



## PRESS RELEASE

08 December, 2016

Yerevan

### *Annual Award Ceremony Dedicated to the International Anti-Corruption Day “Government-CSO Cooperation” Anti-Corruption Forum Closing Ceremony of the “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” Project*

On 9 December, 2016, at 09.30AM-18.10PM (venue: Marriott Armenia Hotel, Tigran Mets Hall), the “Armenian Lawyers’ Association” NGO and the CSO Anti-Corruption Coalition of Armenia are organising an anti-corruption event in the scope of the “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” project funded by the European Union and co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. The event dedicated to the International Anti-Corruption Day will comprise 3 parts.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the event, the *Annual Anti-Corruption Ceremony Dedicated to the International Anti-Corruption Day*, will be held. During this ceremony, awards in the following categories will be presented: “**Young Citizen of the Year**”, “**Citizen of the Year**”, “**Mass Media Outlet of the Year**”, “**Business Organisation of the Year**”, “**Journalist of the Year**”, “**CSO of the Year**”. Certificates of Appreciation will also be presented.

**Mr. Davit Harutyunyan**, the Minister-Chief of Staff of the Government of the RA, **H.E. Dr. Piotr Antoni Świtalski**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Armenia, **Mr. David Gullette**, a Democratisation Officer at the OSCE Office in Yerevan, **Mr. Arthur Davtyan**, the RA Prosecutor General, and **Mr. Karen Zadoyan**, the President of the Armenian Lawyers’ Association and the Coordinator of the Secretariat of the CSO Anti-Corruption Coalition of Armenia, will give opening remarks and hand out awards at the ceremony. **H.E. Mr. Petr Mikyska**, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czech Republic to Armenia, and **Mr. Amias Moores**, the Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy to Armenia, will present awards as well.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the event will be dedicated to the *“Government-CSO Cooperation” Anti-Corruption Forum* where the success achieved in the scope of Government-CSO Cooperation and the prospects of developing this cooperation will be summarised. **Mr. Davit Harutyunyan**, **Mr. Arthur Davtyan** and **Mr. Karen Zadoyan** will open the session. Perspectives of the Government-CSO Cooperation in the scope of fight against corruption at central and local levels will also be discussed.

The official *closing ceremony of the “Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion” project* will be held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> part of the event where speeches will be given by project partners.

The main goal of the “**Multi-Faceted Anti-Corruption Promotion**” project is to increase the role of the Civil Society Organisations (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 has been enhanced. Thus, 100 CSOs and media organisations have strengthened their understanding of corruption issues and freedom of information as well as their ability to monitor and engage in watchdog activities. Small sub-grants have been allocated to 15 CSOs and media organisations for raising the effectiveness of public monitoring and the implementation of appropriate monitoring, watchdog and investigative activities. In 2014 the CSO Anti-Corruption Coalition of Armenia was established in the scope of the project. The Coalition now comprises more than 80 CSOs and media organisations and plays a key role in the sustainable CSO-Government dialogue developed in the scope of the project. The joint work of the Government and the Coalition on the issues of the criminalisation of illicit enrichment and the establishment of an independent anti-corruption agency in Armenia has been a particularly remarkable achievement in the scope of the project.

The project is funded by the European Union and co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan. It is implemented by the “Armenian Lawyers’ Association” NGO-Applicant and “Freedom of Information Center” NGO-Partner. The project duration is 3 years (January 2014 – December 2016) and the budget is 650,000 EUR, of which 585,000 EUR was contributed by the EU and 31,117 EUR was contributed by the OSCE Office in Yerevan.

**For more information please contact PR Coordinator Mrs. Narine Karapetyan on business days from 9:00 to 18:00. Tel.: 540199; Fax: 580299; URL: [www.armla.am](http://www.armla.am).**



The 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”.



The Project is co-funded by the OSCE Office in Yerevan.  
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The OSCE Office in Yerevan has been operating since 1999, and its mission is to support Armenia in developing its democratic institutions and strengthening civil society, acting in the areas of legislative reform; combating corruption and trafficking; environmental activities; raising awareness for human rights; media freedom; gender equality, etc.



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