coordinator of the project, Krassimir Kanev, and Adela Kachaunova.

“My Lawyer, My Rights” Project

This project was launched in September 2016 and is coordinated by the Belgian organization "Defense for Children International". BHC is a partner organization on it. The project focuses on access to advocacy for children who are suspects or accused in criminal proceedings. In 2017 the BHC drew up a national report, and a large number of different professionals involved in criminal proceedings against children were interviewed for this purpose. The available statistical and other information was also gathered. Several interviews with children imprisoned in the Boychinovtsi prison were made.

The project activities were implemented by Kaloyan Stanev.

“Inside Police Custody” Project

This project was launched in September 2016 and is coordinated by the Irish Civil Rights Council. Its focus is on police detention. In February 2017, BHC researchers prepared and sent letters to the directors of the Directorate of the State Agency for Regional Development and the police station in Pernik asking for access to the district offices and meetings to discuss the activities under the project. Over the next two months, the researchers held meetings with the directors of the Regional Directorate of the State Agency for Regional Development and the Pernik Municipality and later on concluded an agreement with the police in Pernik and from the beginning of May they started the monitoring visits to the First Regional Station in Pernik.

The goal of the monitoring was to investigate the rights of detainees - access to a lawyer, medical assistance, and third party notification of the fact of detention in a police station. Due to the lack of access to the Second Police Station in Sofia, visits were made to the largest investigative detention facility in Bulgaria on in Sofia, where the investigators interviewed detainees about the course of police detention. Interviews with prisoners were also carried out with recent sentences in several prisons for police custody.

The project in 2017 was coordinated by Kaloyan Stanev and Stanimir Petrov.
Project for improving access to legal aid for persons with mental health problems

The project started in October 2016 under the coordination of the Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights in Austria, with the BHC as regional partner. Within the project, in the period January-March 2017, an analysis of legislation and practice on procedural rights for accused and convicted persons with mental disorders during criminal proceedings was prepared and discussed with experts. In 2018, the analysis will be published, alongside a handbook for professionals and their presentation at a round table.

The project is coordinated by Slavka Kukova.

Accessible Letters of Rights Project

In June 2017, the project was successfully finalized, with the Hungarian Helsinki Committee as leading organization. The goal of the project was to contribute to the correct implementation and effective monitoring of the implementation of Directive 2012/13 / EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 on the right to information in criminal proceedings. The National Study, together with recommendations for reform of legislation and practice, was published in May 2017. It was presented and discussed at a wide forum, attended by representatives of the judiciary, the police, the prosecutor's office, the academic community and non-governmental organizations.

The project activities in Bulgaria were coordinated by Dilyana Angelova.

Strengthening judicial defense of fundamental rights for remand prisoners in the EU project

Since September 2017, BHC has been a partner of the research project "Strengthening the judicial protection of the fundamental rights of prisoners in custody in the European Union", co-sponsored by the European Advocacy Network for Persons Detained, European Universities and NGOs European countries. The project focuses on the protection of fundamental rights and access to legal aid for detainees in the European Union.

In 2017 the project activities is Bulgaria were coordinated by Dilyana Angelova.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

The BHC participates in JUSTICIA European Network - a European Network of Civil Society Organizations working on Criminal Justice. Within the network, a national survey on "Ethnic Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System in Bulgaria" was carried out in September - December 2017.

In 2017, the project activities were implemented by Dilyana Angelova.

ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

At the end of January 2017, the National Assembly adopted a package of amendments concerning penitentiary legislation. The change in legislation was a positive step towards bringing the national legal framework for the execution of the custodial sentence and the detention order in line with the requirements of the ECHR and the recommendations of the European Committee against Torture.

In 2017, BHC staff participated in the deliberations of the Parliament's Committee on Legal Affairs prior to the vote on the amendments to the law. BHC has elected its representative to the Council for the Execution of Penalties (the body for execution of the penalties at the Ministry of Justice).
In 2017, BHC continued to advance the harmonization of legislation on children in conflict with the law with European and international standards, as well as to provide expert assistance. In September and October 2017, a BHC expert took part in workshops and NGO initiatives to promote the long-awaited start of the reform of the child justice system. BHC participated in drafting opinions to the government, the NNC and UNICEF. BHC participated through its representative in the work of the Permanent Working Group at the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy for consultation on social services for children and adults. As a result, a final draft of amendments to the Regulations on the Implementation of the Social Assistance Act was finalized and adopted in August 2017.

In November 2017, at the invitation of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy, BHC participated in a working group with the MLSP, which was tasked with completing the Deinstitutionalisation Plan for the Care of the Elderly and Disabled People 2016-2020.

In 2017, these activities were implemented by Dilyana Angelova, Antoaneta Nenkova, Stanimir Petrov and Krassimir Kanev.

**STRATEGIC LITIGATION**

In 2017, the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg announced four judgements in which the Monitoring and Research Program successfully represented the applicants:

- **I.P. against Bulgaria** concerning the possibility for court appeal of placement of children in homes for temporary accommodation of minors and juveniles. The case concerns important aspects of the reform of the juvenile justice system. I.P. was placed in a home for temporary accommodation after escaping from home by spending 30 days there while waiting for a court decision to be placed in a boarding school. During this period, he does not receive access to legal aid, education or other care due to children deprived of their liberty.

- **Turkish National Confederation and Kungyun v. Bulgaria** concerning the refusal to register an association of Bulgarian Turks.

- **M.M. v. Bulgaria** concerning judicial control within a reasonable time of the placement of a foreign citizen in a Special Home for temporary accommodation of foreigners. The application was lodged in 2013 against the detention and attempted expulsion to Syria of a stateless Palestinian with a humanitarian status in Bulgaria.

- **Slaveika Kicheva v. Bulgaria** (joined by ECtHR with two others in Aneva and others v. Bulgaria) concerning the right to private and family life. The decision concerns the case of a parent who is prevented from contacting his child, despite a court decision granting parental rights to that parent. Despite the parental rights granted to the child by the court, and despite repeated attempts by the mother to return the child, which was retained by the father in his home after one of the meetings, the Bulgarian prosecution did not find a crime on the part of the father. ECtHR found that the Bulgarian authorities failed to effectively impose timely measures to preserve the right to family life.

In 2017, BHC submitted a third party intervention in **Mitev v. Bulgaria**, concerning the problems of access to a lawyer during police detention.

During the year, program staff also filed several complaints in Strasbourg concerning various violations of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Legal assistance was also provided to other victims of human rights violations, including a woman who was the victim of unlawful interventions in a maternity ward during childbirth, arbitrary placement in a crisis center.
for children, physical abuse of a prisoner, protection of a victim of domestic violence, inactivity of the institutions in the case of foreclosure of the foreign spouse's access to its children, refusal to give citizenship of a Bulgarian citizen of non-Bulgarian ethnic origin, lifting the guardianship of a person with mental disorder.

In the activity of conducting cases in 2017 participated attorney. Adela Kachaunova, Krassimir Kanev and Dilyana Angelova.

REPORTS

Monitoring and Research Programme experts played a key role in the preparation of the BHC annual report on the human rights in Bulgaria in 2016. The 164-page report was released in April 2017.

In 2017, BHC also published a report on the execution of the punishment "life imprisonment without parole". The report was circulated to prison officers and those of the institutions responsible for criminal enforcement in the country. The author was authored by Stanimir Petrov.

In 2017, BHC sent three alternative reports to UN bodies for the protection of human rights. An alternative report was prepared in March to the UN Committee on Racial Discrimination on Bulgaria's; the briefing was attended by BHC chair Krasimir Kanev, who presented the alternative report to some of the members.

In May, an alternative report on the rights of people with disabilities in Bulgaria was prepared and sent to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and used by the Committee in the preparation of the list of issues to the government. The Committee observations were published in December 2017.

In July, an alternative report on torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment in Bulgaria was prepared and sent to the United Nations Committee Against Torture in connection with the November 2017 review of Bulgaria before the Committee. In particular, the report addressed the issues of police detention and ill-treatment, as well as the lack of guarantees against it; the impunity of law enforcement in cases of abuse of detainees; domestic violence; trafficking in human beings and the conditions in institutions for accommodating children with mental disabilities, as well as in places of deprivation of liberty. In November, the report was presented at a session by BHC chair Krasimir Kanev before the of the UN Committee.

In 2017, Slavka Kukova, Krassimir Kanev and Dilyana Angelova worked on the implementation of these activities.

More information on the reports and links to them is available in the "BHC Reports" section below.
The BHC Legal Defense Programme (LDP) is one of the two BHC legal programmes and the only one that is engaged in strategic litigation. In 2017, LDP brought cases before the Bulgarian and international courts and before the Commission for Protection against Discrimination. The programme’s legal advocacy includes opinions on interpretative and constitutional cases at the invitation of Supreme Courts and the Constitutional Court, third-party interventions before the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), participation in working groups for drafting bills and opinions on draft laws to the National Assembly. The legal program participates in the drafting of reports and monitors the case law and practice of the Commission for Protection against Discrimination (CPD) under the Protection against Discrimination Act (PADA).

BHC continued to monitor the pre-trial proceedings and cases of deaths and neglect in the care of those accommodated in the homes for children and young people with disabilities in the period 2000-2010. Prosecutors, BHC researchers and other experts established 238 deaths and a large number of bodily injuries over a period of 10 years. In connection with these cases, the Prosecutor's Office initiated and BHC monitored 246 pre-trial proceedings and files. 224 of them concern individual victims, and 19 concern groups of victims from a total of at least 134 children and young people.

The joint investigations came after the BHC filed a civil case against the Prosecutor's Office under the Protection against Discrimination Act on 18 August 2008, because the Prosecutor's Office had not initiated pre-trial proceedings in any of the case of severe deficiencies in institutional care for children. In 2010, following the first meeting of the BHC and the then Chief Prosecutor Boris Velchev, they agreed to carry out joint inspections in all homes for mentally retarded children and adolescents in the country, as well as to cooperate in investigating the potential crimes there. As part of the co-operation, BHC received a copy of all prosecutorial acts in these 246 pre-trial proceedings and appealed to them.

Thus, the total number of victims of possible criminal assaults in the 246 pre-trial proceedings and cases filed by the BHC is at least 358 children and young people. The total number of prosecuted acts that have been subject to BHC monitoring since 2010 is over 800. BHC has so far appealed nearly 300 of these acts. For more than six years of investigation, from autumn 2010 to January 2018, none of these pre-trial proceedings have entered the court.

With the inauguration of the current Chief Prosecutor Sotir Tsatsarov in 2012, the Prosecutor's Office gradually stopped sending its rulings on the pre-trial proceedings / cases filed with the BHC, and so far only a few of them are taking place. For this reason, BHC has no clear picture of the exact number of proceedings or cases that have been completed.

As far as the BHC has data finally finalized by an act of the Supreme Cassation Prosecutor's Office, there are 80 proceedings/cases involving at least 160 children and young people. This represents nearly 45% of the total number of victims, the offenses they are investigating. Another 22 (less than 9% of the total number of cases) are currently suspended. All others have been suspended by a district, district or appellate prosecution office.
In 2017, LDP continued to file strategic cases before the Bulgarian courts and the Commission for Protection against Discrimination (CPD), focusing on discrimination on basic grounds such as ethnicity/race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability.

**Cases on the grounds of ethnicity/race and religion**

In July, Sofia District Court ruled on the request of the Sri Chinmoy Center Association against the theologian Desislava Panayotova, director of the Center for Religious Studies and Counseling (CRIC) at the Sofia Temple “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”. The court found that Panayotova had incited discrimination by appealing to managers of concert halls in Sofia not to rent them out to Sri Chinmoy Center. This is the first case in which the court establishes an incitement to discrimination within the meaning of PADA not through a general hostile speech against minorities but through instructions to specific individuals to commit specific discriminatory acts against specific individuals. For the first time, a person is ordered to stop such behavior and refrain from doing so in the future. For the first time, a functionary of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church was denounced for discrimination because of the propaganda of church activists against non-Christian organizations. Referring to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights in *Iliev and Others v. Bulgaria* and *Radkov v. Bulgaria (II)*, the court ruled that the lack of evidence gathered on the non-pecuniary damage suffered by one of the claimants does not justify dismissing his claim as as the mere perception by an individual that his right is violated is a negative experience that is subject to compensation.

In July, the Burgas District Court ruled as the first instance with a decision on the case of Roma activists represented by the Legal Programme, Ognyan Isaev and Kremena Budinova, against the former deputy and current Deputy Prime Minister Valeri Simeonov. The case is based on anti-Roma statements by Simeonov from the floor of the National Assembly. In his speech, Simeonov described Roma as abusive and non-compliant, thieves, and children of financially motivated, ruining state and law, and others. The Court found that part of Simeonov's statements constituted harassment within the meaning of PADA. He has been convicted of ending the violation, as well as refraining from further violations in the future. The claimants did not claim compensation.

LDP undertook the defense of two men from Varna who suffered a racist beating in 2016. The two were part of a group that was attacked by a crowd of skinheads on their way home. The investigation was filed in August, and an indictment was subsequently filed with the court. The trial phase is pending.

In July, the Legal Defence Programme filed a petition on behalf of the BHC and the European Roma Rights Center against the General Hospital for Active Treatment - Pazardzhik. The case is based on extensive testing in all state and municipal obstetrics and gynecology departments in the country, where mass segregation of Roma women (physical separation of the same from ethnic Bulgarians through placement in separate rooms) was established.

In November, the first court hearing on the racist beating of a man of Romani origin took place. The victim was attacked near the National Palace of Culture in 2013 while collecting waste for recycling. One of the assailants to date is an informal leader of a neo-Nazi organization with multiple appearances against refugees and Muslims, as well as against the LGBTI people's equality. The case will continue in 2018.

In June, LDP filed a civil action in the Pazardzhik Regional Court for compensation on behalf of Mitko Yonkov against Angel Kaleyev, in connection with the damages.
caused by Kaleev's beating over Yonkov. LDP represented Yonkov in the criminal case against Kaleev in 2016, in which he was found guilty. The violence exerted on Yonkov was motivated by his Roma ethnicity. It was filmed by the perpetrator and then posted online.

Cases on the grounds of gender and sexual orientation

During the year, the Legal Defense Programme participated in the procedural actions in connection with the investigation of several cases of rape of a minor girl in Botevgrad.

In August, the Supreme Cassation Prosecutor's Office refused to investigate the film director and nationalist activist Miroslav Paskalev in connection with his public Facebook instructions on how to track and attack participants in Sofia Pride 2016. The case will be litigated at the ECtHR.

Cases on behalf of human rights defenders

In January, the Appellate Prosecutor's Office in Sofia ruled on a complaint by LDP against the refusals of the lower prosecution offices to investigate threats against the human rights and human integrity of a human rights activist through the Facebook social network. The threats are motivated by the victim's human rights work. The Appeals Prosecutor's Office confirmed the refusal to investigate the crimes. In April, the Sofia District Court ruled on a lawsuit filed by the Legal Program against the popular journalist Martin Karbovski for harassment within the meaning of PADA. The court found that Karbovski had committed harassment. The decision is an important positive precedent. The case is pending before the appellate instance.

The investigation of the physical violence against the BHC chair carried out in October 2016 by an unknown perpetrator continued. The alleged cause of the crime is human right work. LDP represents the applicant in the pre-trial proceedings. In August, the pre-trial proceedings were suspended, with the court's decision to suspend the prosecutor's order.

Others cases

In 2017 LDP continued working on the case filed against State Agency for National Security (SANS) on the occasion of the SANS decision to refuse to provide to the BHC statistical information concerning the number of persons against whom special surveillance means were used in 2013. Although SANS had already been ordered to provide the requested information with a final decision of the Supreme Court, the agency refused to do so. A new case was filed and the decision of the supreme judges is forthcoming.

In 2017, LDP completed the national situation testing of segregation of Roma women in the obstetrics and gynecology departments of state and municipal hospitals in the country. BHC researchers established data on segregation practice in obstetric and gynecological departments of municipal and state hospitals in field research in five Bulgarian cities (Vetren, Pazardjik, Rakitovo, Septemvri and Sliven). The situational test carried out in 79 of the 81 state and municipal hospitals in the country with such wards provided clear evidence of segregation of Roma women from other nursing mothers.

Legal consultations

In 2017, the Legal Program continued to receive and examine petitions, complaints and alerts of citizens sent to the BHC. During the year, the Legal Program provided legal advice on 186 cases.

INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION

In 2017, LDP worked on 11 cases before the European Court of Human Rights. During the year, the programme brought 9 new complaints to the Court.
The Legal Program filed the sixth complaint to the ECtHR for neglect of a child in an institution for medical and social care for children.

The case concerns a child born with partial paralysis and abandoned immediately after birth. When he was two and a half years old while under the care of the medical-social care institution, his only functioning had to be amputate. The boy's hand was amputated due to the necrosis resulting from a wrist strap used to tie him to his bed. This was done to prevent self-inflicted vomiting.

At the age of 3, the boy was moved to a home for mentally retarded children in another city where there has been no doctor for years. Only an administrative fine was imposed on the director of the institution. The complaint was declared inadmissible by the Court without reasons.

In 2017, in a number of Bulgarian towns, the local authorities launched massive campaigns to remove illegal Roma housing built on private or municipal land. In most cases, these were dwellings built years ago, that the municipalities have tolerated for years. In some places the municipal authorities have recognized the existence of these buildings over the years: some of the citizens who had been addressed to the BHC had an address registration of the addresses of the residences intended for abolition; for other buildings the municipal authorities had charged taxes and fees. In any case, local authorities had not offered any alternative accommodation to families at risk of planned disruptions. In most of the families there were children, including newborns, as well as people with serious medical problems.

The buildings were the only homes for their families. In any case, families did not have the means to buy another home or rent one. The BHC provided legal assistance in connection with the actions of the local authorities of citizens of three Bulgarian cities: Assenovgrad, Plovdiv and Sofia, by submitting requests for interim protection measures to the ECtHR.

These requests were confirmed by the Court, which ordered the Bulgarian authorities not to remove the applicants’ only homes until they provided guarantees that they would be provided with an alternative shelter. By January 2018, the authorities had not provided an alternative shelter to any of the complainants. However, they have already demolished one of them.

The legal action is the case of Ilareva and Others v. Bulgaria, which concerns threats against a human rights defender working on refugee and migrant rights in Bulgaria.

LDP undertook the case of a LGBTI activist in connection with the refusal of the prosecution to investigate instructions from nationalist Miroslav Paskaletz - Zorec on how to attack participants in Sofia Pride, published in his personal Facebook profile in 2016.

The program also submitted a third party intervention in the case of a transgender Bulgarian regarding the refusal of the Bulgarian courts to allow a change in her civil status documents to reflect her actual psychological gender.
REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS LEGAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME

In 2017, the BHC Program for the Legal Protection of Refugees and Migrants continued its activity started 23 years ago with the support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. For the second consecutive year, together with UNICEF, the program carried out activities focusing on the protection of unaccompanied migrant children.

The programme activities included monitoring of the practice in conducting the procedures for granting international protection and status on the territory of Bulgaria, monitoring the borders and the administrative centers for the detention of aliens regarding the provision of access to territory and procedure, strategic cases before the national courts, as well as monitoring and advocacy for the protection of unaccompanied children and their protection against unlawful detention.

The goal was to create legal standards for the protection of refugees and respect for the fundamental rights of migrants as well as for advocacy and lobbying to create in the legislation legal and practical guarantees for protection of the basic human rights of foreigners of all categories on the territory of Bulgaria.

The work of the program is based on several permanent institutional agreements with:

- the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (since 1994),
- State Agency for Refugees (since 1998),
- General Directorate of Border Police at the Ministry of the Interior (since 2005),
- Migration Directorate at the Ministry of Interior (since 2007), and
- National Legal Aid Bureau (since 2017).

LEGAL CONSULTATIONS, LEGAL AID AND MONITORING

The program providing legal advice, interventions and representation to the administration through the permanent reception offices at the offices of the program in Sofia and Svilengrad and through legal receptions at the registration and reception centers of the State Agency for Refugees in Sofia, Harmanli, Banya and Pastrogor.

Border monitoring was carried out at the police detention facilities at the main border between Bulgaria and Turkey at Kapitan Andrevo border checkpoint, Novo Selo border checkpoint, Elhovo checkpoint, Bolyarovo border checkpoint, Sredets border checkpoint, Malko Tarnovo border checkpoint and Sofia airport.

The programme also appealed against administrative acts and access to the courts of asylum seekers and illegal migrants as legal aid for the realization of their right to an effective remedy as well as proactive representation before the regional administrative courts and the Supreme Administrative Court in the cases of serious violations of material or procedural rights.

In 2017, in order to observe the principle of non-refoulement under Art. 33 of the Geneva Convention, the programme carried out 369 border visits and provided legal assistance for the application for protection at the land border and access to the territory of 833 asylum-seekers at the border, of which 343 are at the border and 490 at the exit border. The programme also monitored Dublin transfers to and from other EU Member States at Sofia International Airport in view of the right of the returned applicants to have access to a
procedure for assessing their substantive request if they left the country to another EU Member State before their refugee procedure in Bulgaria has ended. In 2017, the BHC carried out a survey of Dublin transfer from 446 foreigners who were transferred to Bulgaria from other Member States in fulfillment of the substantive criteria of the Dublin Regulation.

In 2017, the programme monitored compliance with the principle of access to a procedure under Art. 6 of the Procedural Directive from places of detention of illegal migrants, special homes for temporary accommodation of foreigners. During the year, the programme carried out 147 visits to such institutions, as a result of which it was able to provide legal assistance for access to the procedure of 1459 asylum-seekers. Among the asylum seekers, the BHC identified and provided assistance to 25 other vulnerable persons.

During the year, the two offices of the programme in Sofia and Svilengrad operated day-to-day legal receptions in which additional 3047 legal consultations were provided to 2802 persons, of which 295 consultations for registration and access to procedure, 2172 consultations at a certain stage of proceedings international protection, 383 consultations on the rights and obligations of protection seekers and persons granted protection, 103 consultations on family reunification and 11 consultations on the acquisition of Bulgarian citizenship.

The programme monitored the proceedings carried out by the State Agency for Refugees in order to comply with the basic minimum standards for the assessment of the application for protection and the granting of international protection. The programme monitored 702 procedural actions in international protection proceedings concerning 453 men, 158 women, 21 accompanying children and 70 unaccompanied children. An evaluation and analysis of 244 negative decisions of the administrative body was carried out.

**LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

A total of 160 administrative cases were filed before the national courts against negative decisions of the State Agency for Refugees, assessing the application for protection in favor of 143 men, 3 women and 4 unaccompanied children. Another 56 cases brought in 2016 were also represented. Forty revocations were achieved, which represents 25% success rate from all appeals.

In 2017, the programme brought to court another 160 cases in the following areas of concern: 14 cases against unlawful detention of asylum seekers, 72 cases against a refugee procedure in detention facilities, 21 cases against accommodation 25 cases against unsecured legal assistance in refugee procedures, 5 cases against illegal refusal in absentia, 14 cases against inaction of social services for assistance to unaccompanied children, 8 cases against enemy terminated refugee procedure and 1 case against refusal of refugee status on the grounds of national security.

Thus, in 2017, the programme provided legal assistance, representation and consultancy to a total of 6,087 beneficiaries.

**REPORTS, TRAININGS**

In 2017, the programme produced its traditional reports - the Annual Border Surveillance Report and the Annual Status Report Surveillance Report. It also drafted the annual review of the report on Bulgaria published in the AIDA database of ECRE.

The programme conducted refugee law training for lawyers at the Lawyers Training Center at the Supreme Bar Council, as well as four trainings of officers from the Border Police Directorate General and the Migration Directorate together with UNHCR.
CAMPAIGNS AND COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

In 2017 the Campaigns and Communications program was responsible for the BHC communication activities. The programme implemented BHC public campaigns, media communications, produced press releases, opinions and other publications, worked with journalists, maintained the BHC website and channels on social networks, distributed a monthly bulletin with information on the activities of the organisation. Another aspect of the programme is the visual production and dissemination of BHC reports, the organisation of events, as well as the organisation of fundraising campaigns.

WEBSITE

In 2017, BHC published more than 50 press releases, opinions and news related to the organization's activities or human rights in general. In the past year, the official website of the BHC, www.bghelsinki.org, was visited by 82,698 unique users. Of these, 72% were from Bulgaria. Currently, a complete upgrade of the site is underway, with the new site expected to begin in 2018.

Along with the organization's main site, the Campaigns and Communications Program also supports the Human of the Year website (http://humanoftheyear.org/), Detza.bg (http://deca.bg/) which is devoted entirely to child rights issues, as well as micro-sites related to campaigns conducted during the year, which are listed below.

E-BULLETIN

The Campaigns and Communications team distributes a monthly bulletin with news and information on the organization's latest activities - including published reports, campaigns, humans rights news, and more. By December 2018, the number of subscribers was nearly 850.

SOCIAL NETWORK PROFILES

BHC has its own profiles in four social networks: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn. Our presence on Facebook includes the pages of the organization in Bulgarian and English, as well as the "Man of the Year" awards page.

A major goal in social networking is to generate our own visual content, including events, infographics, and video clips that present the topics we work on in comprehensible language and reach more people.

From January 2017 to January 2018, the main BHC Facebook profile in Bulgarian increased its followers by 20% (from 8635 to 10395). The English-language Facebook page, created in 2016, is becoming a source of human rights news in English for consumers in Bulgaria and abroad. The number of followers grew by 44% compared to the previous year, and by the end of 2017 it numbered 1714 Facebook users. The "Man of the Year" award page marks an increase of about 10% and now has 1866 followers.

Twitter continues to be significantly less popular in the Bulgarian social network, but the BHC's profile nevertheless marks an 18%
increase in followers, and their total number at the end of December 2017 reached 1456 people. The LinkedIn BHC website has 191 followers in January 2017 (14% increase from 2016). The number of our YouTube subscribers is 131 and has increased 44% over the previous year. This is probably because of the creation of better quality videos. Live broadcasting on Facebook is still the way to reach more people. And in 2017 this was used connection with several campaigns, the "Human of the Year" awards, as well as the presentation of the annual report of the organization.

The trend of steady growth in the number of followers of the BHC's channels in the social networks is confirmed. Factors for this are the new policy for managing these profiles, introduced in 2016, and the sharing of visuals (images and videos), infographics, live events from a number of events, and up-to-date news and articles. We note this growth despite Facebook's increasingly restrictive Facebook policies, limiting the audience to which web page posts reach.

**CAMPAGNINGS IN 2017**

In 2017, the Campaign and Communications team organized six advocacy campaigns on different strategic focuses of the organisation. For the tenth consecutive year the annual BHC Awards "Human of the Year" were also organized.

**Attention! Police**

At the end of January 2017, the BHC published the report "Legal and Practical Challenges for Effective Investigation of Police Violence". It aimed at informing citizens of their rights in contact with the police. A special site, [https://www.police.bg/helsinki.org/](https://www.police.bg/helsinki.org/) (which was visited by more than 2,000 people over the last year) was set up, where the conclusions of the report were presented and the reasons why police violence in Bulgaria is rarely punished.

A series of nine videos was filmed with the actor Kitodar Todorov, in which the information on the rights of the citizens in police custody was presented in a fun way. Captured videos titled "Can a police officer...? (The game in which lawyers and defendants have rights!) were watched more than 9500 times on YouTube and on Facebook more than 32,000 times. A game-test, "Do you know your rights in contact with the police?", was produced to encourage citizens to know their rights and to monitor their compliance.

**Monumental Women**

March 2017 was dedicated to activities promoting the contribution of women in Bulgarian history and the role of women in society at large. The BHC announced March as the "month of women," and the campaign site [https://www.womensmonth.org/](https://www.womensmonth.org/) (visited by more than 7,500 users) promoted the series of events planned for that period. They included a lecture on the history of the Bulgarian Society of Higher Education, a discussion on the role of gender in language, two film screenings, a Wikipedia editathon, during which more than
30 volunteers updated and added articles on the largest internet encyclopedia for women in Bulgaria, fought for equal rights in the first half of the 20th century.

The most significant part of the campaign was held on March 22 when BHC staff and volunteers put coloured women's memorials in seven locations in the center of the capital to draw attention to the fact that there is no monument to a woman of historical personality in Sofia. The action received extensive media coverage, including international media such as Mashable, Teen Vogue and The Guardian. The project will continue in 2018 with a charity auction, the funds of which will be used to create the first monument of a woman in Sofia.

**Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**

The fifth edition of the international initiative "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" was held on 18 March 2017 in front of the building of the National Palace of Culture in Sofia. This is an event whose format invites men to wear ladies' shoes and to walk a kilometer with them. The aim is to draw public attention to the sexual and domestic violence against women in Bulgaria.

The BHC is a co-organizer of the campaign and took part in the planning and organization of the event, including the preparation of the press, the vision and posters for it. The team also participated in media events and interviews related to the event. The movie "The Mask You Live in" was also screened at the Lumiere Lidl cinema. The National Palace of Culture was a partner of the event.

**Sofia Pride 2017**

The program team was an essential part of the organizing committee of Sofia Pride, the biggest event supporting the rights of LGBTI people in Bulgaria, as well as the biggest human rights event of the year in Bulgaria. The number of participants this year exceeded 3,000. The BHC team carried out all communication with the authorities, participated in the selection of the concept of the event and was responsible for the coordination of volunteers and the online presentation of Sofia Pride (website support and communication channels in social networks). Additionally, on the day of the Pride, BHC staff took part in the event, promoting the organization's activities and offering materials created within the framework of the fundraising strategy.

„**Let’s Close Down BHC!**“

The campaign "Let's Close Down BHC!" is the result of the cooperation between the Campaigns and Communications Programme and one of the leading advertising agencies in the country, Noble Graphics.

At the end of May, the first of two scheduled videos within the campaign was released. It was attended by journalists, activists, lecturers and public figures who declared their support for the closure of the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee. They explain that Bulgaria would be a much better place if it does not have to have organizations like the BHC, because it would mean that the rights of no one are being violated. A special microsite was created for the campaign - [https://dazakriembhk.org/](https://dazakriembhk.org/). In the last year it was visited by more than 5,500 people. Facebook has been viewed by 98,000
people on Facebook alone. More 6500 have watched it on YouTube, making it the most popular media product created by the organization. In 2018, a second video will be shot as part of the campaign.

**Childhood Without Bars Campaign**

In 2017, BHC resumed work on the Childhood Without Bars Campaign to Reform Juvenile Justice, which was launched in September 2015, alongside the National Children’s Network and the Institute for Social Activities and Practices. Due to the early elections in Bulgaria and the change of governments, the steps taken to reform the child justice did not lead to serious results. In November 2017, the team took action at the National Theater, where the artists of Destructive Creation were presented. During the four days in which the action took place, our volunteers explained to citizens what are the problems with the current 60-year law and why reform is needed. The event was covered by leading media in the country, and the petition for reform in child justice received hundreds of new signatures.
HUMAN OF THE YEAR ANNUAL AWARDS

In 2017, Human Rights and Human Rights Awards for Human Rights and Human Rights took place for the tenth time. The Campaigns and Communications Program was committed to the main activity of organizing annual awards. This year also featured influential journalists, judges, lawyers, public figures, environmentalists and others.

The ceremony took place on 11 December, in honor of the International Day of Human Rights. The nominations considered by the jury were 37.

The actions sought were to have significant potential and to contribute to social development, to be a precedent in the human rights sphere, to inspire, to be original and innovative. A large prize, two equal sub-prizes, and six special prizes were awarded.

Father Paolo Cortese was awarded the Human of the Year award for 2017. The Catholic priest of Belene was awarded the grand prize for the strong example of genuine charity he gave by sheltering a family of legally residing Syrian refugees early 2017. In addition to the grand prize, two equal second prizes by the teacher Zlatina Staykova and Radoslava Stancheva for the training activities they organize for hospitalized children and by Kristina Kostova for her first written Cyrillic for people with dyslexia with the potential to open doors in many spheres of life for them. The jury also handed out six special prizes: posthumously to Assoc. Prof. Christian Takov, the Association of European Journalists - Bulgaria, NGO Campaigns and Animal Activism in the Industry, Paul Naidenov, Victoria and Zahari Nedialkov and the Bulgarian Women's Fund.

This year’s jury was composed of: Alexander Kashumov, Boyana Petkova, Daniela Mihaylova, Krasimir Kanev, Krasimira Velichkova, Nadezhdra Teckulova, Petko Petkov, Tatiana Vaksberg, Vavor Gechev and Yana Buhrer Tavanier.

The awards received broad coverage from two national televisions - BNT and bTV, the second of which made live coverage of the ceremony during their lunchtime news.
In 2017, BHC issued several reports. The BHC Annual Human Rights Report came out in April, along with a video clip illustrating how human rights have evolved over the past year. The BHC prepared several special thematic reports as well as several alternative reports on the implementation of international treaties to which Bulgaria is a party.

**Annual Human Rights Report, 2016**

In April 2017 BHC published its annual report in the state of human rights in Bulgaria in 2016 – a document that is unique in its scope and thematic coverage. The report is available online and in hard copy.

**Regulatory and Practical Challenges for Effective Investigation of Police Violence**

The first BHC special report for 2017 was related to police violence. It was accompanied by the "Attention! Police!", Aimed at raising the awareness of citizens about their rights in interaction with law enforcement officials. The Campaigns and Communications Programme team published its report and developed a special website www.police.bghelsinki.org.

**Declarations on the Rights of Detainees in Bulgaria**

Initial detention on suspicion or criminal prosecution is among the most critical situations in a criminal case. During the initial detention, the high risk of mental and physical abuse is typical, as local and international observers have repeatedly noted that this risk is particularly high for detainees in Bulgaria. The report Letters of Rights in Bulgaria presents the results of a study by the BHC on the right of detainees to receive written information about their rights in criminal proceedings, in accordance with the authorities' duty to provide the so-declarations on the rights of persons detained in criminal proceedings.

**Life without Parole**

The report, which was drafted by the Monitoring and Research Programme is the second thematic study of this sentence since 2010. Its main focus is the continuing clash between the penitentiary practice in Bulgaria related to the punishment of life imprisonment without substitution and the European standards and the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights related to it on the other.
Shadow reports to international bodies

In the past year, the BHC prepared several alternative reports on the rights of people with disabilities, protection from torture and inhuman treatment and discrimination. They were presented at the sessions of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UN Committee Against Torture and the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination during Bulgaria's Hearings.

In 2017 BHC sent an alternative report to Bulgaria for consideration by the 92nd session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The report is a result of the systematic monitoring of the organization in the field of discrimination in relation to the legislative, judicial, administrative and practical improvements in Bulgaria regarding the observance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination for the Period 2008-2016. The report reports a significant deterioration in the implementation of the Convention standards in Bulgaria. It specifically provided information on the activities of racist organizations and political parties, the lack of reaction by law enforcement agencies to hate crimes, discrimination in the exercise of the political rights of certain ethnic minorities, and the continuing limitations in the exercise of their rights.

In June 2017 BHC presented an alternative report to the UN Committee for the Rights of People with Disabilities. The report is a detailed critical analysis of Bulgarian legislation and practice in connection with the rights of people with disabilities.

In connection with the review of the implementation of the provisions of the Convention against Torture, the BHC also presented an alternative report to this body. The report covers all issues raised in the list of questions addressed to the Bulgarian Government falling within the scope of the Convention.

On 30 November 2017, the UN Committee Against Torture adopted its final observations and recommendations on Bulgaria.

In these final observations and recommendations published in early December 2017, the Committee made a number of serious criticisms of Bulgaria on almost all matters falling within the scope of the Convention. According to the Committee's observations, every third prisoner in the Bulgarian police headquarters is being abused, and in some cases the ill-treatment is torture. He expressed particular concern about the worsening independent human rights monitoring of the health, social and educational institutions in which people are subjected to compulsory arrest. These are psychiatric hospitals, special schools for children with antisocial behavior and social homes for people with mental disorders. In the last five years, the responsible ministries have systematically denied access to these non-governmental organizations.

The reports above were prepared by the Monitoring and Research program. The Campaigns and Communications Program works on their layout, distribution and presentation in the BHC communication channels and in the media.
Special reports on border monitoring and status determination procedures

In 2017, a program for the legal protection of refugees and migrants drew up the two specialized reports - the *Annual Border Surveillance Report in 2016* and the *Annual Report on Status Monitoring*. The reports contain recommendations to the government and state.

In February 2017 the programme drafted the *annual review of the report on Bulgaria, published in the AIDA* (Asylum and Information Database) database of the European Council for Refugees and Exiles.

DONORS AND FINANCING

The BHC Programme "Programming and Administration" was responsible for fundraising for all activities of the organization (without refugee-related activities). The programme was responsible for the overall accountability to the Bulgarian authorities as well as to the international donors. Throughout the year, the programme had a leading role in preparing proposals for the various activities that BHC implements.

The Programming and Administration Programme provides support for all BHC projects, consisting of general coordination, budgeting, administrative services, technical and logistic assistance, as well as coordination of the publication of some publications. Programme staff provide the initial contact with complainants; contacts with journalists in connection with press releases or other publications. The associates of this programme have a leading role in organizing BHC public events, seminars and conferences.

The programme has a major role in ensuring transparent reporting of the BHC activities, revenues and expenditures to the Bulgarian financial institutions. It is responsible for annual reporting of the activity in the public benefit to the Central Public Register of Public Benefit for the Ministry of Justice.

In its work, the BHC has introduced a two-tier system of financial reporting and control. All financial operations are carried out under the control of an external accounting firm and on the other hand accountability is guaranteed by an independent financial audit, which is carried out annually since 1998. All BHC financial statements, income and expenditure are available on the organization's website.
Funding for BHC was provided within projects funded by European and international public and private donors.

In 2017 the BHC carried out its activities thanks to the support of several major donors.

Particularly important for our operation continued to be the institutional support that our three long-term donors continued to provide. This core/programmatic support allows us to be flexible in our projects and to respond quickly to emerging human rights issues. In 2017, this kind of support was provided by the Open Society Institute - Budapest, the Oak Foundation and the Leon Levy Foundation.

Another long-standing donor, who continues to support the work of the Program for the Legal Protection of Refugees and Migrants (since 1994), was the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

In addition to the above donors, during the year we also carried out projects supported by:

- The European Union, which supported a larger and fewer projects in the area of criminal justice in implementation of the Stockholm Program of the European Council. The projects will be completed in 2018.
- UNICEF, with whose support we have been implementing a project to improve the protection of migrant children in Bulgaria.

In 2017, the program drafted a total of 13 draft proposals to different donors, either alone or in partnership with other non-governmental organizations and universities, which focused on the strategic areas of work of the BHC.

In 2017, we also received support in the form of individual donations from private individuals. These donations were earmarked for our work in the field of child deaths for institutional deaths/neglect "Bulgaria’s Abandoned Children". During the year the BHC donation account in Paypal, we received BGN 1,046.

To our individual donors, we express our deep appreciation in their trust and support.

Thanks to the Campaigns and Communications Programme to stimulate local fundraising during the year, we started to offer fundraising materials with a cause, the funds from the sale of which are allocated to campaign activities, including the campaign "Bulgaria’s Abandoned Children".

The share of each donor in our total funding, calculated on the basis of the expenditure of different projects in the period January 1 - December 31, 2017, is given in the table and chart below.
### Donor-supported activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Supported activities</th>
<th>Project expenditure in 2017 in BGN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>Border monitoring, advocacy and litigation for asylum seekers</td>
<td>575 197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Society Institute</td>
<td>BHC institutional support 2017</td>
<td>266 262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Foundation</td>
<td>BHC core support 2017</td>
<td>248 756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>Improving protection of migrant children in Bulgaria</td>
<td>145 968</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSIFE</td>
<td>Improving BHC local fundraising capacity</td>
<td>27 660</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategizing use of social media in Bulgaria</td>
<td>19 615</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support for border monitoring activities</td>
<td>39 848</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>Strengthening procedural rights in Bulgaria project</td>
<td>19 783</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Procedural rights for people with mental/intellectual disabilities project</td>
<td>17 964</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inside police custody project</td>
<td>12 451</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accessible letters of rights project</td>
<td>7 196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My lawyer, my rights project</td>
<td>1 979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-trial detention projects</td>
<td>2 863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leon Levy Foundation</td>
<td>Support for the general activities of the LDP</td>
<td>33 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>Expenditures not budgeted elsewhere</td>
<td>14 623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total project expenditure in 2017:** 1 433 376
In 2017 the BHC staff included:

**Monitoring and Research Programme:**
Adela Kachaunova (attorney-at-law), Antoaneta Nenkova (researcher), Dilyana Angelova (researcher), Kaloyan Stanev (researcher), Krassimir Kanev (programme director), Slavka Kučkova (researcher), Stanimir Petrov (researcher).

**Legal Defense Programme:**
Adela Kachaunova (acting director of the Legal Defense Programme, *since November*), Blagovesta Lambreva (lawyer), Borislav Dimitrov (legal assistant), Diana Dragieva, attorney-at-law, Iveta Savova, attorney-at-law, Margarita Ilieva (programme director, *until November*), and Radoslav Stoyanov (communications expert).

**Campaigns and Communications Programme:**
Andrei Getov (multimedia producer), Radoslav Stoyanov (communications expert), Radostina Georgieva (communications expert, interim program director, *since October*), Raya Raeva (communications expert), Svetla Baeva (programme director), Yana Buhrer Tavanier (special projects consultant).

**Programming and Administration Programme:**
Vera Naydenova (accountant), Desislava Simeonova (programme director), Ekaterina Pavlova (technical assistant), Severina Petkova (accountant clerk) and Teodora Veselinova (technical assistant). The Accounting Firm "Zhelnova, Staneva and Georgiev" supervised BHC accounting.

**Refugees and Migrants Legal Protection Programme:**
Antoaneta Dedikova (Legal Advisor), the attorneys Boris Rafailov, Valentina Nielsen, Georgi Voynov, Desislava Tyaneva, Dimitar Slavov, Elitsa Sekulova (Accountant), Zornitsa Chakarova (Legal Advisor), Iliana Savova (Program Director), Katia Dimitrova (Legal Consultant), Mariana Andreeva, Mariana Nikolova, Martin Hristov, Plamen Zhelev, Plamen Bojilov, Radostina Stefanova, Diana Hristova, Elka Hristova, Milen Hristov, Borislav Dimitrov, Zdravko Ivanov and Omedan Niyazai (Profiters for the Refugee Center in Harmanli), Hristo Adamov (Profi for the Transit Center in Sofia, Vladimir Panov (Northwest border prospect) and Atanas Sarakostov (South-East border prospect). In 2017, the translators included Ali Jirādat, Badran Jārūs, Emilia Mihailova, Ibrahim Jārāmadat, Iman Hristova, Lyudmila Yaneva, Mahā Mahmoud, Mohamed Orphanı and Salahuddin Pactaval.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BHC activities directed by the General Assembly. The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of the association. As at January 2018 its members were:


EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is entrusted with the organisation’s operative management. Its members are elected by and from among the General Assembly with a two-year mandate.

The members of the Executive Committee (with a mandate March 2016 – March 2018) are: Krassimir Kanev, chair, Yana Buhrer Tavanier, deputy chair, Georgi Bankov, Desislava Simeonova and Iliana Savova.

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to especially thank our volunteers, who took part in our initiatives during the year:

**Monumental Women campaign:**
Albena Vasileva, Anna-Sarah Kurteva, Deyana Marcheva, Eneya Vorodetzki, Krassimira Petrova, Marie Ines Vangelova, Marina Koleva, Martina Tonkovska, Monika Karamanova, Sava Tashev, Tzvetelina Marinova and Shudipta Sultana.

**Wikipedia edithon:**

**Childhood without Bars campaign:**
Alexander Petrov, Victoria Parvanova, Ekaterina Denkova, Ivan Ruslanov, Yoanna Blagova, Yoanna Veselinova, Lili Kosova, Martina Kao, Mihail Boyadjiev, Nikolay Lalev, Radina Kovacheva, Rossen Stoev and Hristo Peshev.
ИСКАТЕ ЛИ ДА ПОМОГНЕТЕ?

Бюджетът на неправителствените организации често е съвсем ограничен. Ето защо БХК се нуждае от помощ, за да продължи да работи в полза на най-уязвимите групи и българското общество. Тази подкрепа ще помогне за изграждането на един по-добър свят.

КАКВО МОЖЕТЕ ДА НАПРАВИТЕ?

Активисти от цели свят са показали, че съпротивата срещу тези, които подкопават човешките права, е възможна. Бъдете част от това движение. Помогнете ни да се изправим срещу тези, които подпомагат страх и екреза.

Можете да направите това

КАТО ДОБРОВОЛЕЦ ИЛИ С ДАРЕНЕ.

| ☐ Ислям да предложа помощта си като доброволец, защото смятам, че притежавам умения, които биха били от полза. |
| Името: |
| Адрес: |
| Държава: |
| Имейл: |

| ☐ Ислям да направя дарение на БХК (приемат се дарения в пикове или евро)* |
| Сума: |
| Моля изберете от: | Visa | Mastercard |
| Номер: |
| Валидна до: |
| Да се използва за**: |
| Подпис: |

* Дарението може да напишете в наши чрез интернет на адрес: http://www.bopherisniko.org/donate/
** Постепните тези развиделени конкретно нежелание или наша конкретни видени предвид.

Моля, подайте тези формули в офиса на БХК на адрес: ул. „Върбица“ № 7, кт. 4, 1506 София
Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AS AT 31.12.2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Representatives:
Krassimir Kanev

Prepared by:
Alexander Georgiev for Zheikova, Stanieva and Georgiev - accounting office Ltd.

Audited by:
IsaAudit Ltd.

Sofia, 09 March 2018
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION BULGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ASSOCIATION BULGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE (the Association), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2017, and the profit and loss statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

• give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2017, and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
• are prepared in accordance with National Accounting Standardds.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants’ Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and with the ethical requirements set out within the Independent Financial Audit Act, and have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code and Independent Financial Audit Act (IFAAA), applicable for Bulgaria. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
Other information different from the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Activity Report, prepared by the Management as per the requirements of Accountancy Act’s Chapter Seven, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon, unless explicitly and to the extent stated in our auditor’s report.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

_report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements, prescribed by the Bulgarian Accounting Act_

In addition to our reporting responsibilities under ISAs regarding the Annual Activity Report, we have also performed the procedures added to the required ISA by the Instructions given by the professional organization of Certified Public Accountants and Registered Auditors in Bulgaria - Institute of Certified Public Accountants (ICPA), issued in November 2016, approved by its Governing Council on November 29, 2016. These procedures concerning review of the form and contents of such other information in order to help us in forming an opinion on whether the other information includes disclosures required as per Chapter Seven of the Accounting Act, applicable in Bulgaria.

_opinion with regard to Art. 37, item 6 of the Accounting Act_

a) Information comprising the Annual Activity Report for the year ending December 31, 2017 complies with the financial statements for the same accounting period.

b) The Annual Activity Report for the year ending December 31, 2017 has been drawn up in compliance with Chapter Seven of the Accounting Act.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with National Accounting Standards, including the exemptions for
presentation and disclosure according to these standards and to art. 29 of Bulgarian Accounting Act and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with IFAA and ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the planning and performance of the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to
the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with Management, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Audit company ISA Audit OOD
Representative:
IZABELA DZHALAZOVA

Registered auditor responsible for the audit:
IZABELA DZHALAZOVA
March 12th, 2018
Sofia, Bulgaria
### BALANCE SHEET

**Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee**

**as at 31.12.2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Divisions, groups, articles</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Divisions, groups, articles</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Current year</td>
<td>Previous year</td>
<td></td>
<td>Current year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Current (short term) assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Inventories</td>
<td>3. Production and goods including:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4. Other Reserves</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- goods</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Total IV:</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total I:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Total for section A*:</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Claims</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Receivables from customers and suppliers</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other claims</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total II:</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Cash, including:</td>
<td>Total IV:</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>830</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- cash</td>
<td>Total for section B:</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>830</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- unlimited accounts (deposits)</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>824</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total IV:</td>
<td></td>
<td>592</td>
<td>830</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total for section B:</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>851</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Expenses for future periods</td>
<td></td>
<td>628</td>
<td>594</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AMOUNT OF ASSETS</td>
<td>1 254</td>
<td>1 445</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prepared by:**

Alexander Georgiev
for Zheleva, Staneva and Georgiev - accounting office Ltd.

**Representatives:**

Krasimir Karayev

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**Date:**

Sofia, 09 March 2018

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**Certification:**

Issued by:

IsaAudit OOD

Ungualer:

Regulated auditor

IsaAudit Ltd

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**Notarized document:**

1 2 MAR 2018

**Certification:**

Issued by:

IsaAudit OOD

Ungualer:

Regulated auditor

IsaAudit Ltd
### PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

from non business activity  
Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee  
for the year 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of costs</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current year</td>
<td>Previous year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. OPERATING EXPENSES</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Administrative costs</td>
<td>1 808</td>
<td>1 672</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total I</td>
<td>1 808</td>
<td>1 672</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Financial Expenses</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Negative exchange differences</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Other financial expenses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total II</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Total expenses</td>
<td>1 421</td>
<td>1 184</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Result</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1 442</td>
<td>1 188</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of revenues</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current year</td>
<td>Previous year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. OPERATING REVENUE</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Revenue of regulated activities</td>
<td>2 1410</td>
<td>1 176</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Revenues from donations under condition</td>
<td>1 410</td>
<td>1 176</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Membership fees</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other income</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total I</td>
<td>2 1410</td>
<td>1 176</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Financial Income</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Interest income</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Positive exchange differences</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total II</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Profit from business activity</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Total Income</td>
<td>1 442</td>
<td>1 188</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Result</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1 442</td>
<td>1 188</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date: Sofia, 09 March 2018
Prepared by: Alexander Georgiev for Zheleva, Stancheva and Geogiev - accounting office Ltd.
Representatives: Krassimir Kanev
### PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
from business activity
Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee
for the year 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of costs</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current year 2</td>
<td>Previous year 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Costs of raw materials and external</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social security costs, including</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Staff costs, including:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Goods</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Services</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other expenses</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses from operating</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses from ordinary</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Profit from ordinary activities</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Accounting profit (total revenue - total costs)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Income tax expense on profit</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Profit</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (Total expenses)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of revenues</th>
<th>Amount (thousands)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current year 1</td>
<td>Previous year 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. REVENUES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Net sales revenue</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Goods</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Services</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income from operating activities</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income from ordinary activities</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date: Sofia, 09 March 2018

Prepared by: Alexander Georgiev
for Zhelkova, Staneva
and Georgiev accounting office Ltd.

Representatives: Krasimir Kanev

[Stamp: София]

[Stamp: Официално дружество]

[Stamp: ИСА Аудит ООД]
# CASH FLOWS STATEMENT

**Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee**

**for the year 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of cash flows</th>
<th>Current year</th>
<th>Previous year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Cash at the beginning of the period</strong></td>
<td>830</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Cash flows from non-profit activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Inflow (cash) from non business activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Revenues from donations under condition</td>
<td>1 254</td>
<td>1 681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Proceeds from membership fees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Proceeds from bank and currency operations</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Other proceeds</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total inflow (cash) from non business activity</td>
<td>1 261</td>
<td>1 695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Outflow (cash) for non business activity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Paid wages</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Paid Insurance obligations</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Paid bank and currency operations</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Paid services</td>
<td>1 004</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Other payments</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total outflow (cash) for non business activity</td>
<td>1 523</td>
<td>1 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Net cash flow from non business activity</strong></td>
<td>(262)</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Cash flows from business activity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Inflow (cash) from business activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Revenues from clients</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Other proceeds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total inflow (cash) from business activity</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Outflow (cash) for business activity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Payments to suppliers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Other payments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total outflow (cash) for business activity</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Net cash flow from business activity</strong></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. Cash at the end of the period</strong></td>
<td>592</td>
<td>830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Change in cash during the period</strong></td>
<td>(238)</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepared by:
Alexander Georgiev
for Zhelkova, Staneva and Georgiev - accounting office Ltd.

Representatives:
Krassimir Kanev

Date:
Sofia, 09 March 2018
### EQUITY STATEMENT

**Association Bulgarian Helsinki Committee**  
**as at 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Reserves</th>
<th>Total equity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Reserves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Balance at the beginning of the reporting period</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Balance after changes in accounting policy and errors</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Financial result of the current period</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Balance at end of reporting period</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Equity at end of reporting period</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date:**  
Sofia, 09 March 2018

**Prepared by:**  
Alexander Georgiev  
for Zhelkova, Staneva  
and Georgiev - accounting office Ltd.

**Representatives:**  
Krassimir Kanev