



3 February 2004

ASB supports the forthcoming minority elections in Croatia

On 14 February 2004, the ethnic minorities in Croatia will be called to elect their representatives at the elections for members of incomplete or empty national minority councils and minority representatives, and at the repeated elections for representatives of national minorities and the Croatian people in the representative bodies of the local communities.

In response to various concerns expressed by the minority representatives on the lack of information on elections, GONG (Civilian Monitoring Association) is organising an education campaign targeting ethnic minority voters.

The Office of Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) in the Republic of Croatia supports GONG in the implementation of the educational campaign with funding provided by the European Commission under the CARDS programme. The value of this support initiative is € 50,000.

GONG is a non-governmental and non-party citizen's organisation founded in 1997 with the aim of encouraging citizens to participate more actively in political processes. GONG has already started to inform citizens about the minority elections through video and audio clips on different TV and radio stations, 21 "Civic Hour" radio programmes, publishing of a brochure in the daily press and GONG's web page (www.gong.hr and www.izbori-hr.info).

Since 1996, ASB has implemented € 67.3 million worth of EU-funded projects in the Republic of Croatia, reconstructed more than 3,067 destroyed housing units and carried out numerous projects in the field of public, social and economic infrastructure, mine-clearance, capacity building and civil society development

For further information please contact:



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