

PRESS RELEASE

The Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights launches its new technical assistance and capacity-building project to fight illicit trade

SIRACUSA, September 11, 2017 – The Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights officially launched its new technical assistance and capacity-building project on “*Strengthening the Fight Against Illicit Trade in South Eastern Europe*”. The overall purpose of the project is to support the national justice sectors of twelve identified target countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey) in the fight against illicit trade.

The project will be conducted over 24 months and focus on:

- Assessment of national approaches to illicit trade for identifying gaps and best practices from a criminal justice perspective;
- Identification of policy solutions for the enhancement of national legislation and for the promotion of a regional harmonization in line with EU priorities;
- Reinforcement of legal and operational capacities of national judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers to respond to illicit trade.

“This project is completely innovative because all aspects related to the illicit trade will be analyzed for the first time through a holistic approach. National justice sectors will increase their inter-institutional and regional cooperation and this new methodology will provide useful tools to combat more effectively illicit trade” stated Filippo Musca, Siracusa International Institute’s Deputy Director General.

One of the first activities of the project will be an in-depth study of national criminal justice approaches to illicit trade in order to draft nation reports ...

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