



PRESS RELEASE

23 September 2014, Yerevan

“Public Discussion with CSOs of Gegharkunik on the Draft (Concept) of the RA Anti-Corruption Strategy for 2014-2018”

The “Armenian Young Lawyers Association” NGO and its partner “Freedom of Information Center of Armenia” NGO are organizing a CSO-Government Working Meeting for the discussion of the concept of “Draft of the Republic of Armenia Anti-Corruption Strategy for 2014 – 2018” in the framework of the EU funded project “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” on 24 September 2014 in Gavar City (“Youth Events Center” 3 Culture House, second floor, Central Square, Gavar City).

Representatives of the RA Ministry of Justice, Delegation of the European Union to Armenia, Administration of the RA Gegharkunik marz, CSOs and Mass Media of Gegharkunik region, the Armenian Young Lawyers Association, “Freedom of Information Center of Armenia, and experts of the “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” project will participate in the event.

Representatives of the Ministry of Justice and Delegation of the European Union to Armenia; President of the “Armenian Young Lawyers Association” NGO, “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” Project Manager Mr. Karen Zadoyan will make welcoming speeches. The welcoming speeches will be followed by the presentation of the concept of “Draft of the Republic of Armenia Anti-Corruption Strategy for 2014-2018” and discussions of the issues on possibility of creation of the multi-functional Independent Anti-Corruption Body and criminalization of illicit enrichment in Armenia. The participants will be enabled to participate in the discussions and present their suggestions.

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 workshops will be organized throughout Armenia with the purpose of enabling CSOs and media organisations to better comprehend the issues related to anti-corruption and freedom of information. These activities aim at deepening the existing opportunities for 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 is funded by the European Union and implemented by the “Armenian Young Lawyers Association” NGO in partnership with the “Freedom of Information Center” NGO. The project duration is 3 years (January 2014 – December 2016) and the budget is 650.000 EUR.

Armenian Young Lawyers Association (AYLA) was established in 1995 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.

For more information please contact:

Mrs. Narine Karapetyan, PR Coordinator, on business days from 9:00 – 18:00. Tel. 540199; Fax 580299; URL <http://www.ayla.am>

Executer: Narine Karapetyan, e-mail: pr@ayla.am



Armenian Young Lawyers Association
Address: 7 Nalbandyan str.,
suite 2, Yerevan, Armenian,
0010

Tel: +37410 54 01 99
Fax: +37410 58 02 99

Freedom of Information Center
Address: 1/3 Buzand str.
Yerevan, Armenia, 0010
Tel: +37410 56 03 60
Fax: +37410 56 03 60

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Delegation of
The European Union
In Armenia
Tel +37410 54 64 94
Fax +37410 54 64 95

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

“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”.