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## **Council of Europe anti-corruption body praises the integrity policy implemented by judges and prosecutors in the Netherlands**

Strasbourg, 18.07.2013 - In a [report](#) published today, the Council of Europe anti-Corruption Group ([GRECO](#)) found that the Dutch system for the prevention of corruption in respect of Members of Parliament, judges and prosecutors was fairly effective. Relying to a large degree on mutual trust, openness and public scrutiny, the system is reactive in uncovering and sanctioning misconduct.

GRECO welcomed the efforts of the judicial institutions to maintain a high level of public trust through the comprehensive integrity programme which is currently being carried out. It pointed out a limited number of areas deserving more attention, such as the particular position of substitute judges who need to benefit from appropriate guidance on possible conflicts of interest.

GRECO also praised the thorough and balanced approach adopted by the prosecution service in enhancing the integrity of its members and preventing misconduct, through the creation of a safe climate for an on-going discussion on integrity challenges and a swift reaction in case misconduct does occur.

Both chambers of Parliament were encouraged by GRECO to adopt a similarly proactive approach, in particular through the development of codes of conduct and a review of the current registration requirements, as regards interests, assets and liabilities, in order to ensure proper supervision and enforcement of the rules.

The implementation of 7 recommendations at the end of the report will be assessed by GRECO in the first half of 2015 through its "compliance procedure".

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*GRECO is a Council of Europe body that aims to improve the capacity of its members to fight corruption by monitoring their compliance with anti-corruption standards. It helps states to identify deficiencies in national anti-corruption policies, prompting the necessary legislative, institutional and practical reforms. Currently it comprises 48 European states and the United States of America.*

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