



NEWS REPORT

Date:	12 November 2014
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Title:	Financial support to legal actions
Country:	Italy
<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Equality body providing financial support to victims of discrimination to cover legal costs
Ground of discrimination:	All grounds
Source:	National equality body
Field:	All fields
Legislative provisions:	Regulation of National lawyers' Association (Consiglio Nazionale Forense)

Content

Political development: The National lawyers' Association (Consiglio Nazionale Forense) together with the national equality body (UNAR) have agreed on a Protocol of cooperation aimed at strengthening the legal defence of victims of discrimination. In this framework they will manage a solidarity fund for access to justice by victims of discrimination for the years 2014-2016, financed by the Department for equal opportunity of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (the same Department to which UNAR belongs). According to Article 11 of the Fund's regulation, the financial support is set at 600 Euros for each instance of the legal proceeding. This Fund was created by UNAR in order to facilitate access to justice by victims of discrimination, providing them with financial support anticipating the legal costs of actions brought to courts. In case of a favourable judgment the legal aid should be refunded to UNAR.

This financial support aims to facilitate access to justice since the number of jurisdictional actions is still low, compared to the high number of complaints to UNAR.

Applications should be sent to the National lawyers' Association by individuals or collective bodies having the right to legal standing (maximum three each year).

A steering committee made up by lawyers and public officials of UNAR will decide the allocation of the financial support, which is alternative to the legal aid provided by the State for those who are eligible on the basis of their incomes.

Internet link source and additional information:

<http://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it/site/home/naviga-per-temi/documento8571.html>

<http://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it/site/home/naviga-per-temi/fondosolidarieta.html>



<http://www.consiglionazionaleforense.it/site/home/naviga-per-temi/documento8572.html>