

SUMMARY INFORMATION OF THE  
POP NETWORK

JANUARY - JUNE 2022

# NEWSLETTER

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**POP - PËRBALLJA  
E OFERTAVE  
POLITIKE**



# PARTIAL LOCAL ELECTIONS 2022

On March 6, 2022, Albania held partial local elections in six municipalities, two of which were the Durrës and Shkodra municipalities, which have been monitored by the POP network since the drafting of the first Social Contract in 2019 and its implementation by the municipalities.

Even in these elections, the members of the POP network, just like during other local elections, organized individual meetings and public forums with the candidates of the Political Parties, offering them a platform where they could unfold their political programs for the development of the respective municipalities in the presence of the citizens.

In the Durrës municipality, the Civil Society Development Center (CSDC) organized three public forums within the framework of the social contract. In Shkodër, Young Intellectuals Hope organized two public forums in the presence of candidates and citizens.

## POP NETWORK AND THE NEW CONTRACTS IN DURRES AND SHKODRA

Now in Durrës and Shkodër, we have two new social contracts which are being monitored by the partner organizations and have become part of the work plans of the respective municipalities.



[Click here for the Social Contract of Durres municipality](#)



[Click here for the Social Contract of Shkodra municipality](#)





# ADVOCACY FOR THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

During the first period of the year, several meetings were organized with citizens and representatives of 12 municipalities where the POP Network operates. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the analysis of the Report of the second monitoring year of the Social Contract as well as the identification of the problems of the citizens as well as their commitment to advocate with the local government.

Citizens and civil society organizations are strong allies for advocating the priorities of the Social Contract. We highlight priorities that have not been addressed by the respective municipalities and lobby for their inclusion in local government projects.

## 60 meetings with civic groups and stakeholders from the municipality and the media

[Click to learn more with the meetings according to municipalities under monitoring and implementing organizations](#)





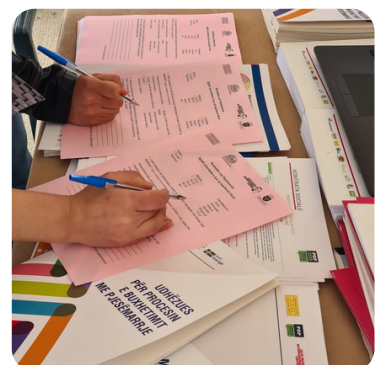
# POP IN EUROPEAN WEEK 2022

The POP network participated in the activities organized by the European Delegation in Albania within the framework of the European Week. Participation in these activities was made possible by the invitation and support of the Swedish Embassy in Albania.

We were in Shkodër on May 3, 2022; Vlora on May 5, 2022 and concluded in Tirana on May 9, 2022

During the fairs organized in the pedestrian streets of the three cities, we had the opportunity to exchange with citizens and interest groups the achievements and challenges in fulfilling the Social Contract and its priorities in the 12 municipalities of the country.

**3 fairs; 12 organizations; over 1000 citizens visited our stands in 3 municipalities**





# NETWORKING WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



During the first week of June within the OPC Network Meeting organized in Tirana from May 31 to June 1, 2022, we had the pleasure and opportunity to meet organizations in the region which are supported by the Olof Palme International Center and which work on strengthening the democracy and human rights.

We had the opportunity to exchange experiences on the work that each of the organizations does with the community in the region as well as the presentation of the POP methodology and the Social Contract that has been taking place in Albania for years.

We talked together about the achievements, challenges, the situation in Albania and the Region as well as the work of civil society organizations for the support and engagement of citizens, increasing transparency by local and central government as well as plans for continuity and sustainability.

Also, the POP network was part of the panel on civic education where we had the opportunity to analyze our methodology as well as to discuss the challenges encountered during its development.





## STUDY REPORT "INFORMATION AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT"

POP Network organizations during the period May - June 2022 carried out questionnaires and meetings with the relevant staff in the Municipality and with representatives of the Municipal Councils related to public information and consultation. The answers received from the questionnaires were compared with the analysis made by the local CSOs regarding the current situation in each municipality related to the tools and forms that municipalities use for public notification, information and consultation.



**12 Individual reports  
regarding the mechanisms  
used by municipalities for  
citizen information and  
consultation.**



**Click to read the reports!**

This analysis showed that the municipalities value these processes and try to use different tools and forms to have the citizens part of their activity and decision-making, but there are also challenges that must be overcome and shortcomings that must be improved.

The reports can be read above and will also be presented at the National Conference **"POP Network and Social Contract as mechanisms for transparency and accountability to citizens"** that is expected to be organized in July 2022.



POP Network “Juxtaposing Political Offers” (Përballja e Ofertave Politike) aims to increase public debate and information among citizens, as well as orienting these platforms towards the needs and priorities of citizens. Through its activities, the project aims to strengthen Albanian democracy, promoting transparency and accountability. POP is an initiative of the network of Albanian civil society organizations supported by the Olof Palme International Centre and National Endowment for Democracy.

### The members of the POP Network are the following organizations:

- Gender Alliance for Development Center, Tirana;
- Civil Society Development Center, Durrës;
- Vlora Youth Center,
- Association for Integration of Informal Areas, Kamëz;
- New Epoch, Fier;
- Young Intellectuals, Hope (IRSH), Shkodër;
- Youth Movement for Democracy Center, Pukë;
- Center for Youth Progress, Kukës,
- Youth For Integration, Activation and Awareness, Progradec.
- Easy Steps – Vau i Dejes
- Another Vision – Elbasan
- Women in Development – Korce

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### Follow us on our official channels:

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Click the image to watch the video prepared by the POP Network about the Social Contract

