

News

Albania: SELDI Regional Conference on Good Governance and Anti-corruption Policy Challenges



The SELDI initiative held a Regional Conference in Tirana, Albania on 13-14 November 2014. The event was hosted in collaboration with the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI). Given the major significance of the corruption issue in the SEE region, the conference contributed to promoting the civil society - state dialogue in identifying effective counter-measures. The countries from the region discussed the main findings and lessons learnt from analyzing the corruption manifestations and applied national anti-corruption policies. SELDI presented its Regional Anti-corruption Report.

SELDI, 13-14 November 2014.

Bulgaria: Seven Bulgarian Customs Officials Charged with Bribe-Taking

Seven customs officials, including the Director of the crossing point, have been charged with participating in an organized crime group involved in bribe-taking at the Lesovo border crossing point. The total sum of money confiscated by the authorities so far amounts to BGN 220 000.

Sofia News Agency, 4 November 2014.

Kosovo: Corruption within EULEX gives a blow to the justice system

A number of the biggest NGOs in the country, such as the Kosovo Civil Society Fund (KCSF), SPEAK Movement, Kosovo Fund for Open Society (KFOS), etc, have reacted today by expressing their concern over the latest developments within EULEX. "Faith in the work of EULEX has dropped recently. With such lack of faith, EULEX and the entire justice system in the country, will have more difficulties in convincing citizens of Kosovo that they're working for the rule of law in the country", reads the statement.

BalkanEU, 3 November 2014.

Macedonia: Corruption is becoming a common thing in FYROM, says head of TI

Head of Transparency International in FYROM, Sladjana Taseva said that she agrees with the declaration issued by the US ambassador to Skopje, Paul Wohlers that the fact that in 2013, there was no conviction for corruption, it's sad. She said that the Anti-corruption Commission must investigate all government people and not have former officials as a priority.

Independent Balkan News Agency, 15 October 2014.

Moldova: Money-Laundering Case Puts Judiciary on the Spot

A money-laundering scandal is casting Moldova's judiciary in an unfavorable light and is raising concerns about the government's commitment to reforms needed to keep European Union integration on track. A lack of transparency has marked the official response to the scandal as well.

RAI-SEE, 30 October 2014.

Montenegro: Montenegro Rushes Through Anti-Lobbying Law

After the EU criticized its anti-corruption measures, Montenegro is hurriedly pushing through an anti-lobbying law aimed at making decision-making processes more transparent. With penalties of up to 20,000 euros, the government aims to curb lobbying-related corruption in the public sector - the illegal involvement of public officials, failures to report contacts with lobbyists, as well as receipts of gifts and services.

BalkanInsight, 27 October 2014.

Romania: Another Romanian businessman targeted in corruption case

According to the National Anticorruption Direction, Calin Mitica is accused of constituting an organized criminal group and other delinquencies such as bribery, money laundering, instigation to abuse of office, influence peddling, complicity in influence purchase, in bribery and money laundering, in continuous form. The seven were presented in Cluj Court with the proposition of preventive arrest for 30 days.

Romania-Insider.com, 30 October 2014.

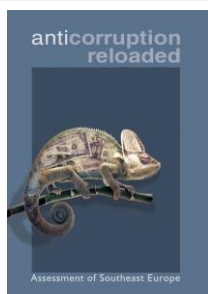
Upcoming Events

Regional Conference on Trends and Challenges in Implementing Anti-corruption Strategies, 25 November 2014, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia. Hosted by the Centre for Security Cooperation and the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI), in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia.

Third Annual Asia-Pacific Summit on Anti-Corruption, Compliance and Risk Management, 3-4 December 2014, Singapore, Singapore. Hosted by the American Conference Institute.

Promoting Sustainable Development and Reduction of Illegal Migration and Human trafficking, 15-17 December 2014, Bestovje, Croatia. Hosted by the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

Reports and Analyses



SELDI Regional Anti- corruption Report

*The SELDI initiative published its Regional Anti-corruption report, entitled **Anti-Corruption Reloaded: Assessment of Southeast Europe**. The EU accession prospects for the countries in the region – though distant – provide an enabling framework for action but it is local stakeholders, and in particular civil society who can bring about sustained progress in anti-corruption. SELDI has made the in-depth diagnosing and understanding of corruption and governance gaps in the region one of its main priorities, as a requisite condition for its advocacy of knowledge-driven anticorruption policies. This SELDI report fits in the development and implementation framework of the emerging regional anticorruption policy and infrastructure as exemplified by the SEE2020 Strategy's Governance Pillar run by the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative.*

SELDI, 13 November 2014

State-of-the-art report on theories and harmonised concepts of corruption

Corruption is what in the social sciences is known as an “essentially contested concept”. From the perspective of carrying in empirical research of what constitute successful anti-corruption policies this is certainly a problem.

Bo Rothstein, Quality of Government Institute/ANTICORRP, 28 October 2014

Report on institutional performance and corruption in Bosnia, Kosovo, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Tanzania and Turkey

The report draws on ethnographic research undertaken in 8 countries which are the object of investigation. The data analyzed comparatively refer to three main fields: perceived and experienced performance of local institutions, local problem and resolution ideas, sociocultural norms and values.

Davide Torsello, University of Bergamo/ANTICORRP, 28 October 2014.

Transparency in corporate reporting: assessing the world's largest companies

This report evaluates the transparency of corporate reporting by the world's 124 largest publicly listed companies. The report assesses the disclosure practices of companies on their anti-corruption programmes, company holdings and the disclosure of key financial information.

Transparency International, 5 November 2014.

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