



09.12.13.

**On December 10 Human Rights House Tbilisi Will Visit Homeless Citizens**

On December 10, on the International Human Rights Day, representatives of the Human Rights House Tbilisi will visit families sheltering the former building of Railway Hospital. Lawyers of the HRHT Member Organization Article 42 of the Constitution will issue legal consultation on the homeless people on the ground.

About 55 homeless families shelter the former building of the Railway Hospital. Big part of them belongs to the socially indigent population: people with disabilities, lonely mothers or large families, IDPs, etc.

Human Rights House Tbilisi produced information booklet “Procedures to Provide Homeless People with Shelter” for homeless people and it will be disseminated among beneficiaries on the place.

The Project – “Free Legal Aid for Socially Indigent Population of Georgia” is implemented by the HRHT member organizations Article 42 of the Constitution and Human Rights Center.

During the project implementation it was revealed that lack of shelter and home is one of the most acute problems of socially indigent and impoverished citizens. It is urgently necessary to envisage funds in the state budget for the construction or arrangement of shelters. The situation is further deteriorated by the fact that local self-governmental bodies do not implement their responsibilities to provide homeless citizens with accommodations who are compelled to voluntarily occupy old buildings. Similar acts often result into conflict between the citizens and the state that often ends up in repressive actions (eviction, fine, etc).



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*The Judicial Independence and  
Legal Empowerment Project (JLEP)*

The project is implemented with the assistance of the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) program ‘Civil Initiative for an Independent Judiciary.’ The project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and East-West Management Institute (EWMI)

*About the Human Rights House Tbilisi: The Human Rights House Tbilisi was established and registered in 2010. The purpose of the HRHT is to promote and defend human rights and fundamental freedoms and to support the development of democratic institutions in Georgia. The Human Rights House Tbilisi is a member of the Human Rights House Network, which consists of more than 70 organizations in 15 countries. The members of the House in Tbilisi are: Human Rights Centre (HRDC), Article 42 of the constitution, Georgian Centre for psycho-social and medical rehabilitation support of Torture victims (GCRT), Union Safari, Human Rights and Conflict Studies- Caucasia, Media Institute. For more information see: [www.humanrightshouse.org](http://www.humanrightshouse.org)*





Homeless citizens sheltering the former Railway Hospital are waiting for the eviction every day. Although the building belongs neither to private owner nor to the state, the government threatens homeless people with eviction and does not offer alternative accommodations to them.

There are hard living conditions in the former building of the Railway Hospital. The building does not have natural gas supply; several families do not have electricity. Unlike previous year, in 2013 Tbilisi City Hall did not supply homeless people sheltering the hospital building with fire wood. Cold winter creates most problems for old people, children and people with disabilities living in the building.

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