



Civil organization

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EVET (European Vision for Ethnic Tolerance)

PRESENTATION

Non-governmental organizations and civic movements are a proven form of civic activity and participation in formulating and solving regional, professional and national problems. The truly guaranteed freedom of association, the ability of society to mobilize civic energy in the public interest, and the policy of promoting civic initiatives are a definite feature of advanced modern democracies.

Strengthening **civil society** for EVET is a real guarantee of the irreversibility of the road to democracy and the market economy. For us, civic initiative and creative potential have political, economic and social dimensions. The political power of society is reflected not only in the activities of **political parties**, but also in **associations** for the protection of common democratic principles, the civil control over public administration, assisting law enforcement authorities in the fight against criminality and other negative social events.

Civil association "**EVET**" /European Vision for Ethnic Tolerance/ is a nonprofit organization established on 21.04.2000 in the city of Razgrad. It was registered on 17.11.2000 in Razgrad District Court with decision No 580 with headquarters and management address in city of Razgrad. On 07.10.2002 the association has been **re-registered** in the Sofia City Court by decision No 7790/2002. On the basis of article 34 of the Statute of the Association, regional structures were established in the following districts: Razgrad, Targovishte, Kardzhali, Plovdiv, Burgas, Haskovo, Shumen, Silistra, Svishtov, Blagoevgrad, Pleven, Vratsa, Varna, Sliven, Ruse, Dobrich, Stara Zagora, Sevlievo, Lovech, Sofia district and Sofia. By decision of the Sofia City Court dated 10.10.2003. the association enters into amendments to the Articles of Association, which define the activity of the association under art. 2, para. 1 of the Law for Non-profit Organizations from private to **public benefit**. Enters headquarters and address of management: city of Sofia, Triaditsa region, 18 Vitosha Blvd., floor 6.

EVET association is a member of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues at the Council of Ministers.

MISSION:

Integration of minority and religious communities and observance of their rights on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

GOALS:

- Integration of minority and religious communities and observance of their rights on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.
- Assistance in raising the awareness of European, national, regional and local institutions on the issues of ethnic, minority and religious communities in the country and enhancing intercultural dialogue.
- Providing opportunities for local formal and informal communities in the regions of Republic of Bulgaria with an ethnically heterogeneous population to engage in a constructive and tolerant dialogue on community development issues and tasks.

- Building leadership capacity locally as a basis for raising social capital.
- Identification of issues related to inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue and mobilization of the groups' resources in society for their solution in the form of ideas for projects, policies and initiatives at local and national level.
- Initiating the establishment of the State Agency for Tolerance at the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria.
- Creating an appropriate space to enable the minority communities, including vulnerable groups to use services that normally take significant amount of time for their realization.
- Developing and implementing health and education programs, creating jobs, organizing social assistance for the needy citizens.
- The priority is working with children and young people.
- Realization of youth activities and initiatives;
- Solving the problems and observing the rights of children and youth;
- Facilitating integration of young people from minority and religious groups in society and promote their initiative and future social and professional development;
- Developing the interests and needs of young people in the fields of technology, culture, sport and others by participating in the development of local, regional and national concepts and strategies;
- Participating in projects and programs for financing from European and other donor programs, funds and financing institutions related to the activity;
- Supporting building, refurbishment and preservation of religious, cultural and historical monuments on the territory of Republic of Bulgaria.

ACTIVITIES:

- Organization of conferences, seminars, cultural and folk festivals;
- Collect and summarize information on the regional problems of ethnic and minority communities and assisting in their realization.
- Co-operation with labor offices and social services, the Labor Inspectorate and the Regional offices of health insurance funds and other institutions at local and national level;
- Elaboration and realization of projects for financing the goals of the association from European, international and national financial institutions;
- Protect the rights of minority and religious communities through interaction with state, regional and local authorities;
- Popularization and realization of the works of talented young people at home and abroad;
- Ensuring legal protection of representatives of different ethnicities and young people in violation of civil rights.
- Ensuring organizational cooperation in the management and resource building of the branches of the association locally.

The capabilities of the third sector in areas such as education, culture, health, human rights, minority care are unlimited. Non-governmental organizations have the opportunity to penetrate the most inconspicuous social tensions, to solve local problems beyond the visibility of the administration, to protect the rights of the individual.

Therefore, the establishment of specialized non-governmental organizations, such as the EVET civil association, is a mechanism to transform real human interests and needs into public policy. Based on this understanding, we will support the legal measures to encourage the commitment of the state and the business to financially and organizationally guarantee a stable third-party sector in Bulgaria. We pay special attention to improving the conditions and

incentives for participation of organizations such as ours to implement the policy on social integration. By setting up a community-based development mission, EVET supports and will require the support of all social and non-governmental organizations active in the social sphere to reach the "western" standard of living in the country.

Any act of "EVET" /European Vision for Ethnic Tolerance/ and its governing bodies is an expression of a responsible position consistent with the rule of law and actively contributes to the maintenance and presentation to Bulgaria and abroad of the famous Bulgarian "ethnic tolerance".

"EVET" is not a mere chance but a conscious necessity.