



PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

19 May 2017

The European Union abets dialogue on the Attorney-Client Privilege in Almaty

ALMATY – On 22 May 2017, Almaty will host a round table «On the Attorney-Client privilege», organised by the EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform, in cooperation with the Almaty and Paris Bars.

The objective of the round-table is to provide exposure to best European practices in the area of defense rights and to propose recommendations for guaranteeing the independence of lawyers and the effective defense of their clients, contributing to strengthening rule of law in Kazakhstan. It aims at strengthening the protection of attorneys in the implementation of their activities, securing their professional status and the confidentiality of their communication with clients, guaranteeing the attorney-client privilege. Experts from Ireland, France, Germany and Kazakhstan will engage in a dialogue and will exchange information on the laws and practices of their countries, with emphasis of relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

Co-chaired by Mr Daniyar Kanafin and Ms Laurence Kiffer, Board Members of the Almaty and Paris Bars, the round-table will pursue the cooperation between the Almaty and Paris Bars initiated with the signing of a Partnership Agreement in October 2014, under the auspices of the Rule of Law Platform.

As emphasised by EU High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini, “*defendants should be granted full access to the incriminating evidence and full defense rights.*” Access to counsel and confidentiality of communication between a lawyer and his client, including in places of confinement, are crucial defense rights the enforcement of which should be carefully protected.

The EU-Central Asia Rule of Law Platform project acts as a support mechanism to facilitate policy dialogue and promote the measures contributing to legal reforms in each of the Central Asian countries. The Platform is being funded by the European Union to the amount of EUR 1,8 million and is implemented by IBF International Consulting.

Note for the editors:

Time and date: 22 May 2017, 10.00 – 16.00 (Registration will start at 9.45).

Venue: Training Center of the Almaty Bar, Manas Street 24 B, Almaty, Kazakhstan.

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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, 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.