
Institutional Development

CSD is registered as a public benefit organization with the Central Registry of NGOs at the Bulgarian Ministry of Justice. Public benefit organizations are obliged by law to conform to a number of additional financial reporting rules and to submit annual activity reports. In 2012, CSD employed a staff of thirty-seven of whom thirty-one in professional and management positions, including part-time consultants, and six employees in administrative positions.

Accountability and transparency are guiding principles in the operation of the Center for the Study of Democracy. They are intrinsic to CSD activity and are related to the critical analysis of social processes and trends in Bulgaria and in the EU. These principles are implemented by means of:

- annual audit reports published since 1992;
- audits of individual projects;
- CSD annual reports publishing since 1994;
- regular updates about CSD's activities on its website;
- press-releases about on-going projects and their results;
- publication of a wide range of analyses and reports.

The application of good management practices has been critical to the successful work of CSD. In 2012, the Center continued its efforts to adapt its work to the dynamic donor environment and the new EU financial instruments available for the period 2007-2013: the 7th Framework Program, the European Social Fund, the financial instruments in the area of justice and home affairs. Some of CSD activities were funded through the operational programs administered by the Bulgarian government, as well as the World Bank and the Open Society Institute. Apart from the awarded grants, CSD diversifies its ways of funding by taking part in tender bids announced by the European Commission (through its consulting arm Project One EOOD).

In 2012, CSD proved its reputation as a reliable partner and coordinator of EU-wide projects encompassing research in the legal, security and social policy areas. In partnership with leading European think tanks and academic institutions, CSD took part in the European debate on the assessment and development of policies related to the external EU borders management, the integration of migrant and vulnerable groups, public confidence in justice, and cybercrime.