

PRESS RELEASE

13 July, 2016

Yerevan

of the "Corruption Risks in the Field of Public Procurement and State Property Privatisation" Anti-Corruption Event

On 14 July, 2016 the Armenian Lawyers' Association is organising an anti-corruption event entitled "Corruption Risks in the Field of Public Procurement and State Property Privatisation". The event will be held in Darist Hotel, Kapan. The event is aimed at revealing the corruption risks in the field of public procurement and state property privatisation, as well as outlining respective solutions to the existing problems.

The event is organised in the scope of the "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project funded by the EU and co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. Representatives from the EU Delegation to Armenia, the OSCE Office in Yerevan, the RA Government, other state bodies, governing bodies of Syunik Region, business organisations and associations, civil society organisations and mass media, as well as the Armenian Lawyers' Association, including the experts of the "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" Project will be attending the event.

Mr. Karen Zadoyan, the President of the Armenian Lawyers' Association (ALA), the Coordinator of the Secretariat of the CSO Anti-Corruption Coalition of Armenia, Ms. Naira Gyulnazaryan, the Coordinator of Anti-Corruption Projects at the OSCE Office in Yerevan, Mr. Vardan Davtyan, a Deputy Governor of Syunik, Mr. Ashot Hayrapetyan, the Mayor of Kapan, and Mr. Vahe Mahtesyan, the Head of the Procurement Process Regulation and Coordination Division of the Internal Public Financial Oversight and Public Procurement Methodology Department of the Staff of the RA Ministry of Finance.

The welcoming speeches will be followed by reports and presentations on the corruption risks in the field of public procurement and state property privatisation, the dangers coming from offshore zones, implemented reforms and the need for public control in this field. Based on the corruption risks that will be identified at the event, possible solutions to the existing problems will be presented and discussed. The suggestions, after being summarised in the event report, will further be used in contributing to the implementation of reforms in the field of public procurement and state property privatisation and to the significant reduction of the existing problems in the scope of the above-mentioned "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project.

The project aims to increase the role of the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in promoting anti-corruption reforms and their implementation. In the framework of the project the capacity of CSOs and the media to engage in monitoring and watchdog activities will be built. Anti-corruption training workshops will be organised throughout Armenia with the purpose of enabling CSOs and media organisations to better comprehend the issues related to anti-corruption and freedom of information. These activities aim at deepening the existing opportunities for carrying out anti-corruption activities. Small grants will be given for raising the effectiveness of public monitoring and implementation of appropriate monitoring, watchdog and investigative activities. A sustainable dialogue between CSOs and the Government will be developed with the participation of CSOs, to strengthen the anti-corruption institutional mechanisms.

The project is funded by the European Union and co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. It is implemented by the "Armenian Lawyers' Association" NGO – Applicant and "Freedom of Information Center" NGO – Partner. The project duration is 3 years (January 2014 – December 2016) and the budget is 650,000 EUR, of which 585,000 EUR was contributed by the EU and 31,117 EUR was contributed by the OSCE Office in Yerevan.

Armenian Lawyers' Association (ALA) was established in 1995 with a Mission to promote to the establishment of the rule of law, democracy and formation of the civil society in Armenia, where the people are aware of their rights and where their rights are protected. Before February 2016, ALA was called Armenian Young Lawyers Association.

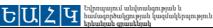
Freedom of Information Center (FOI) operates over 10 years. The Mission of FOI is to promote application of the RA Freedom of Information Law, contribute to the transparency and openness of the Armenian government system and to stimulate civic society's involvement in the governance system. For more information please contact Mrs. Narine Karapetyan, the PR Coordinator, on business days from 9:00-18:00. Tel.: 540199; Fax: 580299; URL: http://www.armla.am.



The Project is fundedThe European Commission is the EU's executiveby the European Union.body.

Delegation of the European Union to Armenia Tel.: +37410 54 64 94 Fax: +37410 54 64 95 The European Union is made up of 28 Member

States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".



The Project is co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. Tel.: +374 10 229610 Fax: +374 10 229615

The OSCE Office in Yerevan has been operating since 1999, 0010 and its mission is to support Armenia in developing its democratic institutions and strengthening civil society, Tel.: acting in the areas of legislative reform; combating Fax: corruption and trafficking; environmental activities; raising awareness for human rights; media freedom; gender equality, etc.



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