



# FLASH SPAIgram

This newsletter is a periodic update on the activities of the SPAI RSLO

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## SPAI RSLO REGIONAL TOUR February 8th, 2005, ZAGREB, CROATIA



### SPAI RSLO's REGIONAL TOUR

During February, SPAI RSLO team is conducting a regional tour which will involve all SPAI member countries. RSLO's Executive Secretary **Mr. Veselin Sukovic** and Anticorruption Expert **Mr. Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu** will participate to a series of bilateral meetings and roundtables that are aiming to ensure a regional dissemination of the recent developments within the SPAI framework. Furthermore, the purpose of the tour is to establish direct contacts with the main institutions and organizations involved in the fight against corruption and to identify together practical ways of cooperating in implementing the SPAI Strategy and SPAI RSLO Workplan for 2005.

### SPAI RSLO's VISIT TO ZAGREB

The first country to be visited was Croatia, on February 8th, 2005. During the visit to Zagreb, SPAI RSLO representatives had **bilateral meetings** with high level public officials coordinating anticorruption activities:

- **Ms. Snejana Bagic**, state secretary, Ministry of Justice

- **Mr. Dubravko Palijaš**, Senior SPAI representative, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Justice
- **Mr. Zeljko Zganjer**, head of the Office for the Prevention of Corruption and Organized Crime

Also, SPAI RSLO representatives organized, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, a **public debate** addressing the role and mission of RSLO, current anticorruption efforts in Croatia, practical ways to cooperate with the Office in Sarajevo. The meeting benefited from the active and substantial contribution of various public and private sector institutions. The following entities were represented: **Ministry of Justice, State Attorney's Office, Office for Prevention of Corruption and Organized Crime, Ministry of Interior, Council of Europe - PACO IMPACT Program Coordinator, ABA/CEELI, UNDP, Transparency International, TELESEE, National Competitiveness Council, Croatian Journalist's Association and mass-media.**

The roundtable offered RSLO a great opportunity to extend a direct invitation to all participants to make the best use of the facilities and infrastructure that the Office in Sarajevo can provide and also to contribute to the creation of the SPAI RSLO's Resource Center as a platform for sharing information and best practices in anticorruption.

### ANTICORRUPTION NEWS

- **Croatian Parliament ratified the UN Convention against Corruption.** The Law is to be published within the Official Gazette.

- **A draft law on the Office for Prevention of Corruption and Organized Crime is under parliamentary debates.** The draft law aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Office by strictly regulating competences on preventive and educational areas, providing access to information related to bank secrecy, creating a new department for international cooperation and joint investigation.
- **A multidisciplinary workgroup is currently drafting the national strategy against corruption.** The deadline for issuing a first official draft is April 1st.
- Croatian Minister of Justice designated **Ms. Ljubinka Šebetovskyy**, as the new SPAI senior representative and member of the SPAI Steering Group.

### NEXT SPAI RSLO VISITS

- ROMANIA, 10 - 11 February
- FYR MACEDONIA, 14 February
- ALBANIA, 16 - 17 February



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