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# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

EUROPEAN UNION ADVISORY MISSION UKRAINE

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August 2017



Criminal investigation pilot project delivers 2 million-hryvna boost to police in Khmelnytsky and Drohobych

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INTERPOL presents 'FIND' technology to Ukrainian police officers during visit to Lyon HQ

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## Fight against corruption in Lviv region strengthened by EUAM donation to NABU

*"The investigations carried out by NABU's Regional Office in Lviv have made headlines nationwide and demonstrate that it has not taken long for NABU in Lviv to start delivering on its*

mandate,” said Rosalyn Sheehan, EUAM Deputy Head of Operations.

*“Setting up a new office comes with a number of logistical challenges and we are happy to be supporting NABU as its regional office builds on its first successes fighting corruption in Lviv and its surrounding oblasts”*

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The EU Advisory Mission Ukraine today handed over equipment worth €35,000 to NABU’s Lviv Regional Office. This donation will help build capacity in the office, which began operations only one year ago. The items include computers, software and video conferencing equipment.

“The investigations carried out by NABU’s Regional Office in Lviv have made headlines nationwide and demonstrate that it has not taken long for NABU in Lviv to start delivering on its mandate,” said Rosalyn Sheehan, EUAM Deputy Head of Operations. “Setting up a new office comes with a number of logistical challenges and we are happy to be supporting NABU as its regional office builds on its first successes fighting corruption in Lviv and its surrounding oblasts.”

During a meeting with the Head of the NABU Regional Office, Taras Lopushansky, Ms Sheehan stressed that the EU has made fighting corruption in Ukraine a priority, as demonstrated by EUAM’s efforts in this area as well as the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative – a joint EU-Danish government funded project with a budget of €16 million, operational since February 2017. She also noted that faced with high public expectations, NABU has demonstrated openness and long-term thinking in its approach to communicating with citizens.

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## When it comes to reform, big change depends on the small detail

They say that time waits for no man, and days after celebrations of Ukraine’s 26th independence day, one

could argue that time will not wait for Ukraine, either. When we think of the reform process, and evaluate its achievements, we might even argue that time is running out. Although certain positive reforms have taken place in law-enforcement and rule of law agencies in the three and a half years since the Maidan revolution, and although as ever we remain optimistic, the reality is that many Ukrainian citizens are disappointed and frustrated that the reforms have not gone further. I share this frustration.

The European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) has been in place for almost three years now. Our team of experts and advisors, from both the EU and Ukraine, make the push for reform their daily business. We, too, would like reform to happen faster, but we must be patient and take things one step at a time. Significant reform measures have taken place and we are grateful for those – the creation of the National Police, and establishment of the anti-corruption agencies, for instance. However, other fundamental reform measures that would lead to more meaningful changes in people's lives still elude Ukraine.

To cite just a few examples, the Concept on Reform of the State Security Service (SSU) – that would transform the SSU into a modern intelligence-gathering agency – has yet to be approved by the highest authority, and this is an absolute priority for Ukraine. The National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine has made tremendous progress, but investigating high-level corruption is only part of a complex process which must lead to prosecutions, and ultimately, prison sentences for those found guilty as well recovery of illegally obtained assets. We have yet to see this happen. An independent judicial body to ensure fair trials and convictions needs to be created as a matter of urgency.

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*Kęstutis Lančinskas ,  
EUAM Head of Mission*

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*In many ways, an agency such as the National Police is the face of change, the face of reform. Police officers carry a heavy responsibility to show a good example.*

*Because of the nature of their job, they are in public view, so they must be seen to be setting a high standard. Citizens look to law-enforcement officers such as the police for guidance on how to behave.*

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## Activities on the horizon

- **6-8 September:** Round table for prosecutors of Mykolaiv region in the framework of the

“PPO Institutional Reform” project

- **7-8 September:** Training modules on Public Policy and Facilitation under the auspices of EUAM project “Leading the Change”
- **21 September:** Mission is organizing donor coordination conference
- **29 September:** EUAM will organize an anti-corruption conference for Ukrainian law-enforcement agencies



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