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**CoE/EU Partnership for Good Governance Programme (PGG II)  
Belarus: Countering Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing in Belarus**

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project title	<b>Countering Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing in Belarus (PGG II-BE)</b>
Project area	Belarus
Budget	EURO 200,000
Funding	European Union 90%; Council of Europe 10%
Implementation	Economic Crime and Cooperation Division, Action against Crime Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe
Duration	36 months (starting on 01 January 2019)

**BACKGROUND**

The Project on “Countering Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing in Belarus” is one of the six projects which constitute the second phase of the EU/CoE Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) programme interventions to support Eastern Partnership countries<sup>1</sup> to counter economic crime. As distinct from anti-corruption actions implemented in Belarus within the first phase of the PGG programme, its primary focus is on strengthening measures to respond to money laundering and terrorist financing threats. The project has been designed to contribute to the EU 2020 targets set out in priority area “Strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms,”<sup>2</sup> and is aligned with the cooperation priorities identified in the Council of Europe Action Plan for Belarus 2019-2021.

**NEEDS, OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES**

The **overall objective** of the Belarus project is to enhance compliance of Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) institutional framework with the applicable international standards and good practices. Accordingly, the Project aims to strengthen institutions involved in fight against money laundering and terrorist financing by developing operational capacities and facilitating adoption of good practices. Due to the small scale of the Project, activities are developed to address specific issues, based also on country needs and priorities. The Project will accordingly focus on:

- **Prevention:** guidance and capacity building for improved financial intelligence and risk-based supervision; and
- **Enforcement:** strengthening capacities of law enforcement agencies and judiciary to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate money laundering and terrorist financing cases.

<sup>1</sup> Eastern Partnership countries are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

<sup>2</sup> European Commission (2017) [Eastern Partnership – 20 Deliverables for 2020: Focusing on key priorities and tangible results](#). Accessed on: 21 January 2019

In line with the above, the Project expects to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Outcome 1:** Comprehensive measures and detection of money laundering and terrorist financing are in place; and
- **Outcome 2:** The use of risk-based approach to supervision is increased.

Assistance activities planned in both areas include provision of expert advice, workshops, trainings, and roundtables. The activity results will be documented in technical papers, handbooks/manuals, or other written output which will be available on the Project website.

## COUNTERPARTS/BENEFICIARIES

Main Counterpart: State Control Committee of the Republic of Belarus

### Belarus Beneficiaries:

- State Control Committee;
- General Prosecutors Office
- Financial Monitoring Department
- National Bank
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

As the key actor in this thematic area and the EaP region, the Council of Europe, and more specifically the Department of Action against Crime, through its Economic Crime and Cooperation Division (ECCD) is in-charge of implementing activities under this Project. For the purpose of implementation of various specific activities, it engages international long and short-term experts with proven experience in the field of fighting against economic crimes and local experts from EaP countries so as to ensure high quality and relevance of the assistance delivered to the beneficiary institutions.

## CONTACTS

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Project website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/corruption/projects/pgg-ii-belarus>