

ALONG WITH TIME

#25

APRIL



“DIVERSITY – 2016”

“DIVERSITY – 2016” Mass Media Award Ceremony was held in Yerevan



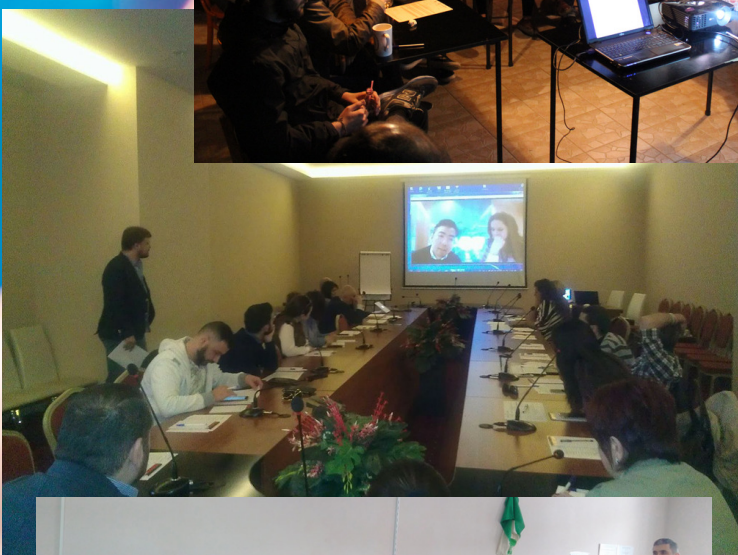
Training Course

Sexuality, Transgender and Intersex People



“A Bridge to Diaspora”
meeting-discussion

Why prevention of HIV is important? Training in Gyumri and Vanadzor



Workshop on “Transition processes of HIV and Tuberculosis Programs from Global Fund Financing to Public Funding in Armenia and Possibilities of Civil Society’s Influence on Them”



Training in Hrazdan



“DIVERSITY – 2016” MASS MEDIA AWARD CEREMONY WAS HELD IN YEREVAN

On April 6, 2017 “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO organized LGBTQI issues-related “DIVERSITY-2016” mass media annual award.

Through organization of the award “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO aimed to speak up about issues of violations of rights of LGBTQI people through building a dialogue among journalists and representatives of international institutions and civil society, as well as to emphasize the importance of ethically correct approach by journalists in writing about cases of violation of rights of LGBTI people.

Sergey Gabrielyan, President of “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO and human rights defender, presented the achievements and future plans of the organization in the scope of the discussion. He highlighted the importance of encouraging those mass media

representatives who have adopted non-discriminatory approach in writing about LGBTI related issues and have provided people with accessible information. S. Gabrielyan also noted that the NGO highly appreciates the adopted policy of European countries in the establishment of democratic values and mechanisms of human rights protection of LGBTI people in Armenia.

Greeting speeches were delivered by Norwegian Helsinki Committee representative Lene Wetteland, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czech Republic to the Republic of Armenia Mr. Petr Mikyska, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Armenia Mr. Bernhard Matthias Kiesler.

The promotion of rights of LGBTI people and equality, the encouragement of decent life and respectful treatment are prioritized by foreign diplomatic agencies in Armenia, thus the speakers expressed willingness to share their experience and practice with Armenia and their intention to promote equality and tolerance both nationally and internationally.

The conference was also attended by representatives from Lithuanian, French and British embassies, Delegation of the European Union to Armenia, USAID Armenia office, Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Chamber of Advocates of Armenia, Office of the Human Rights Defender of Armenia, human rights defender organizations and journalists. Because of workload representatives of Ministry of Justice did not participate in the conference.

At the first session of the conference NGO representative Nare Hovhannisyan and sociologist Nane Bagratuni represented “Instances of discriminatory treatment (i.e. hate speech, gender stereotypes and human rights violations) with regard to LGBTQI people in the Republic of Armenia” and “Manifestations of attitudes hate speech towards LGBTQI people and the violation of their rights in the online environment of Armenia 2016” studies carried out with the financial support of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee. The goal of the studies was to research the discriminatory attitude and hate-speech against LGBTQI people and human rights violations of LGBTQI people in the RA.

NGNGO lawyer Hayk Hayrapetyan and NGNGO attorneys Ara Karagiozyan and Maro Khachatryan presented cases of human rights violations of LGBTQI people in Armenia from 2015 to 2017 particularly focusing on legislative gaps that hamper the full exercise of the rights of LGBTQI people and as well as the biased attitude of law enforcement agencies, which results in loss of confidence while applying for protection of their rights.

At the second session journalist Arman Gharibyan and expert Anna Nikoghosyan referred to articles written about human rights of LGBTQI people highlighting overcoming of the barrier of the editor and changing the discourse of LGBTI people in the media.

Afterwards NGNGO representative Arman Sahakyan presented the results of LGBTI issues related “DIVERSITY-2016” Mass Media Award.

The goal of the Mass Media Award was to unite the potential of journalists from 10 regions of Armenia and Yerevan who address LGBTI related issues and encourage them. The assessment committee members were Yuri Manvelyan, editor of Epress.am, expert Anna Nikoghosyan and journalist Sureh Deheryan.

The best journalistic material was evaluated by the following criteria: impartiality, urgency of the theme, rendering form, literacy, versatility, comprehensive presentation, journalism ethics, and content.

The article by Kyle Khandikyan and Nana Shakhnazaryan, “The Accepted Ones: Parents Support Their Gay Children”, which was published on “As You” website in 2016, won the prize.

The author of the article thanked “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO for creating this ceremony which promotes professional and objective media coverage of LGBTI related issues.

The articles by Lilit Arakelyan (“To beat- burn ... Violence against homosexuals is encouraged “from above”, “Eliminate, burn, slaughter: When hate speech in the media is seen behind the shadows”) and Alina Nikoghosyan (“Harsh Reality: “Negative stereotypes” blamed for ill-treatment of LGBT in Armenia”) were given encouragement awards.

SEXUALITY, TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX PEOPLE

On April 12, 2017, training on Sexuality, Transgender and Intersex People was conducted by “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO collaborator Alik Ustyan in the office of the NGO.

Sexuality and its components were presented during the training. Afterwards, gender, transgender, cisgender, sexual orientation, identity and behavior differences were talked about and heatedly discussed.



Then followed the topic on the Description of Intersex People, Manifestations of Intersexuality and Intersex-Related Issues, and Prevention of the Existing Discrimination.

“A BRIDGE TO DIASPORA” MEETING-DISCUSSION



On April 19, 2017, “A Bridge to Diaspora” meeting-discussion, initiated by NNGO volunteer Tigran Chilingaryan from Armenian Diaspora in Greece, was held in the office of “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO.

The meeting was aimed at discussing the possible means and ways of ensuring the creation of a link between the Armenian Diaspora and the population of Armenia and making the LGBT+ community,

socially disadvantaged families and youth-related problems existing in Armenia visible in the Diaspora, which will hopefully result in the involvement and contribution of the Armenian Diaspora to the activities aimed at solving and eliminating the community problems.

The participants of the discussion shared their ideas which brought to the development of a well-defined activity system.



WHY PREVENTION OF HIV IS IMPORTANT? TRAINING IN GYUMRI AND VANADZOR

Within the framework of “HIV/AIDS Prevention and Awareness-raising among MSM in Shirak, Lori regions and Yerevan city” project, New Generation Humanitarian NGO held one-day seminar-trainings on “HIV/AIDS Prevention, the Importance of HIV testing”, “Human Rights and HIV”, “Concept of Human Rights and Protection Mechanisms” in Vanadzor city of RA Lori region on April 21, 2017 and in Gyumri city of RA Shirak region, on April 22, 2017.

Training aimed to promote HIV and AIDS prevention among young people by raising their awareness and revealing the importance of HIV testing, as well as raise their awareness on human rights and the rights of people living with HIV.

Participants learned about HIV and AIDS terms, the difference between them, transmission of HIV and vital fluids, proper usage of condoms, the importance of HIV testing, then they were introduced the human rights and fundamental freedoms, the stages of development of human rights, international agreements adopted by the Republic of Armenia, also a reference was made to provisions of RA law on “Prevention of Disease Caused by HIV”.

In frames of topic “Legal status of citizens in enforcement agencies”, the participants learned about how to communicate with enforcement bodies, and they were also acquainted with the cases of Human rights violation.

Participants received theoretical knowledge with practical examples then used it during discussions, group games and activities.



WORKSHOP ON “TRANSITION PROCESSES OF HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAMS FROM GLOBAL FUND FINANCING TO PUBLIC FUNDING IN ARMENIA AND POSSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SOCIETY’S INFLUENCE ON THEM”

A two-day workshop on “Transition processes of HIV and Tuberculosis Programs from Global Fund Financing to Public Funding in Armenia and Possibilities of Civil Society’s Influence on Them” started in Yerevan city, on April 27, 2017.

The meeting was organized by Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN) within the framework of Global Fund’s Community, Rights and Gender Technical Assistance Program implementation with the support of CCM secretariat.

Representatives of civil society and communities of Armenia that are not indifferent to the given processes and issues of ensuring the sustainability of HIV/TB programs targeting key vulnerable groups, took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the participants discussed certain actions aimed at improving the civil society and communities representatives’ understanding of the processes related to the transition from Global Fund support to public funding that is currently going on in the country or is to occur by the end of the year, as well as the possibilities of significant participation in those processes.



TRAINING IN HRAZDAN

“New Generation» Humanitarian NGO held a three-day training on Human Rights, Tolerance and Prevention of Discrimination in Hrazdan city of Kotayk Marz, from April 26 to 28, 2017.

Topics covered during the three days of the training were “Human Rights”, “Prevention of Discrimination” and “Freedom of Speech, Hate Speech”.

It should be noted that such trainings have already been held in Lori, Shirak, Syunik, Vayots Dzor, Tavush, Aragatsotn and Ararat Marzes within the framework of “Human Rights for Diversity and Equality” project.

Lawyer Hayk Hayrapetyan and project coordinator Nare Hovhannisyan from “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO conducted the training in Hrazdan.

Representatives of Kotayk Regional Administration and Hrazdan Civic Youth Center, beneficiaries of Hrazdan Regional Employment Agency, teachers of Hrazdan primary schools N 2 and N 12, high schools N 10 and N 13, students of Kotayk Regional State College participated in the training.

This time the training was distinguished by that the pupils of the above-mentioned schools also participated in the training quite actively.

The participants were, first, introduced to the general concepts and history of human rights, in-state and international documents on Human Rights, the structure of the United Nations, European Union and European Council and the European Court of Human Rights.

And then, the definition, types and protected grounds of discrimination, in-state and international documents related to the prevention of discrimination, positive obligations of the state in human rights protection process, grounds of lawful restrictions of human rights, differences of insult, slander and hate speech were discussed. The training was quite interactive. During the presentation of the topics, the participants watched and discussed videos about human rights and the history of human rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, discrimination and its overcoming.





ECHR precedent cases were discussed through workshops, including the case of "Arman Sahakyan and others against Armenia", where in-state legislative gaps, particularly the gaps related to the absence of an anti-discrimination law and legislative and regulatory compliance practices to address hatred are best manifested. The participants also staged by role-playing the manifestations of direct, indirect and associative discrimination on the grounds of disability,

sexual orientation, religion and property status in employer-citizen, society- person with or without citizenship, state – group of people, school/educational institution-pupil/student relations and this helped to bring forward the real discrimination-related issues existing in our society.

The training was organized within the framework of "Human Rights for Diversity and Equality" project implemented with the financial support of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee.

Monthly magazine "Along with Time" contains comprehensive description of "New Generation" Humanitarian NGO's activities during the given month.



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- Provision of condoms and lubricants

Technical assistance

- Provision of space for organizing meetings and events
- Social assistance to families in need
- Provision of consulting to CSOs and assistance in the form of sub-grants

All provided services are free of charge.



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