



## PRESS RELEASE

09 December 2014, Yerevan

### *Annual Award Ceremony on the Occasion of the International Anti-Corruption Day*

Break the corruption chain. Under this slogan of the Anti-Corruption campaign of the UN Convention Against Corruption Coalition, anti-corruption events took place in Yerevan on the occasion of the International Anti-Corruption Day. The “Armenian Young Lawyers Association” NGO jointly with the Anti-Corruption Coalition of CSOs held an annual award ceremony in the framework of the EU funded “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” project. The event was launched with an anti-corruption flash mob: a group of youngsters called on the participants to fight against corruption, concluding the flash mob with the slogan of the day.

President of the “Armenian Young Lawyers Association” NGO, “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” Project Manager Mr. Karen Zadoyan stated in his welcoming speech that the UN Convention Against Corruption Coalition and the Anti-Corruption network consisting of around 350 public groups from all over the world call upon state governments to take anti-corruption struggle seriously.

“The year of 2014 has been very important in the fight against corruption, we enter a new stage, develop a new strategy, develop the concept of new anti-corruption body and will establish that body this year”, mentioned Deputy Minister of Justice Mr. Suren Krmoyan in his speech.

Deputy Head of the Cooperation Section of the Delegation of the European Union in Armenia Mr. Jose-Maria Medina Navarro underlined in his speech the readiness of the EU to contribute to the anti-corruption struggle in Armenia.

The Annual Anti-Corruption Award Ceremony followed the welcoming speeches.

Three nominations for anti-corruption awards have been set: Citizen, Journalist and Civil Society Organization of the year. For his principled stance and work-style in terms of protection of the violated rights Hrachya Avetisyan was granted the anti-corruption award “Citizen of the Year”. For speaking up on the issues involving corruption phenomena journalists of the “Revisor” project of the Comedy show “ArmComedy” of “ArmNews” TV Channel – Sergey Sargsyan, Narek Margaryan, Mher Khachatryan were granted with the anti-corruption award “Journalist of the Year”. For principled stance and work-style in terms of protection of the rights of advocates the RA Chamber of Advocates was granted the anti-corruption award “Civil Society Organization of the Year”.

**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.

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Project is funded  
by the European Union

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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”.