

NEWSLETTER of the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform

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LATEST NEWS

The EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform work plan approved by the Steering Committee

The first meeting of the Steering Committee chaired by the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), took place in Brussels on 1st October. The [overall work plan](#) was approved, as well as communication rules of the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform.

Latvia becomes a full-fledged partner to the EU Rule of Law Initiative for Central Asia

The Republic of Latvia is now a partner of the EU Rule of Law Initiative for Central Asia and will join the efforts of France and Germany as coordinators of the initiative, as well as Finland, to support legal reform in Central Asia. The new partnership has been made official during the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform.

Latvia has committed to participate actively to the activities of the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform and will share its experiences and best practices with rule of law professionals in Central Asia.



Latest news of the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform available on the website

Our website <http://ruleoflaw.eu/> is on line, with all the latest updates about the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform activities, upcoming events, interviews and editorials to examine in depth topics related to Rule of Law.

October and November 2015 events

Training seminar on the implementation of the Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance – Astana, 9th October 2015

The seminar was held by EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform together with the Ministry of Justice of Kazakhstan. The seminar touched the topics of the Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matter, and the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on

the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance.

High-level representatives of the Hague Conference and the International Union of Enforcement Officers presented an overview of the purpose and advantages of these conventions and

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explained their operation mechanisms from the perspective of practitioners. An exchange will be established with the Republican College of private enforcement officers of Kazakhstan and the Department on the Enforcement of Judicial Decisions of the Ministry of Justice of Kazakhstan.

High-level civil servants from various Kazakh state entities attended the seminar in Astana, and in video conference in the regional offices of the Ministry of Justice, which enabled to reach out to a large number of public and private enforcement officers throughout Kazakhstan.

Raising awareness of pupils about the rule of law in Kyrgyz schools – Bishkek, 27/30 October 2015

On 27 October 2015, a round-table attended by the Minister of Education and Sciences, the Deputy Minister of Justice, the French Ambassador, representatives of the Delegation of the EU to Kyrgyzstan, the Deputy Chair of the Kyrgyz Bar, directors and teachers of Kyrgyz schools, and representatives of the Paris Bar and other institutions kicked-off Phase I of the initiative "Initiation to law for pupils" of the Kyrgyz Republic. The initiative aims at helping pupils becoming aware about their rights, the rule of law, and at providing them with the ability to fend for their rights, becoming responsible citizens, therefore contributing the development of their legal awareness. Modules for pupils of Kyrgyz schools from age 9-18 have been designed and deployed in schools by trainer-lawyers.

This method, developed by the Paris Bar, foresees the presentation of real cases in a recreative mode, where pupils are invited to simulate real situations, identify to parties, analyse and argue both sides of a hypothetical legal issue. These simplified moot courts or mock trials are entertaining and children enjoy interacting while become aware of their rights.



Training seminar on administrative procedure – Dushanbe, 20/21 October 2015

The seminar, hosted by the Institute of State Service under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, and co-organized with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), had the objective of promoting a better implementation of the Code of Administrative Procedure of Tajikistan.

The seminar was attended by about 30 participants from the Tajik government, the Agency of State Service under the President of Tajikistan and teachers of legal disciplines of the Institute of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

During the seminar the participants got acquainted with the provisions of the Code of Administrative Procedures of the Republic of Tajikistan, worked on practical examples, and discussed the topics of licensing activities, construction law and taxes in the light of best European laws and practices.

Regional seminar on legal protection for economic operators – Rome, 23/24 November 2015

Organized in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice of Italy, in association with the Italian Competition Authority and the University of Rome La Sapienza, the two days of activities have been the occasion for the 12 delegates from Central Asia, to engage into dialogue and exchanges of experiences on economic and commercial law, and shared best practices and regulations governing the economic environment, based on the European experience.

On 23rd November 2015, 15 speakers

gave lectures on Competition and Intellectual Property Right, Finance and Taxation and Cross Border Investments among which, judges, lawyers, notaries, law professors and representatives of the private sector, including entrepreneurs and Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

On the second day of activities the delegates from Central Asia visited the Italian Competition Authority and the Italian Ministry of Justice, where exchange of views on good practices have been possible in the framework of roundtables with the institutions' representatives.



Next on the Rule of Law Platform agenda

December 2015

- ✓ Training seminar on administrative procedural law, Kyrgyz Republic
- ✓ Seminar on local self-government, Turkmenistan

January 2016

- ✓ Training seminar for judicial experts, Tajikistan
- ✓ Training seminar on the responsibilities and ethics of private enforcement officers, Kazakhstan