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**Progress conference of the "Fighting criminality and corruption" project
PRESS RELEASE**

The Prosecutor's Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice (PÎCCJ), as a project promoter, organized the Progress Conference of the "Fighting criminality and corruption" project, an event attended by representatives of the Program Operator - Ministry of Justice, project partners - DNA and DIICOT, as well as prosecutors from several prosecution units within the Public Ministry.

As regards the professional training for **prosecutors, specialists, judicial police officers and clerks component**, there were mentioned the following activities:

- A number of 15 specialists in computer searches and information analysis have benefited from professional training at the University College of Dublin – School of Computer Science.
- During 2020, at the PÎCCJ level there were organized 5 workshops in the field of fighting crimes against the environment and 5 workshops in the field of combating tax evasion and money laundering. 291 prosecutors and specialists attended these workshops, organized online.
- During 2022 – the beginning of 2023, prosecutors and specialists from three partner structures attended workshops in the field of investigating cryptocurrency transactions.
- 140 prosecutors, specialists and judicial police officers from DIICOT, both from the Central Structure, as well as from the territorial units, attended 7 online workshops in the field of communication and special hearing techniques.
- 150 prosecutors, judicial police officers, specialists and clerks within DNA have attended professional training courses in the field of communication.

As regards **the component aimed at equipping the prosecutors` office units with modern technical equipment**, there were highlighted the following activities:

- During 2020, a complete forensic auto-laboratory was purchased, the only one of its kind owned by the Public Ministry.
- Continuing the efforts to equip PÎCCJ, DIICOT and DNA with technical equipment that corresponds to the technological progress, a series of equipment was purchased, whose use will contribute to conducting of criminal investigations in optimal conditions.

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The financing contract for the project "Fighting criminality and corruption" was signed on 27.11.2018, being the first financing contract signed under the "Justice" Program of the current Norwegian Financial Mechanism.

The project is carried out by the Prosecutor's Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice in partnership with the National Anticorruption Directorate (D.N.A.) and the Directorate for Investigating of Organized Crime and Terrorism (D.I.I.C.O.T.) and the International Anti-Corruption Academy – IACA.

The general objective of the project is strengthening the capacity of the Public Ministry to fight criminality and corruption, thus contributing to the consolidation of the rule of law and the judicial system as a whole. The project has two components: one regarding the professional training for prosecutors, judicial police officers and specialists and the other one, regarding the procurement of equipment for the prosecutor's office units, equipment designed to improve the criminal investigation activity.

Project financed by the Kingdom of Norway through the Norwegian Grants. The value of the grant of the project is 4,250,000 Euros. The goal of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the Public Ministry in fighting criminality and corruption

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