

# ALONG

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NEW GENERATION



ՄԱՐՏ 2021

# WITH TIME #

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**MONTHLY MAGAZINE "ALONG WITH TIME" CONTAINS COMPREHENSIVE DESCRIPTION OF "NEW GENERATION" HUMANITARIAN NGO'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE GIVEN MONTH.**



**WORKING MEETING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HIV PREVENTION PROJECTS IN ARMENIA**

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We are happy to inform that since April 1, 2021, New Generation Humanitarian NGO has started the implementation of the project on HIV Prevention Among Vulnerable Population Not Included in the Armenian National Program on the Response to HIV with financial support of Emergency Support Fund for Key Populations in the EECA region.

The project goal is to promote HIV prevention and awareness raising among most-at-risk groups not included in the GF funded HIV Prevention Programs of Armenia, and advocate for their inclusion in these Programs, as well as for ensuring availability of HIV services for the beneficiary groups in the whole Armenia, including the regions.

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#### **HIV IS NOT A VERDICT. ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION WAS HELD.**

A round-table discussion entitled Application of HIV Prevention Methods in Armenia was held on March 26, 2021 by New Generation Humanitarian NGO. Representatives of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia, the National Center for Infectious Diseases of Ministry of Health, local non-governmental organizations, as well as community-based NGOs and community attended the meeting.





## WORKING MEETING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HIV PREVENTION PROJECTS IN ARMENIA

On March 11-12, 2021 representatives of HIV Prevention Projects implemented by New Generation Humanitarian NGO participated in the offsite working meeting on the discussion of narrative and financial report forms of HIV Prevention Programs implemented in Armenia.

The working meeting was organized to discuss ways of improving the quality of narrative and financial reports submitted by subgrantee organizations of the grant programs of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, as well as discussing other current working questions and issues.

The working meeting was launched with the welcoming speeches of Lilit Khachatryan, project coordinator of the Global Fund Program Coordination Team at the Ministry of Health of Armenia, and Hovhannes Madoyan, the Acting Director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases of the Ministry of Health of Armenia.

Next, GF annual projects indicators were presented by the National Center for Infectious Diseases, National Center of Pulmonology, Armenian Red Cross Society, Penitentiary Medical Center, and National Center for Addictions Treatment of the Republic of Armenia.

The presentation of projects indicators was followed with questions and answers, raising of existing problems and discussion of suggestions for their solution.

The second part of the first meeting day was dedicated to presentation of communication skills, i.e., email communication, presentation of projects financial and narrative reports.

The first meeting day was summed up with the discussion

and group workshop of GF grant projects monitoring and evaluation plan templates and presentation of group developed examples.

The second day of the meeting started with group workshop discussion of financial report forms after which each group presented their suggestions of improving the report forms. Next, also project narrative report forms were discussed and improvement suggestions were made.

Afterwards GF guidelines of Assets Management were presented, NGO databases were discussed.

The meeting was concluded with questions and answers, development of suggestions package of improving the quality of project narrative and financial reports.

### **MEETING-DISCUSSION DEDICATED TO THE ISSUES OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV TOOK PLACE.**

On March 2, 2021, Shushan Khnkoyan, lawyer of New Generation Humanitarian NGO, participated as a speaker in a meeting-discussion dedicated to the issues of discrimination against people living HIV.

Lena Nanushyan, first Deputy Minister of Health of Armenia, Heriknaz Tigranyan, Member of the National Assembly, the Deputy Chairman of the NA Standing Committee on Health and Social Affairs Hovhannes Madoyan, Acting president of National Center for Infectious Diseases, Rosa Babayan,

representative of the UN Joint Program on HIV/AIDS, NCID specialists and representatives of non-government organization were invited to the meeting.

During the discussion cases of discrimination against people living with HIV, legislative gaps in Armenia were highlighted and steps were suggested to reduce the existing discrimination. .

Other topics related to the HIV / AIDS situation in Armenia were also discussed at the meeting. Shushan Khnkoyan presented the cases of discrimination against people living with HIV and LGBT people,

registered in Armenia by New Generation Humanitarian NGO in 2020. She also made a referral to restrictions and discriminatory terms in the legislative field.

The meeting-discussion was organized by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the National Center for Infectious Diseases and Real World, Real People NGO within the framework of the International Zero Discrimination Day.

### **REGULAR COURT SESSION OF THE CASE VS. BLOGNEWS.AM'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF KONSTANTIN TER-NAKALYAN, 5TH CHANNEL / "SHARK" LLC, ARTHUR DANIELYAN**

*In the following case, New Generation Humanitarian NGO acts as an organization representing the interests of Armenian Progressive Youth NGO, providing legal assistance thereto.*

On March 5, 2021, regular court session of the case of the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO vs. BlogNews.am Editor-in-Chief Konstantin Ter-Nakalyan, Channel 5 / "SHARK" LLC and Arthur Danielyan took place at the Erebuni residence of the Court of General Jurisdiction of the Republic of Armenia, chaired by Judge Tatevik Stepanyan. As the court had made a decision on the distribution of the duty of proving at the previous court session, the court proceeded to the stage of trial.

Attorney Anahit Mkrtchyan presented the lawsuit based on the factual circumstances and legal analysis. During the trial, statements were made, questions were raised, for the exhaustive answers of which it was necessary to submit additional documents to the court.

The sitting was postponed. The next court session will take place on April 30, 2021, at 16:00, at the Erebuni residence of the Court of General Jurisdiction of the city of Yerevan.



### **Pre-history of the case.**

On April 5, 2019, during the 5th "Dem Dimats" program of Channel / 5 TV, Konstantin Ter-Nakalian, editor-in-chief of BlogNews.am, made a false statement claiming that the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO had run LGBT propaganda campaign in one of the schools of Kotayk region.

On the following day – 06.04.2010, the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO posted a denial statement on its Facebook page addressed to Konstantin Ter-Nakalyan. On April 12, 2019, a video was posted on the Facebook page under the name "ADEKVAD" entitled "We apologize to all gay worshipers, pro-Azerbaijani walkerasts".

On the same day, hours later, Konstantin Ter-Nakalyan posted a video on his Facebook page entitled "Another trial of apology from Grigor Yeritsyan," which, like the previous one, did not have sufficient denial in essence. Days later, on 17.04.2019, Konstantin Ter-Nakalyan again posted on his Facebook page a video titled "Many apologies, Grigor Yeritsyan ... Apologies from me personally and Artur Danielyan", with a derogatory attitude towards Grigor Yeritsyan and stating that they will continue to act like that.

As a result of the above-mentioned actions, the reputation of the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO has been damaged for the restoration of which a lawsuit was filed in the Court of General Jurisdiction of the RA city of Yerevan against Konstantin Ter-Nakalyan, the editor-in-chief of BlogNews.am website, 5th channel / "SHARK" LLC and Arthur Danielyan.

## **THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT OF APPEAL REJECTED THE COMPLAINT OF POLICE: THE DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED**

On March 9, 2021 the trial of appeal lodged by the police of the Republic of Armenia on the case of New Generation vs Police of the Republic of Armenia about the demand of obliging provision of information was held presided by judges Karen Matevosyan, Artur Arakelyan and Kristine Mkoyan.

**The Court made a decision to reject the appeal lodged by the Police of the Republic of Armenia and to leave unchanged the decision of the Administrative Court of the Republic of Armenia made on June 20, 2019.**

The decision will enter into legal force one month after its publication.

### ***Prehistory of the case.***

On August 14, 2018 New Generation Humanitarian NGO sent an official letter to the RA Police with a request to examine the 06.08.2018 Facebook posts spreading hate speech made by Gevorg Petrosyan, member of RA National Assembly and Prosperous Armenia Faction, and accordingly launch a criminal case.

On October 15, 2018 New Generation Humanitarian NGO sent an official letter to the RA Police with a request to examine the behavior (threats, hate speech, calls for violence) made by citizen of the Republic of Armenia Aragats Akhoyan, and accordingly launch a criminal case.

The organization was not provided with any information on the state of the letters, launch of the criminal case,

about its referral by subordination or on the rejection of the case. Moreover, no information was provided even by phone calls along with the unknown situation of the official letters sent.

Accordingly, on 29.11.2018 the suer had to send a double official letter addressed to the RA Chief of Police Valeriy Osipyan, requesting to provide an answer to the above-mentioned letters but this letter also remained unanswered.

As a result, New Generation Humanitarian NGO applied to the Administrative Court of the Republic of Armenia, which was satisfied by the Court on June 20, 2019. The Police of the Republic of Armenia lodged an appeal against the decision of the Administrative Court of the Republic of Armenia.

## **THE TRIAL OF ASSASINATION ATTEMPT ON TRANSGENDER WOMAN ENDED**

**The trial of assassination attempt on transgender person E.A. at the First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Yerevan city (Court) ended on February 3, 2021, and on the same day the court pronounced the decision.**

*New Generation Humanitarian NGO provided the victim of the case with lawyer's and attorney's services represented by attorney Ara Gharagozyan.*

***By the decision of the court the defendant was found guilty of the crime under 1st part of Article 112 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia and was sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years and 6 months. Counting the 2 days of having***

been kept in prison, the defendant was imposed a punishment of 3 years, 5 months and 28 days. However, by application of the law of the Republic of Armenia on “Announcing criminal cases’ amnesty on the occasion of the 2800th anniversary of the founding of Erebuni-Yerevan and the 100th anniversary of the declaration of independence of the First Republic of Armenia, the defendant was freed from serving the sentence imposed for the crime. The preventive measure of signature about not leaving the country imposed on the defendant was also removed.

The civil lawsuit was satisfied partially by the court decision, it was decided to confiscate AMD 140.000 from the defendant in favor of the aggrieved person E.A. for coverage of the necessary costs incurred by the aggrieved person for treatment, and the rest part of the civil lawsuit was left without investigation reserving the right to the aggrieved person to file a civil lawsuit according to the civil court procedures. *Ara Gharagyozyan, attorney of New Generation Humanitarian NGO states that the defendant did not receive corresponding punishment for the perpetrated crime. The aggrieved party does not agree with the criminal-legal qualification of the case, the civil issue is not solved, the right to fair trial established by Convention 6 of ECHR has been violated and the above-mentioned decision of the court will be appealed.*

### **Pre-history of the case:**

After having used trans person E. A. 's services, a visitor, learning about the person's gender identity, burned the latter's apartment and left. The aggrieved person received severe body injuries and burns. E. A. refused to use the services of her former lawyer and applied to New Generation Humanitarian NGO who provided the victim with attorney's services represented by Ara Gharagyozyan.

Until present day the judges presiding the trial changed 3 times, as a result of which the case trial started from the beginning every time and didn't come to its end.

The defendant made a petition for speedy trial of the case. The accuser made no objections to the presented petition. Despite the objections and grounds presented by the victim's attorney, on January 21, 2021, the Court made a decision to conduct a speedy trial.

*The fact that the Accuser made no objections to the speedy trial of the case despite the availability of many grounds for it, speaks of the issue that relevant measures are not undertaken by the state in terms of correct criminal-legal qualification of crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity.*

*New Generation Humanitarian NGO will watchfully follow up for the fair solution of this case.*



## **TRAINING AT POLICE ACADEMY OF ARMENIA**

On March 16, 2021, the next-in-turn training for police officers was held at the RA Police Education Center, organized by New Generation Humanitarian NGO with the financial support of Norwegian Helsinki Committee.

At the beginning of the training, the project coordinator Alina Mirzoyan greeted all the participants, introduced the organization and spheres of its activity, the aim of the training, the topics, the experts, expressing gratitude to Police Academy and Education Center for the continuous cooperation.

The first expert, lawyer Lusine Gasparyan, presented the topic of Human Rights, speaking about domestic and international legislation on the protection of human rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, as well as she touched upon the topic of Discrimination.

The training was continued by the other expert, lawyer Shushan Khnkoyan, who spoke about the topic of Gender Equality, presenting statistics, gaps in the field, and settlement mechanisms. The trainer presented international documents related to the topic, especially highlighting the Istanbul Convention and Lanzarote Convention, their real goals and the myths around them.

The training was summed up with questions and answers resulting in active discussions.

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***The cooperation with the Police Academy of the Republic of Armenia in this format has launched since 2019 and is going to be continuous.***

## **“VIOLENCE AND TORTURE OF HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE CONTINUES IN THE ARMENIAN ARMY”, NEW GENERATION HUMANITARIAN NGO ALERTS**

*On March 13, 2021 conscript H.A. applied to New Generation Humanitarian NGO. The soldier informed that he had problems with his fellow soldiers during his military service as they had learnt about his sexual orientation. So, he was moved to another military unit.*

During the military situation declared in the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh, he was again subjected to discrimination on the same basis, and after a quarrel arisen between him and battalion chief major T.T., Acting Chief of Hadrut Military Police of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia, Lieutenant Colonel G.L. attacked the soldiers with sexual insults, then loaded his pistol and shot twice at the left and right sides of H. A.'s feet at the adjacent road to Tchartar city. Then he aimed the loaded pistol at H.A.'s forehead and threatened to kill him. Then G.L. hit H.A. on the nose with the handle of the pistol after which H.A. fell down and received a blow on his face. G.L.'s blows caused fracture of H.A.'s nose and denture.

On the same day, having moved H.A. to Stepanakert military police department, G.L., the chief of reception-distributive department, operations deputy of the same department chief and several guards beat H.A. with wooden clubs and caused the latter bodily injuries in the reception-distributive cell of the department. H.A. was left in the cell for several days.

*Only after having been moved to another military unit, he reported about the crime as he had been periodically threatened Criminal case was launched on the case on the basis of point 4 of 2nd part of 309.1 Article, 1st part of 309.1 Article, 2nd point of 2nd part of 359 Article of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia.*

We strongly condemn discrimination and violence against the soldier based on the latter's sexual

orientation and gender identity.

We call upon the Government, Ministry of Defense and the Police of the Republic of Armenia to give an

urgent solution to the created situation and undertake necessary measures to ensure the safety of the

soldier and to bring the people guilty of the crime to responsibility as provided for by the law of the Republic

of Armenia.

## **ARMENIAN TRANS\* PEOPLE WORKING GROUP REGULAR MEETING**

On March 17, 2021, regular meeting of the members of Armenian Trans\* People Working Group (ATPWG) took place at New Generation Humanitarian NGO office. 5 organizations dealing with trans\* issues in Armenia (New Generation Humanitarian NGO, For Strong Future Youth NGO, Colorful House Social-Cultural and Human Rights Defender NGO, Fearless Human Rights Defender NGO, Equality for All Human Rights Defender NGO) as well as 2 individual trans\* activists joined the Group.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Group's activities ahead of Trans \* Visibility Day, which is celebrated annually on March 31. As a result of the discussions, the Group decided to join the



The representative of the Ministry of Health mentioned that the Ministry is working towards the improvement of the raised issues and there is also some progress registered in the field.

Also the gap of awareness about pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis methods of HIV was touched upon during the discussion. New Generation Humanitarian NGO presented its work aimed at filling up this gap: informative-educational booklets were printed and disseminated among the beneficiaries, awareness raising social videos were filmed. The videos were also screened at the end of the meeting.

New Generation Humanitarian NGO has been a source of awareness about HIV, its pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxes sources for many years, trying to raise the level of awareness among the most vulnerable people.

This meeting was also the reflection of the goals of the NGO.

At the end of the meeting, the participants thanked each other for the cooperation, reached an agreement to jointly work for further developments.

The meeting-discussion was organized by New Generation Humanitarian NGO within the

framework of Awareness Raising and Advocacy to Ensure the Right to Health for Vulnerable Groups of the Society project with financial support of Gilead Sciences Inc.

## **HIV PREVENTION AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE ARMENIAN NATIONAL PROGRAM ON THE RESPONSE TO HIV**

We are happy to inform that since April 1, 2021, New Generation Humanitarian NGO has started the implementation of the project on HIV Prevention Among Vulnerable Population Not Included in the Armenian National Program on the Response to HIV with financial support of Emergency Support Fund for Key Populations in the EECA region.

The project goal is to promote HIV prevention and awareness raising among most-at-risk groups not included in the GF funded HIV Prevention Programs of Armenia, and advocate for their inclusion in these Programs, as well as for ensuring availability of HIV services for the beneficiary groups in the whole Armenia, including the regions.

### *Beneficiary groups:*

- *Former prisoners*
- *Young people*
- *Commercial sex workers*
- *Trans people*

### *Project Location:*

- *Yerevan*
- *Aragatsotn region*
- *Ararat region*
- *Armavir region*
- *Gegharkunik region*
- *Lori region*
- *Kotayk region*
- *Shirak region*
- *Syunik region*
- *Tavush region*
- *Vayots Dzor region*