

	energy transport health education and research	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14.020131 South and East Asia Total estimated cost: EUR 2 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 2 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Twinning grants Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.3.2			

1.2 Summary of the Action

A comprehensive justice reform process is ongoing towards ensuring fairness in the judicial system and judicial independence in Mongolia. Within the framework of this reform, a package of Laws on Courts came into force in March 2021. The law initiators believe that this will enable the realisation of Article 7 of the Mongolian Constitution, which states that: “Everyone has the equal rights before the law and courts irrespective of their nationality, origin, language, race, age, gender, social origin and status, property, occupation, position, religion, sexual and gender orientation, expression, opinions and education.”

The “Judicial administration strategic plan” adopted in 2020 aims to protect human rights and freedom in Mongolia by: strengthening capacity; ensuring a responsible and ethical judiciary; improving transparency and accountability; improving judicial independence; facilitating citizen-centered judiciary services and improving their accessibility; promoting open and transparent judiciary and public relations. The judiciary institutions and courts at all levels are working on implementing these reforms, which could take a considerable time to show results. As reported by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), problems of corruption, political/executive influence, lack of judicial independence and of public trust in the judiciary in Mongolia persists². However, the reform shows initial progress towards better accountability, while the selection of judges appear to be more transparent than before.

This EU action aims to support Mongolia in the implementation of its justice reforms to ensure an increasingly qualified, transparent, efficient and independent people-centered justice system in line with international human rights standards. The Action will be targeted at national level. The impact this Action will be seeking is to strengthen the independence of the judiciary so that it will be immune to corruption, will uphold human rights, rule of law and democracy, all factors that will increase trust of the citizens, while at the same time creating a more enabling environment for businesses and investors. The Action will also consider strengthening the institutional and performance capacity of the judiciary and creating a more enabling environment for civil society (including those working for gender equality and human rights) to enhance its key monitoring and oversight role, while at the same time it will pay special attention to the people’s justice needs and will offer tailored-based solutions to transform justice institutions and services to meet those needs.

² <https://www.oecd.org/corruption/acn/OECD-ACN-Mongolia-4th-Round-Monitoring-Report-2019-ENG.pdf>