

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 throughout December, 2023

COSP10: Albania supports reforms and global anti-corruption commitments

11-15.12.2023: The 10th session of the Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption - UNCAC took place in Atlanta, USA. Representatives of 190 state parties, political leaders, experts from state bodies and experts from civil society organizations gathered together to discuss policies, state initiatives and mutual cooperation in the fight against corruption. New initiatives and promotions of anti-corruption instruments were the focus of discussions in the 10th session and in the technical panel discussions as well. The Albanian delegation was headed by the Deputy Minister of Justice, Ms. Adea Pirdeni. In the panel of general discussions of countries, Ms. Pirdeni presented the latest developments of anti-corruption reforms, political engagement and state bodies in the fight against corruption. Albania participated in the discussion panels organized by UNODC, OSCE and TI on anti-corruption reforms and political will, transparency and control of political parties as well as anti-corruption education. Albania voted in favor of the participation of civil society representatives in the work of COSP10, fully supported the final declaration of Atlanta: promoting integrity, accountability and transparency in the fight against corruption, and lined up among the co-sponsoring countries of the resolution originally proposed by the state of Ghana, for "Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the fight against corruption". The UNCAC Conference of Parties meets every two years, unifying the states' positions and actions against corruption.



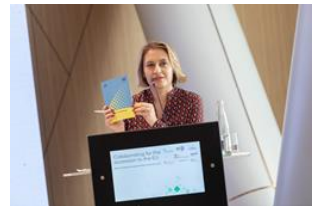
More information about COSP10 can be found at this link: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/corruption/COSP/session10.html

Integrity Week 2023; activities, discussion forums, publication launches and integrity sessions



04-15.12.2023: The V Edition of the largest national, annual anti-corruption campaign, Integrity Week, took place from the beginning of December 2023 for several consecutive days. The Ministry of Justice, in the role of one of the primary organizing partners, developed a calendar of activities by bringing together interest groups from different fields. The activities started with the live signing of the Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Justice - the Ministry of Education and Sports - the Italian Embassy in Tirana on 4.12.2023. The agreement will increase the awareness and culture of legality and the fight against corruption in the 10th grades in 12 secondary schools in Albania, for three academic years. 15-year-old students will become the best conductors of anti-corruption initiatives and strengthening the reporting of corruption cases.

In cooperation with the main partner of the Integrity Week, ICC Albania, the multilateral conference "Cooperation for EU membership: strengthening integrity through collective actions and good governance" was held, where political leaders, policy-makers and representatives from the private sector, academia and society civil society, promoted Albania's annual screening process activities and discussed in technical panels issues related to the rule of law, the fight against corruption, Albania's progress in the membership process and business integrity practices.



The Integrity School was the activity that closed the first day of the Integrity Week, where Transparency International of the Netherlands, together with the Ministry of Justice and the organization Boga & Associates in Tirana, offered the latest knowledge and discussed the rules for managing the risks of corruption and practical cases of ethical dilemmas. Public administration employees and practitioners of anti-corruption mechanisms were the audience of this session.

On the second day of the campaign (5.12.2023), the 20-th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption was remembered. The Ministry of Justice and UNODC promoted in Tirana two guide publications for practitioners of law and anti-corruption issues: (1) Mutual Legal Assistance Guide and (2) Fast Action Response Guide for Corruption Investigation. Both publications will facilitate the activity and work of law enforcement authorities and counterparts of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior.



The third day of the campaign (6.12.2023) was held at the premises of the Faculty of Law in Tirana. Experts from the Ministry of Justice, the Commissioner for the Right to Information and Personal Data and UNODC, the regional branch of the Western Balkans informed the law students on the instruments of integrity, on access to public information, as a means to discover the truth and empower individuals to face the fight against corruption and the data of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. The meeting was moderated by the professor of the faculty, Nadia Rusi. The meeting laid the foundations of a platform to share thoughts and experiences with students, as tomorrow's law and legal practitioners.

The fourth day of the campaign (7.12.2023) brought together the Ministry of Justice and the private sector and business in the Anticorruption Partnership forum. Business cooperation with the public sector to fight corruption, raising awareness of the importance of integrity, transparency in the private sector as well as improving business work practices were the topics of the speakers at this forum who established communication bridges to improve the business climate in place.

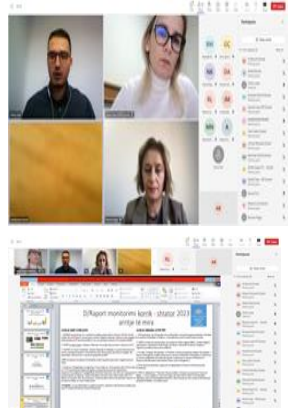


Integrity Week 2023, by the Ministry of Justice, was closed with the training session for political functionaries near the ministers (political advisors) on 15.12.2023. The training on "Ethics and integrity for public officials" offered knowledge, information and analysis on topics related to integrity, ethics and conflict of interests for the members of the cabinet next to the ministers. The session was made possible in cooperation with the presence of the OSCE in Tirana. Detailed data for each activity, videos and photos can be found on the social profiles of the General Anticorruption Directorate.

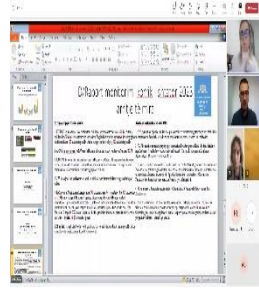
Detailed data for each activity, videos and photos can be found on the social profiles of General Anticorruption Directorate LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Threads.

Anticorruption Technical Thematic Team confirms the Q3 2023 monitoring report of the Anticorruption Action plan

27.12.2023: The technical secretariat at the National Anti-Corruption Coordinator has completed the monitoring and drafted the report on the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Q3 2023. The report was drawn up based on the narrative and statistical information of the implementing institutions of the action plan and was agreed at the meeting of the Technical Thematic Team Anticorruption. The report analyzes the level of implementation of the measures and activities planned for implementation during this period of the year, evaluates the progress of the institutions' activities, and also identifies measures for intervention. Some results of the report are mentioned: 30 measures were fully implemented, 10 measures were partially implemented and 16 measures were not implemented, as well as 49 activities were fully implemented, 6 activities were partially implemented and 38 activities were not implemented. The electronic



register of requests and responses for the right to information has been installed in 27 more public authorities, APP has drawn up and approved a recommendation on the issues found during the monitoring of the implementation of the good supply contracts, signed on the basis of the framework agreements, AKSHI has increased the number of services in the unique government portal e-Albania, to 1231 services and the dependencies of the line ministries have drawn up their Integrity Plans. The General Anticorruption Directorate received a total of 77 denunciations and concluded with 12 measures for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, 9 measures for removal from office, 33 recommendations for public institutions and 4 reports for criminal prosecution in law enforcement bodies while they are scheduled actions to increase anti-corruption awareness. The report will be an integral part of the annual monitoring.



December 2023: The Anticorruption Directorate proposes 8 disciplinary measures and 3 criminal charges for corruption

01-29.12.2023: The 12th month of 2023 has closed the regular and intensive activity of the General Anticorruption Directorate, referring to cases and administrative verification and investigation, suspected of corruption, in the public administration. From the data obtained in the administration and at the end of the procedural actions followed by the department's specialists and the coordinators of the Anti-Corruption Network, it results that a total of 5 final reports have been completed, through which 8 disciplinary measures and 11 recommendations have been proposed. During the month of December 2023, 3 criminal reports against 8 persons were filed with the prosecution body. The reported issues are related to public services provided by the administration bodies and the citizens who are in contact with them. The coordinators and specialists of the directorate with verification and control powers are at the disposal of every case and act of denunciation to guarantee transparency, legal activity and in accordance with administrative procedures.

Report cases and abusive practices, at the address: koordinatoriak@drejtesia.gov.al



Albania shares its experience in designing and monitoring anti-corruption instruments in the region

20-22.12.2023: Albania shares its experience in drafting and monitoring the anti-corruption strategy in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the invitation of the UNODC office, the Balkans branch, technical staff of the General Anticorruption Directorate participated in the meeting on the topic "Exchange of experiences, approach and methodology during the drafting of the strategy for the fight against corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina". UNODC is assisting the Bosnian authorities in drafting the new strategic anti-corruption package and offered the opportunity to share Albania's experience in this process. The methodology followed by our country for monitoring the anti-corruption action plan and the analysis of the report were also presented at the meeting. The Albanian practice in the drafting of the new anti-corruption strategy 2024-2030 was presented at the meeting as one of the best practices of drafting acts in accordance with the principles of good governance. Participants in the meeting were government authorities from law enforcement bodies and practitioners of the fight against corruption in the countries of the Western Balkans, such as North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.



RAI mobilizes the countries of the region for cooperation in controlling the declaration of assets

20.12.2023: The Ministry of Justice participated in the regional round table "Bridge for effective asset detection systems" held in Skopje, North Macedonia. The table was initiated by the organization Regional Anticorruption Initiative - RAI. The activity took place within the framework of creating possible cooperation in the future among the countries of the region, for the control and verification of the assets of public entities that have the obligation to declare assets and conflict of interests. RAI's technical expertise presented a document developed for all the countries of the region: Declaration of Assets; A tool for the prevention of corruption, which can serve as an indicator for countries on how to monitor the control of asset declarations. The meeting concluded with a joint expressed commitment of the participants to support anti-corruption initiatives and strengthen regional cooperation. The meeting was also attended by technical representatives of the High Inspectorate for Declaration of Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest.



Bulevardi "Zog I-rë", Tiranë

<http://www.drejtesia.gov.al>



infoak@drejtesia.gov.al

