

May the 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

## BULLETIN

### ROMANIANS EXTRADITED

On **29 May, 2006**, workers with the **International Police Co-operation Centre** will carry out the extradition of 5 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". Thus:

**About 15.10 hrs, from Frankfurt**, will be extradited **COJOCARU VASILE**, aged 23, from Slobozia Corni Village, Galati County, against whom Tecuci Court disposed the execution of a 2-year prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny;

**From Milan, 14.55 hrs**, will be extradited:

➤ **GOGOLINCA NECULAI**, aged 26, from Corocaiesti, Suceava County, against whom Suceava Court disposed the execution of a 5-year prison sentence, on charge of murder attempt; in the evening of 5 September 1999, he stabbed a man with a knife in the neck zone, causing him seriously bodily harm which jeopardized his life;

➤ **ZMERA GEORGETA**, aged 45, from Paşcani, Iaşi County, against whom Iaşi Court disposed 2 arrest warrants, for a 3-year and 6-month prison sentence, and for a 4-year prison sentence, respectively, on charge of swindle; he is recorded to have issued more "rubber cheques" to some trading companies;

**From Paris, 20.20 hrs**, will be extradited:

➤ **DUMITRAŞCU GABRIEL**, aged 33, from Craiova, Dolj County, against whom Gorj Court disposed the execution of a 8-year prison sentence, on charge of first degree murder; he is recorded to have hit a man with a lever, killing him, on 7 September 1997;

**From Vienna, 21.55 hrs**, will be extradited:

➤ **MARIN ANGHELUS**, aged 48, from Buzău, Buzău County, against whom Vrancea Court disposed the execution of a 5-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge of swindle; it was recorded that he, together with two accomplices, bought from a trade company from Focsani alcoholic drinks amounting to 1,742,714,370 ROL, which they paid with a "rubber cheque".

May the 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
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## BULLETIN

### N.A.I. will train public servants in the area of structural funds

**The National Administration Institute (N.A.I.)** organised the training programme "**Structural funds – from theory to practice**". This course developed between 22 and 26 May 2006, in Predeal, and it gathers 22 participants, representatives of the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Tourism, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Ministry of European Integration, National Authority for Scientific Research, National Agency for Small and Middle Enterprises (SME Agency), Prefect's Institution of Covasna County, Town Hall of Targu Mures County and of Piatra Neamt County.

The participants in this programme have the chance to benefit from the expertise of Alexandru TONIUC, trainer within Phare 2002: "Pre-Accession Assistance Programming and Implementation for Phare CES and transition towards the Structural Funds" and within Phare 2001: "Campaign for promoting the grant schemes for SMEs and for assistance in view of preparing applications".

Among the themes approached are the following ones: structural funds – general presentation, legal framework, institutional framework, presentation of PNDR, POR and POS, presentation of the beneficiaries and their role in the implementation of the projects financed by the structural funds, the principles of co-financing, projects generating new substantial incomes, basic elements of the public-private partnership, procedural guidelines for implementation of the European structural funds.

N.A.I. is aware of the necessity of the public servants' training in the area of structural funds, in view of Romania's EU accession, as well as of the fact that the Romanian public administration strongly needs personnel able to manage structural funds.

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### **Ministry of Administration and Interior will train 750 public servants in the area of European structural funds' access**

At the beginning of June, the Ministry of Administration and Interior will start a training programme in the area of European structural funds' access, aimed at training 750 public servants. The courses will take place at the National Administration Institute, and at the 8 Regional Centres of Continuous Training for Local Public Administration; they will be held by specialists within the M.A.I. and other ministries dealing with structural operational programmes, as well as by European experts assigned by the Information Exchange and Technical Assistance Office within the Enlargement General Directorate of the European Commission (TAIEX).

The programme aims at some particular Target Groups, that is: the personnel of the Central Apparatus of the M.A.I. and of its subordinate units, sub-prefects who co-ordinate the European Integration activity and the heads of the European Integration units at the level of the prefect's offices, and the public servants within the country councils, town halls and prefect's offices.

The third Target Group – the personnel at the level of local administration authorities – will be best represented in this programme, as the Ministry of Administration and Interior proposes to train 600 public servants within this sector.

The main purposes of this programme are: the transfer of general knowledge on structural instruments and their management, raising awareness of the means and methods for accessing the programmes which will use of structural funds, and identifying the partners, at the national level, of the local public authorities during this process. The training courses will also address other questions of interest, in view of preparing the Romanian institutions to access European funds.

The Minister of Administration and Interior - Vasile Blaga regards this programme as necessary, in order to ensure that the public administration personnel possess the appropriate knowledge to access the European funds. **“Romania needs all the funds which will be available after our EU integration, and the institutions have to be as prepared as possible in order to face this challenge”**, has appreciated Vasile Blaga, saying that the public servants must have as many information sources and training programmes as possible in this area.

**“Romania's development depends on its capacity to access the European funds, and we have to set as our target a European funds' absorbing percent close to 100”**, has also said the Minister of Administration and Interior, upon whose initiative the training programme will start next month.

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## BULLETIN

At the level of the **General Anti-Corruption Directorate (M.A.I.) – the Territorial Anti-Corruption Department Cluj**, the following cases were finalized, as the assigned prosecutors (within the prosecutor's offices near the respective courts) carried out the indictments:

### **Mavor investigated for abuse of position**

At the end of April 2006, the **Anti-Corruption Bureau Salaj (A.B.Salaj)** forwarded to the competent Prosecutor's Office the penal file in which the mayor of the locality Plopis, P.Francisc, had been investigated, on charge of abuse of position against the public interests and corruption-related acts, as provided by Law 78/ 2000.

The preliminary documents - drawn up by the GAD's officers from Salaj, based on the prosecutors' delegation - led to the fact that the above-mentioned person, as a mayor, facilitated a contract of services delivery between a trading company and the town hall, without obeying the regulations on the public acquisitions.

Thus, on behalf of the institution he represents, P.Francisc signed – with a company having **some of his relatives as associates** – a 494,000,000 ROL contract, regarding the transportation of 30 tones of broken stone on the Poieni – Plopis route.

At the same time, the investigations carried out led to the fact that, in June 2005, the mayor had acquired an agrimotor from one of his relatives in the locality, also without obeying the respective legal provisions. Although the agrimotor was bought from the Czech Republic with 332 euros, the town hall had paid **150,000,000 ROL** for it.

Following the facts resulted from the preliminary documents, the prosecutors disposed the starting of the legal proceedings against P.Francisc, and now, after the indictment, the offender has been brought to justice, on charge of abuse of position, in compliance with art.17, (d) regarding the art.13 (2) of Law no. 78/2000.

#### **Policeman investigated for bribery**

Following a notification, officers within **the Anti-Corruption Bureau Cluj** investigated the case of a police agent who claimed and received 3 million ROL from a man who had committed a traffic minor offence, in order not to sanction the latter accordingly, by minor offence and seizure of driving license.

While carrying out his daily job, principal police agent B.Sorin – CPI Cluj saw a car not halting at the red colour of the traffic lights at the level of the railway crossing.

He stopped the car, the driver admitted having committed this minor offence, and in order to get away from the sanction, namely the driving license seizure, he offered the police agent 4,000,000 ROL, sum of money that the policeman accepted.

As he did not have the whole sum of money, the car driver first gave the policeman 980,000 ROL, then 50 euros but, during the same evening, he denounced the policeman to the responsible authorities.

Following the indictment carried out by the prosecutors of the Prosecutor's Office near Cluj Court, the legal proceedings were started, and the principal police agent B.Sorin was sent in court on charge of bribery.

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### **BULLETIN**

#### **MINISTER BLAGA HAS SIGNED TODAY THE COMMON DECLARATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SALZBURG FORUM**

Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, has signed today, in Bratislava, alongside with his counterpart officials from the Salzburg Forum member states, a *Common Declaration* by which they engage to carry out "lobby" activities in the home affairs area, within the framework of different European institutions, in order to mutually support their respective interests.

At the same time, the Salzburg Forum member states engage to develop expertise and information exchange, as well as consultations on the implementation of the European regulations at national level.

Started on Monday in Bratislava, the 8<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Salzburg Forum, which Romania has been part of since 2005, represented a good opportunity to evaluate the Forum's 5-year activity, regarded by the participants as "***a great success, which could be multiplied in the future***".

The Salzburg Forum was set up in 2001 as an informal group, with the role of ensuring that Poland, Czech, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia are fully integrated into the European Union.

These states' participation in the above-mentioned group allowed them to better integrate, and the participants in the Reunion in Bratislava underlined that the Salzburg Forum can play the same role for Romania – which is member of this organism starting with 2005, for Bulgaria – which is at its first participation in this context - , and, in the future, for Croatia - which is going to be invited to join this group.

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, appreciated that the Salzburg Forum Reunion is extremely important to our country, as it is held short after the Monitoring Report of the European Union.

The significant progress in the home affairs field referred to in this report were highly stimulated and accelerated by the participation of Romania in the Salzburg Forum, Vasile Blaga has said.

*“Within the framework of this Forum, Romania can benefit from the expertise accumulated by an old member of the Union, Austria, and also from the experience of the states which have recently joined the E.U. and are currently taking action for fully integrate. In view of that, the Salzburg Forum represents the Union's antechamber”*, appreciated the Romanian Minister of Administration and Interior.

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### **Fighting against corruption** **- TAIEX Seminar -**

**Between 18 and 20 May 2006, a delegation of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate of M.A.I. participated in the TAIEX Seminar on “Bulgaria, Romania and Italy fighting against corruption - experiences”, held in Rome, Italy.**

The event took place in the presence of Mr. Franco Frattini, vice-president of the European Commission, and it was organised by the High Commissioner for the Prevention and Countering of corruption and other crimes in public administration, near the Presidency of the EU Ministers' Council, together with the TAIEX Office.

In the context of this seminar, *the European Commission's vice-president – Franco Frattini congratulated Mr. Vasile Blaga – Minister of Administration and Interior on his persistent involvement in fighting corruption, materialised in the setting up of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, as well as in this Directorate's results.*

He said that the European Union would permanently grant support to Romania in the area of fighting corruption, *by sustaining any viable actions taken by the Romanian state institutions.*

The Seminar was based on the expertise exchange developed between the representatives of the three countries in the area of preventing and countering corruption, as well as on the co-operation with the counterpart institutions involved in this field.

On this occasion, G.A.D. officers also met representatives of the National Anti-Mafia Department (Italy), Romanian diplomatic representations in Italy, the Romanian Diaspora, Church, as well as with Romanian media correspondents, for creating some effective communication channels which could help the activity of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, in order to prevent and counter corruption acts within the M.A.I. personnel.

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### **TRANSPARENCY AND ETHICS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

On 19 May 2006, in Busteni, *the Public Servants' National Agency*, in partnership with *Agenda 21* NGO, concluded the modular training course for ethics councilors, activity provided in Phare Project – *Civil Society*.

The course was developed in three training sessions (starting with October 2005), and aimed at raising the quality of public function in view of meeting the citizens' and community's requirements/ needs, as well as at training the 36 participants for raising their knowledge.

At the same time, during this training course there were presented aspects regarding the public servants' conduct as regulated in the specific normative acts, as well as models of public servants' conduct, taken from different E.U. Member States.

The last module focused on the communication developed between citizen and public administration, as well as on the communicative skills of the public servant versus the final beneficiary of administration. The ethics councilors' training was connected to the activity initiated by TVR, consisting in the dissemination of information on the public servants' code of conduct.

The participants also were presented the results of the opinion survey called "Citizens' perception of the public function", and there was discussed the connection between the law on the public servants' code of conduct and the basic laws included in the law package on public administration.

The most important achievement of this training course is represented by the fact that the participants were got to start drawing up the tools and methodology necessary to supplement the legislation on public servants' conduct code with the official institution of the ethics councilor position in Romania.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Phare Project *Civil Society* 2003/005-551.01.05/04 "**Transparency and Ethics in Public Administration**" has been developed since October 2005, in partnership with the **Public Servants' National Agency** and the **Romanian National Television** (TVR). The project aims at raising the quality of the public function at local level in view of meeting the citizens' and community's requirements and needs.

As the public function is exercised in the context of the relation between public servant - citizens, the target groups of the project consist of 436 public servants, approximately 3,000 citizens in Bucharest and Bacau, Prahova, Timis, and 30 volunteers, representatives of the civil society. Among the 16 public debates developed at TVR, it is estimated that about 10,000 people (general public) will be involved in this project.

Within the framework of this project more activities have been developed so far as follows:

- carrying out an opinion survey on "Citizens' perception of the public function";
- drawing up the manual on procedures of implementation of the code of conduct;
- selecting and training of the monitors - representatives of the civil society;
- ethics councilors' training;
- drawing up the two monitoring reports on the implementation of the public servants' code of conduct, and on the implementation of the law regarding the decisional transparency in public administration.