

<i>Legal status</i>	Citizens Association (civil society organization)
<i>Founders</i>	Goran Basic, Vojislav Stanovic, Dragica Puljarevic, Milan Vukomanovic, Natalija Mićunovic, Aleksandra Mitrovic, Ivo Viskovic, Vucina Vasovic, Ljiljana Milosevic, Silvo Dvetak, Jovan Zivkovic, Dragana Mitrovic, Petar Lastic.
<i>Year of establishment</i>	2000
<i>Membership in associations and local, regional and international networks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network for Interculturality (founder and co-ordination; established in 2014) • Network for Development of Local Democracy in Sanjak (founder; established in 2005) • Network for development of democracy, human rights and protection of rights of national, ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities in Southeast Europe (founder and co-ordination; established in 2000)
<i>Strategic partnerships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the initiative of Ethnicity Research Center and supported by TACSO programs of the European Commission, in 2014 it was established Network for interculturality. Besides ERC, founders are also: Center for Regionalism (Novi Sad), Centre for Civil Society (Zrenjanin), DamaD (Novi Pazar), Center for Democracy, Human Rights and Regional Cooperation (Belgrade) and AGENDA Center for Family Support (Beograd). Members of the Network are: BG Centre for Human rights, URBAN IN (Novi Pazar), CINK (Novi Sad), School of Journalism of Novi Sad (Novi Sad). Network is based on the strategy of development of intercultural society. • ERC development strategy is based on cooperation with citizens and organizations that advocate and represent their rights, as well as with the authorities that protect those rights and ensure their implementation. Strategic expansion of ideas and support is directed towards multi-ethnic areas. Network for development of democracy, human rights and protection of rights of national, ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities in Southeast Europe has enabled cooperation with a large number of non-governmental organizations and local self-governments, independent bodies and public administration bodies in the countries of Southeastern and Central Europe.
<i>Techniques of promotion and advertising</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WEB presentation: www.ercbgd.org.rs • Social networks: Facebook page • Cooperation with media • Presentations through capacities of the Network for interculturality • Printed and electronic publications • Promotional material • Cooperation with PR agencies
<i>Printed and electronic publications</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy and National Minorities, 2001 • Democracy and Religion, 2002 • Democracy and Multiculturalism in Southeast Europe, 2003

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospects of Multiculturalism in Western Balkans States, 2004 • The Art of Survival / Where and how live Roma in Serbia, 2005 • Local Democracy and Multiculturalism, 2006 • Political Participation and Cultural Autonomy of National Minorities in Serbia, 2006 • Temptations of Democracy in Multiethnic Society – the Model of the Law on the Protection of National Minorities in Serbia, 2006 • Guidebook for the Municipal Councils for Interethnic Relations, 2006 • The Network for Development of Local Democracy in Sanjak Bulletin; 2006/2007 (bimonthly) • Recommendations for Development of Local Democracy in Sanjak, 2007 • Sustainable Model of Establishment and Work of Councils for Interethnic relations, 2009 • Communication Strategy, 2009 • Political Action - Roma Movement and Changes, 2010 • Councils for Interethnic Relations and Local Ombudsman in Multiethnic Communities, 2011 • Implementation of the Strategy for Improving the Status of Roma in local self-governments, 2013 • Media and Forced Migration, 2014 • Media and Persons with Disabilities, 2014
<p><i>Conferences and round tables</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interethnic relations and status of national minorities in FRY, 2000 • The future of Roma, 2000 • Socio-political status of Roma in Serbia, 2000 • Contribution of churches and religious communities to reconciliation, establishment of democracy and improvement of human rights of ethnic and religious minorities on the territory of former Yugoslavia, 2001 • Development of national and ethnic minorities in FRY - for stability and strengthening of good-neighboring relations of the states established on the territory of former Yugoslavia, 2002 • Democratic transition and status of ethnic and religious minorities in Southeast Europe, 2003 • Status and identity of the Serbian minority in Southeast and Central Europe, 2003 • Social sciences on Roma in Serbia, 2004. • Prospects of multiculturalism in Western Balkans states, 2004. • Status of minorities in Serbia, 2005. • Local democracy and governance in multiethnic local communities in Serbia, 2006. • Status of national minorities in Serbia - legal groundlessness and the proposed Model of the Law on the protection of national minorities in Serbia, 2007 • Media on the implementation of the rights of national minorities in Serbia, 2007. • Status of minority self-governments in Croatia, Hungary, Serbia, 2007 • What make citizens of Sandjak unsafe, 2008 • European integration and the attitude towards national minorities in the regional countries, 2009 • Civic initiatives and local self-government, 2009 • Youth and community development in multiculturalism, dialogue and human rights framework, 2011 • Monitoring of transparency of the work of minority self-governments and improvement of the normative status of National Minorities, 2014

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why the interculturality is better, 2014
<i>Summer schools</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roma: prejudice, stereotypes and misconceptions, 2000 • Culture and education of Roma, 2001. • Integration and identity of Roma, 2002 • Promotion of inter-ethnic relations and inter-religious dialogue Sanjak, 2006.
<i>Mission, objectives and target groups</i>	<p>Ethnicity Research Center is engaged in research of the phenomena of ethnicity and multiculturalism. Experts and collaborators of the ERC, follow and study changes related to interethnic relations, multicultural policies and status of ethnic and religious minorities in the regions of Eastern and Central Europe.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representing interests of ethno-cultural minorities • Development of safety of citizens in multi-ethnic societies • Development of civil society and affirmation of the ideas of interculturality • Development of local democracy in multiethnic communities • Protection of cultural heritage of ethno-cultural minorities in the Southeast and central Europe • Overcoming conflicts • Creating a sustainable model of social development • Improving socio-economic and cultural status of Roma • Development of the culture of human and minority rights <p>Target groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of national and ethnic communities • Representatives of local authorities • Activists of non-governmental organizations and political parties in Serbia • Non-governmental organizations in the region • Students, young people • Employees of state institutions
<i>Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of reports, analyzes, recommendations, strategies, "policy papers" and other documents related to multicultural policies • Research • Education of citizens for sensible attitude towards diversity • Development of regional and cross-border cooperation • Professional support for ethno-cultural communities to preserve and improve their culture and identity • Organizing conferences, seminars and trainings • Publication of scientific and professional publications
<i>Environment</i>	<p>ERC is based in Belgrade, but most of its activities are conducted in multiethnic communities in Serbia and countries in the region, in collaboration with partner organizations and networks.</p>
<i>Brief historical summary, results and impact of action</i>	<p>ERC was established to contribute to changes in public policies governing the implementation of the rights of ethno-cultural minorities; to establish and strengthen integrative social relationships (interculturality) and spread the culture of human rights. In the first fifteen years it was realized over 50 projects dedicated to achieving these goals. At certain moments ERC had a strong, but never a decisive influence on public policy changes.</p>

	<p>The most important documents of ERC which have had an impact on public policy changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration on new democratic policy toward national minorities in FR Yugoslavia (2000). <p>Based on multidisciplinary research of the status of national minorities by ERC it was adopted Declaration on new democratic policy towards national minorities in Yugoslavia.</p> <p>Declaration was adopted by political parties and national minority organizations, NGOs, representatives of multiethnic municipalities. Declaration was used as a basis for activities of newly established Ministry for National and Ethnic Communities.</p> <p>By the end of 2003, the policy towards national minorities was based on the principles contained in Declaration - accession to the Framework Convention on National Minorities of the Council of Europe, the adoption of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities, establishment of minority self-governments, relaxation of interethnic relations, institutional recognition of ethno-cultural identity, implementation of certain rights at local level and launch of the institutional solving of socio-economic problems of Roma.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roma settlements, living conditions and integration possibilities of Roma in Serbia (2002) <p>Research of demographic, socio-economic, and social living conditions of Roma in Serbia. Study determined the number of Roma settlements in which live more than 100 people, the approximate number of Roma and described and explained conditions in which they live. Research results were the basis for the creation of the National Strategy of Roma integration, and the basis of most studies, reports and written literature about Roma in Serbia. Institute for Social Theory and Philosophy has published research results in monography The Art of Survival - Where and how live Roma in Serbia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidebook for Municipal Councils for Interethnic Relations (2006) <p>By 2004, none of 67 multiethnic municipalities in Serbia established Council for Interethnic Relations which was obliged by the Law on Local Self-government.</p> <p>After the research of ERC, in cooperation with SKGO and OSCE Mission, this Guidebook were published. On it`s basis these bodies were established and started work in 2/3 of local self-governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model of the Law on the Implementation and Protection of National Minority Rights in Serbia (2006) <p>After the adoption of the Law on Protection of Rights and Freedoms of National Minorities and illegally formed first minority self-governments, activities related to the development of the system of protection of national minorities in Serbia were slackened.</p> <p>With the Model of the Law, which has been prepared on the basis of empirical research and comparative studies of status of national minorities in the region and other European countries, ERC launched a discussion and advocated for the adoption of the Law, which is supposed to completely regulate the issue of national minorities. The result of this activity was that, in the Law on National Councils (2009), some of solutions proposed by ERC were adopted.</p>
Major projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Status of Roma and possibilities of their integration in Serbia</i>

	<p>(OXFAM, 2002)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Legal aid for Roma displaced from Kosovo in terms of acquiring personal and other documents and regulation of ownership rights, 2004 (NRC, 2004)</i> • <i>Reform of legislation on national minorities in Serbia (FH Serbia, 2005-2006)</i> • <i>Monitoring on the implementation of minority rights on local level – Kovacica municipality (Friedrich Ebert Foundation, 2006)</i> • <i>Advocacy for the policy of integrative multiculturalism (Fund for an Open Society, 2007)</i> • <i>Development of local democracy in Sanjak (EIDHR, 2007)</i> • <i>Status of Serbian national minority in Southeast and Central Europe, (Ministry of Diaspora of Republic of Serbia, 2008– 2009)</i> • <i>Multiculturalism in Serbia on the way to EU (Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Belgrade, 2008-2009)</i> • <i>What make citizens of Sandzak unsafe? (Fund for an Open Society Serbia, 2008–2009.)</i> • <i>Inter-ethnic relations on the local level in Serbia: strengthening of participatory policies and practices (EIDHR, 2008-2009)</i> • <i>Regional media network for promotion of European integration (IPA, 2009- 2010)</i> • <i>Examples of good practice for Roma integration in the Western Balkans (ASO, 2010)</i> • <i>Enhancing local democracy and civic participation in multiethnic municipalities in central Serbia through establishing/strengthening of local Ombudspersons and Councils for Interethnic Relations (ISC, OSCE, 2010-2011)</i> • <i>Dialogue and cooperation between youth organizations of Serbia and Kosovo (British Embassy, TASCOS Belgrade, 2011-2012)</i> • <i>Monitoring of the implementation of recommendations of the Ombudsman and the Action Plan of the Government in connection with the promotion of human rights and the status of Roma (Ombudsman, 2012)</i> • <i>Monitoring of the media reporting on the status and rights of persons with disabilities (Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Policy, 2013/2014)</i> • <i>Guidebook for the media reporting on "asylum seekers" (Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, 2014)</i> • <i>Governance of cultural development in multiethnic municipalities Kovacica and Backi Petrovac, (Ministry of Culture, 2014)</i> • <i>Strengthening of intercultural connections in public policies (TACSO Belgrade, 2014)</i> • <i>Toward policy of integrative multiculturalism in Serbia (Fund for an Open Society, 2014/2015).</i> • <i>Enhancing employment of Roma through affirmative measures (Office for Human and Minority Rights, 2014/2015)</i>
<p><i>Strategic plans</i></p>	<p>ERC advocates and represents interests and protection of minority rights, interculturalism and regional consensus concerning the establishment of sustainable cultural bonds. ERC strategy is based on regional and national networking, working with young people and motivation of citizens to actively participate in the fight against prejudice, discrimination and to contribute to development of civil society in the full meaning.</p>

Support

- Fund for an Open Society
- Delegation of European Commission in Serbia
- TACSO Serbia
- British Embassy Belgrade
- Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Belgrade
- OSCE
- ISC Serbia
- UNDP
- USAID
- Freedom House
- OXFAM
- NRC
- Heinrich Böll Stiftung
- Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
- Ministry of Diaspora of Republic of Serbia
- Ministry of Culture of Republic of Serbia
- Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Policy
- Commissariat for Refugees and Migration
- Office for Human and Minority Rights
- European Agency for Reconstruction