

## News



### **Bulgaria: Eleventh Anti-Corruption Policy Forum: Anti-Corruption Policies against State Capture**

*On 11 December 2014 the Center for the Study of Democracy organized its Eleventh Anti-Corruption Policy Forum. During the event CSD presented and discussed the Bulgarian Corruption Assessment Report: Anti-Corruption Policies against State Capture. The tenth issue of the report provides an overview of the state of corruption and anticorruption in Bulgaria in 2013 – 2014. The report is produced within the framework of the SELDI initiative.*

**Center for the Study of Democracy, 11 December, 2014.**

### **Bulgaria: US Embassy: Corruption in Bulgaria Has Reached Crisis Level**

*Bruce Berton, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy in Sofia, has claimed that Bulgaria is plagued by crisis-level corruption which takes its toll on all citizens. "Unfortunately, I am afraid that corruption in Bulgaria has reached a critical level which has a negative impact on the life of each and every citizen," he declared. Sofia News Agency, 11 December, 2014.*

### **Kosovo: Presentation of the Kosovo Corruption Assessment Report**

*The RIINVEST Institute organized a conference entitled Open Government in Kosovo on 1 December 2014 to present to the Kosovo public the findings of the SELDI Corruption Monitoring System. The presentation and discussion focused on the involvement and pressure for corruption, and the attitudes, acceptability and susceptibility, to corrupt practices. The media picked up on the ranking of the most corrupt government institutions as perceived by the surveyed citizens. RIINVEST Institute and SELDI, 1 December, 2014*

### **Macedonia: Regional Conference on Trends and Challenges in Implementing Anti-corruption Strategies**

*The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI) and the Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC), in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia, organized a regional conference in Skopje on the Trends and Challenges in Implementing Anti-corruption Strategies. The participants concluded that the effectiveness of a national anti-corruption strategies depend to a great extent on whether they have been designed taking into consideration the country's context and main corruption challenges.*

**RAI-SEE and Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC), 25 November, 2014.**

### **Montenegro: Montenegro Opens New Chapters with EU**

*The EU's new approach to membership negotiations, which is being implemented for the first time with Montenegro, means that Chapters 23 and 24 are to be kept open until the negotiations end. The EU's 2014 Progress Report on Montenegro, released in October, criticised Podgorica's performance in the fight against organised crime and corruption. BalkanInsight, 16 December, 2014.*

### **Romania: Former Organized Crime and Terrorism Chief Prosecutor, Alina Bica allegedly received a EUR 3.5 M bribe from businessman Ioan Niculae**

*The former Organized Crime and Terrorism Chief Prosecutor, Alina Bica would have received a bribe amounting EUR 3,5 million from businessman Ioan Niculae through ex-Vice premier Liviu Dragnea, in order to intervene in solving Niculae's file at DIICOT. She allegedly was promised the position of General Prosecutor. Romania-Insider.com, 14 December, 2014.*

### **Serbia: Parties Lack Anti-corruption Mechanisms**

*Political parties in Serbia either lack the mechanisms and procedures to fight corruption, or they are inefficient, said the participants of a conference on fighting corruption in Serbia and the role of political institutions. This conclusion is based on results of a survey conducted by the non-governmental Bureau for Social Research (BIRODI) in the second half of 2014. Most political parties in Serbia are highly prone to corruption, states BIRODI. RAI-SEE, 9 December, 2014.*

## Turkey: Ban on Coverage of Corruption Probe's Questioning of Four Former Ministers

Civil society organizations urge Turkey's judicial system to reverse an Ankara court's political and totally disproportionate decision on 25 November to ban media coverage of the questioning of four former ministers by a parliamentary commission that is investigating major corruption allegations. **Reporters without borders, 27 November, 2014.**

## Upcoming Events

**TRACE Anti-Bribery Roundtable**, 20 January 2015, Sydney, Australia. Hosted by TRACE Anti-Bribery Compliance Solutions.

**7th Russia & CIS Summit on Anti-Corruption**, 24-25 March, 2015, Moscow, Russia. Hosted by the American Conference Institute.

## Reports and Analyses

### **Kosovo Corruption Assessment Report: Corruption and Anti-corruption in Kosovo 2013-2014**

*The Kosovo Corruption Assessment Report discusses the national strategy on corruption, the recent anti-corruption policy measures, and the regulatory environment. The report also measures the public significance of corruption, its penetration and dynamics. In conclusion it provides policy recommendations for corruption counter-measures.*

**SELDI / INSTITUTI RIINVEST, 1 December 2014.**



### **Bulgarian Corruption Assessment Report: Anti-Corruption Policies against State Capture**



ANTI-CORRUPTION  
POLICIES AGAINST  
STATE CAPTURE

*In the Corruption Assessment Report, the Center for the Study of Democracy provides an overview of the state of corruption and anticorruption in Bulgaria in 2013 – 2014. The report's findings are based on the state-of-the-art Corruption Monitoring System, and are complemented with recommendations on anti-corruption policies. The report argues that Bulgaria needs bold institutional anti-corruption reforms and personal commitment at the highest level in the judiciary and the executive to tackle state capture and wide-spread administrative corruption.*

**SELDI / Center for the Study of Democracy, 11 December 2014.**

### **International Anti-corruption Normative Framework: the State of the Art**

*This article paves the way for the empirical research introducing the global anti-corruption framework. First the author looks into the main debates in International Relations on norm compliance. It is showed how international anti-corruption norms took root by tracing the development of various regional and international legal instruments. Also, the UNCAC is analysed in more detail, as it has been recognised as a reference framework for the fight against corruption.*

**Aram Khaghaghordyan, Hertie School of Governance/ANTICORRP, 11 December 2014.**

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