

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.

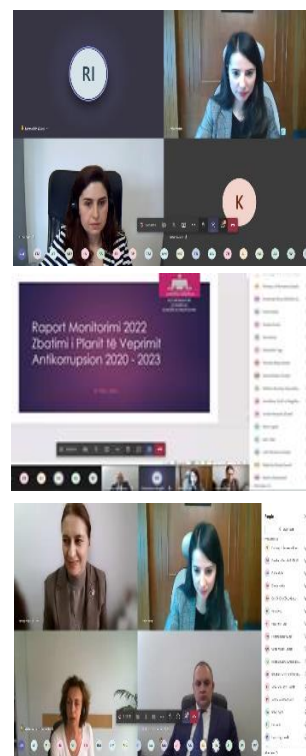
The National Anti-Corruption Coordinator is responsible for verifying (administrative investigation) denunciations/complaints about abusive, corrupt or arbitrary practices for the implementation of law, as well as identifying employees of institutions, part of the Network of Coordinators, who, by actions 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 April, 2023

The Anticorruption Coordinating Committee approves the Monitoring Report of the Anticorruption Action Plan for 2022

19.04.2023: The Coordinating Committee for the implementation of the Cross-Sector Anti-Corruption Strategy approved the 2022 annual monitoring report of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan. The report provides a detailed assessment of the progress of 18 specific objectives for prevention, punishment and awareness against corruption, for the 8th year of the implementation of the Cross-Sector Anti-Corruption Strategy and the 3rd year of the Action Plan, in force. The 2022 monitoring report highlights the actions of public bodies in the fight against corruption with reference to the measures and activities of the Action Plan and performance indicators. The report evaluates sectors that have made progress, such as: transparency of public authorities (100 new public authorities have installed e-registry of requests and responses); the digitization of electronic services (there are 1227 e-services in full operation), the integrity instruments of the public administration (all line ministries have approved integrity plans), the electronic system for declaring private assets and interests has been set up and put into use, cooperation and efficiency of law enforcement bodies (SPAK-PP-State Police) has increased, awareness and cooperation with the public against corruption has increased. Meanwhile, more thorough control over the finances of political parties, increased capacity for public auditors, the establishment of the Asset Recovery Office and more cooperation with CSOs were asked. The Ministry of Justice, as the head of the Coordinating Committee, asked the public institutions to continue to cooperate and help in the fight against corruption, giving their periodic contribution to improving the quality of public services and strengthening the trust of citizens. The meeting of the Coordinating Committee was attended by a wide participation of representatives of CSOs active in the country and foreign organizations.



The annual Monitoring Report, 2022 can be accessed at this link: <https://drejtesia.gov.al/viti-2022-2/>

The anti-corruption structure in the Ministry of Justice files criminal charges and proposes disciplinary measures for corruption cases

01-28.04.2023: The General Directorate of Anticorruption, in cooperation with the Network of Anticorruption Coordinators in the Ministry of Justice, has administered and carried out verifications for 21 new cases of complaints and denunciations of corruption, during April 2023. The activity of institutions such as the State Cadastre Agency (its local directorates), the Social Insurance Institute, the National Agency of Protected Areas, the National Food Authority, the Health Care Services Operator, etc, have been checked by law specialists and anti-corruption coordinators based on complaints and denunciations received through official channels writing (12 cases) and to the electronic address (9 cases). Two of the registered cases were forwarded from the co-governance platform, www.shqiperiaqeduam.al. After the verifications, violations were found and 4 final reports were fully completed, through which 1 criminal report was proposed for two people, one of whom is a former head of institution, for reasonable suspicion of the criminal offense of abuse of power (Article 248/Criminal Code), 2 measures for "removal from office", 2 measures for starting disciplinary proceedings as well as 17 recommendations. The problem of properties and the failure to complete procedures according to the law and rules of procedure, continues to remain for this month the most vulnerable sector and which has received increased attention from the General Directorate of Anticorruption.

Report abusive cases and practices to: koordinatoriak@drejtesia.gov.al

The electronic system for the management of denunciations of corruption cases at the General Directorate of Anticorruption is established

01-28.04.2023: The Ministry of Justice is in the final stage of developing an electronic system for managing denunciations on corruption records. This system will enable the management and processing of all information related to denunciations and corruption records, starting from the denunciations of citizens and businesses, until their final resolution. The system will interact with the unique government platform e-Albania, which aims to improve communication between citizens and public institutions. This system will also include several important institutions, such as the National Business Center and the tax system. This will enable cooperation between these institutions and the public administration in the fight against corruption and in improving the efficiency of business processes. Also, SPAK and district prosecutors will be connected to this system, enabling a close cooperation between public institutions in the fight against corruption and in the implementation of justice in a more effective way. The Electronic System for the Management of Denunciations on Corruption Records is an important step forward in the fight against corruption and in improving open governance through digitalization. The Ministry of Justice, through this mechanism, will increase transparency, improve real-time data on the fight against corruption, the justice system and institutional inclusion, as an indicator to improve public services and the management of public resources, and to ensure a more efficient and transparent governance in the interest of citizens and the rule of law.



The Ministry of Justice directs the institutions in preparation for phase II of the assessment, Round V in GRECO

4.04.2023: The Ministry of Justice, the head of the Albanian government's delegation to GRECO, has started preparations for the drafting and coordination of the implementation measures of the recommendations made within the framework of the V Round of the Evaluation: *Prevention of corruption and promotion of integrity in the central government (high executive functions) and GRECO's law enforcement agencies*. After the completion of phase 1 of the evaluation, Albania received a positive evaluation for the transparency of the central institutions, the control of the assets and private interests of the officials, the progress of the integrity in the structures of the State Police and the full functioning of SPAK. The evaluation was carried out in the plenary session of November 29, 2022, and with the sending of the compliance report for Albania, the programming of interventions for the remaining recommendations has already begun. Public authorities with powers to prevent corruption and the State Police should deepen measures and interventions for issues such as the implementation of integrity plans, increased verification to avoid conflicts of interest in cases of decision-making at the political level, increased public consultation in the legislative field, as well as more stability in duty of senior police officials. The Albanian government will report to GRECO in June 2024.

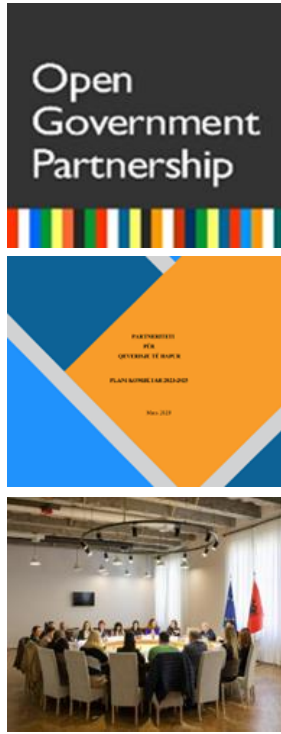


The Compliance Report for Albania, phase 1, is published at the link: <https://www.drejtesia.gov.al/publikime-3/>

Anti-corruption measures lead the components of the National Open Government Partnership Plan, 2023-2025

27.04.2023: The Albanian government reaffirms its commitment to the Open Government Partnership (OGP), approving the new National Open Government Plan, 2023-2025. The National Action Plan supports and promotes the principles of transparency, institutional inclusion and accountability at all levels of public administration by planning measures and actions based on partnership with civil society organizations. The Anticorruption component lays out the plan of measures for the next three years with the main objective: *Awareness and education of the general public on the mechanisms in the fight against corruption*. During January-March 2023, an open process of co-drafting a plan of measures with civil society organizations was developed for this purpose. Awareness of the general public against corruption (I), Education of the general public against corruption (II) and Education of the public administration on the mechanisms in the fight against corruption (III) are the three expected results for which 14 measures are planned. Communication and visibility, strengthening of integrity mechanisms, increased anti-corruption information, anti-corruption investigation methodology and tools, professionals with increased field capacities are the 'products' of this action plan, and expected to be implemented in the years 2023-2024-2025, in this engagement. The National Open Government Partnership Action Plan was approved by the Multi-Stakeholder National Advisory Committee on Open Government, unanimously with representatives from academia, the private sector and civil society.

Get to know the new action plan at the link: <https://www.drejtesia.gov.al/dokumente-strategjike/>



Albania signs the Transparency Pledge for the revision of the UN Convention Against Corruption

24.04.2023: Albania signed the *Transparency Pledge Agreement* with the Coalition of Civil Society Organizations at UNCAC, guaranteeing more transparency, cooperation and co-creation of anti-corruption policies. The Minister of Justice, in the role of the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator, has signed the Transparency Pledge, a process that also precedes the evaluation within the second evaluation cycle of the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). In this way, the Albanian state reaffirms the importance of transparency and public consultation in addressing corruption, requesting in this way that civil society can play a decisive role in the prevention and fight against corruption in the country. With this signature, cooperation with civil society is deepened by providing opportunities for civil society to participate not only in the consultation of legal and sub-legal acts, policy-making initiatives, but also for the evaluation of their implementation or even to take more efficient initiatives. Cooperation initiatives in the anti-corruption field, the government-civil society coalitions so far now have one more window of cooperation. By signing the Transparency Pledge, Albania became the 34th country in the world to sign this commitment. Full information on Albania's evaluation cycles for the implementation of the UN Convention, evaluation reports and other information can be found in full in the country profile.

Get more information at: [Transparency Pledge Compliance map](#) and [blog post](#).

