NEWSLETTER

April 2025

Diplomatic & Strategic Engagements

April was a month of sustained advocacy and high-level engagement for NSI's Executive Director, **Jovana Radosavljević**, who took part in several key events across Kosovo:

April 1 | Pristina

Morning Discussion: "What Issues Are at Stake?"

Organized by PIPS and the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD), this breakfast meeting brought together political and civil society leaders to explore normalization and social guarantees in the Western Balkans.

April 1 | Pristina

Third Coordination Meeting: North Kosovo CSOs & EU Family Focused on enhancing transparency and local ownership in EU-supported initiatives in the north.



April 3 | Pristina

Regional Conference on Human Rights Partnerships

Organized by YIHR Kosovo and the Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo (OIK), this regional conference gathered ombudspersons, civil society leaders, and human rights defenders from across the Western Balkans to discuss shrinking civic space, institutional partnerships, and threats against HRDs. Jovana joined other panelists and participants in advocating for deeper collaboration and stronger protection mechanisms.



April 9 | North Mitrovica Meeting with Delegation of French MPs

As part of a visit organized by the French National Assembly, Jovana met with MPs from multiple French political groups. Discussions covered the Serbia–Kosovo dialogue, conditions in the north, and the role of civil society.

April 23 | North Mitrovica

Meeting with Danish Minister for European Affairs and EU Head of Mission Jovana joined a civil society delegation in a roundtable with the Danish Minister for European Affairs and EU Ambassador Aivo Orav, addressing democratic challenges, normalization efforts, and institutional trust.

April 30 | Pristina

Panelist at NGO Aktiv's Launch of "Trends Analysis 2024"

Jovana was a featured panelist during the launch of NGO Aktiv's annual research report, analyzing perceptions among Kosovo Serbs on key political issues, institutional trust, safety, and future prospects.

The discussion emphasized the urgent need to respond to growing uncertainty and institutional alienation within the Serbian community.







Policy Task Group Meeting: Administrative Dimension



April 1 | Pristina



As part of the **Dialogue**, **Solution**, **Future** (**DSF**) project, implemented by **New Social Initiative** (**NSI**) in partnership with the **Institute for Social Policy** "**Musine Kokalari**", we convened the **Policy Task Group I – Administrative Dimension** to discuss:

 Political participation of Kosovo Serbs at the central and local levels – existing opportunities and obstacles

The session explored **institutional challenges and potential policy actions** to strengthen the presence and influence of Kosovo Serbs in formal political structures. It marked a key step in advancing inclusive governance and informed policymaking.

Young Researchers Continue Their Journey in Civic Participation & Policy Writing

As part of our ongoing project "Strengthening Youth Civic Participation in Political Processes", supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), NSI continued empowering young researchers through a tailored training program:

April 10 – Module 3: Data Visualization and Presentation

The session focused on strengthening participants' ability to present research findings clearly and persuasively, introducing tools for data visualization and techniques for impactful storytelling in policy and advocacy work.

This capacity-building effort is aimed at cultivating a new generation of informed, engaged young leaders capable of contributing meaningfully to civic and political processes.

Intercommunity Trust Tours Officially Launched

With the support of **UNMIK**, **New Social Initiative** proudly launched the **Intercommunity Trust Tours** — a grassroots initiative designed to foster trust and cooperation among Kosovo's communities through open, inclusive conversations.

Building on the priorities identified during the **Kosovo Trust-building Forum in Thessaloniki** (2023), the tours bring together **community members**, **youth**, **activists**, **and local leaders** to tackle shared challenges across sectors such as rule of law, environment, media, and inclusion.

In April, NSI hosted six dialogue sessions in key municipalities across Kosovo:

- April 2 | Gračanica/Graçanicë Languages and the Rule of Law
- April 3 | North Mitrovica
 Economic Development and Media
- April 11 | Gjilan/Gnjilane
 Languages and the Rule of Law





- April 15 | Shtërpcë/Štrpce
 Environment & Strengthening Participation and Inclusion
- April 16 | Pristina
 Economic Development and Media



April 17 | Prizren
 Environment & Strengthening Participation and Inclusion

These events served as **platforms for community-driven dialogue**, encouraging **interethnic cooperation**, **civic engagement**, and deeper understanding of the everyday realities faced by diverse groups across Kosovo.

Final Findings Presented: Media Monitoring Project

March 31 | North Mitrovica

NSI concluded its **Media Monitoring Project** with a public event at the **Civic Energy Center**, bringing together journalists, editors, and media professionals to reflect on the project's key findings and discuss current challenges in Kosovo's media landscape.

This event marked the culmination of NSI's efforts to promote **media transparency**, **accountability**, and **professional standards** through data-driven monitoring.



NSI Joins the Call for Language Equality: New Report Highlights Violations by Kosovo Police

April 10 | Pristina

New Social Initiative (NSI), together with **Radio Goraždevac**, has joined a broader advocacy campaign led by **NGO Aktiv** and **Radio Kim**, calling for the consistent and lawful implementation of **language rights in Kosovo**.

As part of the initiative, NSI co-published a report titled:

"Systematic Disregard for the Law on the Use of Languages: Kosovo Police"





The report offers a detailed analysis of how the **Kosovo Police routinely violate the Law on the Use of Languages**, particularly through their official website and social media platforms.

Key Findings:

- Serbian translations are often delayed, incomplete, or entirely absent
- Official content frequently contains unprofessional or incoherent translations
- The visual identity of the institution largely excludes the Serbian language
- Mistranslations pose serious obstacles to accessing vital public information
- One striking example from a safety advisory reads:
- "These tips are managed by the President of the Municipality, and also as with OSJB here too diversity is quite emphasized."

Such language errors are widespread and reflect a systemic failure to ensure equal access to information for all communities.

NSI reiterates that **language rights are human rights**, and urges public institutions — particularly the Kosovo Police — to urgently align their communication practices with legal standards.



- Citizens are encouraged to **report** language rights violations to:
- info ink@rks-gov net
- zkai.kpi@amail.com
- info.oik@oik-rks.org
- office@ngoaktiv.orc

Publications & Media

Op-Ed Spotlight: Bureaucratic Barriers to Recognition of Personal Documents

New op-ed by Ana Ćup:

"Normalization of Non-Normalization of Personal Documents"

In this timely and thought-provoking piece, Ana Ćup explores the **bureaucratic uncertainty** facing citizens navigating the recognition — or rejection — of **personal documents between Kosovo and Serbia.**

The article sheds light on how unresolved political arrangements have created real-world obstacles for people attempting to access services, cross borders, or simply exercise their rights.



New Podcast Series Launched: Dialogue, Dignity, and Youth Power

As part of the **EU-supported project "Future Bridges: Empowering Youth for Kosovo-Serbia Dialogue"**, under the broader **"REGIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE FOR EUROPE"** initiative, NSI launched a new podcast series amplifying youth voices and experiences.

© Episode 1: "Dialogue, Dignity, and Youth Power"
Guest: Marigona Shabiu, Executive Director of YIHR Kosovo

In this opening episode, Marigona discusses the **role of young people** in shaping the normalization process, advancing dignity and justice, and pushing for a more inclusive and democratic Kosovo.

The series explores youth **perspectives on normalization**, **everyday life**, **and social opportunities**, aiming to center their role in the future of Kosovo–Serbia relations.

- Now available on our website and streaming platforms.
- Click here to watch the full episode on YouTube

NSI in Media

 On the achievements and legacy of Vjosa Osmani in her role as President Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Kosovo Online On the positions of political actors after the elections
 Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Kosovo Online

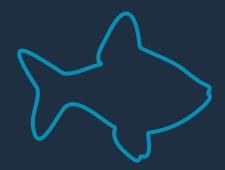
Read here

 On the current political crisis in Kosovo Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Danas

Read here

On the current political situation in Kosovo
 Aleksandar Šljuka, Project Officer for EWB

Read here



 On the events and dynamics in the Kosovo Assembly Marko Milenković, Program Manager for RTK2

Read here

Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Nova S

Read here

Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Danas

Read here



On the possible solutions for the position of Kosovo Serbs
 Aleksandar Šljuka, Project Officer for Kosovo Online

Read nere

 On the messages and recommendations from EU officials to the countries of the Balkans

Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Kosovo Online

Read here

 On the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the signing of the first Brussels Agreement

Marko Milenković, Program Manager for Kosovo Online

Read Here



About us

NSI is a civil society organization working in Kosovo, but also cooperating with the key stakeholders in the Western Balkan region, to ultimately impact inclusiveness, trust-building, democratization processes and good governance in Kosovo

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