

ReSPA

Regional School of Public Administration (Phase 1)

A Joint Initiative of the European Union
and the OECD, principally financed by the EU



Openly on Corruption



The Office for Human Resources Management of the Serbian Government has initiated training of civil servants on corruption issues. The objective of this training programme is to familiarise civil servants with the contents of the strategic documents in the field of fight against corruption, with the causes and consequences of corruption as well as preventive measures they can take against corruption. All civil

servants are eligible for this training programme, which was designed in line with the Serbian National Strategy for Fight against Corruption as well as with the Council of Europe Report adopted by the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO).

The Serbian National Assembly adopted the National Strategy for Fight against Corruption in 2005.

The lecturers for this training programme, coming from the Serbian Ministry of Justice and the State Prosecutor's Office, first introduce the participants with the concept of corruption, the history of its development and its structure. The programme continues with the lectures on the international standards in the anticorruption field and the measures undertaken in the fight against corruption in Serbia. Later on, the criminal aspects of corruption and some examples from practice are discussed, as well as the issue of the integrity of the society. The training also focuses on the different prevention measures and especially on the anticorruption aspects of the recently adopted "Code of Conduct for Civil Servants", according to which Serbian civil servants are not to accept presents or any kind of service or other advantage for themselves or others in the performance of their duties. Only symbolic presents of minor value are allowed, in line with the provisions of the law which regulates prevention of conflict of interest in the performance of public duties (see article "Serbian Civil Servants to Be Polite in the Future", April 2008, section "Latest in the Region").

At the end of the seminar participants are given the possibility to discuss and exchange their experiences regarding this important subject. This training programme represents an important innovation in the training curriculum offered to Serbian civil servants and an opportunity to raise their awareness of the potential situations when they may be exposed to corruption risks.

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