

# ALONG WITH TIME #38

Monthly magazine “Along with Time” contains comprehensive description of “New Generation” Humanitarian NGO’s activities during the given month.

## HIV PREVENTION, CARE AND SUPPORT IN THE SCOPE OF RIGHT TO HEALTH PROTECTION

Round-table discussion titled HIV Prevention, Care and Support in the Scope of Right to Health Protection took place on September 27, 2019.



The meeting was organized by New Generation Humanitarian NGO and For Strong Future NGO with the financial support of Elton John AIDS Foundation and Eurasian Coalition on Male Health from the funds of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. [Page 7-8](#)

## Chase **STIGMA** not people



the round table discussion on HIV Prevention, Care and Support in the Scope of Right to Health Protection organized by New Generation Humanitarian NGO. The guests and participants of the meeting had a chance to express their solidarity to the campaign by having photos next to the banner of the campaign. The guests who joined the campaign received symbolic presents with the logo and slogan of the campaign.

On September 27 New Generation Humanitarian NGO launched the media campaign Chase the Stigma Not People in Armenia. The national slogan of the media campaign of Armenia is Make the Community Voice Heard. The media campaign accompanied

## NEW GENERATION HUMANITARIAN NGO STARTED 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLANING



On August 28 2019, New Generation Humanitarian NGO launched the 2020-2025 strategic planning of the organization. With the guidance of expert Varuzhan Avanesyan NGNGO staff discussed and clarified what is NGO strategic planning in general, why it is important and what is the role of each staff member in its effective implementation. With the help of interesting and instructive exercises the

staff analysed their knowledge, skills, motivation and experience, their role in the organization and how they see the future of themselves and the organization. During the meeting the participants discussed and clarified the fields and directions towards which the NGO currently works and where, in what spheres the NGO sees itself working in future. After this meeting also separate focus group meetings will be held separately between the expert and relevant staff members of the NGO working in the specific fields defined during the first meeting.

The 2020-2025 strategic planning of New Generation Humanitarian NGO is made possible with the financial support of Eurasian Coalition on Male Health from the funds of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

## MSMIT TRAINING TOOK PLACE FOR CSO REPRESENTATIVES

“Application of MSMIT tool” took place in Tsaghkadzor on 30-31 of August, 2019, which was led by Sergey Gabrielyan, New Generation Humanitarian NGO president, HIV expert and trainer of trainers on MSMIT. The training was implemented by New Generation Humanitarian NGO within the framework of Right to Health project, financed by Eurasian coalition on male health (ECOM).



On the first day of the training the invited participants got acquainted with the health projects list, HIV virus and vulnerable groups. The day was full of active discussions atmosphere. The participants presented themselves and their organizations experience in HIV prevention.

As a result of discussions with the participants, NGO project worker, sexuality expert and trainer Hmayak Avetisyan ended the day with a seminar on "Sexuality". The participants stated that the information was new for them. On the second day of the training the participants got acquainted with the already developed MSMIT package, as a result of discussions and debates the package was supplemented and new suggestions were made.

## LIFE 10

From August 31 to September 1, 2019, LIFE-10 offsite Information Platform meeting was held within the framework of Right to Health project. This time the information platform was held for beginner MSM activists. The goal of LIFE-10 offsite Information Platform is the awareness-raising and capacity building of MSM community representatives on the topics of Sexuality and Right to Health, enhancing their legal consciousness, acquainting them with the domestic and international human rights protection mechanisms as well as promoting the involvement of the community in the bodies of National Response to HIV.

On the first day of the Information Platform, NGNGO lawyer and attorney, legal barriers overcoming specialist of the Right to Health project, Anahit Mkrtchyan introduced the topic of the Right to Health to the participants: she spoke about the state-guaranteed free medical care and service, also the RA healthcare workers' low level of legal consciousness and of medical knowledge on LGBT+ related issues, their



discriminatory attitude and prevention mechanisms of such manifestations of discrimination were discussed within the framework of the topic. On the second day, NGNGO Project Coordinator, Sexuality Expert, Hmayak Avetisyan, introduced the topic of "Sexuality", the participants learned about complicated topic through group games, informal learning environment, discovered sexuality components, and began to think about their sexual orientation and gender identity, different key words. The day continued with the topic Leadership, which was presented by NGO president Sergey Gabrielyan, including leadership forms and types, characters of a leader. The entire meeting included interesting video-screenings and practical activities. At the end of LIFE-10 Information Platform the participants were awarded with certificates of attendance.

"Right to Health" project is implemented by New Generation Humanitarian NGO with the financial support of the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM) from the funds of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

## WE AND OUR RIGHTS

On 14 August 2019, discussion-training entitled "We and Our Rights" was held at New Generation Humanitarian NGO between Shushan Khnkoyan, lawyer of NG NGO and LGBTI people, as well as their allies.

During the meeting, Shushan Khnkoyan introduced

the concept of rights, rights and responsibilities of LGBTI people when dealing with law-enforcement bodies, how to protect their rights in case of insults, defamation, as well as gave comprehensive answers to the questions raised during the training. The training included lively discussions, Q&A, as well as active debates.

The goal of the training was to provide the participants with strong knowledge about their rights, inform them which are the cases of violation of their rights by law-enforcement bodies and how they can protect their own rights.



### TESTING FOR HIV WILL BE MORE ACCESSIBLE THAN EVER

HIV is thoroughly controllable when diagnosed on time. However many people still identify HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrom) and so they often think of it as of a death sentence. In fact, AIDS is the final, most severe stage of HIV. Regular testing for HIV will help to detect and control the virus on time.



“Testing for HIV has become more accessible than ever”, mentioned Project coordinator of HIV Prevention among MSM, female CSWs and trans people project Artyom Movsesyan who took part in the workshop on HIV testing and Prevention at the National Center for AIDS Prevention. Project assistant Levon Chilingaryan states, “Since August 2017 NGNGO beneficiaries have access to NGO-based free of charge testing for HIV. This implies that the outreach workers trained on voluntary consulting and testing services will be able to provide testing services both at the house of the beneficiary and at other places where necessary conditions will be ensured such as the appropriate temperature, lighting, confidentiality etc.” You can watch the video-guide on testing here.



Th two-day workshop is also important because people directly working with the project beneficiaries and target groups, i.e. outreach workers in this case, reinforced their knowledge on HIV and AIDS, acquired relevant skills on testing for HIV among the beneficiaries. The workshop also provides the opportunity to make the HIV-related services more accessible to the beneficiaries and target groups the NGO works with.

The workshop is implemented by RA National center for AIDS prevention.

### New Generation Humanitarian NGO presents the statistics of MSM tested for HIV in August 2019



VIDEO-GUIDE

### THE PRESENTATION OF NEW GENERATION HUMANITARIAN NGO REPRESENTATIVE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK "TOLERANCE ACADEMY"



From September 1 to 8, 2019, Development of intercultural dialogue and Fighting against intolerance was held at the Tolerance Academy in Munich, Germany and in Seeshaupt, a suburb of Munich. Youth workers and activists from Germany, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Belarus and Armenia participated in the project.

15 young people from Armenia participated, including lawyers, psychologists, doctors and political scientists.

During the "Tolerance Academy" the participants had the opportunity to:

- Get acquainted about the creative methods of discrimination work.
- Participate in different creative master classes (shadow theatre (Yelena Shtuk-Bozhko/Belarus), photography (Yekaterina Ponomarenko/Germany), Creative workshop (Yelena Bondar/Germany), animation (Olesya Shukina/France), plastic theatre (Igor Shugalev/Belarus).
- Learn about different reasons, types and bases of discrimination and inequality in modern world.
- Participate in interesting trips and make new friends.

Anahit Mkrtchyan, a lawyer / advocate of New Generation Humanitarian NGO, presented the topic 'Discrimination' to the participants within the framework of TOLERANCE ACADEMY, accompanying them with interactive exercises and watching videos. During the presentation the current legislation and legal obstacles in the field of prevention of discrimination in Armenia were touched upon. As a reminder, the goals of the project were:

Develop tolerance and intercultural dialogue among young people. Develop and adopt methods for intercultural education and the fight against discrimination and inequality. Development of cooperation between participants from different countries.

### NEW GENERATION HUMANITARIAN NGO HOSTED YOUTH DELEGATION FROM GERMANY



On September 8-15 New Generation Humanitarian NGO hosted 6 youth workers from Germany within the framework of Armenian-German youth exchange programs. During their study trip the German youth workers visited NGOs dealing with human rights protection and youth issues in Yerevan as well as cultural and entertainment venues of Armenia. They had working meetings at Armenian Progressive Youth, Real World Real People and Human Rights House Yerevan organizations.

They also visited cultural sights of Armenia: Tsitsernakaberd Memorial Complex dedicated to the Memory of the victims of Armenian Genocide, Pagan temple of Garni, Geghard Monastery, Lake Sevan and Tatev Monastery. The German youth workers left Armenia with good memories and impressions.

## NEW GENERATION HUMANITARIAN NGO PROVIDED LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF ARMENIAN PROGRESSIVE YOUTH NGO



On April 5, 2019, during the 5th Channel / 5 TV's "Dem Dimats" program, Konstantin Ter-Nakalian, editor-in-chief of BlogNews.am, made a false statement, claiming that the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO has run LGBT propaganda campaign in one of the schools of Kotayk region.

On the following day, 06.04.2019, the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO posted a denial statement on its Facebook page addressed to Constantine Ter-Nakalian. On April 12, 2019, a video was posted on the Facebook page under the name "ADEKVAD" entitled "We apologize to all gay worshipers, pro-Azerbaijani walkerasts". On the same day, hours later, the Respondent posted a video on his Facebook page entitled "Another Apology trial from Grigor Yeritsyan," which, like the previous one, did not have sufficient denial in essence. Days later, on 17.04.2019, Konstantin Ter-Nakalian again posted on his Facebook page a video titled "Many apologies, Grigor Yeritsyan ... Apologies from me personally and Artur Danielyan", with a derogatory attitude towards Grigor Yeritsyan and stating that they will continue to act like that. As a result of the above mentioned actions, the reputation of the Armenian Progressive Youth NGO has been damaged. The New Generation Humanitarian NGO expressed its support to the organization in that situation and provided free advocacy services. Lawyer Anahit Mkrtchyan was involved in the case. As a result, on 06.05.2019, a lawsuit was filed against Konstantin Ter-Nakalian, editor-in-chief of BlogNews.am, 5th Channel / "SHARK" LLC, Artur Danielyan for denying defamation statement and apologizing for insult and claims for compensation as a means of protecting from acts that defame honor, dignity, and business reputation. On 28-08-2019 judge T. Stepanyan presided over the trial. During the trial, the plaintiff stated that among other reasons, respondents' conduct was largely based on political context and discrimination. The next trial is scheduled for 08-11-2019. Advocacy assistance was made possible with the financial support of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee, by the efforts of New Generation Humanitarian NGO.

### Brief information on NNGO legal cases

#### European Court of Human Rights

**ECHR has communicated 3 applications**

**lodged by NNGO attorneys:**

- S. Petrosyan vs Armenia (ECHR, Article 5 right to liberty and security of person)
- Sargsyan vs Armenia (ECHR, Article 5 right to liberty and security of person)
- Sahakyan vs Armenia (ECHR, Article 5 right to liberty and security of person)

#### 2 civil cases

- NNGO vs Hraparak.am (lawsuit for compensation of damages caused by defamation and refusal to deny the defamatory information)
- NNGO vs Gevorg Petrosyan, KAMK initiative (lawsuit for compensation of damages caused by defamation and refusal to deny the defamatory information)

#### Court Cases at Domestic Court Instances

Currently NNGO has 3 criminal, 2 civil and 2 administrative cases lodged at domestic courts of Armenia:

#### 2 civil cases

- NNGO vs Hraparak.am (lawsuit for compensation of damages caused by defamation and refusal to deny the defamatory information)
- NNGO vs Gevorg Petrosyan, KAMK initiative (lawsuit for compensation of damages caused by defamation and refusal to deny the defamatory information)

#### 3 criminal cases

- Z. H. (RA Criminal Code, Article 258, 4th section)
- E. A. (Jacklin), (RA Criminal Code, Article 112)
- A. A. (RA Criminal Code, Article 258)
- A. S. (RA Criminal Code, Article 258)
- S. P. (RA Criminal Code, Article 258)

**The number of free of charge legal consultations provided by NNGO lawyers:**

- 2018- 407 consultations
- 2019 (January – September) - 394 consultations

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John AIDS Foundation and Eurasian Coalition on Male Health from the funds of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Representatives of diplomatic missions, international and local organizations, RA ministries, advocates, lawyers, human right defenders, activists and community representatives attended the meeting. Mr. Sergey Gabrielyan, president of New Generation Humanitarian NGO launched the meeting with an opening speech particularly emphasizing that the organization attaches great importance to implementation of HIV prevention programs in Armenia and actively advocates for ensuring their continuation.

Then representatives of diplomatic missions and international institutions made welcoming speeches. Mr. Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator for the Republic of Armenia stated that it was a great honor to be present at such a meeting, to see so many friends and familiar faces. He concluded his speech with the point that HIV prevention is not only a healthcare issue but it is also related to fundamental human rights, stable development and education level.

Ms. Hasmik Harutyunyan, the Global Fund Program Coordination Team Manager of the Ministry of Health of Armenia, made a welcoming speech on behalf of the ministry and stressed that they attach great importance to cooperation between the government sector and civil society without whom it is impossible to the ambitious goals of the Programs on the Response to HIV. Mr. Vitaly Djuma, executive director of Eurasian Coalition on Male Health also made a welcoming speech at the meeting. He was happy to state that in the region Armenia was in a considerably better situation regarding HIV prevalence as compared to Georgia for instance. Mr. Djuma was also pleased to see all stakeholder bodies: representatives of diplomatic missions, state bodies, representatives of key populations and NGOs



dealing with their issues at the meeting. He concluded his speech with the following thought: "Together we are strong, nobody can do it alone."

After the welcoming speeches, the guest speakers talked about HIV Prevention projects implemented in Armenia with the financial support of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and Elton John AIDS foundation, the work of CCM in Armenia, importance of inclusion of community representatives and community-based organizations in decision making processes, ways of cooperation and challenges in the field of HIV prevention, HIV prevention state grant projects within the framework

of transition plan implementation of the projects financed by Global Fund, opportunities and threats, stigma and discrimination in the field of healthcare.

During the discussion, Cascade Analysis of HIV-related services implemented within the Right to Health project was also presented. The report on the analysis is still in the stage of development and will be presented and discussed with stakeholders again after its finalization. The meeting discussion also included the presentation of the Review of National Legislation Regulating funding sources of NGOs made within Right to Health project and

Other healthcare and legislative issues in the field were also discussed during the meeting. The participants of the meeting agreed to collect all the issues, solutions and recommendations voiced and discussed at the meeting and to present them to all stakeholder bodies.

the comprehensive report developed within the project of For Community from Community.

During the discussions of the work of CCM in Armenia, Mr. Sviatoslav Sheremet, member of ECOM steering committee mentioned that the voice of the community shall be heard in person and directly from the community in the decision making processes.

This will not only provide an opportunity for the community to present their issues in person but also for the decision makers to hear these issues firsthand from the community.



The media campaign Chase the Stigma Not People with the national slogan of the campaign: Make the Community Voice Heard also took place within the round table discussion. The guests and participants of the meeting had a chance to express their solidarity to the campaign by having photos next to the banner of the campaign. The guests who joined the campaign received symbolic presents with the logo and slogan of the campaign.

Implementation of the Media Campaign in Armenia is made possible with the support of Eurasian Coalition on Male Health.

