



**ROMANIA
COUNTRY COMMITMENTS
TO FURTHER STEP UP FIGHTING CORRUPTION
AS A DUTY TOWARDS ITS CITIZENS**

Over the past few years, Romania made further steps in fighting corruption, from the stage of adopting anti-corruption laws and policies to the one of ensuring their effective implementation.

We now have a consistent track record in addressing corruption, both in the public and the private sectors. Moreover, we work closely with a significant number of institutions in other jurisdictions to trace and recover proceeds of corruption and organised crime.

As a consequence, the annual value of the seized assets reached and even surpassed half a billion euros and our flagship anti-corruption institutions - the National Anticorruption Directorate and the National Integrity Agency - are today acknowledged as sound partners and providers of best practices at an international level.

Therefore,

Recognising the importance of integrity, transparency and open governance,

Reaffirming that a high level performance of the National Anti-corruption Directorate and National Integrity Agency is possible only if such institutions are provided by the Government and the Parliament with a sound mandate, translated into clear and predictable legislation, adequate resources and independence from undue political and economic pressures,

Building on the strong track record of our national anticorruption authorities and judiciary in addressing high level corruption,

Admitting that preventive, administrative and fiscal measures, as well as educational programs still need to be further developed and implemented,

Acknowledging the importance of further intensifying the fight against corruption as a duty towards our citizens,

Romania is fully committed to endorse and implement the following measures within its upcoming national anticorruption strategy:

BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

- To further develop the National Trade Register Office so that information on beneficial ownership is made available.

- To ensure that law enforcement agencies have full and effective access to beneficial ownership information on companies and other legal entities registered within the national jurisdiction, as well as their legal mandate for sharing internationally such information among relevant networks of practitioners.

PREVENTING THE FACILITATION OF CORRUPTION

- To further promote the transparency of the public decision-making process by developing public disclosure requirements regarding the interactions between high public officials and interest representatives. *[OGP commitment]*
- To implement integrity plans as mandatory requirements for state owned enterprises.
- To continue providing the general public and the civil society with transparent and equal access to relevant information on the activities implemented and to the performance indicators developed and monitored under the national anti-corruption strategy *[OGP commitment]*

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

- To further support the adoption of the required legislation and ensure adequate resources for the ex-ante control mechanism to be implemented by the National Integrity Agency for public procurement procedures.
- To work towards a full implementation of the principles of open contracting data standard focusing on major projects as an early priority *[OGP commitment]*

PREVENTING CORRUPT BIDDERS WINNING CONTRACTS

- To develop rewarding mechanisms for public bidders that have proven a track record of integrity in conducting business.
- To establish accessible central databases of companies with final convictions, as well as of those that fail to properly implement contracts awarded within public procurement procedures.

ASSET RECOVERY

- To provide the National Agency for the Management of Seized Assets with adequate resources and operational independence, thus allowing it to become fully operational and to gain a pivotal role in asset tracing and recovery. We commit to returning the proceeds of crime back to society through social and public reuse and to being fully transparent regarding the allocation and use of such resources. *[OGP commitment]*
- To continue to make the best use of all available resources of international networks of practitioners such as EU ARO Platform, CARIN and also to closely cooperate with our partners in international cases of corruption and serious crimes.

INVESTING IN ANTICORRUPTION EDUCATION AND UPGRADING EXISTING PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- To provide public officials with annual mandatory on-line training on integrity matters. *[OGP commitment]*
- To revise and improve the implementation mechanisms for the protection of whistle-blowers.
- To secure the enforcement and further regulation the post-employment restrictions.

- To consolidate the mandate and role of ethical counsellors.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND STANDARDS

- To continue pursuing our objective to become a full-fledged member of the OECD and its relevant workgroups, especially the Working Group on Bribery. This shall also include the full endorsement and implementation of the OECD convention on combatting bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions.

SHARING BEST PRACTICES

- To share our expertise in fighting corruption and provide partner countries with lessons learned and solutions developed in countering corruption with all interested partners. This may include the expertise of the National Anticorruption Directorate, in charge with fighting high level corruption, that of the National Integrity Agency, in charge with asset disclosure, conflict of interests and incompatibilities, and of the Ministry of Justice, in charge with developing and promoting anticorruption legislation, policy formulation and institutional developments.
- To continue supporting the activity of existing regional cooperation networks, such as the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative and OECD Anti-corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as well as initiatives such as the UK proposal for the establishment of a Practitioner Network on Institutional Integrity.