

# P R E S S R E L E A S E

European Union  
Delegation of the European Union

Skopje, 15 April 2016

## EU assistance in Strengthening the Rule of Law

On Friday, 15 April 2016 at 11.00hrs the official Kick-off event to present the EU funded twinning project “Strengthening the Rule of Law” will be organised at the EU Info Centre.

The Project is implemented by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Beneficiary Country, the Bureau for representation of the Beneficiary Country before the European Court of Human Rights and the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors.

Official addresses at the event will be given by:

**Mr Martin Klaucke, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union**

**Mr Valdet Xhaferi, Minister of Justice, MK**

**Mr Dzintars Rasnačs, Minister of Justice, LV**

**Mr Ante Šprlje, Minister of Justice, HR**

The overall objective of the twinning project is to support the justice sector institutions in consolidation of the rule of law by strengthening their capacities and by assisting in alignment of national law with EU *acquis* and key human rights instruments of the Council of Europe. The project will focus on three important components:

- 1) Enhancing the capacities of the Ministry of Justice to professionally execute its functions in the pre-and-post EU accession process and development of comprehensive IT solutions for access to legislation.
- 2) Improving the knowledge and capacities of relevant justice sector actors on the EU *acquis* and other international justice standards in view of fostering their transposition into the national law.
- 3) Screening of current legislative and structural system for execution of the European Court of Human Rights judgments and needs assessment in this regard.

The project is funded by the European Union, and its budget is 1 million EUR. The implementation period for the project is 21 months (20 December 2015 – 19 September 2017).

Journalists and photographers are kindly invited to cover this event.



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## PROGRAMME

<b>10:30 - 10:55</b>	<b>Registration of the participants</b>	
<b>Moderator / Introduction</b>	<b>Ms Bojana Bosilkova</b> , Resident Twinning Counterpart, Ministry of Justice, MK <b>Ms Vineta Krutko</b> , Resident Twinning Advisor, Ministry of Justice, LV	
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Welcome speeches</b>	<b>Mr Martin Klaucke</b> Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union
		<b>Mr Valdet Xhaferi</b> Minister of Justice, MK
		<b>Mr Dzintars Rasnačs</b> Minister of Justice, LV
		<b>Mr Ante Šprlje</b> Minister of Justice, HR
<b>11.30 – 12:15</b>	<b>Presentation of the EU-funded Twinning Project</b>	<b>D-r Irēna Kucina</b> , Project Leader, Ministry of Justice, LV <b>Ms Sonja Žerjav</b> , Head of Sector for EU Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Justice, HR <b>Ms Frosina Tasevska</b> , Project Leader, Ministry of Justice, MK
<b>12:15 – 12:30</b>	<b>Questions and answers</b>	
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Cocktail</b>	

