

EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

ROUND TABLES ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE MOLDOVAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE

On 6 and 7 September, the EU-funded and Council of Europeimplemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the Moldovan Legal Resources Centre organized 2 roundtables on the amendments proposed to the legal framework of the Moldovan judicial system and Criminal Procedure Code as initial measures for implementing the Strategy of Justice Sector Reform in Moldova.

The debate of the first day was focused on the amendments to the legal framework of the Moldovan judicial system elaborated and proposed by the working group created within the Ministry of Justice. The amendments aimed at improving aspects of the organisation and functioning of the judicial system as optimisation of the court map-



ping, revision of the role of the court president and administrator, unification of the judicial practice, judges' performance evaluation and others. During the second day the proposed amendments to the most important aspects of the criminal procedure related to initiation of a criminal investigation and division of competences at pre-trial phase, operative activities and the criminal investigation, competences of prosecutors and criminal investigation officers and others were discussed.

The events took place with participation of experts from Georgia, Estonia and Lithuania. The experts shared their best practices and lessons learned with the Moldovan colleagues.

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ACTIVITIES IN THE PROCESS OF ADOPTING THE COMPETITION AND STATE AID LAWS

In the first week of September, the EU-funded Twinning Project "Support to Implementation and Enforcement of Competition and State Aid Policy" held at the National Agency for the Protection of Competition (NAPC) two activities relevant in the process of adopting the Competition and State Aid laws.

The first activity aimed to disseminate relevant information concerning the State Aid rules and practice in the field. The discussions also aimed to identify the intention to grant any State Aid in the foreseeable future, the possible problems that could arise and the practical solutions to solve them.

Within NAPC, a meeting with the National Bank of Moldova was held in order to discuss the comments of State Aid law concerning the application of the law in relation to the financial market changes.



Two Romanian experts had several meetings with NAPC staff regarding the drafts of Competition and State Aid law on definition of relevant market, investigations procedures, procedures of adopting decisions in state aid and competition field.

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EUBAM COORDINATION POINTS PILOT PROJECT COMES TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION

On 30 August the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) and its Moldovan and Ukrainian border-guard partners welcomed their colleagues from the Warsaw-based EU agency FRONTEX following the successful completion of the operational phase of the Coordination Points pilot project.

The Coordination Points project, supported by EUBAM, was carried out at Palanca and Starokozache border crossing points on the common Moldova-Ukraine border. Its aims were to enhance information exchange between border guard authorities in Moldova and Ukraine and EU Member States in order to identify and combat cross-border crime such as false documents and stolen vehicles.



At a debriefing, all key stakeholders offered feedback on various aspects of the pilot project's implementation. Among the main benefits of the project, according to participants, was the opportunity to exchange experience and knowledge, and develop mutually beneficial working cooperation.

This was the first time that FRONTEX, the EU agency that coordinates operational cooperation between EU Member States in the field of border security, delivered such assistance to border professionals beyond the external borders of the European Union.

A Coordination Points evaluation meeting is to be held in Warsaw later in September to consider whether to develop the project further, and replicate it in other areas beyond the EU's external frontier.

More information at: http://www.eubam.org/ Contact person: Christina Turcan, e-mail: christina.turcan@eubam.org

EU-FUNDED PROJECTS SUPPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITH PARTICIPATION OF MOLDOVAN DIASPORA

During 23-26 August, more than 70 Moldovan Diaspora representatives from 21 countries met in Chisinau at the International Conference "Culture of Tolerance, Common Values and Intercultural Dialogue – 20 years of achievements", organized by the Bureau of Interethnic Relations under the auspices of the Government of the Republic of Moldova and in close partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Mission to Moldova. This event was organized within the EUfunded projects "Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership" and "Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skill Dimensions".



The Conference showcased the results and achievements of Diaspora Associations and Public Authorities in promotion of culture, values and interests of Moldova during the past two decades of the country's independence.

During the event the representatives of 55 Moldovan Diaspora Associations had an opportunity to discuss ways to improve communication channels between Diaspora-Diaspora, Diaspora-home country, as well as how to involve Diaspora Associations in the socio-economic development of the home country.

Additionally, in framework of the Conference a consultative meeting was held in order to identify the best ways and channels of sharing information about employment and business opportunities in Moldova amongst Moldovan migrants abroad.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS A SUMMER ACADEMY FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS

On 14–28 August, the EU-funded and Council of Europeimplemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" organised the "Online Journalism & Ethics" Summer Academy that took place in Vadul-lui-Voda.

The academy was attended by 20 young journalists and students of journalism faculty organized in cooperation with Press Council and the public broadcaster "Teleradio-Moldova". The participants were trained by a team of five experienced trainers from Romania, Great Britain, United States of America and Moldova, in writing quality news stories, interviews and other journalistic materials for news sites, and in observing journalistic ethics. The programme of the



Summer Academy was very practical and interactive, the trainers using role-play, simulations of real situations, discussion and debate based on real life examples.

It is expected that the most successful young journalists of the academy will join, in the next months, the Multimedia Department of the public broadcaster "Teleradio-Moldova", which is on the process of being set up with support of the Joint Programme "Democracy Support in Moldova".

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FINAL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON THE STRATEGY OF JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM

On 17 August, the EU-funded and Council of Europeimplemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" in cooperation with Ministry of Justice organized final public consultation on the draft Strategy of Justice Sector Reform 2011–2015.

The event had the purpose to present and debate the current version of the draft Strategy of Justice Sector Reform. In the framework of presentation and discussion of the 7 pillars of the Strategy, particular attention has been paid to issues such as measures to fight corruption among representatives of the legal profession, reforming the institution of the immunity of judges, training of representatives of legal profession, reformation of public prosecution system, revision



of the pre-trial procedures and others. Two Council of Europe experts from Georgia and Romania delivered their opinions on the draft Strategy.

The last and improved version of the Draft Strategy on Justice Reform Sector is expected to be adopted by the Government of Republic of Moldova in September.



EUBAM FOURTH YOUTH AGAINST CORRUPTION SCHOOL FINISHES IN VADUL LUI VODA

At the beginning of August, students from both sides of the Moldova-Ukraine border gathered in Vadul Lui Voda for the fourth "Youth against Corruption" school, organised by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) in cooperation with the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption of the Republic of Moldova and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.

At the opening ceremony, the 26 students selected by EUBAM to participate in the summer school were informed by the Mission's Head, Udo Burkholder, that "raising awareness of corruption with the younger generation is one of the most important ways of addressing the problem, because you are the future teachers, doctors and politicians of your country".

The fourth "Youth against Corruption" school follows successful editions in Vadul lui Voda last year, and in Odessa and Yalta, Ukraine this year. The week-long programme included practical and theoretical sessions on aspects of anti-corruption such as international instruments for preventing corruption, European principles of good governance, and ethical conduct in the public service. Students also considered what impact they can have in the fight against corruption, and many of them are now in the process of developing their own anti-corruption advocacy initiatives.

The 'Youth against Corruption' series is among several anti-corruption initiatives supported by EUBAM. At central and regional levels in Moldova and Ukraine, the Mission supports the border management services in the design and implementation of their anti-corruption action plans and preventative mechanisms.

More information at: http://www.eubam.org/ Contact person: Christina Turcan, e-mail: christina.turcan@eubam.org

EU-FUNDED PROJECT LAUNCHES AN INTRANET THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

On 29 June, the EU-funded project "Strengthening Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration" in collaboration with the National Employment Agency (NEA) has launched the Intranet for the employees of the agency.

The introducing of the new channel of communication, Intranet, is aimed at making the work of NEA employees more efficient, save time and offer quick access to useful and updated information linked to their day-to-day activity and labour market.

An important function of Intranet is the assurance of internal communication, topdown and down-top, inside the institution which leads to a quicker achievement of the established goals.

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INAUGURATION OF THE DIVISION FOR COMBATING TORTURE AT THE GENERAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

On 29 July, the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" inaugurated the newly refurbished Division for Combating Torture at the General Prosecutor's Office.

The Programme provided financial support for both refurbishment of the new premises and purchase of modern office equipment in compliance with the Division needs. Improved working conditions shall contribute not only to better outcome of the investigations but also to more independence of the prosecutors in conducting pre-trial investigations.

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AN IMPROVED LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR POLICE AND CARABINEERS

On 28–29 July, the EU-funded and Council of Europeimplemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" organized in Chisinau a round table on Council of Europe experts' assessment of the draft Law on police and police status and draft Law on carabineers.

Harmonisation of the Moldovan legal framework to European and international standards - by drafting legislative acts that regulate the police and carabineers activity (the Law on Police and the Law on Carabineers) is one of the main principles in the Reform Concept of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova.



In this context, the Council of Europe experts made an assessment of the draft Laws and provided advice and guidance as to their compliance with relevant European and international standards. During the round table the representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, public institutions and civil society discussed the findings and recommendations provided by the Council of Europe experts on the draft laws as well as the ways of reflecting them in the final reading of the new laws.



DRAFT CODE OF ETHICS FOR PROSECUTORS BROUGHT IN LINE WITH EUROPEAN STANDARDS

On 27 July, the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" organized in Chisinau a seminar on the draft Code of Ethics for Prosecutors of the Republic of Moldova.

The seminar was aimed at having an interactive discussion on the particular provisions of the Code of Ethics in the light of the opinions and recommendations submitted to the General Prosecutor's Office by the Council of Europe expert and at formulating concrete proposals as to the improvement of the Code and bringing it in line with the European standards.

Participants made an analysis of the draft Code in an article-by-ar-

ticle manner, paying particular attention to the most important issues of the Code such as ethical principles of prosecutors, disciplinary responsibility of prosecutors, commitment to human rights etc., as well as the inclusion of several provisions which are missing. It was decided that the present draft Code will be re-formulated before it is presented for adoption to the General Assembly of Prosecutors in September 2011.

Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT LAW ON AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE

On 25-29 July, the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" supported the organization in Ivancea of a workshop on development of the draft law on amendments of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The members of the working group, consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, civil society and academia, coordinated by a national expert contracted by the Programme elaborated on the amendments to be made to the Criminal Procedure Code in order to bring it in line with European standards. The members discussed and put on paper proposals to the most important aspects of the criminal procedure such as initiation of a criminal investigation and division of competences at pre-trial phase, operative activities and the criminal investigation, competences of prosecutors and criminal investigation officers and others.

The discussed amendments shall be bound up into a draft law and subject to public debates during the month of September.





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DUTCH POLICE SHARE EXPERTISE WITH MOLDOVAN AND UKRAINIAN BORDER GUARD AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS

Two senior experts in counteracting cannabis cultivation from the Dutch Police visited Odessa to support the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine in delivering a seminar entitled "Combating illegal cannabis cultivation".

Twenty-nine participants from the border guard and customs services of Moldova and Ukraine, the security services of both countries, ministries of internal affairs, and the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption of the Republic of Moldova were initially brought on a field visit to Reni, in southern Ukraine, where the illegal growth of cannabis has been discovered in the past.

At the end of July in Odessa, the seminar itself was opened by the Deputy Head of EUBAM, Mr. Slawomir Pichor. Academic representatives from universities also attended the seminar. Central to the ob-



jectives of the seminar was the development of awareness on the EU approach to counteracting illegal cannabis cultivation, and the development of practical skills in the process of investigation of cannabis cultivation cases.

Officers from Moldova and Ukraine attending the seminar were shown how cannabis is grown, how to recognize the cannabis plant, and various methods of detection used in the Netherlands. The seminar was also an opportunity for law-enforcement officers in Moldova and Ukraine to develop working relationships with their counterparts in the EU.

More information at: *http://www.eubam.org/* Contact person: Christina Turcan, e-mail: *christina.turcan@eubam.org*

SENIOR BORDER OFFICIALS ATTEND EU-FUNDED IN-DEPTH REFUGEE LAW TRAININGS

Under the framework of the EU-funded Regional Protection Programme (RPP) in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, the UNHCR Representation in the Republic of Moldova organized on 19 and 22 July, two refugee law trainings in Edinet and Cahul cities, for more than 70 senior border officials deployed at key international border crossing points, border guard posts and Regional Detachments from the northern and southern border segments with Romania and Ukraine.

The trainings focused on topics related to the refugee situation worldwide and UNHCR's protection and supervisory role, international and national legal framework for refugee protection, the nonrefoulement principle, the national competent authorities to receive



and examine applications, applications lodged at the border, the procedural documentation and the transfer to the central asylum authority, the protection monitoring efforts conducted at the border and detention facilities etc.

A similar event was organized on 14 July in Chisinau for more than 40 border guards deployed at Chisinau International Airport and international border crossing points from the central border segment.

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BILATERAL MOLDOVAN-ROMANIAN CROSS-BORDER MISSION OF ASYLUM, BORDER AUTHORITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY CONDUCTED IN IASI AND CHISINAU

Officers of the Border Police and Border Guard Service, asylum authorities and civil society from Romania and the Republic of Moldova met during the bilateral cross-border cooperation mission, held in Romania and Moldova and organized by UNHCR Romania in cooperation with the Romanian National Council for Refugees NGO and UNHCR Moldova under the framework of the EU-funded Regional Protection Programme.

The agenda included a number of presentations on the role of the Border Authorities in identification of the persons in need of international protection at the border, access to the territory and the asylum procedure including the non-refoulement principle. The discussions took in consideration that asylum seekers at the border may have special needs considering their age, gender and diversity and that



the Border Authorities have to deal with a vulnerable group. The participants discussed the legal provisions related to the border control and the refugee protection in the two countries and shared information on the implementation of readmission agreements, the integrated border management, as well as good practices and challenges regarding refugee protection.

In addition, the agenda included a number of meetings and visits to international border crossing points between Romania and Republic of Moldova (Sculeni, Ungheni and Leuseni). In Ungheni the participants had the opportunity to visit the National Border Guard College and meet with its senior management, teachers and students.

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EU-FUNDED REGIONAL FORESTRY PROGRAMME HOLDS THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The EU-funded regional programme "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia" (ENPI FLEG) held a meeting of the National Advisory Programme Committee (NPAC) with participation of the newly assigned management and other officials of Agency "Moldsilva", representatives of Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Interior, forest units, forest guard service, NGOs, international organisations.

The main issues discussed, as presented by the General Director of Moldsilva and the chairman of the NPAC, were the problems of the national forestry sector (consumption versus logging, community forests etc.), implementation of the FLEG National Action Plan and contribution of ENPI FLEG programme to the country.



NPAC decided to expand FLEG activities. According to UN declaration on 2011 as the International Year of Forests, the FLEG Office Moldova in cooperation with Agency Moldsilva, Ministry of Environment (including its subdivision - State Ecological Inspectorate), Forestry Research and Management Institute, ONG communities, local authorities owning forests along with other ENPI FLEG countries will organize on 17-19 November in Chisinau an international symposium "Sustainable development of forestry sector - new visions and priorities".

More information at: *http://enpi-fleg.org/* Contact person: Aurel Lozan, e-mail: *aurel.lozan@enpi-fleg.org*



EU-FUNDED REGIONAL FORESTRY PROGRAMME HOLDS THE NATIONAL FLEG CONFERENCE

The EU-funded regional programme "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia" (ENPI FLEG) gathered in Chisinau the representatives of line departments, NGO community, local authorities, academia, international projects and mass media at the National FLEG Conference.

At the meeting, the Agency Moldsilva and Ministry of Environment have agreed to launch a joint management planning programme of forestlands owned by local authorities and to review the legal framework of forest regime in forestlands (many lands are formally owned by local authorities but in fact no forest regime is applied to, most of these forestlands have no forest personnel at all). Also, Moldsilva and State Ecological Inspectorate have agreed to revise the meth-



odology of conducting revisions of forestlands in order to improve spring and autumn control of contraventions (illegal logging, poaching etc.).

Such issues as forest lease, community forestry, access rights to forest resources and forestry personnel's image are still very important to be considered for ensuring sustainability of entire forest sector (governmental, community, private).

Moldsilva is still committed to ensuring rational use, management and conservation of forest resources as well as to provide population with forest products.

More information at: *http://enpi-fleg.org/* Contact person: Aurel Lozan, e-mail: aurel.lozan@enpi-fleg.org

EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

12–16 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

Training on mental resilience for police officers in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

12–23 SEPTEMBER, BUCHAREST

Two-week internship for two staff members of the Moldovan Parliament Legal Department at the Legislative Council of Romania in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova

Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

12–23 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

Training Seminar for the Customs Service in the framework of the EU-funded Twinning Project "Support to Implementation and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in the Republic of Moldova" Contact person: Victoria Muntean, e-mail: muntean.victoria@gmail.com

MID SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, CHISINAU

English language coursed for public servants of the Moldovan Parliament Secretariat, including legal English courses for the staff of the Legal Department in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova.



AFTER 15 SEPTEMBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), CHISINAU

Series of two days post-election trainings in the field of local public administration for the newly elected representatives of local authorities from 25 localities in the framework of the EU-funded project "Domestic Election Monitoring and Voter Education in Moldova – Strengthening of Capacities and International Networking"

Contact person: Nicolae Panfil, e-mail: info@alegeliber.md

17-21 OCTOBER, CHISINAU

Five day trademark training event for AGEPI Trademarks and Industrial Designs Department in the framework of the EU-funded Twinning Project "Support to Implementation and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in the Republic of Moldova" Contact person: Victoria Muntean, e-mail: *muntean.victoria@gmail.com*

20 SEPTEMBER, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CHISINAU

Enlarged meeting of the Advisory Working Group of the of the EU-funded Waste Governance project Contact person: Tatiana Tugui, e-mail: *ttugui@eptisa.com*

20 SEPTEMBER, CODRU HOTEL, CHISINAU

International conference on the rights of persons with disabilities in the framework of EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova" Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

26-27 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

Workshop on discussing the CoE expertise on community policing curricula of the Police Academy "Stefan cel Mare" in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

26-29 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

Follow-up in-house training on how to use the new software and equipment for the virtual studio of "Teleradio-Moldova" in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

27-28 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

In-house training on assisting the staff of the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Monitoring Unit to monitor human dignity and children's rights aspects, conducting data analysis and drafting reports in the framework of the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova".

Contact person: Eridana Çano, e-mail: eridana.cano@coe.int

27-29 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

TAIEX Workshop on the ongoing Moldovan Carabineer Troops reformation process Contact person: Christiane Kirschbaum, e-mail: *christiane.kirschbaum@ec.europa.eu*

27-29 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

Workshop on social dialogue on labour market of Moldova in the framework of the EU-funded project "Strengthening Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration" Contact person: Vladimir Lungu, e-mail: *vlad.lungu@legal-in.eu*



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29-30 SEPTEMBER, CHISINAU

International Women's Volleyball Tournament in the framework of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine Contact person: Anna Stakhanova, e-mail: *anna.stakhanova@eubam.org*

30 SEPTEMBER TO 1 OCTOBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), ODESSA, UKRAINE

Technical Seminar on economic cooperation between Chisinau and Tiraspol, organized by the Center for Strategic Research in the framework of the "Building Confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol" Project Contact persons: Hubert Duhot, e-mail: hubert.duhot@eeas.europa.eu

END OF SEPTEMBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), CHISINAU

EU Delegation Press Club in the framework of the EU-funded project "Communication and Visibility 2011 in Moldova" Contact person: Anna Moghilda, e-mail: *moghilda@parc.md*

SEPTEMBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), CHISINAU

two sessions of the Press Club in the framework of the EU-funded project "Strengthening the Moldovan Media Capacity to Cover Issues of Public Interest" Contact person: Cristina Bobarca, e-mail: coordonator@ijc.md

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), CHISINAU

Coordination and delivering of the Competition Strategy in the framework of the Twinning Project "Support to implementation and enforcement of competition and state aid policy" Contact person: Alexandra Ghenea, e-mail: rtaast@yahoo.com

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED), CHISINAU

Training activities in the framework of the Twinning Project "Support to implementation and enforcement of competition and state aid policy" Contact person: Alexandra Ghenea, e-mail: *rtaast@yahoo.com*