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NATIONAL CONVENTION ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

WG FOR CHAPTER 24 - JUSTICE, FREEDOM, SECURITY

COOPERATION POLICE-MEDIA: FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PUBLIC SECURITY IN THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

10 June 2026

Xheko Imperial Hotel

11:00 - 12:30

The Albanian State Police and the European Movement in Albania (EMA) are pleased to invite you to the next meeting of the Working Group for Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security, organized within the framework of the National Convention on European Integration, supported by the European Union. The meeting will take place on 10 June 2026, starting at 11:00, at Gold Orchid Room, Xheko Imperial Hotel.

The Working Group for Chapter 24 it 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 inform participants about the legislative process, but also to ensure that civil society and interest groups are able to provide recommendations, offer feedback on the legal framework, and actively monitor policy drafting at all stages.

The relationship between the State Police and the media during protests and public events constitutes a sensitive area where human rights standards intersect with the requirements of public security and order. Over the past year, within the framework of measures aimed at protecting journalists and strengthening police-media relations, a guideline has been prepared, representing a positive development; however, the implementation and fulfillment of the envisaged measures and objectives remain necessary. In this context, the discussion aims to contribute to strengthening a shared understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the institutions and actors involved, in line with EU standards in the field of freedom of expression and public order management, as well as the need to enhance the capacities of law enforcement authorities in respecting and managing situations related to the protection of journalists. The meeting will bring together representatives of the State Police, public institutions, civil society organizations, media representatives, and human rights experts to discuss the current challenges within Albania's legal and institutional framework concerning the relationship between law enforcement institutions and the media, with a particular focus on protests and public gatherings.

The discussion will focus on the balance between freedom of expression and public security, the protection of journalists during field reporting, strengthening police-media cooperation, as well as standards regarding journalists' access and safety during public events, in line with EU standards and European judicial practice, which will be shared with participants by an European expert.

We would highly appreciate 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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11:00 - 12:30

11:00 - 11:10

Participants' registration and coffee

11:10 - 11:20

Opening remarks and Welcome Speech

Gentian Mullai, Coordinator on Public Information, Albanian State Police

Gledis Gjipali, Executive Director of European Movement Albania

11:20 - 11:40

Police Capacities and the Protection of Journalists in the Field and High-Risk Situations

- Handling incidents involving journalists, including cases occurring during protests and public gatherings
- Ensuring compliance with human rights standards in police-journalist interactions in the field
- Improving mechanisms for collecting and analyzing data on incidents affecting journalists
- Strengthening training and capacity-building programs for police officers on media freedom and journalist safety
- Inter-institutional cooperation and collaboration with media actors for the prevention and effective management of incidents

Miranda Boshnjaku, Directorate of Planning and Administration of Police Training, Albanian State Police

11:40 - 12:00

Protection of Journalists in the Context of Public Order: European Standards and Practices

- European standards on freedom of expression and journalist safety in public assemblies
- Models of cooperation between the media and authorities in EU
- Institutional accountability in cases of incidents involving journalists
- Training and preventive approaches
- Lessons learned from EU countries' experiences in managing protests and media reporting

Pauline Adès-Mével, Journalist, trainer, and expert in journalist safety, former editor-in-chief for Reporters Without Borders

12:00 - 12:20

Open discussion

12:20 - 12:30

Closing of the activity and Reception

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