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This Analytical Country Report is one of the major outputs of the Civicus Civil Society Index (CSI) implementation process in Macedonia, presenting the highlights from the research conducted, including summaries of civil society's strengths and weaknesses, as well as recommendations for strengthening civil society in the country. It will be accompanied by a Policy Action Brief, presenting key recommendations for follow-up by stakeholders, and a series of case studies, published under the title of Civic Practices.

The Civil Society Index (CSI) is an action research project assessing the state of civil society in countries around the world. The project was being simultaneously implemented in around 40 countries and was coordinated by the international civil society network CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. The goals of the project, as formulated by CIVICUS, are to enhance the sustainability of civil society and to promote and strengthen its contribution to positive social change. In Macedonia, the CSI was for a second time coordinated by the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC).

The CSI employs 66 indicators, which are grouped in 28 sub-dimensions. These are then consolidated into five dimensions of civil society: Civic Engagement; Level of Organisation; Practice of Values; Perception of Impact; and External Environment. In Macedonia, these civil society indicators were studied using in-depth primary and secondary research, including: representative population surveys, a survey of civil society organisations (CSOs), in-depth interviews with stakeholders from other sectors, regional focus groups, a literature review and case studies.

The Analytical Report is accompanied by a <u>Policy Action Brief</u>, presenting key recommendations for firther strengthening of civil society.

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