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## **The EU Newsletter No. 193**

19<sup>th</sup> October

*Welcome to the EU Newsletter. This Newsletter will keep you abreast of all important developments in the EU and its relations with Kazakhstan.*

- EU seminar on human rights in Kazakhstan is taking place in Almaty these days
- None of the five recommendations of the national human rights action plan related to the right to participate in the state's governance has been fully implemented, stated experts of the EU-funded project
- Joint press-briefing of Mr Gunnar WIEGAND and Mr Konstantin ZHIGALOV following Cooperation Committee meeting and negotiations on new enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
- Tempus Information Day: discussion of cooperation opportunities with
- EU higher education institutions in the framework of Tempus programme
- 10 October – European Day against the Death Penalty
- The 2nd Regional Steering Committee of Central ASIA Drug Action Programme (CADAP) was held in Astana
- Euro area inflation up to 3.0% EU up to 3.3%

### **EU seminar on human rights in Kazakhstan is taking place in Almaty these days**

Today, in Almaty was an opening of the EU Seminar on Human Rights that gathered together representatives of more than 70 well-known public organizations of Kazakhstan, international experts, government officials. Mrs Madina DZHARBUSYNOVA, Ambassador-at-large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Mr Norbert JOUSTEN, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Kazakhstan, addressed the audience with welcoming speeches.

*"The European Union firmly believes that the commitment to human rights ideals facilitates the establishment of the rule-of-law, develops responsible state governance, ensures the transparency of democratic political processes,"* said Mr Ambassador. *"And we hope that this seminar will create a fruitful discussion platform for the participants."*  
[Press-release](#)

### **None of the five recommendations of the national human rights action plan related to the right to participate in the state's governance has been fully implemented, stated experts of the EU-funded project**

Out of the five recommendations, two are of a general nature, two are formulated quite vaguely, and one is not necessary. In addition, none of these recommendations has been implemented since the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan for 2009-2012. This information was presented at a regular expert review of the effectiveness of the implementation of the measures to protect civil and political rights and freedoms of Kazakhstan citizens that are provided for by the National Plan.

"As before, opposition political parties cannot on a parity basis with other parties form the lists of members of election commissions, including the Central Election Commission.

The registers of voters are not available for checks either by representatives of the candidates and political parties or by monitors," notes Mr Amangeldy Shormanbayev, author of the Expert Review of the National Action Plan as to the right to participate in the State's governance. [Press-release](#)

### **Tempus Information Day: discussion of cooperation opportunities with EU higher education institutions in the framework of Tempus programme**

On 18 October a Tempus Information Day (ID) was held in Almaty. The event's participants were familiarized with the application procedure of the Fifth Call for proposals in the framework of Tempus IV, national and regional priorities, as well as with Programme's recent and past activities in the country. They also received practical recommendations on project preparation.

The event was organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan; European Union's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Brussels; Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan; TEMPUS National Office in Kazakhstan. Among the attendees were representatives of higher education institutions, line ministries and agencies, Embassies of EU Member States and international organisations working in the field of education. [Press-release](#)

### **10 October – European Day against the Death Penalty**

On 10 October 2011, at the Kazakh Humanitarian & Juridical University in the *Three Biis* hall there will be a students' debate on the abolishment of the death penalty followed by the showing of the "**NO to the Death Penalty!**" film.

On 26 September 2007, the Committee of the Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to have the European Day against the Death Penalty every year on 10 October. The Council of Europe was a pioneer in the cause of abolishing the death penalty. As a result, since 1997 *de-facto* Europe has been free from the death penalty. [Press-release](#)

### **The 2nd Regional Steering Committee of Central ASIA Drug Action Programme (CADAP) was held in Astana**

The second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (CADAP) was held on 11 October, 2011 in Astana, the meeting was attended by the heads of relevant departments of the Central Asia. Dzhandarbekov Iryskeldy Abdilhaevich, vice chairman of the anti-drugs and narcotics control of the Kazakhstan Interior Ministry delivered a speech from Kazakhstan's side. EU experts - Dr. Tomas Zabransky (DAMOS) Mr. Marcus Martens (tritium), Mr. Peter Jablonski (Medissa), Dr. Ingo Ilja Michels talked about the work program and plans for the future.

"The European Union actively supports the initiatives of the governments of Central Asian countries to develop effective integrated strategies in the sphere of drugs. CADAP program is the basis for a regional approach that combines capacity building at regional level and national level activities based on identified needs of these countries" - said Ambassador Norbert Jousten, head of the EU Delegation in Kazakhstan. [Press-release](#)

### **Euro area inflation up to 3.0% Eu up to 3.3%**

Euro area<sup>1</sup> annual inflation was 3.0% in September 2011<sup>2</sup>, up from 2.5% in August. A year earlier the rate was 1.9%. Monthly inflation was 0.8% in September 2011.

EU3 annual inflation was 3.3% in September 2011, up from 2.9% in August. A year earlier the rate was 2.3%. Monthly inflation was 0.6% in September 2011.

These figures come from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

[Press-release](#)

## **RECENT SPEECHES**

[Joint press-briefing of Mr Gunnar WIEGAND and Mr Konstantin ZHIGALOV following Cooperation Committee meeting and negotiations on new enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement](#)

[Speech by Norbert Jousten, Head of the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan, delivered on the CADAP Regional Steering Committee Meeting](#)

[Speech by Ambassador Norbert Jousten Head of EU Delegation to Kazakhstan delivered in Kazakhstan University of the Humanities and Law on the death penalty](#)

[Joint declaration by Catherine Ashton, European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on the European and World Day against the Death Penalty, 10 October 2011](#)