

May the 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

## BULLETIN

### Tomorrow Minister Vasile Blaga is making a presentation before the European MPs

On Monday, one day before the European Commission's Report, the Minister of Administration and Interior - Vasile Blaga will present, before the Members of the European Parliament, Romania's stage of preparedness on EU accession in the home affairs field. This presentation will take place in the Commission for Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament.

Minister Vasile Blaga expressed his confidence that the European Commission's report for Romania would be a favourable one, as far as Chapter No. 24 – Justice and Home Affairs is concerned, as impressive progress was achieved in the area, and all the specific backlogs from the previous years were cleared. **“The Ministry of Administration and Interior did its homework on EU accession rigorously and with full responsibility”**, said Minister Vasile Blaga.

According to the Minister of Administration and Interior, this progress was included as well in the European experts' reports issued after the monitoring missions that had taken place between December 2005 and March 2006, which the European Commission's monitoring report - due to be issued on Tuesday, 16 May 2006 - will base on.

On Tuesday, the Minister of Administration and Interior will be in Salzburg, to take part in the reunion where the European Commission is going to present the report on Romania's and Bulgaria's progress.

May the 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
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## BULLETIN

### ROMANIANS EXTRADITED

On **15 May, 2006**, workers of the International Police Co-operation Centre will carry out the extradition of 4 Romanian citizens, convicted for different crimes committed in our country, and will bring them in Romania at the International Airport “Henri Coanda”. Thus:

- **from Rome, 14.25 hrs**, will be extradited:
  - **SCUTARIU MIHAI TOMEL**, aged 34, from Reșița, Caraș-Severin County, against whom Reșița Court disposed the execution of a 3-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny; împotriva căruia Judecătoria a emis mandatul de executare a pedepsei închisorii de 3 ani și 6 luni, pentru comiterea infracțiunii de furt calificat.
  - **SCARLAT ARUN**, aged 38, from Craiova, Dolj County, against whom Segarcea Court disposed the execution of a 1-year and 1-month prison sentence, on charge of indecent behaviour and disturbance of public order.
- **from Milan, 14.55 hrs**, will be extradited:
  - **CONSTANDACHE RELU**, aged 37, from Tecuci, Galati County, against whom Tecuci Court disposed the execution of a 3-year and 8-month prison sentence, on charge of grand larceny, and breaking and entering.
  - **STANCA FLORIN**, aged 19, from Slatina, Olt County, against whom Slatina Court disposed the execution of a 1-year and 6-month prison sentence, on charge grand larceny.

May the 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Bucharest

## BULLETIN

### ROMANIA WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO E.U. SECURITY

*“Romania will make an important contribution to the security of the European Union and its neighbourhood, and we hope Romania will join the E.U. on 1 January 2007”*, stated Mr Kim Howells, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister of State, in a press conference today.

**“Great Britain is supporting and will keep on supporting Romania’s EU accession”**, said the British official, who was impressed with the presentation of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, on the Romania’s outcomes in the border security field, and in countering organised crime, human trafficking and weapons proliferation.

In his turn, Minister Vasile Blaga stated that after 1 January 2007, Romania will have to prove once more that it desires the responsibility that it was entrusted, by the authoritative voice of the European Commission’s Vice-president, to be *“supportive to Europe, if it assumes the role of a reliable factor in countering crime in the region”*.

Present in Bucharest for signing the **Agreement** - between *Foreign and Commonwealth Office* of Great Britain and the *Ministry of Administration and Interior, Public Finances Ministry, Public Ministry and National Office for Money Laundering Countering and Preventing* of Romania - on **Training on the European Criminal Intelligence Model**, Kim Howells had an official meeting with the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga.

The official talks focused on the consistent support that Great Britain has granted to Romania, and implicitly, to the Ministry of Administration and Interior, aimed at preparing Romania to join the European Union, on 1 January 2007. *“We are looking forward to Romania’s becoming a full EU member, and to its becoming an equal partner within the European Union”*, Kim Howells added.

At the same time, the officials discussed issues regarding the launching and development of some new programmes and initiatives of bilateral police co-operation, considering the great success of REFLEX and TRIDENT projects, whose implementation contributed to the significant decrease in the illegal migration, human trafficking and in the customs-related crimes. These results obtained led to the decision to extend the REFLEX Project up to March 2007 and to make the TRIDENT Project operational, by setting up three specialised operational units in Constanta Harbour, the International Airport “Henri Coanda” and in the border crossing point Giurgiu.

This agreement on Training on the European Criminal Intelligence Model implies the obligation of the both of Parties to co-operate so as to ensure the necessary training for the 200 managers from the Romanian institutions involved in European Criminal Intelligence Model. The British assistance will also focus on the necessary training for other 100 people from the Romanian institutions that benefit from the *“train for trainers”* modules. This concept represents a new practical way to put into practice the most effective training mechanisms, required in the E.U. context.

As, according to the latest statistics, from 1 January 2006 to the present, 237 Romanian citizens were sent back from abroad, based on the bilateral Readmission Agreement, it is necessary that the co-operation at the operational level continue.

This high-level meeting has a special significance to Romania, and to the Ministry of Administration and Interior as well, considering the role that our country has assumed in the process of ensuring an area of liberty, security and justice in Europe, aspect which is regarded as a milestone for Romania’s EU integration.

**May the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Bucharest**

## BULLETIN

### MINISTER VASILE BLAGA WILL SIGN WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM AN AGREEMENT ON TRAINING ON THE EUROPEAN CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE MODEL

Tomorrow, 10 May 2006, at the M.A.I. headquarters, the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, will meet a delegation from Great Britain, led by Dr. Kim Howells, Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister of State.

The official talks which are to be held will focus on the consistent support that Great Britain has granted to Romania, and implicitly, to the Ministry of Administration and Interior, aimed at preparing Romania to join the European Union, on 1 January 2007.

At the same time, the officials will be discussing issues regarding the launching and development of some new programmes and initiatives of bilateral police co-operation, considering the great success of REFLEX and TRIDENT projects, whose implementation contributed to the significant decrease in the illegal migration, human trafficking and in the customs-related crimes. In line with this, there will be emphasised the importance of strengthened co-operation in preventing and countering all types of trans-national organised crime.

This visit agenda also includes the signing of **an Agreement** - between the *Ministry of Administration and Interior, Public Finances Ministry, Public Ministry and National Office for Money Laundering Countering and Preventing of Romania*, and *Foreign and Commonwealth Office* of Great Britain - on **Training on the European Criminal Intelligence Model**.

**The signing ceremony, followed by a press conference, will take place at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Valahia Hall, on the same day (10 May 2006), 11.30 hrs.**

This high-level meeting has a special significance to Romania, and to the Ministry of Administration and Interior as well, considering the role that our country has assumed in the process of ensuring an area of liberty, security and justice in Europe, aspect which is regarded as a milestone for Romania's EU integration.

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*The journalists accredited with M.A.I. are kindly asked to confirm their participation in this event, organised at Crowne Plaza Hotel - Valahia Hall, at the Press Office of the British Embassy in Romania - Tel.: 021/201 72 42, E-mail [Press.Bucharest@fco.gov.uk](mailto:Press.Bucharest@fco.gov.uk).*

**May the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Bucharest**

#### **BULLETIN**

#### **The European Commission has no reason to recommend the postponing of Romania's E.U. accession, if considering Chapter "Justice and Home Affairs"**

From the point of view of Chapter No. 24 – "Justice and Home Affairs", the European Commission has no reason to recommend the postponing of Romania's E.U. accession in the report which is going to be issued on the 16 May 2006, stated the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, within the framework of a meeting with some representatives of the German media, present today in Bucharest.

According to Minister Vasile Blaga, the Commission's report will be a "plain" one, which will comprise the progress that has already been included in the preliminary reports, drawn up on the occasion of the four monitoring missions at the Ministry of Administration and Interior (in December 2005, January, February and March 2006). The content of these reports is already known to the Ministry of Administration and Interior, and it is regarded as objective and fair, Vasile Blaga also showed.

The final decision on the accession date will be made in one month's time, within the framework of the European Council which is going to be held in Brussels on 15-16 June 2006, based on this report. "**Any other decision regarding Romania would be unfair**", said the Minister of Administration and Interior.

"**The accession treaty provides some obligations for the both of Parties. Romania has accomplished all the requirements, so that there is no reason for it not to be accepted in the European Union on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2007**", stated Vasile Blaga.

Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, showed - in his answers to the German journalists' questions - that he did not want to make comparison between the preparedness level of Romania and the one of Bulgaria regarding the E.U. accession. "**We do not want to be in competition with the Bulgarian colleagues, but to develop a partnership with them, as future partners in the European Union**", the Minister of Administration and Interior also said.

"**As one of the officials with great responsibility in the Romanian Government for our country's E.U. accession, I would like to underline the fact that the Ministry of Administration and Interior fully accomplished the E.U. requirements, which were altogether over 300, out of which some implied enormous expenditures; it also**

**managed to carried out all the measures that the ministry was behind with during the previous years”**, stated Minister Vasile Blaga in the context of this meeting.

Minister Vasile Blaga presented before the German journalists the main points relevant for the preparedness level of the Ministry of Administration and Interior. According to the Ministry, the four aspects referred to in the safeguard clause (three within the specific province of M.A.I., and one - organised crime - within the common province of M.A.I. and the Ministry of Justice) were solved or are currently being finalised.

Thus, a coherent strategy of public order ensuring was drawn up in the spring of 2005, and the outcomes of the fight against organised crime were highly appreciated by all the experts present in Romania. As regards the border security, in May of this year, M.A.I. has to employ more 509 persons for entirely covering the vacancies at the future EU outer border; in this way, it will meet the EU requirement seven months before the deadline. The aim regarding the ensuring of a high level of border control and surveillance, at the green and blue border, will also be reached before the established deadline, at the latest in early November, within the framework of the contract signed with EADS.

**“Romania will have to manage a 2,070 km-long external border, the second longest external border managed by the Member-States. This border is not only long but also extremely difficult considering the area, the Danube’s status as an international river, and - not least - the recent changes in the organised crime routes”**, showed the Minister of Administration and Interior. According to Vasile Blaga, Romania will make a significant contribution to the European Union, by providing an area of safety and security.