



EIN 2019 ACTIVITY REPORT

Table of contents

# Foreword by EIN Chair Başak Çalı	2
# Advocacy at the national level	3
Sharing best practices	3
Implementation hubs	4
Engaging new audiences	5
# Advocacy with the international monitoring mechanism	6
Information-spreading and awareness-raising	6
Early-alert system	6
NGO advocacy briefings	7
Awareness-raising	7
Providing advice and improving NGOs' impact on the process	7
Acting as a bridge between the Department for the Execution of Judgments and NGOs	7
Reviewing Rule 9s	8
Providing written and oral guidance	8
# Capacity Building	9
Training	9
Resources	10
# Spotlight on shrinking civic spaces	11
Victims of political persecution	11
Working towards wider reforms to protect civic space rights	11
# Strengthening the network	12
Members and partners	12
Fundraising	12
# Report by EIN Treasurer Nigel Warner	13
# Focus for 2020-2021	14
# EIN in a nutshell	15

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Foreword by EIN Chair Başak Çalı



As I write the forward to the third annual report of European Implementation Network (EIN), the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has received a record number of Rule 9.2 submissions from NGOs across Europe. EIN has played a significant role in this.

More and more civil society organisations are now aware of the importance of post-judgment advocacy for human rights judgments, and have actively incorporated this into their programmatic activities. EIN has been a tireless capacity builder in these activities, hosting events in Croatia, Turkey and Poland. We have done so

by providing training, a constant flow of information — both qualitatively and quantitatively on human rights cases awaiting implementation — and offering advocacy advice to our members and partners. By the end of 2019 our judgment implementation handbook was made available in 5 languages.

EIN has placed an important emphasis on collecting best practices for domestic advocacy for human rights judgments in 2019. We have asked our members and partners what works (and what does not), and how they successfully establish early and proactive dialogue with national implementation constituents of human rights judgments, be they government agents, ministries, national parliaments and the media. We are looking forward to sharing this new resource in 2020.

Yet, we are also aware that in some countries of the Council of Europe, spaces for civil society and media are shrinking, closing off prospects of domestic advocacy, and making members of civil society, journalists or members of political opposition targets of human rights violations. At EIN, we support advocacy efforts at the Council of Europe in cases against human rights defenders, journalists, and voices of the opposition.

None of these achievements could, of course, have been possible without the dedication of our members, partners, and the financial support of our funders. For that we thank you. Final thanks must go to our Secretariat in Strasbourg. Their dedication and outstanding work has been inspiring to us all.

This report showcases and celebrates all EIN has achieved in 2019.

Professor Dr Başak Çalı

Chair, European Implementation Network

Advocacy at the national level

When setting up EIN in late 2016, its founders were mainly hoping to create a platform for NGO advocacy in Strasbourg. As EIN became more and more successful in supporting NGOs in accessing the Council of Europe institutions (see 'Advocacy with the international monitoring system'), it became clear, however, that greater levels of civil society engagement at the Strasbourg level were not matched by similarly sophisticated domestic advocacy to promote the implementation of judgments.

Because it is precisely there – at the national level – where judgments must ultimately be implemented, EIN has, throughout 2019, stepped up its work on enhancing civil society capacity to advocate domestically for reforms giving effect to the rulings of the Strasbourg Court. Most notably, this has been carried out through peer-to-peer learning and strengthening EIN members' role as 'implementation hubs'.

Sharing best practices

EIN has been collecting experiences from its members and partners in this area, revealing activities worth replicating in other countries that are then passed on to other network members. These strategies include savvy use of key media influencers to lead to implementation of judgments in the difficult case of Russia; organisation of meetings between the authorities and victims of human rights violations in Romania leading to reforms to combat hate crimes; advocacy in Poland for the setting up of a parliamentary sub-committee on judgment implementation; civil society briefings to diplomats in Prague; and successful advocacy for the establishment of an independent investigative mechanism mandated to review allegations of ill-treatment in Georgia. All of these examples (and many more) will be highlighted in a Domestic Advocacy Toolkit due to be published in the Spring of 2020. EIN's main goal for 2020 is the further dissemination, development and application of these strategies, through an event dedicated to the subject (see below for details).



Case example: Investigating the fate of thousands of 'missing babies' (Zorica Jovanovic v. Serbia)

→ **Case:** Decades ago in Serbia, the newborn babies of over 2000 couples disappeared from hospitals in mysterious circumstances that suggested the involvement of a criminal gang. In 2013, some of the parents won a case at the European Court of Human Rights ('ECTHR'), which ruled that there had to be an investigation. Six years on, no investigation had taken place.

→ **Action:** In 2019, three EIN member/partner organisations conducted a sustained advocacy campaign in Serbia and the Council of Europe. In Belgrade, this included television appearances, public protests, and parliamentary advocacy. In Strasbourg, the case was presented at an EIN briefing, and written submissions were made with the benefit of EIN training and advice. The Council of Europe gave the case the highest priority.

→ **Execution:** The campaigning by Serbian NGOs is one example of the power of strong alliances making a public case, which will be shared throughout the network. Shortly after the end of 2019, a special law was passed in Serbia to ensure investigations into the disappearances will now take place, the drafting of which was significantly influenced by civil society advocacy.

Implementation hubs

Domestic advocacy for judgment implementation will often require a concerted effort by several civil society actors – especially where human rights problems are deep-rooted and numerous. Few national NGOs will have the capacity to monitor developments in respect of all leading cases against their state, engage with all relevant authorities to influence the development and implementation of Action Plans, and involve the media to raise awareness of implementation issues. The impact of NGOs can be greater where they work together to push implementation forward.

2019 saw EIN work, for the first time, with a member organisation – Human Rights House Zagreb in Croatia – to help them act as an ‘implementation hub’. Implementation hubs are conceptualised as NGOs that receive information about important case developments at the Strasbourg level from EIN, disseminate this among interested NGOs, coordinate implementation advocacy by civil society actors, and function as a primary contact point for the authorities, the Council of Europe and the media. EIN partnered with Human Rights House Zagreb to carry out a training for civil society on effective advocacy for ECtHR judgment implementation in May 2019, and subsequently assisted them in drawing up an implementation advocacy strategy.



Photo: Human Rights House Zagreb

Case example: Kickstarting reforms to tackle hate crimes (Šečić v. Croatia)

→ **Case:** In 2007 the ECtHR found that a Roma man in Zagreb had been attacked because of his ethnicity, leading to serious injuries and psychological damage. Despite having strong evidence about who had committed the crime, the police did not investigate. This followed a pattern of hate crimes in Croatia and failures by the authorities to protect victims or investigate.

→ **Action:** Following an EIN training event in Zagreb in May 2019, two local NGOs engaged in a series of steps that initiated proper reforms to implement the case. This included television appearances to highlight the issue in public, training for civil society and lawyers, and a written submission to the Council of Europe. These were followed by meetings with government representatives and senior members of the Council of Europe to discuss future reforms.

→ **Execution:** New trainings have been conducted for police officers on hate crimes, run by one of the local NGOs. Amendments have been made to the relevant Rules of Procedure that will alter how the police deals with hate crimes, which are expected to enter into force in the next few months.

Engaging new audiences

Not only does implementation often require concerted advocacy efforts by civil society, it also tends to involve a range of state authorities: the Government Agent’s office, various ministries, parliament, judicial and law enforcement actors, and national human rights institutions. When acting in concert, coalitions of domestic actors can contribute to ensuring that Strasbourg Court judgments not only lead to actual change on the ground, but also that they are implemented swiftly.

Having established itself as a hub for implementation expertise in Strasbourg, EIN has been able to broaden the range of domestic actors with whom we engage at the domestic level. 2019 saw the first multi-stakeholder workshop, organised jointly by EIN, the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights and the Open Society Justice Initiative in Warsaw in November, aimed at creating a multi-stakeholder alliance for implementation composed of lawyers, activists, parliamentarians, judges and prosecutors, and the media. The workshop has resulted in several Rule 9 submissions, and participants are working actively to set up a committee on the execution of ECtHR judgments within the Senate (amongst other measures). The format of an open debate on the implementation of ECtHR judgments, which brings together lawyers, activists, political decision-makers, judicial actors and the media, proved useful at EIN’s event, and was subsequently replicated with a focus on two cases concerning CIA rendition from Polish soil. Last, but not least, several workshop participants launched a campaign to promote the decriminalisation of defamation in Poland, which brings together NGOs and journalistic associations from different points of the political spectrum.



Photo: Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights

Advocacy with the international monitoring mechanism

Throughout 2019, EIN enhanced its work in enabling NGOs to engage with the Council of Europe mechanism for supervising judgment implementation.

Information-spreading and awareness-raising

Early-alert system

EIN was convinced that low levels of engagement in the implementation monitoring mechanism were partially caused by a lack of awareness among NGOs about key developments. At the start of 2019 EIN therefore began to systematically monitor implementation-related developments and alert a database of contacts, thus actively soliciting NGO engagement. EIN sent over 250 alerts to its Network and beyond, concerning around 100 cases, and was in touch not only with its members and official partners but also more than 56 non-member or non-partner organisations from 22 countries.

As a result, the number of written “Rule 9.2” submissions reached a record high in 2019 (133 on 91 cases concerning 24 countries; up from 64 on 19 countries in 2018). At least 60 of these were made directly as a result of EIN correspondence.¹

Progress in the number of Rule 9.2.s



Thanks to this early-alert system, EIN helped avoid the premature closure of cases. In 2019, 95% of cases subject to a Rule 9 were kept open, whilst only five cases that were the subject of Rule 9.2 submissions were closed.

One example of successful prevention of early case closure was the domestic violence case of T.M. and C.M v. the Republic of Moldova. The Moldovan government had asked for supervision of this case to be closed. However, following an

alert by EIN, the Women’s Law Centre of Chişinău made a submission to the Committee of Ministers detailing the depth of ongoing problems. Following this, the case has remained open.

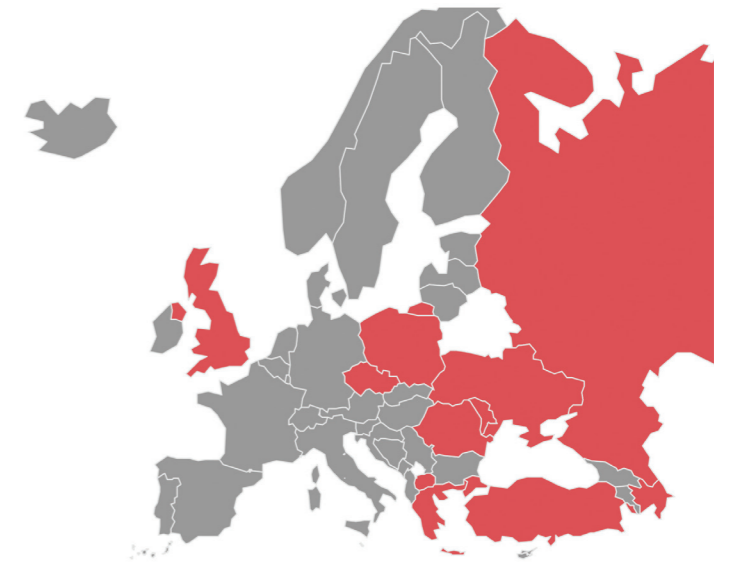
Similarly, in Spring 2019 the Hungarian authorities asked for the closure of the Magyar Keresztény Mennonita Egyház and Others v. Hungary group, concerning freedom of association. EIN alerted its partners in Hungary of the Action Report and the risk that supervision of the implementation of this case would be ended. Following a strong submission by the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, the case remained open. This was but one example of the increased engagement by EIN’s members and partners outside the Committee of Ministers’ human rights (DH) meetings meeting cycles, on cases pending under the Committee of Ministers ‘standard’ supervision procedure.²

¹ This figure is from EIN’s database about our information spreading and the activities that civil society tells us they carry out as a result.

² Three quarters of the cases pending implementation are ‘standard’ cases. This does not mean they are not important. Leading cases under standard supervision will, as a rule, require that the state adopt general measures to remedy the underlying problem. NGO interventions will often be vital to set the agenda for reforms, help set these reforms in motion, and prevent the early closure of the case.

NGO advocacy briefings

The EIN advocacy briefings, held ahead of each Committee of Ministers Human Rights meeting (Committee of Ministers’ human rights (DH) meetings), allowed NGO representatives to present the state of play on 25 enhanced cases from 11 countries. These briefings were attended by an ever-increasing number of diplomats – 29 in the most recent briefing.



25 cases briefed from 11 countries
An average of 25 Member States represented at each briefing

EIN also arranged ad hoc briefings for its members outside the Committee of Ministers’ human rights (DH) cycles, to draw the attention of the Permanent Representatives and relevant stakeholders on key cases. On 29 May 2019, for instance, EIN organised a specific briefing from political activist Ilgar Mammadov to delegates from the Committee of Ministers, a few hours after his judgment from the Grand Chamber had been published.

Awareness-raising

The EIN Voices enabled us to put key cases in the spotlight, such as the “missing babies case” (Zorica Jovanović v. Serbia) or N. v. Romania which concerns the unlawful psychiatric confinement of the applicant. By participating in panel discussions, academic conferences, Council of Europe trainings, and many more events, EIN sensitised a wider audience to the importance of ECtHR judgment implementation. EIN also made greater use of social media (Twitter, Facebook) and online communication tools (EJIL: Talk!, OC media) to reach out.

Providing advice and improving NGOs’ impact on the process

In order to improve the quality as well as the number of submissions, EIN carried out three main activities: liaising with the Council of Europe’s Department for the Execution of Judgments (DEJ); reviewing draft submissions; and providing NGOs with guidance on how to maximise their impact on the process. The DEJ has confirmed that the quality of NGO submissions has improved as a result.

Acting as a bridge between the Department for the Execution of Judgments and NGOs

Throughout 2019, EIN strengthened its contacts with the Department for the Execution of Judgments. The EIN Secretariat systematically asked the Department for feedback on submissions, and passed it on to NGOs, but also proactively contacted the Council of Europe to enquire what kind of information might be most useful. These efforts contribute to systematically improving the quality of NGO submissions.³

³ List of cases concerned : M.C. and A.C. v. Romania, Yordanova v. Bulgaria, Sejdic and Finci v. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zorica Jovanović v. Serbia, the Alevi cases v. Turkey (briefed in December 2019), Skendžić and Krznarić v. Croatia, Jehovah’s witnesses v Russian Federation, Burmych v. Ukraine, Murray v. the Netherlands, Baka v. Hungary, Bati and Others v. Turkey, Kostic v. Serbia, Khlaifia v. Italy, Ticu v. Romania, T.M. and C.M. v. Moldova, Oleksandr Volkov v. Ukraine, Jevremović v. Serbia, Mammadov v. Azerbaijan, Mammadli v. Azerbaijan, Namat Aliyev v. Azerbaijan, P.S. v. Poland. Cases where Rule 9.2s were drafted but not submitted in 2019: M.A. v. Cyprus, Sharxhi v. Albania, Šečić v. Croatia, Shvydka v. Ukraine.

As a result of EIN advocacy efforts, the DEJ launched [a new webpage](#) to inform NGOs and national human rights institutions about how to engage with the implementation monitoring process. EIN shared information about this new page with its members, but also [communicated actively](#) about the wider requirements NGOs should know about when drafting their rule 9s. For example, a major concern expressed by the DEJ was that some NGOs were submitting their input too late to be considered in the order of business for Committee of Ministers’ meetings. EIN circulated this important point to its network: through the EIN newsletter, email alerts to relevant NGOs, and repeated posts on social media.

Reviewing Rule 9s

In 2019, 25 “Rule 9” submissions were reviewed by the EIN Secretariat. These submissions helped avoid premature closure of the Committee of Ministers’ supervision and push for reforms in numerous cases. Examples include the [Jevremović group of cases v. Serbia](#), about the excessive length of judicial proceedings, the [M.C. and A.C. v. Romania](#) case about discrimination and ill-treatment, and [cases against Turkey concerning the Alevi community](#) – all of which were brought under enhanced procedure as a result of these advocacy efforts.

To maintain its ability to provide guidance on the growing number of written submissions, EIN is in the process of establishing a long-term pro-bono collaboration with a large international law firm.

Providing written and oral guidance

The EIN Secretariat organised a number of audioconferences with members and partners to identify key cases where input from NGOs would be needed. It also used the training sessions as a way to support the NGO input in the execution process.



Capacity Building

Training

In 2019, in addition to its information-spreading and awareness-raising activities, EIN extended its capacity-building offer.

Besides two trainings on the basics of the implementation process and NGO involvement, organised in cooperation with EIN member Fair Trials in [Zagreb in March 2019](#), and with EHRAC for young lawyers from Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine in [Strasbourg in July 2019](#), EIN adapted its methodology to work more closely with domestic members. The idea was to enhance their capacity to lead and coordinate implementation activities in their respective countries - i.e. to act as “implementation hubs”. Three such training workshops were organised in 2019, in [Croatia](#), [Turkey](#), and [Poland](#). Evidence of the impact of this new methodology is our [Croatian member](#) leading concerted efforts in [hate crime cases](#), resulting in legal changes expected to enter into force in the coming months.

The event held in Warsaw, was also the first multi-stakeholder training organised by EIN. This was designed to bring together representatives of five different professional groups, which all have a stake in getting reforms underway following an ECtHR judgment. More than 40 participants took part in the event in Warsaw, including:



- parliamentarians and parliamentary staff, who play a key role in creating the legal and policy framework in which human rights are effectively guaranteed;
- judges and prosecutors, who can ensure that judicial practice is in conformity with Convention standards and the case law of the Court;
- activists, for whom ECtHR judgments can be an additional (and often underutilised) advocacy tool;
- journalists, who can sound the alarm about human rights problems identified by Strasbourg; and
- lawyers, who should not only follow up on the cases they brought to Strasbourg on behalf of their clients, but also use the judgments from the ECtHR in future domestic litigation.

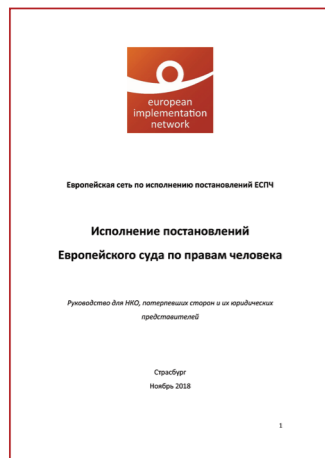
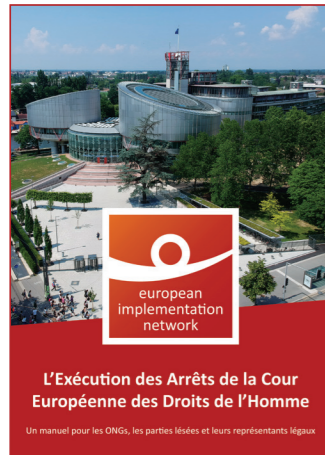
In total, EIN trained 118 people this year from over 70 NGOs on how to use domestic and Strasbourg avenues to advocate for the implementation of judgments.



Resources

In 2019 EIN further developed the resources it makes available to those advocating for the implementation of ECtHR cases.

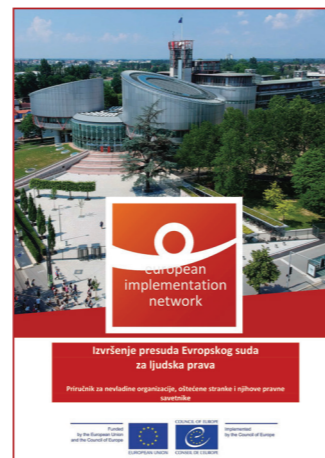
- **EIN Handbook:** [EIN's guide on the implementation monitoring system](#) was translated into an additional five languages (French, Russian, Serbian, Polish and Turkish) – and widely disseminated online and during trainings. It remains the only publication which explains how NGOs, victims and their lawyers can engage with the implementation monitoring process.



EIN Handbook

5

new language versions



- **Guide on Rule 9.2 submissions:** EIN also published a [short guide on “Rule 9.2” submissions](#), setting out the key lessons for NGOs on how they should use submissions in the monitoring process. It includes a template to present the ideal structure and content of a submission.
- **Guide on standard cases:** One of the most common questions received by the Secretariat is how NGOs can best advocate for the implementation of cases under the lower level of review (the so-called “standard” cases) – and if this is even worthwhile doing (it is!). EIN published an [FAQ](#) setting out key advice for NGOs on how to work on these cases.
- **Impact analysis:** To understand the impact of NGO involvement in the implementation process, it is necessary to have a long term understanding about how this work has affected the implementation of a case over time. EIN Bureau member Nigel Warner is well placed to understand this, having worked on several cases in the field of sexual orientation and gender identity for over a decade. His [analysis](#) of three cases in this field illustrates the impact achieved through NGO involvement in the reform process, and can be used as inspiration by others seeking to assess and prove the impact of their implementation advocacy.

Spotlight on shrinking civic spaces

Victims of political persecution



Photo: Toolen on Human Rights Blog

Throughout 2019 EIN [has highlighted the cases](#) of Azerbaijani citizens whom the ECtHR has found to have been politically persecuted: politician Ilgar Mammadov, human rights defenders Rasul Jafarov and Intigam Aliyev, and elections monitor Anar Mammadli. EIN's activities included liaising with the victims and their lawyers, passing crucial information between them and the Council of Europe, giving feedback on submissions, highlighting their cases in our public communications, organising direct presentations to the Committee of Ministers, and ensuring their cases are highlighted in EU-Azerbaijan relations.

These individuals have now been provided with some justice: none are imprisoned, they have obtained payment of compensation, and some legal offices have been unlocked. Ilgar Mammadov and Rasul Jafarov have now been completely acquitted, whilst the convictions of the remaining applicants should also be judicially reviewed in 2020.

EIN also continued to monitor the arrival of new ECtHR judgments establishing the political persecution of individuals. For example, the case of Turkish human rights defender Osman Kavala is about to become final. EIN has established contact with human rights defenders working on the case and provided initial guidance on how they should engage with the implementation process.

Working towards wider reforms to protect civic space rights

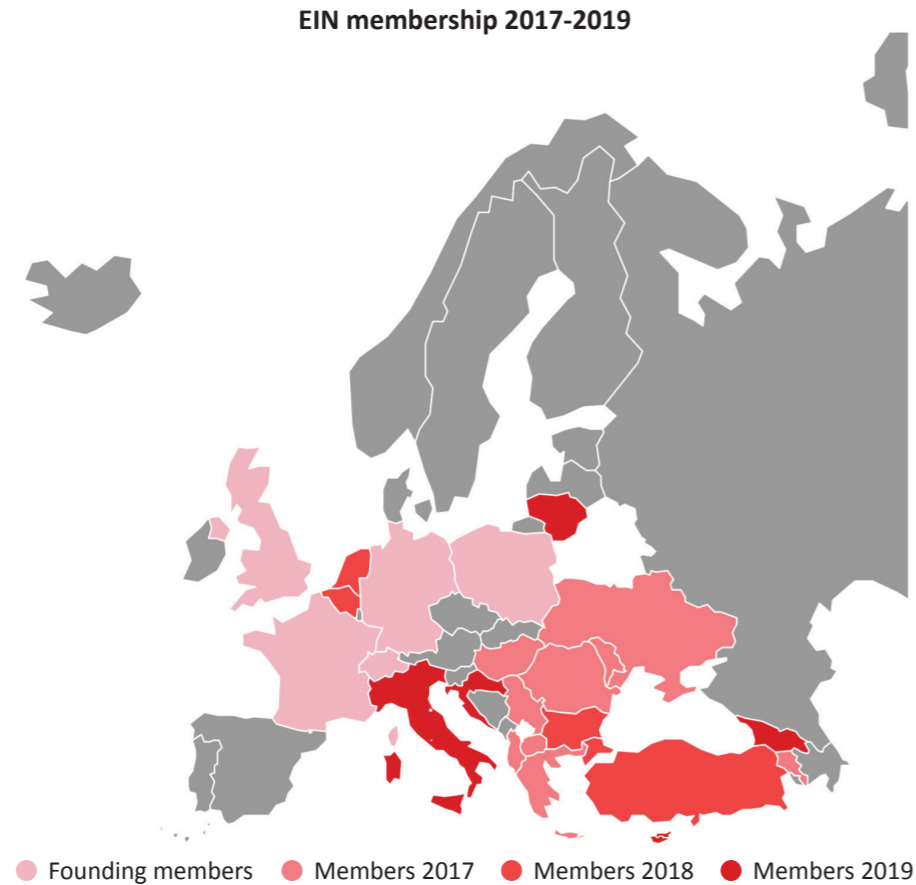
Moving away from individual cases, EIN is also working towards wider reforms to protect civic space rights in key countries. Activities on the cases below included training key actors, collaborating on the drafting of written submissions, organising presentations in EIN briefings, and/or the designing domestic advocacy strategies to advance implementation at the national level.

- **Free speech:** EIN members are now working on the implementation of free speech cases in Turkey (7 groups of cases), Ukraine (safety of journalists), Poland (defamation), Croatia (defamation), and Hungary (judicial speech). Evidence of the impact of our joint activities is visible, for instance, in two Hungarian [cases](#) concerning the de facto dismissal of high-ranking judges in retaliation for them exercising their right to free speech (the “[Baka](#)” group). The cases are representative of sustained attacks on the independence of the Hungarian judiciary. By informing a local member of the scope of these rulings, of which they had not been aware, EIN was able to solicit a submission to the Committee of Ministers that resulted in a very strong [Decision](#) by the latter. This Decision is now [referred to by EU bodies](#) as important evidence of continuing attacks on judicial independence in the Article 7 TFEU procedures against Hungary.
- **Freedom of assembly:** EIN's activities on the protection of the right to peaceful assembly cover Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Turkey, with new activity expected shortly in Armenia. In 2019 residents of Chişinău were able to peacefully hold an LGBTI Pride march for the second consecutive year, [confirming the impact of long-term work](#) to protect the right to assembly for the LGBTI community – and leading to the closure of the leading case on that issue.
- **Freedom of association:** EIN members/partners, with our support, are now working actively on freedom of association cases in Bulgaria, Greece, North Macedonia, and Turkey. For example, in Greece submissions have been instrumental in countering misleading government claims on the registration of minority associations that risked resulting in the premature termination of the Committee of Ministers's supervision. A domestic court judgment is expected in 2020, which is hoped to implement those cases that are still pending as a result of implementation monitoring activities.

Strengthening the network

Members and partners

In late 2019, the EIN Board adopted a new membership policy, the aim of which was to limit membership to a size and level of commitment that is optimal for the organisation's effective operation. The new policy clarifies EIN's expectation that its members commit to active involvement in supporting development and activities of the EIN. It also introduces a new category of "official partners" who work actively to promote implementation but, unlike full members, need not commit to contributing actively to the development of the network. The new policy has led to changes in the composition of EIN's membership, with some smaller, one-issue organisations with less capacity to assume a coordinating role in implementation advocacy having changed their status from members to that of official partner. The change in the number of overall members has been minimal, as EIN has taken on new member organisations with strong capacity to contribute to our work.



EIN in 2019: 33 members and 5 partners from 23 countries

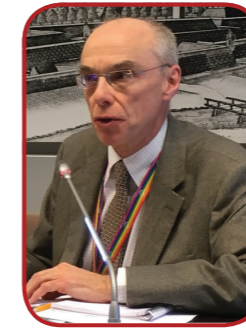
At the end of 2019, the network counts 34 members and 4 partners from 24 European countries. Within a year, EIN therefore expanded its membership in four new countries: Croatia ([Human Rights House Zagreb](#)), Georgia ([GYLA](#)), Italy ([CILD/Antigone](#)) and Lithuania ([Human Rights Monitoring Institute](#)).

Fundraising

In July 2019, EIN secured an initial one-year core grant from the Sigrid Rausing Trust, which supports human rights NGOs across the globe. EIN also secured a renewal of core funding support from Open Society Foundations, in the form of a further two-year grant. Together with funding from the Oak Foundation, these have been instrumental in supporting EIN's wide range of activities.

In addition to a specific grant from Open Society Justice Initiative to support the Warsaw Training, EIN was also able to count on financial support from members and partners in organising capacity-building events in Zagreb and Ankara, to finance the participation of experts in some of its advocacy briefings, and to allow for the translation of EIN's Handbook into Polish, Russian, and Turkish. The Serbian translation of the Handbook was made possible through funding from the Council of Europe's Office in Belgrade.

Report by EIN Treasurer Nigel Warner



In its second full year of operations, as described in earlier sections of this report, EIN continued to conduct a wide range of activities.

The full audited accounts for 2019 are available at EIN's website. A summary of EIN's financial activities for 2019 is set out below on two bases - first, as recorded in the books of account; and secondly, in order to show the full cost of EIN's activities, including estimates for activities that were funded by partners. These included three seminars on the implementation of ECtHR judgments: one for members of Fair Trials International in Zagreb in March 2019, a second organised in conjunction with the International

Commission of Jurists and the Human Rights Joint Platform in Ankara in April 2019, and a third for members of the Human Rights House Zagreb.

EIN's financial position was strengthened considerably during the year with a first grant by the Sigrid Rausing Trust of £37,500 for core funding over a 12-month period, and by the renewal of support by the Open Society Foundation, with a two-year core funding grant of \$140,000. Further income came from an existing three-year grant of €210,000 by the Oak Foundation. We owe a great debt of gratitude for this support.

To operate effectively EIN still needs to increase its funding and much effort has gone into securing grants for individual projects. As illustrated above, in practice, it has turned out that it is often more practical for partner organisations to obtain funding for joint activities. EIN is continuing to seek project funding, whether jointly with partners, or in its own right.

Summary of financial activities

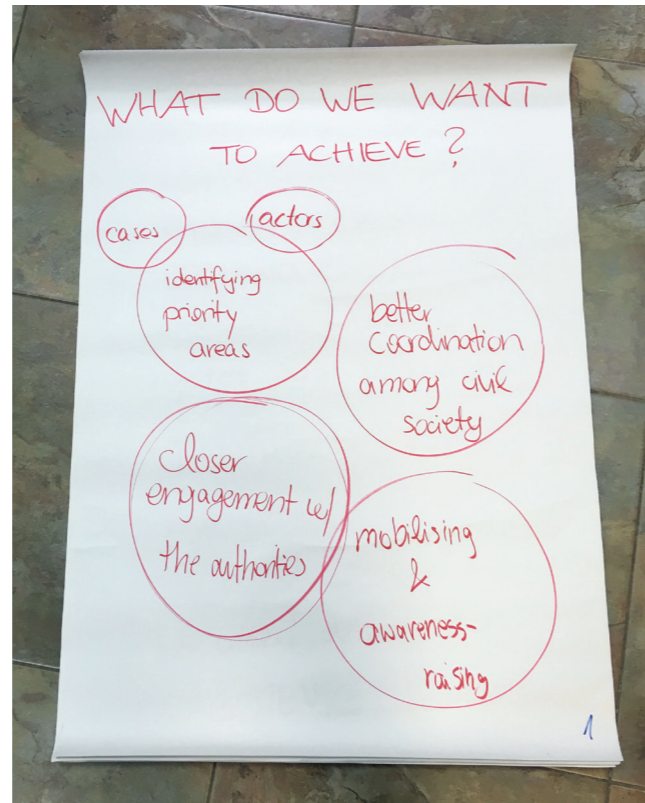
	2019 incl. EIN partners' contribution	2019	2018
EXPENDITURE			
Personnel	95,972 €	95,972 €	106,484 €
Programme expenses	44,783 €	15,743 €	47,436 €
Office, administration & governance	17,646 €	17,646 €	19,923 €
Total Expenditure	158,400 €	129,360 €	173,843 €
INCOME			
Grants			
Oak Foundation	70,000 €	70,000 €	82,861 €
Open Society Foundations	48,000 €	48,000 €	86,745 €
Sigrid Rausing Trust	4,328 €	4,328 €	
Other income	7,032 €	7,032 €	4,237 €
EIN partners' contributions	29,040 €		
Total Income	158,400 €	129,360 €	173,843 €

Focus for 2020-2021

The general pattern of EIN's work (training, resource creation, and supporting advocacy) will continue, subject to the following developments:

Domestic advocacy

- EIN will continue to focus on improving advocacy for implementation at the national level. An event for the network dedicated to this topic is planned for 2020. It will include sharing of best practices; discussions of strategies; and a workshop on how participants can best apply the lessons learned. This will be accompanied with co-ordination, monitoring and feedback work on resulting activities, and the publication of a revised best-practices toolkit.
- The coronavirus has necessitated the postponement of the event from May to (at least) September. We will conduct a shorter webinar in May to begin disseminating best practices and carry out support and monitoring activities. EIN will explore further use of webinars to disseminate this information, and make it freely available on our website.
- EIN will work to expand the number of implementation hubs/committees.



EIN Workshop Zagreb, May 2019

Supporting engagement with the implementation monitoring mechanism

EIN will seek to engage new organisations in our information-spreading activities and improve feedback on “Rule 9” submissions. To maintain our ability to provide guidance on the growing number of written submissions, we are in the process of establishing a long-term pro-bono collaboration with a large international law firm.

A continued focus on shrinking civic spaces cases

EIN will monitor the arrival of new ECtHR judgments establishing the political persecution of individuals and continue our work on existing cases. Our aim is that no individual in Europe should continue to be persecuted when the ECtHR has found that they have been targeted for political reasons.

EIN is also working towards wider reforms to protect civic space rights in key countries. EIN will expand this work and seek to advance new domestic advocacy strategies to advance implementation.

Communications

Expanding our communications will include adding more human story elements; developing our website's descriptions of the problems with ECtHR implementation; and increased social media activities.

EIN in a nutshell

EIN members and partners:

2016: 8 founding members

2017: 21 members from 19 countries

2018: 31 members from 19 countries

2019: 33 members and 5 official partners from 23 countries

Number of briefings in 2019: 4 regular briefings, 1 ad hoc briefing on [the Ilgar Mammadov v Azerbaijan case](#), and 3 informal briefings for EIN members.

Number of cases briefed in 2019: 25 concerning 11 countries

Number of trainings in 2019: 5, including 3 thematic trainings and a first multi-stakeholders training

Number of NGO representatives and lawyers trained: around 118 from 70 various NGO/ organisations

Number of non-member NGOs/organisations alerted about cases: 56 from 22 European countries, incl. in countries where EIN does not count members yet, such as Spain, Russia, or Slovenia.





EIN Workshop Warsaw, November 2019



EIN Chair Professor Dr Başak Çalı and EIN member Kerem Altıparmak at the EIN Workshop in Ankara, April 2019

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