

July the 9th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

ROMANIANS EXTRADITED/ TRANSFERRED FROM AUSTRIA

On Monday, **10 July, 2006**, at the International Airport “Henri Coanda”, workers within **the International Police Co-operation Centre (IPCC)** will carry out the transfer (in view of serving his prison sentence in Romania) of a Romanian citizen sentenced to life imprisonment by the Austrian authorities for having committed robbery and murder.

The Court of Appeal from Bucharest confirmed the warrant for the execution of the life imprisonment for **PAL LORINCZI** (aged 36, from Cristuru Secuiesc, Harghita County), which the Austrian judiciary issued on charge of robbery and murder.

It is recorded that, in September 1993, the above mentioned person committed assault and battery on a person, by immobilizing and choking him, and took away from him 45,000 Austrian schillings. Because of these acts of aggression, the victim deceased.

Also on Monday, at the same hour, the IPCC workers will carry out the extradition of the Romanian citizen **FARKAS MIRCEA GABRIEL** (aged 33, from Cozma Commune, Mures County), whom Mures Court sentenced to imprisonment, on charge of grand larceny.

July the 6th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

THE ROMANIANS' ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN FRANCE – AT AN INSIGNIFICANT LEVEL

Today, during a meeting with the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, the Ambassador of France in Bucharest, Hervé Bolot, underlined the visible effects of the policies implemented in our country, in the field of countering illegal migration.

“*The statistics are impressive*”, appreciated the French Ambassador. Hervé Bolot stated that the number of those Romanians who try to illegal cross the English Channel for reaching England from France significantly reduced. Thus, out of a total of 7,500 people who were recently not allowed to cross through the Calais border point, only 55 were Romanians. This number represents 0.7 percent, which the French authorities consider as an insignificant one.

These circumstances given, the Minister of Administration and Interior and the French Ambassador agreed upon the fact that now there is no need anymore to put in practice the project according to which Romania had to send a liaison officer with attributions in countering illegal migration to Calais.

The Ambassador’s statement comes after another appreciative remark on Romania’s efforts in this domain, made by the French Home Affairs Minister, Nicolas Sarkozy, who said - a short time ago - that Romania occupies the top place on the list of the countries which counter, in France, illegal migration and the crimes committed by their own nationals.

The statistics presented by the National French Gendarmerie in January 2006 confirms the decrease in the number of crimes in which Romanians are involved, in France. Thus, in 2005, only 880 Romanians (out of whom half were under-age) were charged with different crimes committed in France. The number of the Romanian prostitutes also decreased significantly, as only 35 prostitutes have been identified in France.

On the occasion of this visit, the Ambassador of France in Bucharest, Hervé Bolot, officially introduced Captain François Despres, specialist in domestic security – gendarmerie, who will work as counsellor of the minister Vasile Blaga, starting with September of this year.

The future counsellor graduated from the Institute of Public Sciences in Aix-en-Provence, the Officers' School of French Gendarmerie in Melun, and he is Doctor in Geo-politics. François Despres also graduated from the National Defence College in Romania. Captain Despres has been in Romania since 2003, and has been twinning resident counsellor near the Romanian Gendarmerie, in the framework of Phare Twinning Projects.

The Minister of Administration and Interior also has a German counsellor, Gernot Mager, who occupied an important position within the German Criminal Police.

July the 5th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES – ISSUE IN THE ROMANIAN AND EUROPEAN AUTHORITIES' ATTENTION

For the first time in Romania, on 4-5 July 2006, upon the initiative of the General Directorate of Intelligence and Internal Protection (GDIIP) and under the high patronage of the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, representatives of all the state institutions with responsibilities in the area of the regime of hazardous chemical substances reunited in Bucharest, within the framework of the seminar "*International movements of hazardous chemical substances*", for creating the necessary base for a common approach in this field.

As general questor Virgil Ardelean, the Head of GDIIP, stated, the "unsuitable management of the environment problems can lead to some problems of national security", and for that reason the institution headed by him found it appropriate to gather all the Romanian responsible structures under the co-ordination of the European experts.

For this activity, it was asked the support of **TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) Office** within the European Commission, which, as co-organiser, made it possible for this reunion to develop. In the context of this seminar, 7 European experts in this particular field (from the Regional Centre of the Basel Convention, from Lithuania, Spain, Slovakia) and 12 Romanian referents addressed different issues on the **Basel convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**, ratified by Romania in 1991.

The specialists shared their expertise to the 110 participants in this seminar, representatives of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, the Ministry of Environment and Waters Administration, the National Defence Ministry, the National Environment Guard, the National Commission for the Nuclear Activities Control, the Ministry of Justice, the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Romanian Intelligence Service, the Foreign Intelligence Service and the National Customs Authority.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The TAIEX Office is a structure within the European Commission which grants short-term assistance in various fields to the EU Member States, candidate states, the countries in the Western Balkans, and Russia, in view of aligning their legislation with the European standards.

The assistance given by the TAIEX Office includes: European experts' counselling and guidance, study visit in the member states for the beneficiary countries' representatives, seminars, workshops, training courses etc.

July the 5th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

MINISTER VASILE BLAGA PARTICIPATES IN THE EURO-AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION

Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, will participate on 10-11 July 2006, in Rabat (Morocco), in the *Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development* - an important international event which reunite 30 European states and 27 African states, as well as the European Commission and other regional and international organisations.

Within the framework of the Conference the participants will try to establish a global response to the issue of migration between Africa and the European Union, based on a partnership between the origin, transit and destination countries.

This issue is also one of Romania's concerns because our country is situated on the illegal migration route which is used by Afro-Asian nationals, and utilized by the networks led by guides who are members of some criminal organisations from the former soviet countries.

At the same time, Romania is highly preoccupied with the fact that, once in the European Union, it will soon turn from a transit country into a destination country for the illegal migration, the same way that happened with the states that joined the E.U. in 2004. **"We have to be prepared for the moment when Romania becomes tempting for the people who are looking for a better life"**, appreciated the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga.

The Euro-African conference on migration and development represents a tripartite initiative of Morocco, France and Spain, and represents the follow-up of the conclusions reached by the European Council from Brussels, gathered in December 2005, and the Informal European Summit, held in Hampton Court.

July the 3rd, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED 65 YEARS AGO

"...it is important to remember what happened 65 years ago in Europe, in Romania as well", said Paul Shapiro, Director of the Centre for Advanced Holocaust Studies, on the occasion of signing of the Co-operation Agreement between the National Archives of M.A.I. and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Administration and Interior.

He wanted to underline that, based on this bi-lateral agreement, many of the survivors of the Holocaust could find out what happened to their families.

The new legal instrument comes after a series of agreements that have been previously concluded, even since 1990, this being the 4th document on this matter.

The agreement was signed, on behalf of the Romanian party, by principal questor Dr. **Mircea Alexandru** – secretary of state within M.A.I., and on behalf of the American party, by **Paul Shapiro** – Director of the Centre for Advanced Holocaust Studies.

"This agreement mainly regards the co-operation in the field of archive research within the National Archives of Romania, with a view to identifying the documents about the Holocaust and those documents which are relevant to the Holocaust history, in general", stated the secretary of state, Mircea Alexandru.

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Between the 30th of June and the 3rd of July, a delegation of the Holocaust Memorial Museum from the United States has paid a visit to Bucharest.

The delegation included Mr. Paul Shapiro – the Director of the Centre for Advanced Holocaust Studies and Radu Ioanid – archive programme Director, both of them within the Holocaust Memorial Museum from Washington.

A distinct question on the visit agenda was the meeting between the delegation and the principal questor Dr. Alexandru Mircea, secretary of state within M.A.I., as well as the signing of the *bi-lateral co-operation agreement*.