



**Pledge submitted by Albania to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat
December 2023**

Original language of submission: English

Type of pledge: Single (by one state/actor)

PLEDGE NUMBER 1: Improving crime policies and better respect of Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System

Albania commits to:

- Adapt the new Criminal Code in line with EU directives and others international standards.
- Amend the Criminal Procedure Code aiming to guarantee the procedural legal rights for persons accused or suspected in a criminal process and to deliver justice in full alignment with EU acquis and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights.
- Increasing free legal aid access through the opening new services centres and improving the quality of the service.
- Enhance the respect of the fundamental rights for the detainees and convicted persons in the penitentiary institutions.

Pledging entity: Ministry of Justice/Directorate of Codification and Harmonization of Legislation/ Directorate of the free legal aid / General Directorate of Prisons of Albania

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 2: Enhance protection of the rights of persons with Disabilities.

Albania commits to:

- Ratify the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention "On the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" aiming to recognize the competence of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals who claim to be victims of a violation of the provisions of the Convention.

Pledging entity: Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2027

PLEDGE NUMBER 3: Fight against corruption

The prevention and punishment of corruption is our priority. Albania commits to:

- Approve of the Cross Cutting Anticorruption Strategy (2024-2030)
- Ensure further alignment with the EU acquis and EU Standards on Anticorruption, by amending/adopting: Law on Conflict of Interests; Law on lobbying; Law on political party financing; ratification of the Convention on Combatting Bribe of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions; The Law on whistleblowing and whistleblowers protection.
- Adopt sectoral risk assessment and risk mitigation plan of integrity and corruption in sectors vulnerable to corruption.
- Sustain the Progress in Implementing GRECO Recommendations.
- Establish a solid track record of anticorruption.

Pledging entity: Ministry of Justice

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2027

PLEDGE NUMBER 4: Strengthening the Friendly Juvenile Justice System and Justice for Victims

Albania commits to:

- Fully-implement the Crosscutting Juvenile Justice Strategy 2022-2026 aiming to strengthen access to the Friendly Juvenile Justice System for each child; improve restorative justice programs; enhance monitoring mechanisms and institutional structures guaranteeing friendly treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration of children in contact/in conflict with the law and promoting the use of alternative sanctions.
- Adopt the Intersectoral Strategy for the Protection for Victims of Crime and the Action Plan 2024-2030.
- Ensuring support, protection and a safe environment, in order for victims to report the crimes.
- Improve access to justice, establish a compensation scheme and facilitate victims' access to compensation, guarantee fair and appropriate compensation to them.

Pledging entity: Ministry of Justice/Directorate of Free Legal Aid/ Directorate of Codification and Harmonization of Legislation/ Directorate of Policies and Strategies in the Field of Justice

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2030

PLEDGE NUMBER 5: Enhancing the participations of woman in the labour market and ensuring decent work for everyone.

Enhancing gender equality, empowerment of women and girls and ensuring decent work for everyone are our key objectives. Albania commits to:

- Promote policies for training, flexible employment, and self-employment, as well as providing assistance to increase women's participation in the labour market.
- Build mechanisms to identify the needs of inactive women aiming to provide training, employment opportunities as well as assessing the possibility of fiscal incentives in specific economic sectors.
- Develop programs that increase women's participation in the rural/ agricultural labour market and provide information/ support for access to development funds.
- Review the Labour Code to better ensure the right of association, working conditions, protection system for the unemployed and to improve the minimum wage policy.
- Guarantee fair working conditions, safety, and health in the workplace by strengthening the regular labour monitoring/inspections and promoting the prevention policies.

Pledging entity: Ministry of Finance and Economy / State Labour and Social Services Inspectorate / National Agency on Employment and Skills

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2030