







#### Partnership for Good Governance Support to the Justice Reform in Armenia



105TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF ARMENIA

## HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE PROSECUTORIAL INDEPENDENCE IN UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW

1-2 July 2023 Yerevan, Armenia

### **PROGRAMME**

#### **CONFERENCE OUTLINE**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The Conference aims:

- to underline the importance of institutional independence of prosecutors in ensuring fair trial standards and in upholding rule of law,
- to discuss the European standards on prosecutorial accountability, independence, and ethical framework; to overview national models on prosecutorial evaluation and to highlight the significance of continuous professional education in upholding these standards,
- to promote a collaboration of professional practitioners, aiming at sharing practical issues and solutions in the long-term perspective.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- Strengthened links among the Prosecutors' Offices of the member States to facilitate best practice exchange
- Shared understanding of the independence, accountability, and ethics of prosecutors as the core concepts underlying prosecutorial activity
- Raised awareness on the Council of Europe and other European standards on the Prosecutorial independence, accountability, and ethics

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

The meeting is addressed to:

- Representatives of the Prosecutor's Office of the member States
- Judges and other legal professionals in Armenia
- International community
- Academia

#### **VENUE**

 Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan, Ararat Hall (address: 1 Amiryan St, Yerevan, Armenia)

1 JULY 2023		
09:15-09:45	Registration	
10:00-10:30	Welcoming address by the Honorable Nikol Pashinyan, Prime Minister of Armenia	
10:30-10:35	Pre-recorded welcoming address by Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe	
10:35-10:45	<ul> <li>Opening session</li> <li>Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of Armenia</li> <li>H.E. Andrea Wiktorin, Ambassador of the European Union to Armenia, Head of the Delegation</li> <li>Martina Schmidt, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Yerevan</li> </ul>	
10:45-11:15	Group Photo. Coffee break	
11:15-13:15	Plenary Session. Theme I: Prosecutorial External and Internal Independence -different mechanisms and common challenges	
	Moderator: Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of Armenia	
	Speakers:	
	<ul> <li>Antonio Vercher, Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) President (2021-2022) and current member of the Bureau, Council of Europe Consultant</li> <li>Goga Gogadze, Vice-President of the International Association of Prosecutors</li> </ul>	
	National Experience:	
	<ul> <li>Luigi Salvato, General Prosecutor of the Supreme Court of Cassation of Italy</li> <li>Irakli Shotadze, Prosecutor General of Georgia</li> <li>Emilijo Kalabrić, Deputy General State Attorney of Croatia</li> <li>Nida Grunskienė, Prosecutor General of Lithuania</li> </ul>	
	Discussion	
13:15-14:30	Lunch Break	
14:30-16:00	Plenary Session. Theme II: Prosecutorial Accountability and Ethics: exchange on best practice	
	<i>Moderator:</i> Lilit Daneghian, Deputy Head of Cooperation Programmes Division, Department for Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Cooperation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe	
	Speakers:	
	<ul> <li>Antonio Vercher, Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) President (2021-2022) and current member of the Bureau, Council of Europe Consultant</li> </ul>	
	Davor Derenčinović, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Croatia	
	<ul> <li>Artashes Melikyan, Head of the CCPE Secretariat</li> <li>Boštjan Škrlec, Vice-President of Eurojust</li> </ul>	
	National Experience:	
	Andres Parmas, Prosecutor General of Estonia	
	Discussion	

# Wrap up of the Panel Sessions Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of Armenia Lilit Daneghian, Deputy Head of Cooperation Programmes Division, Department for Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Cooperation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe Remarks by the Honorable Nikol Pashinyan, Prime Minister of Armenia



**Classical music concert** followed by a Reception by the Council of Europe in the framework of the High-level Conference

**Venue:** Komitas Museum-Institute (address: 28 Arshakunyats street, Yerevan, Armenia)

2 JULY 2023	
10:00-10:20	Presentation of the Scientific-practical Journal "Legality" of the Prosecutor's Office of Armenia
	<ul> <li>Anahit Manasyan, Human Rights Defender of Armenia, Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal</li> </ul>
10:20-10:40	Presentation of the new website of the Prosecutor's Office of Armenia
	Lusine Martirosyan, Counsellor to the Prosecutor General of Armenia
10:40-11:40	Conclusions of the Conference and the way forward: presentation of main outcomes  * Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of Armenia
	<ul> <li>Lilit Daneghian, Deputy Head of Cooperation Programmes Division, Department for Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Cooperation Standards, DGI, Council of Europe</li> </ul>
11:40-13:00	Buffet lunch

#### **CONTACTS**

At the Council of Europe: At the Prosecutor General's Office of Armenia:

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