

# **Presentation on the implementation of PACO Impact in the Republic of Macedonia**

**PACO Impact  
Final Regional Conference  
10-11 July 2006, Strasbourg**



# **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

## ***Outputs 1 and 2 :***

The following activities were financed under PACO Impact:

- Annual Conferences on evaluation of implementation progress of the State Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption (2004 and 2005) with participation of Council of Europe experts;
- Drafting and adoption of the Annex to the State Programme related to the Local Self Government (2005);
- IT equipment for the State Commission for strengthening its capacity in order to monitor the implementation of the State Programme and its action Plan (adopted in 2003);
- Training (three workshops) for court and prosecutors administration for introduction with the amendments in the criminal legislation and prevention of corruption issues (2005);



# PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference

- Regional Thematic Seminar and High Level Meeting on strengthening Anti- corruption Services in South-Eastern Europe held in Skopje in March 2005



# **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

## ***Output 3:***

- Two day-long seminar on implementation of the amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure (in line with the European standards) for the participants from judiciary and other relevant agencies;
- Two day-long seminar on implementation of amendments on the Criminal Code - for the same participants, focusing on the new criminal offences relating to the organized crime and corruption;
- One day workshop on the implementation of the new criminal legislation relating to the organized crime and corruption for the Unit for Organized Crime and Corruption within Public Prosecutor's Office;

## **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

- The delay of the adoption of the Law for Surveillance of Communications has been considered by the Ministry of the Interior and the Public Prosecutors' office (especially the Unit for Organized Crime and Corruption) as a problem for taking more efficient measures in prevention and fight against corruption;



## **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

- Translation and publishing of all relevant documents of the Council of Europe referring to corruption, fair justice, and international legal cooperation.

The goal of the compilation was to introduce the officials from all relevant institutions, primarily the ones from the judiciary, and law enforcement bodies with these documents as guidelines in their work;

- Monitoring the implementation of the Law on Funding of Political Parties (adopted in 2004);

## **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

- **The State Commission has provided an opinion on the Draft - Election Law in regard to the prevention of misuse of financial recourses for election campaign and declaration of origin of these funds;**
- **PACO contributed in this regard by organizing a round table discussion for the State Electoral Commission, State Commission for Prevention of Corruption, as well as other relevant national and international institutions, aiming for proper implementation of the Election Code;**

## **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

- **The new Election Code, which is a compilation of several laws relating to the election and status of elected representatives and for these reasons, presents a great challenge for all involved authorities for its clear implementation;**
- **The new Election Code serves as a background for fair and democratic elections, proper use of budget funds for this purpose and foreseen strong sanctions for violations in the election process.**



## **PACO Impact – Final Regional Conference**

- **Under Output 4, four pilot activities were supported:**
  - 1. Development of the Annex to the State Programme – Measures for prevention of corruption within Local Self-Government**
  - 2. Public information initiative**
  - 3. Research on Public Opinion on Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**
  - 4. Twinning cooperation: study visits in Estonia and Italy**

# **State Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption**

- The State Programme, adopted in June 2003, has been defined as an comprehensive document open to ongoing changes and adjustments.
- In line to the current situation and conclusions under Evaluation of the State Programme in 2004, its first supplement was made during 2005 with specific measures for prevention of corruption within decentralized Local Self-Government

## **ANNEX TO THE STATE PROGRAMME**

### **- Measures for Prevention and Repression of the Corruption within Local Self-Government**

- Following the process of decentralization from central to local level, the State Commission considered that such transformation would lead to substantial transfer of competences to the local self-government, which in future would dispose with significant budget resources, and consequently opportunities for corruption would be “decentralized”.
- The State Commission has developed and adopted an Annex to the State Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption – Measures for Prevention and Repression of Corruption within Local Self-Government, accompanied with an Action Plan for its implementation.



# **ANNEX TO THE STATE PROGRAMME**

## **- Measures for Prevention and Repression of the Corruption within Local Self-Government**

Adopted on June 21, 2005

The principal aim of this Annex was to narrow the possibilities for corruption and strengthen the control financial mechanisms in the local government

The objectives of the Annex are the following:

- ❑ Establishing system of measures for prevention and repression of corruption within local self-government under the circumstances when many competences of the central government were entrusted and transferred to local level;
- ❑ Continuing and uninterrupted exercise of competences.



## **ANNEX TO THE STATE PROGRAMME**

### **- Measures for Prevention and Repression of the Corruption within Local Self-Government**

- **PARTICIPANTS (approx. 50)**
- **Four meetings, one Conference**

In the preparation of the Annex, in addition to all competent state institutions, representatives of the Association of Local Self-Government Units of the Republic of Macedonia (ZELS), a number of mayors, members of councils of local self-government units, local media and citizens' associations, as well as experts were actively involved.

The Annex recommends a variety of measures and activities to be undertaken by local authorities targeted at efficient prevention of corruption at local level. These measures and activities have been grouped into four principal areas.

# **ANNEX TO THE STATE PROGRAMME**

## **- Measures for Prevention and Repression of the Corruption within Local Self-Government**

### **AREA OF APPLICATION OF THE ANNEX:**

- **Municipal Administration and Local Government**
- **Public Sector**
- **Transparency, Responsibility and Accountability**
- **Financing of Local Self-Government Units**



# Public Information Initiative

- The public awareness campaign was planned in two phases: publishing and distribution of brochures and media coverage of the campaign (TV debates, flayers in newspapers, TV spots)
- The principal aim of the first activity, which was completely supported by Paco Impact, was to introduce the competences and work of the State Commission to the public, including employees in institutions on central and local level.
- Brochures are in Macedonian, English and all minority languages of the country.

# Public Information Initiative

- Due to the lack of resources in the budget of the State Commission, and in the Paco project the planned second phase - media coverage of the campaign - was not accomplished (except having the press conference presenting the brochures)



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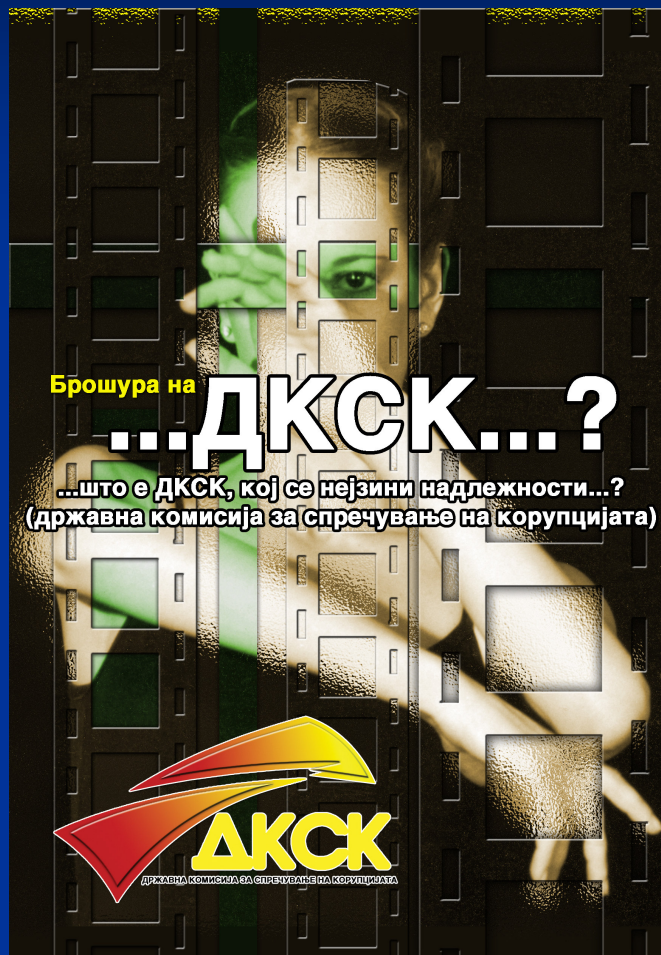
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# Public Information Initiative



# Public Information Initiative



ДРЖАВНА КОМИСИЈА ЗА  
СПРЕЧУВАЊЕ НА КОРУПЦИЈАТА





# **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

- The realization of the Survey was an outcome of the GRECO recommendation that a State body ought to implement a comprehensive research on corruption in the country in addition to such similar surveys implemented by NGOs.
- Survey conducted by different institutions will provide more objective picture of the level of corruption;
- Beneficiary of the Project is the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption
- The Survey was conducted by the Institute for Sociological, Political and Legal Research from the “Saints Cyril and Methodius” University of Skopje



# **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

- The aim of this research was to determine the perception of the public on the level of corruption, to identify the important aspect that refer to corruption and most vulnerable areas for corruptive practices;
- To evaluate the role of the State Commission for prevention of corruption;
- The results will present guidelines for focusing on the next activities of the Commission and other relevant anti-corruption agencies in the areas which were identified as most corruptive ones, and to foster further activities in conducting of public awareness campaign;
- The survey was conducted in the period of January and February 2006

# **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

Three methods were utilized:

- Polling involved 1600 respondents through two questionnaires:
  1. A questionnaire on the general perception on corruption
  2. A questionnaire for the citizens who stated that they were victims of corruption
- Interviews with four focus groups: judges, public administration staff, healthcare staff and professors from state universities
- Twenty interviews with businessmen from small and medium sized private enterprises

## **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

**According to 14% Survey respondents, corruption is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest problem in the country [following ‘unemployment’ and ‘unfavorable economic situation’]**

# Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia

## ■ Perception on the level of corruption in different institutions:

Rank	Institution /sphere
1	Customs administration
2	The Judiciary
4	Healthcare system
6	Political parties
9	Majors
12	Tax administration
15	State Anticorruption Commission
17	Media
19	International NGOs
20	Army

## **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

- **Why Customs and the Judiciary were reported as a most corruptive sectors?**
- **Why the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption is on the list of corruptive institutions?**
- **Why the foreign NGO are considered as a less corruptive?**
- **What is the role of media for such results?**

# **Public Opinion on the level of Corruption in the Republic of Macedonia**

## **Victimological analysis:**

- **Most of the respondents did not report to the competent bodies due to the fact that giving a bribe is also offence;**
- **Don't know to whom to report;**
- **The businessmen prefer to finish their job as fast as possible.**