

Annual Narrative Report

Legis – Skopje

January , 2021 y .



Table information

Introduction	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1. Humanitarian aid	3
2. Human rights and freedoms	4
3. Young	5
4. Achieved results	6



Introduction

The work of Legis in 2020 was marked with an additional local humanitarian crisis in addition to the migrant crisis, which has lasted since 2015 . Namely, the work of Legis significantly increased to fully support the high-risk local population during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has greatly affected this category of citizens. Compared to 2019 the local needs of the population have increased our humanitarian aid outreach to include daily distribution of bread, weekly hot meals, clothes and daily delivery of protective masks, gloves and disinfectants and hygiene and the distribution of packages with fresh fruit. The needs of locals and people in migration and asylum seekers were met in the field by the Legis team and the tireless work of volunteers.

This year, Legis had various activities and target groups at several locations in the country in order to meet their needs. So, this year we were present at six key locations in Macedonia: Tabanovce border transit centers in Kumanovo on the northern border and Vinojug in Gevgelija on the southern border, monitoring of irregular migration in the Lipkovo region with a mobile team, at the center for asylumseekers Vizbegovo in Skopje ,The Center for Foreigners Gazi Baba in Skopje and daily delivery of humanitarian aid to the local population at the headquarters of the organization in Skopje. Legis was working on national mobilization of young people, but also with partner organizations from different countries across Europe.

In 2020, we focused on training young people on interculturalism, tolerance and the fight against discrimination. Human rights continued to be in the focus of our weekly and monthly activities and reports on the web site. Supporting the socially vulnerable categories in our society remained one of our missions of action, especially during the pandemic when many of our fellow citizens lost their jobs and needed help.

The team of Legis wishes you solidarity and a better 2021.



1. Humanitarian aid

➤ Projects and donors

According to our work principles and values, during 2020 Legis continued to collect and distribute humanitarian aid for the refugees and people in irregular migration, and local people with high social risk at six locations, including: the border transit centers Tabanovce in Kumanovo on the northern border, and Vinojug in Gevgelija on the southern border; monitoring of irregular migration in the Lipkovo region with a mobile team, in the center for asylum seekers Vizbegovo in Skopje, Center for foreigners Gazi Baba in Skopje; and daily delivery of humanitarian aid to the local population at the headquarters of the organization in Skopje.

The financial support for the humanitarian activities of Legis comes from domestic and foreign donors, legal entities, and private individuals who donate money as well as necessary food, hygiene, etc. products.

WE CAN –URGENT SOLIDARITY ACTION, project which is supported by Civika Mobilitas for the period of 01.05.2020 till 30.06.2020. Assistance for citizens in vulnerable categories so they can deal more successfully with the problems, challenges and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. A package of food and hygiene products was provided to 100 families.

During the month of Ramadan, LEGIS led a campaign "Donate iftar - share hope" where the Ramadan dinner was shared with all refugees and migrants on the territory of North Macedonia, and to more than 170 people from socially disadvantaged families who also received daily Ramadan dinners – iftars in the form of hot meals. A large number of volunteers and donors participated in these actions, thus building a society of solidarity.

Thanks to the donations from socially responsible bakeries, everyday more than 60 families are given 2 loaves of bread or more.

During the weekends, hot meals, fruits and food supplements are delivered to the Center for Asylum Seekers - Vizbegovo and the Reception Center for Foreigners - Gazi Baba.

Packages with food and hygiene products are distributed to more than 100 families once a month.



To Macedonia with love, Thanks to the fundraising initiative by expatriates, we received a donation for socially disadvantaged families of different ethnicities in several cities in Macedonia, where 120 packages of food products and 165 children's Christmas packages were distributed.

Active and Safe – humanitarian emergency response for the most vulnerable, is a project supported by the Norwegian Embassy in Belgrade and the organization Group 484 from Belgrade for the period from 01.07.2020 to 31.01.2021. With this project, there were provided hot meals for the Center for Asylum Seekers Vizbegovo, the Reception Center for Foreigners Gazi Baba and the Transit Center Vinojug in Gevgelija, as well for the needs of the local population at social risk in Skopje, they were provided on a daily basis with fresh fruits, packages of personal hygiene products (toothbrush and toothpaste, antibacterial liquid soap, shampoo, antibacterial gel, masks, gloves, sanitary pads, diapers, antibacterial wet wipes), men's, women's and children's underwear and socks. For the Asylum Seekers Center Vizbegovo and Transit centers Vinojug and Tabanovce were provided multifunctional devices to improve the psycho-physical condition of the people who are housed in the centers, as well as for other games with intention of improving mental and physical health, managed by professionals and trainers.

Emergency medical care for health workers at the Health Centers in Novi Pazar, Tutin, Sjenica and Ribarice, in the Republic of Serbia, in time when there was culmination in the number of sick people in the region of Sandzak at the end of the summer 2020. The donation was provided by our fellow citizens who are originally from those places and wanted to help the health workers in their difficult fight against the virus. For that purpose, they sent packages with gloves, masks, visors, overalls, and disinfectants.

2. Human rights and freedoms

➤ Projects and donors

Monitoring the access to human rights of refugees and migrants in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, in the Transit Reception Centers Vinojug and Tabanovce, a project supported by Civica Mobilitas for the period: 01.06.2020 to 30.11.2020. In the frames of this project a [6-month report](#) was published, which was submitted to the relevant state institutions and can serve as a document that will create future migration policies in the country.

An institutional grant supported by Civica Mobilitas will last from 01.07.2020 to 30.06.2022. In the next two years, the citizens' Association Legis, within the financial support of Civica Mobilitas, will work on



"Institutional strengthening and promoting the work of the organization" in providing humanitarian, legal and other support to socially vulnerable groups in the Republic of Northern Macedonia. Institutional support for building the capacity of local organizations such as Legis is of particular importance, given the social and economic crisis which as a result of the Covid-19 virus pandemic has mostly affected vulnerable groups with whom the association is in daily contact. With the support, the association will be able to improve and develop new programs for the promotion of civic values such as volunteering, develop an inclusive process of cooperation with related local organizations to represent vulnerable categories, better internal administration and other practices, etc.

3. Young

➤ Projects - donors

Project donators

„Young people can. Young people know“- Project supported by the Government of the Republic of Northern Macedonia. The aim of this project was to contribute to build a culture of respect for human rights by promoting the values and benefits of the Ohrid Framework Agreement. The project had the following specific objectives: to introduce the public to the benefits of the Ohrid Framework Agreement to promote cultural diversity as one of the greatest values of modern democratic societies, promote increased youth participation in addressing problems from common care and policy making at the local and national levels, promote modern methods of in-formal education with young people. Through three two-day workshops which were held in Skopje, Tetovo and Struga, young people from all over North Macedonia created ideas, which were further implemented through social networks, to encourage tolerance and coexistence. Project duration from 03.10.2019 to 20.06.2020

Start up Factory ,social entrepreneurship among youth and mobility project supported by the National Agency for European Educational Programs and Mobility. The main goal of the project was to increase the quality of youth work services for migrants, but also for refugees by educating youth workers with additional competencies required for the development of social entrepreneurship among young people. The project took place in Dojran, as well as in the Vinojug Transit Center in Gevgelija. Young people from North Macedonia , Germany , Sweden , Italy , Turkey and Spain participated in this project. The duration of this project was from 03.10.2019 to 31.03.2020.

Improved opportunities for informal education for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants residing in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, a project supported by IRIS, a network for the promotion of social services. The aim of the project was to create a program and manual for informal education, which can be used for children and young people on the move but also while facing the crisis, where young people and students will be outside the education system. Duration of the project: from 15.07.2019 until 15.07.2020.

4. Achieved results

In 2020, we took care of socially vulnerable categories of citizens from three municipalities, people in migration and refugees, and as an organization we gave:

5000 pieces of clothing (women, men and children, socks, hats, scarves, gloves ... 800 pairs of socks, 1500 pieces of underwear), 300 pairs of shoes, 6 strollers for children, 6 wheelchairs, 10 kangaroos for babies, Risiko chocolates of 500 gr. - 672 packages, Risiko chocolates of 25 gr. - 1770 packages, Resana of 500 gr. - 2300 packs, Chips of 150 gr. - 660 packs, 60 g chips. - 572 packs, Bruschetti mareti - 864, baby porridge - 180, baby juices - 180, bulk muesli - 190 kg, Fruit (bananas, apples, oranges, pears and tangerines) = 4 tons, Hot meals - 7633 (410 for local population, 3743 for refugees in the camps, 3480 Ramadan evenings divided during the month of Ramadan), 500 antibacterial liquid soaps, 5000 protective masks, 5000 protective gloves, 1000 packs of wet wipes, 100 packs of diapers for adults, 300 packs of diapers for children, 1000 packs of sanitary pads, 500 toothbrushes, 500 toothpastes, 850 packs of food and hygiene products, 165 children's New Year's packs, every working day throughout the year for 120 loaves of bread.





MOBILIZATION AND STRENGTHENING OF LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

As in previous years, in 2020 Legis' work relied extensively on volunteer work. In this order we have an open call for volunteers on the Legis website, where an application form can be completed and sent to us. As a result, we received over 50 applications, but unfortunately due to the closed borders and as a result of Covid -19 pandemic we hosted only one international volunteer from the USA and over 20 volunteers from Macedonia, with which was built a society of solidarity. Local volunteers volunteered at the Legis premises in Skopje, while the US volunteer, who

arrived in January and left before the pandemic, volunteered at the Tabanovce transit center. At the end of this year Legis started with digital campaign "Harmonious Citizens, Build a Society" which represents the personal stories of local and international volunteers who have made a great social contribution, in order to encourage citizens to show solidarity, volunteer and help each other to improve social and community life.



Humanitarian and migration crisis

Considering that 2020 marked the global humanitarian crisis caused by the COVID-19 virus pandemic, as well as the ongoing migration and refugee crisis, Legis strengthened its presence on the field to provide preventive and protective virus products for the local population at social risk and people in migration and / or asylum seekers in the country. Nevertheless, Legis continued with its work in the border camps,

Tabanovce-Kumanovo and Vinojug-Gevgelija, as well as in the Center for Asylum Seekers Vizbegovo and the Center for Foreigners Gazi Baba, in monitoring human rights and freedoms and providing humanitarian assistance and other for prevention of COVID-19 virus.

VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION

Legis shares detailed results of its work and activities on the website <http://www.legis.mk/> , social media and pages on: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and the video channel of the organization "YouTube". The organization publishes numerous articles, videos, photos, reports on the results of each activity of the Legis team and volunteers who tirelessly support the field activities. Aside from this, Legis has collaborated with several media that have published press releases, news and information on the organization's work. One of the basic principles that Legis adheres to in humanitarian work is responsibility: to our partners, target groups, the public and any interested person for what we do.





From January 1, 2020 By the time when the report was released, more than 350 posts could be found on Facebook and the Legis website. These posts include articles, videos, reports, testimonials, open calls, event invitations, activity photos, event participation, all in order to share the results of our work, talk about the needs of people in migration and asylum seekers for their rights and protection, and other target groups, raising awareness of their daily difficulties and justifying the attribute that was given to us: The voice of the voiceless.