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EDITORIAL

The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, following extensive preparations, is proud to present to the Yugoslav and international expert and general public its "Human Rights" journal, a review specialized in legal and social issues of the theory and practice of human rights.

The aim of the journal is to open its pages to discussion and information on the state of human rights in the world today, as well as to inform all interested on the state of promotion, realization and protection of human rights in Yugoslavia.

Wishing to achieve this aim, the journal is conceived as a bi-lingual Serbian-English edition with particular intentions of including authors from Central and Eastern European countries.

The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee for Human Rights and the Editorial Board takes advantage of this occasion to thank all that have whole-heartedly assisted in preparing our first issue.

S.L.

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YUGOSLAV LAWYERS COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (YUCOM)

The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee For Human Rights (YUCOM) is a professional, non-governmental organization who's members are legal experts engaged in promoting the idea and practice of human rights, raising public awareness, rendering legal assistance to victims of human rights violations, as well as developing co-operation with national and international organizations involved in human rights protection.

The Committee was founded in September 1997, and is officially registered at the Federal Ministry of Justice (No: 455, 27.11.1997).

YUCOM's web site is: http//:www.humanrights.org.yu

Activity

YUCOM's main activity is the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the highest international legal and professional standards.

YUCOM sees the promotion and protection of human rights within the general framework of democracy, the rule of law and open civil society through legal institutions and procedures, fair due process, judicial independence and justice, the Lawyers Committee For Human Rights particularly stresses the realization of the following: respect and protection of human rights and freedoms; advocating of the rule of law; raising public awareness on human rights issues; harmonizing of Yugoslav constitutional and statutory human rights legislation with international and European standards and conventions; co-operation with national and international associations and organizations involved in developing and promoting the idea and practice of human rights, as well as other complementary activities dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights.

The activities of YUCOM are carried out through numerous and varied activities on the domestic and the international level. Apart from every day activities in rendering legal aid and expert legal consulting in concrete cases (e.g. refugees, civil military service, protection of university autonomy, etc.). Within the organizational framework of YUCOM, specialized centers for conscientious objection (YUBCO), for women's rights, for refugees, for Roma rights, for professional legal ethics and others are established.

YUCOM also publishes a specialized bi-lingual (Serbian and English), legal journal "Human Rights", dedicated to legal and social issues of theory and practice of human rights in this country and abroad.

Members of The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee For Human Rights have already participated in international seminars and conferences on human rights issues. As representative of the Committee, the president of YUCOM (B.Kovačević), spent several weeks in the US on the internship program for Central and Eastern Europe of the Freedom House/National Forum Foundation from Washington DC. Other members of YUCOM have also participated in international meeting dedicated to particular human rights, *inter alia*: "Seminar on Conscientious Objection in Europe" organized in Budapest by EBCO (European Bureau for Conscientious Objection), "Seminar on Public Opinion, Mass Media and Legislative Bodies of the Russian Federation" organized in Novosibirsk by the Novosibirsk School of Civil Society, as well as "The Regional Conference on Land Mines" organized in Budapest by the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines (ICBL), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in cooperation with the Hungarian government and parliament (D. Milenković). Representatives of the Committee had a separate meeting with judges, representatives of ABA/CEELI's, international panelists on judicial independence at the Judicial Independence Seminar in Belgrade. Members of YUCOM are planning to take part in a program on "Democracy, the Rule of Law and Human Rights for Representatives of Central and Eastern Europe", organized by the Netherlands Helsinki Committee for Human Rights.

Projects

The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee For Human Rights is presently working on the following projects and issues: citizens' legislative initiative; Yugoslav Citizenship Law – legal and practical issues; the right to privacy and legal protection of personal data in Yugoslavia; human rights aspects of trade union and labor legislation, education programs on issues of domestic violence; legal cases regarding freedom of expression in Serbia and Montenegro; conscientious objection and civil military service; protection of electoral rights; rule of law; independence of the judiciary and human rights; the rights and status of refugees in Yugoslavia; individual privacy and the Internet; education of law students on women's human rights; the prohibition of the production, usage and sale of land mines, etc.

Members

The Yugoslav Lawyers Committee For Human Rights has over twenty members from Serbia and Montenegro. However, the number of members is constantly increasing. The Committee is headed by Biljana Kovačević-Vučo (YUCOM President), activist and lawyer specialized in human rights cases and legal protection, and the Executive Committee with its members: Nenad Vujić (law student and student movement activist), Prof. Dr. Mirjana Drakulić (expert on computer privacy protection), Jelena Jovčić (legal consultant), Aleksandar Lojpur (lawyer), Dejan Milenković (post graduate student specializing in land mines prohibition programs), Dr Zorica Mršević (criminology expert and women's rights activist), Tatijana Pavlovic (legal consultant), Dr Dragan Prlja (expert on international relations and the Internet), Aleksandra Rabrenović (specializing in election rights) and Prof. Dr Stevan Lilić (professor at the Belgrade University Law School, one of the founders of the peace movement in Serbia and YUCOM Council President).

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Časopis *Ljudska prava* i *Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava* niti odobravaju niti odbijaju stavove iznete u člancima, sem ukoliko nije drugačije naglašeno.

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UVODNIK

Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava, nakon opsežnih priprema, ima čast i zadovoljstvo da jugoslovenskoj i svetskoj stručnoj i opštoj javnosti predstavi časopis "Ljudska prava", svoje specijalizovano glasilo za teoriju i praksu pravnih i društvenih pitanja ljudskih prava.

Cilj je časopisa da otvori svoje stranice za raspravu i informacije o stanju ljudskih prava u svetu danas, kao i da upozna sve zainterosovane sa stanjem u oblasti unapređenja, ostvarivanja i zaštite ljudskih prava u Jugoslaviji.

U želji da se ovaj cilj što potpunije ostvari, časopis je koncipiran na bi-lingualno srpsko-engleskoj osnovi sa težnjom da se u raspravu posebno uključe i autori iz zemalja Centralne i Istočne Evrope.

Jugoslovenki komitet za ljudska prava i Uređivački odbor ujedno koriste ovu priliku da se zahvale svima koji su nesebično pomogli da naš prvi broj ugleda svetlost dana.

S.L.

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JUGOSLOVENSKI KOMITET PRAVNIKA ZA LJUDSKA PRAVA

(YUCOM)

Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava (YUCOM) je stručna, nevladina organizacija čiji su članovi pravni eksperti angažovani na unapređivanju ideje i prakse poštovanja ljudskih prava i sloboda, širenju znanja o njima, pružanju stručne pomoći onima čija su prava ugrožena, kao i razvijanju saradnje sa srodnim domaćim i međunarodnim organizacijama.

Komitet je osnovan septembra 1997. godine i upisan u registar kod Saveznog ministarstva pravde (br. 455 od 27. 11. 1997).

Web site YUCOM-a: **www.humanrights.org.yu**

Aktivnosti

Osnovni cilj YUCOM-a je ostvarivanje ljudskih prava u skladu sa standardima formulisanim u najznačajnijim međunarodnim dokumentima u ovoj oblasti i uspostavljanje demokratije, vladavine prava i civilnog društva putem mehanizma pravne i sudske zaštite.

Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava posebno se angažuje na ostvarivanju sledećih ciljeva: poštovanje, zaštita i unapređivanje ljudskih prava i sloboda; poštovanje principa pravne države i vladavine prava; širenje ideje i svesti o potrebi poštovanja, zaštite i unapređivanja ljudskih prava i sloboda; usklađivanje domaćih ustavnih, zakonskih i podzakonskih propisa sa međunarodnim i evropskim standardima i konvencijama u oblasti ljudskih prava; saradnja sa domaćim i međunarodnim udruženjima, organizacijama i asocijacijama koje se bave pitanjima ljudskih prava, kao i ostavarivanje drugih aktivnosti usmerenih na ostvarivanje i zaštitu ljudskih prava.

Svoje ciljeve YUCOM ostvaruje brojnim i raznovrsnim aktivnostima u zemlji i na međunarodnom planu. Osim svakodnevnih aktivnosti pružanja pravne pomoći i davanja stručnih mišljenja u konkretnim slučajevima (npr. izbeglicama, vojnim obveznicima koji žele da služe vojni rok u civilnim ustanovama, zaštite slobode i prava univerzitetskih profesora i drugo), u okviru YUCOM-a osnovani su specijalizovani centri za prigovor savesti (YUBCO), za ženska prava, protiv torture, za izbeglice, za zaštitu profesionalne pravne etike itd. YUCOM je takođe pokrenuo i specijalizovani dvo-jezički (srpski i engleski) pravni časopis *Ljudska prava* koji se bavi pravnim i društvenim pitanjima teorije i prakse ljudskih prava u zemlji i na međunarodnom planu.

Članovi Jugoslovenskog komiteta pravnika za ljudska prava već su učestvovali na više međunarodnih seminara i konferencija o ljudskim pravima. Predsednik Komiteta (B. Kovačević-Vučo) je kao predstavnik Komiteta bila na

studijskom boravku u SAD u okviru "Intership programa za Centralnu i Istočnu Evropu" u organizaciji *Freedom House/National Forum Foundation* iz Vašingtona. I drugi članovi YUCOM-a su učestvovali na međunarodnim skupovima vezanim za pojedina ljudska prava, između ostalog, i na seminaru "Prigovor savesti u Evropi" koji je u organizaciji EBCO (Evropski biro za prigovor savesti) održan u Budimpešti, zatim na seminaru "Javno mnjenje, sredstva masovne komunikacije i zakonodavna tela u okviru Ruske federacije" koji je u organizaciji Novosibirske škole civilnog društva održan u Novosibirsku, Rusija (prof. dr S. Lilić), kao i na "Regionalnoj konferenciji o nagaznim minama" koja je održana u Budimpešti (D. Milenković), u organizaciji Internacionalne kampanje za zabranu nagaznih mina (ICBL), Međunarodnog komiteta Crvenog krsta (ICRC) u saradnji sa Mađarskom vladom i Parlamentom. Predstavnici YUCOM-a su marta meseca u Beogradu imali poseban sastanak sa sudijama – predstavnicima Američkog udruženja pravnika (ABA/CEELI), koji su učestvovali na seminaru o nezavisnosti sudstva. Takođe se predviđa učešće članova YUCOM-a na skupu "Demokratija, vladavina prava za predstavnike zemalja Centralne i Istočne Evrope u organizaciji Helsinškog odbora za ljudska prava iz Holandije (A. Rabrenović, M. Marković).

Projekti

Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava angažovan je na pripremi i realizaciji sledećih projekata: Zakonodavna inicijativa građana, Zakonske i praktične posledice primene Zakona o jugoslovenskom državljanstvu, Pravo na privatnost i zaštita podataka o ličnosti u Jugoslaviji, Sindikalno i radno zakonodavstvo, Edukacija advokata za probleme nasilja u porodici, Sudski slučajevi vezani za slobodu izražavanja u Srbiji i Crnoj Gori, Prigovor savesti i civilno služenje vojnog roka, Zaštita izbornog prava građana, Internet i pravo na privatnost, Prava i status izbeglica u Jugoslaviji, Sloboda izražavanja i pravni aspekti njenog kršenja, Vladavina prava, nezavisnost sudstva i ljudska prava, Obrazovanje studenata prava o ženskim ljudskim pravima i Zabrana proizvodnje, upotrebe i prodaje nagaznih mina.

Članovi

Jugoslovenski komitet pravnika za ljudska prava ima dvadesetak članova iz Srbije i Crne Gore i njihov broj se iz dana u dan povećava.

Komitet vode Biljana Kovačević-Vučo (predsednik YUCOM-a), advokat specijalizovan za pitanja pravne zaštite ljudskih prava i Izvršni odbor koji čine: Nenad Vujić (apsolvent prava i aktivista studentskog pokreta), prof. dr Mirjana Drakulić (stručnjak za pitanja kompjuterske privatnosti), mr Jelena Jovčić (pravni konsultant), Aleksandar Lojpur (advokat), Dejan Milenković (student prava poslediplomac angažovan na pitanjima mina), dr Zorica Mršević (stručnjakinja za kriminologiju i aktivistkinja za zaštitu ženskih prava), mr Tatijana Pavlović (pravni konsultant), dr Dragan Prlja (stručnjak za međunarodne odnose i Internet) i Aleksandra Rabrenović (specijalizovana za izborno pravo). Predsednik saveta YUCOM-a je profesor Pravnog fakulteta u Beogradu, dr Stevan Lilić (jedan od osnivača mirovnog pokreta u Srbiji i međunarodno priznati stručnjak za administrativno i ustavno pravo).