



**Network of Enhanced Regional Cooperation  
of Internal Security Units  
- NERCISU -**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

*The participants in the Second Regional Meeting of the Internal Security Units of the Ministries of Interior/ Police* of the Balkan States, held on October 19-20, 2017 in Sofia/ Bulgaria - heads of the Anti-corruption General Directorate of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Romania, Internal Affairs Sector of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Internal Affairs Division of Hellenic Police Headquarters of the Hellenic Republic, Department for Internal Control, Criminal Investigation and Professional Standards of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the FY Republic of Macedonia and the Internal Security Directorate of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Bulgaria,

*United* in the general fight against corruption, crimes and violations by internal security/ police officers of these countries;

*Analyzing* that our region has a geopolitical peculiarity and importance;

*Examining* new forms of mobile, cross-border and organized crime, which are also changing the corrupt environment that we need to establish and master;

*Ascertain* the common characteristics of crime in the region, which in their turn generate similar corrupting environments;

*Considering* that for one year our Network for Enhanced Regional Cooperation - NERCISU:

- has proved to be a platform of mutual professional trust between our security units and an active operational regional cooperation mechanism;
- helped the exchange of operational information between our structures on over 30 criminal cases;
- helped to successfully conduct an joint action of the Internal Security Directorate - Ministry of Interior, Bulgaria with the Anti-corruption General Directorate - MoI, Romania, on defeating a channel for the transfer of refugees, implemented at the Danube Bridge Border Checkpoint in May 2017;

- NERCISU contributes to effectiveness in preventing, detecting and investigating corrupt behavior among police and other staff of the Ministries of the Interior;
- The integrated approach to work, including forms of enhanced cooperation and exchange of information, is more effective;

*Accepting* EPAC criteria for assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of Anticorruption Authorities and Police Oversight Bodies standards and principles;

*Recalling* the calls of EPAC/EACN Declaration from Paris, 2015 for further enhanced cooperation and exchange of information between Anticorruption Authorities and Police Oversight Bodies across Europe, as well as international instruments and mechanisms - UN Convention against Corruption, the GRECO Monitoring Mechanism and the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention;

***They took necessary:***

1. **NERCISU is a successful form** of regional co-operation of the internal security structures of the Balkan countries and it should be developed, deepened and expanded, and its work and decisions should be shared at the EPAC/EACN Annual Meeting.
2. **Expert upgrading** of the regional cooperation by holding meetings through NERCISU to exchange experiences and good practices;
3. **Operational expansion** of regional cooperation by organizing and conducting actions within NERCISU and implementation of preventive anti-corruption measures - e.g. determining the integrity of police officers.
4. **Development of mechanisms and levers** for enhanced regional cooperation by participating in partnership development and implementation of joint projects.

October 20, 2017  
Sofia,  
Bulgaria

Senior commissioner Rumen GANEV,  
Director of Internal Security Directorate,  
Ministry of Interior,  
Bulgaria

