



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS JOINT UKRAINIAN-POLISH BORDER PATROLLING

On 15–17 June a joint Ukrainian-Polish working group of Border Guard Services met in Velyki Mosty (Lviv Region) to discuss the concept of a joint patrolling training programme to prepare for EURO 2012. One of the elements of cooperation consists in paving the way for the introduction of the full-fledged joint patrolling, a confidence building measure that enhances border surveillance and promotes cross-border cooperation and understanding.

The work on the joint patrolling training programme and training materials, including instructional videos, will be finalised in September 2010 through continued work at the Ukraine-Poland border. This programme will be used to train Ukrainian and Polish border guards serving on the common border through the multiplication (“train-the-trainer”) method.



The implementation of steps to usher in joint patrolling on the Ukraine-Poland border is bolstered by the EU-funded project “Improving Integrated Border Management: Follow-up to Reinforcing the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine’s Human Resources Management System (HUREMAS 2)”, which facilitates the establishment of a modern human resources management system for the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine in line with the best EU practices and standards.

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UKRAINIAN PUPIL WINS TOP PRIZE IN EU DRAWING COMPETITION

On 1 July the European Commission announced the results of its annual International Drawing Competition on gender equality with a Ukrainian pupil, Olga Chumachenko, winning one of the top prizes in the contest. Olga, a nine-year old pupil from Kakhovka (Kherson Region), was one of 14 winners of the competition which was launched earlier this year on International Women’s Day.

In total, around 50,000 children from 61 countries submitted drawings in line with the competition topic “Once upon a time, there was a girl and a boy, together they wanted to make a better world...”. Participation from Ukraine was particularly impressive, with over 2,500 Ukrainian children taking part in the competition.



In Ukraine, the EU delegation worked closely with the Ministry of Science and Education to select 10 finalists to enter the international competition. Drawings were selected based on their flair, creativity and originality in terms of style and message. Winners are awarded a prize of €1,000 each to buy books, computers or other education materials.

A photo gallery of drawings can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/gender/drawing-competition-2010_en.htm

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EU PROJECT PROMOTES ADAPTION OF UKRAINIAN MEDIA LEGISLATION TO EUROPEAN STANDARDS

In early July the joint EU-Council of Europe “Promotion of European Standards in the Ukrainian Media Environment” organised two expert seminars. On 2–3 July in Irpin (Kyiv Region) the project held a seminar on “Alignment of Ukrainian Media Legislation with the European Standards set in the European Convention on Transfrontier Television and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive”. On 6 July in Kyiv the project conducted a seminar on “Concentration of media ownership and its impact on media freedom and pluralism”.

During the two days of the first seminar, representatives of the National Broadcasting Council of Ukraine, Parliamentary Committee for Freedom of Speech and Information, professional organisations, as well as European and Ukrainian experts discussed European norms and practices of regularisation of relevant media issues. European media experts presented a comparative analysis of the European Convention on Transfrontier Television and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive and discussed issues related to adaptation of national legislation to these documents.

Attended by some 60 representatives of the National Broadcasting Council, National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine, international and non-governmental organisations, MP's and experts, the second seminar enabled its participants to discuss in greater detail such issues as ownership in electronic and print media, European experiences and standards in this sector, media ownership concentration – measurement and monitoring, and media ownership and its influence over media independence and pluralism in Ukraine.

The project “Promotion of European Standards in the Ukrainian Media Environment”, ongoing until the end of 2010, is funded by the European Union and co-funded and implemented by the Council of Europe. Its purpose is to foster journalism standards in Ukraine by supporting the process of enhancing the media legislative framework, raising ethical standards in the journalism profession, and promoting the ongoing dialogue between the media, civil society and local authorities

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EU ORGANISES SUMMER SCHOOL ON MULTICULTURAL TEACHING HISTORY

On 4–7 July the EU-funded project “National minorities in the history of Ukraine”, implemented by the Nova Doba Association, organised in Lviv a summer school on national identity and multicultural approaches to teaching history in Ukraine. The training gathered 45 young teachers from all Ukrainian regions and 3 moderators from Germany, representing EU partners of the project.

The school focused on such issues as ethnical and religious diversity, life of different nationalities in Ukraine, human rights, existing stereotypes and prejudices, conflicts, language, economic cooperation, migration, assimilation, segregation, models of coexistence and cultural influences of different ethnicities.

Besides lectures and interactive exercises, the participants had a chance to gain practical experience by researching history of Armenian, Jewish, Polish and Russian communities in Lviv. The participants also visited cultural centres of different national communities present in Lviv.

As a direct follow up of the summer school, in August and September its participants will organise seminars, lectures and extracurricular activities for pupils and teachers in their communities.

More information at: <http://novadoba.org.ua>

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EU PROJECT PROVIDES STUDY TOUR FOR UKRAINIAN MINE SECTOR OFFICIALS

On 4 July the EU-funded project “Coal Sector Policy Support Programme” organised a week-long study visit for eight representatives of the Ministry of Coal Industry of Ukraine and two participants representing state mining enterprises “Rovenkiantrasit” and “Ukrvugletorfrestrukturizatsia”. The study tour for Ukrainian mine sector officials is an indispensable part of the comprehensive training programme for the Ministry of Coal Industry of Ukraine, addressing the challenges and lessons learnt in the restructuring processes of the coal industry in Germany.

During the workshops that took place at active hard coal and lignite mining companies, the study tour participants were briefed on the transformation processes in the German lignite industry, privatisation of German coal mining companies, and on the organisation and management of privatised German coal mining companies.

They also learned about the operations of the underground mine “Auguste Viktoria” and observed the occupational safety standards in the mine. The participants also visited a number of former mine sites, which are now open to the public for educational, cultural and recreational purposes, demonstrating their alternative use.

More information at: <http://www.eu-coalsector.com.ua>

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EU-FUNDED PROGRAMME LAUNCHES MEDIATION WEEK IN UKRAINIAN COURTS

On 5 July the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented programme “Transparency and Efficiency of the Judicial System of Ukraine” launched the Mediation Week at a conference in Kyiv. Mediation techniques were introduced in four pilot courts in Bila Tserkva, Vinnytsia, Donetsk and Ivano-Frankivsk, with each court using mediation for the first time to settle ten of their cases.

The purpose of the conference was to focus the authorities’ attention on the need and the efficiency of applying mediation in Ukraine as an alternative dispute resolution procedure. It also aimed at informing the society of the possibility of using mediation as a way of improving access to justice and resolving conflicts in a way which satisfies all parties.

Mediation is a form of alternative dispute resolution procedure. It is confidential and carried out with the help of a third neutral person, called a mediator, who helps the parties to achieve a mutually beneficial agreement that takes into account interests of both sides of the conflict.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

On 6–8 July the EU-funded CIUDAD project “Sustainable Urban Development” held in Ukrainka (Kyiv Region) an international seminar on strategic planning and local development. Representatives of partner local authorities from Novolukoml (Belarus), Ozurgeti (Georgia), Bobrynets, Olevsk, Korsun-Shevchenkivskiy and Horodok (Ukraine), as well as partner organisations took part in the event.

The seminar participants discussed best practices of development of small towns in Ukraine; Polish experience of strategic planning as a tool for economic development of small towns; Ukrainian experience of strategic planning for local development; and six core principles of good governance methodology, developed within the Transparent Poland Programme.

During the 3-day seminar 30 local authority officials improved their knowledge on strategic planning, mechanisms of citizens’ participation in strategic planning and good governance principles.

The project “Sustainable Urban Development” is part of the EU programme “Cooperation in Urban Development and Dialogue” (CIUDAD) aiming to contribute to sustainable local development in depressed small towns in Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine, and to boost their competitiveness with the help of Polish and Ukrainian expertise in strategic planning and local development.

More information at: <http://www.ciudad-programme.eu/>

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLD WORKSHOP FOR UKRAINIAN AIR NAVIGATION SERVICE PROVIDERS

On 12–13 July the EU-funded project “Support to the Integration of Ukraine in the Trans-European Transport Network TEN-T” held a workshop on Air Navigation Service Provider (ANSP) Certification 2010. High level experts from the European Commission, European Aviation Safety Agency, EUROCONTROL, aviation authority of the Netherlands and ANSP’s from the Netherlands and Germany attended the event to provide information on their experience in applying the regulations and national best practices.

The workshop participants considered the impact of the EU single European sky regulations EC 550 (the provision of air navigation services), EC 2096 (common requirements for the provision of air navigation services) and 1315 (safety oversight in air traffic management) on national legislation, national supervisory authority and ANSP certification practices. They also identified actions yet to be taken for the implementation of these actions by EU and non-EU states.

The workshop was held for Ukrainian operational policy makers and management of the Air Navigation Service providers (Air Traffic Services, Communications, Navigation and Surveillance, Aeronautical Information Services and Meteorological Services) and for national certifying and safety oversight authorities of the air navigation services.

More information at: <http://ten-t.org.ua/>

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EU PROJECT ASSESSES PERSPECTIVES OF UKRAINIAN PENSION SYSTEM

On 14 July the joint EU-UNDP project “Blue Ribbon Analytical and Advisory Centre” (BRAAC) presented the results of an extensive assessment of demographic trends and their impact on financial sustainability of the pension system of Ukraine. The report, entitled “Demographic and Financial Preconditions of the Pension Reform in Ukraine: Forecast – 2050”, identified key challenges arising from the national demographic trends and suggests the most optimal solution, namely to increase the retirement age, to help mitigate the ever growing pressure on Ukraine’s pension system.

«The reform of the pension system requires a wide public dialogue and a joint understanding of the challenges and what is needed to address them. Taking into account the economic and demographic situation as well as the EU experience, the new pension system in Ukraine should develop incentives for working longer, promote supplementary pensions and develop stronger links between contributions and benefits», said Head of Operations of the EU Delegation Laura Garagnani.

The Blue Ribbon Analytical and Advisory Centre (BRAAC) is a project funded by the European Union, co-funded and implemented by UNDP. The Centre is an independent institution that adheres in its activities to the principles of free and democratic market economy. The centre’s activities aim to mobilize a wide range of national and international partners in supporting market-oriented reforms and human development in Ukraine.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

19–20 JULY, KYIV, PRESIDENT HOTEL, CONFERENCE-HALL

TAIEX workshop on conflict of interests and corruption prevention

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20–23 JULY, IVANO-FRANKIVSK, YAREMCHE, RAKHIV, UZHGOROD

Information Days on the Second Call for proposals within the EU-funded Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Cross-Border Cooperation Programme

More information at: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>

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27 JULY, KYIV, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Final presentation of the EU-funded project “Support of Ukraine in implementation of Espoo/Aarhus Conventions”

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