

## RESULTS FACTSHEET

# Partnership for Good Governance in Belarus

September 2020

### Key figures

- Two successive phases since 2015.
- 16 projects under PGG II
- 2 country-specific projects for Belarus with a budget of EUR 940,000
- 4 regional projects covering Belarus

### What is the Partnership for Good Governance?

Through the Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) the European Union and the Council of Europe are working together to strengthen governance in the Eastern Partnership region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus).

PGG provides tailor-made support to Eastern Partnership countries to bring legislation and practice closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy.

## Project: Countering Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing in Belarus (Jan 2019-Dec 2021)

*PGG II supports the authorities to enhance compliance of Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Financing of Terrorism institutional framework with the applicable international standards and good practices.*

- With the support of the project, a **guide on Identifying Money Laundering Common Patterns** was developed for training purposes together with concrete cases to illustrate existing practices.
- A **capacity-building workshop** increased the understanding of 23 Financial Intelligence Units professionals of good practices in identifying typologies of money laundering and financing of terrorism.
- A **training** enhanced the capacities of law enforcement officers and judges to develop investigative and operational strategies, use special investigative techniques, carry out financial investigations and confiscation and detect money-laundering.

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website.](#)

Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



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# Project: Implementation of judicial reforms (Jan 2019-Dec 2020)

## Component 1: Strengthening the right to a fair trial in Belarusian criminal justice

*PGG II strengthens the protection of citizens in Belarus by enhancing the country's criminal justice system, and by enhancing Belarusian legal professionals' skills to apply the European standards in the field of criminal justice, including on issues related to the abolition of death penalty.*

- **Respectful reporting on investigation and trials of serious crime cases** that may lead to capital punishment was improved by strengthening the skills of 21 journalists and press officers of courts, prosecution, Investigative Committee and Ministry of Interior.
- **70 investigators and judges strengthened their skills in ensuring human rights** in criminal proceedings, including the rights of juveniles, use of preventive measures and alternatives to prosecution and criminal punishment.
- **Over 460 students expanded their knowledge of different aspects of the European Convention on Human Rights** and 56 law students developed practical skills for the application of international human rights standards. The skills and knowledge of 20 university law lecturers were also strengthened to conduct moot court competitions on human rights law for students.

## Component 2: Supporting the civil justice reforms – strengthening the judicial system in Belarus

*PGG II supports the Belarusian authorities in carrying out the current judicial reform and in providing better alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.*

- A **brochure on gender-responsiveness in the judiciary** was produced to raise awareness of gender aspects among prosecutors and judges, including on the need for collection of sex-disaggregated data.
- The **legislation on mediation was drafted** with the support of the project and adopted by Parliament, thus encouraging a wider use of mediation and lessening the workload of courts.
- Support was provided to improve the efficiency of the judiciary by contributing to the **merger of the Civil Procedure Code with the Commercial Procedure Code**.
- 30 presidents of national courts increased knowledge about **e-justice and IT tools in courts**, including artificial intelligence. A needs assessment report was developed to support the drafting of a law on access to information concerning court activities.

[A background information sheet on both components of this project is available on the website.](#)

### More information:

<https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/pgg2/belarus>

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### Regional projects implemented in Belarus:

- ▶ Strengthening measures to prevent and combat economic crime
- ▶ Strengthening the profession of lawyer in line with European standards
- ▶ Women's Access to Justice: delivering on the Istanbul Convention and other European gender equality standards
- ▶ Strengthening the access to justice through non-judiciary redress mechanisms for victims of discrimination, hate crime and hate speech

For more information, consult the Factsheet on Regional projects

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