

BULLETIN

ROMANIANS EXTRADITED

A member of the “Clamparu” criminal group will be extradited from Spain, in order to be punished according to Romanian legislation

On Monday, 3 April 2006, at 17.45, workers of the International Police Co-operation Centre (I.P.C.C.) will carry out the extradition from Madrid-Spain and will bring in Romania, at the International Airport “Henri Coanda” – Bucharest, **MATENCIUC TIBERIU COZMIN**, aged 28, nationwide and worldwide wanted offender, against whom Bucuresti Court issued a pre-trial arrest warrant for different crimes relating to trans-border organised crime.

He is part of the well-known “Clamparu” group and is accused of having committed crimes relating to setting up, joining and supporting an organised criminal group, which committed various serious crimes, procurement, human beings trafficking, minors trafficking and money laundering.

“Clamparu” group is charged with having procured over 100 young women from Romania, whom they transported legally to Spain, and whom they forced to prostitute in order to make profit only in their own interest.

During the same day (April 3, 2006), and on April 4, 2006, workers of the I.P.C.C. will carry out the extradition of and will bring in Romanian, through the same crossing border point – the International Airport “Henri Coanda” – Bucharest, other 5 Romanian citizens, convicted for different crimes committed in Romania. Thus:

A. on April 3, 2006, will be extradited:

- from Brussels, at 13.55:
 - **INDREI SEBASTIAN**, aged 28, from Biled commune, Timiș County, against whom Timișoara Court disposed the execution of a 2-prison sentence, on charge of serious bodily harm.
- from Ljubljana, at 15.20:
 - **BUSUIOC SORINA VERONICA**, aged 40, from Buzău, against whom Buzau Court disposed the execution of a 4-year prison sentence, on charge of swindle.
- de la Oslo, at 16.15:
 - **TODORAN IOAN CONSTANTIN**, aged 48, from Bistrița, against whom Bistrița-Năsăud Court disposed the execution of a 2-year prison sentence, on charge of influence trafficking.
- from Paris, at 16.25:
 - **COVACIU LEONTIN TIBI**, aged 38, from Vascău, Bihor County, against whom Beius Court disposed the execution of a 4-year prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny.

B. on April 4, 2006, will be extradited from Lisbon, at 00.15, **MĂCINIC CORNEL IOSIF**, aged 30, from Arad, against whom Arad Court disposed the execution of a 3-year prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny.

At the same time, on **April 3, 2006**, at 13.25, **will be transferred from Vienna-Austria** to Romania:

- **PETRICEANU ION**, aged 35, from Iași, in view of carrying on serving his 5-year prison sentence, pronounced by the Austrian judiciary for grand larceny;
- **ZAMFIR DANIELA**, aged 34, din Ilfov County, in view of carrying on serving her 5-year prison sentence, pronounced by the Austrian judiciary for grand larceny.

BULLETIN

Convention between Romania and Spain on countering criminal phenomenon

Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga and his Spanish counterpart official, José Antonio Alonso Suárez, have signed today in Madrid, the Convention between Romania and Spain regarding co-operation in fighting the criminal phenomenon. According to Minister Vasile Blaga, this instrument will significantly help Romanian authorities in their effort to continue countering the criminal activity of some groups of Romanians that commit criminal acts in Spain, as well as to improve the effectiveness of the fight against trans-border crimes.

The Convention signed today specifies that Romania and Spain will co-operate in countering crime - especially its organised forms, and will collaborate in fighting criminal deeds, especially in order to combat terrorism, trafficking in stupefying substances and precursors, illegal migration, forgery of documents, coins and other payment bills, smuggling, economic and financial crimes, money laundering, and crimes against persons' sexual freedom, especially those crimes in which minors are involved.

Minister Vasile Blaga has said that he welcomes the signing of this important Convention, short time after the development of Braila Operation, which is considered the biggest action of this kind developed in Europe up to present, and presented as a model for a future co-operation. Benefiting from intense media coverage in Spain, this operation, developed by the Police of Romania and Spain, has led to the arresting of almost 300 members of a criminal group, this success representing the best example for the effectiveness of the crime countering co-operation.

The Minister of Administration and Interior stated that this Convention provides the authorities of the two states with the means necessary for improving the police response against the criminal organisations, considering that the number of the Romanians' criminal rate in Spain decreased considerably over last year; yet the efforts made in this respect have to continue, especially those relating to the main criminal areas in which the Romanians are involved: trafficking on human beings in view of sexual exploitation, begging or working illegally, forgery of some electronic payment bills, robbery or theft.

According to Minister Vasile Blaga, one of the priority actions of the Romanian Police is represented by the necessity to grant enhanced protection to the Romanians who fall victims to the human being trafficking networks. Thus, , at the moment of their recruitment only 5 per cent of the total number of Romanian prostitutes existing in Spain were already prostitutes or knew what they were recruited for, the rest being victims of the human trafficking networks, which had promised to give them different jobs, once abroad. **“This phenomenon is a great concern to the Ministry of Administration and Interior, considering its seriousness”**, stated Minister Vasile Blaga. At the same time, another source of high concern is represented by the increase in the number of the human beings networks, which attract various Romanians promising them jobs in the agricultural area, and once at those specific farms, they make their victims be underpaid or not paid at all for their work, otherwise threatening, molesting or letting them without any support in Spain.

**March the 29th, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

“In Romania major changes have been made over the last 14 months, due to the strict conditions applied by the E.U. and the stubborn efforts that Romania made for keeping on the judicial system reform and the fight against corruption”, said yesterday the EU Enlargement Commissioner, Olli Rehn, in an interview granted to Reuter Press Agency.

The European official approached an optimistic tone when speaking about Romania, saying that its EU accession in 2007 is “feasible for both of the countries” (Romania and Bulgaria), but that they “have to run the last miles, end the reforms and show a credible implementation of these reforms”.

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The appreciations of the EU Enlargement Commissioner for were expressed shortly after the conclusion of the evaluation missions from February and March, made by the European experts.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior was directly responsible for the following measures: *applying the Schengen Action Plan without any delay; achieving a high level of control and surveillance at the future outer border of the European Union; developing and applying an Action Plan and an updated integrated Strategy for reforming the judicial sector; passing a clear legal framework regarding the attributions of the Gendarmerie and Police and their co-operation, up to March 2005; developing and applying a coherent multi-annual strategy for countering organized crime* (common responsibility with the Ministry of Justice).

At the same time, the Ministry of Administration and Interior is an integrator ministry for the whole Chapter No. 24 – “Justice and Home Affairs”.

Up to present, M.A.I. rigorously observed the EU accession roadmap, all the measures within its province being entirely carried out, by the deadline. At the same time, there were taken some measures in advance, as well as the measures that the ministry was behind with.

For getting an accurate picture of the degree that the recommendations comprised in Chapter 24 J.H.A. had been accomplished, the European experts conducted 2 evaluation missions in the home affairs area, between **6-10 February** and **6-10 March** respectively.

In line with this, the first peer review mission aimed at evaluating the preparation degree Romania reached from the point of view of participating, in a future stage, in SIS II / VIS, as well as the current stage of the communications and IT infrastructure, in view of ensuring a high level of border control on the accession date.

The conclusions emphasized the fact that at the moment the Romanian authorities hold all the necessary IT&C information in the purpose of acceding in the future in the Schengen area. The only concerning aspect for the moment is the very tight deadlines for fulfilling the commitments.

The second mission regarded the progresses achieved in: countering corruption, organized crime and money laundering, personal data protection, border control, police co-operation and the juridical system reform.

The preliminary conclusions regarded the positive results related to the filling in of the vacancies, staff training and co-operation at the border level, the information exchange effectiveness, as well as to the new organization of the General Directorate for Organised Crime and Drugs Countering; it was also underscored the necessity to continue the arrangement of the arrest areas and the endowment necessary to the centralisation of the data and information at national level.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior will keep on taking the measures within its province, so as, by the end of 2006, Romania could meet all the requirements in view of its accession to the European Union.

For a more detailed report on the progresses achieved by Romania in the home affairs area you can access www.mai.gov.ro/english - E.U. Accession.

**March the 28th, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

Minister Vasile Blaga is paying an official visit to Spain

Tomorrow, 29 March 2006, Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga will start an official 2-day visit to Spain, occasion on which the Romanian and Spanish authorities will sign an *Agreement on co-operation in countering organised crime, terrorism and drug and human being trafficking*.

The visit agenda includes official talks with the Home Minister of the Spanish Kingdom, José Antonio Alonso Suárez, on the evaluation of the stage and perspectives of the co-operation between Romania and Spain in the home affairs area.

One of the highlights of the visit will also be represented by the meeting with the Minister of Public Administration of the Spanish Kingdom, Jordi Sevilla Segura. The dialogue between the two ministers will mainly focus on the public administration reform in Romania, on the law package initiated by the M.A.I. which is currently under debate in Parliament.

The diplomatic agenda of the Minister of Administration and Interior will also include the Minister's participation in the Congress of the European Popular Party, which is taking place in Rome, on Friday. On that occasion, Minister Vasile Blaga will hold talks with European home ministers and M.P.s belonging to this political party.

March the 28th, 2006
Bucharest

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The Head of the British Home Office, Charles Clarke, is visiting Romania upon the invitation of Minister Vasile Blaga

On 4-5 April 2006, the British Home Minister Charles Clarke will pay a visit to Romania, upon the invitation of Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga. This visit represents one of the highlights of the diplomatic actions that the Romanian authorities are taking, in the period prior to the moment of the decision on the date of Romania's accession to the European Union.

The British Home Minister and the Romanian Minister of Administration and Interior will hold talks on the degree of Romania's preparedness for integration into the European Union, a process in which the Ministry of Administration and Interior has benefited from Great Britain's consistent support.

At the same time, the two officials will analyse the possibility of launching and developing some new programmes of bi-lateral police co-operations, taking into consideration the great success of Reflex and Trident programmes, whose implementation highly contributed to the significant decrease in the illegal migration, human being trafficking and customs-related crimes.

Another common successful project of Romania and Great Britain in the field of home affairs is the Institutional Twinning Phare Project "**Developing mechanism of countering corruption within M.A.I.**", partnership within the framework of which the General Anti-Corruption Directorate of M.A.I. was set up and made operational, after the model of the counterpart British structure. "**The setting up, endowing and the institutional placing of G.A.D. proves M.A.I.'s political will, without which such a structure could not have been made functional. (...) G.A.D. had the ability and the will to embed in its internal organisational system concepts as transparency and responsibility, met for the first time in the Romanian administration**", appreciated the Head of the European Commission Delegation in Romania, Jonathan Scheele, in the end of this project.

The two ministers will also approach a series of other themes such as: enhancing co-operation in preventing and countering trans-border organised crime and continuing the campaign of preventing the general public of the risks of illegal migration, in general, and of the illegal migration in Great Britain, in special, based on the strategy drawn up by the British Government, the International Organisation for Migration and the Ministry of Administration and Interior, which represents another common initiative of great success.

The visit agenda also includes the conference "**Great Britain and Romania: together for countering crime and promoting justice**", action which will be followed by the signing of a memorandum on this issue between the British and Romanian authorities.

Great Britain ratified the Treaty of Romania's accession to the European Union this year in February.

"**The fact that Parliament approved the treaty unanimously underlines the strong support granted by the whole political scene of Great Britain to Romanian's integration into the European Union**", appreciated the British Prime Minister, Tony Blair.

March the 28th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES OF ROMANIA AND THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

Today, 28 March 2006, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Administration and Interior (1A Revolutiei Square, sector 1, Bucharest – former Senate headquarters), has taken place the ceremony of signing of the *Agreement Memorandum on the co-operation in the area of public administration, personnel management and organisation*, between the Ministry of Administration and Interior of Romania and the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic.

The document was signed by the Minister of Administration and Interior, **Vasile Blaga** and the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization of the Hellenic Republic **Prokopios Pavlopoulos**.

This memorandum is a proof of the two ministries' desire to strengthen and diversify the traditional relations existing between the two countries, based on the **Treaty of friendship, co-operation and good neighbourhood between Romania and the Hellenic Republic**, concluded in Bucharest on 28 November 1991. The document gives new dimensions to the bi-lateral co-operation in the domain of public administration, in view of Romania's future EU accession, and establishes the domains and forms of co-operation between the two ministries, in the context of the partnership relations between Romania and the Hellenic Republic.

During the discussions held, the two ministers have underlined the good relationships existing between Romania and Greece, and have shown that the two countries have not only a common present and future in the United Europe, but also common traditions, which gives them one more reason for developing a partnership relation in the domain of the European affairs.

Minister Vasile Blaga presented to his counterpart official the major progresses achieved by Romania in the process of public administration reform. He referred to the law package regarding the public administration reform, which is going to be passed by the Romanian Parliament in the period to come.

In turn, Mr Prokopios Pavlopoulos, the Greek minister of interior, public administration and decentralization, presented the organisational system of the public administration which is functioning in the Hellenic Republic, the actions necessary for developing some programmes financed by the European Union.

At the same time, the common interest in developing the collaboration between the public authorities of the two countries was emphasised; there was also paid special attention to the enhancing of the relationships existing between the representatives of the local public authorities from Romania and the Hellenic Republic, as they could essentially contribute to the strengthening of the practices of good local government and to the development of some programmes financed by communitarian funds.

The signing ceremony and the discussions have also been attended by Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic in Bucharest, HE Athanassios Dendoulis, as well as by other representatives of the two ministries' leadership teams.

March the 27th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

ROMANIANS EXTRADITED

Today, 27 March 2006, workers of the International Police Co-operation Centre will carry out the extradition of 4 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".

At the same time, another 2 Romanian citizen will be transferred in view of carrying on their prison sentence in their origin country: a Romanian citizen convicted in Germany will be transferred to Romania, and an English citizen will be transferred from Romania to Great Britain.

Thus:

- from Rome, at 14.25, will be brought:

- **CRĂCIUN Cristian**, 30, from Brasov, against whom the Brasov Court disposed the execution of a 2-year and 10-month prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny.
- **COMĂRZAN Florinel**, 21, from Tulcea, against whom Tulcea Court disposed the execution of a prison sentence of 1 year and 6 months, on charge of grand larceny.

- from Madrid, at 17.45, will be brought:

- **HARINKO Imre-Alin**, 22, from Vulcan, the county of Hunedoara, against whom Hunedoara Law Court and Petrosani Court disposed the execution of an 8-year prison sentence and 3-year prison sentence respectively, on charge of robbery and grand larceny. It is recorded that, on 1.11.2003 he, together with other criminals, robbed a man stealing from him a mobile telephone, more personal documents and a wallet with 1,200,000 ROL and 5 cards in it. At the same time, in the night of 10/11.01.2003, the above-mentioned person stole, from a hut in "Straja", more goods amounting to 100,000,000 ROL and belonging to a person accommodated there.
- **OLTEANU Marius**, 38, from Ploiesti, the county of Prahova, against whom Prahova Court disposed the execution of a 2-year prison sentence, on charge of influence trafficking. It is recorded that in January 2000 Olteanu Marius, saying that he could influence the police officer and the prosecutor who were working on his penal file, claimed and received a total sum of 34,000,000 ROL from different persons, in an attempt to exonerate them from the legal responsibility required.

- from Vienna, at 21.55, will be brought:

- **DEUTSCHMANN (BERCEA) Maria**, 29, from Sighetu Marmatiei, will be transferred in view of carrying on her 7-year prison sentence, disposed by the Austrian judiciary, on charge of serious battery. It is recorded that, on 24.11.2003, in Ewitsch, the above-mentioned person caused serious injuries to her husband, pouring hot oil on his face, shoulders and arms, disfiguring him and seriously affecting his ability to hear.

At the same time, today, (27.03.2006, 13.30 hrs.), at the "Henri Coanda" Airport from Bucharest, the British police officers took over in order to transfer to Great Britain:

- **PELGROM HANS**, 42, from St. Albans/Anglia, against whom Arad Court – Criminal Section imposed the execution of a 10-year prison sentence, on charge of swindle, in view of carrying on his sentence. It is recorded that this person, on 27.11.1997, together with another criminal, set up a trading company on delivering of tourism services; this way, they signed different contracts on tourism services, but had not included the sums acquired in their accountancy records for 5 years, using them in their personal interest.