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STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF THE PARLIAMENT OF MOLDOVA FOR EU APPROXIMATION PROCESS

Twinning Project MD 13 ENPI OT 02 17 (MD/28)



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The concept

- Twinning is a cooperation tool between a Public Administration in a Beneficiary Country and the equivalent Institution in an EU Member State. It aims at upgrading /modernising the institution in a Beneficiary Country through capacity building, reorganisation as well as approximation of national legislation to EU norms and standards and its enforcement.
- One of the key features of twinning is the concept of mandatory results: both the Beneficiary and the EU partner commit themselves to work towards commonly agreed results.
- Twinning projects are funded by the European Union. The Beneficiary partner contributes to the project with human resources, office space and equipment, and training venues.
- Public officials from participating EU Member States institutions provide technical assistance to the Beneficiary Institution. One of them, the Resident Twinning Adviser stays in the Beneficiary Country for the whole duration of the project.
- The focal aim of twinning is to bring to the Beneficiary Institution tangible, operational skills and knowledge. Therefore, this Twinning Project will, after thorough assessment of the current situation, provide guidelines and recommendations to assist with introducing new or modified structures, procedures and methods in order to establish and strengthen European standards in the operation of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.
- Activities performed in the framework of the four different Components of the project will be closely interlinked with each other in order to have a coherent approach in the implementation.

Basic data about the project

- Total budget available: 1 499 989,36 EUR
- Duration: 24 months, 16 September 2017 – 15 September 2019

The objectives

- The overall objective of this Twinning Project is to facilitate the implementation of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova.
- The purpose of the project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Parliament of Moldova for better understanding of the EU approximation process, in line with the Association Agenda. Special focus will be put on improving the structures, internal procedures as well as the capacity of the technical staff of the Parliament.
- The project's mission is to optimize the roles and responsibilities of the Parliament, its working bodies and respective administrative structures to ensure a solid institutional framework for efficient performance of the legislative obligations, especially the EU legal approximation tasks as a prerequisite for the implementation of the Association Agreement. It will also focus on capacity building activities, both at basic and advanced levels.

Project activities at a glance

- In total 60 experts from the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, but also from Poland, Latvia, France and Belgium will implement more than 65 different activities in 4 components aiming at different goals: assessments, evaluations, roundtables, guidelines, recommendations, white paper, study, roadmap, various forms of capacity building activities (seminars, workshops, peer reviews, training of trainers, etc.) and study visits to EU Member States.

Target group

- Staff members of the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.
- Where appropriate, Members of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.
- Where appropriate, selected stakeholders from executive branch of the Republic of Moldova.

Project Components

The Twinning Project consists of the following four components:

Component 1: Structures and internal procedures are optimized for efficiently tackling the increased legislative workload as a result of the implementation of the Association Agreement.

Primary aim of this Component is to ensure that structures and internal procedures of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova are optimized for efficiently tackling the increased legislative workload ensuing from the Association Agreement Implementation. It will focus, inter alia, on assistance with optimization of the Rules of Procedure and functioning of its working bodies and parliamentary administration in this regard.

Component 2: Level of understanding of the EU acquis in the Parliament is improved through all relevant sectors.

Based on knowledge assessment and Training Needs Assessment this Component will concentrate on various types of capacity building activities in EU Law, relationship between EU Law and national law, and EU acquis, including both methodological and substantive areas relevant to the EU acquis. The trainings will be conducted both at basic and advanced levels.

Component 3: Final versions of legal initiatives in the context of EU approximation are revised against relevant directives for ensuring EU compliance.

This Component will be focused on strengthening specific EU approximation legislative skills in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova from a highly practical and hands-on perspective. The Component will work to ensure that final versions of legal initiatives, in the context of EU approximation, are revised against relevant directives for ensuring EU compliance. This Component will include, inter alia, the peer review exercises.

Component 4: Inter-institutional cooperation of the Parliament of Moldova and Government of Moldova (in particular with State Chancellery as policy coordinator) is improved for better coordination of the EU approximation process.

This Component is aimed at improving information exchange between the Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Moldova linked with EU approximation process. Based on study and workshop on inter-institutional cooperation for legislative work linked with Association Agreement Implementation, this Component will concentrate on preparation of the Roadmap in this regard.