

REPORT

On the regional seminar organized by the European Union and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Tirana, Albania

Artak Sargsyan, the member of the Commission on Ethics of High-Ranking Officials of Armenia participated in “Prevention of corruption; trends and best practices in Eastern Europe and Central Asia” regional seminar from June 26-27, 2014, in Tirana, Albania.

The seminar was organized by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia in partnership with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and Central Asia and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Minister on Local Issues of Albany, the National Coordinator of anti-corruption issues, Minister of Public Administration and Innovation of Albania. Anti-corruption representatives and selected Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives from 25 countries including Eastern Europe, Central Asia and other countries attended this seminar.

The seminar gave an opportunity to discuss international trends, problems and effective tools to fight corruption, the latest’s best practice as well as the role of civil society in the process of preventing corruption.

Representatives from Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan presented their best practices. Georgia presented practical implementation of “Public Service Hall” concept and Azerbaijan presented “Assan” project, Armenia presented the

outcomes of implementing “Regulatory Guillotine in Armenia” project, while the civil society representative from Kazakhstan presented the best practice to implement oversight over civil society organizations.

Public Service Hall of Georgia is a building that represents all the governmental bodies and agencies that provide documents, licenses to citizens and to legal entities. The citizen, for example, can apply to the department of archive services of Public Service Hall for getting the copy of his/her lost document, at the same time asking to do the notary translation of the document. For more information visit the website of Public Service Hall of Georgia (<http://psh.gov.ge>)

The concept of “Assan” presented by Azerbaijan is similar to Georgian practice: departments of civil residence, civil security as well as passport and driving license departments of police, notary offices, state and land registers operate at the same place.

The peculiarity of “Mobile Assan” service establishment is that cars and large buses were designed to provide services to disabled people as well as to people living at villages. For more information visit the website of “Assan”. (<http://www.asan.gov.az>)

Naturally, the two models applied by the both countries are close to Armenia’s idea of “The principle of one window”, but bigger packages of services are provided and in a shorter period, particularly in Georgia.

During the second day of the seminar, the seminar participants were divided into two groups. The participants were given practical tasks on effective mechanisms to reduce corruption degree and corruption risks in public administration.