

What is the Center for Strategic Litigation?

Center for Strategic Litigation (CSL) is a platform established by the Group for Legal and Political Studies. The Center seeks to strengthen the rule of law in Kosovo through strategic litigation.

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Strategic litigation is the litigation of cases that can benefit many citizens. This process is recognized as a powerful tool for legal, political and social reform, because its purpose is to reach broader and long-lasting change, rather than just winning the case at hand. This process also includes the use of the media, advocacy, trainings and other instruments, in order to raise the public awareness about certain issues that need to be addressed, and to pressure responsible authorities to reach rightful decisions and in due time.

As the first of its kind in Kosovo, the Center for Strategic Litigation identifies strategic cases and then prepares and sends them before courts of law or the public administration. The representation of the parties in these cases is done free of charge by the lawyers or jurists of the Center for Strategic Litigation, a team dedicated to the protection of the represented person's individual rights, as well to making a change for everyone else in the same circumstances.

What is the mission of the Center?

The mission of the Center is to expose and correct existing problems with (i) the contents of legal acts in Kosovo, such as gaps and ambiguities within laws, as well as with (ii) the implementation or interpretation of these legal acts by the public institutions. Considering that in many cases the public institutions in Kosovo violate citizens' rights by not implementing legal acts as they ought to, the mission of the Center is for these violations to be exposed and not repeated again, or at least, to be punished appropriately. In addition, the mission of the Center is to create precedents, to raise the people's awareness, to highlight injustices, to promote human rights and to trigger change where needed.

Which cases are undertaken by CSL?

The Center undertakes those cases where citizens' rights were violated by the public institutions in Kosovo, hence it aims to support those who have been harmed by the actions or non-actions of the public administration and courts of law. The cases are evaluated by the Center according to these criteria:

- **Public Interest:** Does the violation of the public institution negatively affect the public interest? Can many citizens benefit from a rightful decision of the court in the case at hand, or just by raising the collective awareness about the certain problem?
- **Reform:** Does the case have potential to bring legal, political and social reforms where needed?
- **Development:** Can the case benefit the development, interpretation or implementation of legal acts in Kosovo?
- **International Standards:** Does the case have potential to bring international standards into domestic law?

How to apply in the Center?

If you believe that your rights have been violated by a public institution in Kosovo, either through an action or non-action, you can apply to bring your case to the Center. To apply you must download and fill out the application form provided in the website of the Center www.csikosovo.org according to the instructions contained therein and submit it via email at office@csikosovo.org. Also, within 3 days from the email submission, you must send the physical application form in a sealed envelope via registered mail in the address: Rexhep Luci Street No. 16/1, 10000 Prishtina, Kosovo. If your case is selected, you will have the opportunity to be represented by the lawyers of the Center free of charge.

For more information about the Center and the manner of application please visit our website www.csikosovo.org or write us an email at office@csikosovo.org.

Also, you may apply in the Center through this leaflet, by filling out the data on the other side of the page and by sending it in a sealed envelope in the address: Rexhep Luci Street No. 16/1, 10000 Prishtina, Kosovo.

