



NR. 19 - DECEMBER, 2022

The role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator

The Minister of Justice, in the role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, coordinates the work for the drafting of policies and the preparation of legal and by-laws for the prevention and fight against corruption.

The National Anti-Corruption Coordinator is responsible for verifying (administrative investigation) denunciations/complaints about abusive, corrupt or arbitrary practices for the implementation of law, as well as identifying employees of institutions, part of the Network of Coordinators, who, by actions or omissions, have committed violations of legal/sublegal acts in force, as well as simultaneously the development of projects and programs in the field of anti-corruption, planning, coordination and determination of necessary instruments for the implementation of policies in the field of anti-corruption.

The electronic newsletter is a broad communication tool that aims to inform by reflecting a summary of the main activities developed by the Ministry of Justice in the anti-corruption field, on a monthly basis.

Activities of December, 2022

Active participation in the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) in the United States of America

05-14.12.2022: The Minister of Justice, exercising the powers of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, led the delegation of the Albanian Government to the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), "Eradication of corruption and protection of democratic values", held in the United States of America. The international conference against corruption brought together the voices of high political and executive representatives of countries in order to promote cooperation and exchanges at the international level to respond to the increasingly sophisticated challenges of the fight against corruption. Minister of Justice Mr. Ulsi Manja and Deputy Minister Ms. Adea Pirdeni held intensive cooperation meetings with partners and counterparts, on issues related to the fight against corruption, the consolidation of the rule of law and the advancement of the results of the justice reform in the national context. The partnership between the two countries, Albania-USA, in terms of the effectiveness of international judicial cooperation in the fight against crime, the increase in security standards in the penitentiary system, assistance in the fight against corruption and the increase in efficiency in the justice system, were some of the main issues addressed during the meetings held with senior officials of the State Department and international organizations based in Washington. The International Conference Against Corruption was founded in 1983 and takes place every two years, hosting up to 2,000 participants from over 140 countries around the world, and bringing together in this international forum important actors from the public, private, and civil society sectors.



More information can be found in the link: https://www.facebook.com/drejtesia.gov.al/posts/702995737847896







"Integrity Week 4" campaign: Promoting integrity for individuals and organizations, as an anti-corruption instrument, a joint public-private priority

1-10.12.2022: The month of December, known as the month of the fight against corruption, brought together partners and collaborators of the public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations, foreign diplomatic missions and organizations, students and young people, attentive citizens and interested in the country's developments, in the edition the 4th of the "Integrity Week" campaign. The Ministry of Justice/National Anti-Corruption Coordinator continued its active cooperation in the development and participation of high political representatives and especially executive and technical leaders of the field in some of the conducted activities. The conference on "Promoting Integrity: Individual, Organization and Beyond" brought together important actors and factors engaged in the fight against corruption, with a focus on promoting integrity and strengthening transparency. Fostering an open dialogue between leaders and experts from the private and public sector, organizations and academics, to respond to current issues, such as raising awareness and promoting ethical behavior, revealed interest and attention. The Deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Klajd Karameta, and the Director of the Anticorruption Operational Unit, Mr. Gjergj Prabibaj, addressed some of the main issues related to the integrity and transparency of public institutions in two panels dedicated to this purpose, where it was highlighted the priority of institutional integrity, ethics of business and individual responsibility in times of challenges. Anti-corruption experts at the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator participated in other panels discussing policy in the field, as well.

More information can be found in the link: https://www.facebook.com/ICCAlbania/posts/6087185087971742

The Western Balkans reaffirms the Regional Roadmap: Anticorruption and Control of Illegal Finances

14.11.2022: The Western Balkans reaffirms the high political and executive will to continue regional cooperation in the field of the fight against corruption and illegal finance. The 6 countries of the Western Balkans, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo and Serbia gathered together in Skopje, in the proceedings of the regional conference organized by the Government of North Macedonia, to express their agreement to continue with this cooperation project initiated more than a year ago by UNCAC/UNODC and with the implementation assistance of the regional anti-corruption organization, RAI. All participating countries gave their approval to continue with the implementation of the commitments contained in the Guide: Anti-corruption and Illegal Financing, for the coming years 2023-2024 in matters such as transparency of public procurements, declaration of assets (online) and conflict of interest, and strengthening capacities and increasing cooperation between law enforcement and punishment bodies (police-prosecutor-money laundering units). The Network of Prosecutions, GLoBE has a special scope of action in this engagement document. The General Directorate of Anticorruption, the Public Prosecution Agency, the High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest, SPAK, the Ministry of the Interior and the State Police are fully engaged in supporting the co-drafting and implementation of this initiative.







More information can be found in the link: https://www.facebook.com/raiseeorg/posts/533067942193696







Technical Anticorruption Thematic Group agrees on the content of the monitoring report July - September 2022 for the implementation of the Anticorruption Action Plan

09.12.2022: The Anticorruption Thematic Group at the technical level, composed of representatives of all institutions involved in the implementation of the Anticorruption Action Plan, held the technical work meeting, in which they agreed on the content of the July - September 2022 monitoring report. This report provides information complete and evaluative on the progress of 18 specific objectives for the three policy approaches in the fight against corruption, prevention-punishment-awareness. The report contains an analysis of the data of the institutions responsible for the implementation of the measures and activities foreseen for the reporting period. In this 3rd quarter of 2022, the implementation of the Cross-Sector Anti-Corruption Strategy is 46.2%. According to the approaches, the progress is: prevention 77.04%; punishment 32.5% and awareness 29.16%. In this reporting period, 57 measures and 102 activities were implemented, of which 25 measures/51 activities were fully implemented, 16 measures/12 activities were partially implemented and 16 measures/38 activities were not implemented. To be highlighted are the rising trend and the consolidation of the results of the punitive approach of the General Anticorruption Directorate and the Police Surveillance Agency, as well as a very good assessment of the objectives related to increasing transparency in state activity and improving citizens' access to information, the systematic use of the mechanism for identifying areas for corruption, strengthening the integrity of public servants, analyzing corruption trends, the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures and improving statistics, as well as public awareness and education activities on the consequences of corruption.

The published draft report and the consultation report can be accessed at the link: https://drejtesia.gov.al/viti-2022-2/

The political advisors of the ministers aware of the rules of ethics and integrity

12-14.12.2022: The Ministry of Justice organized the meeting-training for ministerial political staff, on issues of ethics and integrity and the implementation of conflict of interest rules while exercising functions in the public office. With the support of the Council of Europe office in Tirana, in the framework of the "Action Against Economic Crime in Albania (AEC-Albania)" project, a training was held for all the political advisers of the ministers, for three days. The topics of the training and discussion were the recognition and practical application of legal requirements in force for ethics, prevention of conflict of interest, integrity, post-employment and declaration of legal inability to participate in processes and procedures. The topics addressed are necessary for improving the implementation of the legal and institutional framework to prevent corruption in our public authorities, by senior political executive functionaries. Raising awareness, disseminating knowledge and professional education of political advisers for the practical implementation of existing legal requirements in the field of ethics, prevention of conflicts of interest and integrity, is a decisive factor for good governance and respect for the law. The panelists, experts of the Ministry of Justice and political advisers, discussed and shared concrete cases and examples of the general principles and rules of our legislation on international standards and practices, including the recommendations and guidelines of the Council of Europe on the ethics and integrity of public officials.







More information can be found in the link: https://www.facebook.com/CoEinTirana/posts/849726543046201

Partnership for Open Government: Ministry of Justice confirms the commitment of inclusion in the action plan, 2022-2024



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19.12.2022: The Ministry of Justice begins the process of co-creating the new action plan, for Open Government Partnership (OGP), 2022-2024, for the commitments of its activity, anti-corruption and justice. The process of cooperation with civil society organizations is an experience evaluated by the central OGP for the Ministry of Justice, carried out according to the principles of the OGP, and which is already restarted for the new document, 2022-2024. The first step in developing the action plan was to create a questionnaire-survey with proposals for thinking and seeking cooperation, too. The questionnaire-survey was shared to a group of organizations active in the field of good governance, anti-corruption and justice, and can be easily found published on the websites of drejtesia.gov.al and ogp.gov.al, with a contact address for sending contribution. Public education and awareness of the mechanisms of the fight against corruption and also of access to justice are concrete proposals for commitments to be included by the Ministry of Justice, for which agreement and cooperation is expected from civil society organizations. The organizations are welcomed in their participatory role as proposer, implementer-awareness and funder. This stage of the process will be followed by dedicated consultation meetings until January 17, 2023.

 $\label{thm:main} \textbf{You can access the questionnaire for filling in the link:} \ \underline{\text{https://drejtesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Pyetesor-per-bashke-berjen-e-PV-OGP-2022-2024.pdf}$

