



UnMode

REPORT 2021



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➔ 01. GENERAL MEETING IN BATUMI, summer 2021

Development and approval by the General Meeting of all regulations, policies of the Organization.



On June 16-17, 2021, the first face-to-face regional meeting of the UnMode General Meeting was held in Batumi, Georgia. The meeting was attended by human rights defenders and activists from 4 countries of the EECCA region - Moldova, Georgia, Ukraine and Russia.

During the General Meeting, the report on the activities of UnMode for 2020 and the first half of 2021 was adopted and the strategic directions of the Organization's activities for the next 3 years were determined.



One of the most important results of the General Meeting was the approval of the organizational structure and management system of UnMode, financial procedures, security protocol, as well as regulations on the Management Board of UnMode and membership in the Organization.



The project was implemented in May-June 2021. The aim of the project was to provide activists and NGOs with tools to ensure the safety of activities to protect the rights of groups vulnerable to HIV, including information, financial and physical security, preventing the termination of current and future human rights activities.

➔ 02. The project "Legislative threats to the safety of activists and NGOs as a key risk factor for the curtailment of evidence-based HIV prevention programs among key population groups" was launched with the support of AFEW.



The training participants received real, practically applicable tools to ensure the safety of their activities, and two initiative groups and one organization formed complete packages of security documentation. The participants also passed on the knowledge gained at the seminar to other NGOs vulnerable to the legislation of their countries, initiative groups and activists.



→03. Work to eliminate gaps in the security of the activities of the members of the UnMode



In June 2021, a two-day information security training was held in Batumi, Georgia for UnMode members from Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine, where activists received the necessary tools for storing and transmitting data, correspondence, etc.

The argument in favor of the need to train UnMode members on information security issues was simple: if activists do not know how to recognize a security threat, then how can they avoid it and protect themselves. The first day was devoted to the topic of legal risks. The invited lawyer explained the current legislation, helped everyone to develop working algorithms for reducing risks in their work.



The second day is IT security. The invited expert taught everyone how to use the most secure software and means of communication, behavior on the Internet and social networks, as well as ways to protect information. Special software was installed on the gadgets of all participants, and everyone was able to learn how to use it under the guidance of an expert.



Based on the results of the events, the UnMode security policy and basic protocols were developed, which can be applied and adapted to any non-governmental organization in the UnMode countries.

→ 04. UnMode strategic planning for 2021-2024

In June 2021, the strategic planning of UnMode took place in Batumi, Georgia. The developed strategic plan will allow the Organization to focus its efforts on development, sustainability and achievement of its main goals in 2021-2024, and will also give UnMode members an understanding of strategic goals.



The strategy was based on understanding the identity of the Organization UnMode and its members. The mission was defined, as well as the external and internal vision, values and advantages were determined.



The highest value of UnMode was determined by human life. Human dignity and the protection of human rights are the highest values. Trust, transparency, clarity of procedures within the organization and inclusiveness are the priorities of the network.



The members of UnMode are tolerant and respect the opinion of each of their members.

The organization creates safe conditions for the lives of people who use drugs, prisoners and former prisoners, as well as for human rights defenders defending the rights of people who use drugs.

The Sustainable Development Goals for three years of work were defined to ensure full access to the realization of human rights and freedoms, access to a fair trial for people who use drugs, prisoners/ex-prisoners.

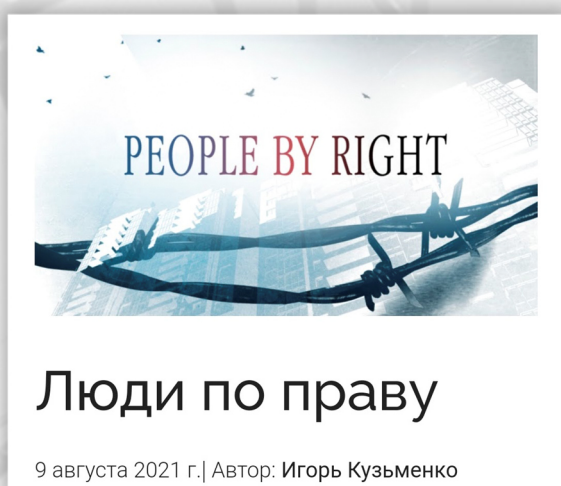


One of the important stages of strategic planning was the development of a stable Organization structure, on the basis of which the organizational structure of UnMode was created, which subsequently became the basis of the permanent staffing of the Organization.

→ 05. The beginning of the project "People by right"

The UnMode project "People by Right", supported by the European Union in 2021, was aimed at humanizing anti-drug legislation. In June, a media company of the same name was launched.

The launch of the project in Batumi in June 2021 led to the appearance of seven videos in which activists told personal stories about the repressive drug policies of their countries.



This is the first step in the framework of the UnMode outreach strategy.

The campaign brought together the efforts of the community of people who use drugs and civil society to promote the ideas of humanizing anti-drug legislation and improving the effectiveness of drug policy.



Videos of UnMode activists, in which they openly talk about their experience of repression, getting rid of self-stigma and the need for drug policy reforms, as well as working with the community at the local level, are a powerful propaganda tool that, among other things, can influence the change of such behavior model and the choice of an active position in protecting their rights and human dignity.

The information and propaganda campaign "People by Right" is the first step towards creating prerequisites for the actualization of the problem of repressive drug policy, the need to change attitudes towards people who use drugs towards humanization. In addition, today it is important to participate in international events that determine the general vector of drug policy development in the world. This is an important propaganda tool, since almost all major international documents have been signed by the countries of our region and are binding.



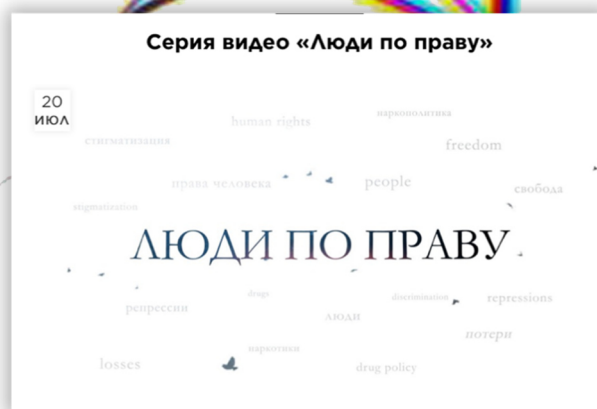
➔ 06. Shooting videos as part of the "People by Right" campaign



In total, the media campaign "People by Right" included 11 videos with a total coverage of 15,000 views from unique users.

The video contains testimonies of drug users, prisoners/ex-prisoners about violations of their rights by the state. Also, "Proposals for reforming the criminal anti-drug legislation in Russia" and a petition on the inadmissibility of the use of torture (withdrawal syndrome) to obtain confessions during the preliminary investigation were developed.

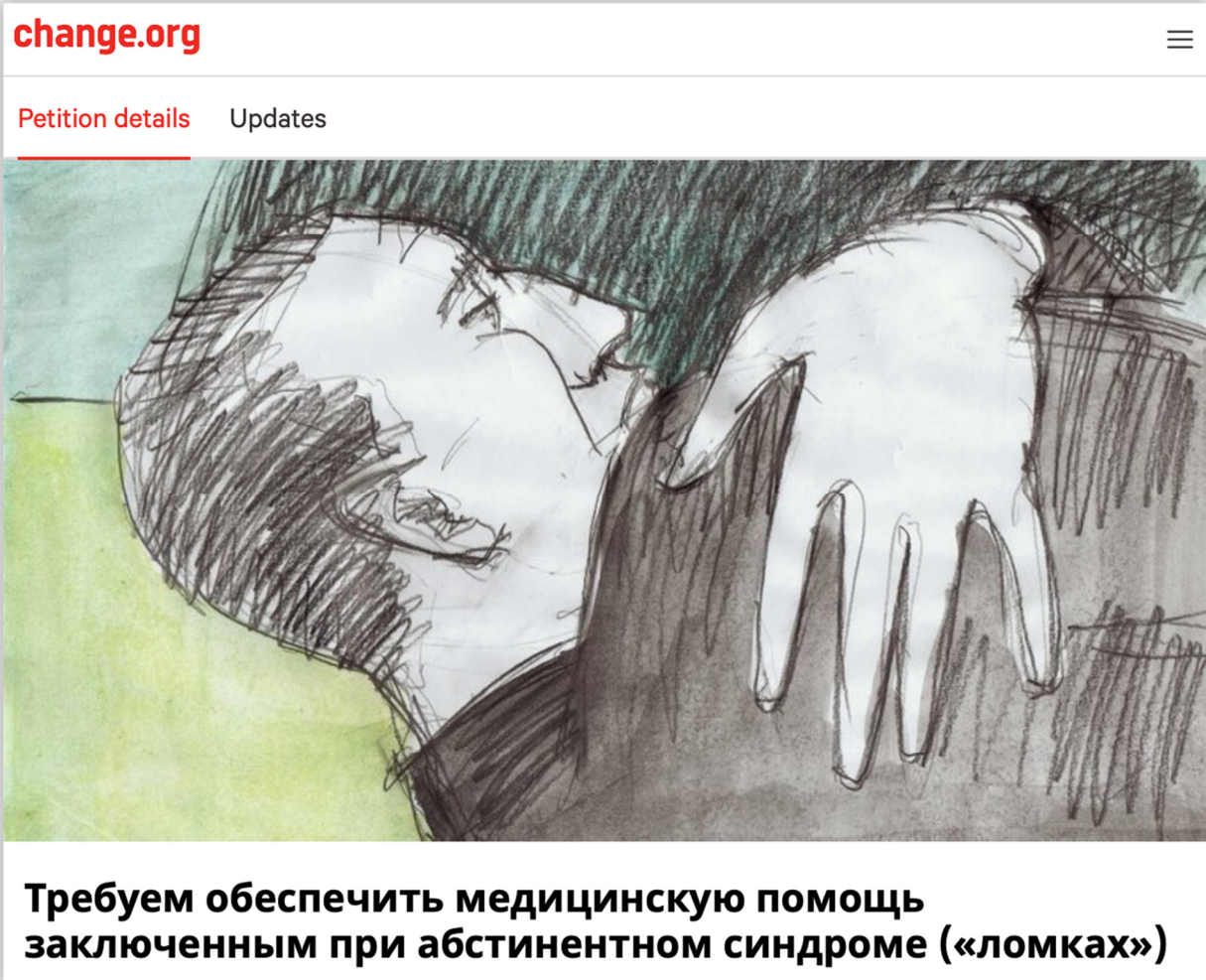
The lives of people who use drugs are deaths, prisons, illnesses, stigmatization and discrimination, unavailability of treatment and inability to get a job, destroyed families and children deprived of their parents. This is what human rights defenders and activists of UnMode say and testify in a series of videos "People by Right".



Today it is necessary to expand the list of alternative types of punishment, change the law enforcement practice in relation to people who use drugs, the use of scientifically based and recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) methods of treatment and rehabilitation, etc.

Human rights defenders and activists of UnMode advocate for the reform of anti-drug legislation. This is important for the state, for society, and for millions of people who use drugs.

➔ 07. Launch of a petition demanding the reform of Russia's anti-drug legislation



Требуем обеспечить медицинскую помощь заключенным при абстинентном синдроме («ломках»)

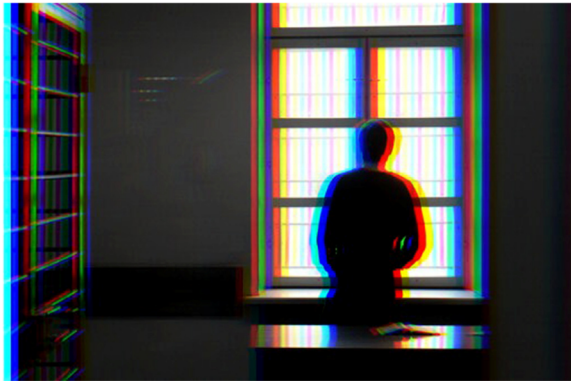
In October 2021, UnMode created a petition demanding an end to the inhumane practice of refusing treatment for withdrawal syndrome and ensuring immediate access of detainees and prisoners to medical care through regulatory regulation and effective measures to ensure the right to medical care for detainees, persons in pre-trial detention, convicts.

Detainees and people in custody have the right to medical assistance during withdrawal from abstinence in accordance with current standards and clinical guidelines.

In addition, detainees and prisoners may be intimidated and forced to refuse medical care. UnMode human rights activists regularly document cases of the use of withdrawal syndrome in order to manipulate and pressure people who use drugs, obtain confessions from them and attract them to "voluntary" cooperation.

We demand:

1. Allow the conduct of procedural actions with the participation of drug addicts only after the elimination of withdrawal syndrome



2. Prohibit the admission of drug addicts to temporary detention facilities and pre-trial detention facilities until the withdrawal syndrome is eliminated, if it is impossible to provide drug treatment in these institutions in accordance with the standards of medical care

3. To ensure in each pre-trial detention center the rate of a psychiatrist/narcologist and the availability of necessary medicines, including potent and quantifiable, to eliminate withdrawal syndrome



➔ 08. "Support don't punish 2021" campaign

Every year, UnMode and its activists join the "Support don't punish" campaign.

On June 26, dozens of "Support.

Don't punish" ("Support, not punishment").

Activists take to the streets of cities to publicly protest against the cruel,

inhuman and senseless state policy against people who use drugs. The campaign is an occasion to once again draw attention to this unresolved issue.

Even on this day, the day of combating drug abuse and illicit trafficking is celebrated all over the world. Such a discriminatory and repressive wording for this day was invented at the UN. And this, of

course, is not surprising, given the role played by the United

Nations in the fact that the "war on drugs" does

not end all over the world, and the methods of repressive drug policy in many countries of the world are either cowardly ignored or supported by various structures and departments of this organization.

Participation in the international campaign "Support. Don't punish" is an opportunity to support a correct, humane understanding of this important day.



→09. Monitoring of prisons in connection with covid



In 2019-2020, the world was gripped by the coronavirus pandemic - COVID-19, which also affected the lives of prisoners. They faced not only restrictions related to quarantine measures, but also were subjected to deliberate actions by the prison administration to restrict access to medical care, comparable to torture. Amid the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, the authorities of a dozen countries have decided to release some prisoners from prisons — temporarily or permanently. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, also called for the unloading of prisons. However, not all States have followed this call. For example, the Ukrainian and Russian authorities have limited themselves to canceling visits to prisons. People living with HIV and tuberculosis were particularly vulnerable in prisons. All of them stated that they felt a shortage of medicines for the treatment of HIV infection. In light of these developments, UnMode has started short-term monitoring in prisons in the EECA region. The survey of prisoners from Ukraine, Moldova and Russia was conducted by paralegals in April 2021.

68 prisoners from correctional institutions or those under investigation in pre-trial detention centers took part in the survey: 20 people – Ukraine, 6 people - Moldova, 42 people - Russia. The monitoring result showed the authorities' unwillingness to effectively deal with the consequences of the pandemic for prisoners suffering from drug addiction and/or living with socially significant diseases. The rights of people who use drugs from among prisoners are being violated more and more often during the pandemic, these cases have become more hidden for civil society, the pandemic has created conditions for the impossibility of protecting their rights due to lack of access to legal aid, as well as to contacts with relatives and friends.

The monitoring results were presented to UnMode at an international conference on the protection of prisoners' rights organized by a consortium of non-governmental associations of prisoners/ex-prisoners.

→10. FSB harassment, search at the head of UnMode

On November 15, at 5:30 a.m., three employees of the FSB Directorate for the Orenburg Region, accompanied by FSB riot police, broke into the house where Fedosik Aidana Evgenievna, executive director of UnMode (Tbilisi, Georgia) and founder of ANO "Everyone's Right" (Orenburg, Russia) lived alone with her minor children in Orenburg. In total, there were 7 FSB employees and 2 "representatives of the public" (witnesses).

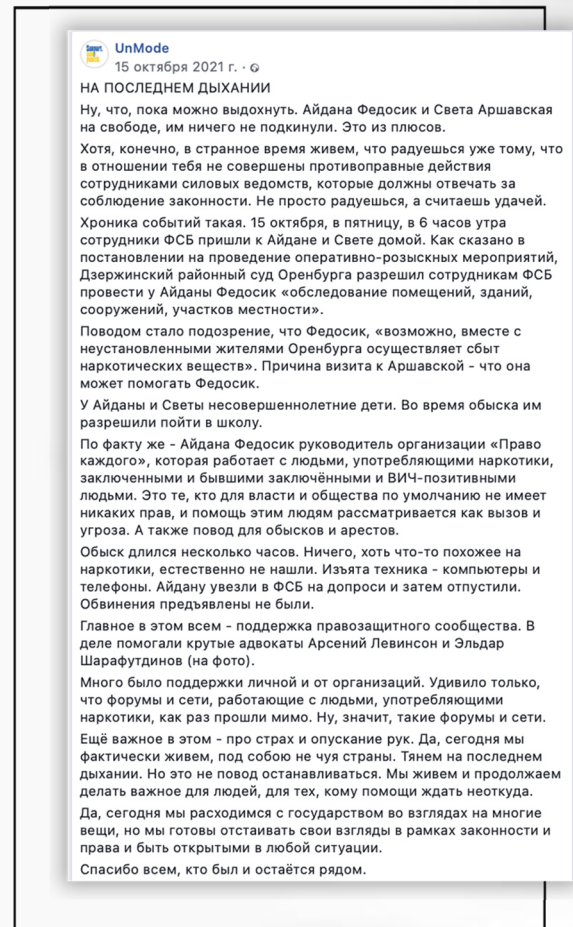
When Fedosik heard "FSB" and "drugs", she immediately realized that this was a provocation, and was afraid that drugs would be planted now. She stated this, addressing "members of the public" (witnesses):



" I declare that I have every reason to think that the FSB officers came to plant drugs on me and fabricate a criminal case"

Before the start of the search, Aydana was presented with a court order to conduct an OPM in her house - "inspection of premises, buildings, territories ...". According to the decree, the FSB received operational information about her involvement in the sale of narcotic drugs on a large scale, the group became the basis for conducting an OPM against Fedosik.

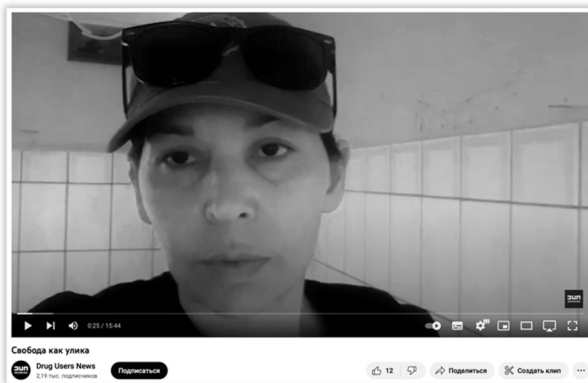
Immediately after the search began, it became clear to Fedosik that they were not looking for



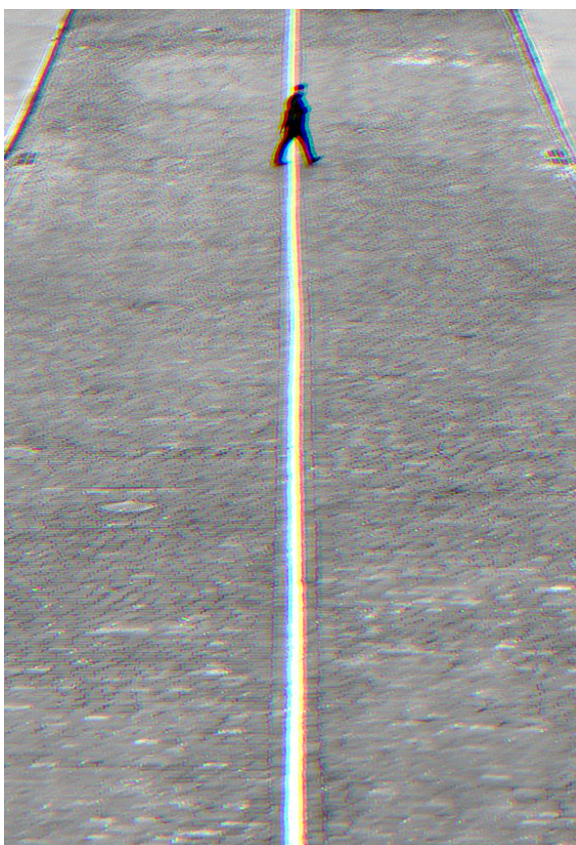
and equipment with information about Aidana's activities and the activities of the organizations she directs for study. All conversations during the search were conducted on the topic of activities, sources of funding, contacts in Russia, international partners, the "wrongness" of drug consumer protection activities and defining it as propaganda of drug use, the assumption that we "are all funded by Soros and promote foreign interests in Russia to the detriment of the state."



For the period from 2020 to 2021, this was the second search of this kind in the house of Fedosik. Being a single mother with many children and a human rights activist in Russia is an increased risk precisely because there are no ways and algorithms to protect you as a mother. This gave the UnMode team reason to fear for Aidana's freedom and the well-being of her children and became the final reason for the evacuation of Fedosik and her children from Russia.



Thanks to the fact that our Russian colleagues managed to raise a fuss in the media in the first hours of the search and found a good lawyer, everything was completed relatively quickly and without pathological consequences.



There is no way to return to Russia, because no one and nothing can guarantee Fedosik protection from the arbitrariness of the FSB and a fabricated criminal case.

➔ 11. A trip to Orsk to Alena Asaeva at the cemetery, shooting a movie

In October 2021, the UnMode team began filming a film about the famous Russian human rights activist, activist, friend and colleague Alena Asayeva, a well-known human rights activist in the international community of people who use drugs.

Alena, a native of the city of Orsk, Orenburg Region, tragically died at the Harm Reduction Conference (HRI2019) in the Port on May 2, 2019.

For the filming of the film, the Un mode team came to Alena's hometown - Orsk and visited the cemetery where her ashes are buried. Everyone remembered what role Alena played in his fate. A film called "A little bit about love. In memory of Alena Asayeva" is scheduled for release in 2022.





➔ 12. Evacuation of the UnMode Director to Georgia

After the FSB search of the UnMode director's house in Orenburg on October 15, 2021 For years, the entire operational, financial and banking systems of the Organization were destroyed by us. Thus, the FSB did not get access to information about our human rights activities in the EECA region and, in particular, in Russia.

The physical presence of the Director of the Organization in Tbilisi (the place of legal registration and the bank of the organization) had its advantages: we were able to quickly restore all unmodified activity systems and organize a stationary office.

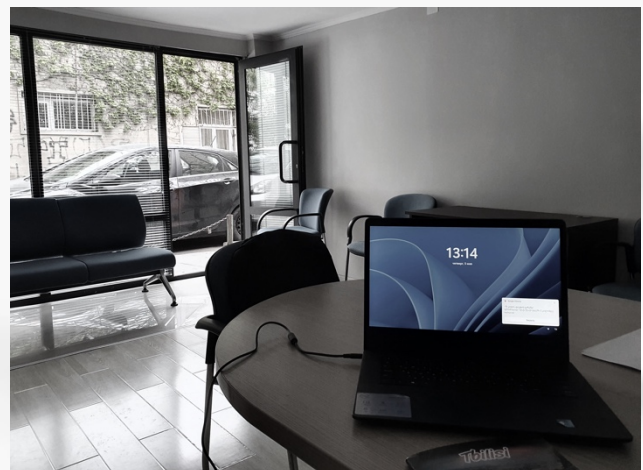
Moving to a safe country made it possible to avoid provocations and harassment of police officers by the FSB, falsification of administrative and criminal cases and illegal imprisonment against the director and employees of UnMode.

Organization of a local office in Tbilisi in November 2021



By the beginning of December 2021, affordable housing was purchased for rent for a long time. The accommodation is suitable for living with children, office space is organized separately. Housing has the ability to provide temporary shelter to UnMode employees, in case they are in danger and need urgent relocation.

The system of secure remote work of UnMode with its representatives and employees in the countries of the EECA region has been organized.



The process of judicial and interdepartmental appeal against the actions of FSB officers in the Orenburg region has begun with the aim of further appealing these actions to the ECHR.

➔13.Meeting in Chisinau, results of the three-year cycle of the PHRC Consortium

At the end of November 2021, a face-to-face meeting of the PHRC consortium, of which UnMode is a part, took place in Chisinau (Moldova).

The results of the three-year project "Prison Healthcare and prisoners' rights" were summed up. At the meeting, the UnMode team presented the results of the field component of

the project, which was implemented by members of UnMode in the countries of the region.

The work was carried out in four countries, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine, in three areas of violations of prisoners' rights, which were identified jointly with the project partners at the start in early 2021:



Exemption from criminal punishment in connection with a serious illness of the convicted person



Access to civilian medicine for convicts



Access to withdrawal syndrome removal during detention and receiving testimony in a state of withdrawal syndrome

As a result of the work of human rights defenders, UnMode:



593 violated rights were documented



severe side effects that prison doctors did not pay due attention to 110 people



there were also cases of multiple violations of rights, in 250 cases there was no access to treatment for a serious illness for a reason independent of the person himself



430 people indicated that they could not get advice or medical care from a doctor in civilian voluntary medicine, even in the absence of the necessary specialist in the prison hospital



in 253 cases there was no access to necessary medicines

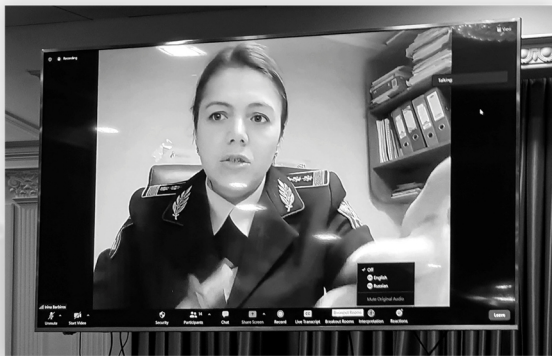


137 people received treatment intermittently with cases of unjustified interruptions in treatment



293 people believe that they were eligible for release due to a serious illness, and they were not granted this right

UnMode conducted an analysis of the situation with the rights of prisoners in the countries, and also started working on cases. UnMode staff strategically accompanied 47 cases, 25 of which concerned the lack of access to release due to the presence of a serious illness, 2 - due to lack of access, if necessary, to civilian medicine, 20 - due to the failure to provide medical care in places of detention under consideration by the ECHR (European Court of Human Rights). At the end of 2021, one complaint has been filed with the ECHR against Russia, which has already been brought to the attention, 6 complaints are in preparation for filing with the ECHR, including 4 complaints from Russia, 2 complaints from Ukraine.



Based on the results of the project in 2021, it is also important to talk about the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Discussing the situation that develops after the abolition of restrictive measures against human rights violations, there is a return to the pre-pandemic level. In fact, the coronavirus infection provoked the introduction of restrictive measures, which in no way improved, but only limited the rights of prisoners, after the abolition of which human rights in places of detention continued to be violated with renewed vigor.



Based on the experience gained during the implementation of the project, on the data obtained during the implementation, feedback from the prisoners themselves, the work of the Consortium is recognized as the only one of its kind in the EECA region, which is implemented directly by the community of former prisoners. As a result of the high-quality work of human rights defenders, the project was recognized as necessary and significant and received an extension for the next three-year stage.

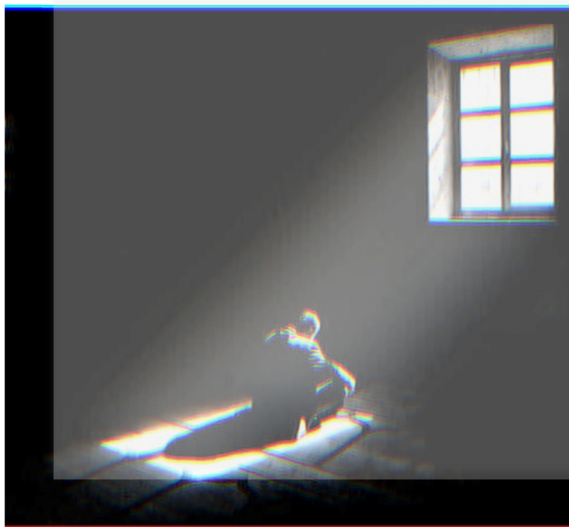


➔ 14. Appeal to the Robert Carr Foundation in the Consortium for the Protection of Prisoners' Health and Rights

In September 2021, UnMode, together with partners of the European Prison Litigation Network, applied for funding for the activities of the Consortium for the Protection of Prisoners' Health and Rights (PHRC).

The PHRC mission operates on three levels:

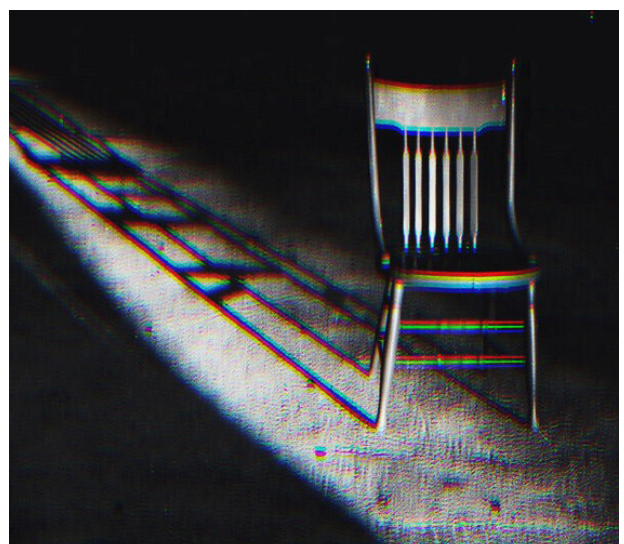
Firstly, the Consortium aims to become the main stakeholder of civil society at the European level. for expanding the representation of prisoners' interests and promoting policies based on public health and human rights. To this end, work is being carried out to strengthen the organizational and propaganda potential of communities of people who use drugs and (former) prisoners.



Thirdly, the Consortium seeks to coordinate judicial and human rights campaigns aimed at promoting the law at the national, European and international levels. To this end, it supports information campaigns concerning the UN and European health institutions, penitentiary institutions and penitentiary reforms in the long term, as well as strategic judicial campaigns to change the term concerning access to fundamental rights in national legislation and in European law.



Secondly, the Consortium aims to become a monitoring center for prisoners' right to health in European countries, raising awareness and promoting knowledge and understanding of health in prisons and access to medical care for prisoners. To this end, collective training and exchange of experience is being strengthened, it builds capacity and supports monitoring of former prisoners, communities of people who use drugs, and human rights defenders, harm reduction activists and medical professionals practicing in prisons.



→ 15. The grant of the European Commission through the British Peacebuilding Center was approved

In December 2021, an application for funding for the institutional development of UnMode was approved with the support of the Peacebuilding Center and the Community Development Fund, UK. The main focus of the funding was the integration of public support for human rights through community involvement and capacity building of NGOs.

One of the key goals of the project is to develop the fundraising direction in UnMode. The project involves not only financial support, but also technical support from international experts in the field of fundraising, ensuring the security of human rights activities, strategic development of non-governmental organizations, as well as direct protection of human rights at the international level.

The project involves financing and support for 14 months. A distinctive feature of this grant is that during the implementation of the institutional development program, UnMode undertakes to raise funds monthly using the method of voluntary donations from the public. To this end, a communication strategy was developed at UnMode, which allowed identifying the key groups to which the activities of UnMode can be directed, as well as the means to achieve effective communication with these groups.



➔ 16. Financial and program report of the Executive Director to the members of the Management Board, approval of the staffing table, financial and work plan for 2022

At the end of December 2021, the annual report of the Board of UnMode was presented before the General Meeting of the Organization. It was decided that it was necessary to improve the managerial and financial competence of the Organization's employees and members of its Management Board, and training events for members of the Management Board are planned for 2022. The activities of the Management Board and the Executive Director of UnMode were found satisfactory by a majority vote of the full members of the Organization.

A separate financial report on the activities was presented.

In 2021, support was received from IREX, AFEW, UAF - financial.

The Center for Peace-building and Community Development Foundation, United Kingdom, approved funding in 2021, which will be received in 2022.



UnMode is working closely with EPLN (European Prison Litigation Network) within the framework of the Consortium for the Protection of Prisoners' Health and Rights (PHRC) project with the support of the Robert Carr Foundation (RCF). For three consecutive years (2019-2021), members of UnMode have been acting as street lawyers and defenders in courts, including the ECHR.

At the moment, the activities of the PHRC consortium have been extended for another three years (2022-2024). In addition to EPLN, HRI (International Organization for Harm Reduction) and HWB (Health Without Barriers) will become additional partners of UnMode within the framework of the PHRC consortium.

The staffing table, financial and program plan for 2022, developed by the Executive Director, were approved by the Board of UnMode in December 2021.

Financing for 2021 in EUR

INCOME

 AFEW 8 300

 AIREX 7 500


 UAF 7 400


Total: 23 200 euro

EXPENSES

 Human resources – 8 200

 Travel – 9 800

 Media, translations, design – 3 500

 Administrative expenses – 1 700

Staffing table for 2022



Executive Director



Legal Coordinator



Info Manager



Specialist in
International Advocacy



Specialist in monitoring,
evaluation and development
of training programs



Program Assistant



Financial Manager



Accountant



Site Administrator