

RELEASE IN FULL

Engagement with the Open Society Foundation for Albania

U.S. Embassy Tirana, Public Affairs Section

February 10, 2017

The Public Affairs section provides support to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on a wide range of U.S. Government priorities and coordinates closely with other assistance providers both inside and outside of the U.S. government.

Funding Received from Open Society

The Public Affairs section has not received any funds from the Open Society Foundation to support any projects or activities.

Funding Support to Open Society

The Public Affairs Section has not provided any funds to the Open Society Foundation to support their projects or activities.

Donor Coordination

As one of the major assistance providers in Albania, representatives from the Open Society Foundation are frequently asked to participate in technical reviews of application that we receive for funding. These Democracy Commission Donor Technical Review panels are designed to ensure that projects funded by the Embassy are feasible and to ensure there is no overlap with other donors. The World Bank, Dutch Embassy, Swedish Embassy, REC Albania, British Embassy, and others also frequently participate in these reviews.

Cost-sharing

In December 2015, the Public Affairs Section and the Open Society Foundation Survey each provided funding to a local organization to conduct a public opinion poll on attitudes towards the Judicial Reform effort.

Cost-share for Democracy Commission Small Grants

The Open Society Foundation has supported, with cost-share funding, local organizations receiving funds from the Democracy Commission Small Grants Projects. The following examples are from the past two years:

- Project: **"Building Capacity for Identification, Referral and Protection of Trafficking Victims"** - Vatra Psycho-social Center
Funding: Democracy Commission, Open Society Foundation, Vlora Local Government
- Project: **"Za'Larte"** - Albanian Institute of Science
Funding: U.S. Embassy, Open Society Foundation
- Project: **"UneMonitoroj"** (monitoring promises of mayoral candidates)
Organization: Forum of Free Thought
Funding: U.S. Embassy, Leviz Albania (consortium of three organizations including the Open Society Foundation)