

PABLO GARCIA BERDOY, The Ambassador of the Spanish Kingdom in Romania

Mister Minister, ladies and gentlemen. We are today, one more time, to an activity that is included within the path that Romania decided to cross in view of its accession to E.U. Spain is institutionally supporting these efforts and all those actions and projects that can contribute to the preventing and fighting against corruption and which constitute positive signals of observing the legality for the investors from E.U. countries.

As you know, the project concluded today is one among the various projects in which the European Commission and, with its support, Spain collaborated with the Romanian authorities. In the field of the anti-corruption fight, it can be said that Spain offered, beginning with October 2001, technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office and to the National Department for Anti-Corruption of Romania, of which restructuring the Special Prosecutor's Office from Spain was involved in. Up to present there were developed or are under developing three twinning projects.

One from October 2001 and up to June 2003, a twinning light from November 2003 and up to June 2004, and the present twinning that began at the end of August 2005 and has an expected duration of 18 months. As regards to the project that we are concluding, the General Division of Police from Spain participated in establishing of this new general directorate within the Romanian Ministry of Administration and Interior as well as within the process of editing the secondary legislation related to this field and in the elaboration of a new deontological code for the police.

All these activities developed by the European institutions and the member states have an objective that we are all sharing and which is no other than that Romania should become a member state on 1st of January, 2007. I certainly wish to express myself very clearly in this respect. No one can substitute the political willingness to fight against corruption, it belonging only and only to the Romanian citizens and to their representatives. We are neither judging nor are the main actors of this effort.

The Romanians themselves are those who, with all the certitude, shall make all that is necessary, as not only the integration of Romania in E.U. but

especially the whole prosperity and welfare of the citizens of this country depend on it. Thank you.