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PRECOP-RF

Joint EU/CoE project on Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices

2nd Progress Report

Project number	title and	2312/Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices (PRECOP RF)
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The PRECOP RF is funded through the Partnership for Modernization, a jointly launched initiative by the EU and Russian authorities. One of the priority areas of this initiative is the effective functioning of the judiciary and strengthening of the fight against corruption.

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Abbreviations

CoE	Council of Europe
DoA	Description of Action
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation (In the Russian Federation)
GRECO	The Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption
MONEYVAL	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism
P4M	Partnership for Modernisation
PRECOP	Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights from Corrupt Practices
RF	Russian Federation
ROM	Result Oriented Monitoring
SC	Steering Committee
ToR	Terms of Reference

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1 Description

1.1 Contact Person

Ms Verena Taylor, Director, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (ODGProg), Council of Europe.

1.2 Name and Partners in the Action

Council of Europe and European Union

1.3 Title of Action

Project on “Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices (PRECOP RF)”.

1.4 Contract Number

CRIS No. 2012/310-269

1.5 Start and End Date of the Reporting Period

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014 (of total project duration of 36 months)

1.6 Beneficiaries

Main Beneficiary Institution: The office of the Business Ombudsman is the main beneficiary and counterpart for the project; as such the office plays an important role in the coordination of the local institutions and in ensuring their full participation and contribution to the successful implementation of the activities foreseen in the project. Other indirect beneficiaries include: government bodies, business associations, legal associations and the general public through the impact of the project on the increased protection of entrepreneurs rights.

2 Executive Summary

This report covers the project activities undertaken from January until December 2014.

A longer than usual inception phase (1 January 2013 - 30 September 2013) provided the opportunity to review the Description of Action together with the main counterparts in the Russian Federation. The project was adjusted and fine-tuned, and it gained the full support of the key partners in the Russian Federation. Consequently, when the implementation phase started on 15 October 2013, the project was quickly up to speed and on schedule, in line with timeframes set in the workplan.

To date, the project has delivered a specially tailored Training Handbook and eight Technical Papers – legal and technical opinions on draft legislation and policies aimed at preventing corruption. Eleven activities were completed in relation to the topics analysed in the technical papers.

In addition, the project contributed to other activities organized by the Federal Business Ombudsman's Office - the first and second All-Russian Conference of Experts Supporting the Federal Business Ombudsman on "*pro bono publico*" Basis and the Roundtable on Anti-Corruption Activities organized by the Experts' Council of the Federal Business Ombudsman.

From its beginning the project adopted a multifaceted approach in order to reach the broadest possible target group. In this regard, the management team ensured that representatives of all regional business ombudsman offices were given equal opportunity to participate in the project activities. This approach will also apply to the training events, which aim to provide training on "Good practices on anti-corruption and the functioning of the Regional Business Ombudsman Offices" for at least one representative of every regional business ombudsman's office.

In addition to bringing expertise and good practices from other Council of Europe member states, the project draws heavily on local expertise thus making sure that any proposals for reform take into account the specific conditions in the Russian Federation. With the same objective in mind, all expert recommendations made in draft technical papers are discussed in detail in subsequent workshops. The final version of the recommendations in the technical papers takes into account the input from the participants in the various activities organized under the project.

Throughout the reporting period, the beneficiaries actively participated and supported the project activities. The project has garnered strong support from both the office of the Federal Business Ombudsman and the Regional Business Ombudsmen. More than five Regional Business Ombudsmen have taken initiatives with a view to hosting project activities in their regions.

The participation in the project activities at high level, including of Regional Business Ombudsmen themselves – most of them are Vice-Governors or members of Presidential Administrations of the regions - attests to the strong support and interest the project is generating.

The project management team has consistently sought to ensure that all regions take part in the project activities, and made an effort to keep a balance with regard to gender

representation. It is worth mentioning that approximately 40% of the participants in project activities are women. The same approach was adopted for the selection of international and local experts. A balanced gender representation is a precondition for further gender mainstreaming of the project outputs.

As the project is entering in the second and last year of implementation it will be important to maintain, together with the main beneficiaries and other stakeholders, the strong momentum achieved. This will be especially important in terms of ensuring the implementation of recommendations and the concrete use of the deliverables provided by the project—hence ensuring the impact of the project itself.

3 Current Status: Country Situation

3.1 Anti-Corruption developments in the Russian Federation during the reporting period

Since 2008 and onwards the Russian government is actively implementing a wide range of legislative and enforcement measures to combat corruption in different sectors. These efforts have resulted with the creation of new institutions responsible for fighting corruption as well as with changes in legislation and government policy. In 2013 the Russian authorities have adopted a number Federal Laws on anti-corruption which regulate the procedure for tenders, establish requirements for declaration of incomes as well as restrict the right to hold bank accounts outside Russia for the certain categories of civil servants.

On 3rd of December 2013 by the Order of the President of the Russian Federation a Department on combating corruption was established within the President's Administration. The newly established Department on combating corruption will be, *inter alia* controlling the process of implementation of Federal anti-corruption laws and orders of the President, and has the capacity to adopt additional measures aimed to combat corruption.

On 11 April 2014 President Vladimir Putin signed a Decree no 226 on the National Anti-Corruption Plan for 2014-2015. The National Anti-Corruption Plan is mainly focusing on increased efforts to: improve the organizational capacities of combating corruption in the regions of the Russian Federation; enforcement of legal acts in anti-corruption area; intensification of anti-corruption education of citizens; and, adoption of normative acts related to fight against corruption.

In December 2014 members of the expert's council of the Federal Business Ombudsman were involved in discussions on the drafting of legislation for the protection of the whistleblowers. In this regard the input from the technical papers prepared under the PRECOP RF project was presented as justification and background material in support of the enactment of such legislation.

In December 2014, President Vladimir Putin submitted to the State Duma a draft Federal Law on Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation, the draft Federal Law aims to improve criminal law provisions for preventing corruption-related crimes. These amendments would make a considerable change in the sentencing practice for corruption-related crimes as these amendments to anti-corruption laws introduce fines of up to 100 times the sum of the offered bribe or value of the commercial deal in question as the main penalty for bribery and corrupt business practices.

3.2 Developments relating to the Institution of Business Ombudsman in the Russian Federation

The main objective of the Federal Business Ombudsman as a newly established institution is to protect the rights of entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation. There have been a few important developments during 2014 which relate to the work of the Business Ombudsman at the Federal and Regional levels.

The Federal Law no 78-FZ on Business Ombudsmen in the Russian Federation is in force from 7 May 2013 and was amended by the Federal Law no 294-FZ of 2 November 2013. This Law establishes powers, competences and objectives for the Federal Business

Ombudsman and regional business ombudsmen. Moreover the law describes the procedure of examining complaints.

The Office of the Federal Business Ombudsman has received over 6500 complaints that have been filed by members of the business community. More than 2000 applications were submitted directly to the Federal Business Ombudsman's Office while the regional Business Ombudsmen have handled over 4500 applications.

3.3 Developments concerning PRECOP project

During the 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (18 April 2014) of the PRECOP project Mr Vladimir Tarabrin Ambassador at Large on International Anticorruption Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, proposed that the results of the PRECOP project be presented at the Sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC which is planned to take place in the Russian Federation in the 2nd part of year 2015.

This could provide a good venue to discuss the findings of the various technical papers prepared during the implementation of the project up to that point.

4 Assessment of Implementation: 1 January 2014–31 December 2014

4.1 Achievements

Up to now the PRECOP team has managed to build a strong working relationship with the staff and representatives of the Federal Ombudsman for the Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights. Project staff is invited to attend various meetings on anti-corruption issues organised by the beneficiary institution.

Key achievements of the project in the reporting period are:

- 1) Seven technical papers (TP) and a training handbook for regional business ombudsmen and their staff were drafted by experts contracted by the Council of Europe; four TPs present a comparative analysis of the situation in the Russian Federation against other Council of Europe member-states, two TPs topically are related to aforementioned papers but focus mainly on the identification of solutions and making of recommendations for improvement (see points 1.1 – 1.3 below) and the last TP presents the case law of ECtHR on the protection of the rights of entrepreneurs. The findings of these papers were discussed in workshops which were attended by representatives of various institutions from the Russian Federation including participation of regional ombudsmen or their representatives, pro bono lawyers, representatives of business associations and the civic chamber in Moscow.

The findings from the technical papers (TP) and the discussions in the workshops have resulted with the adoption of recommendations relating to the issues analysed in the papers and discussed at these workshops. Below is a short list (more detailed information available in the technical papers) of some of these recommendations:

- 1.1) Recommendations from technical paper on “Proposals for strengthening the prevention of the misuse of public authority in the corporate sector” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP2/2014):
 - a. An anti-raiding law should be considered in the Russian Federation with a precise definition of an illegal raid and its constitutive elements. Based on this law, respective criminal law provisions should be introduced.
 - b. Introduce safeguards and more detailed procedure and precise time limits concerning the obligation of all institutions, enterprises, organizations, officials and citizens to comply with requests, orders and inquiries of a public prosecutor, investigator, an inquirer or a body of inquiry.
 - c. The Russian authorities should consider strengthening remedies against abuses and violations committed in the framework of criminal investigations. A definition of abuse of process by investigative authorities should be introduced through legal provisions or through judicial interpretation to ensure that adequate sanctions are available.
 - d. Searches and seizures should respect the protection of confidential business information and trade secrets. Mechanisms should be in place to protect this information and other documents.
- 1.2) Recommendations from technical paper “Proposals to regulate the whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP4/2014):

- a. The authorities, as foreseen in the Anti-Corruption action plan, should ensure the regulation of whistleblower protection through specific legislation. The new law should take into account the CoE Recommendation¹ (CM/Rec(2014)7) on whistleblower protection and other international standards.
 - b. Any new legislation will need to include convincing measures to adequately protect the whistleblowers including here measures to ensure confidentiality of the reporting by whistleblowers in the area of corruption.
 - c. The Federal Business Ombudsman and Regional Business Ombudsmen's offices are one of the promising channels that should support businesses willing to report wrongdoing.
- 1.3) Recommendations from the technical paper on "International and Russian pro bono practices" (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP5/2014):
- a. improvement of the legal culture of pro bono aid recipients, primarily, non-profit organizations and government authorities (for example, through holding of public seminars, conferences, as well as through establishing of non-profit non-public legal assistance centers,);
 - b. devising agreements to develop the pro bono system by professional trade associations of legal consultants; devising a National Pro Bono System Agreement by "captains" of legal business in Russia and major offices of international law firms with the right of accession by professional legal consultants (both organizations and sole proprietors). The scope of such agreement may include standards of pro bono legal aid (of advisory nature), forms of agreements for such aid, a list of persons entitled to such aid on a first priority basis etc.;
 - c. Entering into agreements between the federal business ombudsman and the Russia's Law Society (regional divisions of the Russia's Law Society and the regional business ombudsmen) on cooperation in pro bono field; and
 - d. Identify ways of incentivising pro bono work by lawyers and law firms by drawing from international good practices.
- 2) Introduced the work of the CoE and the ECtHR to a group of twelve lawyers who participated in a study visit organized in February 2014. The aim of the study visit was to provide first-hand information on the functioning of the ECtHR and its case law on corruption and protection of entrepreneur's rights;
 - 3) Presented the Council of Europe standards in the fight against corruption and money laundering to a group of 15 participants consisting of Regional Business Ombudsmen and representatives of the Federal Business Ombudsman's Office. The participants discussed on the anti-corruption standards, the functioning of GRECO and MONEYVAL, the ECtHR case law on protection of entrepreneurs etc.; and

4.2 Technical papers prepared within the project

During the reporting period the project developed the following technical papers and training manuals:

- Technical paper on "Preventing misuse of public authority in the corporate sector" (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP1/2014);

¹ <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=2188855&Site=CM>

- Technical paper with “Proposals to strengthen the prevention of misuse of public authority in the corporate sector in the Russian Federation” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP2/2014);
- Technical paper “Comparative analysis of practices for protection of whistleblowers in the area of corruption in Council of Europe member states” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP3/2014);
- Technical paper with “Proposals to regulate the whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP4/2014);
- Technical paper “Comparative analysis of International and Russian pro bono practice” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP5/2014);
- Training handbook on “Good practices on anti-corruption and functioning of the regional business ombudsman offices” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP6/2014);
- Handbook on “Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP7/2014); and
- Review of “European Court of Human Rights case law on protection of entrepreneurs’ rights” (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP8/2014).

4.3 Overview of the implementation activities by expected result

4.3.1 Implementation phase: (1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014)

The implementation phase of the project began on the 1st of October 2013, with the organizing of the 1st Steering Committee Meeting and the Launching event both organized in Moscow on 14 and 15 October 2013.

The following are the activities which took place during the implementation phase:

- Organized a study visit to the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights for pro bono lawyers supporting the Federal Business Ombudsman’s Office (11-12 February 2014, Strasbourg, France);
- Organized a workshop on “Strengthening Integrity and Rule of Law measures to prevent misuse of public authority in corporate conflicts, eliminating competition and forced takeovers” (14-15 April 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation);
- Organized a workshop on “Practices for the protection of whistleblowers in the area of corruption in the Council of Europe member-states” (17 April 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation);
- Held the 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (18 April 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation);
- Organized a workshop on “International and Russian pro bono practices” (4 June 2014, Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation);
- Organized a workshop on “International and Russian pro bono practices” (6 June 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation);
- Held the first pilot training on “Good practices on anti-corruption and the functioning of the Regional Business Ombudsman offices” (24 - 25 September 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation);
- Organized a “Study visit of Regional Business Ombudsmen to the CoE” (13-14 November 2014, Strasbourg France);
- Held the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (20 November 2014);
- Organized a seminar on “Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs” (17 December 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation); and

- Organized a seminar on “Case law of the European Court of Human Rights for the Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights” (18 December 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation).

4.3.2 Implementation of project

Expected Result 0	
Activity 0.3	2nd Steering Committee Meeting
Actions	<p>The 2st Steering Committee meeting took place on 18 April 2014. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Igor Korzenkov, Head of the Secretariat of the Office Federal Ombudsman for the Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights and Mr Alexis Loeber, Head of Section at the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The Steering Committee discussed the progress in the implementation of the project between the two meetings. It was agreed that the project is moving forward in accordance with the workplan.</p> <p>Representatives of the Russian authorities gave positive feedback regarding the quality of the written materials and the discussions in the workshops organized under the project.</p> <p>Mr Vladimir Tarabrin, Ambassador at Large on International Anticorruption Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, proposed that the results of the PRECOP project are presented at the 6th Sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC which is planned to take place in the Russian Federation in the 2nd part of year 2015.</p> <p>In this meeting the project management team presented the 1st progress report, an updated workplan and a brief overview of the activities that are foreseen in the period until the next Steering Committee meeting.</p> <p>The members of the Steering Committee adopted the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted the Progress report (1 January 2013-31 December 2013) Reviewed and adopted the workplan and calendar of activities
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Progress report adopted by the Steering Committee An updated workplan and calendar of activities available and under use for leading project implementation.
Progress	Meeting took place on 18 April 2014 in Moscow, Russian Federation.
Activity 0.4	3rd Steering Committee Meeting
Actions	<p>The 3rd Steering Committee meeting of the PRECOP RF project took place at the Federal Business Ombudsman’s Office in Moscow on November 20, 2014. Mr. Igor Korzenkov, Head of the Federal Ombudsman’s Office Secretariat and Ms. Natalia Samikova, Project Manager in the Operations Section, Delegation of the European Union to the Russian Federation co-chaired the meeting.</p> <p>The Steering Committee discussed the progress in the implementation of the project between the two meetings. It was agreed that the project is moving</p>

	<p>forward in accordance with the workplan. An emphasis was put on the quality of the technical papers prepared by the Council of Europe experts and the positive approach by the project management team in ensuring inclusion of a broad audience in the projects activities.</p> <p>At the opening, Mr. Korzenkov noted the progress in the implementation of the PRECOP RF project since its beginning by highlighting that the: “PRECOP RF project’s program is not static, but rather a dynamic instrument with impact at the federal and regional levels. This is a joint program that brought various positive outcomes. We have an interactive approach that leads to the development of very practical anti-corruption tools that are utilized by Russian entrepreneurial community and business ombudsmen specifically.”</p> <p>Other members of the Steering Committee representing Russian organizations emphasized the practical nature of the Council of Europe’s technical papers and their valuable contribution to the anti-corruption field.</p> <p>The Steering Committee Meeting was also attended by the Federal Business Ombudsman, Mr Boris Titov who stated that: “We have already acquired some experience and can share it. And the European experience is very important for us as it can help to solve problems which we have yet to solve“ following is a link to the original highlights report posted by the Federal Business Ombudsman’s Office: http://ombudsmanbiz.ru/2014/11/sostoyalos-3-e-zasedanie-rukovodyashhego-komiteta-po-zashhite-prav-predprinimatelej-v-rossijskoj-federacii-ot-korrupcionnyx-praktik/#more-18288) (a courtesy translation of the report is attached as appendix 3 of this report).</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting report including a highlight published by the FBOO on their website (refer to link above or appendix 3)
Progress	Meeting took place on 20 November 2014

Expected Result 1: Institutions of regional and public Ombudsmen are informed about international standards and practices of comparable institutions (including in the context of competencies of the Ombudsman for the Protection of Entrepreneurs’ Rights under the President of the Russian Federation)

Activity 1.2	Training for regional ombudsmen and their staff on “Good practices on anti-corruption and functioning of Regional Business Ombudsmen’s Offices”
Actions	<p>A Handbook on “Good practices on anti-corruption and functioning of Regional Business Ombudsmen’s Offices” was developed by two local experts to specifically address the needs of Regional Business Ombudsmen and their staff. The necessity for this training material is justified by the requirements for continuous improvement of the business ombudsmen activities considering the on-going changes in the legal and economic environment in the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The Business Ombudsman institution has been created in 85 regions of the Russian Federation, a fact that implies the need for continuous</p>

	<p>dissemination of new skills and knowledge and conducting of continuous trainings for the business ombudsmen and their staff members and persons associated with the work of the business ombudsmen.</p> <p>Following the development of the Handbook a pilot training was organised in Moscow on 24-25 September 2014. Around 35 representatives of the Federal and Regional Business Ombudsmen offices participated in this pilot training. This event was the first in a series of trainings which will be organized with the aim of ensuring a common approach and uniform procedures to the organization and the functioning of the regional business ombudsmen in the Russian Federation. The training will also contribute to the better understanding of the national and international anti-corruption standards, which is considered to be an important element for the better performance of the regional business ombudsmen.</p> <p>In addition to its main role as training for the regional ombudsmen this pilot event was used to identify additional needs which could be addressed in the future trainings.</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First pilot training organized on 24-25 September 2014; • Summary of evaluations by participants available; • Available agenda and list of participants;
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training handbook ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP6/2014 on “Good practices on anti-corruption and functioning of Regional Business Ombudsmen’s Offices” available.
Activity 1.2	Study Visit of Regional Business Ombudsmen to the Council of Europe
Actions	<p>A group of 16 Regional Business Ombudsmen, Public Ombudsmen and representatives of the office of the Federal Business Ombudsman from the Russian Federation participated in a Study Visit to the Council of Europe on 13-14 November 2014.</p> <p>The group consisted of participants from regions such as: Siberia – Kemerovo and Omsk; the Urals – Yekaterinburg; South – Krasnodar and Rostov-on-Don; North-West – Arkhangelsk and Pskov; Far East – Vladivostok; North Caucasus – Dagestan; Volga region – Tatarstan and Bashkortostan; Central part – Kursk; and the Federal Business Ombudsman’s Office in Moscow.</p> <p>During the two day visit members of the secretariat from the Action against Crime Department, GRECO, MONEYVAL, the European Court of Human Rights, and the Venice Commission met with the delegation to discuss issues linked to the day to day work of the Regional Business Ombudsmen including: the Council of Europe standards and good practices against corruption and money laundering; the European Court of Human Rights case law on the protection of entrepreneurs rights; the functioning of Ombudsman Institutions in the CoE Member States etc.</p> <p>Following the study visit, in an interview with the local media Mr Nikolay Evmenov, Regional Business Ombudsman in the Arkhangelsk region, spoke</p>

	about the outcomes of this visit. Following is a link to the news item in Russian language: http://www.vesti29.ru/news/ekonomika/v-strasburg-pribyli-biznes-upolnomochennye-iz-rossii/ (a courtesy translation of the item attached as appendix 4 of this report)
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available agenda and a list of participants in the Study visit
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study visit took place on 13-14 November 2014

Expected Result 2: Overview of good practices in Council of Europe (CoE) member-states and proposals for protecting whistle-blowers in the area of corruption are available

Activity 2.1	Comparative analysis of practices in CoE member-states to protect whistleblowers in the area of corruption
Actions	<p>The comparative analysis of practices in CoE member-states to protect whistleblowers in the area of corruption was prepared jointly by two international experts. Both experts have vast experience working on this topic as Council of Europe consultants (mainly contributing to the work of the European Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ)).</p> <p>The comparative analysis provides updated information on country legislation and the newest development in the field of whistleblower protection in the Council of Europe member-states. Its contents add to the previous analysis² prepared by the European Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ).</p> <p>The findings of the comparative analysis were discussed at a workshop organized in Moscow on 17 April 2014 (see Activity 2.2 below for more details).</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation and advice through a workshop on “Practices for protection of whistle-blowers in the area of corruption in Council of Europe member-states” Available agenda and a list of participants in the workshop.
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available technical paper ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP3/2014 on “Comparative analysis of practices for protection of whistleblowers in the area of corruption in CoE member states”
Activity 2.2	Development of proposals to regulate whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation
Actions	<p>A technical paper with proposals on how to regulate whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation was drafted by two international and one local expert. This technical paper takes into account the findings of the comparative analysis of practices for the protection of whistleblower protection in the Council of Europe member states and bases its recommendations on these findings as well as on the Council of Europe Recommendation on whistleblower protection.</p> <p>The proposals were discussed at a workshop organized on 17 April 2014 in Moscow.</p>

² http://www.coe.int/t/DGHL/STANDARDSETTING/CDCJ/Whistleblowers/CDCJ%20%282012%299E_Final.pdf

	<p>Around 25 participants including regional business ombudsmen, representatives of legal and business associations as well as international organizations participated in the workshop. Following are few of the main outcomes from the workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participants agreed that there is a need to strengthen the regulation of whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation. This can possibly be done through a new law that would encompass the experiences from Council of Europe member states that have recently taken steps towards regulating the protection of whistleblowers. • The representatives of the Regional and Federal Business Ombudsman consider that their institution should be among the institutions to which entrepreneurs and their employees can make confidential reporting on corruption activities by public authorities or the involvement of the management of the companies in wrongdoing <p>Based on the feedback from the participants the experts will update and finalise the TP by the end of May 2014.</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A workshop for the discussion of the comparative analysis of the practices for protection of whistleblowers in the CoE member states as well as proposals to strengthen the regulations in the Russian Federation was held. • Available agenda and a list of participants in the workshop.
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available technical paper ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP4/2014 on “Proposals to regulate the whistleblower protection in the Russian Federation”

Expected Result 3: Proposals are available to strengthen measures to prevent the misuse of public authorities in corporate conflicts, eliminating competition and forced takeovers

Activity 3.1	Comparative analysis of integrity and rule of law measures in CoE member states and other international experience to prevent the misuse of public authorities in: corporate conflicts; eliminating competition; and forced takeover.
Actions	<p>A team consisting of two international and one Russian expert worked on the draft of a “Comparative analysis on preventing misuse of public authority in the corporate sector”;</p> <p>The paper identifies fourteen different typologies of misuse of public authority. The fourteen identified typologies represent the areas of abuse that are most often used in cases of corporate conflict, elimination of competition and forced takeovers in the Russian Federation</p> <p>The paper compares the current situation in the Russian Federation against known international standards and good practices for prevention of the misuse of public authority in the corporate sector. The paper provides good practices of the safeguards to prevent the misuse of public authority in: France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom etc.</p> <p>The final version of the comparative analysis taking into account comments and feedback from the participants at the workshop is available.</p>

Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation and advice through a workshop on “Strengthening Integrity and Rule of Law measures to prevent misuse of public authority in corporate conflicts, eliminating competition and forced takeovers”, which was held on 14-15 April 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation; and • Available agenda and a list of participants in the workshop.
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available technical paper ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP1/2014 “Comparative analysis on preventing misuse of public authority in the corporate sector”
Activity 3.2	Development of proposals to strengthen integrity and rule of law measures to prevent the abuse of public authorities in: corporate conflicts; eliminating competition; and forced takeover.
Actions	<p>Some 40 participants including regional business ombudsman, representatives of government ministries and representatives of legal and business associations attended the workshop on “Integrity and Rule of law measures against the abuse of public authority in corporate conflicts, elimination of competition and forced takeovers”;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participants discussed the findings of a comparative analysis and a Technical Paper with proposals for strengthening the integrity and rule of law measures to prevent the misuse of authority in the corporate sector prepared by a group of CoE experts (2 international and one Russian). • The discussion in the workshop and the feedback from the participants was very positive. Among others the participants raised the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the issue of separation of career paths of the investigator and the judge; ○ the difference between the judicial control and the existing prosecutor’s oversight, and the sufficiency or insufficiency of the latter; ○ the question of the possibility of challenging the investigative activities in the court; ○ the need for regulation that would enable the change of the geographical venue of the proceedings to prevent the local influences on the court. ○ the international experience of fighting sham companies (“odnodnevki”); ○ the issue of the pressure on the judges and the need of implementation of judicial control. ○ the lack of adequate economic terms in the Criminal and Criminal Procedural Codes; ○ the international standards of proving intention and presence of a motive; ○ the criminal prosecution of unpaid debts and the intention of the debtor: embezzlement or genuine financial inability; ○ the introduction of more financial penalties as a possible remedy for corporate crimes; ○ the danger of indirectly punishing third parties – such as innocent employees or shareholders – when incriminating corporate liability; ○ the connection between private sector corruption, corporate liability and the Russian anti-corruption law;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the causal link between an operational experiment and a provocation of bribes in the investigation of corruption-associated crimes; ○ the complexity of bribe identification in the private sector in the absence of clear damage made by and a clear victim of the crime; ○ clear and precise rules of tenders as a possible remedy for the problem of corruption in the private sector. ○ international standards of good faith; ○ positive experience of protection of the rights of the third party against the preclusive effect; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In addition to the comparative analysis the participants in the workshops also discussed a set of recommendations/proposals to strengthen the prevention of misuse of public authority in the corporate sector. These recommendations were drafted in the format of a technical paper (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP2/2014) and were presented to the participants by the three experts. All the proposals were discussed in detail and the feedback and input from the participants was taken into account for the finalisation of the proposals in the technical paper.
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workshop on “Strengthening Integrity and Rule of Law measures to prevent misuse of public authority in corporate conflicts, eliminating competition and forced takeovers” held on 14-15 April 2014, Moscow, Russian Federation; and ● Available agenda and a list of participants in the workshop.
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Available technical paper ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP2/2014 on “Proposals to strengthen the prevention of misuse of public authority in the corporate sector in the Russian Federation”

Expected Result 4: Practice of pro bono legal assistance in the protection of the rights of entrepreneurs is expanded	
Activity 4.1	Development of a “Comparative analysis of international and Russian pro bono practices”
Actions	<p>An international and a Russian expert contributed to the development of a “Comparative analysis of International and Russian pro bono practices”. The document provides an overview of the regulations, practices and principles of pro bono work in the CoE member states and the Russian Federation. In addition it focuses on the incentives and professional standards for pro bono work in the countries that were part of the analysis;</p> <p>The selection of the Council of Europe member states covered by the analysis was done in a way to ensure that the document provides an analysis of the development of pro bono in countries that are at various levels of utilising the practice of pro bono. In this regard the analysis includes information about countries that have recently introduced pro bono (Germany), countries that have made some progress (Czech Republic and Hungary) and countries with an advanced system of pro bono practice (UK).</p> <p>The technical paper provides a set of recommendations for the strengthening of the pro bono practice in the Russian Federation based on the experiences from the other CoE member states. These recommendations were discussed</p>

	with Russian experts at two workshops (see activity 4.2 below) and their input was taken into account for the finalisation of these recommendations.
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held two workshops on strengthening pro bono practices; • Recommendations for strengthening of pro bono practices in the Russian Federation adopted; • Available agenda and a list of participants in the workshop.
Final Deliverable[s]	• Available technical paper ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP5/2014, “Comparative analysis of international and Russian pro bono practices”
Activity 4.2	Workshops on “International and Russian principles and practices of pro bono work”
Actions	<p>Two workshops on “International and Russian principles and practices of pro bono work”. For this purpose a comparative analysis of the “International and Russian Principles and practices of pro bono work” was drafted by two Council of Europe consultants. The technical paper presents an overview of the current situation in the Russian Federation regarding the provision of pro bono services, and in addition provides examples of regulation of pro bono in five Council of Europe member states.</p> <p>The 1st workshop which took place on 4 June in Yekaterinburg, brought together representatives of the offices of the Federal Business Ombudsman, the Regional Ombudsmen, law firms and other stakeholders who discussed the findings of the comparative analysis and shared their experience of provision of pro bono support in the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The 2nd workshop targeted a similar group of participants but from other regions of the Russian Federation and it took place in Moscow on the 6th of June 2014.</p> <p>The two workshops resulted with a set of recommendations and next steps which would lead to the improvement of the situation regarding the provision of pro bono services to the Business Ombudsman institutions in the Russian Federation.</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of Federal and regional representatives in the two workshops • Agenda and list of participants for the two events
Final Deliverable[s]	• Recommendations for strengthening the pro bono practices in the Russian Federation included in the Technical Paper as separate chapter.

Expected Result 6: Awareness of the business community is raised with regard to the risks of infringement of entrepreneurial rights and possible methods for their protection

Activity 6.1	Handbook on “Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs”
Actions	A handbook on “Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs” was developed jointly by a team of three experts (two international and one local). The handbook was developed as a practical guide on the steps that the companies may take to establish an anti-corruption programme for prevention of corrupt practices and may be used by large, medium and small-sized enterprises. The Handbook could help the companies to fulfil their legal and/or business obligations in respect of detection and prevention of corruption. It can be used also by the business

	<p>organisations and professional associations, which play an important role in assisting companies in their anti-corruption efforts.</p> <p>The Handbook is divided into four main parts. The first part deals with the types of corrupt practices in business sector and the negative effect of corruption on business. The second part provides an overview of the international and Russian domestic anti-corruption framework, with which companies must comply. The third part provides information on how companies can assess corruption risk before developing an anti-corruption programme and code of conduct. The fourth part is the most significant and contains guidelines on developing business policies and measures assisting entrepreneurs to minimise the risk of corruption. In particular, this part addresses the company's internal policies and procedures, including preparation, oversight and content of the anti-corruption programme, internal control and record keeping, reporting mechanisms, treatment of violations and anti-corruption training. The fourth part deals also with collective business initiatives and public sector measures, including transparency of public procurement.</p> <p>In addition to the above in the appendices the handbook provides case studies of actions by international companies to introduce anti-corruption protection measures as well as good practices from companies based in the Russian Federation.</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising on corruption risks and protection mechanisms through seminars (refer to activity 6.3 below) • Agenda and list of participants available
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available handbook on "Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP7/2014)
Activity 6.3	Seminar on "Corruption risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs"
Actions	<p>Some 35 representatives of institutions from the Russian Federation including representatives of the Office of the Federal Business Ombudsman, Office of Regional Business Ombudsmen, government agencies, business and legal associations, the civic chamber etc., participated in the 1st Seminar on "Corruption Risks and protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs" which took place on 17 December 2014 in Moscow. A series of similar awareness raising seminars which will take place in various regions is planned for 2015.</p> <p>This seminar provided a venue for the presentation and discussion of the contents of the handbook on "Corruption risks and Protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs". The seminar generated a lively discussion among the participants who raised many issues relating to the protection of entrepreneurs from corruption. One issue that was debated the most was the effectiveness of the "Business anti-corruption charter" which has already been signed by over 500 companies.</p> <p>Following the discussions the participants contributed to the drafting of a set of recommendations for further strengthening of the protection mechanisms for entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation</p>
Objectively verifiable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of representatives of various institutions from the Russian Federation

indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda and list of participants available
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Seminar took place on 17 December 2014;

Expected Result 7: European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) case law relevant to entrepreneurs rights and related corrupt practices is made available and disseminated	
Activity 7.1	Review of European Court of Human Rights case law on protection of entrepreneurs rights
Actions	<p>A review/selection of cases from the practice of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) relating to the protection of entrepreneurs rights was prepared by the PRECOP RF team in cooperation with colleagues from the ECtHR.</p> <p>Through a selection of 16 cases the document aims to present an overview of the case law of the ECtHR in relation to: a) Violations during Criminal Investigation; b) Case law on Criminal Asset Recovery and protection of property rights; and c) Protection of whistleblowers;</p>
Final Deliverable[s]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected cases available (in English and Russian) in the format of a Technical paper (ECCU-2312-PRECOP-TP8/14).
Activity 7.1	Seminar on the “Case law of the European Court of Human Rights for the Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights”
Actions	<p>A seminar on the “Case law of the European Court of Human Rights for the Protection of Entrepreneurs Rights” was organized on the 18th of December 2014 in Moscow. Around 30 representatives of the Federal Business Ombudsman’s Office, Regional Business Ombudsmen, legal associations etc., participated in the Seminar in which Ms Vitoriya Maradudina, a lawyer from the European Court of the Human Rights presented on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Procedure of examining cases by the ECtHR; ○ Admissibility criteria (ratione personae, ratione loci, ratione temporis, reatione materiae); ○ Examination of the application at the merits stage; ○ Presentation of the select cases relating to the protection of entrepreneurs rights.
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of representatives of various institutions from the Russian Federation • Agenda and list of participants available
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Seminar on the ECtHR case law took place on 18 December 2014
Activity 7.2	Study Visit to the ECtHR
Actions	<p>A group of 12 lawyers providing pro bono support to the Office of the Federal Business Ombudsman in the Russian Federation visited the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights on 11-12 February 2014.</p> <p>The group had an opportunity to meet lawyers from the European Court of Human Rights as well as with the representatives of the CoE Department for the monitoring of the execution of judgements.</p> <p>Furthermore the participants met with judge Dimitry Dedov, the judge elected in respect of the Russian Federation.</p>

	<p>The main aim of the meetings with representatives of the various departments in the CoE and the ECtHR was to introduce the visiting group with the current practices of the ECtHR, the new procedure for the processing of the applications by the court as well as presentation of the ECtHR case law on corruption and protection of entrepreneurs' rights.</p> <p>In addition to the meetings with the representatives of the CoE and ECtHR the participants attended a hearing at the Grand Chamber of the ECtHR which provided them with first-hand experience on the handling of cases by the Court.</p>
Objectively verifiable indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECtHR case law on corruption and protection of entrepreneur's rights was presented to twelve lawyers who cooperate with the Federal Business Ombudsman's Office. • Available agenda and list of participants in the study visit.
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visit took place on 11-12 February 2014.

The project will tackle several important issues in the course of 2015, including:

- I. Analysis of issues relevant to the protection of the rights of entrepreneurs from corruption identified by the Experts Council of the Federal Business Ombudsman, as follows:
 - a. Specific features of the European criminal law and criminal procedure legislation and case law in terms of penal responsibility of entrepreneurs (private individuals) for crimes in the economic sphere;
 - b. The European experience of "grave offense" responsibility measure for entrepreneurs (private individuals) for crimes in the economic sphere (imprisonment, fines, including proportionate fines, corrective labor, prohibition to engage in activities) – legislative regulation and enforcement practices;
 - c. Legislative regulation and preventative measures as alternatives to arrest (bail, guaranty, written undertaking not to leave the place, house arrest) in the context of criminal prosecution of entrepreneurs (private individuals);
 - d. The presence of term "corrupt practices" in the EU countries legislation and liability for such actions; linking the concepts of "corruption offenses" and "corruption crimes" to the specific components of crime with corresponding liability measures;
 - e. International experience of criminalization/decriminalization of the provocation of bribes as investigative action;
 - f. International experience of prosecution for the use of official power for private gains in the context of unresolved conflict of interest;
 - g. Comparative analysis of the structure of regulatory and supervisory authorities, interrelation of governmental and non-governmental forms of control, practices of risk-based approach implementation in regard to entrepreneurs in EU countries;
 - h. Period of detention (arrest) of persons (entrepreneurs) awaiting results of trial (on the stage of preliminary and judicial investigation), accused of committing economic crimes: legislation and practice. Presence of the norm regarding detention (arrest) time limits for said persons in European criminal procedure legislation;
- II. Raise awareness of the business community on the risks of infringement of entrepreneurs rights and the possible methods for their protection;
- III. Support the expansion of pro bono practice in support of the Regional Business Ombudsmen through the organizing of awareness raising seminars on pro bono practices.

4.4 Changes in the project team

In September 2014 Ms Zoya Kokorina, Senior Project Officer, decided to depart from the Organization and take on new position outside the Council of Europe. Following a recruitment procedure that was organized in coordination with the HR department of the Council of Europe a new staff member, Mr Kirill Boychenko was recruited to carry out the duties of the Senior Project Officer. Mr Boychenko joined the team on 1st of November 2014.

In addition there has been a change in the position of Project Assistant supporting the PRECOP RF project; Ms Ekaterina Zakharyan will now resume the role of Project Assistant replacing the departure of the previous Project Assistant Ms Olga Korneeva. Below are the updated contact details for the PRECOP RF staff based in the Council of Europe Programme Office in Moscow:

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5 Evaluation and Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM)

P4M Evaluation: In the early phase of implementation the PRECOP RF has already been part of an evaluation exercise carried out under the framework of the P4M agreement: “Partnership for Modernization”. This exercise focused on the evaluation of the project in terms of its relevance and connections with the Partnership for Modernisation programme of the EU. The EUD contracted evaluator also inquired about the cooperation with the beneficiary institutions in the Russian Federation, their contribution to the design of the project and the ownership of the local beneficiaries over the project. According to the EUD contracted evaluator PRECOP RF is one of the few if not the only project in which there is additional funds to those from the European Union contributed by the Ordinary Budget of the Council of Europe under the Joint Programme funding framework for the Russian Federation.

To date the CoE has not received any feedback on the report prepared by the evaluator.

ROM Monitoring: A Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) of the project took place on 27 November 2013. The project management team has supplied all the project documentation to the ROM monitor. The monitoring focused on the results achieved during the implementation of the project; the level of cooperation between EU/CoE and beneficiary institutions; quality of design of the project.

According to the monitoring report, the extended inception phase of the project has made it difficult to assess output and outcomes at the time of the Monitoring Mission. Though, it was noted that there is in fact an interest and a great ownership which is shown by beneficiaries' contribution to the project and willingness in active participation in all of the forthcoming activities. The ROM gave the following grading to the project:

Relevance and quality of design	B
Efficiency of implementation to date	B
Effectiveness to date	C
Impact prospects	B
Potential sustainability	B

The overall positive trend of sustainability of the project is viewed through the prism of adoption of new anti-corruption laws and newly established anti-corruption structures within the Russian government.

6 Conclusions

The implementation phase of the project follows a lengthy inception phase. During the implementation phase the project is progressing steadily and as foreseen in the workplan. The project remains on track and is considered to be challenging and ambitious while at the same time it has garnered a strong support from stakeholders including the Federal Business Ombudsman Office and the European Delegation in Moscow.

Project activities have raised a great interest and are attended by representatives of both Federal and Regional Business Ombudsmen, as well as representatives of other stakeholders including representatives of various ministries, the chambers of commerce, business associations, legal associations etc. The fact that for each project activity there are at least 5-10 regional participants that attend the activities at their own expense (travel and accommodation) shows that the project activities are seen as important venues for discussion and sharing of experience in relation to the fight against corruption and the protection of entrepreneurs rights .

Taking into consideration the above it may be concluded that the implementation phase of the project to date was productive and has built up on the solid basis of cooperation that was created during the inception phase of the project.

The cooperation with the European Union Delegation in Moscow continues to be very good. Representatives of the EU Delegation continuously participate in the activities organized by the project.

The implementation of the PRECOP RF and its deliverables were positively assessed at the recent Steering Committee³ meeting on the Cooperation between the Council of Europe and the Russian Federation which was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

³ Steering Committee Meeting took place on 1st December 2015

6.1 Risks

The implementation of the project started in October 2013, and there is already evidence showing a strong commitment from the main beneficiary institution. However, considering the large number of activities and the limited resources (Human Resources of the main beneficiary institution) a greater flexibility is required from the project management team in terms of the timelines for organization of activities. So far this flexibility was related mainly to rescheduling the dates of activities.


The project is considered by the main beneficiary and all stakeholders as an important tool to strengthening the capacities in the fight against corruption, as result the project has continued with implementation and remains on track despite the strained relations between the European Union and the Russian Federation. To date there has been no influence from the politically difficult relations on the implementation of the project, however further straining of the relations could result with difficulties in the implementation of project activities, especially those organized at the regional levels.

7 Visibility

7.1 PRECOP RF Website

Project news, upcoming events, and outputs/deliverables will be reported on the Council of Europe Economic Crime website (www.coe.int/corruption), a section of which (www.coe.int/precop) is exclusively dedicated to the PRECOP RF project.

The website will provide regular information on all project activities and deliverables as well as news relating to the project. This Council of Europe official project site will have links to other relevant sites (national and international).



Council of Europe

Navigation: The Council in brief | Human Rights | Democracy | Rule of Law | Organisation | 47 Countries

Breadcrumb: Council of Europe > Human Rights and Rule of Law > Action against economic crime

Action against economic crime

BACK

"Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices" (PRECOP RF)

Funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe

Implemented by the Council of Europe

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION & DELIVERIES

- Project Summary
- Description of Action (DoA)
- Technical Papers

WORKPLAN/SCHEDULE

- Workplan

REPORT / REFERENCES

- Inception Report

CONTACTS

- PRECOP-Project

The Russian authorities have expressed concern that corruption and bureaucratic pressure on business is one of the main causes which hinders national economic growth and development in the country. It has also been recognized that raiding practices are carried out with the participation of bureaucratic structures or individual officials interested in gaining control of a business. Through the joint project on the "Protection of the Entrepreneurs Rights in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices" - PRECOP RF - the European Union (EU) and the Council of Europe (CoE) in cooperation with the Business Ombudsman's Office in the Russian Federation and other stakeholder institutions aims to facilitate and contribute to the implementation of mechanisms to prevent corrupt practices affecting the business sector in the Russian Federation. Specifically, the project will strengthen the capacity of the Business Ombudsman institutions and other authorities involved in protecting the rights of entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from corrupt practices.

The project on "Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices" is a joint action of the European Union and the Council of Europe. The project is implemented by the Council of Europe and has a foreseen length of 36 months starting from January 2013. The total amount of the budget is 1.3 million EUR jointly contributed by the EU Delegation in Moscow and the Council of Europe.

Following are the expected results:

- 1) Institutions of regional and public Ombudsmen are informed about the role, objectives and competencies of the Ombudsman for the Protection of Entrepreneurs' Rights under the President of the Russian Federation and international standards and practices of comparable institutions
- 2) Overview of good practices in CoE member-states and proposals for protecting whistleblowers in the area of corruption are available
- 3) Proposals are available to strengthen measures to prevent the misuse of public authorities corporate in conflicts, eliminating competition and forced takeovers
- 4) Practice of pro bono legal assistance in the protection of the rights of entrepreneurs is expanded
- 5) Proposals are available on resolving systemic problems of entrepreneurship for the Experts' Council under the Ombudsman for the Protection of Entrepreneurs' Rights under the President of the Russian Federation
- 6) Awareness of the business community is raised with regard to the risks of infringement of entrepreneurial rights and possible methods for their protection
- 7) ECtHR-case law relevant to entrepreneurs rights and related corrupt practices is made available and disseminated

7.2 The EU's visibility

The project has and will continue to ensure the visibility of the EU's contribution at all stages of its activities. The Council of Europe has taken all appropriate measures to publicise the fact that the project funding is being received from a European Union and Council of Europe agreement. All reporting and information used and disseminated acknowledge that actions have been carried out "with funding from the European Union" by also displaying in an appropriate way the European Union logo.

7.3 Disclaimer

All publications included the following disclaimer: "This document (*report/publication etc.*) has been produced with the main funding from the European Union and the Council of Europe. The content of this document can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union or of the Council of Europe".

Head of the Action against Crime Department: Ivan Koedjikov

Signature:

Location:

Date report sent:

Ivan Koedjikov
Strasbourg

8 Appendixes

8.1 Appendix 1: Workplan



2312-PRECOP-WPlan
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8.2 Appendix 2: Financial report

8.3 Appendix 3



2312-PRECOP-FBOO
-Press release-3rd SC

8.4 Appendix 4



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