

(in-house translation)

**LAW  
No. 75/2019  
FOR YOUTH**

Pursuant to Articles 78 and 83, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, on the proposal of the Council of Ministers,

**THE PARLIAMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
DECIDED:  
CHAPTER I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1**

**Object**

The object of this law is to protect the rights of young people in a comprehensive way, to create the conditions necessary for youth activism, participation and support, to define the functions and competences of institutions at central and local level, and to cooperate with organizations that exercise activities for young people and in the youth area.

**Article 2**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this law is to determine the activities, mechanisms and authorities responsible for protecting and promoting the rights of young people in the Republic of Albania and Albanian youth in the diaspora, as well as financing youth activities within the framework of youth right for special protection by the state.

**Article 3**

**Definitions**

In this law the following terms have the following meanings:

- a) "Structured Dialogue" is an open, transparent, long-term, continuous and systematic dialogue between youth and youth organizations and institutions at central and local level, covering youth-related issues.
- b) "Non-formal education for young people" is any activity organized and adapted for young people, outside the formal education system, based on the needs and interests of young people, the principles of voluntarism and active participation of young people in the processes of youth education learning through which they acquire the necessary competencies for the development of personal potential, active participation in society and access to the labor market.
- c) "Safe Youth Spaces" is any area where young people operate and that meet the standards set forth in the legislation on territorial planning and development. In the case of young people with disabilities, these spaces should apply the elements of reasonable accommodation, in accordance with the degree and type of disability.
- ç) "Youth Infrastructure" is a physical space, land, building or part of a building specially designed and planned for youth and youth activities.

d) "Youth organizations" are non-profit legal entities, established and registered in accordance with the legislation in force for non-profit organizations, which have as their activity the representation, protection and development of the interests of young people in a comprehensive manner.

dh) "Youth organizations" are non-profit legal entities, established and registered in accordance with the legislation in force for non-profit organizations, which in their field of activity are also aimed at protecting and developing the interests of young people and have experience in implementing impactful youth programs.

e) "Youth policy" is a sustainable inclusive activity undertaken by the central and local government, aimed at creating favorable conditions for the personal development of young people and their participation in public, social, economic and cultural life local and national level, through activities that encourage the development of youth in the country.

ë) "Youth policy subject" is anybody, institution and structure, at central and local level, that within its field of activity exercises responsibilities affecting young people and drafts youth policies, as well as other actors involved in the process of drafting and implementing youth policies.

f) "Young people" are young persons, who have reached the age of 15 to 29 years.

## **Article 4**

### **Principles for supporting youth activity**

1. Youth support and empowerment is based on the following principles:

a) the principle of equality and non-discrimination, sanctioned by the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, other international acts ratified by the Republic of Albania and the legislation in force;

b) the principle of equal opportunities and guaranteeing youth participation in policy-making and decision-making processes in the fields of education, research, financial policies, employment, volunteering, protection and inclusion, health, culture, sport, environment, tourism, justice, internal and external affairs, integration and defense, information technology, entrepreneurship and other areas that encourage youth development;

c) the principle of freedom to organize youth initiatives and to self-govern organizations;

ç) the principle of subsidiarity.

2. This law guarantees the protection of young Albanian citizens residing or staying in the territory of the Republic of Albania, as well as young foreign nationals or stateless persons who have applied for international protection, in accordance with the asylum legislation in force in the Republic of Albania, as well as foreign nationals with regular residence for various reasons, according to the legislation in force for foreigners.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATION**

#### **Article 5**

##### **Ministry responsible for youth**

The Ministry responsible for youth has the following competencies:

a) drafts and proposes the legal basis, policies, programs, strategies and activities for youth;

b) Plans the budget for financing youth activities;

c) drafts and publishes evaluation reports on the situation of youth;

ç) monitors the implementation of policies as well as youth activities;

d) monitors standards for building safe and accessible youth spaces for young people ”;

dh) represents the Republic of Albania at international levels and bodies on youth issues;

- e) fulfills the membership obligations and coordinates participation in international programs and projects in the field of youth;
- ë) cooperates with the local self-government units on policies, projects and programs in the field of youth;
- f) Ensures the provision of youth activities in cooperation with other central institutions, local self-government units and other authorities, setting standards in the provision of youth activities and youth work;
- g) Ensures the conduct of youth consultations on youth policies and programs in the country, as well as international youth exchange programs.

## **Article 6**

### **Other central institutions**

Other central institutions, within the scope of their state activity, have the following duties:

- a) to draft sectoral policies, laws and bylaws necessary for youth rights, and to contribute to the development of cross-sectoral policies and programs, while also ensuring that young people receive their opinion;
- b) to provide in the annual or multiannual budget plans the funds necessary for the progressive fulfillment of youth rights;
- c) cooperate with relevant institutions to ensure the protection of youth rights.

## **Article 7**

### **Local government units**

1. The units of local government, in accordance with their functions, draft and implement local policies in the field of youth, and are responsible for:

- a) reflecting and respecting the rights of young people, setting objectives and priorities, and ensuring their implementation;
- b) the establishment of a local youth council;
- c) organizing and coordinating activities aimed at achieving local objectives in the field of youth protection and empowerment;
- ç) organizing and providing activities to support youth welfare and development;
- d) encouraging youth voluntarism and informal education;
- dh) financing the creation and development of youth infrastructure and safe youth spaces;
- e) establishment of administrative structures on youth issues;
- ë) to provide in their budgets the funds for the progressive realization of the rights of young people to develop youth projects, programs and activities;
- f) collecting, analyzing and reporting data, in cooperation with other institutions, on the situation of youth rights in their territory.

2. The units of local government may apply to be supported by national and international youth programs, in accordance with this law and the by-laws in force.

3. For the implementation of the obligations provided for in this Article, the units of local government may cooperate with each other through the conclusion of joint agreements, in accordance with the legislation in force on local self-government.

4. Local self-government units shall cooperate with youth organizations in the Diaspora to maintain communication with young Albanians who have left the country for studies or other purposes, in order to engage in activities taking place in the Republic of Albania. .

## **Article 8**

### **Institution responsible for youth**

1. The institution responsible for youth is a public budget legal entity, subject to the minister responsible for youth, who is financed by the state budget and other lawful sources and exercises activity throughout the territory of the Republic of Albania.

2. The institution responsible for youth performs the following functions:

- a) implements youth policies and programs;
- b) organizes, manages, finances, coordinates and monitors and oversees youth programs and projects;
- c) cooperates with organizations, institutions, donors and other entities, domestic and foreign, for the presentation and implementation of youth policies, programs and activities;
- ç) supports capacity building of units and structures at central and local level;
- d) establishes and maintains accessible youth database;
- dh) provide funding through application to national and international projects, which are transferred on an annual basis when a multi-year project is approved;
- e) collects, manages and analyzes data on the situation of youth in cooperation with other institutions and units of local self-government;
- ë) reports periodically to the ministry responsible for youth on the situation of young people and the implementation of obligations deriving from this law;
- f) supervise youth activities and work with youth from youth organizations and youth organizations that receive support under the provisions of this law.

3. The manner of establishment, organization and functioning of the institution responsible for youth is approved by decision of the Council of Ministers.

## **Article 9**

### **National Youth Council**

1. The National Youth Council is an advisory body functioning within the Minister responsible for youth. The National Youth Council exercises the following powers:

- a) presents to the Minister responsible for youth the priority policies, budget and activities in the field of youth;
- b) proposes key directions and programs for supporting and empowering youth participation;
- c) gives its opinion on the drafting of the National Youth Strategy and monitors its implementation;
- d) approves the annual report on the implementation of the National Youth Strategy and the situation of young people.

2. The National Youth Council shall be chaired by the Minister responsible for youth and shall consist of 14 to 16 members, with at least half of the members representing youth organizations and / or young people. Members of the National Youth Council are appointed by order of the minister responsible for youth.

3. The criteria and procedures for the election of members, as well as the manner of organization and functioning of the National Youth Council shall be approved by decision of the Council of Ministers.

## **Article 10**

### **Local Youth Council**

1. The local youth council is an advisory body, which operates with the mayor. The local youth council exercises the following competencies:
  - a) advise local self-government units on the management of local youth policies and plans;
  - b) assess the situation of young people and implement youth plans and policies at the local level;
  - c) Propose improvements to local youth policies, as well as initiatives to suit the needs of young people in their territory;
  - d) cooperates and exchanges information with the National Youth Council.
2. The local youth council is chaired by the mayor and consists of at least 4 to 6 members, with at least half of the members representing youth organizations and / or young people. Members of the local youth council are appointed by order of the mayor.
3. The criteria, the procedures for the selection of the members of the local youth council, as well as the manner of organization and functioning of the local youth council shall be approved by a decision of the municipal council, referring, as far as possible, to the criteria and procedures approved by the Council of Ministers for the National Youth Council.

## **Article 11**

### **Youth organizations**

1. Youth organizations are non-profit legal entities, which are established and operate in accordance with the Civil Code of the Republic of Albania and the legislation in force for non-profit organizations.
2. Youth organizations must meet the following criteria:
  - a) be registered in accordance with the legislation in force for non-profit organizations;
  - b) have youth activities as their object of activity provided for in the statute of the organization;
  - c) at least 70 percent of its members are young people.
3. The development of youth organizations is encouraged and supported by local, national and international programs and projects.
4. Registration as a youth organization in the database of youth, according to article 18 of this law, is done at the request of the organization.
5. Youth organizations may receive funding from central government bodies through a youth grant fund, local government units, and other legal sources.

## **Article 12**

### **Organizations for young people**

1. Organizations for young people are non-profit legal entities, which are established and operate according to the Civil Code of the Republic of Albania and the legislation in force for non-profit organizations.
2. Organizations for young people must meet the following criteria:

- a) be registered in accordance with the legislation in force for non-profit organizations;
- b) have youth activities and activities for young people as their object of activity provided for in the statute of the organization;
- c) have been implementing, at least for a period of three years, projects and programs that have an impact on young people;
- d) not be subject to bankruptcy and / or liquidation.

3. Registration as an organization for young people in the youth database in accordance with Article 18 of this Law shall be done at the request of the organization.

4. Organizations for young people may benefit from funding from central government bodies, through a dedicated youth fund, local government units, and other legal sources.

### **Article 13**

#### **National Youth Representative Organization**

1. The National Youth Representative Organization is an organization established, organized and functioning pursuant to the Civil Code of the Republic of Albania and the legislation in force for non-profit organizations and exercises its activity in accordance with its statute.

2. The right to establish a National Youth Representative Organization is reserved for youth organizations and / or organizations for young people, which accept the purpose, field of activity and other provisions of this organization as regulated in its statute.

3. The criteria to be met by the National Youth Representative Organization to be recognized as such by the institution responsible for youth are approved by decision of the Council of Ministers.

## **CHAPTER III YOUTH WORK**

### **Article 14**

#### **Youth work**

1. Youth work is any activity of a social, cultural, educational, environmental nature by / with or for young people, in groups or individually, which aims to motivate and support young people, contributing to their personal and social development and in the development of society at large.

2. Youth work is accomplished through engaging and engaging young people in activities that reflect their needs, interests, ideas and experiences. Through this process of informal learning, young people acquire the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes needed for personal development, social integration and active citizenship.

## **CHAPTER IV FINANCING**

### **Article 15**

#### **Sources of financing**

1. The sources of funding for the implementation of youth policies, programs and projects are as follows:

- a) grant funds from the state budget dedicated to youth;
- b) local budgets;
- c) income generated by youth organizations;
- d) donations;
- d) sponsorships;
- dh) other legal sources.

2. State budget funds for youth are set out in the annual state budget for the ministry responsible for youth.

3. The criteria and procedures for the selection of youth organizations and / or youth who benefit from funding from the state budget grant funds intended for youth shall be determined by decision of the Council of Ministers.

## **Article 16**

### **Financing youth policies, programs and projects**

1. The youth grant fund referred to in Article 15 (1) (a) of this Law shall be used only for:

- a) financing the construction or reconstruction of public facilities and youth infrastructure;
- b) financing projects of youth organizations and youth;
- c) co-financing for participation in international programs.

2. Projects for the construction or reconstruction of public facilities and youth infrastructure shall be submitted and approved in accordance with the procedures provided for by the legislation in force, ensuring the implementation of elements of reasonable adaptation, in accordance with the legislation in force for the inclusion and accessibility of persons with disabilities.

3. The planning and implementation of grant fund allocation procedures for youth, selection procedures, contracts signed with beneficiary organizations, and reports on the spending of funds provided under this law shall be published on the official website of the institution responsible for youth.

4. The institution responsible for youth exchanges information with the institution responsible for supporting civil society for youth organizations or organizations for youth beneficiaries of the youth grant fund.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **YOUTH INFRASTRUCTURE**

## **Article 17**

### **Youth infrastructure**

1. Youth infrastructure consists of immovable property, public property, intended for or made available for youth activities and activities for young people.

2. Public youth infrastructure is immovable property owned by the central or local government, under the jurisdiction of their territorial location, designated or made available for youth activities and activities for young people.
3. Owners or administrators of infrastructure are responsible for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and services, as well as the creation of conditions for their normal operation.
4. Youth infrastructure shall be constructed, reconstructed, adapted and maintained in function and to create conditions for youth activities in accordance with the standard of safe youth spaces.
5. The construction of youth infrastructure shall be carried out in accordance with the standards and technical conditions approved by the ministry responsible for infrastructure.
6. Movable assets, intended or made available for youth activities and activities, are also part of the youth infrastructure.
7. Property owners or administrators shall ensure the technical rules of hygienic and sanitary safety and health, accessible for regular use and attendance of the premises for youth and young people in accordance with the standard of safe spaces.

## **CHAPTER VI FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 18 Database for youth**

1. The purpose of the youth database is to provide up-to-date information to young people in the country, as well as to support the process of planning, overseeing, administering and evaluating youth policies at central and local level.
2. The youth database shall contain the following:
  - a) primary data related to youth organizations and young people, in the country and in the diaspora, the National Youth Representative Organization, national, and European youth policies;
  - b) secondary data relating to the financing of youth projects and activities, studies, analyzes, evaluations, observations and evaluations of youth policy implementation.
3. The institution responsible for youth administers the database related to youth, the content of which is published on the portal "On youth" and interprets its content with other databases in accordance with the legislation in force.
4. Detailed rules on how to establish, administer, maintain a database of youth and how to interact with other state databases shall be adopted by decision of the Council of Ministers.
5. The storage and processing of personal data in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall be done in accordance with the legislation in force for the protection of personal data.



**Article 19**  
**Adoption of by-laws**

The Council of Ministers shall be required, within six months of the entry into force of this Law, to adopt the by-laws pursuant to Article 8, paragraph 3, Article 9, paragraph 3, Article 13, paragraph 3, Article 15, paragraph 3, and 18, paragraph 4 of this law.

**Article 20**  
**Entry into force**

This law shall enter into force 15 days after its publication in the Official Journal.

CHAIRMAN / SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT  
Gramoz RUÇI

Approved on 4.11.2019