



**NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
NORTH MACEDONIA**

**15<sup>th</sup> Session of Working Group 4, Justice, Freedom, and Security (Chapter 24)**

**October 30, 2024 (Wednesday), 09:30-13:30**

**Venue: Parliamentary Club**

Topic: “Challenges in the fight against financial crime in the Republic of North Macedonia: The importance of efficient financial investigations”

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1. Implementation of European Standards and Policies for Combating Financial Crime as Part of Organized Crime:**

**Recommendation:** Develop intelligence-led policing (ILP) across all agencies for enhanced strategic case management.

**Responsible Institutions:** Ministry of Interior (MOI), Public Prosecutor’s Office, Financial Intelligence Office (FIO), Financial Police Office (FPO).

**2. Inter-institutional and International Cooperation in Combating Financial Crime:**

**Recommendation:** Increase operational and strategic data exchanges and coordinate joint actions with international organizations and local bodies.

**Responsible Institutions:** MOI, Public Prosecutor’s Office, FIO, FPO, Ministry of Justice, Financial Police, International Partners (Interpol, Europol).

**3. National Strategy for Combating Organized Crime:**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a multi-sectoral strategy that includes civil society and academia.

**Responsible Institutions:** Ministry of Justice, MOI, Government of North Macedonia, Public Prosecutor’s Office.

**4. Strengthening the Intelligence and Operational Capabilities of Law Enforcement Agencies:**

**Recommendation:** Enhance capacities through additional staff training, establishment of specialized teams, and technological upgrading of information systems.

**Responsible Institutions:** MOI, Financial Police, FIO, National Security Agency (NSA).

**5. Digitization of Processes and Institutional Interoperability:**

**Recommendation:** Implement advanced digital systems for improved data exchange between institutions.

**Responsible Institutions:** Ministry of Information Society and Administration (MISA), MOI, FIO, FPO, Central Registry.





## **6. Supporting EU EMPACT Priorities:**

**Recommendation:** Continue collaboration with EU agencies and adopt the EMPACT platform for improved management of financial crime.

**Responsible Institutions:** MOI, Public Prosecutor's Office, FIO, FPO, Ministry of Justice.

## **7. Mandatory Financial Investigations and Prioritization of Cases:**

**Recommendation:** Establish a prioritization system with mandatory investigations for high-risk cases.

**Responsible Institutions:** Public Prosecutor's Office, FIO, FPO.

## **8. Preparation of a Strategy and Action Plan for Conducting Financial Investigations and Asset Confiscation:**

**Recommendation:** Develop a long-term strategy for the 2024-2026 period along with an annual action plan for ongoing activity implementation.

**Responsible Institutions:** Ministry of Justice, Government of North Macedonia, Public Prosecutor's Office.

## **9. Institutional and Staff Capacity Building for Financial Investigations:**

**Recommendation:** Provide training and additional resources for the involved institutions to ensure effective financial investigations, enhancing infrastructure and resources.

**Responsible Institutions:** MOI, Public Prosecutor's Office, FIO, FPO.

