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WG FOR CHAPTER 24: STRENGTHENING ALBANIA'S RESPONSE TO CYBERCRIME AND CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION: LEGAL ALIGNMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES

15 January 2026

Xheko Imperial Hotel

09:00 - 11:00

The Albanian State Police and the European Movement in Albania have the pleasure to invite you to the next meeting of the Working Group for Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security, organised within the framework of the National Convention for European Integration, supported by the European Union. The meeting will take place on 15 January 2026, from 09:00 to 11:00, in Xheko Imperial Tirana.

The Working Group for Chapter 24 provides a space for consultation and dialogue, enabling the active involvement of non-state actors in the EU negotiation process. Participants include representatives from civil society, academia, legal professionals, and other key stakeholders. The session aims not only to inform about the legislative process but also to ensure that civil society and interest groups can provide recommendations, offer feedback on the legal framework and policies, and actively monitor policymaking at all stages.

The discussion will focus on **cybercrime in Albania**, with particular attention to child sexual abuse and exploitation online, as well as the **capacity building of the State Police in investigating cybercrime, in line with EU standards and priorities**. Recent European Commission assessments underline the need for Albania to accelerate the alignment of its legal framework with the EU acquis, especially regarding the criminalisation of child sexual abuse and exploitation and the strengthening of investigative capacities in accordance with EMPACT priorities for 2022–2025.

The meeting will bring together representatives of the State Police, public institutions, civil society organisations, experts and international partners to discuss current challenges in Albania's legal and institutional framework on cybercrime, practical needs for capacity building and training and best practices from EU Member States. Slovak expert from the Ministry of Interior of Slovakia will share EU-level experience and good practices in combating cybercrime.

We would be pleased to welcome your participation and contribution to this discussion. Please confirm your participation at: info@em-al.org

This session for WG of Chapter 24 takes place within the framework of the project "Building Partnership on Fundamentals: Empowering CSOs for the EU accession process", with the financial support of the European Union - IPA Civil Society Facility 2021, which is implemented by the European Movement in Albania and in cooperation with the Academy of European Integration and Negotiations (AIEN), Slovak Foreign Policy Association (SFPA) and the Center for Transparency and Freedom of Information (CTFI).



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09:00 - 11:00

09:00 - 09:30

Participants' registration

09:30 - 09:45

Welcoming Speech

Sokol Bizhga, Deputy General Director of the Albanian State Police
Gledis Gjipali, Executive Director of European Movement Albania

09:45 - 10:10

Challenges of cybercrime in Albania – main priorities in frame of legal framework and capacity building

- Current state of the legal framework on cybercrime and its alignment with EU standards
- Key challenges in the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime, including online child protection
- Capacity-building needs of the State Police and cooperation with other national and international stakeholders

Suela Bonjaku, Head of Secor of Computer Forgery and Unauthorized Access, Cybercrime Investigation Directorate, Albanian State Police

10:10 - 10:30

Fighting cybercrime in Slovakia – EU standards and best practices

- Alignment of Slovak legislation with the EU acquis (online child sexual abuse)
- Measures to prevent and combat online child sexual abuse material
- Practical experience in cybercrime investigations and digital evidence
- Strengthening police and investigative capacities (CEPOL, EMPACT) and international cooperation (Europol, Eurojust, JITs)

Róbert Bohunický, Counterfeit Specialist at Ministry of Interior, Slovakia

10:30 - 11:00

Open discussion

11:00 - 12:00

Closing of the activity and cocktail

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