

## PRESS RELEASE

26 February 2014.

Yerevan

## "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" Project First Awareness Raising Seminar

## The first awareness raising seminar in the framework of "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project will be held on 26 February, 2014 at 14:00 in Ararat city (24a, Shahumyan str., Meeting Hall).

The project aims to increase the role of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in promoting anti-corruption reforms and their implementation. In the framework of the project the capacity of CSOs and the media to engage in monitoring and watchdog activities will be built. Anti-corruption training will be organized throughout Armenia with the purpose of enabling CSOs and media organizations to better comprehend the issues related to anti-corruption and freedom of information. These activities aim at deepening the existing opportunities of carrying out anti-corruption activities. Small grants will be given for raising the effectiveness of public monitoring and implementation of appropriate monitoring, watchdog and investigative activities. A sustainable dialogue between CSOs and the Government will be developed with the participation of CSOs, to strengthen the anti-corruption institutional mechanisms.

The Project Manager will introduce the "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project, its objectives and directions at this event.

Regional Coordinator/Expert Tigran Matevosyan will deliver an opening speech. Welcome speeches of the Head of Political, Economic, Press and Information Section of the Delegation of the European Union to Armenia Dr Dirk Lorenz, and the Project Manager and President of the Armenian Young Lawyers Association NGO Karen Zadoyan will follow.

Representatives of CSOs and media from Ararat and Armavir marzes of the RA will participate in the event.

The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the "Armenian Young Lawyers Association" NGO -Applicant and "Freedom of Information Center" NGO – Partner. Project duration is 3 years (January 2014 – December 2016). Project Budget is 650.000 EUR.

Armenian Young Lawyers Association (AYLA) was established in1995 with a Mission to promote to the establishment of the rule of law, democracy and formation of the civil society in Armenia, where the people are aware of their rights and their rights are protected.

Freedom of Information Center (FOI) operates over 10 years. The Mission of FOI is to promote application of the RA Freedom of Information Law, contribute to the transparency and openness of the Armenian government system and to stimulate civic society's involvement in the governance system.

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"The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".