IDM Vision

Inform, Develop, Motivate for a democratic and prosperous society

Our Mission is to advance capacities of societal players, generate and share knowledge, skills and expertise for inclusive and evidence-based policy making to strengthen democracy, rule of law and sustainable development.

“IDM is one of UNDP Albania’s critical partners, engaging in sensitive but fundamental work. IDM undertakes sophisticated surveys, including on issues touching on democratic practice, trust in government, municipal transparency, and religious tolerance. It’s fair to say that IDM has its finger on the pulse of Albania”

Brian J. Williams
UN Resident Coordinator and
UNDP Resident Representative in Albania
The Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM, was established in November 1999 as a non-governmental organization dedicated to consolidate participatory governance and democratic institutions, Euro-Atlantic integration processes, civil society development, regional cooperation and security through independent research, capacity building and engagement of societal players.

Starting as a relatively small organization in the first years, from 2005 onwards IDM has increasingly developed as a think tank organization actively contributing to reforms and development processes in six key areas – Governance and public integrity; Security; EU accession process; Local governance and integrated development; Civil society development and advancement of applied research.

IDM contribution is channeled through the work of three departments, a dedicated 18 full time member team and a broad network of associates.
IDM Advisory Board is composed of longstanding associates of the Institute from the academia and the think tank sector. Its primary objective is to advise IDM policy research work, programmatic development and strategies to advance our impact.

Members:

Proff. Asc. Enis Sulstarova, University of Tirana
Sonja Stojanovic, BCSP Director (Belgrade)
Ilir Ciko, MPA
Matt Dann, Secretary Gen. of Bruegel (Brussels)
Marsela Dauti, PhD Marie Curie Fellow, Uppsala University, Sweden
Regional engagement

The Institute for Democracy and Mediation is an active member of the following regional and wider networks:

- Balkan Civil Society Development Network
- Balkan Security Initiative
- UN Convention against Corruption – UNCAC – Civil Society Coalition
- OSCE Network of think tanks and academic institutions
- SELDI - Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity
- Think for Europe Network

Quality work

IDM expertise, deliverables and services are employed by a broad range of actors, such as decision makers, central and local state actors, international organizations, civil society, media and academia.

By combining the advantages of a knowledgeable think-tank and a resourceful operational non-governmental actor, the Institute offers capacity development tailored for specific audiences, needs and thematic interest; Policy analysis, applied research and advocacy for evidence-based policy options; Expertise and institutional assistance for stakeholders involved in IDM focus areas.
IDM in 2017

In 2017, the Institute for Democracy and Mediation was engaged in the implementation of over 30 projects ranging from single to multiyear initiatives.

Over 20 donor organizations have supported IDM work in 2017 with an annual budget of approximately of 800,000 EUR, which is 25% up from IDM 2016 budget.

IDM published 30 publications in 2017 including policy analysis (brief, papers), research studies, assessment reports and other deliverables (articles, handbooks).

95 public events have been organized by IDM in 2017 including press conferences, roundtables, national and regional conferences, training workshops and study tours, local forums and awareness raising events.

Approximately 2000 participants have physically attended IDM events in 2017, over 60% of which coming from civil society, decision-makers and academia.

“I want to thank all of you for the leadership you have shown in Shkodra, Kukes, Elbasan, Berat, Vlora, Lezha, Gjirokastra and Tirana. I want to thank your brave teachers for their support and I want to thank the Institute for Democracy and Mediation...

...Times are changing. Corrupt politicians, government officials, judges and prosecutors are afraid. Do you know who they are afraid of? They are afraid of you!”

H.E. Donal Lu,
US Ambassador in Albania (May 2017)
“The establishment of the Albanian rural parliament represents a concrete step towards policies encouraging the sustainable development”

Gramoz Ruci, Speaker of the Parliament
Out of a total of 30 projects implemented in 2017, half of them were regional initiatives carried out in partnership with think tanks and partner organization from the western Balkan region, EU member states and the US.

IDM projects remain predominantly focused on policy analysis and research, monitoring, advocacy and capacity development.

Following successful experiences in re-granting small funds to local CSOs in the previous years, IDM was engaged for the first time in 2017 in sub-grating EU funds to Albanian CSOs focusing on anticorruption (CIVILISC), public administration reform (WeBER) and integrated development (ALTER). A total of 25 projects of Albanian CSOs ranging from EUR 5,000 to EUR 20,000 have been financed by IDM in 2017.
IDM 2017 events

95 public events have been organized by IDM in 2017 including press conferences, roundtables, national and regional conferences, training workshops and study tours, local forums and awareness raising events. The majority of IDM events are public while only few of them are closed-door or invitations only meetings.

Over 100 media mentions of our public events have been recorded during 2017, by Albanian and regional media.

Over 130 Albanian and foreign speakers have addressed participants and conference proceedings including senior government officials, MPs, diplomats, university professors, civil society leaders, representatives of international organizations, leaders of religious communities, journalists and other influential speakers.

“There is no room for fear, because no pressure shall hold back Albania to develop its democracy.”

H.E. Romana Vlahutin, EU Ambassador in Albania commenting on IDM’s “Trust in Governance” annual report (February 2017)

Highlights of IDM Events

- Seminar for CSOs in Albania on SIGMA Principles of Public Administration
- Night Owl Session “Credible Voices on Preventing Violent Extremism”
- National Conference “Public trust in Governance 2017”
- First Albanian Rural Parliament
IDM audience 2017

Approximately 2000 participants have physically attended IDM events in 2017. The majority of them come from civil society sector, academia and international organizations (45%), Albanian state institutions and intergovernmental organizations (35%), media and the private sector (10%), and other (10%) societal groups such as religious communities, activists and community groups.

Policy stakeholders

IDM engages regularly with a broad range of state institutions such as Parliament and its standing committees on European Integration, security and legal affairs, General Prosecution, Ombudsman, the State Supreme Audit, Ministry of Interior, Albanian State Police, Albanian Intelligence Service, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Local government institutions and other bodies where IDM is an active member – National Council for European Integration, National Council for Civil Society.

Cooperation with civil society and academia – public and private universities – remains high in IDM networking efforts, as well as the consolidation of cooperation with regional / European think tanks. The Institute engages regularly with international organizations and partners supporting Albania’s reforming processes – EU, US agencies, UN agencies, Regional Cooperation Council, OSCE Presence and other actors.
Social media audience (FB)

As IDM is increasingly using various social media platforms to boost its engagement particularly with audiences abroad during 2018, Facebook remains the main social media used by Albanians. We have broadcasted our work regularly on IDM Facebook Page, including our public events, media appearances, reports, studies, policy documents, survey and other research data.

4245
+1000 Likes and followers as compared to 2016

A relatively young audience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-25 years</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34 years old</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44 years old</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

62
Our followers live in 62 countries worldwide whereas most regular visitors of our FB page reside in Albania, Macedonia, Italy, Serbia, France, Great Britain, Greece, Germany, Belgium and US.
Commissioned Research

In 2017 the Institute has carried out commissioned research for the UK Government and the OSCE Presence in Albania in the areas serious and organized crime, and anticorruption respectively.

1. “An Assessment of the Albanian Serious & Organised Crime”

2. White paper “IDM proposal for an alternative National Anticorruption Model in Albania”

“Berat municipality has integrated IDM’s suggestions on the functioning of community structures and I take this opportunity to invite and appeal to other municipalities to follow this example.”

Valbona Kuko
Director of Leviz Albania
IDM expanded workload, regional partnerships and the increased number of projects with a re-granting (to local CSOs) component have resulted in a nearly EUR 800,000 annual budget for 2018, the largest annual budget since the establishment of the organization.

The Institute for Democracy and Mediation would like to express its deep gratitude to long-term partners and other donor organizations who have supported our work in 2017.
IDM 2017 Budget

- European Commission: 49.50%
- US Embassy Tirana: 29.99%
- Berghof Foundation: 1.34%
- Centre pour le Controle 1/ Democratique des Forces Armees (DCAF): 0.72%
- UNDP: 6.02%
- Partnerships for Social Development: 0.50%
- Management Systems International (MSI): 0.68%
-British Council: 0.45%
- Universite de Fribourg: 0.48%
-Slovak Aid: 1.90%
-Leviz Albania: 0.34%
-VISEGRAD: 0.16%
-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): 6.02%
-EUROPEAN FUND FOR THE BALKANS (EFB): 0.16%
-Fondation Suisse pour la Recherche en Sciences Sociales Fors Unicentre (FORS): 0.24%
-Min. Foreign Affairs Netherlands: 1.26%
-OSCE Presence in Albania: 0.71%
-Stiftung Open Society Institute (OSIFE): 5.21%
-German Marshall Fund of the US: 0.09%
-Balkans Trust for Democracy: 0.26%
-IDM 2017 Budget
1. **Study “Religious tolerance in Albania” UNDP Albania**

Fieldwork and extensive research was carried out during 2017 by IDM researchers to analyze one of the most important values of Albanian society – religious tolerance. Findings of the study, which was commissioned by UNDP Albania, will be presented in early 2018.

2. **Police Integrity Index**

Following an impactful two-cycle implementation of the “Police Integrity” project (2013 – 2014 and 2015-2016) which fueled the Police Vetting law and reform in 2017, IDM will continue its work to assist Albanian State Police integrity building and anticorruption measures, through monitoring of the Vetting process and assistance to consolidate ethics and management culture.

3. **Albania’s EU accession: Developing capacities and negotiating structures**

As the country is expecting a positive recommendation to open accession negotiations with EU, the Institute in 2018 will intensify its work to develop capacities and encourage the policy discourse on the negotiating structures, and the role of civil society in this process.

4. **Study “Religious radicalism and violent extremism in Albania 2.0”**

Almost four years since the first baseline assessment of the phenomenon of violent extremism in Albania and following a number of C/PVE actions, IDM with the support of the US embassy in Tirana will carry out a second assessment of the state of affairs, threats and challenges of violent extremism in Albania.

5. **Governance risk assessment (GRASP) and Governance Integrity**

Based on the success piloting of a successful piloting of Governance risk assessment in public procurement in 2017, IDM with the support of PSD Croatia will analyze the social capture phenomena in Albania, as part of a regional initiative covering the WB accession countries. Additionally, good governance and public integrity will remain at the center of our research focus in 2018.