

Press Release

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“European Prosecutors General to promote justice not to protect power”

Moscow, 06.07.2006 – At the close of their discussions dealing with the responsibilities of the prosecution towards individuals, the Prosecutors General of the 46 Council of Europe member states called upon the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors General (CCPE) to define specific European rules concerning the role of prosecutors in the execution of custodial measures, to examine the fulfilment of the public prosecutor's duties towards victims and witnesses and the obstacles encountered, and to prepare rules that member states should consider in order to encourage fairness, impartiality, coherence and effectiveness in the work of prosecutors.

The conference, which was attended by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, drew attention to the extent of prosecutors' responsibilities in effectively protecting individuals against arbitrary deprivation of liberty and ill-treatment during detention.

Sergey Mironov, the President of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Sergey Lavrov, the Russian Foreign Affairs Minister and Chairman-in-Office of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Yuri Chaika, the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation, as well as Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, addressed the conference. “Prosecutors General are there to promote justice not to protect power,” said Mrs de Boer-Buquicchio.

The participants furthermore called upon the CCPE to strengthen judicial co-operation in criminal matters by encouraging in particular direct contacts between prosecutors.

The recent creation of the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors General (CCPE) as an advisory body to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe bears witness to the importance for the Council of Europe of closely associating the prosecution services of member states with its work to develop policies and common legal instruments concerning the operation of prosecution services. The CCPE will play a major role in the implementation of Recommendation (2000) 19 on the role of public prosecution in the criminal justice system.

[More information](#)

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