

Report: Summary of the National Coordination Protocol for the Forum for Human Rights, ENABLE project “Enabling inclusion and access to justice for defendants with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities” (ENABLE - 101056701 - JUST-2021-JACC)

Introduction

The Forum for Human Rights recently concluded efforts to enhance collaboration with key stakeholders in the Czech Republic through a National Coordination Protocol (Protokol o vzájemné spolupráci) to continue the cooperation the Forum started or deepened in the ENABLE project. This initiative aimed to establish a structured framework for cooperation with various national entities, including governmental bodies, legal organizations, and human rights offices. The following report summarizes the key elements of the protocol and the outcomes of our outreach.

Key Contacts and Engagement Outcomes

1. **Pro Bono Alliance:** This organization expressed a strong interest in deepening its collaboration with the Forum. They recognized the potential benefits of mutual legal support and advocacy in the area of human rights. Although they were enthusiastic about the proposed cooperation, they preferred to continue collaborating on an informal basis rather than signing the memorandum officially.
2. **Úřad vlády (Government Office):** The Government Office acknowledged the value of the proposed partnership, particularly in terms of integrating human rights considerations into legislative processes. They were open to ongoing collaboration, especially in sharing information and resources, but opted not to formalize this relationship through a signed agreement.
3. **Česká advokátní komora (Czech Bar Association, ČAK):** The ČAK showed interest in the collaborative opportunities presented in the protocol, particularly in the areas of legal consultation and the promotion of human rights standards within the legal community. However, like the other partners, they chose to engage informally, without signing the memorandum.

Key Elements of the Memorandum of Cooperation

The following points were included in the proposed memorandum and discussed with potential partners:

1. **Promotion of Events:** The protocol envisioned reciprocal promotion of human rights-related events and activities. Partners agreed on the benefits of this approach and were willing to engage in mutual promotion.
2. **Legal Expertise:** The Forum offered to provide legal expertise and consultations on projects and initiatives related to human rights. Partners were interested in this support and agreed to consult the Forum as needed.
3. **Sharing of Resources and Information:** The exchange of specialized knowledge, information, and resources was a key point of interest for all parties. They agreed to continue sharing these resources.
4. **Publication of Materials:** The partners were open to the idea of mutually publishing and disseminating human rights-related materials.
5. **Educational Activities:** There was a consensus on the importance of collaborative educational and awareness-raising activities. The partners expressed a willingness to support such initiatives.

- 6. Litigation Activities:** Joint litigation efforts were recognized as valuable for advocating human rights standards. Partners were interested in potential cooperation in this area.

Conclusion

The National Coordination Protocol initiative was successful in generating interest and support from key stakeholders in the Czech Republic. While the partners were enthusiastic about the proposed areas of collaboration, they uniformly preferred to engage on an informal basis without signing the memorandum officially. This outcome reflects a common preference among the stakeholders to maintain flexibility in their collaborative efforts while still working towards shared human rights objectives. The Forum for Human Rights will continue to build on these informal partnerships, leveraging the interest and willingness expressed by these organizations to advance human rights initiatives across both countries.



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.