



NEWSLETTER 02 21

**Dear ladies and gentlemen,
colleagues and friends,**

We are very pleased to announce the launch of our newly designed website and newsletter.

After months of hard work and dedication, we are delighted to officially announce the launch of our new online portal. We have made the new website faster, easier to navigate and more user-friendly. Visit us at www.epac-eacn.org.

Also, kindly take the time to read our second newsletter of the year, which comes with a new design and interesting articles on a variety of anti-corruption and police oversight activities from across our network. As always, we would appreciate your contributions about future or past events, conferences, seminars, training courses, studies, project findings, etc., so that we can include them in the next newsletter.

We wish you awesome summer holidays!

Your EPAC/EACN Secretariat

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

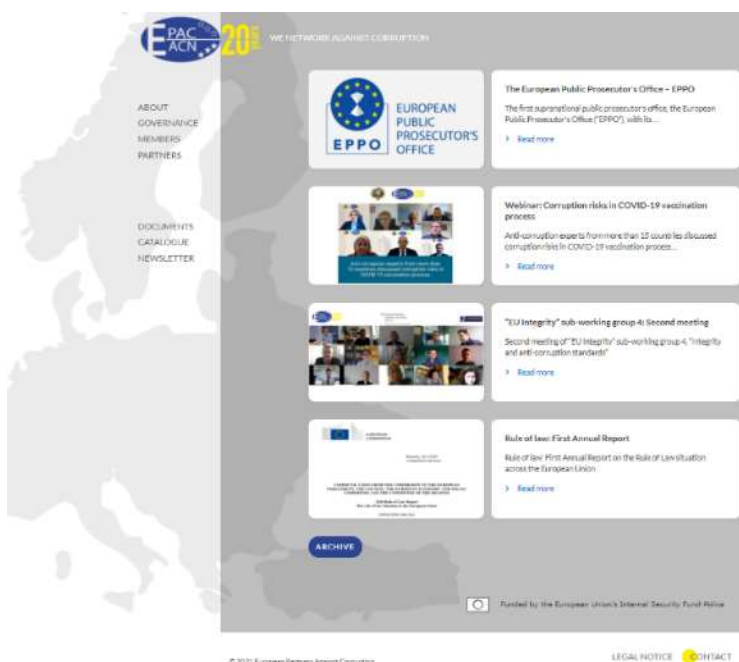
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PUBLICATIONS & EVENTS

NEW EPAC/EACN WEBSITE

The EPAC/EACN Secretariat is pleased to present the newly designed online portal of European Partners against Corruption (EPAC) and European contact-point network against corruption (EACN). Our aim was to create a redesigned website that provides a user-friendly experience for the valued and trusted members of our network. We hope you will enjoy the new, contemporary look.

The Secretariat is sure that the new site will provide useful information in the fight against corruption. We are always looking for interesting contributions in the field of anti-corruption and police oversight from our members to publish on the website. Also, if you would like to give us feedback on the website or otherwise, please email us at secretariat@epac-eacn.org.



AVAILABLE SOON ! EPAC/EACN CONTACT CATALOGUE 2021

The EPAC/EACN Secretariat has almost completed the 17th edition of the EPAC/EACN Contact Catalogue. As in previous editions, it compiles facts and figures about our members based on entries received during the year.

This latest version of the Contact Catalogue will be available soon for download from our new website www.epac-eacn.org

AVAILABLE SOON

II EPAC/EACN COMMUNITY

HAUTE AUTORITÉ POUR LA TRANSPARENCE DE
LA VIE PUBLIQUE, FRANCE



Haute Autorité
pour la transparence
de la vie publique

A BUSY AGENDA FOR THE HATVP AT EUROPEAN LEVEL : THE HATVP'S ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2020

On 2 June 2021, the HATVP published [its activity report for 2020](#) (a synopsis is available in English). This was a record year for the institution, with 17,000 declarations received, the result of a busy political and electoral agenda, and a sign of sustained activity despite the health crisis.

In 2020, the HATVP received 17,113 declarations of interest and assets. It inspected 1,178 declarations of interest and 1,279 declarations of assets. Following these checks, 10 files were sent to the judiciary.

In 2020, the HATVP also carried out a new mission of controlling revolving doors of public officials and civil servants. In almost 95% of cases, the HATVP issued a compatibility opinion authorizing the professional project, but in one out of two cases, this opinion included measures to prevent a breach of criminal law (illegal interest) or an ethical risk.

The number of entities registered in the [public register of interest representatives](#) (lobbyists) rose by 12% in 2020 compared to 2019, with 2,183 registered. Four years after the establishment of this register, the HATVP recommends strengthening it with more complete and reliable information on lobbying.

The HATVP has made ten proposals aimed at making its activities even more effective by strengthening its investigative and supervisory powers and improving the legal framework relating to the public register of lobbyists.

The HATVP took over the secretariat of the European Lobbying Registrars' Network (ELRN) and contributed to the debate on a European independent ethics body

Control of declarations of assets and interests

17,113

Declarations
of interest and
assets received

53

External alerts
received

1,178

Declarations of
interest checked

1,279

Declarations of
assets checked

SOURCE: HATVP

TYPES OF ETHICAL OPINIONS ISSUED BY THE HIGH AUTHORITY IN 2020 (new controls introduced by the Act of 6 August 2019 on the transformation of civil service)



47.3% Pre-appointment check
37.2% Business creation or acquisition
15.5% Professional transition to the private sector

SOURCE: HATVP

In April 2021, the HATVP took over the secretariat of the European Lobbying Registrars' Network (ELRN). The ELRN is a forum where lobbying regulators and administrators can exchange experiences and share best practices in lobbying regulation.

The HATVP held discussions with the European Commission as well as with MEPs. As the creation of an independent European ethics body is currently being debated in the European Parliament, the HATVP shared its experience in [webinars on this topic](#).

The HATVP continued its bilateral exchanges at the European level

On 7 May, the HATVP [exchanged views with the National Transparency Authority and the Interior Ministry of Greece](#), in the context of the preparation of a lobbying regulation. On 9 April, the HATVP discussed with the National Integrity Agency of Moldova, following a [meeting in February between the President of the Republic of Moldova, Maia Sandu, and the President of the High Authority, Didier Migaud](#). On 26 March, the HATVP [was consulted by the National Council of the Slovak Republic](#), in the framework of the review of the Slovak national anti-corruption



SOURCE: HATVP

plan. On 18 March, the HATVP took part in a webinar organized in the framework of the EU4Justice project funded by the European Commission. The webinar aimed at raising awareness among Bosnian judges about the HATVP's mission to control and prevent conflicts of interest.

GARDA SÍOCHÁNA OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION, IRELAND



REPORT INTO COUNTERING THE THREAT OF INTERNAL CORRUPTION: A REVIEW OF COUNTER-CORRUPTION STRUCTURES, STRATEGIES AND PROCESSES IN THE GARDA SÍOCHÁNA

The National Review focused on the effectiveness of the Garda Síochána at preventing, detecting and mitigating against internal corruption. Specifically assessing the effectiveness of the Garda Síochána in relation to international standards and practices and the relevant factors affecting the following:

- Strategy and Governance; in terms of the identification and management of risk, internal and external oversight, and the current anti-corruption architecture and strategy.
- Building Organizational Resilience Against Corruption; in terms of selection, vetting, leadership and supervision, physical and systems security and procurement.
- Enhancing Professional Integrity; in terms of ethics and integrity training, organizational registers and disclosures, substance testing, transparent and ethical decision making, professional standards, and maintaining professional boundaries.
- Identifying and Investigating Corruption; in terms of protected and confidential disclosures, intelligence, investigation, regulation and information sharing.
- Reducing the Impact of Corruption; in terms of demonstrating an effective response to reports of corruption and organizational learning.

For the purposes of the inspection, the Inspectorate relied on the following commonly accepted definition of corruption used by a number of Government agencies, departments and commercial entities within Ireland:

“Corruption is an abuse of a position of trust in order to gain an undue advantage”.

Key Findings identified included:

- There is no strategic analysis of the threat of corruption in the Garda Síochána with leadership responsibilities for corruption spread across a number of areas.
- There are significant gaps in the guidance given to the Garda workforce in relation to maintaining professional boundaries, abuse of power for sexual gain and notification of relationships and associations to supervisors.
- There is an absence of policies and guidelines in important areas such as substance testing, business interests and post-employment activities.
- There are weaknesses in governance and supervision in areas of wide Garda discretion, such as discontinuances of district court cases, exemptions for Gardaí receiving fixed charge penalty notifications and charging for policing services.
- There is poor understanding of and confidence in the processes for reporting wrongdoing which prevents members of the Garda workforce from speaking up and reporting concerns.
- The Garda Síochána does not have the capacity for proactive real time internal monitoring of its information systems to prevent and detect the misuse of data.
- Organizational learning is not effectively used to prevent corruption.
- Improvements need to be made in the systems and processes for Garda workforce vetting, property management and information security.

The report is a comprehensive examination of the effectiveness of the Garda Síochána at preventing, detecting and mitigating the threat of internal corruption, it also assesses the structure, strategies and processes in place to counter corruption.

Commenting on the report Justice Minister Helen McEntee said:

"I would like to thank the Garda Inspectorate for their commitment, thoroughness and hard work in producing this report. The report provides a detailed examination of every aspect of An Garda Síochána's efforts to counter the risk of corruption within the organization. It is a report of substance and makes an important contribution to the ongoing work aimed at modernising An Garda Síochána and ensuring the highest standards of integrity and ethical behaviour are embedded across the organization".

During the course of the review, Hugh and his team encountered many examples of individuals and specific departments within the Garda Síochána developing policies and practices to enhance and support organizational integrity. However, the review found that a number of internationally recognised counter-corruption functions require development within the Garda Síochána.

The report makes 34 recommendations designed to deliver a more effective approach to countering the threat of corruption within the Garda Síochána. These include:

- The development of a multi-agency strategy to manage the corruption threats within the Garda Síochána and across the wider criminal justice sector.
- The appointment of a senior police leader with overall responsibility for counter corruption.
- The development of a strategic assessment of corruption threats, and the setting out of a counter-corruption control strategy that establishes priorities for action.
- The improvement of systems and processes for Garda workforce vetting, property management and information security.
- The development and implementation of policies and guidelines relating to conflicts of interest, the maintenance of professional boundaries, and the mitigation of the threat of Abuse of Power for Sexual Gain.
- The improvement of governance and supervision in areas where a wide degree of discretion exists.
- The development of a strategy to encourage the reporting of wrongdoing.

Contact: secretariat@gsoc.ie

Additional Information: <https://www.gsinsp.ie/countering-the-threat-of-internal-corruption/>

INSPECTORATE GENERAL OF HOME AFFAIRS (IGAI), PORTUGAL



FORCED RETURNS AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

IGAI's conference cycle on "Forced Returns and Fundamental Rights" – held in Portugal, targeted to multiple stakeholders.

IGAI is the public body responsible for monitoring forced return operations carried out by the Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service. This assignment was previously mandated to IGAI by a 2014 Ministerial Decree, but is now established by a national law (Decree-Law No. 22/2021 of 15 March, in force since 1 April 2021).

In the context of the European AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) project, IGAI has organized a cycle of conferences throughout the country on the topic of "Forced Returns and Fundamental Rights".

The conferences were designed to involve IGAI's observers and Immigration and Borders Service officers in charge of implementing forced return operations, as well as multiple stakeholders in these forced return cases — namely criminal and administrative judges, public prosecutors and lawyers. The purpose is to improve the quality of these various interventions in terms of respect for and protection of human dignity and the safeguard of fundamental rights that can potentially be disturbed by the course of the operations, e.g. the right to life and physical integrity or freedom of movement, rights that all human beings are entitled to regardless of their nationality, origin or social situation.

The third of four conferences in the cycle was now held in Albufeira on 27 May 2021. Previous conferences were held at Lisbon and Oporto in 2020, and the fourth will be held in the Azores next October.



Contact: José Manuel Vilalonga, Deputy Inspector-General, jvilalonga@igai.pt

Additional Information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkoNcYx9XFk>

INTERNAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS NETWORK (ICIN), SWEDEN



FIRST ICIN MEETING

The first digital meeting with the Internal Criminal Investigations Network (ICIN) was held on 6 May 2021. It was hosted by the Special Investigations Department (SU) of the Swedish Police.

The Special Investigations Department hosted the very first meeting for the new international network – Internal Criminal Investigations Network (ICIN) – an initiative of the Swedish Police on 6 May 2021.

The acting ICIN Executive Committee consists of Ms Ebba Sverne Arvill, Chair, Mr Willem Jan de Koning, Member and Mr Žydrūnas Butkevičius, Member. The first meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for September in Stockholm. The ICIN Annual General Meeting is planned for 23-24 November 2021.

ICIN is unique with currently 25 member organizations from 22 different countries in Europe and has its mandate within Europol. These organizations are responsible for gathering criminal intelligence and investigating cases where an employee within a police organization is suspected of a crime or criminal activity.

The aim of ICIN is to share best practices, facilitate the exchange of information and increase public confidence in the member organizations, police organizations in Europe and Europol.



SOURCE: ICIN

Contact: Stefan Andersson, ICIN Secretariat, icin@polisen.se

AGENCY FOR PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION,
MONTENEGRO



THE AGENCY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION OF MONTENEGRO PARTICIPATED IN THE ANTI - CORRUPTION PERFORMANCE „WHISTLE FOR THE END !” ORGANIZED BY THE RAI (REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE)

The Agency for the Prevention of Corruption, as the Montenegrin national coordinator for the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) and beneficiary institution of the regional project "Breaking the Silence: Enhancing the Whistleblowing Policies and Culture in the Western Balkans and Moldova", participated in the educational performance "Whistle for the end!". This performance aimed to illustrate the irreversible damage that corruption brings to society and encourage Montenegrin citizens to fight against this devastating phenomenon.

The Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (APC), as the Montenegrin national coordinator for the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI), participated in the educational anti-corruption performance "Whistle for the end!" organized in Podgorica, Montenegro, on 2 June 2021.

The aim of this 24-hour performance was to raise public awareness of how much of citizens' money is being destroyed due to corruption and what citizens can and must do to stop this. The symbolic title of the event ("Whistle for the end!") was intended to remind the public of their important and courageous role of reporting corruption and thus contributing to ending this destructive phenomenon.



SOURCE: ASK

The event showed the irreversible damage that corruption brings to society, by showing the amount of money being destroyed by corruption through a money-shredding installation and how individuals' actions and the mechanism of whistleblowing can stop it. At the end of the performance, Montenegrin society saved EUR 263,238 in 24 hours.

It is important to note that since its establishment in 2016, the Agency has been working continuously to encourage citizens to report corruption. Therefore, since 2016, 460 reports have been submitted to the APC, of which 40 in the first quarter of 2021, which is four times more than in the same period last



SOURCE: ASK

year. These data indicate the increasing trust of citizens in the work of the Agency and the rising awareness of the importance of taking concrete actions to tackle corruption.

This event is a part of the regional project "Breaking the Silence: Enhancing the Whistleblowing Policies and Culture in the Western Balkans and Moldova" implemented by the RAI with the aim of helping beneficiary institutions to strengthen protection

mechanisms for whistleblowers and to raise public awareness of the importance of whistleblowing in the fight against corruption.

Additional Information: <http://www.rai-see.org/the-citizens-of-podgorica-whistled-for-the-end-and-symbolically-stopped-corruption/>

<http://www.antikorupcija.me/en/news/2106111200-whistle-end/>

PREVENTION AND FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION OFFICE OF THE BALEARIC ISLANDS, SPAIN



OBSERVATORY FOR TRANSPARENCY, ETHICS AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY

The Prevention and Fight Against Corruption Office of the Balearic Islands has supported the launch of a civil society organization.

This civil society organization is targeted to set out a stable collaboration framework for the implementation of projects and civic actions aimed at promoting awareness and citizen participation regarding transparency, accountability, integrity and ethics in the performance of the duties of regional and local institutions of the Balearic Islands.

As other citizen observatories, the organization comes to be a social control mechanism enhancing citizen participation and the empowerment of society through the organization's commitment to making independent diagnoses, together with academia and experts, to promote, evaluate and monitor compliance of public institutions. The main goal is to help set the desired course for the community.

Ten entities take part in this observatory operating through four workshops:

1. Citizen audit of the public debt of the Balearic Government;
2. Participation in other national and international bodies preventing and combating corruption;
3. Impact on society of the “NextGenerationEU” funds;
4. Promotion of transparency in all public institutions, improvement of their transparency indexes, and proposal of a new transparency law for the Balearic Islands.

Contact: info@oaib.es

Additional Information: <https://oaib.es/observatorio-ciudadano/>

NATIONAL ANTICORRUPTION CENTER (NAC), REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



4INTEGRITY GAME

4integrity, anticorruption game for youth – an interactive and creative educational tool to identify the negative phenomenon of corruption and its impact on the development of society, launched by UNDP and National Anticorruption Center.

On 27 April 2021, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Moldova and the National Anticorruption Center (NAC) launched an online game that encourages young people to learn more about forms of corruption and mechanisms to fight it.

The “4integrity” game simulates a community where corruption is spreading and the player must block and eventually eliminate it. The virtual activity consists of small houses that represent both the inhabitants and the public institutions: municipality, hospital, police, school and kindergarten. The player must block corruption before it controls the public institutions, and in the final stage of the game, eliminate corruption completely from the community. “4integrity” has three levels – depending on the complexity of the questions the players are asked – volunteer, trainee, expert.

“It aims to teach young people not to give or take bribes, and also to encourage them to report corruption” mentioned Olga Crivoliubic, Project Manager, UNDP Moldova.

“We have developed the idea of a new education project that promotes game-based education through an innovative method. The game aims to educate society in the spirit of integrity and build the skills of resistance to the phenomenon of corruption” noted Ion Pruteanu, Head of Anticorruption Education Division, NAC. The questions for the game were developed with the involvement of a group

of NAC anticorruption volunteers, pupils and students from various educational institutions. The game was developed as part of the project “Curbing corruption by building sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova”, implemented by UNDP in partnership with the NAC and with financial support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Additional Information: <https://cna.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=5&id=3157&t=/Mass-media/Events/4integrity-anticorruption-game-for-youth-launched-by-UNDP-and-National-Anticorruption-Centre>
<https://www.4integrity.md/game/>

ANTICORRUPTION IDEAS CLUB

Anticorruption Ideas Club: 70 young people across Moldova will work for integrity. They will learn what corruption implies and how to prevent it, and then propose their own solutions to reduce this phenomenon.

Over 70 young people from across Moldova will participate in the second edition of the Anticorruption Ideas Club from May to October 2021. The event is organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the National Anticorruption Center (NAC) in partnership with the Youth Media Center.

Participants, aged between 15 and 20, were selected by a jury based on their answers to a questionnaire. At the club’s meetings, they learn to draft anticorruption messages to reach the public, but also to create media products, videos and images to express their pro-integrity ideas to be disseminated through social media and other communication platforms.

“The Anticorruption Ideas Club is an online community where every young person has the opportunity to learn about the risks and consequences of corruption and how to prevent this phenomenon. It is important for each of us to start by strongly condemning the phenomenon of corruption in order to succeed in curbing it,” mentioned one of the participants of the Club, Stas Cebotari from Drochia.

The Anticorruption Ideas Club will meet until the autumn of 2021, when the graduates will take part in a competition for media, video and text products. The most active six young people will have the chance to join the team of anticorruption volunteers under the National Anticorruption Center, and five participants will be awarded by UNDP Moldova.

The Anticorruption Ideas Club is organized within the framework of the project “Curbing corruption by building sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova”, implemented by UNDP Moldova with the support of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Additional Information: <https://cna.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=5&id=3179&t=/Mass-media/Events/Anticorruption-Ideas-Club-70-young-people-throughout-Moldova-will-engage-in-promoting-integrity>

THE PROFILE OF THE OFFENDER IN CORRUPTION CASES

The National Anticorruption Center's study: "The profile of the offender in corruption cases" has shown a greater predisposition of men to commit corruption offences.

92 per cent of men and 8 per cent of women – this is the data on the ratio of defendants by gender involved in the acts of passive and active corruption and influence peddling. The age of those convicted of corruption ranges from 35 to 45 years. These are the conclusions of a study by the Analytical Directorate (AD) of the NAC entitled "The Offender Profile in Passive Corruption, Active Corruption and Influence Peddling Cases Based on the Analysis of Corruption Sentences for 2020".

According to the document, women working in the public sector are less likely to commit acts of corruption than women in the private sector. However, this conclusion does not apply to men who work in either the private or public sectors; they are more predisposed to commit corruption offences. One thing is certain, the majority of those who commit corruption offences have not done so before.

The study data shows that involvement in corruption offences could be caused by the low salaries of the accused in the workplace and even the lack of sources of income to support their families. For example, the lack of a salary-earning activity/profession makes influence peddling a paid activity, even if it is illicit.

At the same time, the practice of "soliciting and giving bribes" may be the result of not applying sanctions to corrupt persons or applying penalties that are too lenient and do not prevent participation in corrupt activities. The application of non-custodial and lenient sentences significantly increases the number of acts of corruption and reduces public confidence in the judiciary, which is also considered to be the most affected sector in terms of corruption.

Additional Information: <https://cna.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=5&id=3198&t=/Mass-media/Events/The-NAC-study-the-profile-of-offender-in-corruption-cases-has-shown-a-greater-predisposition-of-men-to-commit-corruption-offences>

<https://cna.md/public/files/Studiu-PROFIL-202045dd1.pdf>

COURTS CONFRONT PETTY CORRUPTION CASES

A new study by the NAC on court verdicts shows that the courts have largely faced cases of petty corruption.

The analysis of verdicts handed down in corruption cases and acts related to corruption shows that influence peddling is the most frequent verdict pronounced by courts in 2020. Therefore, most verdicts were passed for persons who committed influence peddling and active corruption crimes, followed by verdicts for passive corruption. The data was provided in the recent study, which was elaborated by the NAC Analytical Directorate.

According to the study, among the persons charged with corruption offences and corruption-related acts are employees who hold positions of responsibility, some of them in management positions. Thus, it was found that persons employed in the public sector were reportedly willing to risk their positions in exchange for obtaining some illicit benefits.

In most of the corruption cases that the courts expressed their opinion on, the amount of the bribe was minor. Among the sentences analyzed there were also acts of corruption on a large scale, and this fact may mean the non-criminal prosecution of major corrupt officials.

The study was developed with the support of the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office. Various aspects related to the verdicts delivered in corruption cases, as well as conclusions and recommendations by experts, can be found in the detailed study document.

Additional Information: <https://cna.md/libview.php?l=en&idc=5&id=3165&t=/Mass-media/Events/A-new-study-of-court-verdicts-made-by-the-NAC-shows-that-the-courts-were-largely-confronted-with-cases-of-petty-corruption>

<https://cna.md/public/files/Studiusentinte2020b5acd.pdf>

CORRUPTION PREVENTION AND COMBATING BUREAU, LATVIA



UNGASS 2021 – SIDE EVENT ON "ENHANCING PUBLIC INTEGRITY"

This event gave a regional perspective on how states can promote integrity by using different approaches.

On 2 June 2021, the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau of Latvia (KNAB) held a side event at the UNGASS ("Special Session of the UN General Assembly against Corruption") together with colleagues from the Special Investigation Service of Lithuania (STT) and the Central Anti-Corruption

Bureau of Poland (CBA). The goal of the event, supported by UNODC and the Permanent Mission of Latvia to the UN in New York, was to provide accumulated expertise for anti-corruption capacity building by sharing practical experience.

Mr Constantine Palicarsky, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer from UNODC, briefly reviewed the international legal framework, highlighting that integrity was one of the underlying principles of the UNCAC. Mr Palicarsky outlined risks to integrity, both internal and external, as well as UNODC's current work in promoting integrity. Ms Diana Kazina, KNAB, presented the internal control system that all public institutions of Latvia had to implement before the end of 2018. These internal control environments contain activities and measures for increasing integrity in institutions adapted to their specific characteristics.

Mr Pawel Rutkowski, CBA, spoke on the experience of introducing a commonly available, free e-learning platform with three training modules on anti-corruption topics in both Polish and English.

Ms Ruta Kaziliunaite, STT, explained the Lithuanian Integrity Academy, a free platform for sharing and improving anti-corruption expertise among experts of public institutions and civil society. The platform offers various webinars as well as external expertise on assessing participants' integrity framework.

The presentations were followed by a short discussion on the topics mentioned above. H.E. Ambassador Mr Andrejs Pildegovičs of Latvia moderated the event.

Contact: Diana Kazina, Chief Inspector, diana.kazina@knab.gov.lv

Additional Information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwecNhpATMI>

III INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION ACADEMY (IACA)



IACA OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF STANDARDIZED ONLINE AND TAILOR -MADE TRAININGS AND MASTER 'S PROGRAMMES, COVERING VARIOUS ANTI -CORRUPTION AND COMPLIANCE -RELATED TOPICS

The Academy launched various new online courses, dealing with different topics related to anti-corruption and compliance, including the role of new technologies in the global fight against corruption, mutual legal assistance, auditing, ethics and integrity management, investigation, asset disclosure, journalism and anti-corruption, etc.

Applications for the new classes of the Master in Anti-Corruption Studies (MACS) and International Master in Anti-Corruption Compliance and Collective Action (IMACC) are open on IACA website, for programmes to begin in October this year in a fully online format.

In partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), IACA has developed a two-year master's programme (hybrid format) and a 6-month Executive Diploma training (online), both covering anti-corruption as well as diplomacy topics and commencing in September this year. Applications for these two programmes can be filed through IACA webpage.

The 11th edition of the International Anti-Corruption Summer Academy will be delivered online from 4 to 10 September 2021. The 7-day training will focus on topical issues such as corruption during the COVID-19 pandemic and regional case studies. Applications are open on IACA website until 13 August 2021.

IACA's tailor-made trainings address the specific anti-corruption and compliance needs of individual organizations. Currently, tailor-made trainings are offered virtually. A detailed catalogue of all online courses, as well as information on master's programmes and tailor-made trainings is available on IACA website.

Additional Information:

<https://www.iaca.int>

<https://www.iaca.int/iaca-programmes/online-training/training-catalogue.html>

<https://www.iaca.int/iaca-programmes.html>

<https://www.iaca.int/iaca-programmes/academic-programmes/master-in-anti-corruption-and-diplomacy.html>

<https://www.iaca.int/iaca-programmes/open-trainings/summer-academy.html>

EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE



LAUNCH OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ON 1 JUNE 2021

As of 1 June 2021, the European Public Prosecutor's Office is up and running. This opens a new chapter in fighting cross-border fraud and corruption.

On 1 June, the European Commission announced the start of operations of the first supranational prosecution service to protect EU taxpayers' money, the European Public Prosecutor's Office, EPPO. The EPPO is competent to investigate and prosecute crimes such as fraud, corruption, money laundering and cross-border VAT fraud.

In 2019 alone, EU Member States reported fraud affecting EUR 460 million of the EU budget. Such fraudulent activities have a direct impact on people's everyday lives, inflicting serious economic damage.

Now, the EPPO steps in to strengthen the protection of the EU budget in complementarity with the European Anti-Fraud Office, OLAF. The two offices will observe the implementation of "NextGenerationEU" with an eagle eye to make sure funds will reach the economy and EU citizens. EUR 750 billion in loans and grants are at stake.

Similarly to OLAF, the EPPO is fully independent. It will prosecute and bring the suspected perpetrators of crimes to justice in the 22 participating EU Member States. Sweden has expressed its interest and is planning to join the EPPO in 2022.

Additional Information:

European Commission webpage: [European Public Prosecutor's Office \(the EPPO\)](#)

[EPPO website](#)

[Factsheet](#): The European Public Prosecutor's Office (the EPPO)

[Q&A](#): Launch of the activities of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO)

IV PUBLICATIONS & EVENTS

UNODC PUBLICATION



THE TIME IS NOW – ADDRESSING THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION

Are women any less corrupt than men? Many would instinctively say “yes, probably”, even if they had not reflected on the issue before. When asked in public opinion surveys whether men or women are more corrupt, far greater numbers of respondents tend to pick men, though this varies across countries. When polled about policy preferences, those who prioritize a need for more ethical government are more likely to say they intend to vote for a female candidate. What is the relationship between gender and corruption? Research into links between gender and corruption began around the turn of the millennium with studies commissioned by the World Bank that reported correlations between the proportion of women in positions of power in different countries and anti-corruption measures in those countries. The preliminary conclusion seemed clear: with more women in power there was less corruption.



Seeking to explore this interconnectedness between gender equality and corruption, UNODC held an expert group meeting in Bangkok in 2018 bringing together 26 participants from United Nations agencies and other international organizations, anti-corruption authorities and other national criminal justice practitioners, as well as civil society and academia, with the aim of exploring actionable recommendations on how to mainstream gender in anti-corruption programming. Building on the outcome of the meeting, the present publication attempts to delve deeper into this topic and discern the origins of the themes that were discussed in order to support and substantiate them with academic and other research sources.

Additional Information: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/gender/gender-and-corruption.html>

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL EVENT

TRANSPARENCY
SCHOOL DOT
ORG

TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
Lietuvos skyrius

MRU
MYKOLAS ROMERIS
UNIVERSITY

APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSPARENCY SCHOOL 2021 ARE NOW OPEN !

Transparency School is the world's leading summer course on anti-corruption. Since 2010, it has welcomed more than 1,300 future leaders from more than 120 countries worldwide.

The School introduces its participants to the latest developments in anti-corruption and accountability and helps young people put their ideas into practice.



Additional Information: <https://transparencyschool.org/>
