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Letter from the Country Director



Dear Friends:

On behalf of the American Bar Association (ABA), and on behalf of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), I invite you to join us in recognizing and celebrating our ten year anniversary of rule of law promotion in Kosovo. For the past ten years through the generous support of USAID, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) has played a significant role in the development of legal education and the legal profession in Kosovo.

ABA ROLI is a public service project of the American Bar Association dedicated to the ABA's goals of promoting rule of law around the world. Our program in Kosovo works with local communities to build transparent, fair and efficient legal systems. ABA ROLI implements its programs through partnerships with the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates and the University of Prishtina Law Faculty, as well as the Kosovo Judges Association, and the Ministries of Justice, and of Education.

We are pleased to cooperate with you, and look forward to our future work together. We have much to celebrate from when we first established an office in Kosovo in 1999, and we have much to look forward to in the future. This publication highlights some of our work together, and is representative of the many accomplishments in rule of law through the years. I hope that you enjoy it, and I thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

David Sip, Country Director,
ABA Rule of Law Initiative – Kosovo



The American Bar Association: 10 Years of Promoting the Rule of Law in Kosovo

The American Bar Association (ABA) with over 413,000 members, 3,200 committees, and 1400 staff members, is the world's largest voluntary professional membership association. It acts as the voice of the U.S. legal profession.

The ABA established the public service project Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) in 2007 in the belief that rule of law promotion is the most effective long-term antidote to the most pressing problems facing the world today, including poverty, conflict, endemic corruption and disregard for human rights.



Legal education reform is a primary focus area for ABA ROLI Kosovo

ABA ROLI's local partners include judges, lawyers, bar associations, law schools, court administrators, legislatures, ministries of justice, human rights organizations and civil society members. ABA ROLI implements its technical assistance programs with host country partners in a wide array of substantive areas, including commercial and property law reform.

Today, ABA ROLI (formerly CEELI) implements legal reform programs in more than 40 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Eurasia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa.

In 1999, ABA ROLI established an office in Pristina to implement a technical legal assistance program in Kosovo. ABA representatives assessing the status of the post-conflict legal system were some of the first legal advisors in Kosovo.

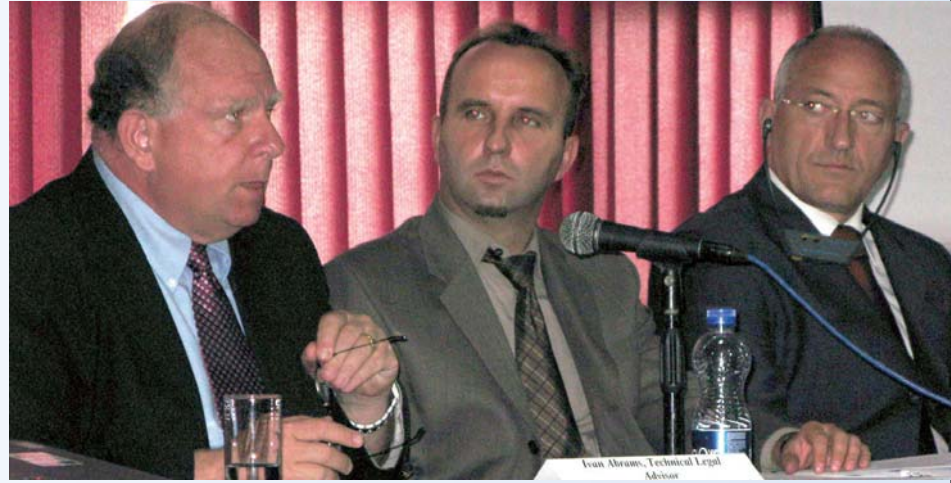
Through its extensive network of lawyers, judges and law professors and its experienced professional staff, ABA ROLI in Kosovo is helping to build the legal infrastructure, human capacity and local institutions that are indispensable to strong, self-supporting democracies.

Since commencing its program, ABA ROLI's primary focus has been the establishment of basic legal institutions in the post-conflict environment, the promotion of self-sustaining training for judges (especially related to judicial independence), attorneys and prosecutors, and a war crimes documentation project.



The support and collaboration of local professional organizations was a great contribution to the success of ABA's 10 years of work in Kosovo

Major projects on which ABA ROLI has worked include: initial training for all of the newly appointed judges in Kosovo; the creation of the Kosovo Judges Association in May 2001; the design of a two-week, intensive course on human rights standards and Kosovar criminal and criminal procedure law, conducted at the CEELI Institute in Prague; capacity building projects with the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates and Kosovo



Discussion on how to start and manage a law firm and develop law partnership agreements in Kosovo

Judges Association through the Regional Institution Building Advisor program, the publication of the Judicial Reform Index (Volume I in 2002, Volume II in 2004, and Volume III in 2007), the Legal Profession Reform Index (Volume I in 2004 and Volume II in 2007), the first Legal Education Reform Index (Volume I in 2008) and Continuing Legal Education.

ABA ROLI in Kosovo focuses its work primarily in two areas, Legal Education Reform and Legal Profession Reform. With its professional expertise and legal education specialists ABA ROLI contributes in enhancing legal education for students by developing mandatory ethics course, institutionalizing piloted legal clinical and legal methodology courses, and assisting the deans accomplish these reforms leading to universities receiving accreditation. ABA ROLI is also devoted to assisting in developing a regulatory bar in Kosovo and strengthens the ability of the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates to meet its legal requirements and organizational goals of becoming a regulatory membership association.

The ABA and the US Department of Justice Unite Efforts for a Safer Kosovo

Collaborations between ABA ROLI and various ABA Sections together with different local and international partners have greatly contributed in promoting the rule of law in Kosovo.

One in a series of these collaborations was the seminar on “Pursuing Confiscation in Human Trafficking and other Cases” organized jointly by ABA ROLI, the ABA Section of Litigation and the United States Department of Justice Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT). The seminar was organized primarily to provide advocacy skills to Kosovo judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police force and other stakeholders to prepare them to manage cases in criminal trials against human trafficking.

50 local professionals attended this seminar that was led by Assistant United States Attorney and former Resident Legal



Kosovo judges, prosecutors, and police learn to collaborate in prosecuting human trafficking cases

Advisor in Kosovo, Mr. T. Markus Funk, Assistant U.S. Attorneys Mr. Jim Russell and Mr. Michael Frank, Ms. Anjali Chaturvedi, Partner Attorney of the Washington, DC Nixon Peabody Law Firm, Mr. Joshua Orr, Associate Attorney of the Nixon Peabody Law Firm and Ms. Raze Loshaj, Prosecutor, Kosovo Special Prosecution Office.

All participants found the seminar very important for their day-to-day work. “It was a fantastic experience to hear how the US and regional courts, police and lawyers treat these cases. Many of these issues in Kosovo are unexplored yet. We’re living in a region facing major human trafficking cases; this is why seminars like this come to a great benefit for us,” said Ramadan Ahmeti from the Kosovo Police Service/Human Trafficking Unit, after the seminar.



Working together on combating human trafficking in Kosovo

Thank You to the ABA ROLI's Many Pro Bono Contributors



Minister of Justice, Nekibe Kelmendi congratulates past ABA president Michael Greco for sharing his expertise with Kosovo Advocates

ABA ROLI in Kosovo regularly recognizes and honors the many volunteers who have contributed to its program success by organizing annual Pro-Bono Appreciation events and granting Certificates of Award.

Among those who were recently recognized and issued the certificates of appreciation were: Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu, President of Supreme Court and the Kosovo Judicial Council Justice Rexhep Haximusa, Minister of Justice Nekibe Kelmendi, Minister of Education Enver Hoxha, former Minister of Justice Jonuz Salihaj, Rector of UP Enver Hasani, Dean of the Law Faculty Hava Ismajli and several members of the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates, judges,

adjunct professors and Kosovo law students.

The ABA ROLI Country Director, David Sip, said that “As Past ABA President Michael Greco recently remarked, the skills, experiences, efforts, and time that you contribute on a pro bono basis here, not only help improve yourselves personally and the legal profession in Kosovo, but are felt and appreciated by the ABA and lawyers, judges, law professors and students around the world”.

Also honored for their outstanding Pro Bono support are ABA Legal Specialists Dawn Schock, Prof. Jack Van Doren, Regina Cocco, Kathy Ladun, Prof. Mary Pat Treuthart, Prof. Speedy Rice and Dan Webster, as well as US Law Student interns Rosalie Matthews, Eric Sutton, Jonathan Rosamond, Rebecca Krauss, Benjamin Taibleson, Cabot Teachout, Benjamin Brockman-Hawe, Megan Niedermeyer, and Kosovo Law Student Interns Blerta Gagica, Naim Spahiu, Anjeza Gojani, and Arben Isufi for their contributions to ABA ROLI Kosovo Programs. Special thanks are given to past ABA presidents Michael Greco and Martha Barnett, and Federal Court Judge John J. Walker of the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court, for the valuable time and insight they have given to the ABA reform process in Kosovo.



ABA Pro Bono Legal Education Specialist Professor Emeritus Jack Van Doren gives book awards to the best students of his class



Well-prepared law graduates is necessary to the development of an independent, efficient, effective, and accountable legal system Process.

The course on *Legal Methodology* was piloted for the first time in 2006 and is designed to provide students with foundational legal skills such as critical thinking and analysis, legal research and writing, practical representation and advocacy skills, and professional ethics and responsibility. In 2008 the ABA ROLI introduced a new course in *Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility* and published the Legal Ethics Handbook which serves as a primer for this course. Also in 2008, a *Legal Analysis & Writing* seminar is being launched to help improve students writing and drafting skills.

All the materials for each course have been initially developed, reviewed, and revised by ABA Legal Education Specialists such as Professor Emeritus John (Jack) Van Doren, who also co-teaches the courses together with local professors appointed by the Law Faculty.

This reform is part of the improvements that the Law Faculty is undergoing in accordance with the European-based legal education standards.. Since 2005 ABA ROLI has supported this reform effort by developing new courses and clinics, offering a research and writing seminar series, creating a student honor code, and assisting the deans and faculty in accomplishing reforms so that the university could receive appropriate and proper accreditation.

New Courses for the Law Faculty at the University of Prishtina

All new courses and clinics developed and introduced by the ABA ROLI in cooperation with the Law Faculty and the Rectorate of the University of Prishtina are fully and officially incorporated into the curriculum as either elective or required course, and they have all been assigned credits under the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) and the Bologna



Memorandum of Understanding signed between the US Embassy in Prishtina, ABA ROLI, and the University of Prishtina to introduce new course

Legal Clinic Students Rule in Mock Trials

The Legal Clinic program, which began in 2005, is designed to help students gain the practical skills needed to become practicing lawyers. Under expert supervision students are trained in client interviewing, problem solving, legal analysis and research, client counseling and communication, legal theory and strategy.

The Legal Clinic provides a combination of in-class lectures, assignments and practical experiences with legal professionals including lawyers, judges and prosecutors. Because of its success in equipping students with real skills for the future, the Legal Clinic is now officially included in the curriculum of the Law Faculty for credits under the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

The Legal Clinic semester ends with students conducting several mock trials in Pristina District Court, following modules developed by ABA ROLI that can be replicated in any of the appropriate courses taught at the law faculty. The first trial held was covered by a national television station, who emphasized the faculty's move toward reform and incorporating practical skill-building courses into the curriculum. Over 400 students have been trained in the Legal Clinic.

The newly renovated Student Courtroom and offices have been constructed so that students can work with actual clients on real cases. The Student Courtroom was renovated by the US Department of Justice and USAID.



Kosovo law students compete in several mock trial competitions

“By working on actual cases under close supervision, student participants will learn legal analysis and interpretation, develop legal writing skills, and learn how to interview clients”, commented Hava Ismajli, Dean of the Law Faculty, on the importance of the Legal Clinics.

Interactive Teacher Methods for Professors of Law

Several workshops were organized and manuals published for the faculty's professors on interactive teacher methods, as part of the continuous cooperation between ABA ROLI and the University of Prishtina Law Faculty.

The goal is to provide information to law professors about principles of adult learning theory and to introduce interactive teaching techniques that can be used effectively in the classroom or in the clinical setting. These include approaches such as: 1) lecture; 2) case studies; 3) small group work; 4) problem solving; 5) addressing controversial issues; 6) role play and simulation; 7) student presentations; 8) guest speakers; 9) film; and 10) computer-assisted technology.

The manual on The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) was developed for a workshop led by Professor Thomas H. Speedy Rice of Washington and Lee University Law School in Virginia. The manual for Interactive Teaching Techniques was developed by Professor Mary Pat Treuthart of Gonzaga University School of Law & the Institute for Law School Teaching in Washington who also conducted the workshops for the Law Faculty Professors.

One of the workshops organized was on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), to be followed with a session on the calculation of course credits. Professor Treuthart co-presented the session together with Assistant Professor Sefadin Blakaj, who is the coordinator for ECTS credit for the Prishtina Law Faculty. The second workshop, designed for assistant professors, dealt with interactive teaching methods. Participants exchanged their experiences in the



*ABA Pro Bono Legal Education Specialist
Prof. Mary Pat Treuthart Discusses
Teaching Methods with Assistant Professor Sefadin Blakaj*

classroom and learned new teaching techniques from Professor Treuthart. Professor Treuthart launched the series leading to a newly introduced course on *Legal Methodology*.

The workshops were well received and the law faculty collectively expressed interest in continuing these gatherings to further improve the quality of the students' education. The manuals and workshops complement the Law Faculty's comprehensive offerings of substantive law courses, as well as the ABA-developed Legal Clinic, *Legal Methodology* course, *Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility* course, and seminars in *Legal Analysis and Writing*.

Working Together with the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates

The Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA), representing more than 500 Kosovo advocates, enjoys a unique position in the legal community as a quasi-governmental organization that serves as the licensing agency and disciplinary authority for advocates. ABA ROLI has been working with the KCA since 2000, to build organizational capacity and to encourage them to assume an active role in the development of the legal profession in Kosovo. With ABA assistance, the KCA has completed a 5 year institutional strategic plan. The plan incorporates the results of the ABA ROLI's Legal Professional Reform Index (LPRI) and the KCA Organizational Assessment.

The KCA is more active and accountable now, in part by: adopting measures for continuing legal education; creating a disciplinary committee; taking measures to regulate the unauthorized practice of law; being active in proposing initiatives for law preparation to legislative institutions; adopting a code of professional ethics; developing an audit committee, as well as updating the KCA Statute to comply with the new law.

ABA ROLI is supporting the development and promotion of a mandatory Continuing Legal Education program for Kosovo attorneys through the KCA. ABA ROLI also works with the KCA Committee for Gender and Minorities to find the best ways of bringing more women and minority lawyers into the KCA.

The KCA is solidifying its organizational development that will guide them through a period of intensive growth and targeted development.



The KCA members working on their 5 year Strategic Plan

Supporting the Kosovo Judges Association

Founded in 2001 the KJA is striving to firmly establish itself in the legal community and has begun to realize its potential. ABA ROLI worked with the KJA in developing its fundraising strategy; expanding advocacy strategies for judicial reform; and recruiting women and minorities as KJA members.

The KJA leadership with the support from ABA ROLI updated the organization's mission statement and 3-year strategic plan. The revised strategic plan focuses on the KJA's work on judicial independence, accountability, and integrity with that of other actors in the legal and justice sectors. Moreover, the KJA has successfully established relationships with other judges' associations in Central Europe in order to gather best practices on issues such as funding, member activities, outreach, publications, ethics, advocacy, lobbying, and judicial salaries.



The KJA President addresses conference attendees on developing a transparent legal system



The KJA has already taken steps towards improving its outreach capabilities. With ABA ROLI's and USAID's support, the KJA Editorial Board has produced several issues of the monthly *Bulletin* and continuously enhances its content, which simultaneously raises the profile of the KJA as an institution and disseminates information about legal developments. The KJA is considered as an important legal professional organization that significantly contributes towards a more fair and transparent justice in Kosovo.

The KJA developed its first strategic plan that will guide them towards their mission

Kosovo Apprenticeship Program for Future Judges, Lawyers, and Prosecutors

Since 2002, ABA ROLI with support provided by USAID, has funded over 100 apprenticeships for law graduates in Kosovo through its local partners, the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA) and the Kosovo Judges Association (KJA).

Under Kosovo law, a law graduate is required to complete a one year apprenticeship in a lawyer's office or in a judge's chamber before he or she is eligible to sit for the Jurisprudence Exam which law graduates are required to pass before they can practice law.



Kosovo law graduates who completed a one year apprenticeship program

ABA ROLI's Apprenticeship Program first began with the KCA in 2002. The ABA funded four classes of law apprentices through the end of 2006, at which time the KCA took over the funding of the program. Drawing on the experience from the KCA Apprenticeship Program, the ABA ROLI in 2004 initiated a program for judicial law apprentices jointly with the Kosovo Judges Association (KJA). A judicial law apprentice is paired with a judge and works in his or her chamber for a year.

Through its support of the apprenticeship program, the ABA ROLI aims to contribute to refreshing the legal and judicial professions with new, qualified and well-trained future judges, lawyers and prosecutors. The program has been highly successful, as we have learned from our interviews with the graduates of the program that many of them are engaged in promoting the rule of law in Kosovo.



The apprenticeship program refreshes the legal and judicial professions with new qualified and well-trained future judges, lawyers, and prosecutors

Kosovo Women Share Experience & Advice at Conference on Women in Law

ABA ROLI directly supports the Gender and Minority Committee of the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA) through different projects. The ABA's goal is to assist Kosovo women and minorities in attaining equality in the legal profession.



Working together to develop a strategy to increase the participation of women in the Kosovo legal system

In this regard, ABA ROLI organized a conference titled “Women in Law in Kosovo.” At this event, Kosovo women lawyers and legal professionals discussed the main obstacles young female law graduates encounter when starting off in the legal profession.

Martha Barnett, former president of the ABA, presided over the conference which brought women law students and leading women in the legal profession together in Pristina.



The goal of ABA ROLI is to assist Kosovo women and minorities in attaining equality in the legal profession

ina Kaidanow, Chief of Mission of the U.S. Office in Kosovo opened the conference, stressing the important role women play in creating a diverse, strong legal system. Barnett shared her experiences as a lawyer in the US and pointed to progress in the past three decades.

”In the last decades, considerable progress has been shown in the United States with regard to the role of women in the legal profession,” Barnett explained in her address to the students. “But it is not too long a time ago when the US had the same situation as Kosovo has now.” Barnett urged her fellow panelists and the law school students to establish a network of women lawyers and create channels for better and broader communication.

Students who attended the event found the conference to be a rare opportunity for law students and recent graduates to learn about the challenges facing women in Kosovo's legal sector. The conference also offered them a chance to experience the support network they can access as they endeavor to enter the legal profession.



Past ABA President Michael S. Greco and Kosovo Supreme Court Chief Justice Rexhep Haxhimusa with Media at Bench and Bar Conference

Kosovo President Presides Over Conference on Bench and Bar Organizations

On June 13, 2007, Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu joined leading law and government figures in Prishtina to open “*The Role of Bench and Bar Organizations in Promoting the Rule of Law in Kosovo,*” a conference co-sponsored by ABA ROLI with support from USAID. The conference was the culmination of several bench-bar roundtables held in Kosovo over the last year, and was organized in partnership with the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA) and the Kosovo Judges Association.



Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu led discussion on The Role of Bench and Bar Organizations in Promoting the Rule of Law

participated in the conference, discussing issues including the Ahtisaari Plan on Kosovo Status and its impact on the judiciary, the judicial selection process, the impact of local organizations and associations on the promotion of judicial independence and competence, and the need to increase gender and ethnic diversity on the bench.

Participants recommended that the conclusions from the conference be published and include an urgent call for the appointment of more judges and an immediate increase in judge's salaries.

Kosovo's Judiciary Takes a Tough Stance Against Corruption

At a second Bench and Bar conference organized by ABA ROLI, Kosovo's three main judicial organizations launched a landmark joint anti-corruption strategy. The Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA), the Kosovo Judges Association (KJA) and the Kosovo Prosecutors Association (KPA) worked together on the Strategy for a Transparent and Non-Corrupt Judicial System through a six-month grant by the Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC) and USAID. The culmination of this effort holds great potential for reducing corruption in the region.

The conference first targeted the causes of corruption. Judge John M. Walker, Jr., Senior Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit discussed a number of factors contributing to corruption in Kosovo. He pointed to “the lack of



US Federal Circuit Court Judge John M. Walker presents a number of factors contributing to corruption in Kosovo

transparency, low salaries (lowest in the region), a lack of well trained judges, and the lack of clear rules and lines of responsibilities.” He also observed that corruption is a global issue and that every judiciary in the world should be vigilant in dealing with it.

The presidents of each of the professional associations pledged their commitment to fighting corruption in the justice sector. This joint commitment of all three main professional associations is a singular event for the legal sector in Kosovo. Mr. Rame Gashi (past president) of the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates affirmed, “The joint act of these three associations is an important step toward fighting corruption in the future.”

This Strategic Plan is a joint commitment of three main professional associations for fighting corruption in the judiciary



Tetev October, 2007

Assessment Tools Measure Kosovo's Legal Profession and Reform Progress

Measuring progress in the areas of judicial and legal profession reform is a difficult exercise but critical in a society which is working to implement the rule of law. Through its assessment tools and indexes ABA ROLI evaluates such progress and targets any changes or improvements that can be made to reform the legal profession.

In Kosovo, ABA ROLI has conducted the *Judicial Reform Index* in 2001, 2004 and 2007, the *Legal Professional Reform Index* in 2004 and again in 2007, and the *Legal Education Reform Index* in 2008. The *JRI* provides an assessment of the state of the judiciary in Kosovo, the *LPRI* intends to help legal professionals to act on behalf of their professional interests while the *LERI* findings demonstrate where the Kosovo legal education system stands.



ABA ROLI's Publication Launch of the Legal Education Reform Index

These indexes are three in a series of assessment tools developed by experts in legal reform and international development at the ABA. Other assessment tools include the: Prosecutorial Reform Index, CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) Assessment Tool, ICCPR (International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights) Index and the Human Trafficking Assessment Tool.

ABA ROLI's hope is that these publications and their findings will help guide other donors, international organizations and Kosovo Institutions towards legal professional reform in Kosovo.

TeenLaw for Kosovo High School Students



High school students participating in TeenLaw

TeenLaw is a course which introduces information about the Kosovo legal system to high school students and it was first introduced to Kosovo high schools by ABA ROLI. The course has reached 1500 high school students in Kosovo.

Among the subjects covered by the *TeenLaw* course are the court structure in Kosovo; what law is; the role of advocates, prosecutors and judges in society; and human rights.

ABA ROLI designed the *TeenLaw* project to fill a gap in the high school civics curriculum, which does not cover the judicial and legal systems, as well as to increase public awareness and dialogue about law and the role it has in society.

Through the *TeenLaw* project, ABA ROLI engages law students who have completed the ABA's legal clinic to teach high school students in the region of their choice.

The project encouraged great debate among high school students and equips former law students with better communications and public relations skills. Law student engagement in *TeenLaw* demonstrates ABA ROLI's commitment to support the development of law students in Kosovo.



Law student facilitator discusses the courts to tenth graders in a Pristina high school

Isa Gacaferri, a law student who lectured for *TeenLaw* in Mitrovica's region said that "Having the experience of teaching to high school students makes me more comfortable talking in front of the public".

TeenLaw proved a success judging by the vigorous questioning and debate from the students on issues as diverse as the influence of politics on the court system, corruption, and the function of parallel courts in Kosovo. Its success was also shown through positive feedback received from the civics teacher and ministry officials who observed the classes.

Civics Books and Court Visits Have Major Impact in Kosovo Classrooms

ABA ROLI partnered with the Kosovo Education Center (KEC) to increase awareness among children and teachers of children's rights and the law.

ABA ROLI together with KEC developed and published three books to help teachers fill a gap in the existing school curriculum in civic and legal rights. The books, *A Guide for Children's Rights Committees in Schools*; a poetry and prose book - *We are Flowers, We are Birds*; and a book focused on children's rights – *We Have No Vote, but We Do Have Our Rights*; were published in Albanian and Serbian.

Educational officials called the books "very useful and valuable for advancing the teaching of human rights and supporting teachers of civic education" and have credited the books with helping "to establish a better relationship" between students and teachers.

ABA ROLI and the KEC also organized student visits with district, municipal, and juvenile court officers. During these



High school and middle school civics books published by the ABA and the Kosovo Education Center

visits, students had the opportunity to meet with local judges and to ask them questions about their profession and the legal system. Court visits were organized in all regions of Kosovo and included 200 students from middle and high schools attended.

Ms. Gjyleshene Berisha, representative of Gjiilan Municipality Directorate on Education and Member of Kosovo Parliament, appreciated the initiative and proposed to the President of the court that they should continue to cooperate in the future with schools on such projects, which have proved to be an important and valuable educational experience for high school students.

Justice Kid - Kosovo's Cartoon Rule of Law Super Hero

Justice Kid, the first ever Kosovo-made cartoon, was developed to increase understanding of the law among the country's younger generations.

ABA ROLI, the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates and the Kosovo Judges Association developed three Justice Kid cartoons as well as three Public Service Announcements (PSA) as part of a joint campaign to increase public understanding of the law.

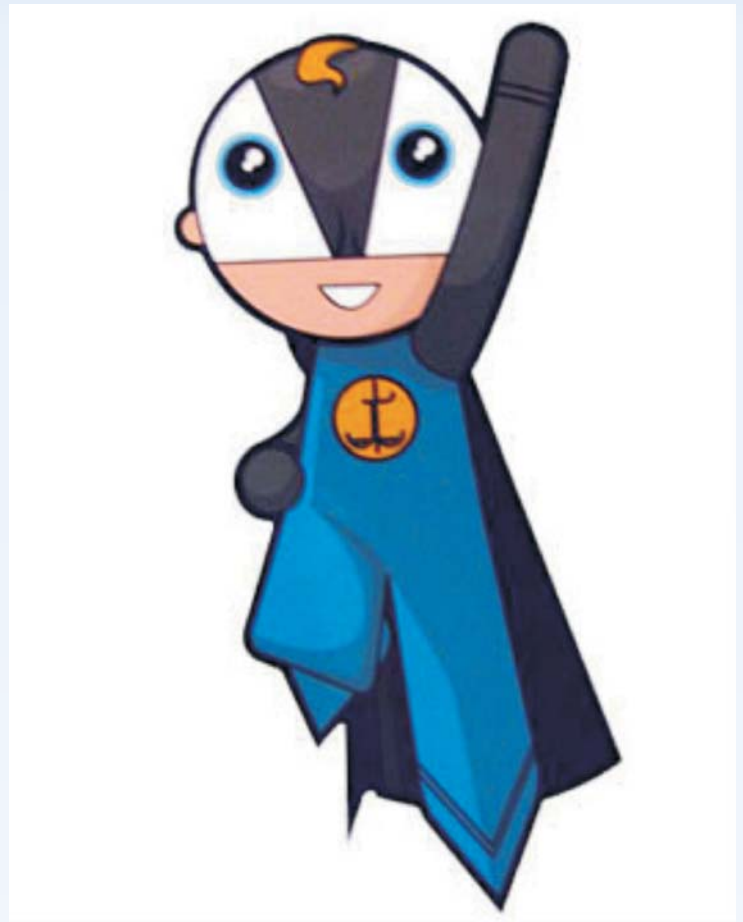
Justice Kid reaches out to the young generation with messages regarding gender equality, rule of law and human rights. David Sip, Director of the ABA ROLI in Kosovo, emphasized that "through this campaign, the ABA wishes to achieve better awareness and understanding of the rule of law which will lead to increased confidence in the judicial system." He added that he hopes "these cartoons bring a positive role model to the children of Kosovo."

The PSAs are designed to inform and mentor citizens on their rights and on their role and obligation to report suspected misconduct by judges and lawyers.

Rexhep Haxhimusa, Chief Justice of the Kosovo Supreme Court, who appears in one of the PSAs, expressed the need to strengthen the rule of law in Kosovo through such projects by adding: "Rule of law is a condition sine qua non to the building of a rule of law society."

The cartoons and PSAs were broadcast on both national and local television stations that agreed to show the spots throughout 2007.

Independent research conducted for evaluating the campaign demonstrated that the cartoons were considered excellent nearly unanimously by respondents from all regions in Kosovo. Over 50% of those surveyed indicated that they learned that they could file a complaint against their attorney or judge for misconduct.



Justice Kid, Kosovo's First Animated Superhero



Justice Kid reaches out to the young generation with messages regarding gender equality, rule of law and human rights



Justice Kid increases understanding of the law among the country's youth

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