

BULLETIN

ROMANIANS EXTRADITED

On Monday, June 26, and Tuesday, June 27, 2006, workers within the **International Police Co-operation Center** will carry out the extradition to Romania, through the International Airport „Henri Coandă”-Bucharest, of **8 Romanian citizens**, being convicted for committing various crimes on the Romanian territory. Therefore, the following ones will be extradited:

1. on the 26th of June, 2006

- **from Athens – at 14.00 hrs :**
- Ø **ANGHEL ANDREI IOCY**, aged 43, from Craiova, Dolj County, against whom Craiova Court disposed the execution of a 3-year prison sentence, on charge of crimes against traffic regulations.
- **from Rome - at 14.25 hrs :**
- Ø **COSTEA COSTEL**, aged 24, from Matca, Galați County, against whom Tecuci Court disposed the execution of a 2-year prison sentence, on charge of theft.
- **from Milan, at 14.55 hrs:**
- Ø **COCOȘ VICTOR**, aged 48, from Topliceni, Buzău County, against whom Râmnicu Sărat Court disposed the execution of a 1-year, 6-month and 354-day prison sentence, on charge of several forestry crimes, and theft.
- **from Madrid, at 17.45 hrs :**
- Ø **NIȚĂ MIHAI**, aged 30, from Bucharest, against whom Sector 2 Court disposed the execution of a 3-year prison sentence, on charge of aggravating theft
- Ø **ANTON GHEORGHE**, aged 50, from Galați, Galați County, against whom Galați Court disposed the execution of a 6-year prison sentence, on charge of procuring. The same charge includes the following aggravating circumstances: between 1997 – 1998, the above-mentioned citizen recruited 6 young women, including an under-aged one, brought them to Istanbul where, having the support of an accomplice, he sexually exploited them. The money emerging from these prostitution activities was destined to the same citizen mentioned above.
- **from Vienna, at 21.55 hrs :**
- Ø **TEMELIE CONSTANTIN**, aged 30, from Cîrligele, Vrancea County, against whom Suceava Court disposed the execution of a 1-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge of theft attempt.
- Ø **VOICU ȘTEFAN**, aged 23, from Bucharest, against whom Sector 2 Court disposed the execution of a 3-year prison sentence, on charge of aggravating theft.

2. on June 27, 2006

- **from Marseille, at 20.20 hrs :**
- Ø **FIAT VALERIU IULIAN**, aged 29, from Oțelu Roșu, Caraș-Severin County, against whom three prison sentences of 3 years and 6 months were disposed, on charge of several crimes of complicity to aggravating theft.

BULLETIN

STRICT DEADLINES FOR DECENTRALIZATION

By the end of November, the Government will pass the strategies for decentralization in each sector of the central public administration, has announced the Minister of Administration and Interior - Vasile Blaga today, after the meeting of the Inter-ministerial Council for Decentralization. These strategies will first be subject to public debates, in which will take part all the interested organisms, the Ministry of Administration and Interior has stated.

Minister Vasile Blaga also announced that this autumn a series of pilot-centers at local level will be selected, in which the decentralization strategies will be tested started with next summer, so that the drafts of the normative acts which will regulate this area could be drawn up and approved by the Government in October 2007.

This strict calendar is very important, in view of materializing the political will of the Government, which wants a real decentralization of both responsibilities and the necessary financial resources, Vasile Blaga stated. "It must be a real decentralization, not only in papers, like so far", Vasile Blaga also said.

Within the framework of today's meeting, the Inter-ministerial Council for Decentralization approved the setting up of an inter-ministerial working group with responsibility in coordinating this process. At the same time, there was also approved the establishment of another work group whose responsibility is to draft and implement the policies, strategies and the normative acts which regard the financial crisis and the insolvability of the territorial-administrative units, in compliance with the provisions of the Law on the local public finances.

Minister Vasile Blaga showed that the *decentralization is one of the fundamental objectives envisaged by the law package on public administration reform, initiated by MAI in view of modernizing administration and enhancing administrative capacity.* This law package includes: the framework law of decentralization, the Law on the local public finances and the Law of amending the public servants' status, already passed by the Parliament and the Law draft on the local public administration, passed by the Deputies' Chamber and currently awaiting for the final vote of the Senate.

Another element of this law package, the one on the prefect's institution, was promoted by Government Emergency Ordinance at the end of the 2005, the ordinance being consequently approved by the both Parliament's Chamber.

"These efforts made in view of modernizing, raising professionalism and depoliticizing administration made the European Commission highly appreciate Romania in its last monitoring report. This happens for the first time to the Romanian administration, which is usually subject to the European experts' critics", Vasile Blaga said.

As far as the decentralization is concerned, the Minister of Administration and Interior announced that the project on the setting up of Local Police, finalized last year, will be implemented after the approval, by the Public Finances Ministry, of the increase of the income taxation which will remain in the localities' budgets, from 47% to 51%.

June the 20th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

FREE-LINE FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Today, 20 June 2006, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, took place a press conference on “Countering trafficking in human beings – high-priority objective of the Ministry of Administration and Interior”, held by:

- Sub-commissioner DUMITRU LICSandRU, the President of the National Agency for Preventing Human Beings Trafficking and for Monitoring its Victims’ Assistance within the Ministry of Administration and Interior;
- Principal questor NELU POP, general inspector of the Romanian Border Police;
- Questor EUGEN CORCIU, deputy general inspector of the Romanian Police and general director of the General Directorate for Organised Crime Countering.

On this occasion, there were presented the results of the fight against trafficking in human beings that the two specialised structures of MAI, namely Romanian Police and Romanian Border Police, obtained so far, the actions that the **National Agency for Preventing Human Beings Trafficking and for Monitoring its Victims’ Assistance** carried out, as well as the Agency’s aims.

One of the first successful actions of the new Agency was the drawing up of “**The National Action Plan for preventing trafficking in human beings for 2006-2007**” and of “**The National Anti-Trafficking Strategy for 2006-2010**”, documents which are currently subject to public debate, being placed on the official website of M.A.I., at www.mai.gov.ro.

Also for helping the victims of the human beings trafficking, the Agency intends to make an emergency call number (Free Line) functional, where the persons affected by this trans-border phenomenon will get information on the way they can get assistance from the authorities.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

According to the provisions of the G.O. Nr. 1584/08.12.2005, at the level of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, the **National Agency for Preventing Human Beings Trafficking and for Monitoring its Victims’ Assistance** was set up.

This measure was taken in the context of the efforts that Romania is making in view of fulfilling the commitments assumed in the process of its EU accession, for strengthening and rendering effective the fight against trafficking in human beings at national level, aspect which was also mentioned in the last Monitoring Report issued on 16 May 2006.

This agency is a specialised organism of the central public administration, with a juridical person, directly subordinated to the minister of Administration and Interior, and mainly aimed at coordinating and evaluating the activities meant to prevent trafficking in human beings and to monitor the assistance provided to its victims.

The setting up of this Agency and the particular actions developed so far by the MAI responsible units (ex: *the Romanian Police and its counterpart institution from Spain recently dismantled a human trafficking network including 300 persons*), prove once again that the Ministry of Administration and Interior strongly involves in preventing and countering this trans-national phenomenon, as well as the fact that it strongly wants to improve and render even more effective the activities in this area, for ensuring the safety of the Romanian and the EU citizens.

Set up through the reorganisation of the National Office for Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings and Monitoring its Victims’ Protection within the Romanian Police General Inspectorate, the Agency has the following attributions:

- draws up, based on the reports of the ministries in the field, the draft of the National Strategy for Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings and for Assisting its Victims, which it submits to the

Government's approval, after consulting the Inter-ministerial Working Group for Co-ordinating and Evaluating the Activity regarding Human Trafficking Prevention and Countering;

- coordinates the activity for preventing trafficking in human beings at national level, and monitors the assistance granted to its victims, checking the accomplishment of the objectives provided by the national action plans, based on the National Strategy;
- draws up the national standards project in the field, which it submits to the Government's approval, after consulting the Inter-ministerial Group;
- collects, stores, processes and analyses the statistical data and intelligence in the area;
- conducts studies and research activities on the diagnosis and evolution of the human trafficking phenomenon;
- facilitates the statistical data and intelligence exchange between the institutions in the field, at national and international level;
- drafts proposals for amending and supplementing the legislation in the field;
- disseminates, in compliance with the law, the official data and information on preventing trafficking in human beings and its victims' assistance;
- develops its own programmes for carrying out the activities on human beings trafficking prevention and its victims' assistance and, on request, supports the ongoing programmes;
- supports the activity of raising awareness of the trafficking victims' rights, in Romania and abroad;
- on request, helps the specialised police structures, ensuring the necessary resources for carrying out the prevention activities, and provides, also on request, statistical data necessary to draft managerial directions at the level of the structures specialised in countering human beings trafficking;
- carries out specific international co-operation activities.

At the same time, the Agency co-operates with Romanian and foreign NGOs, as well as with inter-government organisations, in view of raising the general public's awareness of this phenomenon and its consequences.

This institution is headed by a president, assigned by the Minister of Administration and Interior and working under the minister's direct coordination. Within this Agency, there are 8 regional compartments, its personnel includes public servants, public servants with special status and contractual personnel.