

**Project title: Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations in the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights in Croatia**

**Project leader:** CERANEO – Center for the Development of Non-profit Organisations

**Partner 1:** Association „MI“ Split

**Partner 2:** Agency of local democratisation Sisak

**Partner 3:** Association of OCDs ZAGOR

**Partner 4:** Croatian Homeless Network

**Partner 5:** Norwegian Social Research (NOVA), Oslo Metropolitan University

**Project implementation period:** September 1, 2022 – November 30, 2023

**Project total value:** 89.258,86 €

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**Link to relevant internet pages:** <https://ceraneo.hr/>

**Project summary:**

In Croatia, the capacity to monitor and adapt the development of social policies geared toward an innovative welfare state and addressing new social risks is limited, with civil society organizations playing a crucial role in meeting the growing social needs of citizens. This issue is particularly pressing amid the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the emerging war circumstances. Civil society organizations often advocate for solutions to social problems, seeking public funds and political support for objectives of public interest.

The general public and relevant stakeholders are insufficiently familiar with the concepts of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) and its Action Plan. The goal of this project is to inform interested audiences and stakeholders in various regions of Croatia about these principles and empower them for their implementation and monitoring. This will contribute to the Europeanization and modernization of social policy and improve the quality of life in local communities and across the country.

Additionally, the project aims to strengthen the analytical and advocacy capacities of civil society organizations and other stakeholders, enabling them to better understand, monitor, and implement the EPSR at national and local levels, with a focus on increasing the effectiveness of their activities and impact.