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The EU Newsletter No. 198

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

- Public hearings on household waste management system are held in Astana
- EU contributes to continuity of disaster risk reduction efforts in Central Asia.
- Issues on prevention of HIV/AIDS in Kazakhstan prisons will be discussed in the frame of the EU project
- GDP increased by 0.2% in the euro area and by 0.3% in the EU27

Public hearings on household waste management system are held in Astana

Today, the public hearings "Solid Household Waste: Problems and Solutions" will be held in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan. The EU project's managers and participants as well as other stakeholders will discuss the current status of the waste management system in Astana and propose various options to solve this problem. [Press-release](#)

EU contributes to continuity of disaster risk reduction efforts in Central Asia.

'Saving lives and livelihoods by preparing for natural disaster' is the core principle on which the European Commission has based its disaster preparedness programme "DIPECHO" since 1996. Projects under DIPECHO will be launched for the 7th time in March 2012 in five countries of Central Asia, namely Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. [Press-release](#)

Issues on prevention of HIV/AIDS in Kazakhstan prisons discussed in the framework of the EU project

Round table «Prevention of HIV/AIDS in prison system in Kazakhstan» with the support of European Union was held on 6 December, 2011 in the conference-hall of «Jumbaktas» hotel. In the frame of the conference specific issues on prevention of HIV/AIDS in Kazakhstan prisons discussed with particular focus on drug injecting women, numbers of whom are on rise in Kazakhstan prisons.

High risk of HIV transmission and other diseases amongst prisoners require effective state policy on this issue. However, the lack of harm-reduction programs in prisons exacerbates the spread of HIV transmission among prisoners. [Press-release](#)

GDP increased by 0.2% in the euro area and by 0.3% in the EU27

GDP increased by 0.2% in the euro area (EA17) and by 0.3% in the EU27 during the third quarter of 2011, compared with the previous quarter, according to second estimates released by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. In the second quarter of 2011, growth rates were +0.2% in both zones.

Compared with the third quarter of 2010, seasonally adjusted GDP rose by 1.4% in both the euro area and the EU27, after +1.7% in both zones for the previous quarter.

[Press-release](#)

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on the security incident at the UK Embassy in Tehran**

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/126422.pdf

Main results of the Council

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/126578.pdf