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**Project on**  
**Regional Cooperation against Cybercrime**  
**in South-eastern Europe**

**- Summary -**

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Project title	Regional Cooperation in Criminal Justice: Strengthening capacities in the fight against cybercrime (DGHL/2010/2467)
Project area	Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Montenegro, Serbia as well as Kosovo*, and Turkey
Budget	EUR 2,777,778
Funding	European Commission (IPA Regional Programme 2010) and Council of Europe
Project partners	France (Ministry of Interior), Italy (Postal and Communication Police Service), Romania (Prosecution Service and National Police), Slovenia (Criminal Police), University College Dublin
Implementation	Economic Crime Division (Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe)
Duration	30 months (1 November 2010 – 30 April 2013) <sup>1</sup>

**BACKGROUND**

Countries of the Western Balkans and Turkey, like societies in other regions of the world, rely increasingly on information and communication technologies, and they are thus vulnerable to threats such as cybercrime.

It is therefore essential that countries strengthen their capacities to meet this challenge, and in particular enhance their ability to cooperate at regional and international levels.

Through this regional project, the European Union and the Council of Europe – in cooperation with other partners – will support them in their efforts based on existing tools and instruments, including in particular the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

<sup>1</sup> Original duration of project was 24 months (1 November 2010 – 31 October 2012)

## OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Objective	<b>To strengthen the capacities of criminal justice authorities of Western Balkans and Turkey to cooperate effectively against cybercrime</b>
Result 1	<b>Cybercrime policies and strategies:</b> Policy- and decision-makers are aware of cybercrime threats and human rights implications and have reached agreement on strategic priorities regarding cybercrime for Western Balkans and Turkey
Result 2	<b>Harmonisation of legislation:</b> Amendments are drafted to bring relevant legislation fully in line with the EU acquis, in particular the Convention on Cybercrime (CETS 185) and its Protocol on Xenophobia and Racism (CETS 189), and thus ensure harmonisation of legislation within Western Balkans and Turkey
Result 3	<b>International cooperation:</b> Enhanced regional and international law enforcement and judicial cooperation against cybercrime based on Chapter III of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime
Result 4	<b>LEA training:</b> Law enforcement training strategy agreed by Ministries of Interior and implementation initiated
Result 5	<b>Judicial training:</b> Judicial training on cybercrime and electronic evidence integrated into the curricula of training institutions for judges and prosecutors
Result 6	<b>Financial investigations:</b> Capacities of financial investigators, Financial Intelligence Units (FIU), and/or relevant law enforcement units in charge of fighting against cyber criminals in following crime proceeds on the internet improved and their cooperation with the financial sector strengthened
Result 7	<b>LEA-ISP cooperation:</b> Cooperation between law enforcement and Internet service providers (ISPs) in investigations related to cybercrime strengthened
Result 8	<b>Assessments:</b> Regional assessments carried out to determine progress made in terms of legislation, the strengthening institutional capacities for the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cybercrime and international cooperation

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