

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Written by the administration of the Order of Psychologists of Albania.

Under the supervision of the President Mrs. Valbona Treska.

ANNUAL REPORT

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WELCOME SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT



(PhD Valbona Treska- President)

Dear colleagues and friends,

As we conclude another significant year in the journey of the Order of the Psychologist it is essential to reflect on our collective accomplishments. Despite encountering various challenges, the results we have attained overshadow any challenge we have faced.

The Order of Psychologists has undergone substantial structural improvements, both in terms of membership and operational organization. Our revenues have seen a notable increase, reflecting the heightened responsibilities. Our commissions have been engaged in a significant workload, as evidenced by ongoing correspondence with domestic and international institutions.

National Council has taken very important decisions

this year regarding the exercise of the profession within the field of competence. This decision-making is in the wake of profiling psychologists and empowering every field of psychology.

Throughout this year, we remained actively engaged in prominent international organizations, such as the European Federation of Psychologists (EFPA), the Global Psychology Alliance, and the European Associations of Work and Organizational Psychologists (EAWOP), as well as we have maintained constant communication with our counterparts.

This year, the 6th National Assembly was held in the hospitable city of Lezha. With the invaluable assistance of our coordinators and collaborators, we managed to bring together a significant number of psychologists from all over Albania. Coming together for collective discussions is always a pleasure and motivation, enabling us to make vital decisions regarding the field of psychology and to progress further. Undoubtedly, as it has already become a tradition, the closing of the assembly was marked by a lively celebration featuring music and conversations among colleagues.

Throughout this year, we were honored to host numerous significant events that filled us with pride and demonstrated the strength and unity of the community of psychologists. Allow me to briefly highlight the most noteworthy ones.

Among the indisputable achievements of this year was the realization of the first state exam for psychologists. Following extensive preparation and anticipation from each member who expected to successfully finalize this procedure, we managed to successfully complete the first state exam in May 2022. Approximately 200 psychologists successfully passed this stage and were subsequently granted professional licenses. This exam paved the way for standardizing the procedures for obtaining a professional license based on Law 40/2016 "On the



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Order of Psychologists in the Republic of Albania”.

The state exam will be conducted twice a year based on the legislation in force and as a need for psychologists who complete their professional practice to be licensed.

Another significant event this year was the symbolic march held on October 10 for World Mental Health Day, which brought together approximately 300 psychologists and citizens. This large-scale event, the first of its kind in our country, aimed to raise awareness about mental health. It was heartening to witness the participation of numerous citizens, politicians, and representatives from civil society who joined our cause. Carrying balloons and displaying messages for mental health awareness, along with the motto “Eyes on Mental Health” and green ribbons affixed to our attire, we embarked on a sensitizing march from “Skënderbej” Square towards “Mother Teresa” Square. The simultaneous release of hundreds of green balloons into the sky was reflected directly on the visual media in the news broadcasts, as one of the most important events of that day.

Bringing together such a large number of participants and journalists was one of the most rewarding challenges of the year.

Additionally, the Order of Psychologists of Albania contributed to conveying sensitizing messages in a video produced by the Global Association of Psychologists, which included participation from countries worldwide.

In addition to the remarkable achievements we have accomplished together this year, I would like to conclude this welcome speech of 2022 report with both a professional and personal achievement. In June 2022, the II Summit of the Global Alliance of Psychologists was held in Bogota, Colombia, with the participation of 75 global psychology leaders. During this summit, we signed a joint statement on the crucial role of psychologists in addressing mental health and global warming. It was my great honor to be recognized by Dr. Frank C. Worrell, President of the Association of American Psychologists, with a decoration for “Outstanding leadership in the development of the Order of Psychologists in Albania.” This recognition was an indescribable emotion and a unique professional experience. When I started this journey with the Order of the

Psychologist, I could never have imagined reaching so far, and that the extraordinary work we have all accomplished together, would be recognized at the global level.

The decoration as a successful leader along with 7 other colleagues of global psychology, was the highest professional assessment not only individually, but for the entire community of Albanian psychologists.

I wish that during 2023 we will have other achievements together, strengthening the role of the psychologist in society, continuing to reduce everyone’s stigma about our profession, creating more job opportunities, increasing the personal income of every professional, and above all, providing dignified and professional services to every citizen.

Sincerely,
Valbona Treska

Tirana, Albania, January 2023



1. INSTITUTION'S JOURNEY DURING 2022

During 2022, the Order of the Psychologist continued its institutional engagement in fulfilling its mission. Despite facing various difficulties and challenges in carrying out our daily activities, we successfully conducted a series of activities month after month throughout the year.

January

The year started with an online Questions & Answers meeting conducted by the President of the Order of Psychologists, Mrs. Valbona Treska, on January 26 with the membership. In this meeting it was discussed about the problems faced by psychologists in the exercise of the profession.



On 28.01.2022, marked the 5th anniversary since the establishment of the Order of Psychologists.



February

During February and March several meetings were organized with the members of the Order in different cities of the country. The focus of these meetings was the introduction to the new Coordinators of the Order of Psychologists to their respective regions. Thus, during this period, the Coordinators held meetings with the membership in the regions of Gjirokastra, Vlora, Elbasan and Lezha. In these meetings, members' problems were discussed, the concerns they encounter in their daily work, and questions were raised regarding the acquisition of credits for the Continuing Education process.

March

On 04.03.2022 the European Federation of Psychologists of Europe (EFPA) initiated the procedures for the expulsion of Russia from the Federation of the Order of Psychologists, following an extraordinary meeting of EFPA member countries called by the Executive Council. With over 85% of member countries' votes, it was decided the initiation of procedures for the expulsion of Russia from the Federation. The Order of Psychologists of Albania expressed its strong support for Ukraine and joined the other member countries in voting against Russia.

Our institution expresses clearly and unanimously against acts of violence, which harm the rights and



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freedoms of individuals and democratic countries and we have expressed our readiness to provide aid and support not only of our Ukrainian colleagues, but also of the population that is suffering the consequences of the war.

May

On 06.05.2022, the meeting of the Presidents of the European Federation of Psychologists was held at the central offices of EFPA in Brussels. After a long day of work, the President of the Order of Psychologists, Mrs. Valbona Treska also had a meeting with Mr. Christoph Steinebach, the President of the European Federation of Psychologists (EFPA).



The European University of Tirana and the Department of Psychology, Education and Sports organized the Workshop on “Practice of the profession within professional ethics” where Dr. Valbona Treska, President of the Order of Psychologists. Ms. Treska emphasized the importance of professional ethics



as the main principle of a psychologist. She also introduced the students to the changes that have been made to the Code of Ethics of Psychologists, which aims to guarantee the well-being and protection of individuals and groups with whom psychologists work and to educate members, students and the public regarding the ethical standards of the discipline of psychology.





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held in Bogotá, Colombia. At the end of the Summit, the leaders of participating countries signed a joint declaration on Mental Health and Global Warming. At the end of the Summit, the President of the Order of Psychologists in the Republic of Albania, PhD Valbona Treska, was decorated by the President of American Psychologists and the head of the Global Alliance of Psychologists, Dr. Frank C. Worrel under the motto:

“On outstanding leadership in the development of the Order of Psychologists in Albania”



July

In the July 2022 edition of the EFPA monthly magazine, which extensively covers the topic of Climate Change, an article was featured highlighting the exceptional value and significance of the Vjosa River, recognized as one of the last remaining wild rivers on the continent.

The article is available at: https://efpa.magzmaker.com/june_2022/climate_change.

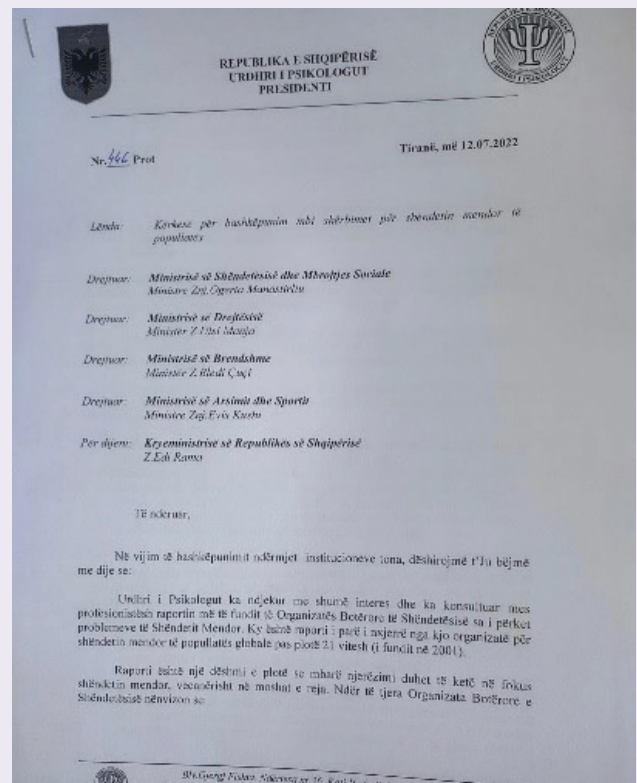


The Vjosa River
Let's save Vjosa River, the Blue Heart of Europe
By Valbona Treska, President of the Order of Psychologists of Albania

The Vjosa River in Albania is one of Europe's last living wild rivers. Its entire course of over 270 kilometers is untamed and free-flowing, with beautiful canyons, braided river sections, oxbows, meandering stretches, and islands covered with vegetation. In some areas the riverbed expands over more than 2 km in width.

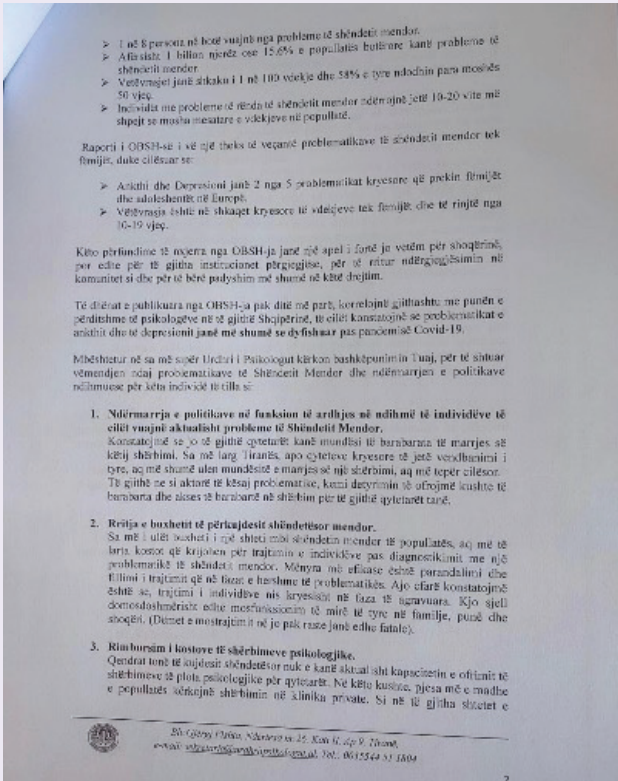


On 15.07.2022, the Order of the Psychologist forwarded to the line ministries as well as to the

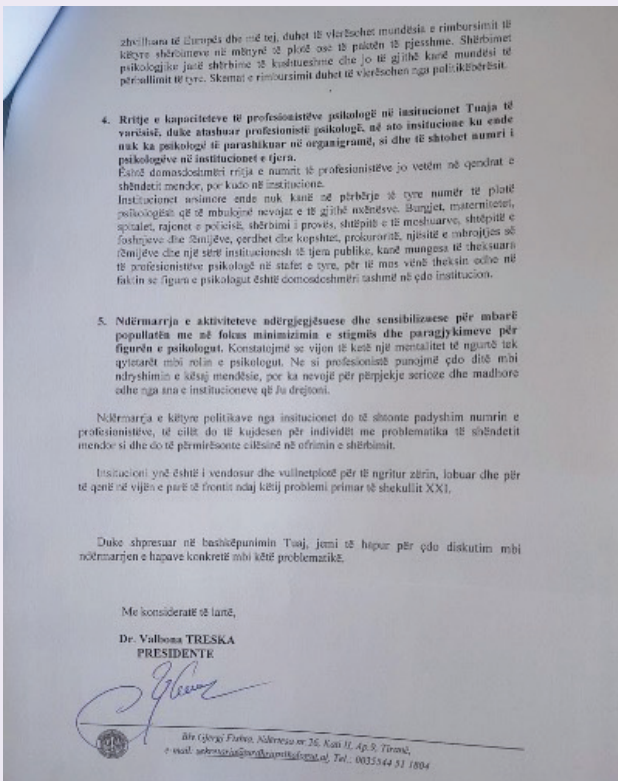




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Prime Minister, a document regarding mental health issues, after the conclusions drawn from the report of



World Health Organization, published on 18.06.2022 following the last WHO report on mental health made in 2001.

September

On 21.09.2022, a bilateral meeting was held with Mr. Claudio Mennini, representative of the Giunti Psychometrics company. During this meeting, discussions centered on the continuation of cooperation for standardized tests in three key areas: mental health psychology, educational psychology, and legal psychology. Over the following months, concrete plans for training sessions and agreements for discounted prices on certain standardized tests, which our members can utilize, are expected to be finalized.



October

On 05.10.2022, an online meeting was held with the membership of the Order of Psychologists. This meeting was held in the context of relicensing, credit fulfillment, deadlines and regulations that each of our members must follow, as well as carefully evaluating the problems that have been encountered so far.

The Order of Psychologists was part of the activity



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that took place on 25.10.2022 “Health and Well-being forum for Youth”. The activity was organized by the Ministry of Health and lasted 3 days. This activity aimed at strengthening and involving young people in decision-making.



November

On 18.11.2022, the meeting of the Presidents of the European Federation of Psychologists (EFPA) took place in Vilnius, Lithuania, in which our country also participated, represented by the President of the Order of Psychologists Mrs. Valbona Treska.





An online “Question-Answer” session was conducted on November 24, 2022, focusing on the current activities of the bodies within the Order of Psychologists (OP) and addressing issues pertinent to the membership in their professional work.



December

Once again, this year, we celebrated the tradition of announcing the “Psychologist of the Year 2022.” Five outstanding psychologists were nominated for this prestigious award, and it is with great pleasure that we announce Mrs. Brunilda Laboviti as the recipient of the “Psychologist of the Year 2022” award.





1.1 INTERNATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH DAY

On 10.10.2022, on the occasion of World Mental Health Day, a symbolic march with the topic “ Eyes on Mental Health “ was successfully concluded.

Such an event took extensive media coverage, marking it as the first of its kind in Albania. Reviews were featured not only in visual media but also in written publications. The event attracted not only psychologists but also other healthcare professionals, students, representatives of organizations, members of civil society, etc.

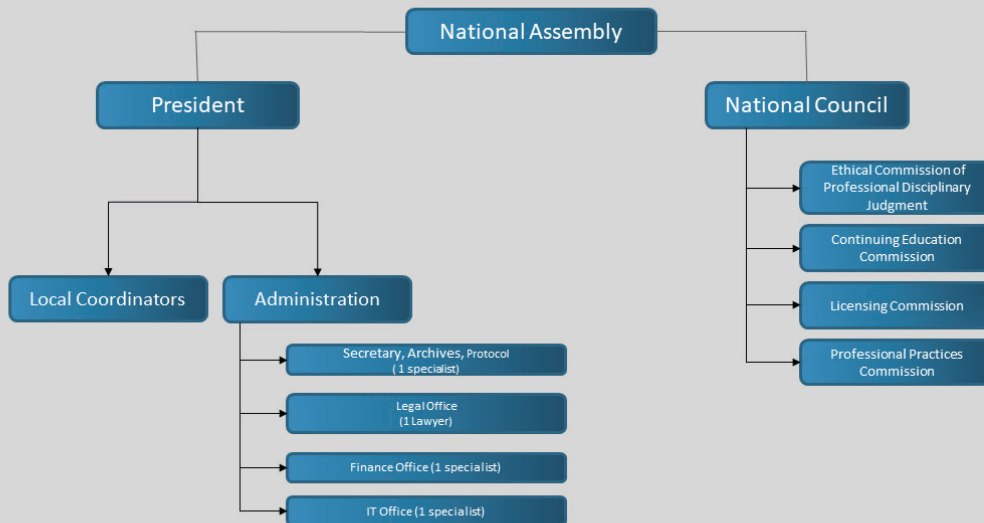
This march started from “Skënderbej” Square and proceeded towards “Mother Teresa” Square, during which the participants held in their hands banners with sensitizing messages about mental health and unanimously conveyed messages to the citizens, with the aim of increasing awareness and attention to people who are affected by mental health problems.





2. BODIES OF THE ORDER OF PSYCHOLOGISTS AND THEIR FUNCTIONAL ACTIVITY

ORGANIGRAM OF THE ORDER OF PSYCHOLOGIST



Organizational chart of the Order of Psychologists

- The main bodies of the Order of Psychologists are:
- a) National Assembly;
 - b) National Council;
 - c) President of the Order;
 - ç) Ethical Commission of Professional Disciplinary Judgment
 - d) Continuing Education Commission
 - e) Other commissions, which currently include the Licensing Commission and the Professional Practices Commission.



2.1 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

- The highest governing body of the Order of Psychologists, based on Law No. 40/2016, is the National Assembly.
- The National Assembly consists of all members of the Order of Psychologists.
- The National Assembly has the following functions:
 - Elects the National Council and the President of the Order, by secret ballot and by simple majority of all its members;
 - Approves the statute of the Order;
 - Approves the Code of Ethics and Deontology;
 - Approves the regulation for professional disciplinary judgment;
 - Approves the regulation for registration, membership and licensing;
 - Approves the regulation for the organization of professional practice;
 - Reviews and approves the draft budget of the Order, as well as it examines its actual budget;
 - Analyzes the annual activity of the bodies of the Order;
 - Reviews the external audit report on a triennial basis.



The 6th National Assembly conducted its work in the premises of the “President” Hotel in Shengjin/Lezha on 13.05.2022 with the following agenda:

- Opening of the proceedings of the VI National Assembly.
- Welcome speech from Mrs. Alma Shyti, in the capacity of the Coordinator of Lezha region.
- Welcome speech from Mr. Hasan Muça, head of Regional Directorate of Pre-university Education (DRAP) of Lezha.
- Welcome speech from Mr. Besmir Frroku in the capacity of Member of the National Council of the Order of Psychologists of Lezha Region.
- Analysis of the annual activity of the bodies of the Order of Psychologists by the President of the Order of Psychologists Mrs. Valbona Treska
- Presentation and approval of the current budget for 2021, approved by the National Council of the Order of Psychologists with Decision No. 1, dated 29.04.2022.





- Presentation and approval of the draft budget of 2022, approved by the National Council of the



The 6th National Assembly decided:

- To approve the Actual Budget of 2021 by a majority of votes from the 104 members present in the Assembly.
- To approve the Project-Budget of 2022 by a majority of votes from the 104 members present in the Assembly.
- To approve the changes to the Regulation of Professional Disciplinary Judgment, namely Article 4, point 3.1 thereof. by a majority of votes from the 104 members present in the Assembly.
- To approve the changes to the Statute of the Order of Psychologists by a majority of votes from the 104 members present in the Assembly.



Order of the psychologist with Decision No. 17, dated 29.12.2021.

- Presentation and approval of changes to the Statute of the Order of Psychologists, approved by the National Council of the Order of Psychologists with Decision No. 9, dated 08.04.2022.
- Presentation and approval of changes to the Regulation of Professional Disciplinary Judgment, approved by the National Council of the Order of Psychologists with Decision No. 10, dated 08.04.2022.
- Free session for discussion.
- Closing the activity.
- The assembly concluded with success, featuring constructive discussions and the approval of all agenda items.



- To add Article 36/1, 36/2, 36/3, 36/4 and 36/5 to the Statute of the Order of Psychologists.

After the proceedings of the Assembly, the members had the opportunity to spend time together discussing and sharing their experiences. The development of National Assemblies is not only an obligation derived from the law, but also a way to bring together the professionals all around Albania.



2.2 NATIONAL COUNCIL

NATIONAL COUNCIL



Dr. Valbona Treska



Mr. Edvin Lame



Mr. Besmir Frroku



Dr. Fleura Shkëmbi



Dr. Manolita Hida



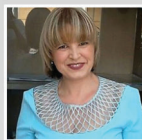
Mr. Altin Nika



Mrs. Rezarta Basha



Mr. Bledar Zeneli



Mrs. Valbona Habili



Mrs. Artemisi Dono



Mrs. Elona Mustafaraj



Mrs. Orjola Plaku

The National Council is the executive body of the Order, which consists of 16 members.

Elected members of the National Council are:

PhD Fleura Shkëmbi, PhD Valbona Habili, PhD Edvin Lame, PhD Artemisi Dono, Mrs. Elona Mustafaraj, Mrs. Rezarta Basha, PhD Manolita Hida, Mrs. Orjola Plaku, Mr. Besmir Frroku, Mr. Altin Nika, Mr. Bledar Zeneli and PhD Valbona Treska in the capacity of President.

The composition of the National Council includes 4 members appointed by the Ministries, respectively from:

Ministry of Health and Social Protection (simultaneously also the Competent Authority of the Order of Psychologists according to the law):

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Defense

The National Council has the following responsibilities:

- a) It approves its organizational structure;
- b) It determines the quotation and fees;
- c) It manages movable and immovable assets of the Order at the national level;
- ç) It supervises all the activities of the bodies that are under its supervision;
- d) It drafts the statute, regulations of the Order, as well as the Code of Ethics and Deontology and proposes them for approval to the National Assembly;
- dh) It maintains and updates the Register of the Order Psychologists;
- e) It sets up ad-hoc working groups to carry out inspections in the exercise of the psychologist profession;
- ë) It prepares and publishes the annual and financial report.

Throughout 2022, the National Council of the Order of Psychologists of the Republic of Albania has been highly active, making a series of significant decisions.



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The National Council has made the following decisions:

- Decision No. 1 “On setting up the ad hoc commission for the review of complaint No. 10 Prot, dated 20.01.2022 regarding the decision-making of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission” with the following members:
Mrs. Artemisi Dono
Mrs. Orjola Plaku
Ms. Naureda Bajraktari
- Decision No. 2 “On the amendment of decision No. 5, dated 20.12.2021 of the Ethics and Professional Disciplinary Judgment Commission, in issuing the disciplinary measure “Warning notice for the removal of the right to exercise the profession”.
- Decision No. 3 “On the amendment of decision No. 4, dated 20.12.2021 of the Ethics and Professional Disciplinary Judgment Commission, in issuing the disciplinary measure “Written warning”.
- Decision No. 4 “On the approval of the fee for meetings of the National Council continuing with the same agenda in several subsequent meetings at the amount of 2500 ALL/net, for each member of the National Council participating in the discussions in the following meetings and not the initial one.
- Decision No. 5 “On the approval of the fee 27 ALL/page for withdrawing documentation from the Order of Psychologists”.
- Decision No. 6 “On the approval of the proposals of the legal office for changes to the Regulation of Continuing Education, namely Chapter 4, B1, Point 1 thereof.
- Decision No. 7 “On the approval of the proposal of the legal office for the design of training modules for psychologists in the field of law”.
- Decision No. 8 “On the approval of the proposal of the legal office for the establishment of the ad hoc group for the verification of the professional criteria of psychological experts of the Electronic Register of the Ministry of Justice.
- Decision No. 9 “On the approval of the proposal of the legal office for changes to the Statute of the Order of Psychologists “On adding a special Article for the inclusion of the position of the General Secretary in the organization of the Order of Psychologists”.
- Decision No. 10 “On the approval of the proposal of the legal office for changes to the Regulation of Professional Disciplinary Judgment, for an addition to Article 4, Point 3.1 as well as to Article 12/1.
- Decision No. 11 “On the establishment of the Commission for counting votes for members of the EPDJC”. The winning candidacies and new members of EPDJC based on the voting results are as follows:
Mrs. Ardiana Mali
Mrs. Erika Melonashi
Mrs. Marsela Shehu
Mrs. Valmira Skëndi
- Decision No. 12 “On the change of decision No. 1, dated 15.02.2022 of the Ethics and Professional Disciplinary Judgment Commission, to the disciplinary measure “Written warning”.
- Decision No. 13 “On the non-examination of the request “On the reduction of fees for quotations and regulation of the market, fees and bidders for Continuing Education training”.
- Decision No. 14 “On the approval of the Current Budget 2021”.
- Decision No. 15 “On the approval of the 2021 Annual Report.
- Decision No. 16 “On the specification of the field of competence for practicing the profession of psychologist in the field of justice” as follows:
 - Psychologists who lack competence in law and appropriate academic training in the provision of services in this field are prohibited from practicing psychology within the justice system (including justice institutions such as police stations, prosecution offices, or courts). Specifically, psychologists who have not completed the cycle of studies in one of the following profiles:
 1. Legal Psychology
 2. Legal Psychology
 3. Clinical Psychology
 4. Forensic PsychologyAny psychologist who has completed his studies in psychology, but not in the above-mentioned branches, will not be able to follow the certification process as an expert psychologist in the justice system, so he/she cannot become part of the special trainings organized by the Order of Psychologists for their certification,



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according to the provisions of the legislation in force.

- Decision No. 17 “On the specification of the field of competence for practicing the profession of psychologist in the field of justice”, as follows:
- All psychologists listed in the electronic register who have received recommendations from the ad hoc verification group must submit the following supplementary documentation to the Order by September 23:
 - Updated certification of current employment.
 - Certificates demonstrating past practice as a psychologist (if available). These certificates should indicate full-time employment as a psychologist over the years.
 - All the above certifications must be accompanied by proof of payment of health and social contributions for the entire duration of employment as a psychologist.
 - All psychologists part of the electronic register and those who will do in the future the special training in law, must bring once a year after the call of the Order: Refreshed certification of work.
 - All psychologists listed in the electronic register, as well as those who will undergo special training in law in the future, must submit “Updated certification of employment” once a year following the Order’s call.
 - Decision No. 18 “On the enforcement of Decision No. 3, dated 26.05.2022 of the Ethical Commission of Disciplinary Judgment: “Written warning”.
 - Decision No. 19 “On the approval of the proposal of the legal office regarding the facilitation of relicensing procedures as follows:

A: Regarding the category of psychologists who were licensed for the first time during 2017, the following scheme shall apply: Psychologists accumulating between 65 to 80 credits over 5 years until the license expiry date will be automatically relicensed, provided they pay 200 ALL per credit for any uncompleted credits, based on the regulations.

Psychologists accruing between 0 to 64 credits until the license expiry date will have a 6-month deadline period after license expiry to attain the minimum of 80 credits. Psychologists who will not complete the minimum of 80 credits within the 6-month deadline, must undergo the exam organized by the Order.

The number of credits is calculated as the total amount of the number of credits obtained during 5 years, without taking into consideration the provisions of the Continuing Education Regulation regarding the field of competence of activities where psychologists have participated, as well as the minimum number of credits within 1 year, provided for in Chapter II, point 2 of the Continuing Education Regulation.

B: Regarding psychologists first licensed between January-June 2018, the following scheme shall apply:

For psychologists, who by the date of the end of the validity of the License, have not been able to complete the minimum number of 80 credits, they will be given a 6-month deadline to complete the minimum number of 80 credits, which period begins immediately after completion of license validity. Psychologists who will not complete the minimum of 80 credits even after the 6-month deadline, must undergo the exam organized by the Order.

The number is calculated as the total sum of the number obtained during 5 years, without taking into consideration here the provisions of the Continuing Education Regulation regarding the field of competence as well as the minimum number of credits within 1 year, provided for in Chapter II, point 2 of the Continuing Education Regulation.

C: For the category of psychologists, who were licensed for the first time in the period July-December 2018, the following scheme should be applied:

Psychologists who, until the date of the end of the License validity have not been able to complete the minimum number of 80 credits, should undergo the exam organized by the Order.

The number of credits is calculated as the total amount of the number of credits obtained during 5 years, without taking into consideration the provisions of the Continuing Education Regulation regarding the field of competence as well as the minimum number of credits within 1 year, provided for in Chapter II, point 2 of the Continuing Education Regulation.

- Decision No. 20, “On the enforcement of Decision No. 5, dated 07.05.2022 of the Ethical Commission and Professional Disciplinary Judgment “Exemption from the Order of the Psychologist for a period of 1 (one) month”.

- Decision No. 21, “On the approval of changes in the



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Regulation of Continuing Education accompanied by the proposals of the legal office”.

- Decision No. 22, “On the approval of the reasoning of the decisions of the CCEP regarding the applications of psychologists for self-reported activities that range from a minimum to a maximum of credits.
- Decision No. 23, “On the election of the General Secretary of the Order of Psychologists Mrs. Elona Mustafaraj.
- Decision No. 24, “On the approval of the Legal Office proposal for the category of psychologists who have obtained a License and seek to be provided with a second one”.
- Decision No. 25, “On the approval of the Legal

Office proposals for the category of psychologists who have postgraduate studies for the extension of the field of competence”.

- Decision No. 26, “On the approval of the Draft-Budget for the financial year 2023”.
- Decision No. 27, “On approval for the credits recognition in all areas of competence for the category of psychologists who conduct training in the field of scientific research”.
- Decision No. 28, “On the approval of the proposal that the field of competence of the Scientific Research study profile be based on the 4-year study diploma that the psychologist submits”.



2.3 PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINARY JUDGMENT COMMISSION

This commission was established under the Order of the Psychologist pursuant to Article 19 of Law no. 40/2016 “On the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania”.

The Ethics and Professional Disciplinary Judgment Commission has 5 members in its structure, 4 of whom are psychologists with over 10 years of work experience in the profession and the representative of the Legal Office of the Order:

Specifically: PhD Enila Cenko, PhD Brunilda Laboviti, PhD Redina Balla, and the lawyer of the Order, Mr. Igli Çutra.

The Commission operates on the basis of the law on the Order of Psychologists, the Code of Ethics and Deontology as well as the Regulation of Disciplinary

and Professional Judgment.

During 2020, the Ethical Commission of Professional Disciplinary Judgment has reviewed a total of 5 cases, initiated by different individuals.

The Ethics Commission, after reviewing the cases, has given the following decisions:

In 5 cases, violation of the Code of Ethics and various disciplinary measures were given against psychologists, such as: warning notices as well as exclusion from OP for a period of 1 month, 10 months and 18 months.

In 3 cases, after reviewing the case, the Ethics Commission did not find cases of violation of the Code of Ethics, so the claims of the complaining parties were rejected.

ETHICS AND JUDGMENT DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION



Dr. Brunilda Laboviti



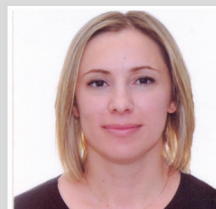
Mr. Igli Çutra



Mrs. Jonida Haxhiu



Dr. Redina Balla



Dr. Enila Cenko



2.4 THE COMMISSION ON CONTINUING EDUCATION IN PSYCHOLOGY

Based on the legal acts in force, this Commission is elected by the National Council and headed by the President of the Order. On 08.04.2022, the National Council, based on Article 16.2., ç.), of Law 40/2016 “On the Order of Psychologists in the Republic of Albania”:

DECIDED:

To unanimously approve the establishment of the Commission for counting votes for the members of the CCEP as well as the announcement of the winning candidacies.

The winning candidacies and new members of the CCEP based on the voting results are as follows:

1. Mrs. Ardiana Mali
2. Mrs. Erika Melonashi
3. Mrs. Marsela Shehu
4. Mrs. Valmira Skëndi

After completing all the normative acts that make it functional, this Commission continued its work by reviewing applications for accreditation and requests for repeating the activities of subjects who were interested in carrying out accredited continuing education activities in psychology. An important part of the work of CCEP for 2022 has been the process of approving credits in the framework of relicensing for psychologists who were at the end of the validity of their licenses.

COMMISSION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN PSYCHOLOGY



Dr. Valbona Treska



Mrs. Valmira Skëndi



Mrs. Ardiana Mali



Mrs. Erika Melonashi



Mrs. Marsela Shehu



2.5 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORDER OF PSYCHOLOGIST



The administration of the Order of Psychologist consists of: Legal Office - one employee, Mr. Igli Çutra
Finance Office - one employee, Mr. Lejdi Goga

Secretariat, Protocol, Archives - one employee, Mrs. Armira Baboçi
IT office – one part-time employee, Mr. Enn Tusha



2.6 OTHER COMMISSIONS

Several other commissions which are necessary for the accomplishment of its mission operate at the Order of the Psychologist.

2.6.1 The Licensing Commission

This Commission was established by the National Council of the Order of Psychologists and reviews the licensing requests of all those psychologists who, based on the law and normative acts in force, are exempt from the obligation to perform professional practice and the state exam.

It consists of the President, Mrs. Valbona Treska, the lawyer Mr. Igli Çutra, the secretary Mrs. Armira Baboçi as well as the members of the National Council: Edvin Lame, PhD, and Fleura Shkëmbi, PhD.

During 2022, this commission has licensed 219 new psychologists, divided according to the following fields:

Clinical psychologists - 76 members
School and organizational psychologists – 5 members
Counseling psychologists - 35 members
General psychologists - 8 members
School psychologists - 51 members
Psychologists in institutions – 18 members
Legal psychologists - 2 members
Psychologists in professional orientation - 7 members
Organizational psychologists - 9 members
Educational psychologists - 2 members
Criminal psychologists - 1 member
Developmental psychologists - 4 members
Clinical counseling psychologists - 1 member

During 2022, 105 psychologists underwent the credit recognition and relicensing evaluation process.

LICENSING COMMISSION



Dr. Valbona Treska



Mr. Edvin Lame



Dr. Fleura Shkëmbi



Mrs. Armira Baboçi



Mr. Igli Çutra



2.6.2 The Professional practice Commission

This commission was established by the National Council as a result of the “Professional practice Regulation” implementation, approved by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, in the capacity of the competent authority, which enables the legal adaption of the following procedures for a significant number of psychologists who are recent graduates and exemption from this Professional practice for another category.

The Professional practice Commission is headed by the President of the Order and consists of members elected by the National Council, specifically: Valbona Habili, PhD, Mrs. Orjola Plaku, as well as the lawyer of the Order of Psychologists, Mr. Igli Çutra and the secretary, Mrs. Armira Baboçi.

This year, 187 interns with regular employment contracts in various state and private institutions were registered at the Order of Psychologists.

During 2022, the Professional practice Commission reviewed the files of 16 psychologists and after reviewing them decided:

- 9 psychologists to be exempted from the obligation to carry out Professional practice, based on the Memorandum of Cooperation between OPA and MoHSP
- 3 psychologists have been assessed as having to perform partial Professional practice.
- 5 psychologists have been assessed as having to complete professional practice.
- 2 psychologists have been evaluated that their documentation must be reviewed by the Licensing Commission
- 1 psychologist must complete the required documentation.

2.6.3 The Practical Training Assessment Commission

This commission was established based on Order No. 580, dated 31.07.2019, “On the establishment of the Practical Training Assessment Commission for the Profession of Psychologist” of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and aims to evaluate the supervised professional practice of each psychologist subject to this procedure.

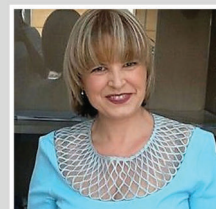
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMISSION



Dr. Valbona Treska



Mr. Igli Çutra



Mrs. Valbona Habili



Mrs. Erjola Plaku



Mrs. Armira Baboçi



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By order of the Minister of Health and Social Protection, based on article 17 of the joint order of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and the Ministry of Health, “On the approval of the Regulation of Professional practice”, the members of this commission are as follows: Ms. Aleksandra Puci, chairperson of the Commission and representative of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Mr. Besmir Frroku and Mr. Edvin Lame, representatives of the Order of Psychologists. The Commission has initially drafted the orientation questions for the Professional practice exam, which have been published in advance on the website of the Order of Psychologists at: <https://www.urdhriipsilogut.al/fondi-i-pyetjeve/>, according to the deadlines provided in the regulations.

During 2022, the Practical Training Assessment took place on April 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 14th, as well as October 31st, November 1st - 2nd in the headquarters of the Order of the Psychologist.

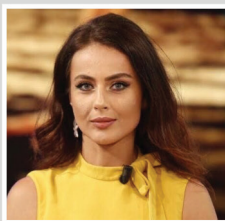
In the April exam list, there were 164 interns who were evaluated by the members of the PTA commission, of which 2 interns did not appear on the day of the exam.

In the November exam list, there were 70 interns who were evaluated by the members of the PTA commission, of which 3 interns did not appear on the day of the exam.

Based on Article 19, point 1 and point 2, 65 interns passed the exam, 2 interns did not pass the exam.

In total, during 2022, 227 intern psychologists passed the exam as assessed by PTA, 5 psychologists did not appear for the exam and 2 psychologists did not pass.

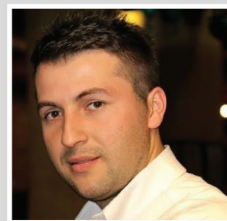
PRACTICAL TRAINING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION



Mrs. Aleksandra Puci



Mr. Edvin Lame



Mr. Besmir Frroku



2.7 LOCAL COORDINATORS

The purpose of this network is to provide support, help and protection of interests to all members of the Order of Psychologists of the respective district, focusing on the needs and problems they encounter while practicing the profession of psychologist.

The Network of Local Coordinators operates on a voluntary basis.

The local coordinator's mission is to:

- perform services for the members of the Order, in the framework of the effective share of information related to the exercise of the profession, the collection and distribution of specific documentation, with the aim of improving the quality in exercising the profession of psychologist in the relevant regional institutions and reducing the costs for the benefit of these services for members of the Order in the region
- establish and maintain the relations of the Order with local bodies and other public and private entities in the region, in order to increase the influence and factorization of the Order of Psychologists.

Some of the functions performed by the Local Coordinators are:

- Providing detailed information for each psychologist, who will carry out the procedures of membership, licensing, development of professional practice, state examination, conducting various trainings, etc.
- Collecting all the necessary documents of the psychologists of the relevant region, in terms of the membership-licensing procedure, as well as any other document related to the Order, and forwarding them to the Order of Psychologists.
- Distributing for the psychologists of the relevant region the individual practice permit (Professional Licenses) or any other documentation issued by the Order for the members of this region.
- Creating and maintaining cooperation relations, within the region, with public institutions, as well as with any other public or private entity, which has common goals with the Order of Psychologists.

- Informing the psychologists of the region about decisions and instructions of the Order of the Psychologist.
- Support for the organization and development of research and scientific activities in the field of psychology in the region.
- Also, the Local Coordinators accept any complaint received against psychologists, together with all the accompanying documentation, and send it to the Central Office of the Order of Psychologists, in order to initiate review procedures by the Ethical Commission of Professional Disciplinary Judgment.

Currently, the distribution of the network of coordinators is as follows:

Local Coordinator for Shkodra District

Migena Burrja/Haxhi

Address: "At Gjergj Fishta" St., Building no.37
First Floor

Phone: 0693129434

e-mail: Qarkushkoder@urdhriipsikologut.al

Local Coordinator for Vlora District

Veliona Hoxhaj

Address: "Sulejman Delvina" Street, "Hajro Cakerri" Neighbourhood, Apartment block "Lor",
2nd Floor

Phone: 0674060444

e-mail: Qarkuvlore@urdhriipsilogut.al

Local Coordinator for Lezha District:

Mrs. Alma Shyti Address: "Kolin Gjoka" School

Phone: 0683296435

e-mail: Qarkulezhe@urdhriipsikologut.al

Local Coordinator for Korça District:

Mrs. Elizaveta Dino

Address: Mental Health Center, Korçë

Phone: 0696171870

e-mail: Qarkukorce@urdhriipsikologut.al



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Local Coordinator for the District of Elbasan

Mrs. Jonida Mustafaraj
Address: Albanian Center for the Integration of
People with Special Needs
Phone: 0693847103
e-mail: Qarkuelbasan@urdhriipsilogut.al

Local Coordinator for the City of Lushnja

Mrs. Fatmira Lala
Address: “Kongresi i Lushnjes” School
Phone: 0692626443
e-mail: coordinatorlokallushnje@urdhriipsikologut.al

Local Coordinator for Gjirokastra District

Mrs. Loreta Mamani
Address: Gjirokastra
Phone: 0694640798
e-mail: Qarkugjirokaster@urdhriipsikologut.al

Local Coordinator for Dibra District

Mrs. Arta Beqiri Address: Bulqiza
Phone: 0698220502
e-mail: Qarkudiber@urdhriipsikologut.al



3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PSYCHOLOGIST ORDER

To be a member of the Order of Psychologists in the Republic of Albania, psychologists must meet the following criteria:

- They should have the diploma of higher education “Bachelor” and “Scientific Master” or “Professional Master” in psychology or equivalent, according to the legislation in force for higher education, issued by the institution of higher education, inside or outside the country, recognized by the ministry responsible for education;
- They should not be sentenced with a final court decision for the commission of a criminal offense, related to the exercise of the profession, at the time of the application for membership.

The membership has increased during the year 2022. The Administration of the Order and the Local Coordinators have continuously done a great job of raising awareness towards psychologists, but also towards public and private institutions, which have been made aware of the need to implement the law.

In total, the Order of Psychologists for 2022 has reached 1389 active registered members, of which 202 are new members registered for the first time this year.

3.1 LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS

The licensing of psychologists is regulated based on the Law “On Regulated Professions in the Republic of Albania”. According to this law, after completing the Bachelor and Master studies in psychology, one year of professional practice must be completed and then the state exam must be taken, as a prerequisite for licensing.

Exceptionally, this law stipulates that psychologists who practiced the profession before the entry into force of this law are exempt from the obligation to take the state exam.

In fulfillment of legal obligations, the Order has followed the licensing process for this category of psychologists, based on Law No. 10171, dated 22.10.2009, “On regulated professions in the Republic of Albania”¹ and the Memorandum of Cooperation between the former Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth and the Order of the Psychologist.

¹ Article 9 of Law No. 10 171, dated 22.10.2009 “On professions regulated in the Republic of Albania” (amended), point 4.: The following are exempted from the obligation to take the state exam: a) the professional who, at the time of entry into force of this law, exercises or has exercised a regulated profession



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Currently, the licensing of psychologists according to the field of competence is presented as follows:

Licensed psychologists by year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Total Licensees	307	175	71	101	74	130	950
Clinical Psychologists	147	97	32	32	35	80	423
Organizational School Psychologists	48	19	14	7	4	4	96
School Psychologists	28	14	3	27	11	51	134
Organizational Psychologists	8	13	2	7	5	10	45
Psychologists in Institutions	17	6	3	5	3	18	52
Psychologists in Professional Orientation	9	3	2	1	2	7	24
Psychologists in Psychological Counseling	41	25	9	18	10	36	136
Psychologists in Psychological Research	5	2	2	1	-	-	10
Forensic Psychologists	5	2	2	3	2	2	16
General Psychologists	8	2	6	2	1	8	27
Community Psychologists	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Psychologists in psychological rehabilitation	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Educational Psychologists	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
Developmental Psychologists	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Clinical Linguistics	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Clinical Psychopathology	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Criminal	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Clinical Counseling	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
School and Development	-	-	-	-	-	4	4

During 2022, 29 psychologists were directly licensed and 91 others through the State Exam, in total 130 new psychologists. 105 psychologists have undergone the relicensing process.



4. DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME OF THE STATE EXAM FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

After many efforts and a long period of waiting, the State Exam for Psychologists took place on May 18th, 19th and 20th, 2022 for the first time.

Psychologists, who had completed the Professional Practice exercise, as well as psychologists who were excluded by the decision of the Practice Commission and were only waiting for the State Exam to be issued with a license took part in the exam. A total of 267 psychologists participated during the three days of the exam.

The State Exam was organized in such a way that most of the questions were from the Bachelor's cycle, specifically 70% of the questions in total, while the rest were questions from the Master's cycle, divided according to 5 fields: Psychology in the field of Mental Health, Psychology in the field of Education, Psychology in the Work and Organizational field, Psychology in the Legal field and Psychology in the Social and Community field.

Pass rate in % of psychologists who took the exam, divided by areas of competence was:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Psychologists in the field of Mental Health | Pass rate 80% |
| 2. Psychologists in the field of Education | Pass rate 60% |
| 3. Psychologists in the Work and Organizational field | Pass rate 59% |
| 4. Psychologists in the Legal field | Pass rate 33 % |

On 20.12.2022, the State Exam for Psychologists was held for the second time.

Psychologists who had completed the Professional Practice, psychologists who were excluded by the decision of the Practice Commission and were only waiting for the State Exam to be provided with license, as well as the category of psychologists who

did not pass the First State Exam or were absent from this exam, took part. A total of 152 psychologists participated in this exam.

Pass rate in % of psychologists who took the exam, divided by areas of competence was:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Psychologists in the field of Mental Health | Pass rate 66 % |
| 2. Psychologists in the field of Education | Pass rate 46 % |
| 3. Psychologists in the Work and Organizational field | Pass rate 45 % |
| 4. Psychologists in the Legal field | Pass rate 80% |



5. THE BUDGET

5.1 INCOME

The Draft-Budget of 2022 provided the collection of revenues in the amount of ALL 14,880,000.00. Comparing it with the realization of the actual budget of 2022, we have an excess from the forecast of the collection of revenue from the activity carried out

by institution during this year, in the amount of ALL 16,427,980.00 or by about 10.4%.

The main income items for fiscal year 2022 are:

Items	Total income
Membership fee income	694,845.00
Annual quotations income	8,577,905.00
Licensing fees income	3,776,450.00
Publications income	9,000.00
Continuing Education fee income	2,661,415.00
Membership certificates income	17,800.00
Practical Training Assessment Commission income	690,565.00
Other legal income	-
Total income	16,427,980.00

From the information obtained from the table above, it results that a total of unlimited net income was realized in the amount of ALL 16,427,980.00, where mainly the collection of this income consists

in the annual quotation fee according to member categories, the fee for withdrawing the license card, as well as the total income collected from continuing education activities.

5.2 EXPENCES

Based on the experience of the past years, for the effect of disciplining income as transparently as possible, we have maintained a balance of mandatory expenditures to be realized according to planning.

According to the Draft-Budget of 2022, the realization of the approved expenditures according to the following items was foreseen:

Salaries	4,610,328.00 ALL
Operating expenses	8,869,672.00 ALL
Capital expenditure	1,400,000.00 ALL

Taking into consideration the forecasts for expenditures, below you will find the summary table of the actual expenditures divided by items for 2022.



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Items	Total expenditures
Salary expenditures	4,635,757.00
Expenditures for social and health insurance	764,730.00
Royalty expenditures	3,336,117.00
Rent expenditures	807,400.00
Administrative operating expenses	1,308,905.00
Expenditures for activities and international relations	1,916,778.00
Costs for printing, publishing and web management	524,240.00
Expenditures for banking operations	60,810.00
Total operating expenses	8,718,980.00
Depreciation expenses for office inventory	83,102.00
Depreciation expenses for IT equipment	80,487.00
Total depreciation expenses	163,589.00
Total annual expenditures	13,518,326.00

8,718,980.00 ALL were spent in the item of operating expenses. This value has come as a result of the realization of all the items that are included in the operating expenses category and has made possible the continuity of the institution's work under normal conditions.

During 2022, the expenditure item "capital depreciation" has been depreciated in the amount of ALL 163,589.00, where the depreciation calculation is presented with the fair value and then this cost is depreciated according to the Effective Interest method received by (NAS) deducting any loss or depreciation.



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A summary table of actual income and below, detailed in items: expenditures for the fiscal year 2022 is presented

Items	Total income
Membership fee income	694,845.00
Annual quotations income	8,577,905.00
Licensing fees income	3,776,450.00
Publications income	9,000.00
Continuing Education fee income	2,661,415.00
Membership certificates income	17,800.00
Practical Training Assessment Commission income	690,565.00
Other legal income	-
Total income	16,427,980.00
Expenditures	Total expenditures
Salaries	4,635,757.00
Operating expenses	8,718,980.00
Depreciation expenses	163,589.00
Total expenditures	13,518,326.00
The remainder for the following year	2,909,654.00

As it can be seen, the actual budget of 2022 has maintained a stable balance between income and expenses, continuing to maintain the economic stability of the institution, as well as reflecting the ambition to move to a more consolidated phase of the Order's operation, in order for his activity to be

as sensitive as possible in national and international policies, to be as tangible as possible to the membership and, above all, to fulfill the legal mission for which it was created based on the Law 40/2016 "On the Order of the Psychologist in the Republic of Albania".



6. OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED DURING 2022

- Continuation of the process of formalizing the practice of the profession, through increasing the number of psychologists registered as members of the Order.
- Continuous implementation of the Practical Training Assessment exams, as a prerequisite for participation in the State Exam.
- Accomplishment of the State Exam in cooperation with the Educational Services Center, for the first time for psychologists.
- Conclusion of the credit recognition process for the category of psychologists who had completed the validity of their professional practice permit.
- Regulation of the profession through the field of competence for all practicing psychologists.
- Empowerment of the role of the psychologist in the field of Justice and the provision of continuous training for this category of psychologists according to the field of competence.
- Empowerment through information and awareness of psychologists, regarding the exercise of the psychologist profession within their areas of competence.
- The organization, in cooperation with international and local partners, of training cycles or open lectures, with the aim of training specialized psychologists for intervention in certain situations and problems.
- Increased cooperation with the European Federation of Psychologists in order to increase professional standards.
- Increasing cooperation with the European Association of Work and Organizational Psychologists (EAWOP), aiming at the representation of Albania in the permanent commission and working groups of this organization.
- Raising awareness and strengthening the role of the organizational psychologist and undertaking initiatives for the local application of organizational psychology in public and private institutions.



7. OBJECTIVES FOR 2023

The objectives that our institution intends to achieve throughout 2023 are:

- Continuation of the process of formalizing the practice of the profession, through increasing the number of psychologists registered as members of the Order.
- Continuous implementation of the Practical Training Assessment exams, as a prerequisite for participation in the State Exam.
- The ongoing accomplishment of the organization of the State Exam for psychologists through close cooperation with the Educational Services Center.
- Realization of the relicensing exam for the category of psychologists who have not managed to fulfill the number of credits needed to renew the Professional Practice Permit.
- Continuing to expand the network of local coordinators
- Continuation of the work for the regulation of the profession through the field of competence for all practicing psychologists.
- Providing continuous training for the category of psychologists for whom the market does not offer training, in order to fulfill the criteria of Continuing Education.
- Empowerment through informing and raising awareness of psychologists, regarding the exercise of the psychologist profession within their fields of competence.
- The organization, in cooperation with international and local partners, of training cycles, with the aim of training specialized psychologists for intervention in certain situations and problems.
- Increasing cooperation with the European Federation of Psychologists and the American Psychological Association, in order to increase professional standards.
- Commitment to drafting the project proposal and application for the establishment of the Albanian Commission at the OP for obtaining the EuroPsy Certificate.
- Increasing cooperation with the European Association of Work and Organizational Psychologists (EAWOP), aiming at the representation of Albania in the commissions and working groups of this organization.

