Parliamentarians from the Region Gather in Belgrade to Discuss Best Practices in Financial Oversight and Eradicating Corruption

Joint Photo of Participants of the International Conference “Transparency and Accountability for Effective Oversight – the Role of Parliaments”, 21-22 May 2015


The Conference gathered parliamentarians from South-East and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, who will exchange knowledge and experience in implementation of the efficient oversight over the executive, together with
experts from the region and the world, and with the special emphasis on the public finance scrutiny.

The participants were welcomed by Veroljub Arsic, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, Isabel Perich, Director of the Office of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in Serbia (SDC), and Irena Vojackova-Sollorano, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Serbia.

Olgica Batic, MP and chairwoman of the Executive Board of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) Chapter in Serbia, underlined in her opening remarks that the corruption represents one of the gravest dangers and challenges at the global scale, which disturbs economic sustainability and development, endangers social security and justice, undermines rule of law and accountability of the Government and the public trust in institutions.

As a result of the Conference, the Memorandum of Cooperation between parliamentarians which establishes a common platform for cooperation with UNDP support, with a goal to enable the exchange of best practices, cooperation and coordination in relation to the promotion of principles of transparency, accountability and parliamentary public finance oversight.

The conference is organized in the framework of the joint project implemented in partnership between the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

In thanking project partners for their dedication to the common goal, Irena Vojackova-Sollorano underlined that the environment in which parliaments work constantly changes. Legislation is ever more complex, traditional media under commercial pressures give less space to the work of the representative bodies, all with the growing public demand for the efficient oversight measures and the fight against corruption. This is why UNDP remains devoted to its partners in Serbia, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the National Assembly, but also mobilizes regionally to enable closer cooperation between parliamentarians from the countries faced with similar challenges in the fight against corruption and the public finance oversight.