

The Center for Policy Analysis (CPA)

The following is a description of the work taking place at the Center for Policy Analysis. While some existing projects are continuing, new projects have been added to the center's agenda.

Guide to the Legislative Process in Armenia

During the late spring and early summer this directory to the legislative process of Armenia, including biographical and professional information on all members of the National Assembly, was edited in detail and all publishing work was completed. This required the staff and project leader to work closely with the publisher in order to develop a document which reflects the western approach to directories of this nature. Much time was spent on working out the presentation of the material so that information was clear yet comprehensive. The document was sent to the printer as of the close of this reporting period and the published directory is expected to be available in early August.

Comprehensive Print Media Guide for the Republic of Armenia

All data collection for the project was completed in May, 1996, and the month of June was spent on editing all material and compiling the actual directory. The staff and project leader worked on ensuring the accuracy of the data, preparing the compiled information for publishing, reviewing and editing material in detail, and developing various tables, graphs, and indexing lists. A publisher has been engaged for all layout, design work, and printing. The center's staff will work closely with the publisher to finalize the printing process. We expect the directory to go to print in mid-August.

Seminar/Conference on the development of Constitutional Rights in Armenia

A conference on Constitutional Rights is currently being planned for the end of August, 1996. This conference, sponsored by the United States Information Service, will bring together Armenian civic and government leaders directly involved with constitutional rights to engage in discussion on topics related to the strengthening of constitutional rule in Armenia. The first day of the two-day seminar will focus on criminal defense and the trial process, while the second day will focus on individual human and civil rights using case studies from the United States. The conference will be lead by Judge Kristovitch, a Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge and the guest of USIS in Armenia. In closing the conference Judge Kristovitch will give a public lecture the last evening of the conference addressing how achieving human and civil rights involves a continuing struggle in the developed democracies and how democratic states provide those structures and processes necessary for trying to achieve the democratic ideal.

Consulting for the World Bank

The World Bank has invited the CPA to consult on a nation-wide household survey the Bank has designed to gather data on public opinion on the status of education in Armenia. The CPA will provide guidance and commentary only on the development of the survey, as well as provide recommendations on administering the survey and analysing its results. The survey itself will be administered and managed by the World Bank, with CPA consulting on specific points. The CPA began it's consulting activities at the end of this reporting period and will continue through the early part of the upcoming period.

In addition to the above mentioned projects, the CPA continues to cooperate in various capacities with academic and professional organizations in Armenia. In recent months the Center's research fellows and associated faculty have cooperated with the National Assembly of Armenia (Parliament), Yerevan State University, international contractors for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the World Bank, as well as non-governmental organizations located or represented in Yerevan.

The funds received from Eurasia have enabled the CPA to establish its presence in Armenia and to undertake specific projects which have assisted in establishing its credibility. As a result, CPA is now able to build on this work and take advantage of new opportunities such as the small projects contracted with USIS and the World Bank.