



**EU/CoE Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) III**  
**“Preventing and fighting economic crime in Azerbaijan”**

**Project Summary**

Project title	<b>Preventing and fighting economic crime in Azerbaijan</b>
Project area	Azerbaijan
Budget	EURO 702,500
Funding	European Union 80%; Council of Europe 20%
Implementation	Economic Crime and Cooperation Division, Action against Economic Crime Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe
Duration	36 months (1 March 2023 – 28 February 2026)

**BACKGROUND**

The project on “*Preventing and fighting economic crime in Azerbaijan*” is one of the six projects which constitute the third phase of the European Union and the Council of Europe (EU/CoE) Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) programme interventions. PGG interventions to counter economic crime will be implemented within the framework of bilateral projects in five Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) and a regional project. The Project in Azerbaijan is specifically tailored to respond to national needs in the area of the fight against corruption, money laundering, terrorist financing and asset recovery.

This project represents a continuation of actions to strengthen capacities to fight and prevent corruption (2015-2017) and to strengthen anti-money laundering (2018 - February 2023), implemented in the country within the first and second phases of the PGG programme. It 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>1</sup> proposed Post-2020 Eastern Partnership Priorities, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions<sup>2</sup> and is aligned with the cooperation priorities identified in the EU-Azerbaijan Action Plan, and Council of Europe Action Plan for Azerbaijan 2022-2025. The Project will also aim to support the implementation of pending recommendations of the Fifth Round Evaluation by the CoE monitoring institutions - Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL).

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

<sup>1</sup> European Commission (2017) [Eastern Partnership – 20 Deliverables for 2020: Focusing on key priorities and tangible results](#) Accessed on: 29 March 2023

<sup>2</sup> [United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16](#) Accessed on: 29 March 2023

The **overall objective** of the Project is to contribute to democracy and the rule of law through implementation of institutional reforms aimed at enhancing capacities of Azerbaijani authorities to prevent and combat corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing in line with European and international standards.

Project activities will focus on the following three areas:

- **Prevention:** improving institutional capacities to fight and prevent various types of economic crime;
- **Enforcement:** strengthening operational capacities of the law enforcement and judiciary to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption, money laundering, terrorist financing and other types of economic crime, as well as to seize, confiscate and recover proceeds from crime;
- **Strategic actions:** assisting with policy advice and recommendations for enhancing risk-based anti-corruption and anti-money laundering frameworks and policies.

The Project expects to achieve the following outcomes through activities agreed with national counterparts:

- **Outcome 1:** Improved mechanisms and capacities for effective corruption prevention
- **Outcome 2:** Enhanced anti-money laundering, countering terrorism financing and asset recovery measures

Assistance activities will include assessments, provision of expert advice, legislative reviews, workshops, trainings, and roundtables. The activity results will be documented in technical papers, guidelines, or other written output which will be available on the Project website.

## COUNTERPARTS/BENEFICIARIES

Main Counterparts: The Commission on Combatting Corruption, the General Prosecutor's Office and the Financial Monitoring Service.

Other Beneficiaries:

- Milli Majlis (Parliament), Committee for Law Policy and State-Building
- Anti-Corruption General Directorate under the General Prosecutor's Office
- Ministry of Justice, including Academy of Justice
- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Supreme Court
- Court for Serious Crimes
- Court of Appeals
- State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy
- State Service for Antimonopoly Policy and Consumer Market Control under the Ministry of Economy, Public Procurement Control Department
- State Security Service
- State Customs Committee
- Central Bank
- Chamber of Auditors

- Azerbaijani Bar Association
- Azerbaijani Notary Chamber
- Professional Associations (Banks; Lawyers)
- Civil Society

## 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.

## CONTACT

Headquarters	Field Office
Economic Crime and Cooperation Division Action against Economic Crime Department Information Society - Action against crime Directorate Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) Council of Europe F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex (France)	Council of Europe Office in Baku Marine Plaza 62 Uzeyir Hajibeyli Street AZ1010 Baku, Azerbaijan
Head of Division Mr Mustafa FERATI Phone: +33 (0)3 90 21 45 50 Email: <a href="mailto:Mustafa.FERATI@coe.int">Mustafa.FERATI@coe.int</a>  Head of Unit for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe Mr Evgeni EVGENIEV Phone: +33 (0)3 88 41 2511 Email: <a href="mailto:Evgeni.EVGENIEV@coe.int">Evgeni.EVGENIEV@coe.int</a>  Project Coordinator Ms Nadejda PLAMADEALA Phone: +33 (0)3 90 21 41 52 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Nadejda.PLAMADEALA@coe.int">Nadejda.PLAMADEALA@coe.int</a>	Senior Project Officer Ms Firuza JAFAROVA Phone: +994 12 599 11 62 ext. 18 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:Firuza.JAFAROVA@coe.int">Firuza.JAFAROVA@coe.int</a>