

Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Center “Themis” conducted the presentation of the New Tactics in Human Rights project on January 31, 2005 in Tbilisi, Georgia. The presentation was led by Levon Isakhanyan, the President of the Organization and assisted by the staff of the Organization, Ms. Ilona Shervashidze and Ms. Sophio Adeishvili.

The audience of the activity consisted of the representatives of non-governmental organizations from Georgia. There were 25 human rights activists from various organizations, working on human rights field in Georgia.

This has been a presentation of the New Tactics project that took place in the office of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Center “Themis”. Trilingual (the English, Georgian and Russian) information, concerning to the presentation and the particular tactics is hosted at the web-site of the organization <http://www.themis.ge>

We used the CD “New Tactics in Human Rights” and following tactics, as examples of the project’s activities.

- Testing for Discrimination: Identifying and Prosecuting Human Rights Abuses, by Bea Bodrogi, Legal Defense Bureau for National and Ethnic Minorities (NEKI), Hungary;
- Breaking the Silence: Using Popular Culture to Engage Young People in Human Rights Reporting, By Rafal Pankowski, Nigdy Wiecej, Poland

We identified these tactics for translation into local language because of the Georgian realities. Both of the tactics are related to the issues of discrimination, minorities, etc. Georgia is multicultural, multiethnic country with a large number of the minority population. Thus, we believe that through the familiarization of the representatives of Georgian third sector with the new tactics in the field of minorities, discrimination, etc. we will contribute to the field of minorities in Georgia.

We printed and disseminated among participants the Georgian version of the abovementioned tactics.

The presentation accompanied by the discussions among participants and presenters. The participants of the presentation noted that the idea of the project is quite new and interesting for them. Majority of participants noted that they need a professional training on the issues of international regulation of the status of minorities’. Our Association is ready to organize such kind of event for the Georgian human rights activists and at this moment we need support for this.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the CVT and note that the Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Center “Themis” is open for cooperation.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us at:

15a Chavchavadze Avenue, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia

E-mail: isakhanyan@yahoo.com, themis@themis.ge

Telephone: + 995 32 29 06 09

Fax: + 995 32 29 06 09

Mobile: + 995 99 41 34 74

URL: <http://www.themis.ge>