





Joint Programme between the European Union and the Council of Europe "Support to the Kazakh authorities in improving the quality and efficiency of the Kazakh justice system"

## PRESS RELEASE

16 October 2015

## The European Union and the Council of Europe Joint Programme on Supporting the Justice System in Kazakhstan meets to discuss the progress

ASTANA – The second meeting of the Project Steering Committee of the Joint Programme of the European Union and the Council of Europe entitled "Support to the Kazakh authorities in improving the quality and efficiency of the Kazakh justice system" will be held on 16 October 2015.

The main objective of the meeting is to discuss with the national authorities the progress made during the first implementation phase of the project, namely between 24 July 2014 and 25 July 2015 and the Workplan of activities for the next 12 months. The event will be opened by Mr Jean-Louis Lavroff, Head of Operations Section of the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan and Ms Lilit Daneghian-Bossler, Head of the Justice Section Reform Unit 1, Justice and Legal Co-operation Department, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe.

The Joint Programme aims to bring Kazakhstan's criminal justice framework and institutional practice in line with European and international standards and practices by supporting the country's authorities in their efforts to improve the justice system. The Joint Programme objectives are pursued through legislative assistance to develop and improve the regulatory framework and institutional capacity of the main stakeholders and address the systemic and/or structural problems that characterise Kazakh criminal justice system and human rights protection. Capacity-building activities for judges, prosecutors, investigators, defence lawyers, Ombudsman Institution, National Preventive Mechanism and other actors within the criminal justice system will be carried out to contribute to their institutional development and enable them to exercise their functions in line with human rights standards.

The national partners of the Joint Programme include the General Prosecutor's Office, Supreme Court, Commissioner for Human Rights and National Human Rights Centre, National Preventive Mechanism, Ministry of Justice, Institute of Justice of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republican Association of Advocates, etc.

The Project is funded by the European Union and has a budget of EUR 1,666,413.

**Time and date:** 16 October 2015, 10.00 – 12.10.

**Venue:** Park Inn by Radisson, Saryarka Avenue 8/4, Astana, Kazakhstan

For more information, please contact Ms Mariana Chicu, Project Manager, tel. +33 390215011, e-mail: mariana.chicu@coe.int, or Ms Karla Jamankulova, Press and Information Officer of the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan, at: + 7 (7172) 971148, e-mail karlygash.jamankulova@eeas.europa.eu