

The Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic has commenced the implementation of the project "Strengthening the Fight against Corruption by Increasing General Awareness of the Public Sector Focusing on Judges, Prosecutors and Public Administration"

Press Release, Prague, March 19, 2021

The Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic has commenced the implementation of the project "Strengthening the Fight against Corruption by Increasing General Awareness of the Public Sector Focusing on Judges, Prosecutors and Public Administration", Project No. GG-PDP5-001, which is carried out within the Good Governance Programme launched by the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic and co-financed by the EEA Grants 2014-2021.

The project will continue until July 31, 2023 with the total financial donation of 25 500 000 CZK out of which 85 % is financed by the EEA Grants 2014-2021 and 15 % is covered by the state budget.

The aims of the project are to improve awareness of both professional and non-professional public about the corruption-related problems within the Czech Republic; to strengthen the ethical dimension of judges' and prosecutors' conduct; to increase a positive perception of whistleblowers by the public; and to increase the public sector's (judges, prosecutors and public service employees) awareness of the issues concerning corruption and conflict of interests. Such aims arise from the anti-corruption evaluations of the Czech Republic and recommendations issued by the Group of States against Corruption of the Council of Europe, the OECD Working Group on Bribery and UN Convention against Corruption.

The implementation of the project will improve the accountability of public service in fight against corruption by strengthening resistance to corruption of the judiciary; highlighting the role of prevention of corruption in relation to the conflict of interests; and increasing public awareness regarding whistleblowers' protection. The project target groups are judges, prosecutors, public service employees and general public.

The key project activities include the preparation of comparative studies, the organization of international conferences and workshops, the drafting of methodologies and subsequent trainings of the target groups, the implementation of a new statistical analysis on whistleblowing and a media campaign focused on whistleblowing.

The project is implemented in cooperation with the project partners: the Supreme Public Prosecutors' Office and Judicial Academy.

For more information about the project "Strengthening the Fight against Corruption by Increasing General Awareness of the Public Sector Focusing on Judges, Prosecutors and Public Administration" please visit <u>https://www.justice.cz/web/msp/financni-mechanismy?clanek=fondy-ehp-a-norska</u> and also <u>https://korupce.cz/projekt-zintenzivneni-boje-proti-korupci/.</u>

The Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic