



The role of the National Coordinator Against Corruption

The Minister of Justice, in their role as the National Coordinator Against Corruption, is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Intersectoral Strategy Against Corruption (ISAC). The vision of this strategy is to create transparent institutions, with high standards of integrity, that enjoy the trust of citizens and that guarantee qualitative and incorruptible services. This vision has been adopted into three approaches: preventive, punitive and awareness-raising against corruption.

Pursuant to the awareness-raising measures and activities, each year the Ministry of Justice, drafts the Anti-Corruption Communication and Visibility Strategy. Through it, the Ministry aims to reach different audiences, within and outside public institutions and to build a new relationship with citizens, based on mutual trust, in the prevention and fight against corruption. The electronic newsletter is a broad communication tool that aims to inform through a summary of the main anticorruption activities carried out by the Ministry of Justice, on a monthly basis.

Activities in June, 2022

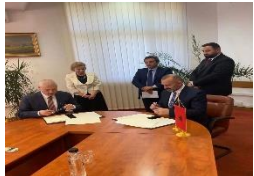
The first national conference "Anticorruption" is held

13-15.06.2022. The national anti-corruption conference takes place for the first time in Tirana, in which the first national self-assessment report on anti-corruption, 2021: *Digitalization as an effective tool in the fight against corruption*, was published. The main priority of the Albanian Government, the fight against corruption, brought together 21 institutions, which, under the direction of the technical secretariat under the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, collaborated to draft and write a national report of facts and data against corruption. The progress achieved in the implementation of anti-corruption measures, the concrete results of guaranteeing citizen access to service areas and sectors, the integrity and transparency of services to the citizen, the use of complaint mechanisms and digital tools in the investigation of corruption, the role of the media and civil society in the perception of corruption, the role of business associations in the fight against corruption, were the discussion panels that took place during these three days of the conference. A special place in the conference was given to the discussions of panel 1: Reform in justice, where they talked about the progress of the reform, the vetting process, the investigation of corruption and organized crime, as well as the integrity of the judge and prosecutor. The conference was held in the presence of a wide public, representatives of international organizations and partners, embassies and other units were also present. The three days of the conference were broadcast directly on the communication channels of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and other members of the government and can be accessed below as well.



More information can be found in the link: <https://kryeministria.al/newsroom/konferenca-e-pare-kombetare-antikorrupsion-nje-bilanc-arritjesh-e-sfidash-ne-betejen-e-perditshme-kunder-korrupsionit/>

Albania-Romania, very good political relations, also in the fight against corruption



28-29.06.2022. The Minister of Justice in the capacity of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, Mr. Manja, held a working meeting in Romania, with the counterpart minister, with senior officials in the anti-corruption field, officials investigating organized crime and the Romanian Parliament. Issues discussed in the meetings were those of European integration, a process waiting to be opened by Albania, issues in the field of justice with the aim of establishing a cooperation partnership, the field of cooperation and joint interaction in the fight against corruption, the fight against crime organized in the field of legislation. A dedicated meeting in the offices of the Anticorruption Unit with the chief prosecutor Mr. Bologna was developed in order to exchange and share experience in dealing with anti-corruption cases and investigations. The fight against corruption and the coordination of actions and initiatives as well as the application of investigative operative methods against corruption had a mutual interest between the structures of both countries.

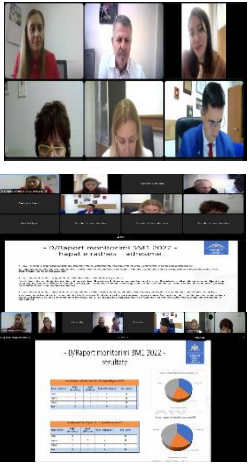
More information can be found in the link:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=588022289345242&id=100044124279765

Albania informs GRECO about developments in the anti-corruption field

13-17.06.2022. The Group of States Against Corruption at the Council of Europe (GRECO) held the proceedings of the 91st plenary session, in which Albania was represented by the head of the Government Delegation, the Deputy Minister of Justice, Mrs. Lose it. The proceedings of the plenary session evaluated the reports of the countries of Ireland, Hungary, Montenegro, Switzerland, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Portugal, Georgia and Italy, on their follow-up and implementation of the recommendations given earlier. from GRECO. Albania was one of the evaluating countries for the III evaluation round, complementary evaluation for the second compliance report of Denmark, evaluations that were taken into account by the Technical Secretariat of GRECO, in the final approved report. In the plenary proceedings, the new member of the GRECO Bureau, representative from Portugal, was elected. In these works, on the 4th day of them, Albania informed GRECO about the latest developments in the regulatory and institutional field and the concrete data of the fight against corruption, in the framework of the official reporting that will follow in the following months with the assessment that will be made to the country in the plenary session of November-December 2022. Of particular importance was the progress in the progress of anti-corruption policies and initiatives, the increase in transparency for the public of information and data about high political officials, declaration of assets and conflicts of interest as well as the proper functioning of law enforcement institutions in the country, within the framework of technical and professional staff, as an indicator of their responsibility in the fight against corruption.





The Anticorruption Thematic Group, at the technical level, agrees on the content of the monitoring report for the implementation of the Anticorruption Action Plan, January-March 2022

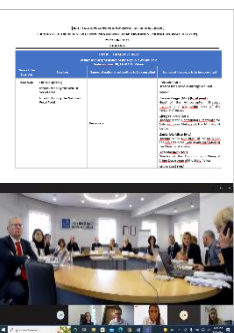
10.06.2022. The members of the Anticorruption Thematic Group at the technical level, consisting of representatives of all institutions involved in the implementation of the anticorruption action plan, agreed on the content of the final monitoring report of the anticorruption action plan, for the first period of its implementation for the year 2022, respectively for the months of January-March. This monitoring report provides complete and evaluative information on the progress of 18 specific objectives for the three approaches of prevention - punishment - anti-corruption awareness policies, fully based on the data on the implementation of the measures and activities foreseen for implementation. In the first 3 months of 2022, 58 measures and 108 activities were implemented, of which 34 measures/64 activities were fully implemented, 15 measures/11 activities were partially implemented and 9 measures/3 activities were not implemented. The level of implementation of the Anticorruption Strategy for this period is 78.25% and according to the approaches it is: prevention - 86.50%; punishment – 81.6%; awareness – 66.66 %. The sectors that have marked progress in this period are the transparency of public authorities, the digitization of electronic services, the integrity of public servants in line ministries, awareness and cooperation with the public against corruption.

The final monitoring report is expected to be discussed and approved at the meeting of the Coordinating Committee against Corruption. The final report will be published on the website of the Ministry of Justice, where the draft report and the accompanying consultation report are already published.

These reports can be found at this link: <https://drejtesia.gov.al/viti-2022-2/>

The National Anti-Corruption Coordinator signs a cooperation agreement with the High Inspectorate for Declaration and Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest (HIDAACI)

6.06.2022. The Minister of Justice in the role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, Mr. Manja and the Chief Inspector of HIDAACI, Mrs. Bashari signed a cooperation agreement in the fight against corruption in the public administration. The main purpose of the agreement is to ensure and guarantee the coordination, cooperation and exchange of information between the two public institutions within the framework of the joint commitment, which is the fight against corruption. This cooperation agreement also defines the general regulatory framework between the Ministry of Justice and HIDAACI, with the final aim of improving the handling of issues and achieving important results in terms of activities with a common object. The two institutions are public authorities that have a leading role in the fight against corruption, and having a cooperation agreement lays down and facilitates communication procedures between them, as a cornerstone and guarantee in achieving common goals.



Albanian government experts participate in the evaluation session of the implementation of the UN Convention, from Lithuania

21-23.06.2022: Albania together with Bulgaria under the direction of the Technical Secretariat of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) conducted the study visit for the evaluation and review of UNCAC, from Lithuania. The meeting took place following the drafting of the evaluation report for the fulfillment of legal provisions, regulatory and functioning of institutions in Lithuania, by two assessment teams from both countries. Albania's team of experts consisted of anti-corruption specialists from the Ministry of Justice, the Directorate of Prevention and Money Laundering and the State Police. The Albanian side was engaged to evaluate the developments and implementation of the provisions of Article 14 (measures for the prevention of money laundering) and Chapter V (Recovery of Assets) of UNCAC, while the Bulgarian side for Chapter II (Preventive Measures). The meeting was attended by representatives of the local institutions of Lithuania, in whose area of responsibility the assessment chapters were. The meeting was coordinated by the UNODC technical secretariat and took place in a hybrid format with representatives of the parties.

The Ministry of Justice strengthens cooperation with civil society organizations, increasing the integrity of the public administration

7- 8.06.2022. The Ministry of Justice, in the role of the leading institution in the design and implementation of anti-corruption policies, participated in the regional conference held in Tirana by the Institute for Democracy and Mediation: *Encouraging sustainable and integrity reforms in the public administrations of the Western Balkans*. Deputy Minister of Justice, Mrs. Pirdeni was part of the panel of the second day of the conference, in which data was shared and informed about the instruments of the fight against corruption, such as integrity plans and awareness and public initiatives that increase information and coordinate actions with citizens in the fight against corruption. The public administration at the central level already has integrity plans approved and in implementation, under the direction of the Ministry of Justice, all ministries have integrity plans in implementation, a better and safer way to control the increase in performance and accountability of the public administration in fight against corruption. Through their annual monitoring reports, stable guarantees will be created for the implementation of plans and the general development of integrity in the state administration, as a very efficient and appropriate way in taking initiatives on where to intervene better in the framework of policies and deregulation.



Gender and anti-corruption, together for better policies and inclusiveness

30.06.2022-1.07.2022. The two-day training for drafting gender and anti-corruption policies began on June 30, 2022, in Tirana. The presence of the OSCE in Albania, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, organized a training table on the topic: *Gender integration in anti-corruption initiatives*. This activity was developed with the aim of strengthening the capacities of anti-corruption focal points and increasing public awareness regarding this major issue. The meeting was greeted by the senior advisor for gender issues of the OSCE Secretariat, Ms. Lara Scarpitta, the Deputy Minister of Justice Ms. Pirdeni, the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection Ms. Seferi, as well as with international partners, UN Women, the Delegation of the European Union in Albania and the embassy of the Netherlands. The discussion focused on ways to apply gender analysis and gender mainstreaming tools to anti-corruption policies and approaches. The Ministry of Justice in its leading role of drafting anti-corruption policies and initiatives and in the direction of



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implementing institutions of the Intersectoral Strategy Against Corruption (network of anti-corruption contact points) received and exchanged information on the inclusion of *gender* and the orientation of these initiatives in this field. The new anti-corruption strategy will have a special objective for *gender* policies.

Anti-corruption staff of the Ministry of Justice training for public procurement

9.06.2022. The technical staff of the Anticorruption Operational Directorate and the Anticorruption Network Monitoring Directorate participated in a one-day training on public procurement issues, namely for follow-up, verification and investigation of public procurement procedures as one of the sectors that are most vulnerable from corruption. The training was made possible by the Embassy of France in Tirana in cooperation with experts in the field of the Public Procurement Agency. The specialists of the two directorates that handle and investigate cases of corruption complaints in the Ministry of Justice received the latest knowledge on anti-corruption investigation and verification techniques, controls of public authorities that deal with public procurement procedures, risk assessment presented by the sector as well as administration of procedures to ensure a good prevention and their control. The Ministry of Justice has recently increased partnership with various counterparts by providing new knowledge and continues training to the staff.



Youths in the fight against corruption; National Debate Championship finals: Passive and active corruption

30.06.2022. The youth activity, the National Debate Championship, organized by Liburnetic, has been successfully concluded. The 5th edition of this activity had a focus on the topic of the fight against corruption. Youth and high school students from across the country participated for several months in public debates between school teams on issues of concern to society. 1,500 high school students and 100 school teachers have attended and actively participated in simulated "debate" sessions that encourage critical and analytical thinking. The schools "Ibrahim Kodra", "Protagonistet", "Harry T. Fultz" and "Naim Frashëri" participated in the finals of this debate championship, where the school "Harry T. Fultz" in Tirana managed to triumph. In the final debate, issues such as education, the environment, but also politics and civic engagement were discussed. Present at this activity were senior officials from the field of anti-corruption in the Ministry of Justice, from the field of Education and the protection of the rights of young people.

