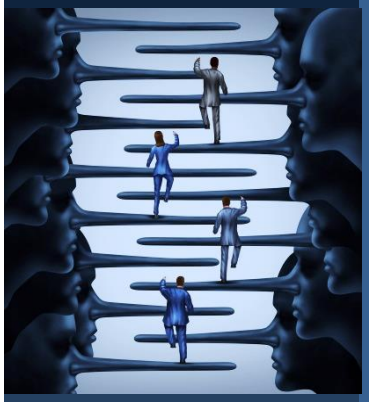
FIFTH EVALUATION ROUND

Preventing corruption and promoting integrity in central governments (top executive functions) and law enforcement agencies



Training for Evaluators

Programme

Strasbourg, 3-5 May 2017
Council of Europe
Agora building (rooms G2-G3)

Organised by GRECO
the Group of States against Corruption
with the financial support of Monaco

GRECO
Group of States against Corruption
Groupe d'États contre la corruption

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Context

GRECO[1] is launching its Fifth evaluation round in 2017[2] on the theme of the prevention of corruption and the promotion of integrity in central governments (top executive functions) (hereafter referred to as EXEGOV) and law enforcement agencies (hereafter referred to as LEA). GRECO adopted in October 2016 the questionnaire which will be used to gather the relevant information prior to the on-site visits. It lists the legal standards to be taken into account when carrying out the assessments.

As regards central governments, in light of each country situation, the evaluation will focus on top executive functions at national level, such as those of heads of State, heads and members of central government (e.g. ministers), as well as other political appointees who exercise top executive functions such as State secretaries, heads and members of a minister's private office and other senior political officials. Concerning law enforcement agencies, the evaluation will focus in particular on bodies performing core law enforcement functions, such as national police services, including agencies responsible for border control.

In this evaluation round, GRECO will assess topics such as the policy, regulatory and institutional framework for the prevention of corruption; conflicts of interest; prohibition of certain activities, declarations of assets, income, liabilities and interests, and accountability mechanisms. Specifically with regard to top governmental officials, the round will also monitor transparency of government activities, lobbying and revolving doors. Consideration will also be given to transparency and beneficial ownership of legal persons and arrangements in so far as they are relevant in the context of the evaluations. On the other hand, in the evaluation of law enforcement agencies GRECO will pay special attention to matters such as the identification of risk prone services and risk-prone situations, recruitment and vetting, supervision and disciplinary proceedings.

GRECO has taken the view that evaluators should be selected more rigorously and be provided with more in-depth training on their role in, and the content of the evaluation process, notably to ensure a high level of quality and consistency of evaluations throughout the Fifth Round.

Bearing the above in mind, the present training will therefore be a hands-on, practical event involving case studies and practical interactive exercises. Besides general horizontal discussions taking place in plenary sessions, parallel workshops shall allow to discuss in greater detail and in smaller groups the substance of evaluation.

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[1] The Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) was established in 1999 under the aegis of the Council of Europe (CoE). Its task is to monitor, on the basis of mutual evaluation and peer pressure which involve i.a. systematic on-site visits, the implementation of the various anticorruption instruments adopted since 1997. GRECO is currently composed of the 47 CoE member states, Belarus and the United States.

The above instruments cover both preventive and repressive policies and address corruption in the public and private sector, domestically and abroad, in line with the Council of Europe's Programme of Action against Corruption of 1996.

In order to implement such an ambitious and multidisciplinary approach, the successive evaluation rounds have been focusing on specific topics, including: the institutional capacity to deal with corruption; incriminations of corruption; transparency and supervision of party financing; preventive mechanisms applicable to parliamentarians, judges and prosecutors.

Compliance with the recommendations for improvement contained in the evaluation reports is monitored by means of a specific procedure ("compliance procedure") which requires regular reporting by the countries. For further information see www.coe.int/greco

[2] The first evaluation visits of the Fifth Round will start during summer 2017. In principle, the country visits will take place in the order used in the Fourth Round.

3 May 2017

09.30- 13.00: plenary session (room G3)

- 9.30: registration of participants
- 10.00: General welcome address; presentation of the training
- General knowledge about CoE standards and GRECO: feedback on the questionnaire (30 min) + Q/A
- The evaluation process, the role of evaluators and of the GRECO plenary + Q/A (1h)
- The content of the Fifth Evaluation Round: presentation of the questionnaire; lessons from the Fourth Evaluation Round (recommendations for improvement etc.) + Q/A (1h)

14.30-18.00: workshop session 1 – EXEGOV (room G3)	14.30-18.00: workshop session 1 – LEA (room G2)
Systems of government, integrity framework, corruption risks, awareness and transparency ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 1, 2, 3 and 8 ▶ Codes of conduct, examples, practical exercise	Organisation, accountability, integrity policy, training/awareness ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 9, 10 ▶ Presentation of a practical case to be studied for day 2 (e.g. code of conduct to be assessed critically)

4 May 2017

9.30-13.00: workshop session 2 – EXEGOV (room G3)	9.30-13.00: workshop session 2 – LEA (room G2)
Conflicts of interest, incompatibilities and restrictions ▶ Discussion of the practical exercise from day 1 ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 4 and 5 ▶ General discussion on examples from Member States	Recruitment and career; training and awareness; declaratory obligations ▶ Discussion of the practical case from day 1 ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 11, 14 and 16
14.30-18.00: workshop session 3 – EXEGOV (room G3)	14.30-18.00: workshop session 3 – LEA (room G2)
Financial disclosure systems ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire item 6 ▶ Examples of conflicts of interest, incompatibilities and declaration of assets and interests ▶ Discussions on systemic weaknesses	Conflicts of interest, specific prohibitions and restrictions ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 12 and 13 ▶ Presentation of a practical case to be studied for day 3 (e.g. a decree on the setting-up and functioning of an Internal Affairs Department)

5 May 2017

9.30-13.00: workshop session 4 – EXEGOV (room G3)	9.30-13.00: workshop session 4 – LEA (room G2)
Supervision and enforcement ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire items 3 and 7 ▶ Practical case study ▶ Designing and discussing recommendations	Supervision and enforcement ▶ Discussion of the practical case from day 2 ▶ Interactive discussions on questionnaire item 15

14.00-17.30: plenary session (room G3)

- Opening and general address
- Presentation of findings by rapporteurs from workshops – with a focus on special issues to look at during evaluations; advice and guidance to evaluators in the Fifth Round
- Discussion on the above findings
- Discussion on effectiveness of preventive and supervisory arrangements – how to assess it?
- Discussion on risks in political institutions and law enforcement
- Final remarks and closure



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