



International Conference

Standing Up To State Capture: Innovative Methods to Investigate Fraud and Corruption in EU Funding for Agriculture

13-14 September 2018
Sofia Hotel Balkan, Sredets Hall

Agenda

13 September, Thursday

9:30 *Opening*

Dr. Ognian Shentov, Chairman, Center for the Study of Democracy
Amira Szönyi, Head, Unit B4 Agricultural and Structural Funds II, Directorate B Investigations II, European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), European Commission

9:40 *The State Capture Phenomenon: Policy Framework and Innovative Assessment Model*

Mariana Prats, Public Sector Integrity Division, Public Governance Directorate, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Tihomir Bezlov, Senior Fellow, Security Program, Center for the Study of Democracy
Sorin Ionita, President, Expert Forum, Bucharest

Discussion

10:45 *Coffee Break*

11:00 *State Capture and Organized Crime Risks in Key Economic Sectors*

Dr. Alexander Gerganov, Senior Analyst, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy
Valentina Dimulescu, Public Policy Researcher, Romanian Academic Society, Bucharest
Nicola Capello, Researcher, Research Centre on Security and Crime, Vicenza
Vit Simral, Lead Researcher, University of Hradec Králové, Czech Republic

Discussion

Chair: **Ruslan Stefanov**, Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy

12:30 *Lunch*

14:00 *Fraudulent and Corruptive Practices in EU Funding: Defining Risks and Designing Policy*

Amira Szönyi, Head, Unit B4 Agricultural and Structural Funds II, Directorate B Investigations II, European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), European Commission
Dr. Philip Gounev, Former Deputy Minister of Interior of Bulgaria (2013–2017)
Atilla Biro, Investigative Journalist, Rise Project, Romania

Discussion

15:30 *Coffee break*

16:00 *Detecting and Investigating Fraud and Corruption in the EU Funding for Agriculture*

Col. Amedeo De Franceschi, Head, Carabinieri Command Office for Agri-Food Protection, Rome



*This initiative is implemented with the financial support of the
European Union's HERCULE III Programme*

Andrei-Atila-Luca Chendi, Director, Control Directorate, Fight Against Fraud Department (DLAF), Romania
Andon Tashukov, Legal Advisor, Anti-Fraud Coordination Service (AFCOS), Ministry of Interior, Bulgaria
Brendan Quirke, Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University

Discussion

Chair: Dr. Atanas Rusev, Coordinator, Security Program, Center for the Study of Democracy

17:30 *Closing*

19:00 *Cocktail at CSD Garden*

14 September, Friday

9:30 *Corruptive Practices in EU Funding: the Case of Public Procurement*

Ágnes Czibik, Managing Director, Government Transparency Institute, Budapest
Silviu Ioan Popa, Secretary General, National Integrity Agency (ANI), Romania
Dimitar Dimitrov, Director, Anti-Fraud Directorate, State Fund Agriculture, Bulgaria

Discussion Chair: Radu Nicolae, Anti-Corruption Expert, Syene Centre for Education, Bucharest

11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:15 *Identifying, Preventing and Prosecuting Fraud and Irregularities in the Agricultural Sector: The Role of Statistics, High-Tech and Remote Sensing Technologies*

Francesca Torti, Text and Data Mining Unit, Competences Directorate, Joint Research Center (JRC), European Commission
Kamen Iliev, Director, European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC); General Manager, TAKT-IKI Ltd. Bulgaria
Dan Nica, Irregularities Officer, Control and Anti-Fraud Directorate, Agency for Rural Investment Financing (AFIR), Romania
Sergio Gomez de Rozas, Head, Audit Area II, Spanish Agrarian Guarantee Fund O.A. (FEGA)

Discussion

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 *Innovative Tools and Technologies to Prevent and Fight Fraud and Corruption in EU Funding: Can Blockchain Technology Be the Key to Locking Out Fraud in Agriculture?*

Dr. Christopher Brewster, Senior Scientist, Data Science Department, TNO, The Netherlands
Tomáš Pošepný, Data Analyst, Datlab, Czech Republic
Paul C. Johannes, Project Group on Constitutionally Compatible Technology Design, University of Kassel
Bozhidar Bozhanov, Founder and CEO, LogSentinel

Discussion

Chair: Anton Kojouharov, Analyst, Security Program, Center for the Study of Democracy

17:00 *Closing*