Education and Training of Prosecutors – EU Project closing ceremony and results

On 05 July 2007, the results of the EU Project “Education and Training of Prosecutors” will be presented to the public by the General State Attorney, Mladen Bajić, the Minister of Justice Ana Lovrin, Vincent Degert, the Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Croatia, and Marc Moinard, Secretary General of the French Ministry of Justice.

In concurrent statements the speakers of the conference agree that the project was an important contribution towards an independent and professional judiciary and towards the rule of law in the Republic of Croatia.

Within the framework of the project, which benefited from the financing of EUR 1 million from the EU’s CARDS programme, the Judicial Academy, as the unique Croatia’s judicial training institution for judges and prosecutors, was strengthened. An Advisory Board headed by the President of the Supreme Court was set-up in order to establish the priorities and training strategy of judicial staff in Croatia. A Programming council will design the training curricula while the judicial academy will be in charge of the training implementation.

During the project, 627 prosecutors attended 36 training seminars organised in the 4 Regional Training Centres of the Judicial Academy. Out of 44 trained Croatian tutors, around 30 facilitated seminars following the already adopted “training of trainers” pedagogical methods.

Members of the law faculties of Zagreb, Rijeka and Split together with practitioners- prosecutors - in cooperation with colleagues from France and Spain designed 10 teaching manuals including 27 modules for the training of prosecutors and judges. Each subject contains extensive printed teaching materials with CD that should be soon available on the Judicial Academy's web site http://www.pak.hr

During 2007, with the financial and technical assistance of the project, two Regional Centres, in Osijek and Split, were fully equipped with a library, computers and furniture, as well as the General State Attorney's Office in Zagreb, with the video-conferencing.

The new training system with its decentralised infrastructure allows participation in training events without a great expenditure of time and money and offers the opportunity to make personal career development part of prosecutors’ and judges’ regular work. It meets the requirements of an effective, economic, and high-quality training system.

The Twinning Project was led by the French National School for Magistrates (E.N.M.) in consortium with the Spanish Centre for Judicial Studies (C.E.J.), the Judicial Academy of the Ministry of Justice and the General State Attorney's Office of the Republic of Croatia.

During the Closing Conference, the Judicial Academy will sign conventions on inter-institutional cooperation in the field of judicial training with the E.N.M. and the C.E.J.

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<th>CARDS which was merged to <strong>IPA</strong> (the new EU Pre-Accession Instrument)</th>
<th>Stabilisation and Association Agreement. Within the Justice and Home Affairs sector, CARDS assistance for Croatia focuses on police and judicial reform, border management, asylum, migration and visa matters. For the period 2001-2004 the indicative financial allocation for CARDS assistance in Croatia is €255 million. Croatia also benefits from the CARDS regional programme with an indicative allocation of €104 million for 2001-2004.</th>
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**Website:** [www.pak.hr](http://www.pak.hr)