



Council of Europe

Note
to Editors

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Council of Europe and European Union to promote transparency and efficiency of judicial system of Ukraine

Kyiv, 14.11.2008 – A joint Council of Europe and European Union programme on Transparency and Efficiency of Ukraine's Judicial System is holding its first Steering Committee meeting on 20 November 2008 in Kyiv (the programme will run until December 2010). It will be followed by a press conference.

The Joint Programme on Transparency and Efficiency of Judicial System of Ukraine is aimed at helping to establish an independent, impartial, efficient and professional judiciary in Ukraine, as well as to ensure that the Ukrainian judiciary is transformed into a transparent and fair judicial system that is accessible to all citizens, working effectively and transparently vis-à-vis citizens and civil society.

The programme is co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Commission. It will be implemented by the Council of Europe in partnership with state authorities and organisations of Ukraine, i.e. High Council of Justice, Supreme Court, Ministry of Justice, State Court Administration, High Commercial and High Administrative Courts, General Prosecutor's Office, Committees of the Parliament on Legal Policy and Judiciary, Council of Judges, High Qualification Commission of Judges, National Commission on Strengthening of Democracy and Ascertain the Rule of Law, Academy of Judges, National Prosecution Academy of Ukraine, Union of Advocates, Ukrainian Bar Association and others.

The programme has four main goals:

- Legal framework for establishing a transparent, accessible and efficient judiciary;
- Judiciary system accessible to all;
- Strengthening the efficiency of the judicial system and the quality of judicial decisions, in line with European standards;
- Increasing the transparency and accountability of the judicial system.

The press conference will take place **from 2 pm to 2.40 pm on Thursday 20 November** at the Ministry of Justice, College Hall, 3rd floor, 10, Rylskiy Lane, Kyiv.

The programme will be introduced by Laura Garagnani, Head of Operations of the European Commission Delegation to Ukraine, Ake Peterson, Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for the Co-ordination of Co-operation Programmes with Ukraine, Vasyl Gumenyuk, Judge of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Deputy Head of the Council of Judges of Ukraine, as well as Heads of the High Council of Justice of Ukraine, Heads of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine and others.

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