

## **1. Any other comments/information that you deem relevant for the 2020 Human Rights Report.**

During 2019 and 2020, the Albanian Authority on Access to Information on the former State Security Service have implemented a comprehensive Communication Strategy focusing on the persecuted, their families and human rights organizations, youth and general public. The institution has run its activity all over the country, with attention to memorial dates and historical personalities, with concrete cooperation projects with local communities, such as in Shkodra, Tepelena, Konispol, Puka, Mirdita, Berat, Korça and Gjirokastra, Përmet.

AIDSSH organized activities in context of scientific research and civic education, to combine archival research with public information and preservation of historical memory, for launching a public dialogue on subject, re-dimensioning the personalities, through a multidisciplinary approach of archival research, testimonies, information of families and institutions.

Albanian intellectuals, writers, political emigrants, persons condemned in open public trials and presented distorted in history books, the political thought of the left and the missing people, were part of the work of Authority.

- The project “The political left thought in Albania”, in collaboration with FES; 10 personalities of the left on a multi-disciplinary approach, archival material and illustrative photos of families that clearly speak to young people.
- The Conference "Patriots or traitors? Albanian political emigration in 1944-1990" on 17 February 2020, in collaboration with Institute of History (Academy for Albanian Studies), Institute for Studying the Crimes and Consequences of Communism and Institute of Former Political Persecuted People.
- Exhibition on missing people during communist regime “The imperfect past”, (approximately 6000) with the map of execution sites and burial sites reported from citizens and profiles of the missing, that tells and follows an extended story of violence and violation of human rights, (11 December 2019, in framework of Human Rights Day).
- Open local dialogues across Albania, Përmet, Gostimë, Lushnjë, Shkodër, Spaç, Sarandë, and a request sent to all the municipalities of Albania to preserve the burial and execution sites of the missing during dictatorship.
- Project “Raising public awareness about transitional and reconciliatory justice: addressing the issue of persons missing from the Communist era, ICMP, AIDSSH, 2020-2021”, is a two years collaboration with ICMP, supported from EU Delegation in Tirana that aims to draft and publish a Guide on the rights of families of the missing with accessible information on rights and obligations under both domestic legislation and applicable international human rights law relevant to missing persons following political violence and periods of human rights abuses. Also, open informative meetings in our cities, collection of testimonies and deep research of archives about their stories, trials, investigation, execution...

## **Publications and online activity**

Convinced that the Albanian society emancipation can be nurtured only by adopting a bold, scientifically objective and empathic approach towards the past, the Authority supported publications of studies on files and personalities persecuted, in Albanian and English.

**Publications** can be accessed online, on Authority's webpage, also <https://issuu.com/aidssh>

1. Papers of the first conference "The outcast from the power: prisons, internment-deportation system and forced labor in Albania during 1945-1990", (hardcopy and online), based on official materials of Authority's and other archives.
2. AIDSSH's Annual Report for 2019 (Albanian and English version)
3. The truth about Maliqi, documents and research
4. Monthly bulletins of 2019 and 2020.
5. Online publication of the exhibition on missing people "The imperfect past" (Albanian and English version)

### Videos

1. Public screening of the documentary "Even walls have ears" with oral testimonies of politically persecuted people all over the country, cinema "Millenium".
2. Public screening of documentary on Shaban Plaka and his family persecution, Gostimë
3. Documentaries on personalities and their Sigurimi files, Martin Camaj  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiwvZoCB3KA&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2cg9\\_dCRhPeiryb2cayr9QwkiRcMX7u6Uth1zE6ZldiKTtuyhsIgdacFU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiwvZoCB3KA&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2cg9_dCRhPeiryb2cayr9QwkiRcMX7u6Uth1zE6ZldiKTtuyhsIgdacFU)
4. Bilal Xhaferri <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RODhoXC68o>

Documentaries about AIDSSH's work on transitional and reconciliatory processes:

1. France 24 and TV Monde 5,  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fD\\_J3ëM9CQA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fD_J3ëM9CQA)
2. Public TV's. [Top Channel Exclusive](http://ëëë.tematv.al/2019/03/01/autoriteti-i-dosjeve-arkivi-i-ish-sigurimit-t-shtetit-21-mij-dosje-t-hapura-studim-video)  
<http://ëëë.tematv.al/2019/03/01/autoriteti-i-dosjeve-arkivi-i-ish-sigurimit-t-shtetit-21-mij-dosje-t-hapura-studim-video>

### Performance of Authority on its websites and social media communication:

- Update on the official website [www.autoritidosjeve.gov.al](http://www.autoritidosjeve.gov.al)
- Enrichment of the website "Even walls have ears", with oral testimony in Albanian and English.
- Enrichment of the website [www.dosjet.gov.al](http://www.dosjet.gov.al)
- Authority accounts on all social media, with daily official information about Sigurimi files and commemorative events, for researchers, groups of interest and young generation.
- <http://www.autoritidosjeve.gov.al>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AutoritetiDosjeve/>
- Instagram: [Autoriteti Dosjeve \(AIDSSH\)](https://www.instagram.com/AutoritetiDosjeve/)
- Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/aidssh>
- Youtube: [Autoriteti i Dosjeve](https://www.youtube.com/AutoritetiIDosjeve)

### Memorandums of Collaboration:

- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and the Institute of the Politically persecuted people, revised;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and Memo Center;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and Kujto.al Foundation;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and European University of Tirana;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and National Historical Museum;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and the Municipality of Përmet;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and SIDA, reconstruction project;
- Cooperation Agreement between the Authority and International Commission on Missing Persons.
- Collaboration with counterpart institutions in Poland, ENRS and European Network of Former Secret Policies Archives, to improve ways of informing public about the past, mutual online project #Making memory alive together <https://www.facebook.com/enrs.eu/>

Facing its challenges, Authority has served as a comprehensive platform on understanding Albania's communist past. A platform that involves provision of support to academic institutions, researchers, civil society and media representatives to access former state security data with an eye to promote scientific researches on the communist past and civic education in general.

In this context, dialogue and debate about communist repression, - that involve historians, domestic universities, civil society organizations of persecuted people and human rights, providing them millions pages of archival material, - is an excellent opportunity for researchers of different backgrounds to conduct in-depth archival investigations and contribute with evidence to a strengthened public debate on the country's reconciliation process.

The Authority buttresses its work and projects continuance with significant remembrance principles, placing the historical memory at the core of community members' identity and legacy such as: presenting different perspectives; avoiding generalizations; treating historical figures as individuals; ensuring a genuine historical basis; using academic knowledge as sources, by collating and discussing every single content with prominent and field-specialized certified academics.