



## News

### Albania and Kosovo taking steps against corruption

Albania and Kosovo are taking definitive actions to reduce corruption, with government-proposed measures to address graft among judges, prosecutors, lawyers and other public employees that participate in anti-corruption efforts.

SETimes.com, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2014.

### Experts call for action to fight corruption in Croatia's healthcare sector

Experts and activists are calling for Croatia to strengthen anti-corruption efforts, especially in its healthcare system. Croatia's Corruption Perceptions Index is 48 points, below the EU's average score of 62.2, according to Transparency International Croatia. In a recent case, Croatia's Bureau for Suppression of Corruption and Organised Crime indicted 364 people, many of them reportedly general practice doctors, and generic drugs manufacturer Farmal, for conspiracy to commit crime, bribery, abuse of office and to commit and incite abuse of power.

SETimes.com, 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

### Corruption and political interference burden Albania's judicial system

"The high level of corruption in the judiciary seriously impedes the proper functioning of the judiciary and undermines public trust in justice and the rule of law in Albania. The authorities have to step up their efforts to ensure that all cases of corruption in the judiciary are effectively investigated and prosecuted", said Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, releasing today a report following his visit to the country from 23 to 27 September 2013.

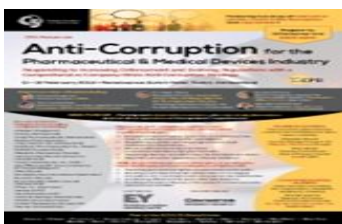
The Council of Europe (Directorate of Communication), 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

### OSCE to continue supporting Montenegro's rule of law, fight against crime and corruption, human rights, media freedom

Podgorica, Montenegro (29 January 2014) - Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) will continue supporting Montenegro in its efforts to strengthen the rule of law, fight against crime and corruption, and promotion and protection of human rights and media freedom, Janina Hrebickova, the OSCE Ambassador to Montenegro, emphasised at today's meeting with Montenegro's Deputy Prime Minister and Justice Minister Duško Marković.

Government of Montenegro (PR Bureau), 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

## Upcoming Events



Anti-Corruption Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Industry, 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 - C5 Forum, Zurich, Switzerland



Annual Forum on Combating Corruption in the EU 2014, 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 - Academy of European Law, Trier, Germany



Anti-Corruption - Spain, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 - C5 Forum, Madrid, Spain



**European Fraud Conference**, 23<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 - Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), Amsterdam, the Netherlands

**ICAGGHR 2014: International Conference on Anti-Corruption, Good Governance and Human Rights**, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 - World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, Madrid, Spain

## Reports and Analyses

### Report on the progress in Bulgaria under the Co-operation and Verification Mechanism

*The report presents the Commission's analysis on the steps Bulgaria has taken in the past eighteen months and shows where further steps are needed.*

**The European Commission, Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2014**

### EU-Anti-Corruption Report

*This is the first comprehensive study of corruption in the European Union. The report includes information on corruption levels in all the EU Member States and on the perception of European citizens. Notably, three quarters (76%) of Europeans think that corruption is widespread and more than half (56%) think that the level of corruption in their country has increased over the past three years.*

**The European Commission, Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2014**

### Democracy in Crisis: Corruption, Media, and Power in Turkey

*"Turkey's government is improperly using its leverage over media to limit public debate about government actions and punish journalists and media owners who dispute government claims, deepening the country's political and social polarization", Freedom House concludes in a report issued on February 3.*

**Freedom House (Special Report), 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2014**

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