

Annual Report 2025

February, 2026



www.dplus.org

Discover more about our latest publications,
news, and online infographics.

f [@democracyplus](https://www.facebook.com/democracyplus) **in** [@democracy-plus](https://www.linkedin.com/company/democracy-plus)

X [@democracy_plus](https://twitter.com/democracy_plus) **▶** [@Democracy Plus](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDemocracyPlus)

St. Bajram Kelmendi, No.92,
Floor IV, Pristina, 10000 Kosovo

+383 (0) 38 749 288
info@dplus.org

About Democracy Plus

05

Empowering Youth
for Integrity,
Apprenticeship, and
Digital Transformation

07

Supporting the
Integrated Water
Resources Management
Program in Kosovo

12

Public Procurement
Monitoring

14

Empowering Citizens
and Administrative
Reform in Kosovo

23

Empowering Women
Farmers

24

Monitoring Public
Projects through Social
Auditing

26

Efforts to Counter
the Spread of
Disinformation

28

Reports and Fixes
on the ndreqe.com
Platform

32

Partners and Donors

37

About Democracy Plus

We are an independent, non-profit organization founded in 2016. Committed to fostering a democratic society in Kosovo, our mission is centered on increasing citizen participation in political processes, promoting accountability, and influencing decision-making at all levels of governance. We leverage the power of information technology to advance these efforts, advocating for the use of digital tools to democratize and modernize our society.

Our work contributes to the establishment of good governance practices in public institutions at both the central and local levels, strengthening the rule of law, advancing political parties, and supporting free and fair electoral processes. Through policy research, public dialogue, and education, our initiatives aim to bridge the gap between decision-makers and citizens. Above all, we champion democratic values and practices, empowering the voices of Kosovo's citizens and fostering a more inclusive and participatory society.

During 2025, D+ continued its efforts to build a democratic culture through numerous activities aimed at influencing decision-making, strengthening the transparency and accountability of public institutions, increasing citizen participation in policymaking, and improving the development of public procurement procedures.

This report presents a summary of the activities carried out by D+ during 2025 and the impact they have had in fulfilling our mission.

Vision

Governance and societies where democratic culture and values are the norm.

Mission

D+ is committed to the development of a democratic society, through influencing decision-making and strengthening civic participation in the design and implementation of public policies.

Programs

Good Governance

Rule of Law

Political Parties and Elections

1. Empowering Youth for Integrity, Apprenticeship, and Digital Transformation

1.1 School on Integrity and Prevention of Corruption

In 2025, in cooperation with the Agency for Prevention of Corruption (APC) and with the support of the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI), D+ organized the School on Integrity and Prevention of Corruption, the first initiative of its kind in Kosovo.

The three-day school trained 25 participants on topics related to integrity, ethics, transparency, and the prevention of corruption, equipping them to become strong advocates of integrity and to contribute as active citizens and future leaders in public service.

Seven high-quality lectures were delivered by representatives of the APC, civil society experts, and media professionals, offering practical and multi-perspective insights. Post-lecture assessments demonstrated very high learning outcomes, with an average score of 91%.

Post-lecture assessments showed very high learning outcomes, with an average score of 91%.





The School has significantly contributed to strengthening the capacities of a new generation of professionals committed to integrity and the prevention of corruption in Kosovo.

The School concluded by marking the culmination of an intensive engagement in the field of integrity and anti-corruption. Four participants were given the opportunity to continue their professional engagement through a three-month internship at the APC. The opportunity to contribute within a key institution in the prevention of corruption demonstrates D+'s direct impact in building bridges between education and practical engagement in the public sector.

Overall, the School significantly contributed to strengthening the capacities of a new generation of professionals committed to integrity and anti-corruption in Kosovo. D+ remains dedicated to empowering youth for integrity and good governance, in continued cooperation with the APC in preparation for the second edition of the School.

1.2 The 9th Apprenticeship Program

The 9th Apprenticeship Program, implemented by D+ in cooperation with the OSCE Mission in Kosovo, continued to serve as one of the most important mechanisms for the professional empowerment of youth and for increasing their engagement in local institutions.

In cooperation with the OSCE's regional centers, 15 interns were placed in 12 local institutions and organizations across five regions of Kosovo, including municipalities, civil society organizations, and youth centers.

The program included two training sessions on topics such as:

- The functioning of municipal institutions, public policy drafting, and official communication;
- CV preparation, social media campaign development, and youth engagement in local governance.

This year, the program was enriched with a new mentoring component, further strengthening the connection between former interns and new generations. Five alumni, now engaged in public institutions and civil society organizations, provided direct support to five young participants from the previous generation, offering 16 hours of individual mentoring to each. The focus of this engagement was career orientation, CV improvement, application preparation, and the consolidation of professional development plans.

- In cooperation with the OSCE's regional centers, 15 interns were placed in 12 local and youth institutions and organizations across five regions of Kosovo.





An evaluation conducted with 56 alumni confirmed the program's lasting impact: 95% reported increased confidence when applying for jobs, 89% highlighted improvements in core professional skills, and 94% stated they would recommend the program to others.

In addition to this impact, D+ promoted the program through two open information sessions at IBCM and AAB College, where 129 students had the opportunity to hear firsthand from successful former interns about their professional experiences.

These activities contributed to increasing the program's visibility and inspiring young people to engage in initiatives that support their professional development.



1.3 Youth Camp on Artificial Intelligence and Democracy



In cooperation with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Kosovo (KAS Kosovo), D+ organized the Youth Camp on Artificial Intelligence and Democracy, creating a unique space for critical reflection on the intersection between technology and democratic processes. Young people from various municipalities across Kosovo gathered for an intensive weekend of discussions and idea exchange, analyzing the transformation of democracy from traditional civic spaces to the digital sphere, the role of social media, and the challenge of disinformation.

During the thematic sessions, participants discussed the impact of algorithms and digital communication on civic engagement, as well as the risk of “new authoritarianism,” where emotional manipulation and the amplification of polarizing content can undermine democratic resilience. Through open dialogue and the analysis of concrete cases, D+ contributed to empowering young people with the knowledge and tools to better understand the impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, fostering a more informed and active generation in the digital age.

2. Supporting the Integrated Water Resources Management Program in Kosovo

In February 2025, D+ began supporting the Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo (IWRM-K) Phase 2 Program under Contract No. IWRMK2-CPS-2025-002, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). During this period, D+ designed and launched the Civil Society Organization Grant Scheme for Phase 2, resulting in 34 eligible applications submitted by CSOs from more than 20 municipalities across Kosovo.

Following administrative and technical evaluation, six CSO grants were awarded, with individual project budgets ranging from approximately EUR 28,900 to EUR 49,955, supporting initiatives focused on water pollution reduction, sustainable water use, community engagement, and innovative water management solutions.

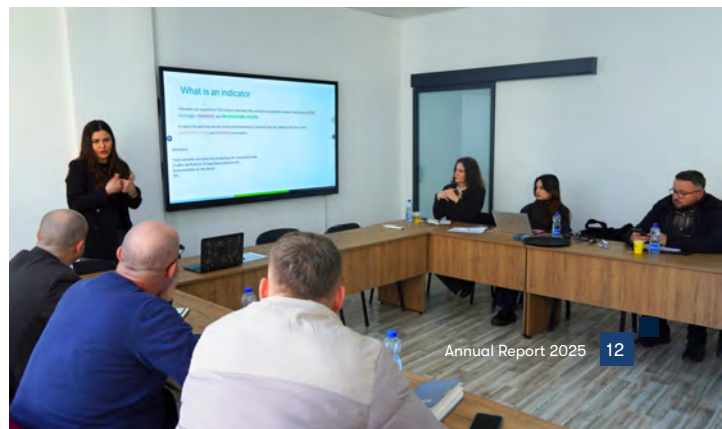


To support effective implementation, D+ organized one implementation workshop with 20 participants and delivered nine targeted capacity-building sessions addressing procurement, advocacy, financial management, and communication needs identified through individual assessments with each grantee.

In parallel, D+ supported the institutionalization of participatory water governance mechanisms. A comprehensive Multi-Stakeholder Participation Mechanism (MSPM) Guideline was developed and formally endorsed by the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (MESPI) in December 2025, establishing standardized procedures for stakeholder engagement in River Basin Management Plan consultations.



D+ organized one implementation workshop with 20 participants and delivered nine targeted capacity-building sessions.



D+ also identified all relevant stakeholders across all four river basins - Drini i Bardhë, Lepenc, Moravë e Binçës, and Ibër, ensuring representation from civil society, municipalities, public institutions, academia, and the private sector.

Notably, the Drini i Bardhë basin stakeholder mechanism was newly established, filling a previous institutional gap. These efforts strengthened coordination between CSO-led local actions and national water governance processes, laying the groundwork for inclusive, data-driven, and sustainable water resource management in Kosovo.



Notably, the Drini i Bardhë basin stakeholder mechanism was newly established, filling a previous institutional gap.



3. Public Procurement Monitoring

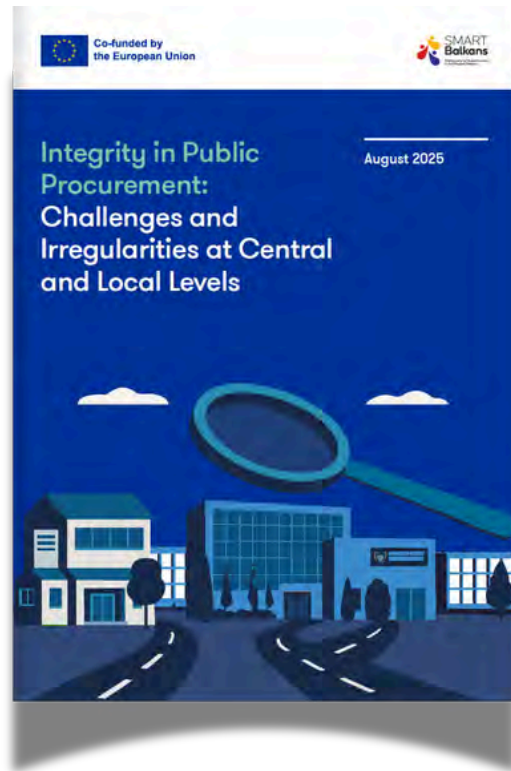
3.1 Monitoring Public Procurement at Central and Local Levels

During 2025, D+ continued its engagement in monitoring public procurement at both the central and local levels, with a focus on transparency, accountability, and compliance with the applicable legal framework. Through direct monitoring of procurement procedures, analysis of specific contracts, public reporting, and institutional advocacy, D+ contributed to identifying irregularities, addressing problematic practices, and strengthening public debate on good governance in public procurement.

As part of its monitoring activities, D+ monitored approximately 10 public procurement procedures of various types conducted at both the central and local levels. The monitoring focused on three ministries and three municipalities, covering all key stages of the process, from planning and drafting the tender dossier to bid evaluation, contract signing, and implementation.

Eight findings from these monitoring activities are reflected in the report [Integrity in Public Procurement: Challenges and Irregularities at the Central and Local Levels](#), and include, among others:

- The inclusion of discriminatory and preferential requirements in tender dossiers;
- Unlawful cancellation of procurement procedures;
- Drafting technical specifications that directly refer to a specific product or manufacturer;
- Unjustified use of the negotiated procedure, contrary to the principles of competition and transparency;
- Execution of payments and/or advances in violation of legal and contractual provisions, increasing the risk of misuse of public funds.



Based on the identified findings, D+ has put forward eight concrete recommendations to public institutions, aimed at improving existing practices:

- Enhancing transparency and financial oversight;
- Ensuring fair competition in procurement procedures;
- Consistent application of legal criteria and procedures;
- Promoting participation and professionalism in procurement;
- Fair and justified implementation of procurement procedures.

3.2 Monitoring and Analysis of Special Service Agreements



The report also includes 13 recommendations, structured across five (5) thematic areas, aimed at addressing the key shortcomings identified in the use of SSAs. The recommendations focus on improving human resource planning, clarifying the legal framework, strengthening competitive procedures and professional selection criteria, preventing conflicts of interest, and enhancing transparency and institutional oversight—ultimately aiming to restore SSAs to their intended legal purpose.

D+ will continue to monitor the use of SSAs in public institutions, identifying and reporting potential cases of conflict of interest, repeated engagement of the same individuals, and violations of regular selection procedures. This engagement aims to strengthen transparency, accountability, and the efficient use of human and financial resources in public administration.

D+ has continued monitoring Special Service Agreements (SSAs) in public institutions, publishing its fourth consecutive report on this issue, titled “Special Services for Ordinary Work: How the Purpose of SSAs in Kosovo is being Diminished.”

As part of this monitoring effort, 95 SSA contracts were identified. For in-depth analysis, seven (7) public institutions were selected, including the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, the Ministry for Communities and Return, as well as the municipalities of Prishtina, Vushtrri, Klina, and Kamënica.

The report’s findings indicate that SSAs continue to be used for administrative tasks, project management, and legal services of a permanent nature, reflecting weaknesses in human resource planning. At the same time, cases of conflict of interest, repeated engagement of the same individuals, circumvention of regular recruitment procedures, and inappropriate use of selection procedures and criteria were identified, undermining competition, meritocracy, and professionalism.



3.3 Reactions to the Misuse of Procurement Procedures

In addition to direct monitoring and reflecting its findings in the thematic report, D+ has undertaken concrete actions, both public and non-public, with the aim of strengthening oversight of public spending and ensuring institutional follow-up on identified irregularities. In this context, D+ has addressed direct reactions to contracting authorities concerning specific suspected cases of violations in public procurement, as follows:

➤ A reaction addressed to the Ministry of Infrastructure regarding the exclusion from the evaluation process of an economic operator who had submitted a bid through a dissolved business and had been convicted of fraud in public procurement, raising serious concerns about compliance with legal criteria and the integrity of the evaluation process.

➤ A reaction addressed to the Municipality of Shtime concerning a case in which there is reasonable suspicion that an economic operator was involved in drafting the tender documentation and was subsequently recommended for contract award under the same tender, constituting a conflict of interest and undermining the principles of competition and equal treatment.

3.4 Initiation of Procedures for Institutional Accountability within Justice Institutions

Based on the monitoring findings and the analysis of the relevant documentation, D+ has undertaken concrete actions to contribute to strengthening accountability mechanisms and the rule of law in the field of public procurement. In this context, D+ has submitted three separate cases for review to the Prosecutor's Office and filed seven requests for the assessment of conflict of interest with the Agency for Prevention of Corruption (APC).

The cases submitted to the Prosecutor's Office relate to suspicions of conflict of interest, infringement of free competition, and the submission of questionable documentation by economic operators. Specifically, the cases include:

- Suspicions of conflict of interest and infringement of free competition involving the economic operators Geo-Map/Pro & Co Group;
- Suspicions of submission of falsified documentation in a bid by Archi Time L.L.C.;
- Suspicions that the economic operator prepared the tender documentation for the Municipality of Shtime in relation to the procedure "Maintenance of Infrastructure."

Meanwhile, the cases submitted to the APC involve suspicions of conflict of interest identified both in the use of SSAs and in other contracts related to public procurement procedures. Some of these cases include:

➤ Suspicions of conflict of interest in the contracting of the former Head of the Procurement Office by the Ministry of Economy, only 76 days after retirement, through a Special Service Agreement. The Agency for Prevention of Corruption confirmed the conflict of interest, requested the annulment of the contract, and simultaneously initiated misdemeanor proceedings before the competent court (Decision No. 1631/25, 15.08.2025).

➤ The APC confirmed a conflict of interest in the case of the responsible procurement official in the Municipality of Kaçanik, reported by D+. In his capacity as procurement manager, the official signed a public contract with an economic operator with whom he had a business relationship. The APC requested the annulment of the contract, initiated disciplinary proceedings against the official, and referred the case to the Prosecutor's Office.

In addition to these cases, D+ has submitted several other cases to the same institution concerning suspicions of conflict of interest in various institutions, including the Municipality of Vushtrri, the Municipality of Prishtina, the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of Glogoc, and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport (MCYS).

3.5 Publication of articles

As part of efforts to promote transparency and strengthen fact-based public debate in the field of public procurement, D+ has supported the engagement of journalists and procurement researchers to address topics of high public interest. Through these investigations, concrete cases and emerging institutional practices have been examined, with the aim of assessing their compliance with the applicable legal framework and identifying challenges affecting the management of public funds. The investigative articles produced and published during 2025 include:

➤ [Suspicious of Favoritism by the Ministry of Health in the Tender for the Special Institute in Shtime](#)

This article examines how public procurement procedures can affect the implementation of healthcare infrastructure projects. Despite the project's importance in improving institutional care conditions, the tender raised concerns about favoritism and unequal treatment of economic operators, interruptions of the process due to complaints, and delays in review by the relevant authorities. The case highlights the need for transparency, adherence to legal standards, and community involvement in decision-making in order to ensure the effective management of public funds and the lawful implementation of projects.

➤ [The Dual Contract Scandal at Gjilan General Hospital: A Breach of Law and Institutional Silence](#)

This article examines how non-compliance with the Law on Public Procurement and the lack of institutional accountability affect the management of public funds. In November 2023, the Gjilan Hospital signed a new cleaning services contract with the company "Mburoya" L.L.C., despite the existing contract with "Aroma Plus" still being in force. This was carried out through a negotiated procedure without prior publication, which did not meet the exceptional conditions provided for by law. The recommendation of the Public Procurement Regulatory Commission (PPRC) not to conclude the contract was ignored, while the Procurement Review Body (PRB) subsequently annulled the contract, identifying clear legal and procedural violations. The case demonstrates the failure of the contracting authority and oversight bodies to ensure transparency, equal treatment of economic operators, and the effective use of public funds—leaving room for misuse and prolonged legal proceedings.



[The new practice of cancelling contracts after announcing the winner: a growing concern in public procurement](#)

This article highlights the consequences of the lack of institutional accountability in managing public procurement procedures by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and its subordinate institutions. During the period 2020–2025, several contracts declared awarded by contracting authorities, including the Kosovo Police and the Emergency Management Agency, were annulled after the publication of the winning bidder due to the minister’s failure to sign the contract. This practice resulted in prolonged delays in project implementation, increased costs, legal uncertainty for economic operators, and undermined transparency and institutional accountability. The case underscores the need for strict compliance with the Law on Public Procurement and relevant regulations, as well as for documented and transparent decision-making by contracting authorities.

As part of ongoing efforts to increase transparency and accountability in public procurement, the investigative articles supported by D+ during 2025 have contributed to raising public awareness on issues of high public interest. By addressing concrete cases, these investigations have highlighted challenges in the implementation of the legal framework and the need to strengthen institutional oversight.

3.6 Analysis of Processes and Challenges in Public Procurement

During the reporting year, D+ continued the systematic monitoring of public procurement procedures with the aim of strengthening transparency, accountability, and integrity in the spending of public funds. This engagement forms part of the organization’s long-term commitment to addressing structural shortcomings in the public procurement system and contributing to the improvement of institutional policies and practices.

Based on its monitoring activities, D+ prepared five (5) short thematic analyses addressing concrete cases and systemic issues related to corruption, misuse of procedures, lack of accountability, and gender dimensions in public procurement. The analyses provide evidence-based findings and clear recommendations for responsible institutions, aiming to improve the implementation of the Law on Public Procurement (LPP) and strengthen oversight mechanisms.

The institutions addressed in these analyses include, among others, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Assembly of Kosovo, as well as several municipalities across Kosovo.



In total, twenty-six (26) concrete recommendations were issued to contracting authorities and oversight institutions. These recommendations were published, shared with the media, and further addressed through advocacy meetings with institutional representatives.

Published Analyses

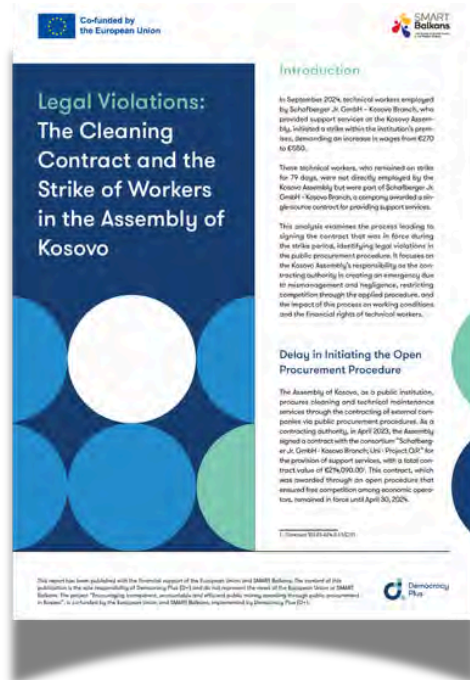
The five thematic analyses published during the year are:

- [Legal Violations: The Cleaning Contract and the Strike of Workers in the Assembly of Kosovo](#)
- [Negotiated Procedure Without Publication of a Contract Notice in Kosovo: Situation Analysis and Implementation Challenges](#)
- [Review of Complaints and Legal Remedies in Public Procurement in Kosovo](#)
- [Gender-Responsive Public Procurement in Kosovo: Challenges and Opportunities for Effective Implementation](#)
- [Last-Minute Projects? Capital Investments in the Run-Up to Local Elections](#)

Summary of Core Findings Across Analyses

Legal Violations: The Cleaning Contract and the Strike of Workers in the Assembly of Kosovo

The analysis shows that the Assembly of Kosovo had direct responsibility in creating the emergency situation, which it later used to justify awarding a single-source contract. The findings highlight violations of workers' labor conditions, including the lack of payment for overtime work, as well as the evasion of institutional responsibility during the workers' strike.



Negotiated Procedure Without Publication of a Contract Notice in Kosovo: Situation Analysis and Implementation Challenges

The analysis indicates that the use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice remains problematic, not due to the value or number of contracts, but because of legally unjustified reasoning for its use. In several cases, this procedure was applied as a result of inadequate procurement planning, in violation of the requirements of the Law on Public Procurement and European Union standards.



Review of Complaints and Legal Remedies in Public Procurement in Kosovo

The analysis identifies serious challenges in the functioning of the Procurement Review Body, particularly the lack of full decision-making capacity and delays in handling complaints. These shortcomings directly affect the efficiency of the legal protection system in public procurement and undermine the confidence of economic operators.





Gender-Responsive Public Procurement in Kosovo: Challenges and Opportunities for Effective Implementation

The findings show that, despite the existing legal framework, the integration of a gender perspective in public procurement remains largely formal. The lack of sex-disaggregated data, limited institutional capacities, and the absence of monitoring mechanisms hinder the effective implementation of gender-responsive procurement.

3.7 Monitoring the Procurement Review Body (PRB)

D+ published a monitoring report on the decisions and practices of the Procurement Review Body (PRB) covering the period January–December 2024, titled “Institutional challenges within the Procurement Review Body (PRB): Delays in Procurement Activities.” The report provides a detailed analysis of the main challenges affecting the functioning of the PRB and assesses their impact on the efficiency and overall performance of public procurement processes.



Last-Minute Projects? Capital Investments in the Run-Up to Local Elections

The analysis shows that an election year is not necessarily accompanied by an increase in capital investments, but rather by a concentration of the budget on a more limited number of higher-value projects. Differences among municipalities, particularly when investments are measured per capita, raise concerns regarding the planning and prioritization of public expenditures.

Among the key recommendations arising from the report are the completion of the PRB's internal regulatory framework, strengthening transparency through improved access to data and the full publication of decisions, and increasing efficiency in handling complaints through clearer and more unified decision-making practices. The recommendations also aim to enhance professional capacities and strengthen accountability in the institution's overall functioning.

During this year, D+ paid particular attention to the enforcement of decisions on the disqualification of economic operators, especially in cases where entities listed on the blacklist continued to be awarded public contracts. In this context, D+ identified three such cases and submitted requests for contract annulment to the respective contracting authorities. As a result of D+'s intervention, one of these cases led to the termination of the contract.

In addition to these efforts, D+ consistently continued direct monitoring by observing hearing sessions. The findings from monitoring conducted during the second half of 2025 and the first half of 2026 will be summarized in a detailed report planned for publication in mid-next year.

At the same time, D+ supported the PRB in drafting its 2025 performance plan. Through active engagement in the institution's working group, a comprehensive performance plan was developed, structured around strategic objectives, clear indicators, and measurable activities, with the aim of further enhancing efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the functioning of the PRB.

3.8 Advocacy, Monitoring, and Contribution to Public Policy Development

D+ conducted a series of advocacy meetings with representatives of ministries, municipalities, members of the Assembly of Kosovo, civil society organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of discussing and addressing findings from D+ reports in the field of public procurement, as well as proposing concrete recommendations for policy-level improvements.



As part of this engagement, D+ has cooperated and maintained continuous communication with key institutions within the public procurement system, including contracting authorities involved in monitoring, the Public Procurement Regulatory Commission (PPRC), the Procurement Review Body (PRB), as well as other relevant institutions.

D+ also closely followed and monitored the tendering procedure for the preparation of the feasibility study for the construction of the building of the Presidency of the Republic of Kosovo, from the initial stage of the procedure through to the award of the contract.

In addition, D+ made a substantial contribution to public consultation processes for strategic and secondary legislation documents, including the Action Plan of the Public Financial Management Strategy and the draft regulation on public procurement. Through well-argued comments and professional recommendations, D+ aimed to advance the regulatory framework and strengthen institutional integrity in the field of public procurement.



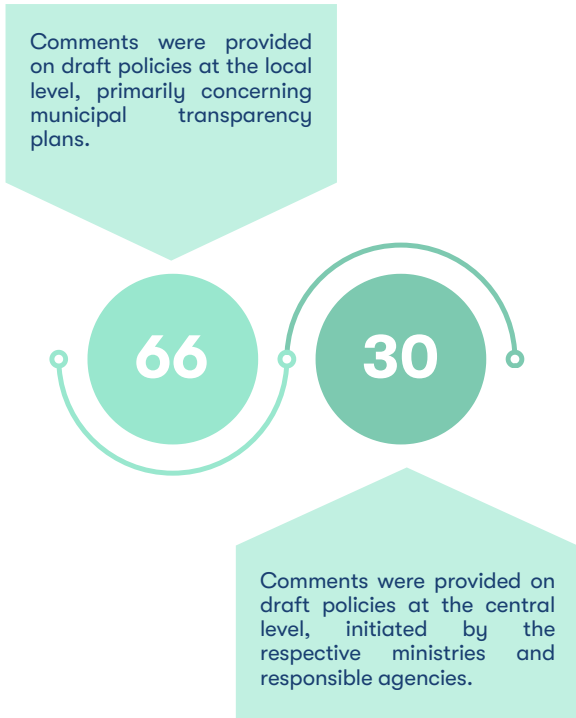
3.9 Involvement in Shaping Public Policies

During 2025, D+ provided a total of 96 comments as part of 10 public consultation processes on draft policies at the central and local levels, with a focus on increasing transparency, accountability, and improving public services.

D+'s recommendations focused on institutional transparency, access to public information, protection of personal data, and strengthening citizen participation in decision-making.

All comments were submitted through the Public Consultation Platform and shared with the respective institutions. As of the drafting of this report, the institutions have not yet published the final public consultation reports.

Through this engagement, D+ continues to contribute to building more transparent and inclusive public policy-making processes.



4. Empowering Citizens and Administrative Reform in Kosovo



During 2025, D+ played a key role in promoting fair and efficient administrative procedures for citizens and businesses in Kosovo. Through policy analysis, public advocacy, and direct legal support, D+ contributed to increasing institutional accountability, simplifying procedures, and empowering citizens to claim their rights.

Within the framework of supporting the Better Administration and Policy Reform Programme (ABPR 2022–2027), D+ conducted three detailed analyses of public services across eight institutions, providing 84 concrete recommendations aimed at improving service delivery, reducing administrative burden, and advancing digitalization.

To enhance transparency and public engagement, D+ produced infographics and animated videos, organized televised debates and regional conferences, and facilitated inter-institutional meetings that strengthened coordination and cooperation with the business community and civil society.

In advancing citizens' right to compensation, D+ conducted a dedicated analysis of compensation legislation and published rapid briefings on court cases, encouraging citizens to claim their rights. Through the engagement of three legal officers in the FLAA branches in Prishtina, Mitrovica, and Gjakova, D+ provided direct assistance to 751 citizens in administrative and compensation-related matters. Awareness-raising activities and advocacy meetings with judges, members of parliament, government officials, and the Ombudsperson contributed to improving institutional practices and increasing awareness of the right to compensation.

Overall, D+'s contribution strengthened inter-institutional coordination, improved access to public services, advanced digitalization, and empowered citizens to exercise their rights, thereby supporting the implementation of public administration reforms in Kosovo.



5. Empowering Women Farmers

As part of its commitment to more inclusive and gender-sensitive public policies, D+ organized meetings with women farmers in the municipalities of Rahovec and Podujevë to address the challenges they face as a result of climate change. Through open discussions, women farmers raised concrete concerns related to the impact of droughts and floods on agricultural yields, difficulties in accessing subsidies, lack of information about public calls, and the need for technical support during the application process.

The burden of unpaid labor within household economies was also highlighted, as it directly affects their opportunities for professional and economic development.

The roundtable paved the way for concrete recommendations toward more gender-responsive agricultural and climate policies.





These discussions culminated in the roundtable “Women in Agriculture Facing Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities in Rahovec and Podujevë,” where D+ presented the research findings and fostered dialogue among local institutions, civil society organizations, and field experts.

The roundtable paved the way for concrete recommendations toward more gender-responsive agricultural and climate policies, including gender budgeting and strengthened institutional support for women farmers.

The activity was implemented with the support of the Kosovo Women’s Network, through the Gender Budgeting Watchdog Network II (GBWN II), funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and Sweden, thereby reinforcing efforts toward a more sustainable and equitable agricultural sector in Kosovo.





6. Monitoring Public Projects through Social Auditing

During 2025, D+ successfully implemented the Social Audit project, empowering citizens to monitor and assess how public funds are spent at the local level. This process aims to increase transparency, strengthen accountability, and improve public services in several municipalities across Kosovo.

D+ engaged citizen groups in the municipalities of Lipjan and Mamushë, who monitored key municipal projects, including: “Construction of the KLA Veterans’ Museum House in Krojmir”, “Reconstruction of Ajet Kozhani Street in Poturofc and Ribar i Madh”, “Reconstruction of the Dobrotinë–Sllovi Road”, “Gabion Wall in the village of Gadime e Ulët (near the cave)”, “Generators and Electrical Equipment for Floor Cleaning – for Municipal Facilities (administration, education, and health)”. Through this approach, D+ strengthened citizen participation in oversight processes and contributed to more responsible and transparent local governance.

During this process, citizens actively participated in training sessions, meetings with institutions, and field visits, analyzing the progress and quality of these investments.



The reports prepared by the Social Audit teams ([Report of the Social Audit Team in Lipjan](#) and [the Social Audit Team Report in Mamusha](#)) provided concrete findings and practical recommendations aimed at improving the management of public funds and addressing the issues identified.

Citizens not only monitored public investments but also directly influenced improvements in local governance and strengthened institutional accountability. These reports were presented in meetings with the mayors and deputy mayors of the respective municipalities, where the findings and recommendations were discussed, and feedback and suggestions were received from local authorities.

Social Auditing is proving that when citizens are informed and actively engaged, they can become a key force for positive change within their communities.

D+'s commitment to advancing transparency and good governance will continue, contributing to the creation of a more open and accountable administration responsive to citizens.



7. Efforts to Counter the Spread of Disinformation

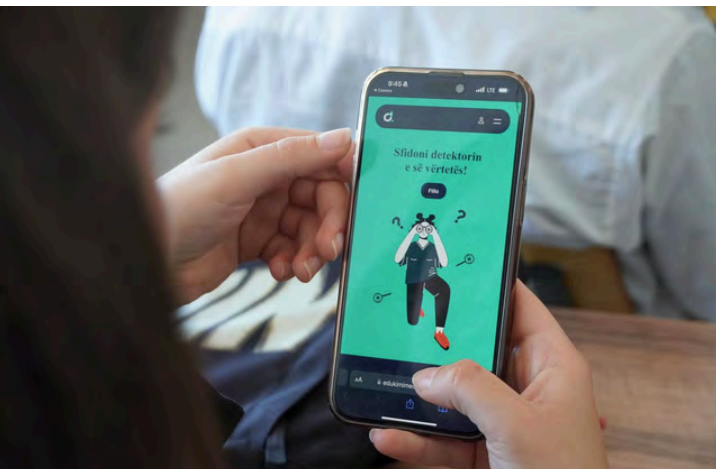
7.1 Combating Online Fake News through Information and Education

Through the INFO project, supported by the SEE Check Network, D+ assumed a leading role in strengthening the resilience of young people in Kosovo against disinformation. By applying an integrated and strategic approach, D+ combined innovative digital tools, in-person trainings, and broad awareness-raising campaigns, reaching, and in some cases exceeding, the set objectives.

One of the most significant contributions was the development and launch of the interactive online quiz “Challenge the Truth Detector,” integrated into the platform edukimimedial.dplus.org. Through this tool, D+ created a practical and engaging space where young people can test, improve, and consolidate their skills in fact-checking and identifying fake news.

On the ground, D+ organized 15 information sessions in high schools, universities, and youth centers across Kosovo, engaging 328 young people. Through these sessions, D+ combined theoretical knowledge on media literacy with practical exercises and demonstrations of the platform and interactive quiz, creating an engaging and participatory environment that fostered critical thinking and strong interest among youth.

As part of its public communication efforts, D+ implemented a structured campaign consisting of 30 social media posts. As a result, the campaign reached approximately 63,000 people, significantly exceeding the initial target of 10,000 and extending the project’s impact beyond in-person activities.



The campaign reached approximately 63,000 people, significantly exceeding the initial target of 10,000.



Within the framework of this project, D+ also organized a summer camp with over 20 young participants from various municipalities across Kosovo, aimed at strengthening youth resilience against disinformation, with particular attention to first-time voters during electoral processes.

Over three intensive days, participants were trained by local and regional experts on election-related disinformation, fact-checking techniques, and the impact of artificial intelligence and deepfakes on democracy.

Evaluations showed that 43% of participants improved their results, while none recorded a decline, confirming the positive impact of the training.

Furthermore, D+ participated in five national television and radio programs, significantly increasing the visibility and overall impact of the project.

Through the INFO project, D+ contributed to building a new generation that thinks critically, stays responsibly informed, and actively counters disinformation in the spaces where they live and engage.



7.2 Empowering Youth for Media Literacy

As part of its mission to empower youth and promote active citizenship, D+ made a significant contribution this year in the field of media literacy. In addition, D+ organized a two-day youth empowerment camp focused on media education. The activity brought together over 80 young people from various municipalities across Kosovo, creating an inclusive space for idea exchange, critical thinking development, and raising awareness about the challenges of the digital world.

During the camp, participants engaged in dynamic training sessions, practical exercises, and interactive group activities designed to strengthen their skills in identifying disinformation, critically analyzing media content, and understanding the impact of algorithms in shaping perceptions.

Through innovative methods and a collaborative approach, D+ created an environment where young people not only learned but also reflected and challenged one another, preparing them to become informed and responsible digital citizens.



As a continuation of this engagement, D+ also implemented the awareness-raising campaign "Kliko me Kujdes" ("Click with Care"), which placed the voices of young people at the center. Through their authentic messages and creative social media content, youth became ambassadors of digital literacy, promoting a culture of information verification, privacy protection, and online responsibility.

The campaign created a safe space for dialogue and reflection, encouraging young people to actively engage in safeguarding informational integrity.



This activity brought together over 80 young people from various municipalities across Kosovo, creating an inclusive space for engagement and exchange.





Through these activities, D+ continues its commitment to empowering young people as agents of change by investing in the creation of a safe, informed, and critically engaged digital space.

This activity was implemented within the framework of the project “Youth Empowered through Inclusive Schools and Societies (YESS),” financially supported by the Peacebuilding Fund, in partnership with UNICEF and IOM.



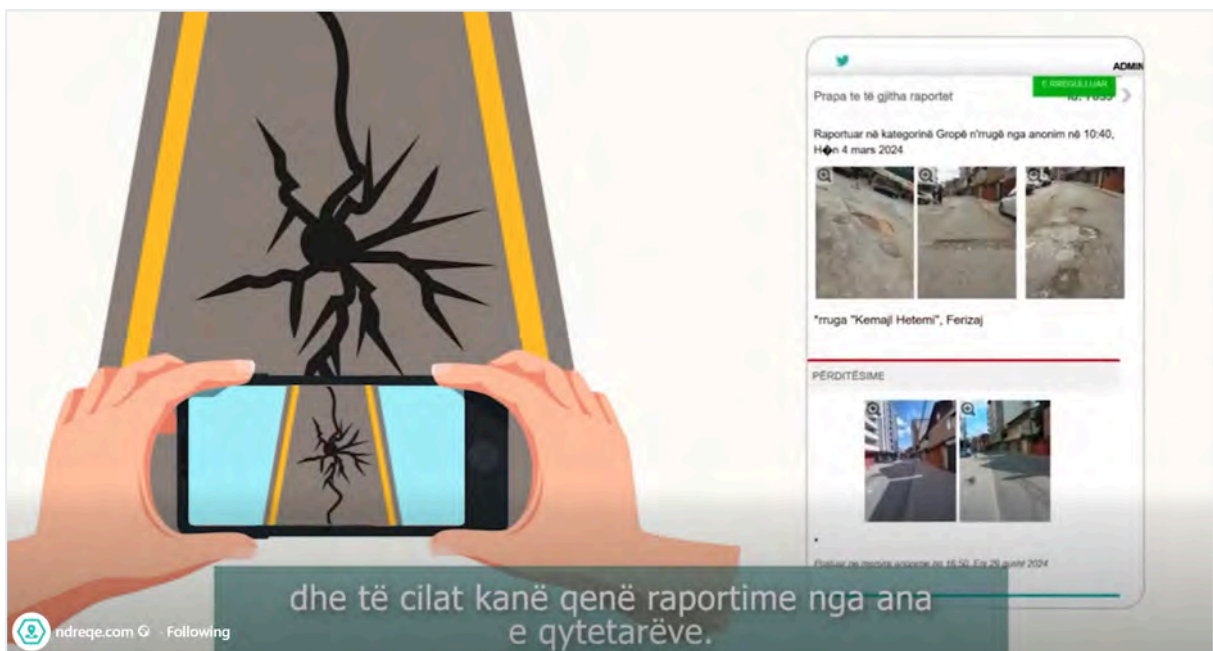
8. Reports and Fixes on the ndreqe.com Platform

On the ndreqe.com platform, during 2025, citizens submitted over 250 reports. These reports covered all major categories, including public lighting, sewage, waste management, environmental issues, damaged sidewalks, potholes, and other community concerns.

The ndreqe.com platform continued to strengthen its successful cooperation with several municipalities, including the Municipality of Istog and the Municipality of South Mitrovica.

During 2025, in addition to publishing resolved cases, a short video campaign was implemented to mark the platform's 8th anniversary. The content featured messages from local officials and expressions of appreciation toward ndreqe.com.

Ndreqe.com continues to serve as a platform where citizens can report public issues and contribute to improving their communities.



Other Activities

Resources versus ideas: Reflections on Kosovo’s 2025 local election campaigns

During the 2025 local elections, D+ played a key role in analyzing challenges related to transparency, campaign financing, and equality in the electoral race. Through research, interviews with candidates, and analysis of field practices, D+ brought public attention to issues such as the potential misuse of public resources, vote-buying, and the financial barriers faced by women and young candidates.

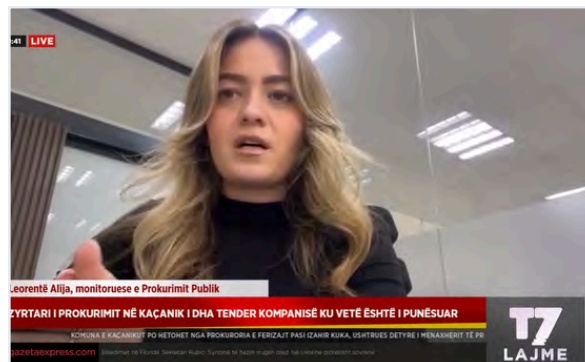
The published findings highlighted the need for clear legal reforms, stricter spending limits, and more effective oversight to ensure that the electoral process remains fair, transparent, and based on competition of ideas.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)



Appearances on the Media

D+ recorded a total of 77 media appearances related to issues in public procurement, and 85 overall appearances including other activities. These appearances served to inform the public about monitoring findings, raise concerns regarding problematic practices, and contribute to public debate on transparency, accountability, and the rule of law.



Participation in Forums and Events on Democracy and Good Governance

During 2025, representatives of D+ actively participated in a number of important national and international panels and forums, contributing to the promotion of democracy and good governance. These included participation in the ODIHR regional conference, the regional dialogue on administrative reform, as well as other activities focused on safeguarding democracy. Through these engagements, D+ contributed to addressing key issues related to strengthening transparency, citizen participation, and democratic dialogue.



D+ at the ODIHR Regional Conference

D+ was represented by Albert Krasniqi, Program Director, at the regional conference of ODIHR titled “Safeguarding Electoral Integrity in the Western Balkans: Strengthening Oversight and Trust,” held in Warsaw.

During his presentation, Mr. Krasniqi shared Kosovo’s experience, emphasizing the central role of civil society in protecting electoral integrity and building public trust in electoral processes.

He highlighted the impact of early innovations, including the presentation of parallel vote tabulation results, which contributed to reducing tensions, preventing premature declarations of victory, and encouraging the modernization of institutional systems.

He also recalled civil society’s contribution in advocating for open candidate lists in 2010, strengthening the role of voters in selecting their representatives and influencing the reshaping of parliamentary representation. Furthermore, he emphasized that continuous monitoring and effective complaint mechanisms transformed the electoral legal framework into tangible accountability, resulting in over €600,000 in fines during the most recent elections.

In conclusion, it was underlined that citizen mobilization has contributed to reducing the number of candidates with legal issues, reflecting the growing demand among citizens for political integrity. Kosovo’s experience demonstrates that civil society plays an active role not only as an observer, but also as an innovator, defender, and mobilizer of democratic processes.





Regional Dialogue on Administrative Reform

D+ organized the first regional conference titled “The Power of Participation: Reducing Administrative Burden through Citizen and Business Engagement in the Western Balkans,” within the framework of the project “Promoting Fair Administrative Procedures for Citizens and Businesses,” funded by the European Union in Kosovo. The conference was implemented in cooperation with the EPIK Institute, with the support of GIZ Kosovo, and in close partnership with the Strategic Planning Office within the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo.

The event brought together representatives of public institutions, civil society, and the private sector from across the Western Balkans, providing a platform for the exchange of good practices in improving public services, reducing administrative burden, and strengthening citizen- and business-centered governance.

The discussions focused on inclusive governance, digital transformation, regional cooperation, and the role of artificial intelligence in modernizing public administration. The conference contributed to strengthening inter-institutional dialogue and promoting innovative solutions for more efficient and fair public services at the regional level.

Promoting Clean Heating

Within the framework of the GENERATE project, led by the University of Manchester, D+ organized the workshop “Towards Zero-Carbon Heating in Kosovo: Pathways and Perspectives” in Prishtina. The workshop brought together representatives of public institutions, civil society, the private sector, academia, and the energy community to discuss the transition toward cleaner and more sustainable heating systems.

The discussions emphasized the importance of municipal initiatives, renewable energy projects, energy efficiency, and inclusive policies. It was underlined that the transition to clean heating requires cross-sectoral cooperation and long-term commitment to achieve sustainable and equitable outcomes in the energy sector.



The Cost of Politics in Kosovo

D+ in cooperation with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) published the report “[The Cost of Politics in Kosovo](#),” which analyzed the impact of financial costs on political participation and electoral competition during the 2025 parliamentary elections.

The report found that the costs of candidacy constitute a significant barrier to political participation. The average expenditure per candidate was €9,463, while elected candidates spent an average of €12,150, compared to €4,090 for those who were not elected. These findings demonstrated a direct link between spending levels and electoral success, raising concerns about equal opportunities and the integrity of electoral competition.



9. Partners and Donors

The above activities and results would not have been possible without the support, cooperation, and partnership of various local and international organizations.

All of the organization's audit reports are published on our website: <https://dplus.org/en/about-us/>

