



ANNUAL REPORT



2018

DEMOCRACY TODAY NGO

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CHAIPERSON'S STATEMENT

Founded as an initiative of civic activists in 1994 Democracy Today has been registered as an NGO in 2002. DT is a union of public leaders, scholars, activists, whose aim is to support and strengthen democratic achievements and human rights in Armenia.



Through the years the organisation has developed four main directions of work, which are peace building and conflict transformation, civic education of youth, gender equality and research unit. During past two decades Democracy Today has developed professional methodologies of work and extensive experiences.

The organization gives its preference to involvement of youth in its projects. DT has more than 20 years of experience in the field of women's rights protection and promotion of gender equality through its projects. The equal representation of young women and men is one of the main directions of the organisation.

Democracy Today's membership is open. Our members are activists, public leaders, young women and men that build their work and values on principles of social inclusion and non-discrimination.

Gulnara Shahinian
Chair of Democracy Today NGO

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gulnara'.

VISION

We hope that the investment from Democracy Today (DT) and other civil society organizations will give results that will contribute to a country where everybody's rights and dignity are protected, and where women play an important role in making society just, secure, and prosperous - a democratic country with strong rule of law and balanced participation of women and men in society.

MISSION

- Support democratic processes in Armenia
- Enhance women's role and invest in building gender sensitive and inclusive society
- Protect of rule of law and human rights

VALUES

Democracy, equality, protection, respect for human rights, access to justice and creative dignified environment. To see Armenia as a democratic country governed by the rule of law and with a balanced participation of women and men in the country's political, social, economic and cultural life on equal and non-discriminatory basis.



OUR WORK IN ARMENIA



Map of The Republic of Armenia

During 2018 Democracy Today has been working in **21 rural communities** of **5 provinces** of The Republic of Armenia.

Berdavan, Voskepar, Voskevan, Chinchin, Movses, Koghb, Chinari and Berd communities of Tavush province; Spitak, Jrashen, Gargar, Arevashogh and Gyulagarak communities of Lori province; Amassia and Aregnadem communities of Shirak provinc; Nalbandian, Haykavan, Araqs and Ferik communities of Armavir province; Ditak and Sipanik communities of Ararat province.

OUR WORK THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



World Map

Starting from 2012 with the organisation of First International Young Women's Peace and Human Rights Award Democracy Today NGO started to work internationally. This year one of the major initiatives established by DT, 7th International Young Women's Peace and Human Rights Award followed by the 7th International Conference: "Challenging wars and conflicts: Peace and War through the Gender Lens" welcomed **44 representatives** from **21 countries/regions**. Empowerment examples of women leaders, political activists, lawyers and human rights defenders from Poland, France, Ukraine, Russia, Cyprus, Syria, Georgia, Chechen Republic (Russia), Dagestan (Russia), Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Colombia, Burma (Myanmar), Belgium, Sweden, Iraq, USA, Italy, Germany and Nagorno-Karabakh took part in the event.

HEADLINES

FROM THE YEAR

JANUARY 2018

- preparation of annual working programme by the organisation staff and volunteers.
- evaluation of the project from 2017
- reporting from the previous year

FEBRUARY 2018

- presenting shadow report by “CEDAW civil society Task force” coordinated by Democracy Today NGO to the member the government of the Republic of Armenia.

MARCH 2018

- organisation of the meeting/discussion of young women and men from rural and border areas of Armenia with the youth ambassador on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

APRIL 2018

- implementation of training on grant writing for youth from border areas of Armenia. Topics covered: effective project planning and budgeting, resource allocation, appropriate planning and management.
- training on “civic and political rights”. Discussion on right to free and fair elections for 20 women from Nalbandian village organized in collaboration with Women’s club NGO.
- training on women’s role in public and social life of the community held for 19 women from Nalbandian village of Armavir province, RA.



MAY 2018

- organisation of 7th International Young Women's Peace and Human Rights Award. Human rights activist Khin Omar (Burma) photo-journalist Adriane Ohanesyan (US) and human rights activist Maine Balman (Cyprus) were awarded for their exceptional work in the field of peace and human rights. The special diplomas have also been granted. Catherine Herzog (Belgium) received a diploma "For outstanding work in the field of peace and human rights education". Journalist Taus Serganiova (Chechnya) received a diploma "for human rights and peace journalism".

JUNE 2018

- organization and implementation of 6th International Conference: "Challenging wars and conflicts: Peace and War through the Gender Lens". Around 50 women leaders, journalists, politicians, activists and peacebuilders arrived to Yerevan to be part of the conference. Totally up to 120 participants took part in the event.

JULY 2018

- organisation of the meeting/discussion of young women and man from rural and border areas of Armenian on women's role in revolution. Youth shared their perceptions towards the changes in the country and talked about their role in the revolution and various acts of civil disobedience they were part of during these days.

AUGUST 2018

- film screening and discussion on Women's role in peacebuilding facilitated by Gulnara Shahinian. Film by Mine Balman winner of "International Young Women's Peace Award"-2018, who produced a film on ethnic cleansing in Cyprus in 50-60s. Around 80% of participants stated that they were amazed to hear this story. Around 90% of young women leaders stated that they were empowered with Mine Balman as a brilliant example of fearless women who overcame a number of challenges to make her film and tell her version of the story to the world.



SEPTEMBER 2018

- Annual three-day autumn school organized for up to 70 young women and man from rural and border areas of Armenia. Youth from 12 communities of Armenia took part.

Topics discussed:

- 1) Corruption and fraud – anti-corruption measure taken by the Armenian government. Pros and cons.
- 2) Discussion on the small projects implemented by the youth. Results, experience gained.
- 3) Films prepared by “Media Initiative Centre” in the frames of the EPNK. Films are called “Parts of cycle”.
- 4) The role of youth in the political life of the country. Theory and practice.

- Start of new project “New skills for new youth”. Training session on CV and motivation letter writing for up to 35 young people from 6 rural communities of Armenia.

OCTOBER 2018

- Training session on CV writing and SWOT analysis for up to 35 young people from 6 rural communities of Armenia.

NOVEMBER 2018

- Training session on interview behavior for up to 35 young people from 6 rural communities of Armenia.
- Meeting with the member of Ministry of Defense organized for 10 young leaders from 4 bordering villages of Armenia.

DECEMBER 2018

- evaluation of the projects
- financial and narrative reporting of the year.



RESULTS

OF THE YEAR

- up to **170 young women and man** trained on various aspects of human rights / women's rights.
- up to **730 indirect beneficiaries** affected by the project.
- Understanding of gender equality concept increased among young people from target communities by **75%** in average.
- **137 women** from Nalbandian village and neighboring provinces trained on women's rights and gender equality, knowledge increased by **55%**.
- **7 women** from Nalbandian province got practice on public speaking and have been empowered to implement their own trainings.
- **89 women** passed medical examination free of charge.
- **60% of women** who were examined during previous project had no complains because they started to pay attention to their health.
- around **35 young people** got HR skills and became competitive on the local market.
- **6 young women** from bordering areas of Armenia took part in regional dialogue meetings and met young women from Azerbaijan.
- **7 small projects** have been implemented by young women and man from the rural and border areas of Armenia.
- **3 youth centers established** in the bordering villages.
- **50 women** leaders, journalists, politicians, activists and peacebuilders from 20 countries from all over the world took part in the 6th International Conference: "Challenging wars and conflicts: Peace and War through the Gender Lens". Total around **135 persons** took part in the events.
- a platform of **121 human rights organisations and individuals** established as a result of 7th International Young Women's Peace and Human Rights Award and 6th International Conference.
- **3 awards** have been ganted to women for "exceptional work in the field of peace and human rights"
- **2 special diplomas** have been handed to women "for outstanding work in the field of peace and human rights education".

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

The Young women's Peace and Human Rights Award was founded by the regional movement Women of South Caucasus for Peace. Peace starts from your home which was established in October 2011. The goal of the movement is to make the important role of women in peace process visible and recognized and bring voices of women to peace negotiations. It has been inspired by the work of famous peace and human rights activist from Armenia Anahit Bayandur (1931-2011), winner of Ulof Palme Peace Prize.



Youth, especially young women, have much to invest in that process in the Caucasus and beyond. This award aims at advancing and supporting the emergence of a new generation of women peace builders. The aim is to recognize their contributions as well as to support and empower them to take bigger responsibility for their communities and the wider world they live in.

The award will be given to a young woman between the ages of 25-45 or alternatively an organization that invests in peace building in their community. The person or organization has to be known in the community for her/their peace -building activities and for her/their promotion of peace, justice and protection of human rights. This can be through civic activism, academic research, journalism, writing, using social media as tool etc. This work should have lasting impact on the processes of peace and confidence building. Since eight years that The Young women's Peace and Human Rights Award has existed nineteen women have been awarded and three women got certificates of recognition.

THE BOARD MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

The board members are empowering examples of strong women who have carried out numerous benevolent and humanistic acts promoting human rights and peace in different parts of the world.



Gulnara Shahinian

The UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, member of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings, founder and chair of “Democracy Today” NGO.



Andrea Martin

Two time Tony and Emmy Award winning actress, singer, author and comedian, philanthrop, human rights defender and exceptional women who dedicated huge part of her work to benevolent acts, taking care about the most vulnerable groups.



Danielle Del Marmol

Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Belgium to number of countries, Co-chair of OSCE informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti human trafficking.

THE BOARD MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD



Carolann Najarian

Medical doctor, philanthropist, humanitarian, worked in Armenia and Artsakh delivering aid and providing care, sponsors human right lecture annually, recipient of Vachagan Barepashd award 2019 for consistent support shown to Artsakh and services rendered to the republic.



Heidi Meinzolt

European coordinator of Women's International League for Peace (WILPF), coordinator of Gender Working Group of the Civic Solidarity Platform, Women's rights and Conflict Transformation specialist, UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW professional.



Jackie Abramian

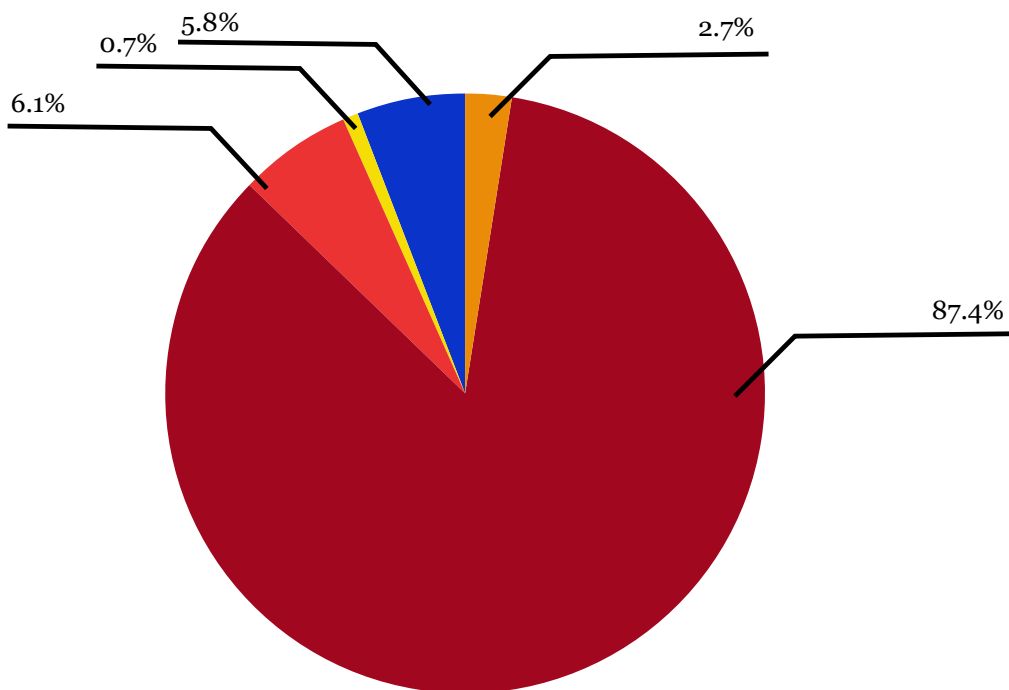
Multi-lingual PR, Social Media Marketing executive for global technology companies, consulting with social enterprises in the UK, Africa, Syria and Armenia, raising visibility of social impact on marginalized and refugee populations. Philanthropist dedicated to defending human rights and women empowerment.

AWARD WINNERS

- 2012 - Inna Ayrapetyan (“Sintem” NGO, Chechen Republic),
Sophia Shakirova (“Movement of the volunteers of the Stavropol”,
Stavropol region)
Rosa Ganieva (“Counseling and post-crisis psychological
rehabilitation center”, Republic of Ingushetia).
- 2013 - Khadija Ismaylova (Radio Azadliq, Azerbaijan)
Zaruhi Hovhannisyan (publicist, journalist, Armenia)
Malikat Dzhabirova (“Mother and Child” regional NGO, Dagestan)
- 2014 - Anahit Danielyan (“Karabakh-open.info”, Nagorno Karabakh)
Megi Bibiluri (Bridge of Friendship “KARTLOSI” NGO, Georgia).
Irina Kishukova (“Centre for Peacemaking and Community
Development”, Kabardino-Balkaria).
- 2015 - Naima Neflyasheva (Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies,
Adygeya)
Eteri Sigaeva (“New generation” leader center, North Ossetia -
Alania).
- 2016 - Ghaida Odat (Syrian Women’s Committee, Syria)
Kheda Omarkhadzieva (“Sintem” NGO, Chechen Republic)
Eliko Bendeliani (Regional Network of Peace and Reintegration
RNPR), Institute for the Study of Nationalism and Conflict,
network Synergy, Georgia).
- 2017 - Baghdad Women’s Association (Baghdad, Iraq)
Ms. Katherine Ronderos Cifuentes (Bogota, Colombia)
- 2018 - Khin Omar (Burma)
Adriane Ohanesyan (US)
Maine Balman (Cyprus)
- Special Certificates - Catherine Herzog (Belgium)
Taus Serganiova (Chechnya)

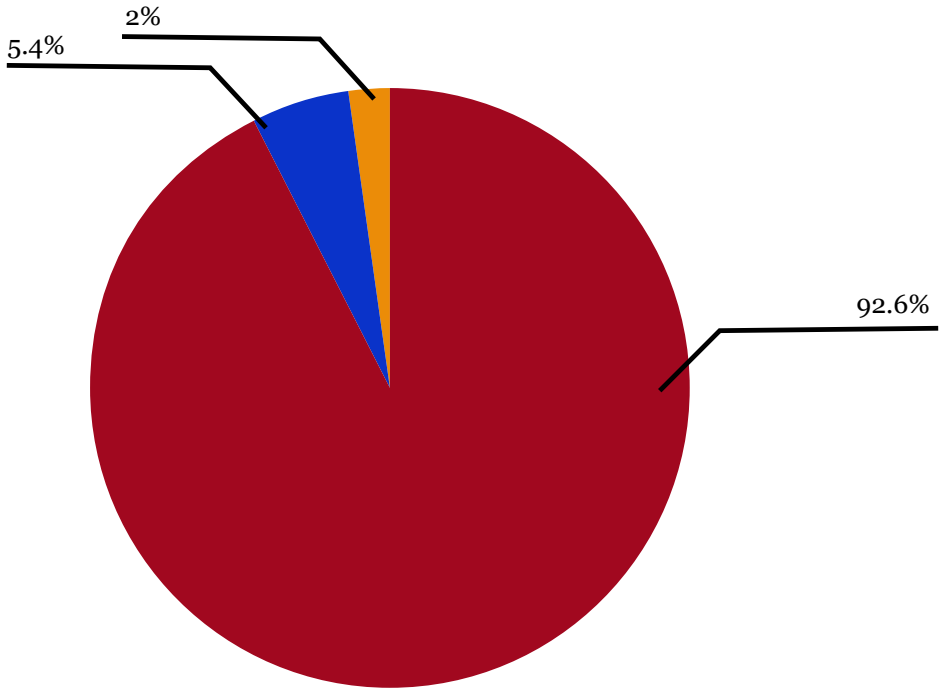
FUNDING




SOURCES



- Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation
- British Government
- UN Women
- UMCOR Armenia foundation
- Embassy of French Republic in The Republic of Armenia

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS



-  Operational expenses
-  Administrative costs
-  Advocacy and research

FINANCIAL

STATEMENT

Turnover Bulletin

January 1st, 2018 - December 31st, 2018

| Acc. | Title | Initial debit balance in AMD | Initial credit balance in AMD | Debit turnover in AMD | Credit turnover in AMD | Ending debit balance in AMD | Ending credit balance in AMD |
|-------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2284 | Money given for other purposes: | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,514,257.00 | 1,514,257.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2511 | National Currency Cashier | 912,705.00 | 0.00 | 30,000,000.00 | 30,512,931.00 | 399,774.00 | 0.00 |
| 25211 | Settlement Bank Account Number 1 | 5,667,789.50 | 0.00 | 56,051,461.20 | 57,040,967.00 | 4,678,283.70 | 0.00 |
| 25212 | Settlement Bank Account Number 2 | 102,418.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50,000.00 | 52,418.00 | 0.00 |
| 25312 | Foreign currency account /EUR/ | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50,605,334.20 | 50,605,334.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5242 | Short-term debt payable on salaries | 64,698.10 | 0.00 | 9,391,481.00 | 9,429,838.00 | 26,341.10 | 0.00 |
| 52493 | Short-term debt on other mandatory payments | 0.00 | 6,000.00 | 157,000.00 | 151,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5251 | Short-term payables income tax | 7,481.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7,481.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5271 | Short-term credit debt on salaries | 9.00 | 0.00 | 33,865,505.00 | 33,865,514.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 541 | Income Grants | 0.00 | 6,749,100.60 | 57,215,463.10 | 55,623,179.20 | 0.00 | 5,156,816.70 |
| 7121 | Labor costs, social security payments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 33,864,830.00 | 33,864,830.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7135 | Office and utility expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 23,378,915.00 | 23,378,915.10 | 0.00 | 0.10 |
| | | 6,755,100.60 | 6,755,100.60 | 296,044,246.50 | 296,044,246.5 | 5,156,816.80 | 5,156,816.80 |

