

BULLETIN
No. 124 on May 19th, 2009

THE MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION AND INTERIOR – AT THE SECOND EVALUATION MISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Yesterday, May 18, 2009, the European Commission started its second mission of evaluation within the framework of the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism (MCV), which takes place between 18 and 22 May 2009.

This time the European experts allow for the measures aiming at countering corruption in the vulnerable sectors and in the public administration, with a special focus on the institutions enforcing the *National Strategy on Preventing and Countering Corruption in the Vulnerable Sectors and in the Local Public Administration, for 2008-2010*.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior presents, through the General Anti-Corruption Directorate (DGA) and the Central Unit for the Public Administration Reform (UCRAP), the stage of fulfillment of the measures provided by the above-mentioned document, with a special focus on the activities assigned to our institution.

According to the questionnaire drawn up by the European Commission, the Ministry of Administration and Interior presented a **Report regarding the Activity DGA in August 2008 - April 2009**.

This report included references on the following aspects: the update of the cases' record at the DGA level, information on the operational capacity (human resources, training, infrastructure), the prevention activity carried out within MAI, as well as data referring to the institutional development (including the cooperation developed between DGA and other institutions in this area).

As for the cases' record, the following results were achieved:

During the above-mentioned period, in the criminal area, at the level of the DGA structures 841 situations were notified as follows: 277 denunciations, 61 self-denunciations, 119 legal actions, 75 notifications lodged with other MAI units, 98 "ex officio" actions (DGA), 211 files from the prosecutor's offices.

At the same time, during the same period of time, other 1445 petitions were filed (out of which 69 turned into legal actions) and 4156 calls via TELVERDE (out of which 12 turned into legal actions).

Background information

This mission is part of a series of three missions organized this year in Romania by the European Commission.

The first evaluation mission developed between 5-7 May, 2009, and focused on the effectiveness, resources and performance of the judiciary system in fighting against corruption.

The experts' team will be in Bucharest again at the beginning of June, for a third mission aiming at evaluating the progress achieved in meeting the four requirements set out by the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism. There will be developed talks with all the institutions with attributions in this area.

For preparing each mission, the Romanian authorities sent to the European Commission various reports on the progress achieved by Romania, for providing it with a full image of the realities of the Romanian judiciary system and of the way of fighting corruption at central and local level.

The results of the evaluation missions and the independent experts' reports who are going to take part in these missions will have a critical role in the drawing of the conclusions of the European Commission's summer report.

BULLETIN
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The Common Tri-lateral Romanian-Bulgarian-Serbian Centre will be functional starting July, in Vidin (Bulgaria)

The decision was reached during the three home ministers' meeting taking place on May 19, 2009, in Bulgaria.

Dan NICA, vice-Prime-Minister, minister of administration and interior, together with Mihail MIKOV, minister of internal affairs of the Bulgarian Republic, and with Ivica DAČIĆ, deputy of the Prime Minister, minister of internal affairs of the Serbian Republic, have decided that the issues tackled within this Centre should refer to customs and police cooperation.

The Bulgarian party is going to set forth proposals on the functioning of this Centre that will be rendered functional when an agreement has been signed in this regard.

During the same yesterday meeting, was signed a **Common Declaration** reconfirming the parties' commitment to enhance cooperation in tri-lateral format between the relevant ministries of Romania, Bulgaria and Serbia.

At the same time, the Romanian and Bulgarian internal ministers signed two new instruments of judiciary cooperation, that is The Agreement between the Romanian and the Bulgarian Governments on the Trans-Border Police Cooperation in Criminal Matters and The Agreement between the Romanian and Bulgarian Governments on the Setting up and Functioning of the Common Centre for Customs and Police Cooperation.

Background information

In Romania/ Giurgiu, a Romanian-Bulgarian Contact Centre has been functioning since December 2002, ensuring enlarged information exchange at regional level, at the border between Turkey and Western Europe.

The up-to-date equipment (giving possibility to transmit information by encrypting / digitalizing it) created the possibility for the Centre's workers to draw up thousands of operational documents upon the request of the institutions with attributions in countering trans-border crimes in both states.

The main areas of cooperation are the following ones: countering of human beings trafficking, illegal migration, stolen cars trafficking, travel document counterfeit and persons' identification.