

NATIONAL ANTICORRUPTION CENTER

Newsletter- May 2023



DIRECTOR OF THE NAC, IULIAN RUSU, PRESENTED THE NAC REPORT FOR 2022 IN THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENT



The <u>REPORT</u> of the National Anticorruption Center (NAC) for the year 2022 was presented in the plenary of the <u>Parliament</u>. According to the document, during the past year, the NAC investigative officers detected 539 crimes, 401 of which were corruption crimes.

At the same time, during 2022, 487 criminal cases were initiated. 234 of them constituted corruption offences, and 105 – corruption-related offenses (abuse of power, excess of duties or illicit enrichment). Also, criminal cases were initiated for fraud, embezzlement of foreign assets, money laundering, computer forgery, etc.

During the last year, the Criminal Assets Recovery Agency, which is a specialized autonomous subdivision under the NAC, applied seizures worth two billion lei.

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COMBATING CORRUPTION AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Cases: 50 criminal cases, initiated on facts of passive corruption, active corruption, influence peddling, abuse of power/abuse of office, false statements, bribery and illicit enrichment through acts of corruption

Subjects investigated: the chief architect of Hîncești, head of directorate within SA "Chișinău Gaz", a border policeman, an employee of the Ministry of Interior and a former employee of the Ministry of Interior, employees of educational institutions, natural persons and a person legal, 2 economic agents and 2



natural persons involved in acts of corruption, as well as other subjects who are criminally investigated and cannot be disclosed

Domain: legal bodies, local public administration, finance, medicine, public services

Damage: 252,000 lei, as well as other monetary and material benefits

Detentions: 9 people detained and 1 arrested

Purpose: 11 criminal cases submitted to the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office with the

proposal to be sent to court

Combating corruption in the press:

- NAC presented the report on the implementation of the Law on the assessment of institutional integrity, for the year 2022
- Assets in considerable proportions, purchased from external funds for refugees, embezzled by public figures within a department within CMC Chisinau
- Press conference organized by the Director of the National Anticorruption Center, Iulian Rusu, on the results of the searches carried out by the NAC in the cases of abuse of office and embezzlement of external funds intended for refugees
- Several searches were carried out by NAC, AP and Police in a case of corruption of voters by representatives of a political formation
- Scheme: Three individuals from the north of the country were detained by NAC for acts of corruption in Customs
- Influence peddling for the issuance of a driver's license. A man from Comrat was detained by the NAC while receiving a 1500 euro bribe
- A man from Căușeni, investigated by the NAC for influence peddling, was referred to justice
- An office head from Chisinau-Gaz, detained by NAC for a bribe of 5000 euros. The complaint was submitted to the National Anticorruption Hotline
- NAC, AP and Police continued the criminal investigations in the case of corruption of voters by representatives of a political formation













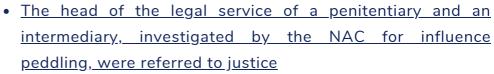


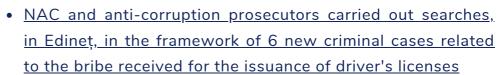
- Two people, including a lawyer, investigated by NAC for influence peddling, were convicted
- A customs broker, investigated by the NAC for active corruption, found out its verdict
- Collection of documents on the territory of the ATU

 Gagauzia, in the criminal case regarding the illegal financing
 of the electoral campaign for the election of the mayor



- NAC clarifications on the actions of the criminal investigation body at the Comrat Court and at the CEC of ATU Găgăuzia
- NAC and AP details regarding the procedure for examining the electoral lists, raised in the case of voter corruption and the illegal financing of a political formation







- NAC officers and anti-corruption prosecutors searched the secretary of the Working Group in the field of public procurement within Cahul City Hall
- A lawyer from Chisinau, detained by the NAC for drug trafficking, was referred to justice
- Talk show In PROfunzime on ProTV with Lorena Bogza from 22.05.2023. Guests - NAC director, Iulian Rusu, and experts Vlad Kulminski and Alexandru Flenchea

CRIMINAL ASSETS RECOVERY AGENCY

Delegations: 68 delegations, ordered within 47 criminal cases, regarding 96 subjects and 113 delegations were executed, ordered within 76 criminal cases, regarding 172 subjects. On 31.05.2023, the Agency had 124 delegations in the procedure, ordered within 91 criminal cases regarding 195 subjects.

Seizures: 52,464,439.01 lei

Assets, management and disposal: the evaluation of 53 criminal assets (40 immovable assets and 13 movable assets) was carried out, with a total value of 62,220,260.92 MDL.





At the same time, the administration was ensured of the seized funds, in cash, in national currency (MDL) and foreign currency (EUR, USD), the value of which, equated in national currency - Moldovan lei, according to the official exchange rate of the NBM, on of 31.05.2023, constitutes: 1 450 978.57 MDL.

Criminal Assets Recovery Agency, in the press:

- NAC synthesis: assets worth about 3 million lei were seized by CARA and one person was placed in the Detention Center
- CARA issued a freezing order on a property and a luxury car, worth about 10 million lei, in a money laundering case
- CARA issued freezing orders on assets worth about 4.5 million lei and seizure orders on assets over 1 million lei
- CARA of the NAC issued seizure orders for assets of about 11 million lei, last week
- CARA of the NAC issued seizure orders for assets of about 12,7 million lei and 4 million lei were transferred to treasury accounts of the agency last week
- CARA of the NAC takes over the Presidency of an important Balkan Network. Iulian Rusu: We have a year in which we will increase our experience in recovering criminal assets
- Press conference "NAC's Criminal Assets Recovery
 Agency takes over the presidency of the Balkan Network
 of Agencies for the Administration of Seized Criminal
 Assets (BAMIN)"







INSTITUTIONAL EVALUATION AND INTEGRITY TESTING

Evaluation activities carried out: Timofei Moșneaga Republican Clinical Hospital, Sectoral evaluation of 12 road entities

Evaluation activities completed: Monuments Inspection Agency

Monitoring reports: 4 public entities

Evaluation reports: Report on the Results of the Institutional Integrity Testing

within the Monuments Inspection Agency

Integrity records issued: 515





LEGISLATION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION EXPERTISE

From the beginning of the year until 31.05.2023, 516 projects were approved and expertized (taking into account 11 projects remaining under examination from 2022). Among these: 223 projects were submitted for approval and the necessary recommendations were drawn up, and expert reports were drawn up on 293 projects.



Out of the total number of 293 expertized projects, 100 are draft laws, 184 draft Government decisions, and 9 are draft departmental acts.

Following the anti-corruption expertise, the following were identified in the draft normative acts:



- 1309 risk factors (the most widespread: ambiguous wording that admits abusive interpretations (13.98%); lack/ambiguity of administrative procedures (16.81%); attributions that admit abusive interpretations and derogations (10.16%); gap in law (9.55%), competition of legal norms (8.56%));
- 1416 corruption risks (the most widespread: abuse of office (14, 38%); exceeding the duties of office (6.43%); conflict of interest and/or favoritism (10.73%); undue influence (8.19 %), influence peddling (6.78%)).



EXPERT REPORTS

- <u>Draft Government decision regarding the creation of the National Agency for Land Improvements</u>
- Draft Government decision regarding the amendment of Government Decision no.
 743/2002 regarding the remuneration of employees in units with financial autonomy
- <u>Draft Government decision for the approval of the framework Regulation regarding the establishment of the monthly allowance for the staff of the local public administration authorities</u>
- Draft law on veterinary sanitary activity
- Draft law for the amendment of some normative acts (related to the Voluntary Amalgamation Law)

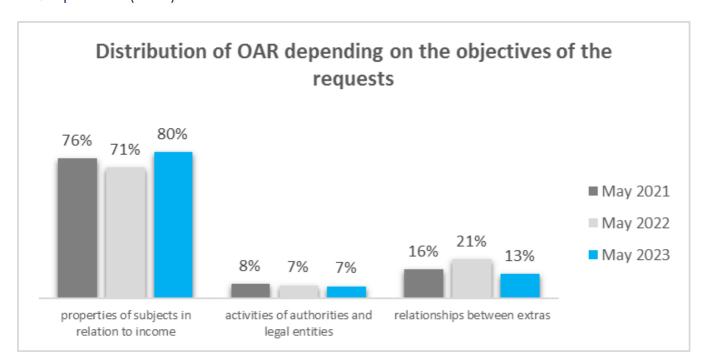




ANALYTICAL ACTIVITY

15 operational analysis reports were drawn up, including in relation to the examination of criminal cases instrumented by the criminal prosecution officers within the NAC (3) regarding the crimes of passive corruption, influence peddling and money laundering, as well as in support of the investigations carried out (7) on the alleged acts of corruption and related to corruption.

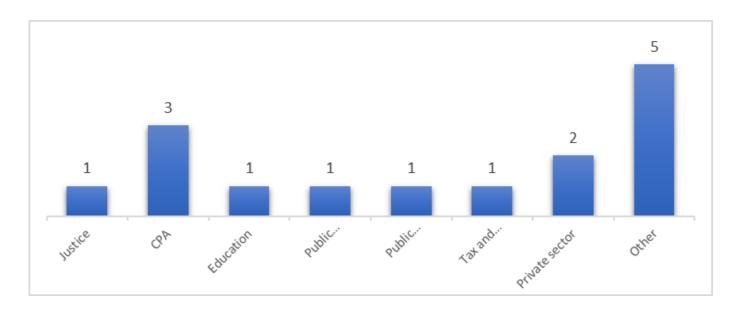
Thus, 80% of the prepared reports on the analysis of the assets owned by the persons concerned, the incomes and sources of income, as well as personal interests in relation to the field of competence in which the subjects carried out their activity. Subsidiarily, the operational analyzes also covered the activity of public authorities and legal entities (7% of the total), especially the public procurement sector, as well as the analysis of relationships/connections (economic, financial, personal, etc.) between the extra persons (13%).



At the same time, the operational analyzes referred to the people involved in the local public administration (3 reports), the field of education (1 report). The areas of fiscal and customs administration (1), public procurement (1), private economic entities (2), etc., were also targeted.







INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- GRECO's 5th Round Evaluation Visit to Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (15-19.05.2023)
- The director of the NAC, Iulian Rusu, participated in the annual OECD Global Anti-corruption and Integrity Forum with the topic "Action to Impact. Working Together to Strengthen Integrity and Fight Corruption", organized in Paris during May 24-25.



 The event of taking over by the Criminal Assets Recovery Agency (CARA), by rotation, of the Presidency of the Balkan Asset Management Interagency Network (BAMINfounded by the OSCE). BAMIN is an organization that includes 19 states, 8 of which are from the Western Balkans and 11 countries with observer status.



International cooperation, in the press:

- NAC director, Iulian Rusu, is participating in the OECD
 Global Anti-corruption and Integrity Forum
- TV8//TV Program//Corupţia în Vizor with Sergiu Niculita:
 How can you become an integrity whistleblower?







ANTI-CORRUPTION EDUCATION

Trainings – 47 trainings

Number of persons trained – 3,667 persons

Number of campaigns – 7 information and awareness campaigns:

- The launch of the 2nd stage of the corruption prevention project "Art of Staying Honest" NAC in partnership with the Theater Center of Moldova and the Mihai Eminescu National Theater, with the support of the project financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for International Cooperation of Germany (GIZ). 3 shows "The Choice of Mr Macabeţ" were broadcast in Basarabeasca, Cimişlia and Căuşeni. About 150 teachers and 1350 students participated.
- The information and awareness campaign with the generic "For Safety We Build with Integrity", the NAC in partnership with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development, for those responsible in the field of construction (the districts of Drochia, Străseni, Edineţ and Briceni). 4 training activities were carried out for about 110 people.
- Information and awareness campaign with the generic "Integrity: Credibility in the Educational System", the NAC in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Research, for managers and teaching staff of educational institutions (DGETS, Chisinau municipality, Drochia, Străseni, Edineţ and Briceni). 6 activities were carried out for about 740 people.
- The CNA information and awareness campaign in partnership with the Moldovan Football Federation with the generic "Prevention of the Manipulation of Sports Events and Arranged Bets" for the players of the Sports Club of the Republic of Moldova and the Sports Club of Tennis of the Republic of Moldova. 2 training activities were carried out for 40 people.







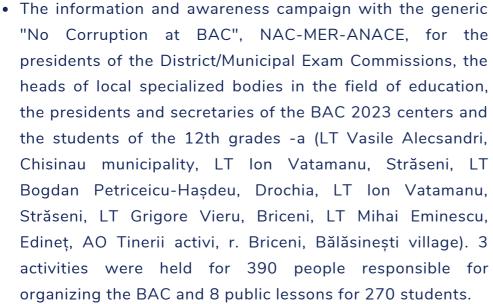








- The information and awareness campaign with the generic "Integrity for Health" the NAC jointly with MS-CNAS-AO HOMECARE, for the medical personnel of the Health Centers (Drochia, Străseni, Edineț and Briceni). 4 activities were carried out for about 240 people.
- The information and awareness campaign "Integrity: a precondition for preventing the risks of corruption", NAC-AAIJ-ANI, for exponents of the justice sector (the courts of Criuleni, Hîncești and Orhei). 6 activities were carried out for 115 people.



- Organization of two study visits to the NAC by 32 students of the European Law Students Association, ELSA and 40 students of the Law Students Association of the State University of Moldova. The groups of young people carried out the discussion with the director of the NAC, who spoke about the mission and tasks of the Center, the competences in the field of preventing and fighting corruption, the results and challenges of the institution, later a visit was ensured within the subdivisions of the Center.
- Participation in the event organized by the State Chancellery dedicated to Open Government Week, an initiative promoted by the Partnership for Open Government, carrying out a training activity for about 50 young people of the National Council of Students.















• Participation in TV shows regarding the activities carried out in the framework of the information campaign in the field of education and the information campaign "Art of Staying Honest", namely: the TV NORD channel the show "Esenţial", Bălţi, the show "Te salută Vocea Bessarabiei", " Good morning" TV Moldova 1, including giving an interview to the channel TV Moldova, 1 and TVR Moldova regarding the launch event of the project "Aart of Staying Honest" the NAC in partnership with the Theater Center of Moldova and the Mihai Eminescu National Theater, with GIZ project support.





Anti-corruption education, in the press:

- NAC informed the managers of pre-school education institutions about ensuring and controlling institutional and professional integrity in the field of education in the context of preventing and combating corruption in the educational system
- About INTEGRITY, with judges and personnel of the Hincesti and Ialoveni Courts
- 64 managers from Briceni district participated in the information campaign, organized by NAC, regarding the assurance and control of institutional and professional integrity in the field of education
- The actors of the Mihai Eminescu National Theater started their tour on the stage of the House of Culture in Sadaclia, Basarabeasca district, with the play "The Choice of Mr Macabet" - a comedy show about corruption and integrity
- The Ministry of Education and Research and the National Agency for Curriculum and Evaluation, in partnership with the National Anticorruption Center, are holding several working meetings and information seminars with the presidents of the District/Municipal Examination Commissions, with the presidents and secretaries of the baccalaureate centers, in the context of the exam session 2023











- A new visit of young people to NAC. 40 students of the Faculty
 of Law of the Moldova State University met the anti-corruption
 officers and learned about the work in the field of preventing
 and combating corruption, carried out by the NAC
- Collaboration agreement in the field of anti-corruption, signed between the National Anticorruption Center and USARB -Alecu Russo State University from Balti
- NAC: about 650 people, instructed by AED, within three information campaigns last week
- 50 young people from the National Council of Students were instructed by NAC during the Open Government Week, organized by the State Chancellery
- <u>600 people were instructed by the National Anticorruption</u> <u>Center, at Edinet, Briceni and Hincesti</u>
- The socio-cultural project "The Art of Integrity "continues in Basarabeasca, Cimişlia, Căușeni, Ștefan Vodă and Leova
- 30 young people, future lawyers, met with the director of the NAC, during a study visit to the National Anticorruption Center
- The correct conduct of the baccalaureate session, discussed in meetings with district officials
- TV Nord // ESENȚIAL // CORRUPTION PREVENTION IN EDUCATION
- Vocea Basarabiei // TV Program // Te salută (Vocea Basarabiei
 Is Greeting You)
- TV Moldova 1 // "Live Studio" How the project "Art Of Staying
 Honest"
- TVR Moldova // Theater against corruption: The play "The Choice of Mr Macabeţ", a comedy show about corruption and integrity, will be performed in five districts of the south of the Republic of Moldova
- NordNews // Theater against corruption. The students from Rîscani became actors to combat this phenomenon













5694 materials were registered in the NAC Chancellery.



National Anticorruption Hotline received 213 calls.















