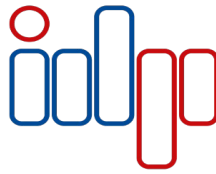




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NATIONAL CONVENTION ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Roundtable for Chapter 23 – Regulation of Lobbying in Albania: Strengthening Transparency, Implementation Challenges, and Alignment with European Standards

22 may 2026, 10:00 – 12:00 , Xheko Imperial Hotel, Tirana (tbc)

The Commissioner for the Right to Information and Protection of Personal Data, in cooperation with the **European Movement in Albania**, has the pleasure of inviting you to the next meeting of the **Working Group for Chapter 23 – Judiciary and Fundamental Rights**, organized within the framework of the **National Convention on European Integration** and supported by the **European Union**.

The **Working Group for Chapter 23** provides a platform for consultation and dialogue, enabling the active involvement of non-state actors in the EU accession negotiation process. Participants include representatives of civil society, academia, legal professionals, and other key stakeholders. The roundtable aims not only to provide information on the legislative process, but also to ensure that civil society and interest groups can offer recommendations, as well as actively follow and monitor policy development at all stages.

The focus of this roundtable will be the **recently adopted Law No. 12/2026 “On Lobbying in the Republic of Albania”**, which **regulates the lobbying process** in the country and **designates the Commissioner for the Right to Information and Protection of Personal Data** as the responsible institution for its implementation. The discussion will also include further clarifications on what is considered **lobbying and who qualifies as a lobbyist**, the registration of lobbyists in the **Public Lobbying Register**, as well as the **obligations** arising from this process. Particular attention will be given to strengthening **institutional transparency** in this regard, the need to **increase the capacity and financial resources of the Commissioner’s institution**, as well as **enhancing information sharing, dialogue, and coordination** with other relevant institutions and stakeholders, with a focus on civil society actors.

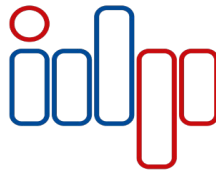
We kindly invite you to confirm your participation at the following email address: info@em-al.org

We look forward to your contribution to this roundtable!

** This WG session for Chapter 23 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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Roundtable for Chapter 23 – Regulation of Lobbying in Albania: Strengthening Transparency, Implementation Challenges, and Alignment with European Standards

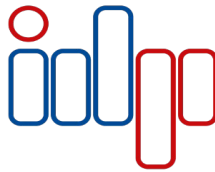
22 may 2026, 10:00 – 12:00 , Xheko Imperial Hotel, Tirana (tbc)

10:00 – 10:15	Registration of participants
10:15 – 10:30	Opening of the Meeting Besnik Dervishi , The Commissioner for the Right to Information and Protection of Personal Data Gledis Gjipali , Executive Director, European Movement Albania (EMA)
10:30 – 10:50	Law on Lobbying in Albania – The need for awareness and implementation challenges - Functioning and management of the Lobbying Register – the Commissioner's responsibilities and obligations of lobbyists (application, refusal of registration and deregistration) - The supervisory and enforcement function of the Commissioner – the process of verification and administrative measures - The creation and the functioning of the dedicated structure within the institution of the Commissioner for lobbying – the need for capacity building - Information sharing and strengthening cooperation with non-state actors and inter-institutional coordination
	Representative , The Commissioner for the Right to Information and Protection of Personal Data
10:50-11:10	Expectations and concerns regarding the Law on Lobbying from the perspective of civil society - The need for a clear distinction between lobbying and public advocacy activities of CSOs - Preventing disproportionate administrative burdens and overly broad interpretation of key legal definitions - The impact of the new legal framework on civil society participation in public decision-making processes and the need to ensure clear exemptions for CSO activities
	Klotidla Tavani , Director of Programs, Partners Albania for Change and Development
11:10 – 11:30	Lobbying from the European perspective – EU practices and recommendations for implementation The lobbying regulatory framework in Slovakia and the EU

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	• <i>Transparency models in EU/Member States – positive cases</i> • <i>The role of supervisory institutions and control mechanisms – challenges in implementation</i> • <i>Important lessons from Slovak and European experience in the implementation of lobbying legislation (administrative burden, enabling environment, personal data, etc.)</i>
	Michal Piško , Director, Transparency International of Slovakia (online presence)
11:30 – 12:00	Interactive Discussion With representatives of civil society, legal professionals, media, interest groups, business
12:00	Closing of the Activity and Coffee

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