

April the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

## BULLETIN

### **The Ministry of Administration and Interior will propose the Government to eliminate the requirement of presenting the justifying documents when crossing the border**

Next week, the Ministry of Administration and Interior will initiate a Government Emergency Ordinance, in order to modify the procedure of setting the requirements imposed on the citizens who want to travel abroad, eliminating the obligation of the travellers to present the justifying documents regarding the specific purpose of their travel.

The draft of the Emergency Ordinance specifies the removing of *the requirement regarding the citizens' obligation to present those documents attesting the purpose and the length of their planned travel abroad* from the text of the Government Ordinance No. 28/2005, passed by Law No.50/2005. The requirement regarding the possession of a minimum sum of currency will not be amended, and it will be maintained – *150 euros or the equivalent of the transportation expenditure or the return ticket, plus the sum of money according to the number of the days of the planned travel – but not for less than five days – as follows: 30 euros per day for the European Union states and 20 euros per day for the other states for which the entry visa is not required.*

According to the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, this amendment of the border crossing regime is possible as a consequence of the fact that the illegal migration, as well as its subsequent problems, have reduced significantly lately.

Minister Vasile Blaga has shown that the number of the citizens sent back from abroad decreased significantly, and currently this number represents only 0.3 per cent of the total number of the approximately 8,000,000 citizens who travel abroad each year. At the same time, the illegal migration of the Romanian citizens is not any more the main accusation that the European Union Member-States make against Romania, as happened during the past years.

A relevant example in this respect is represented by the fact that, according to the Federal Home Minister of Austria, Liese Prokop, the illegal migration of Romanian citizens in Austria is close to zero, in the Minor Centre from Vienna being no Romanian children any more, unlike the past years when there were hundreds of Romanian citizens there. Other European Union Member-States also noticed that Romania has made remarkable progress in countering the illegal migration.

Minister Vasile Blaga states that the reducing of the Romanians' illegal migration and the consequent decrease in the criminal rate associated to it are the results of the strict observance of the Schengen Convention regulations and a strict control at the crossing border points; the activity of the home affairs attachés and the liaison officers accredited with the European Union Member-States, as well as the enhancing of the national Police co-operation between these countries also contributed significantly to this phenomenon. The common activities led to an effective response to the problems raised by the Romanians' crimes committed abroad, the best example in this respect being the recent operation Braila from Spain, which is considered the broadest common action of this kind in Europe.

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On Monday, 10 April 2006, workers of the International Police Co-operation Centre will carry out the extradition of 6 Romanian citizens, convicted for different crimes committed in the territory of our country and will bring them in Romania, at the International Airport "Henri Coanda" from Bucharest.

Thus:

- at **00.15**, will be brought from **Madrid**:

- **PANAITESCU MARIANA GEORGETA**, aged 35, from Arges County, against whom the Galati Court of Law disposed the execution of a 3-year prison sentence, on charge of procurement. In the period November 1996 – August 1998 she contacted more young women, in view of facilitating their prostitution in Istanbul - Turkey.

- at **14.10**, will be brought from **Athens**:

- the Turkish citizens **OZER AKTAY**, aged 48, against whom Giurgiu Court of Law disposed the execution of a 7-year prison sentence, on charge of stupefying substances trafficking. On 27.12.2002 he tried to illegally bring cannabis into Romania, and was identified when entering the country, on the occasion of the usual procedures.

- at **14.25**, will be brought from **Rome**:

- **ȘARDEAN FLORIN**, aged 30, from Mureș County, against whom Reghin Court of Law disposed the execution of a 2-year prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny;
- **DUMITRAȘCU IONEL**, aged 33, from Vrancea County, against whom Focsani Court of Law disposed the execution of a prison sentence of 2 years and 10 months, on charge of driving an unregistered vehicle on the public roads, and leaving the accident place.

- at **14.55**, will be brought from **Milan**:

- **COSTEA MIRCEA**, aged 32, from Mures, against whom Mures Court of Law disposed the execution of a 5-year prison sentence, on charge of swindle and forgery of documents under private signature. In the period June-November 1998, working at a bank, he filled in 47 bogus settlement cheques and cancelled 5 deposit cheques illegally, in this way getting an undeserved sum of money amounting to 363,658,980 ROL. In order not to be identified, he falsified the cashier operations reports for the days when he stole different sums of money from the bank.

- at **19.45**, will be brought from **Munich**:

- **GHIA DUMITRU**, aged 56, from Valcea County, against whom Ramnicu-Valcea Court of Law disposed the execution of a 4-year prison sentence, on charge of swindle and forgery. In the period September-December 2002, he cheated more persons to whom he promised different jobs abroad, and with whom he concluded work contracts containing false data.

On the same date, at **21.55**, at the “Henri Coanda” Airport, the workers of the International Police Co-operation Centre will transfer from **Vienna**, so that they could carry on serving their prison sentence in our country, the following persons:

- **DRAGOMAN CONSTANTIN MARIUS**, aged 28, from Arad County, against whom the Austrian judiciary pronounced a 4-year and 8-month prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny;
- **STĂNESCU GRIGORE ADRIAN**, aged 35, from Neamt, against the Austrian judiciary, on charge of grand larceny and serious injury. He is recorded to have stolen various goods and sums of money from houses and companies (through breaking and entering) in Vienna (between November 2003 and October 2004), and to have tried to resist his retaining, hurting a policeman (on 19.10.2004).

On **11.04.2006**, around **13.00**, will be brought from Hungary, through the Border Crossing Point Artand/Bors, **ARKOSI LEVENTE**, aged 32, from Mures, against whom the Sibiu Court of Law disposed the execution of a 3-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny.

At the same time, through the same border crossing point, at 13.00 will be transferred, in view of carrying on their prison sentence, the following persons:

- **HORVAT MIHAELA CRIZANTINA**, aged 23, from Maramures, against whom the Hungarian judiciary disposed a 4-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge of assault and battery, kidnapping and robbery, deeds committed on 09.08.2003, in Hungary.

- **MARCU MARIN**, aged 24, from Harghita County, against whom the Hungarian judiciary disposed a 6-year and 3-month prison sentence, on charge of robbery attempt and grand larceny attempt. On 20.05.2004 he tried to steal various goods from a house, threatening the owner with a fire arm.

April the 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

## BULLETIN

### A POLICEMAN SOLD HIS INTEGRITY FOR 2,500 EUROS

Yesterday, 6 April 2006, officers with the General Anti-Corruption Directorate of M.A.I. – Anti-Corruption Bureau Vaslui organised an action of catching a police agent (within Public Order Bureau of Husi Municipality) in the act, as he had been given some money to intercede with the prosecutors on behalf of the briber, and reach a favourable solution to the penal file drawn up for road-traffic offences.

The investigations revealed that, on 10 February 2006, **M.Stefan**, from Vaslui, was identified about Husi municipality driving a vehicle registered in Italy, and - as he refused to be taken a breath test - a penal file was drawn up for him.

M.Stefan did not think twice and, together with his friend, **P.Mihai-Daniel** from Husi, appealed to “an acquaintance working in police”, namely principal police agent **P.Bogdan** from the Public Order Bureau from Husi, who offered to intercede with the prosecutors of the Prosecutor’s Office near Husi Court of Law, in exchange for **2,500 euros**.

Thus, on 10 February 2006, the police agent received 1,500 euros from M.Stefan, who promised to send the rest of money – 1,000 euros – from Italy, by means of his friend, **P. Mihai-Daniel**.

Police agent P. Bogdan called M. Stefan more than once in Italy, asking him for the rest of the money, as the prosecutors had already issued the return and arrest warrant for him, and that was the moment when he had to intercede with the prosecutors.

Taking into consideration these aspects, M.Stefan phoned his friend P.M.Daniel and asked him to give the police agent the 1,000 euros, promising that, when returned in the country, he would give the money back.

Doubting the police agent’s capacity to favourably resolve his friend’s situation, P.M. Daniel denounced the police agent to the Anti-Corruption Bureau Vaslui.

Therefore, yesterday around 11.30, workers with the Anti-Corruption Bureau Vaslui, together with the prosecutor assigned by the Prosecutor’s Office near Vaslui Court of Law, organised the action of catching the police agent in the act, while he was getting the marked 1,000 euros.

At that moment of his catching in the act, the police agent pretended that he borrowed those 1,000 euros from P.M. Daniel.

When the team carried out the action, the police agent tried to resist the legal measures disposed by the prosecutor, and refused to get out the vehicle until his attorney turned up.

The police agent was retained for 24 hours, and later today he will be taken before Vaslui Court of Law with the proposal of pre-trial custody, on charge of influence trafficking.

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The TV Channels which are interested in this case can get images from the action of catching the police agent in the act at the G.A.D. headquarters 12 Nicolae Grigorescu St, sector 3.

April the 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

**BULLETIN**

**THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION WILL SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION AND INTERIOR IN PUBLIC SERVANTS' TRAINING**

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, has met today the Vice-President of the European Commission, Siim Kallas, present today in Bucharest, who has been accompanied by the Head of the European Commission Delegation, Jonathan Scheele and other representatives of this institution.

Minister Vasile Blaga presented before the European Official the progress made by the Ministry of Administration and Interior in view of Romania's EU accession, underlining the aspects relating to the public administration reform and the actions taken for creating a professional body of public servants.

Vasile Blaga informed Siim Kallas of the elements that the Ministry of Administration and Interior promoted by the public administration law-package - extremely important to the commitments assumed by Romania in the process of its EU accession - which is currently under parliamentary debates, referring to decentralization, as well as to the ensuring of appropriate financial resources for public administration; there were also presented the measures taken by M.A.I. in order to counter corruption of its own personnel.

The European official appreciated the progress achieved by our institution so far, considering that it is extremely important that these actions of combating public servants' corruption continue; he also emphasised the importance of the enhancing of public servants' training in the specific area, but especially in the European funds management field.

He expressed his availability to help the Ministry of Administration and Interior with ensuring proper training for the public servants, this way Romania being able to have a good representation in Brussels, once a full member of the European Union.

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**BULLETIN**

**Influence trafficking in exchange for 1,200 euros**

Based on the information received by workers with the General Anti-Corruption Directorate of M.A.I. – the Bistrita-Nasaud Anti-Corruption Bureau, a person who claimed and accepted currency for “services facilitation” is investigated by the prosecutors within the Prosecutor's Office near Bistrita-Nasaud Court, on charge of influence trafficking.

The person investigated – C. Claudiu, aged 28 – offered to help two persons whose right to use their passports had been suspended, assuring that he could intervene at the General Directorate for Passports, for nullifying his interdiction to leave Romania.

The preliminary investigations revealed that on 28.03.2006 C. Claudiu met the two persons in a bar in Bistrita, where he assured them that, in exchange for the 1,200 euros - *by means of his “acquaintances” within the General Directorate for Passports* - he would solve the problem of the interdiction that the authorities issued for them; they had been sent back to Romania as they had exceeded the legal stay period in Spain.

On Tuesday, 4 April 2006, the prosecutor together with officers with G.A.D. – Bistrita Nasaud Anti-Corruption Bureau, marked four 50-euro notes (200 euros representing only a first part of the total sum of money); on 5 April 2006, at 1.00 p.m., the same team carried out the action of catching the offender in the act, when the marked notes were found on him and taken back.

The offender is currently being investigated by the prosecutor, on charge of influence trafficking – crime provided by art.257 C.P., without being taken in custody.

*The TV Channels interested can acquire images from this action beginning with 13.00 hrs., at the Headquarters of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate.*

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**A policeman notified the G.A.D. on a person's intention to bribe him**

Yesterday, 5 April 2006, officers with G.A.D. of M.A.I. – Anti-Corruption Bureau Botosani, were notified by the Head of the Police Station Vorniceni on the fact that, during a control carried out in the competence zone, somebody offered him a sum of money, in an attempt to make him not apply the legal provisions in operations.

The police agent Sorin N. told that, while carrying out his mission around Vorniceni, he identified an ARO vehicle, registered in Suceava, with 4 persons, which transported wood without the necessary legal documents.

Trying to take the legal measures, that means to seize the wood found in order to confiscate it, one of the passengers – Valerian L., aged 37 – tried, more than once, to offer the police agent sums between 500,000 and 1,000,000 ROL.

Taking into consideration the police agent's statements, officers with the G.A.D. notified the Prosecutor's Office near Botosani Court, which disposed, by a delegation resolution, the investigation of Valerian L. on charge of bribery, and the carrying out of the action of catching the offender in the act while he was offering 1,000,000 ROL to the police agent.

The investigations are carrying on by the prosecutors with the Prosecutor's Office near Botosani Court, the offender not being kept in custody.

**April the 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
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**EXPERTISE EXCHANGE IN THE PUBLIC RELATIONS FIELD BETWEEN ROMANIA AND AUSTRIA**

Between 2 and 7 April 2006, three officers within M.A.I. (one officer within the Information and Public Relations Directorate and two officers within the Romanian Police General Inspectorate) – are in Austria for expertise exchange in public relations field.

In Vienna, the Romanian specialists informed of the public relation activity developed within the Home Ministry of Austria and within the Criminal Federal Office, as well as of the risk situations management, from the point of view of the press-related activity, by visiting the Centre of Crises and Missions Co-ordination of the Austrian Home Ministry.

The Romanian press officers Adina Maftai – press officer with M.A.I., Cătălin Popescu – Head of the Information and Public Relations Directorate of R.P.G.I. and Rebeca Hagea – spokesperson of the Organised Crime Directorate appreciated the high level of the endowment of, as well as the technical equipment existing at the Centre of Crises and Missions Co-ordination.

At the same time, the three officers visited outstanding editorial offices such as: Cobra in Wiener Neustadt, the Standard journal and Austrian Press Agency. The visit at the EU Press Centre – where EKOFIN reunion- informal reunion of the Economy and Finance Ministers from E.U.- is taking place on 7-8 April 2006 – will close our Romanian press officers' experience exchange.

This visit is part of the Phare Project RO/2003/IB/JH-07 TL “*Resources Centre for Countering Human Beings Trafficking*”.

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*“The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland supports Romania’s joining the European Union as soon as possible”*, has stated today the British Home Minister - Charles Clarke, on the occasion of a press conference organised at Hotel Crowne Plaza.

The British official has congratulated the Ministry of Administration and Interior on the efforts made in view of carrying out the tasks required by the EU accession, showing that he is impressed with the outcomes of the ministry, especially in fighting organised crime – human beings and drugs trafficking – and illegal migration.

In this context, the “Agreement Memorandum regarding the continued development and extension of the REFLEX Project up to March 2007” has been signed between M.A.I. of Romania and the counterpart ministry of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Minister Vasile Blaga appreciating that *“the co-operation developed within the framework of this project must be regarded as a model for the entire European area”*.

At the same time, Vasile Blaga expressed his gratitude for British authorities’ support, underlining the fact that the Ministry of Administration and Interior will do its best in order to carry out the projects assumed.

April the 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
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### Minister Vasile Blaga has met German high officials, one day before the German Parliament begins the procedures of ratification of the Treaty of Romanian’s EU Accession

*“Germany appreciates the progress that Romania achieved during last year and is optimistic on its accession to the European Union on 1 January 2007”*, the German Federal Home Minister, Wolfgang Schauble, assured his Romanian counterpart, Vasile Blaga, during a meeting in Berlin today.

This meeting has taken place one day before the German Parliament starts the procedures necessary to ratify the Treaty of Romania’s Accession to the European Union.

The German Federal Home Minister has delivered a message of support regarding both the efforts that Romania is making in view of its EU accession, as well as the efforts that Romania is going to make after 1 January 2007.

*“For Romania this date does not represent the end of the road, but a new beginning”*, underlined Minister Vasile Blaga, emphasising the necessity to keep on and speeding up the reforms, which are already in an advanced stage, as the European Commissioner Olli Rehn appreciated yesterday.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior has also met today Susanne Kastler, the Vice-President of Bundestagului, the institution that tomorrow will start developing the procedures of the ratification of the Treaty of Romania’s Accession to the European Union.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Up to present, 15 European states have ratified the Treaty of Romania’s EU Accession, namely: Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Republic of Cyprus, Greece, Estonia, Czech Republic, Spain, Italy, Malta, Latvia, Great Britain, Portugal, Lithuania and Poland

April the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006  
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## BULLETIN

### THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SUPPORTS ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES IN FIGHT AGAINST THE HUMAN BEINGS TRAFFICKING

Today, 4 April 2006, General Questor ANGHEL ANDREESCU - Secretary of State, Head of the Public Order and Safety Department of M.A.I. – opened the official works of the Seminar on “Countering the human beings trafficking”, organised by the Ministry of Administration and Interior and the European Commission institution.

This activity – that is taking place at the Headquarters of SECI Regional Centre, on 4 and 5 April 2006 – is attended by experts from more countries, such as: *Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Turkey, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro, Ukraine, Spain, the Netherlands, Sweden, France, Austria, Germany and Italy*, by liaison officers within SECI Centre, representatives of the Secretary General of the European Council, as well as workers of the subordinated MAI units (*General Police Inspectorate, National Agency for Human Beings Trafficking Prevention and Victims’ Protection, Border Police General Inspectorate, Aliens’ Authority and the International Police Co-operation*).

In the opening of the seminar, General Questor Anghel Andreescu underlined the necessity of the prompt implementation in the Romanian legislation of the European Council Convention against human beings trafficking – document signed, on behalf of Romania – by President *Traian BĂSESCU, in Warsaw, on 16 May 2005* – this fact leading to the improvement of the effectiveness of the activities developed by the Romanian authorities in that specific area.

This seminar is organised in the context of the current Romania’s Presidency of the Committee of the European Council Ministers and is part of the actions developed by the European institution within the framework of the campaign conducted against trafficking in human beings.

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### The Minister of Administration and Interior is paying an official visit to Germany

On Tuesday, 4 April 2006, Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga is paying an official visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, upon the invitation of the German Federal Home Minister, Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble. On this occasion, Minister Vasile Blaga will also have a meeting with Susanne Kastner, Vice-President of the German Bundestag. This visit represents a good opportunity to emphasise progress achieved by Romania during last year and the first months of 2006, as regards the preparations for EU accession.

**“The Ministry of Administration and Interior has been very conscientious in doing its homework in view of EU accession. M.A.I. carried out all the tasks that it was responsible for and succeeded in taking all the measures that it had been behind with. By the beginning of June, the Border Police personnel working at the future E.U. outer border will be covered 100 per cent, and beginning with November, that means two months before the deadline, we will be able to ensure a high level of control at this frontier. This is the message that I am going to deliver to the German Federal Home Minister”,** stated Minister Vasile Blaga, who also stating that he is optimistic regarding the Monitoring Report for Romania that the European Commission is going to issue in May. **“I am not worried about Romania’s accession, if considering the issues referring to Internal Affairs”,** announced Minister Vasile Blaga as well.

This visit in Germany represents one of the highlights of the diplomatic travel that the Minister of Administration and Interior is being developing in the run-up to the moment of the decision regarding the date of Romania's EU accession.

This series of diplomatic measures, meant to put forth the success recorded by our country in view of its EU integration, as well as to get support in Romania's EU integration on January 1, 2007, has already included different meetings with Italian and Spanish high officials, and will continue with the visit of the Head of the British Home Minister - Charles Clarke in Romania, which is scheduled to take place on 4-5 April 2006.