



TAIEX Expert Mission on the Protection of Journalists in the Criminal Code

organised in co-operation with the
Ministry of Justice

Venue : Nemanjina 22 - 26

Belgrade

16 - 17 March 2017

Beneficiary :

Serbia

JHA IND/EXP 63971

Aim of the expert mission :

The aim of the expert mission is to provide the Ministry of Justice and the Public Prosecutor's Office with recommendations for amending the Serbian Criminal Code and other criminal law provisions, aimed at enhancing the protection of journalists from violence or threats of violence.

To this end, two experts from Croatia and Romania will review the legal framework and case-law ensuring media freedom and will analyse prosecution cases of crimes against journalists in Serbia. Discussions will be held with representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Culture and Information and from journalist and civil society organisations with a view of providing informed and appropriate recommendations.

Expert:

Mr Radu GEAMĂNU

Magistrate – Legal advisor on Criminal Law
Drafting Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice, Romania

Mr Robert TOMLJENOVIC

Member of the Council for Electronic Media
Agency for Electronic Media, Croatia

Day 1 : Thursday 16 March 2017

09:00	- Presentations and introduction of the experts - Objective of the mission - Key issues on journalist protection in Serbia <i>Meeting with all mission participants</i> <u>Venue:</u> Office for European Integration, Nemanjina 31
10:00	• Compliance with the Copenhagen criteria, requiring candidate countries to guarantee open and equal access to free press • Possible amendments to the Criminal law and misdemeanor in cases of compromising the integrity and safety of journalists <i>* Meeting with the Ministry of Justice</i> <u>Venue:</u> Ministry of Justice, Nemanjina 22-26, 3rd floor, sector D
11:00	• Criminal prosecution of crimes committed against journalists – <i>key issues in practice</i> • Best practices aimed at ensuring the safety of journalists • Speed and efficiency of investigations into cases of violence against journalists • Training for representatives of the Public Prosecutor's Office • Cooperation with the police on cases of violence against journalists <i>* Meeting with the Republic Prosecutor's Office, including Prosecutors Office for Cyber Crime</i> <u>Venue:</u> Nemanjina 22-26, 7th floor
13:00	Lunch break
14:30	• Training for representatives of the police in terms of mechanisms for protection of journalists • System of preventive measures undertaken for the purpose of protection of journalists from threats of violence <i>* Meeting with the Ministry of Interior</i> <u>Venue:</u> Ministry of Justice, Nemanjina 22-26, 3rd floor, sector D
15:30	• Satisfaction with legal framework • Cooperation with the police and prosecution • Co-regulation and co-operation with relevant Ministries <i>* Meeting with journalists organizations</i> <u>Venue:</u> Ministry of Justice, Nemanjina 22-26, 3rd floor, sector D
16:30	Discussion and conclusions
17:30	End of day 1

Day 2 : Friday 17 March 2017

09:00	• Opportunities to improve the compliance with standards related to freedom of expression and pluralism of the media, in order to create social and political environment favorable to journalist safety • National regulatory framework in terms of ensuring media freedom • Co-regulation and co-operation with professional associations of journalists <i>* Meeting with the Ministry of Culture and Information</i> <i>Venue: Vojkovicova 3, 2nd floor, cabinet 89</i>
10:30	• The level of media freedom and the standing of journalists? • The existence of independent media (financially self-sufficient and fund high-quality journalism)? • The level of professional journalistic standards • The confidence of society in the journalists and media <i>* Meeting with civil society organizations</i> <i>Venue: Human Rights House, Kneza Milosa 4</i>
12:00	Lunch break
13:00	Discussion and conclusions <i>* Meeting with all mission participants</i> <i><u>Venue:</u> Office for European Integration, Nemanjina 31</i>
15:30	Preparation of the mission report
17:30	End of the mission

This meeting is being organised by the
***Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument
of the European Commission***

<http://ec.europa.eu/taix>



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