



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



REGIONAL
ANTI-CORRUPTION
INITIATIVE

Activity Overview

Regional Workshop

“Effective tools for prevention and fight against corruption in the Security Sector - Regional challenges”

IRC-L1-W-20

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Rakitje, Croatia
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Venue Rakitje, Stari Hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, Republic of Croatia

Background According to the available international and regional assessments and reports (EU, Council of Europe, UNODC, Transparency International) corruption still poses one of the main challenges in South East Europe. Thus, continuous efforts in curbing corruption are needed both regarding prevention and suppression in order to reduce it and eliminate potential risks of any kind of misbehaviour. A proper system of individual and organizational integrity should be developed in the defence sector by introducing and developing ethical and conflict of interest rules accompanied by a proper system of management corruption risks through creating and realizing integrity plans as an integral part of the national anti-corruption policies and strategies in the security sector.

Due to its specificities the defence sector has been identified as one of the sectors with high risks for misconducts and corruption. Many corruption risks have been detected such as lack of transparency, conflict of interest, lack of financial control, trading in confidential information, nepotism, and other new forms of corruption, unethical and improper behaviour.

Although all states have adopted a legal framework on whistleblowing there are many cases of retaliation towards the whistleblowers and lack of their adequate protection. Therefore, a lot needs to be done in respect of promoting safe disclosure channels, adequate protection of whistleblowers and the change of public perception and culture of negative stereotyping. The representatives of the defence sector should be familiar with whistleblowing policies as a strong anti-corruption tool in detecting and revealing corruption and other illegal activities.

In parallel, in the field of corruption suppression, the contemporary forms of high-level corruption require a new approach in the effective processing of corruption cases such as specialization, and advanced knowledge and skills of the criminal justice practitioners in order to use new innovative tools and platforms. Hence, the representatives from the defence sector should be familiar with relevant evidence in detecting and investigating corruption cases, especially those related to the defence and police and advance cooperation with the law enforcement agencies and the judiciary.

Being aware of the fact that both prevention and the fight against corruption in the defence sector pose a common challenge in the region, and considering that this specific topic needs to be treated multi-disciplinarily, RACVIAC in cooperation with RAI and have initiated joint activities in this field. The main focus of this year's event will be on continuation of dialogue and exchange of experiences gained in 2016 and 2019.

Purpose and Objectives The general objective of the Workshop is to increase the capacity of the relevant entities in the ministries of defence and ministries of internal affairs - internal control units, professional standards units, Anti-Corruption agencies and other relevant institutions in the field of corruption risk assessment and integrity - to increase awareness about whistleblowers' protection and the needed legal solutions.

Participants will in parallel become familiar with the national case-law on corruption cases and through exchange of views and group discussions will discuss the effectiveness of processing corruption cases and modalities how to promote the exchange of information among LEAs, judiciary and the security sector.

The Workshop's main objectives are:

- To provide the participants with advanced knowledge on the relevant international standards and useful tools for prevention and suppression of corruption
- To obtain an oversight of the main regional stakeholders and actors, competent bodies and institutions
- To elaborate the relevant case studies and address the common challenges and problems
- To discuss and exchange best practices and lessons learned in the field of building integrity, whistleblowing policies and future challenges thereto
- To develop mutual contacts and networking among the participants from South East Europe
- To outline the most demanding common challenges in South East Europe and future actions in the field of prevention and fight against corruption and promoting regional cooperation between anti-corruption bodies, law enforcement and judiciary and the security sector.

Participation The target audiences of the Workshop are mid-level representatives of the respective ministries of defence and ministries of internal affairs - internal control units, professional standards units, Anti-Corruption agencies and other relevant institutions. Participants are also expected to take an active part in the dialogue.

The event will gather national professionals in the security sector who have some experience in developing integrity, conflict of interests and whistleblowing policies and in inter-agency and regional cooperation regarding the exchange of data and information between anti-corruption bodies and the defence sector in the fight against corruption.

Methodology The Workshop is envisaged as an active and vibrant environment that will enable all participants to share their knowledge and experience and learn about the topics from their colleagues in the security sector. The event will last two days and will comprise lectures, presentations and discussions. The working language will be English.

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