



**New Generation
of Human Rights
Defenders Coalition**

Right to Health to People Who Use Drugs

- The OST has been piloted in Kazakhstan for the last 10 years, however now it is under the threat of being shut down.
- Experts estimate that in fact the program should have up to 40% coverage to achieve the OST goals, including reduction of the risk of acquiring HIV

Recommendations

- **To expand access of women with disabilities to sexual and reproductive health services and provide comprehensive sexual education, particularly for teen-age girls.**

Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women and Girls with Disabilities

- As a rule, decisions about **reproductive health** are made not by a woman herself, but by third parties, including legal representatives, guardians and family members, which is a forced form of reproductive health control, including sterilization and abortions.
- The state does not provide available information; in general, there is no education in the field of sexual and reproductive **health for persons with disabilities**. As of June 1, 2017, only **776** cases of child delivery by women with disabilities were registered for the period of 5 years in Kazakhstan, i.e. **0.04%** of the overall number of children born during this period.

Recommendations

- **To expand access of women with disabilities to sexual and reproductive health services and provide comprehensive sexual education, particularly for teen-age girls.**
- **To organize training for healthcare employees on informed consent and ensure proper education and awareness raising in the field of human rights, encourage a culture of respect for human diversity, integrity and dignity.**

Right to Recognition as a Person Before the Law

- Kazakhstan adopted laws that allow **deprivation of legal capacity with respect to people with mental disorders**, particular people who have been or are currently placed in specialized social facilities. Among other things, people deprived of legal capacity are subjects to abuses by psychiatric services through means of **forced hospitalization and in-patient treatment**.

Recommendations

- **To abolish the practice of deprivation of people with mental disabilities of their legal capacity.**

Right to Vote

- The number of persons with disabilities of full age constitutes up to **3% of the total population of Kazakhstan.**
- Despite some positive changes in the legislature, the law enforcement practice does not comply with the adopted legal standards. Even during the on last Presidential Elections Physical and informational accessibility of the **infrastructure was not fully ensured at polling stations in Kazakhstan.**

Recommendations

- **To provide access to polling stations by high class social, engineering and transportation infrastructure facilities.**
- **To adopt legal regulations with regards to election campaigns which consider the needs of people with disabilities.**