

## PRESS RELEASE

## 06 October, 2015

Yerevan

## Anti-Corruption Event "The Implementation Process of the RA Government's Commitments in the Context of International Anti-Corruption Commitments"

On 6 October 2015 an anti-corruption event on the topic of "The Implementation Process of the RA Government's Commitments in the Context of International Anti-Corruption Commitments" took place in Kapan. CSOs and Mass Media of the Syunik Region participated in the event organized by the "Armenian Young Lawyers Association" NGO in the framework of the "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project co-funded by the EU and the OSCE Yerevan Office.

"The implementation of international anti-corruption commitments results in the improvement of state policies, creation of new mechanisms, and regulation of legislation which makes the anti-corruption fight of the civil society efficient and easy," said the AYLA president, the coordinator of the "Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion" project Karen Zadoyan.

"This year a lot of work has been done in the anti-corruption field. The results are not tangible yet but already noticeable. One of the most productive steps taken is that the civil society has started to lead quite active fight against corruption," said the assistant to the RA Deputy Minister of Justice, secretary of the Anti-Corruption Working Group Mariam Galstyan.

International expert of the project Carl Ulbricht, national expert of the project Marat Atovmyan, and journalist of the independent news website Iravaban.net Gevorg Tosunyan had separate speeches during the event.

The participants had many questions for the speakers which resulted in a very productive discussion.

The main goal of the project is to increase the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in the promotion and implementation of anticorruption reforms. Monitoring skills of CSOs and Mass Media will be enhanced in the framework of the project. Anti-corruption trainings will be organized in the RA regions for CSOs and Mass Media in order to help them perceive the problems of corruption and freedom of information much better. The goal of these events is to increase the present opportunities of anti-corruption activities. Small grants will be provided for increasing the efficiency of public control and the implementation of monitoring, control, and investigative projects. A sustained CSO-Government dialogue will be developed with the participation of CSOs in order to strengthen anti-corruption institutional mechanisms.

The EU-funded project is implemented by the "Armenian Young Lawyers Association" NGO in partnership with the "Freedom of Information Center" NGO. The duration of the project is 3 years (January 2014-December 2016). The budget of the project is 650.000 EUR, 585.000 EUR of which were provided by the EU. The investment of the OSCE Office in Yerevan totals 15.600 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) has been operating for 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 civil society's involvement in the governance system. For more information please contact:

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the European Union

The project is co-funded

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Delegation of

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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,

The European Commission is the EU's executive body

they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and democratic institutions and strengthening civil society, individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing acting in the areas of legislative reform; combating its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders."

The project is co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. Tel.: +374 10 229610 Fax: +374 10 229615

The OSCE Office in Yerevan has been operating since 1999, and its mission is to support Armenia in developing its corruption and trafficking; environmental activities; raising awareness for human rights; media freedom; gender equality,etc.