

**Together we are stronger?
Harmonising the fight against fraud and corruption in Europe**

The role of the EU-funded project in supporting the Anti-Corruption General Directorate (AGD) institutional building. The co-operation between AGD and the other bodies involved in preventing and countering corruption

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Abstract

1. The first part of the presentation aimed to briefly describe the Twinning PHARE projects of which AGD was/is a beneficiary, and their impact on institutional building. The organisation and tasks of the AGD as the specialized agency for preventing and countering corruption within the personnel of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform (MoIAR) was also presented.
2. The second part focused on the two main axes of AGD activities (prevention and countering corruption) and the collaboration with different partners, as well as the main results achieved.
 1. a. Following the EU recommendations, the Anti-corruption General Directorate was established and officially launched in October 2005 within the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform. The institutional building was strongly supported by the EU through the 2002 Twinning project "*Developing anti-corruption measures within the Ministry of Administration and Interior*". The project was conducted with partners from Great Britain and Spain. It was intended to improve anticorruption policies within MoIAR by drafting secondary legislation, improving partnership with civil society and revising the existing Anti-Corruption Strategy. The project also supported the establishment of a general framework and necessary capacities for the AGD.
 - b. The AGD is subordinated directly to the Minister of Interior and Administrative Reform and has the capacity, due to its specialised units, to perform judicial police activities, to carry out prevention, and to test integrity activities.

c. The PHARE support for institutional development, in partnership with EU Member States' specialized agencies continued under the following Twinning projects:

2004 "Anti-corruption Measures for Border Police and Customs" (Spain),

2005 "Development of the General Directorate for Anti-Corruption of the Ministry of Administration and Interior" (Germany)

2006 "Continuing the fight against corruption in public administration" (UK and France),

Transition Facility "Bringing anti-corruption capacities in Ministry of Interior and Administration Reform up to EU Member States standards" (Germany)

Conclusions: PHARE Twinning projects were essential for the AGD institutional building as the European structures and policies were applied to the Romanian status quo.

2. a. In the field of prevention, co-operation (between what partners?) is achieved based on protocols, both with governmental and non-governmental structures in order to raise civil servants'/citizens' awareness of the danger of corruption and its consequences.

b. During the steps taken in criminal investigation (receiving information on possible corruption, intelligence management and completion of preliminary penal activities) the AGD judicial officers work under the co-ordination of the case prosecutor and supported by other relevant agencies.

Conclusions: Preventing and countering corruption is a complex process and may be regarded as a *joint venture*. It requires good co-operation of all state and civil bodies in order to obtain long-lasting results.