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NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

WG FOR CHAPTER 24: STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES AND BEST PRACTICES FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF THE ASSET RECOVERY OFFICE (ARO)

25 March 2026

Xheko Imperial Hotel

09:00 - 11:00

The-Albanian State Police and the European Movement Albania have the pleasure of inviting you to the next meeting of the Working Group on Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security, organised within the framework of the National Convention for European Integration supported by the European Union. The roundtable will take place on 25 March 2026, from 09:00 to 11:00, at Gold Orchid (12th floor), Xheko Imperial Hotel.

The Working Group on Chapter 24 provides a platform for consultation and dialogue, enabling the active involvement of non-state actors in the EU negotiation process, including representatives from civil society, academia, legal professionals and other interest groups. The session aims not only to provide information on the legislative process, but also to ensure that civil society and interest groups are able to give recommendations, offer feedback on the legal framework, and actively monitor policy-making at all stages.

The discussion will focus on the process of establishment and functioning of the Asset Recovery Office (ARO) in Albania, as an important instrument in the fight against organised crime and money laundering. ARO is a relatively new structure in Albania, established within the State Police in June 2025 and currently in the phase of institutional consolidation. In this context, the roundtable will address legislative and institutional developments related to the establishment of this structure, practical challenges during its initial phase of operation, as well as the importance of inter-institutional coordination and cooperation with European partners.

The meeting will bring together representatives of the Albanian State Police, public institutions, civil society organisations, experts and international partners to discuss current challenges within Albania's legal and institutional framework, practical needs for capacity-building and training, and best practices from EU Member States. In this regard, an expert from the Slovak Police will share his experience on the functioning of the Asset Recovery Office in Slovakia, presenting best practices, lessons learned and practical recommendations for the further development of this mechanism in accordance with European Union standards and legal framework.

We would welcome your participation and contribution to this discussion.
Please confirm your attendance 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 and coffee

09:30 - 09:45

Welcoming Speech

Arben Ujkaj, Director of Asset Recovery Office (ARO), Albanian State Police

Gledis Gjipali, Executive Director of European Movement Albania

09:45 - 10:10

Institutional and Legislative Developments for the Establishment and Functioning of ARO in Albania

- The importance of asset recovery in the fight against organised crime and money laundering
- European Union priorities and requirements under Chapter 24
- The process of establishing ARO in Albania and the next institutional steps for its operationalisation
- The role of inter-institutional coordination and cooperation with judicial institutions and other law-enforcement agencies

Rezar Velimishi, Head of Sector, Albanian State Police

10:10 - 10:30

EU Best Practices for the Functioning of ARO and EU Standards

- Slovakia's experience in the establishment and functioning of the Asset Recovery Office
- Institutional organisation and the model of inter-institutional cooperation
- Training and capacity-building for specialised structures
- International cooperation and cooperation with the private sector in the process of asset identification and recovery

Michal Pavlík, Head of the ARO Department, Slovak Police

10:30 - 11:00

Open discussion

11:00 - 12:00

Closing of the activity and Reception

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