

**Project name:** 4O: Discovery, awareness, empowerment and human rights organization

**Project promotor:** Youth Initiative for Human Rights

**Partners:**

- Arterarij
- European House Vukovar
- Civil Rights Project Sisak
- Status M

**Project implementation period:** .1.2021. - 31.12.2022.

**Total project value:** € 170,147.80, of which € 149,922.00 was provided through financial support from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway within the European Economic Area and Norwegian grants

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**Link to relevant website:** <http://yihhr.hr/hr/4o-otkrivanje>

**Project summary:**

Project 4O: Discovering, Awareness, Empowerment and Human Rights Organizations addresses the rise of nationalism in the Republic of Croatia. This problem is especially pronounced in smaller towns and those affected by the war in the 1990s, which due to the deteriorating economic situation and high emigration rates also record an increase in intolerance towards national minorities, Roma, refugees and all who are perceived as Others and whose status and rights as citizens of the Republic of Croatia are often denied.

The project approaches the problem holistically, with a 4O approach: Discovering the causes and consequences of nationalism, researching the needs of CSOs; Awareness of citizens through human rights awareness campaigns; promoting the good practices and experiences of the Other through the performing arts; Empowering young people through education on human rights, intergenerational and interethnic cooperation with local communities; Organization - capacity building of civil society organizations in the field of human rights and providing support for the development of civil society in the Republic of Croatia.

Given the complexity of the problem of growing nationalism, we will address it through three levels, combining "bottom up" and "top down" approach: a) at the local level in communities in 3 counties through direct activities - education and implementation of local interventions and involvement of all local community actors, representatives of local authorities, schools, minorities (Sisak-Moslavina, Vukovar-Srijem and Međimurje counties), b) national level - awareness campaigns, dissemination of examples of good practice from the local level, performance on refugee experiences by the refugees themselves, advocacy aimed at government officials c) level of civil society - by capacity of CSOs.

The project aims to reduce hate speech and hate crimes at the local community level; better integration of national minorities into society; interethnic cooperation among young people at the local level; raised awareness of the importance of human rights among persons belonging to minorities and young people;

empowering citizens to oppose discrimination and xenophobia; a higher level of social cohesion at the local level; strengthening the capacity of CSOs to advocate and promote human rights.

The target groups to be empowered to combat nationalism and discrimination are young people between the ages of 16 and 30; the elderly and pensioners, members of national and ethnic minorities and refugees, with a majority population, with the aim of encouraging cooperation; local CSOs, executive representatives and decision makers.