

News by SELDI members

Bosnia and Herzegovina: CIN wins Anti-Corruption Network Award



Mirjana Popović, working at SELDI's partner Center for Investigative Reporting (CIN) in Sarajevo won the Anti-Corruption Network Award for the best reporting in 2014. She revealed irregularities with the procession of accommodation allowances of four FBiH government ministers. She already received the second award of the European Union for Investigative Reporting in BiH for her revelation. **CIN, 26 June 2015.**

Photo: Center for Investigative Reporting, BiH

Macedonia: Conference for development of hidden economy task force

The Center for the Study of Democracy and the Center for Research and Policy Making held a conference on developing a hidden economy task force in Republic of Macedonia. Ms Marija Risteska, Director of the Center for Research and Policy Making reinforced the task force idea as a knowledge exchange platform, as well as a nucleus for encouraging cooperation, generation of recommendations and measures that can be forwarded or presented to the Economic and Social Council at the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MLSP). **SELDI, 19 June 2015.**



Photo: Center for Research and Policy Making, Macedonia

Montenegro: Milivoje Katnic – first head of Montenegrin USKOK

Former judge of the Appellate Court of Montenegro, Milivoje Katnic, has been elected the Chief Special Prosecutor of the newly formed Special Public Prosecutor's Office, dubbed Montenegrin USKOK. At the session of the Prosecution Council, chaired by the Supreme State Prosecutor, Ivica Stankovic, interviews with the candidates for the position of the Chief Special Prosecutor were held and the appointment of Mr Katnic recommended. Members of the Council unanimously approved Mr Stankovic's propose. **RAI, 23 June, 2015.**

Montenegro: Through effective control of public procurement against corruption



The Law on Public Procurement does not adequately regulate monitoring of the implementation of the agreement, which facilitates corruption, was the conclusion of the yesterday's panel discussion "How to fight against corruption in public procurement?" organised by SELDI's partner Institut Alternativa (IA) and supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands. **Institut Alternativa, 25 June 2015**

Photo: Institut Alternativa, Montenegro

Montenegro: Respect life, return weapons

The Center for Democratic Transition (CDT), in collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior, OSCE, and UNDP, launched the campaign "Respect life, return weapons". Montenegrin citizens can call numbers 080 888 888 or 122 (from 9AM to 8PM) free of charge and return illegal weapons without any legal consequences. Upon receiving a call, CDT and Police Directorate teams will go an owner and take the weapon, without asking questions about its origin. **CDT, 26 June 2015.**



Photo: CDT, Montenegro



Photo: Albanian Media Institute

Investigative Journalism Summer School

The Albanian Media Institute organized a Summer School on Investigative Journalism in Tirana, from June 1 to 12. The participants were introduced to the main principles of investigative journalism, such as use of sources and their attribution, interviewing techniques, establishment of pool of contacts and databases, corroboration of information, in-depth reporting, etc. **Albanian Media Institute, 1 June 2015**

Round table "Enhancing the work of state institutions in the fight against corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina"

On 15.06.2015 the Center for Civil Society Development, SELDI member from Bosnia and Herzegovina, organized a round table dedicated to the enhancement of the work of state institutions in the fight against corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Among the roundtable participants were representatives of the Ministry of Justice, the Agency for Promotion of Foreign Investments in BiH, local authorities, CSOs, citizens. **3 July 2015, Center for Civil Society Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina**



Photo: Center for Civil Society Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Anti-corruption News from the SEE Region

Romania: Investigation against Romanian Prime Minister

The Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta is confronted with investigations against him in association to cases of forgery, tax evasion and money laundering. The National Anticorruption Directorate is now investigating. **Novinite, 05 June 2015.**

Kosovo: Institutions are not efficient in fighting corruption referring to released statistics

The "Speak" movement reports that a large number of corruption cases were identified, but only few of them have been solved, referring to newly published anti-corruption statistics. **Ibna, 02 June, 2015.**

Upcoming Events

Regional Conference "Open Government, Engaged Citizens - A Learn and Show Initiative to Make Open Government Partnership Work", September 11-12, 2015, Tirana, Albania.

The Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organisations (TACSO) Regional Office organises a regional conference aimed to provide a forum for reflection, concerning challenges and obstacles to open government and effective initiatives in order to overcome them. An enhanced civil society shall be enabled to advance inclusive, accountable and transparent governance and policymaking. Regional Cooperation will be the key priority of the event. TACSO.

Reports and Analyses

US Department of State "Macedonia 2014 Human Rights Report"

The new 'Macedonia 2014 Human Rights Report' by the US Department of State points out several shortcomings the country is facing. 'Significant levels of corruption' and 'interference in the judiciary, as well as selective prosecution' are mentioned. Serious problems remain 'political interference, inefficiency, favoritism toward well-placed persons prolonged processes [and] violations of the right to public trial'. US Department of State.

“Analysis on the Justice System in Albania – 2015”

A profound report about the functioning of the Albanian justice system has been presented on June 8, 2015 in Tirana. It was elaborated by the Parliament Special Committee and High Level Expert Groups and contains a law system analysis, a law reform analysis and an action plan. NCPB, 9 June 2015.



Photo: EU Delegation to Albania at flickr.com

Guide to screening report for Chapter 23 - judiciary and fundamental rights (publication forthcoming)

The book is realized in cooperation of the Belgrade Center for Security Policy, Belgrade Center for Human Rights and GIZ Programme for legal and judicial reforms in Serbia. BCSP Director Sonja Stojanovic Gajic is co-author of the publication. The guide book is intended for the media, civil society, state institutions, organizations and the general public that is interested in the process of negotiation with EU and in particular to Chapter 23 (judicial reform, fight against corruption and fundamental rights).

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