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CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE UNCAC REVIEW

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break the corruption chain.

anticorruptionday.org

CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE UNCAC

- The UN Convention against corruption is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. It entered into force in 2005 and has currently 178 State parties.
- The fight against corruption is a **collective responsibility** involving Member States as leaders & other stakeholders incl. [Civil Society Organizations \(CSOs\)](#) and the Private Sector
- In fighting corruption, **CSOs provide the checks and balances for improving accountability** in the public and private sector.
- **Article 13** recognizes and provides a role for civil society in combating corruption, by calling on governments to increase transparency and participation in government decision-making and improve public access to information



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THE UNCAC REVIEW MECHANISM – HOW IT WORKS

The UNCAC review mechanism was adopted at COSP3 in Doha in 2009.

The review process comprises two five-year cycles:

- **1st cycle (2010–2015):** chapter III on criminalisation and law Enforcement & chapter IV on international cooperation
- **2nd cycle (2016–2021):** chapter II on preventive measures and chapter V on asset recovery

Phase I: Self-assessment by the country reviewed: countries are encouraged to consult with CS in preparing for responses. (CS should remind their governments)

Phase II: Peer review: a dialogue between country under review and the review team – conducted by two reviewer countries which are decided by lots and tasked with providing experts to form an expert review team.

Phase III: Country review reports: the full report is only published on the UNODC website if the reviewed country agrees. The executive summary is automatically published on the UNODC website

Phase IV: Follow up: currently there is no follow-up process although it is foreseen in the ToR for the review mechanism.

STAGES AND ENTRY POINTS

WHEN CAN CSOS GET INVOLVED?

- **Self-assessment** (input and publish)
- **Country visit** or in case of direct dialogue provide CSO input
- **Publication** of the executive summary or entire report
- **Follow-up** to the review



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COUNTRY REVIEW STATUS

Serbia (executive summary)

Albania (executive summary & country report)

Bosnia & Herzegovina (executive summary & country report)

Republic of Moldova (executive summary & country report)

Montenegro (executive summary)

Macedonia (executive summary & country report)

Slovenia (executive summary & country report)

Bulgaria (executive summary & country report)

Romania (executive summary)

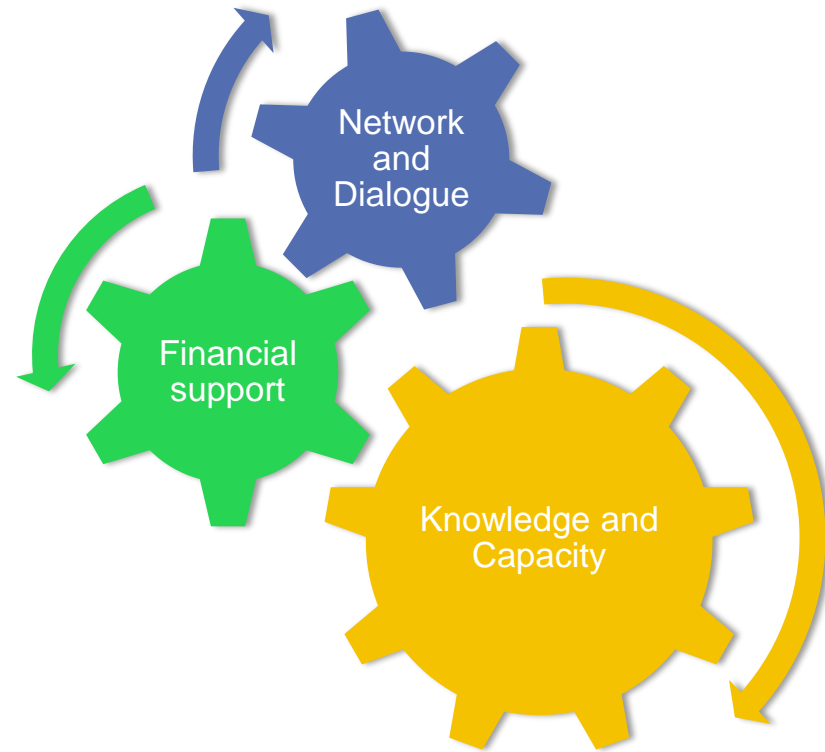
Croatia (executive summary & country report)



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UNODC ACTION: PROJECT GLOU 68



In 2013, the independent evaluation recognized that “UNODC training programmes were successful in empowering CSOs to participate, alongside governments, in the UNCAC review process”

- Since 2011, 10 **Workshops** on UNCAC organized jointly with the UNCAC Coalition and in 2013, following the recommendations of the independent mid-term evaluation, a multi-stakeholder approach where CSOs are trained alongside with governments, private sector and academia was adopted
- **NGO Briefing Sessions, Side events and facilitation of the participation** of NGOs to UNCAC-related intergovernmental meetings
- Some 250 CSOs from 96 countries trained, 26 Grants through the private sector **Grants Scheme Initiative**



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UNODC SEE PROJECT

Project Name:

Southeast Europe Regional Programme on Strengthening the Capacity of Anti-corruption Authorities and Civil Society to Combat Corruption and Contribute to the UNCAC Review Process

Cost: € 1 million euro

Duration: 3 years (December 2015 – December 2018)

Implementation: RAI and UNODC

Target Countries:

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, Macedonia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania.

Direct Beneficiaries:

23 national ministries and anti-corruption agencies, 75 CSOs and relevant stakeholders, private sector representatives and member organizations of SELDI network and the UNCAC Coalition



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CIVIL SOCIETY TEAM



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Thank you for your attention!

CORRUPTION
Your **NO** counts