



# ACTIVITY REPORT 2021

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## CONTENTS

1. Preface.....	2-4
2. Human Resources.....	5
3. Combating corruption.....	6-10
Criminal cases examined.....	10
Ensuring the respect of human rights in the application of procedural measures of constraints.....	10
4. Criminal assets recovery.....	11-14
Assets seized by the CARA in 2021.....	14-16
5. Penalties applied by the courts.....	17
Pecuniary sanction implementation (fine).....	17
Imprisonment.....	17-18
Deprivation of the right to hold certain public positions or to exercise a certain activity.....	18
Examination of cases in simplified procedure.....	18
6. Prevention of corruption.....	19
Anti-corruption awareness-raising and education measures.....	19-20
Anti-corruption expertise of normative acts.....	20-21
Institutional integrity assessment.....	21-22
7. Strategic and operational analysis of corruption.....	23-26
8. Monitoring and evaluation of anti-corruption policies.....	27-29
9. International cooperation.....	30-36
10. Interaction with civil society.....	37
11. Objectives and priorities 2022.....	38
12. Annexes:	
Annex 1. Examples of investigated corruption schemes.....	39-40
Annex 2. Statistical indexes regarding the activity of detecting crimes.....	41
Annex 3. Anti-corruption awareness campaigns carried out by the NAC.....	42-44
Annex 4. Relevant analytical products.....	45-49



## 1. PREFACE

In 2021, the National Anticorruption Center, in its capacity as a specialized body in preventing and combating acts of corruption, those related to corruption and corrupt deeds, and carried out its activities in accordance with the Strategic Development Program for 2020-2023, approved by the Decision of the College Board no. 1 of 31.01.2020, the Action Plan for 2021, approved by the Decision of the College Board no. 1 of 29.01.2021, as well as the established priorities.

The Center activity was focused on the efficient implementation of the institutional attributions provided for in article 4 of Law no.1104 of 06.06.2002 *regarding the National Anticorruption Center*:

- preventing, detecting, investigating and curbing corruption offenses and offenses related to corruption, as well as acts of corruption;
- carrying out the anti-corruption expertise of the draft legislative acts and the draft normative acts of the Government, as well as of other legislative initiatives presented in Parliament, in order to comply with the state's policy of preventing and combating corruption;
- carrying out the operational and strategic analysis of corruption acts, acts related to corruption and facts of corruption behavior, information on analytical studies of the phenomenon of corruption.
- carrying out the assessment of institutional integrity under the conditions of Law no.325 of 23.12.2013 *on the assessment of institutional integrity*, monitoring the implementation of integrity plans and assessing the progress made;
- recovery of criminal assets.

As the Monitoring Group Secretariat, the Center presented the Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the implementation of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy (NIAS) for 2017-2020, which includes a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the progress of the appropriate and ongoing implementation actions, identifies the progress and challenges faced by the implementing entities. Subsequently, to ensure the continuity of the implementation of the policy document - the deadline for the implementation of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy, in accordance with the Decision of the Parliamentary Commission on National Security, Defense and Public Order no. 275 of 25.11.2020, is to be extended by 2 years, according to the provisions of Chap. V "Reporting and Monitoring Procedures" of the Strategy.

To achieve the established priorities, the institution continued to implement the Strategic Development Program of the National Anticorruption Center for 2020-2023, approved by the Decision of the College Board No. 1 from 01/31/2020. It was elaborated to achieve the priorities of Pillar III of the NIAS and contributes to the rationalization of the institution's activities. During 2021, the implementation of the Action Plan of the Strategic Development Program was monitored, especially the proposed goals, in the context of planned actions and aimed at establishing the degree of implementation and compliance of the actions taken with the planned ones to achieve the established indicators. Thus, the degree of implementation of the activities of the Action Plan is about 88%.



For the first time, the institution obtained ISO 27001 and ISO 37001 certificates with the support of the Project "Curbing corruption by building sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova" implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Moldova, with financial support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The ISO 37001 standard reflects global anti-corruption best practices and will enable the institution to implement an effective anti-bribery management system, enhancing the security measures it already has in place. This system encourages and promotes a strong institutional culture and establishes a set of clear anti-corruption rules and criteria to be respected in all activities carried out by the National Anticorruption Center. The ISO 27001 standard comes to improve information security, so that there is no place for violation or other incidents with information security risks. Obtaining certification demonstrates the Center's commitment to keeping its information secure.

At the same time, in order to carry out its mission and responsibilities effectively, the Center places the main emphasis on working with other national public institutions, organizations and similar authorities in other countries, concluding bilateral agreements to this end, promoting the exchange of information, good practices and experience in the field of prevention, fight against corruption and recovery of criminal assets, access to databases for performing strategic and operational analyzes, financial, patrimonial, which beneficially influence the activity of the institution.

Thus, there was initiative of several state institutions to conclude collaboration agreements, during 2021, in order to obtain the support of the Center in preventing, fighting corruption, but also offering from them the possibility of access to the information held, in the purpose of the qualitative exercise of the functional attributions. In this regard, the National Anticorruption Center has concluded additional agreements / protocols with: the Public Institution "Information Technology and Cyber Security Service", the State Tax Service, the Public Institution "Electronic Government Agency", the Public Institution "National Management Service of Radio Frequencies ", the Court Administration Agency, AO Toastmasters, AO MEET Institute and " Orange Moldova ".

Within the activities carried out by the international anti-corruption authorities, the Center managed to impose itself through its activity of monitoring, analysis and evaluation of the objectives set, institutional and professional integrity, ranking among the first authorities in the Republic of Moldova, which constantly promotes these priorities and effectively cooperates with international organizations, including by systematically informing them of actions to prevent, combat corruption and recover criminal assets.

A positive development is also reflected in the Public Integrity Index, which assesses the company's ability to control corruption and ensure that public resources are spent without corrupt practices. PII is a complex index, including six components: judicial independence, administrative burden, trade opening, budget transparency, e-citizenship and freedom of the press. In 2021, the Republic of Moldova surpassed 10 countries in the ranking, recording a score of 36 points, ranking 115th out of 180 countries.

On the segment of promoting the image of the National Anticorruption Center, the actions the institution are largely focused on the implementation of the Communication Strategy for the years 2021-2023, which was approved in order to increase the level of



confidence of the society towards the institution through fair and impartial information to the public and the media about its activity, to ensure the consolidation of the integrity climate at national level.

Thus, to provide citizens with information about the activity and performance of the institution in a more accessible form, the content posted on the website of the NAC has been diversified.

Social media has been widely used in disseminating the messages of anti-corruption campaigns, promoting the National Anticorruption Hotline - 0 800 55555, but also as a tool for interaction with the public. Thus, 217 press releases were placed on the website of the National Anticorruption Center, which gathered 140,000 views, generating 6,597 pieces of news and 2,513,400 views on social networks.

Another important step for the institution was to submit parliamentary scrutiny to January 2016 - September 2021. As a result, the Commission on National Security, Defense and Public Order prepared a Report evaluating the activity of the National Anticorruption Center for the mentioned period, where the deficiencies in the activity were reflected, which was identified. The Center argued that it disagreed with some of the conclusions set out in the result of the control and informed the authors of this fact. For removal the circumstances which favored the appearance of unfavorable conclusions about the institution activity, the subdivisions concerned have planned, for the year 2022, to undertake certain actions that would remedy the situation, within the legal framework.



## 2. HUMAN RESOURCES

Human resources are one of the most valuable and strategic investments of an institution, through which its basic objectives and tasks continue to be achieved. The promotion and implementation of an efficient human resources management within the Center, ensures the achievement of the strategic objectives.

According to the Staff Status and the Framing Scheme, the following categories of functions are included in the Center: positions of public dignity - 3, public positions with special status - 342, public positions - 5, technical service positions - 5, auxiliary positions - 4 .

The institution has a total of 359 positions, of which: 232 - are filled by men, 85 - by women, and 42 - are vacant.

Out of the total functions, 300 units belong to the Central Apparatus, 28 units belong to the General Territorial Directorate “North”, 20 units - to the General Territorial Directorate “South” and 11 units - to the Territorial Directorate “Center”.

The Center applies a policy of equal opportunities in the process of recruitment and management of human resources, however gender ratios are as follows: 24% (75) - women, 76% (206) - men.

The employment of young specialists within the Center, a phenomenon developed continuously in recent years, positively influences the structure of the age profile of the staff. Thus, during 2021, the average age of employees is 38 years.

During the same period, 9 people were employed within the Center (civil servants with special status), 31 people quit, of these: due to retirement - 9 people, transfer to other authorities - 5 people, other reasons - 17 people.

In 2021, out of the total number of employees: 299 are graduates of higher education institutions, and 125 - have postgraduate studies (6 - PhD students).

In terms of "general training", the Center's employees had the opportunity to improve their professional skills by participating in 14 training activities, where they were trained as trainers, collaborators of the Center with professional experience in the field, as well as specialists from other institutions.

At the same time, in the chapter “Special training”, the employees of the Center benefited from 40 training activities, according to the professional training plans of the subdivisions.

According to the State Order for 2021 on the professional development of public administration staff, 44 employees were delegated to courses at the Academy of Public Administration, benefiting from training in management and elaboration of programs / projects, provision of public services, integrity of civil servants, integration into public office, etc.

During the reporting period, the Centre's staff ensured participation in 12 international events (meetings, seminars, trainings, working visits), with the dissemination of advanced experiences in the field of preventing, combating corruption and recovering criminal assets.

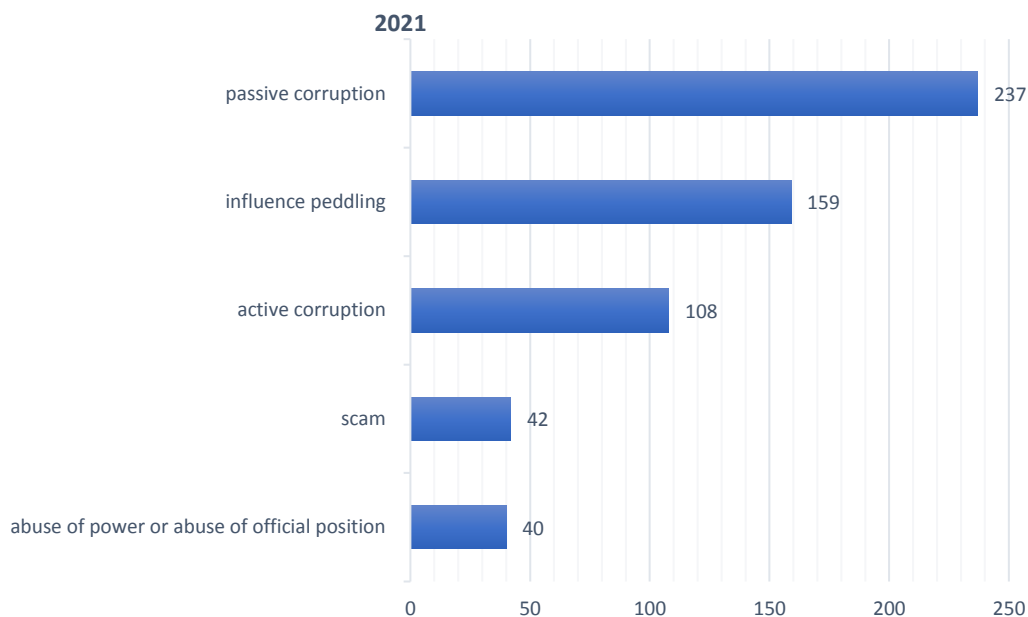


### 3. COMBATEREA CORUPȚIEI

During the evaluated period, the results obtained by the Center’s investigation officers are the following: 743 detected offenses (General Directorate on Combating Corruption – 397, Territorial Directorate Center – 135, General Territorial Directorate North - 142, General Territorial Directorate South - 69), of which: corruption and corruption related offenses - 602 and other categories - 141. Taking into account the fact that at the basis of the operative investigation activity is a complex of measures for discovering and curbing the offenses and persons who commit them, we mention that out of the total of discovered offenses - 420 is the result of processing operative information received by investigation officers.

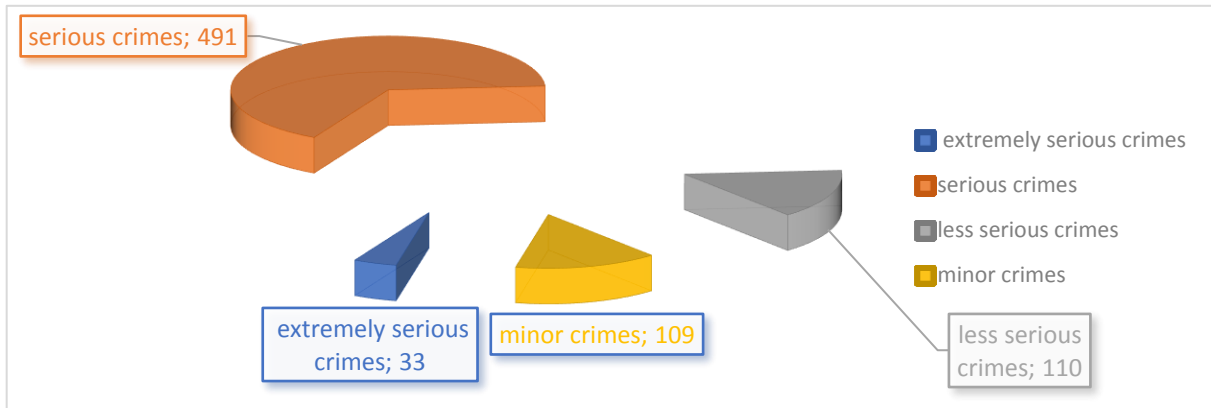
Following an analysis of the detected offenses, the most frequently committed corruption and related acts were:

- passive corruption - 237 offenses;
- influence peddling - 159 offenses;
- active corruption - 108 offenses;
- scam - 42 offenses;
- abuse of power or abuse of official position – 40.



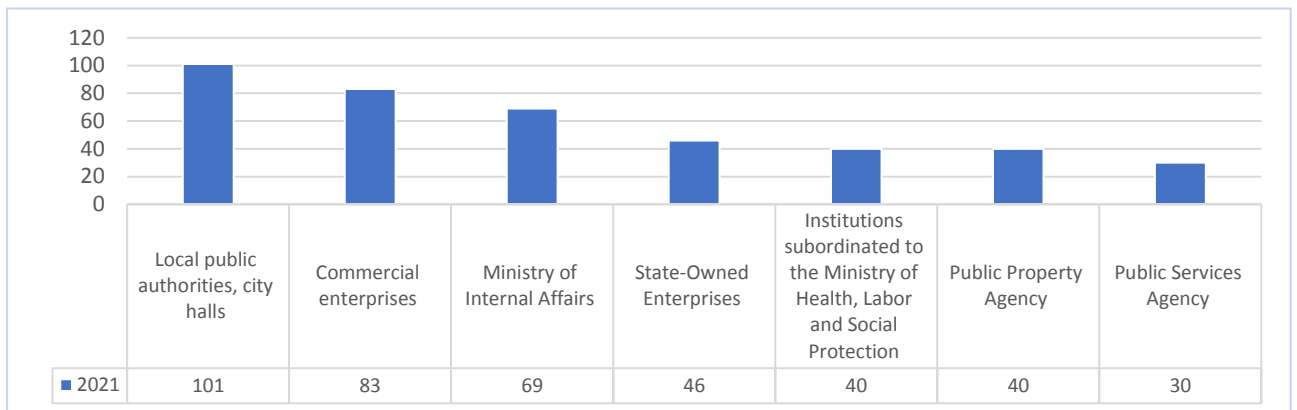
Also, during the reporting period, following the special investigative measures and criminal prosecution, 59 actions of detaining the perpetrator in flagrante delicto were carried out.

Depending on the nature and the extent of the damage, the detected crimes are divided in the following way: 33 - extremely serious, 491 - serious, 110 - less serious and 109 - minor.



The most frequent cases of corruption were found in the following public institutions:

- Local public authorities, city halls – 101;
- Commercial enterprises – 83
- Ministry of Internal Affairs – 69;
- State-Owned Enterprises – 46;
- Institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection – 40;
- Public Property Agency – 40;
- Public Services Agency – 30.



The following officials have been identified and subjected to criminal investigation by the Center for committing corruption and corruption-related crimes:

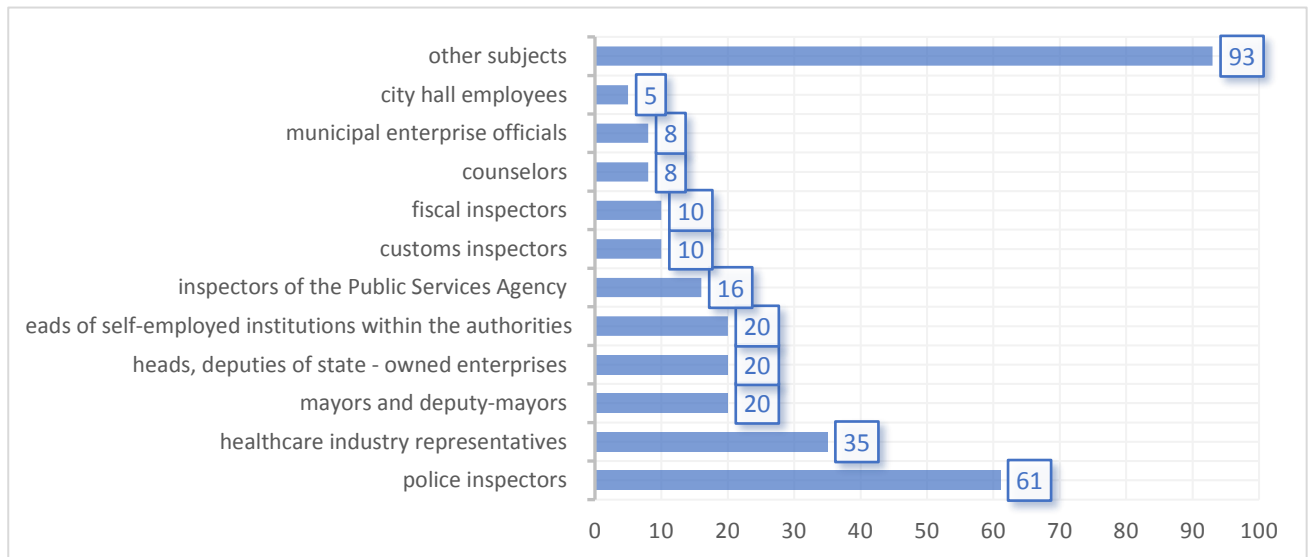
- police inspectors – 61
- healthcare industry representatives – 35
- mayors and deputy-mayors – 20
- heads, deputies of state - owned enterprises – 20
- heads of self-employed institutions within the authorities - 20
- inspectors of the Public Services Agency – 16
- customs inspectors – 10
- fiscal inspectors – 10
- counselors - 8
- municipal enterprise officials - 8
- city hall employees - 5





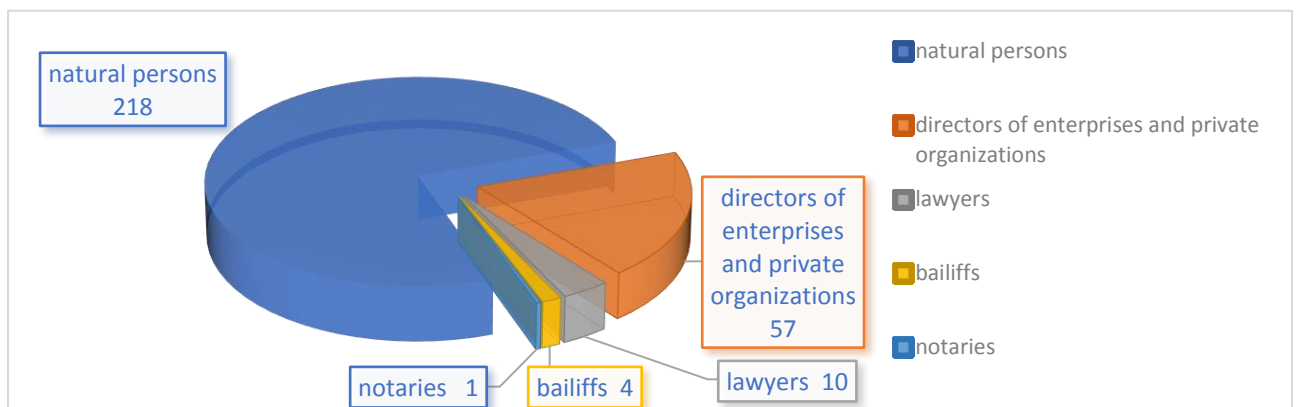
## ACTIVITY REPORT 2021

- inspectors of the Agency for Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance - 4
- district council officials - 3
- representatives of education sector- 3
- directors, deputy-directors of national agencies - 1
- judges - 1
- ex-minister - 1
- other subjects – 80



In the private and freelance sectors 290 persons have been targeted, including:

- natural persons – 218
- directors of enterprises and private organizations - 57
- lawyers - 10;
- bailiffs – 4
- notaries – 1



During the reference period, the criminal investigation body managed 1321 criminal cases (General Directorate on Criminal Prosecution - 898, GTD "North" - 232, GTD "South" - 191), of which:

- 928 - detained for research;

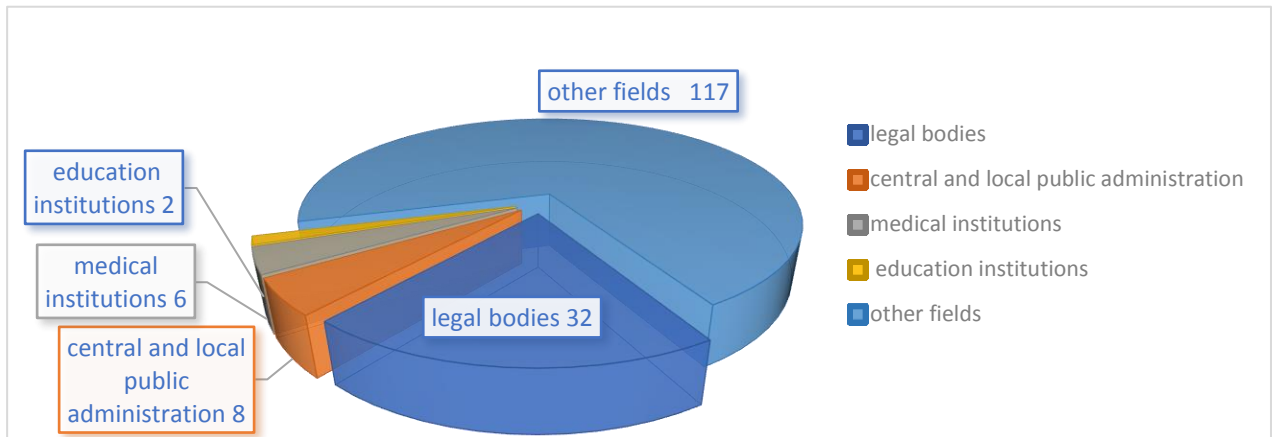


- 631 - started by the criminal investigation officers of the Center (General Directorate of Criminal Prosecution - 610, GTD “North” - 171, GTD “South” - 147);
- 239 - received according to the competence, from other criminal investigation bodies;
- 426 - finished;
- 203 - brought to justice.

Of the 631 criminal cases initiated by criminal prosecution officers, 418 - constituted corruption offenses (193 - passive corruption, 103 - active corruption, 118 - influence peddling, 3 - bribery, 1 - arranged bets) , 89 - offenses related to corruption (3 - exercising duties in conflict of interest, abuse of power - 29, 8 - excess of power or exceeding duties, 7 - negligence in office, 1 - illicit enrichment, 36 - forgery in public documents, 5 - abuse of private service) and 124 of other categories of crimes (1 - blackmail, 25 - fraud, 17 - embezzlement, 2 - illegal circulation of narcotics, 14 - money laundering, 2- smuggling, 1 - illegal possession of firearms, 1 - misleading statements, 12 - false statements, 39 – forgery of documents, 10 - other crimes).

According to the gravity of the corruption and related offences, the criminal cases are divided as follows:

- corruption - 418: 41 - minor, 0 - less serious, 351 - serious, 26 - extremely serious
- related to corruption - 89: 53 - minor, 1 - less serious, 33 - serious, 2 - extremely serious
- other categories - 124: 50 - minor, 19 - less serious, 45 - serious, 10 - extremely serious



In 223 criminal cases, the prosecution was terminated for various reasons, including 18 criminal cases, on grounds of non-rehabilitation (pursuant to Article 275, points 4), 5) and 9) Code of Criminal Procedure, in connection with expiry of the limitation period, death of the perpetrator and when there are other circumstances provided by law, which exclude criminal prosecution).

In 34 other criminal cases, the prosecution was suspended for various reasons, including 23 - in connection with the avoidance of the accused in the criminal investigation, 10 - in



connection with the failure to identify the perpetrator, 1 - in connection with the refusal to extradite, and 1 - when the accused fell ill with a serious illness.

### **Criminal Cases Examined**

In addition to the criminal cases, in the procedure of the criminal investigation body, for examination, in accordance with the provisions of art. 274 Code of Criminal Procedure, 1025 criminal cases were registered, out of which, during the reference period, 1020 were resolved - including 622 - criminal cases were initiated, 352 - were submitted to the prosecutor with a proposal not to start, 42 - attached to other criminal proceedings and cases, and 4 - were sent, according to the competence, to other criminal investigation bodies.

### **Ensuring the Respect of Human Rights in the Application of Procedural Measures of Constraint**

In 2021, prosecuting officers detained 148 people. Regarding the 31 - the courts ordered the application of the preventive measure in the form of arrest. Out of the total number of detained persons, 68 were released by prosecutors, 37 persons arrested at home, 5 persons were provisionally released under judicial control, compared to 33 persons the obligation not to leave the country was applied, 2 persons were released in connection with the expiration of the detention term and 1 - not allowed to leave the locality.



#### 4. CRIMINAL ASSETS RECOVERY

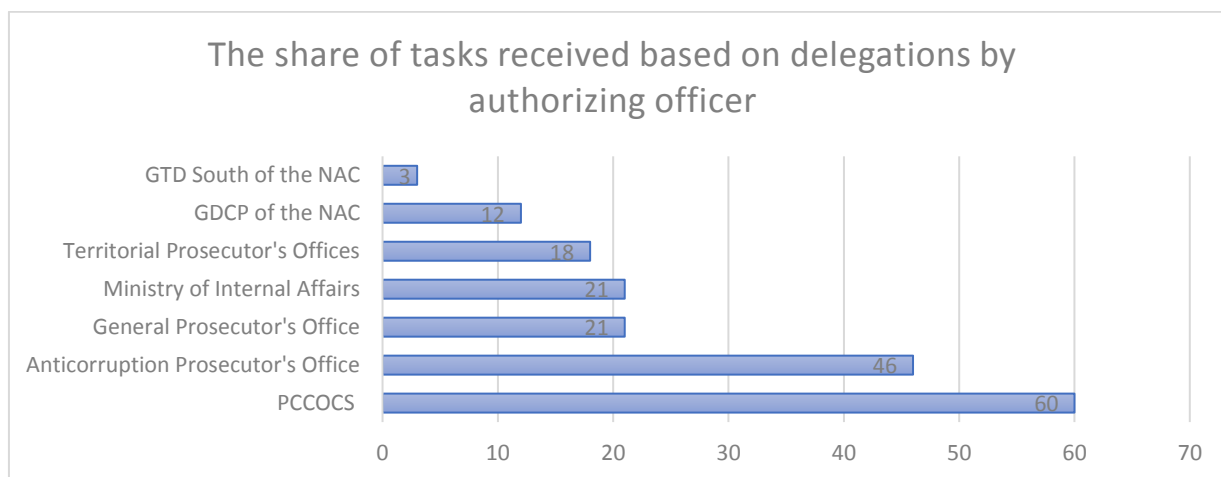
During the reporting period, the tasks of the Criminal Assets Recovery Agency (hereinafter CARA) for conducting parallel financial investigations into suspected and accused persons were ordered by the prosecuting authorities and the Prosecutor's Office, in accordance with the established procedure, by handing over the execution of the delegations, mainly on criminal cases related to corruption and related crimes, money laundering, tax evasion, smuggling, embezzlement of particularly large foreign assets, causing material damage through deception or breach of trust, fraudulent use of employment, trafficking in human beings and the illegal movement of drugs.

In 2021, the Agency started its activity with 70 delegations from the previous period, regarding 197 subjects, on 55 criminal cases. During the reporting period, other 226 delegations were received, regarding 365 subjects, on 164 criminal cases. Out of that total, 208 delegations were executed, regarding 375 subjects, on 157 cases.

During the reporting period, the CARA conducted special investigations to identify criminal assets and establish beneficial owners in parallel financial investigations, based on 181 requests received from 238 subjects in 103 criminal cases.

Thus, out of the total number of 229 delegations, received in 2021 within the CARA, regarding 379 subjects, on 144 criminal cases, the investigating officers of the Agency carried out special investigative measures, within 103 criminal cases, equal to 71.5% of the total number of criminal cases and 63% of the total number of subjects of parallel financial investigations.

Requests for execution during the reporting period were made on the basis of delegations received from the following institutions:



Investigations were also continued for 20 tasks received at the end of the year 2020, involving 37 subjects.

Requests for execution have been made in criminal case delegations targeting 20 offenses:

- illicit enrichment (art. 3302 CP) - 14;
- influence peddling (art. 326 CP) - 9;



- abuse of power or abuse of official position (art. 327 CP) - 19;
- abuse of office (art. 335 CP) - 14;
- tax evasion (art. 244 CP) - 5;
- money laundering (art. 243 CP) - 29;
- smuggling (art. 248 CP) - 15;
- scam (art. 190 CP) - 16;
- appropriation of another person's property (art. 191 CP) - 11;
- trafficking in human beings - (art. 165 CP) - 19;
- illegal circulation of drugs, ethnobotanicals or their analogues for the purpose of alienation (art. 2171 CP) - 22;
- creation or management of a criminal organization (art. 284 CP) - 2;
- active corruption (art. 325 CP) - 4;
- passive corruption (art. 324 CP) - 10;
- forgery in public documents (art. 332 CP) - 1;
- forced labor (art. 168 CP) - 1;
- pimping (art. 220 CP) - 3;
- making false documents, stamps or seals (art. 361 CP) - 2;
- excess of power or exceeding the service attributions (art. 328 CP) - 2;
- exercising the attributions in the public sector in situation of conflict of interests (art. 326-1 CP) - 1.

In order to detect the assets of interested parties arising from illegal activities and to obtain information on these assets, 3651 requests were prepared and sent (compared to 2450 requests in 2020), addressed to institutions that own or have the necessary information, such as: banks, entities holding information on holders of securities, leasing companies, insurance companies, suppliers and service providers, telecommunications operators, etc. This difference in requests is due to the fact that, in 2021, the access to new information resources was diversified, which increased the speed of gathering information, such as electronic cadastral files, announcements published on [www.999.md](http://www.999.md), civil status documents. The investigations were completed with the establishment of 1416 real estate / movable assets.

As a result of the investigations, information was requested regarding the investigated subjects and third parties regarding the existence of criminal assets or other necessary data, in order to elucidate the circumstances of the investigated case, based on 117 requests transmitted through information exchange channels, identifying criminal assets. or information about them in the following jurisdictions: Romania, Ukraine, Russia, Bulgaria, Poland, Belarus, Germany, France, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Greece, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Finland, Croatia, Estonia, Sweden, Ireland, Slovakia, Hungary, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, Israel, Armenia, United States, Cyprus.

In order to identify the criminal assets, 76 service trips were made to the districts under the examined tasks.



Also, in the process of identifying real estate and movable property owned by the interested parties or as actual beneficiaries, information is collected from 31 information systems. The information obtained is also used to organize special investigative measures, to establish links with the investigated persons, to establish new sources of information, as well as risk factors that may jeopardize the confidentiality of the activity. At the same time, open sources are being investigated, such as public databases, web pages and search software (OSINT), which are proving to be increasingly important, both in establishing assets in the country and abroad, actions which add value to various stages of investigation, especially to the identification and recovery of criminal assets.

It should be noted that in order to establish the criminal assets and their actual beneficiaries, during the investigations, information is collected, both from official databases and from open sources, not only regarding the authorized subject, but also from the persons in his entourage, such as: family members, persons with whom they interact in the work activity, business, interposed persons on whom the real estate / movable assets are registered, border crossings, other persons established as a result of special investigation measures, etc.

As a result of the parallel financial investigations, during the reporting period, the criminal investigation officers from the CARA ordered precautionary measures against 865 assets of the suspects and accused, totaling 736,198,779.70 lei<sup>1</sup>.

At the same time, in 2021, the Agency introduced, in addition to the information system for recording seized criminal assets, 110 assets with a total value of 848,964,377.4 lei, which were authorized at the end of 2020.

Also, during the parallel financial investigations, more than 700 real estate, 60 means of transport, share capital were identified in 5 companies. The causes of non-application of seizures are:

- lack of civil action;
- exceeding the value of the civil action;
- the request of the criminal investigation body to stop the parallel financial investigations due to the fact that the criminal investigation has been completed;
- removing the person from criminal prosecution;
- completion of the criminal investigation until the completion of the parallel financial investigations.

As a result of the seizures, the CARA's criminal investigation officers froze and handed over the following assets to the administration:

- cash in the amount of 155,527.64 lei;
- transfers to the treasury accounts in the amount of 20,268,650.65 lei;
- means of transport in the amount of 2,144,448.35 lei;
- commemorative coins in the amount of 59,222.00 lei;
- cryptocurrencies in the amount of 121,141.90 lei.

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<sup>1</sup> The estimated value of the seized assets is not final, the investigating judges have steps regarding the authorization of the seizures filed in 2021.



Also, following the parallel financial investigations carried out by the CARA, the criminal investigation bodies were informed about the finding of reasonable suspicions of committing the offenses provided in art. 352-1 para. (2), art. 330-2, art. 243 para. (3) lit. b) Criminal Code.

### Assets seized by the CARA in 2021

During the reporting period, the seizure was applied to 865 assets amounting to 736,198,779.70 lei, of which 68.59% belongs to the assets identified as the beneficial owner. The amount seized on the criminal case with the generic name "bank fraud" is 35.48%.

Property type	2020			2021		
	quantity	amount	%	quantity	amount	%
actual beneficiary	1073	1.594.364.566,10	82,98	375	504.941.546,06	68,59
owner	900	327.092.505,67	17,02	486	231.257.233,64	31,41
<b>Total</b>	<b>1973</b>	<b>1.921.457.071,77</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>736.198.779,70</b>	<b>100</b>

In 2021, 10 delegations (6 AP and 4 PCCOCS) were sent to the Agency on 4 criminal cases, related to bank fraud for conducting parallel financial investigations, as a result of which seizures were applied. Thus, the amount of the total seizure applied for 2021 is 261,199,801.10 lei on 115 assets, of which seizure applied on assets which extras on the files they hold as actual beneficiaries, are in the total amount of 221,182,596.5 lei or 84.68% of the total seizure applied.

Authorized officials / type of property	Quantity	Seized amount (lei)
<b>AP</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>100.419.032,30</b>
Beneficiary	48	60.401.827,69
Owner	59	40.017.204,62
<b>PCCOCS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>160.780.768,80</b>
Beneficiary	8	160.780.768,80
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>261.199.801,10</b>

As a result of the examinations in the parallel financial investigations, in order to recover the criminal assets, 1,237 criminal assets were assessed (real estate - 943, movable property - 294, namely: 279 means of transport and 15 firearms) estimated at 1,176,231,179.21 lei, with the preparation of 671 advisory opinions on determining the value of real estate, according to average market prices, as well as 39 minutes on the impossibility of drawing conclusions regarding 63 criminal assets (including: real estate - 35, movable property - 28).

Also, 3 consultative opinions of the specialist were drawn up on establishing the difference between the person's income and expenses (financial profiles), regarding 13 people.



During the same period, the primary judicial expertise in the field of “Automotive expertise” was carried out, regarding 9 means of transport, with the preparation of 9 reports of judicial expertise, used later in order to initiate the procedure of estimating the value of the assets. As a result, 8 advisory opinions were issued regarding the determination of the size of the decrease / increase of the value of 8 means of motor transport under administration.

Following the assessment of the assets, they were taken over by the administration and subsequently deposited in the treasury accounts managed by the CARA, cash in national currency and freely convertible foreign currency in a total amount of 15,474,135.10 lei.

Also, during the nominated period, in order to guarantee an efficient administration of the seized funds, their transfer from the accounts of the payment service providers, to the treasury accounts managed by the CARA, in a total amount of 20,268,65065 lei<sup>2</sup>, was ensured.

During the same period, in connection with the lifting of the precautionary measures, previously seized funds were returned / reimbursed, converted into national currency, according to the official exchange rates, established by the NBM, in the total amount of 1,137,127.57 lei<sup>3</sup>, among the reasons for such decisions being:

- filing the criminal case and removing the person from criminal prosecution (464,531.53 lei);
- acquittal of the person under charge of committing the crime (155,726.95 lei);
- payment of the confiscated amounts and / or fines (516,869.09 lei).

Currently, the Agency has 9 treasury accounts, both in national currency and in freely convertible foreign currency (euro - EUR, US dollar - USD, pound sterling - GBP, Romanian leu - RON, Ukrainian hryvnia - UAH, Russian ruble - RUB, Swiss franc - CHF, Belarusian ruble - BYN).

At 31.12.2021, the balance of the treasury accounts managed by the CARA, constitutes:

<b>MDL</b>	<b>EUR</b>	<b>USD</b>
<b>16 808 590,04</b>	<b>2 530 750,00</b>	<b>473 506,40</b>
<b>GBP</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>RON</b>
<b>3 230,00</b>	<b>1 500,00</b>	<b>3 456,00</b>
<b>UAH</b>	<b>RUB</b>	<b>BYN</b>
<b>33 417,00</b>	<b>132 340,00</b>	<b>-</b>

In the process of recovering criminal assets, the Agency makes extensive use of the exchange of data through the secure channel EUROPOL / SIENA and the CARIN platform, which has reduced the time used for parallel financial investigations. Thus, through the SIENA channel and the CARIN platform, assets were identified in Romania, Bulgaria, Belarus. Based on the accumulated evidence, the national courts seized these goods in the amount of about 190 million lei. At the same time, it should be mentioned that, with the

<sup>2</sup> Suma respectivă variază în funcție de rata de schimb (cursul valutar) utilizată la convertirea valutei străine în monedă națională, la o anumită dată, conform ratelor oficiale de schimb stabilite de BNM.

<sup>3</sup> Suma respectivă variază în funcție de rata de schimb (cursul valutar) utilizată la convertirea valutei străine în monedă națională, la o anumită dată, conform ratelor oficiale de schimb stabilite de BNM.





support of the Agency, more than 450 thousand pounds were repatriated from Great Britain to the Republic of Moldova.

In terms of data exchange with other institutions, during this period, secure connections were provided with all commercial banks in the Republic of Moldova, which contributed significantly to the optimization of those processes.

In order to optimize the legal framework operated in the activity, following its evaluation, the necessary changes were initiated.

Thus, the following were drawn up and submitted in accordance with the procedure:

- the draft law on the amendment of some normative acts, including the Criminal Code, and the one on criminal procedure, Law 48/2017 on the CARA). Unfortunately, after the draft in question was submitted to Parliament for approval, no progress has been made in this regard, and solutions are currently being identified;

- the methodology for valuing immovable and movable criminal property, which provides for the method of determining the value of criminal property, located in the territory of the Republic of Moldova or outside its territory, regardless of whether they are frozen or not;

- the methodology for assessing the financial profile of the suspect, accused, defendant, convict in parallel financial investigations, which provides for the determination of the income and property acquired by the person, as well as the expenses incurred by him, including cash flows, on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, as well as abroad, in order to establish the difference between revenues and expenditures;

- the draft Guide on the administration of seized criminal assets, which provides for the organization and conduct of the process of administration of criminal assets, seized in criminal cases and transmitted to the management of the CARA.



## 5. PENALTIES APPLIED BY THE COURT

Out of the total number of 367 charges, in 231 cases, the courts established the guilt of the defendants, pronouncing sentences with the application of the penalties provided by the criminal law. In 69 cases, the courts ordered the acquittal of the persons with their rehabilitation, and in 67 cases, sentences of cessation of proceedings were handed down on the grounds of non-rehabilitation.

The accumulation of data on establishing the guilt of the defendants and the termination of the proceedings on the grounds of non-rehabilitation, is 298 cases.

### **Pecuniary sanction implementation (fine)**

The analysis of the data regarding 231 convictions on corruption and corruption-related acts, found the application of pecuniary sanctions in 129 cases.

Most fines were imposed for active corruption and influence peddling.

In addition, the fine was imposed in one case of influence peddling, three cases of passive corruption and in all 59 cases of conviction for active corruption, a total of 63 cases. Application of the fine with the deprivation of the right to hold certain public office or to carry out a certain activity has been more diversified, with a total of 16 cases. one case of influence peddling and three cases of passive corruption.

The average value of the fine for corruption and corruption-related cases amounted to 91,701 lei. In 76 cases, the fines were applied below the minimum amount provided by the criminal law, followed by the minimum amount, with 35 cases. The cumulation of these data constitutes 111 cases out of the total fines applied. The average value was applied in 16 cases from the cases of application of fines to acts of corruption and acts related to acts of corruption.

### **Imprisonment**

Out of the total number of 231 convictions on corruption and corruption-related acts, imprisonment was imposed in 165 cases.

Most prison sentences were applied to acts of influence peddling and active corruption.

Imprisonment was imposed in one case of influence peddling, three cases of passive corruption and in all 59 cases of conviction for active corruption (a total of 63 cases). Imprisonment with the right to hold certain public office or to exercise a certain activity has been applied in 30 cases, and imprisonment with a fine and deprivation of the right to hold certain public office or to exercise a certain activity has been applied only in the case of influence peddling and the 3 cases of passive corruption.

Of these, in 102 cases, the sentence with conditional suspension of the execution of the sentence was applied, in accordance with art. 90 Penal Code. Respectively, 63 cases were registered in which the defendants received a prison sentence with real execution.

The average value of the term of execution of the sentence with real imprisonment, registered according to the sentences pronounced in 2021, is 3 years and 6 months.



Based on the data analyzed for the period 2015 - 2021, there is a tendency to increase the number of convictions with conditional suspension of the execution of the sentence, in accordance with art. 90 Penal Code.

Imprisonment was applied, in most cases, based on the average value provided by the criminal law (128 cases). The minimum value was applied in 16 cases, and imprisonment below the limit provided by the criminal law was applied in 21 cases.

No cases of maximum or above imprisonment have been identified for corruption or related offenses, nor for defendants who have accumulated cumulative offenses.

### **Deprivation of the right to hold certain public office or to exercise a certain activity**

The application of the punishment with deprivation of the right to hold certain public positions or to exercise a certain activity was ordered in 46 of the cases of conviction on acts of corruption and related to acts of corruption. Deprivation of law with a fine was ordered in 19 cases, deprivation of law with imprisonment was ordered in 32 cases, and deprivation of right with a fine and imprisonment was ordered in a case of influence peddling and 3 cases of passive corruption.

Comparing the analyzed data with those of 2020, there is a clear decrease in the application of the punishment with deprivation of the right to hold certain public positions or to exercise a certain activity. The average term applied for deprivation of rights remained approximately the same, establishing a non-essential difference of one month.

Such a low weighting of the custodial sentence (compared to convictions) has not been established in the period under comparative analysis.

### **Examination of cases in simplified procedure**

Out of the total number of charges, in 185 cases, the defendants pleaded guilty to the acts committed by requesting the courts to examine the cases in the special procedure based on the evidence administered in the criminal investigation phase and on the basis of the plea agreement (art. 3641 Code of Criminal Procedure and Article 80 of the Criminal Code).

As a result of the examination of the cases in the simplified procedure, in 178 cases, the court decided on the conviction of the defendants, in 57 of them, the conviction being applied with conditional suspension of the execution of the sentence, in accordance with art. 90 Penal Code. In 7 cases, it was ordered to end the process, most of which were related to the intervention of the limitation period. Only one case, of active corruption, was stopped due to the intervention of the perpetrator's death. The other cases of termination, in connection with the intervention of the limitation period, were on 3 acts of forgery in public acts, 2 acts of abuse of power or abuse of office in the public sector and an act of passive corruption.

In the other 182 cases, the persons pleaded not guilty before the courts, being ordered to examine the cases in the general procedure. Following the examination, in 53 of these cases, the defendants received convictions. The remaining 129 cases resulted in sentences of termination of the trial or acquittal of persons.



## 6. PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION

One of the principles in the Center's activity is the priority of applying corruption prevention methods to those of combating.

In this respect, the prevention measures implemented by the institution are the following:

- anticorruption awareness raising and education;
- anticorruption expertise of normative acts;
- institutional integrity assessment;
- testing professional integrity;
- strategic and operational corruption analysis.

### **Anti-corruption awareness-raising and education measures**

Among the factors favoring corruption is the high level of social acceptability of corrupt behavior, but also the low awareness of public agents regarding ethics and integrity. Building on this desideratum as well as the priorities of the corruption prevention activity in the Center's strategic objectives, public awareness-raising campaigns and trainings for public officials were launched. These were designed to promote integrity and anticorruption standards, strengthen the institutional and professional integrity system, educate society and public agencies in the active spirit of denouncing corruption manifestations.

The anticorruption education carried out in 2021 was oriented towards training and information activities of the target groups, awareness campaigns, consultative and methodological support of the public entities in implementing the integrity standards, working with the civil society and external partners in order to increase the efficiency of prevention mechanisms.

In this regard, 245 training activities in the fields of integrity and anti-corruption were carried out for 8,450 people, representing various target groups, namely: public officials, pupils and students and citizens. In 2021, due to the establishment / extension of the state of emergency in health, it was necessary to apply alternative methods of conducting training. Thus, they were instructed:

- public agents - 7,419 people in 226 trainings;
- pupils and students - 678 pupils and students in 15 trainings (+2 trainings in common with the educational directions);
- private sector - 176 people in 2 trainings (+5 trainings jointly with LPA);
- other categories - 177 people, within 2 trainings (+5 trainings jointly with LPA / education departments).

During 2021, work continued on the distance learning platform of the National Anticorruption Center. Thus, all the study objects were made by the IT developer, then tested in 3 stages. Each stage included activities to verify, write, and validate the content and graphics of the objects. The "Anticorruption and Integrity" distance learning course has included: 3 modules consisting of 24 study objects and 2 assessment tests.

- module I "Generalities on corruption, anti-corruption and integrity" - 2 objects;
- module II "Measures to ensure institutional integrity" - 14 objects;



- the “Road to Integrity” assessment test - a way to assess the knowledge gained in Module II;
- module III “Integrity control and liability for lack of integrity” - 8 objects;
- the final evaluation test.

The training courses for executive and management civil servants within the central and local public administration were resumed. Curricula for continuing vocational training have been developed and approved.

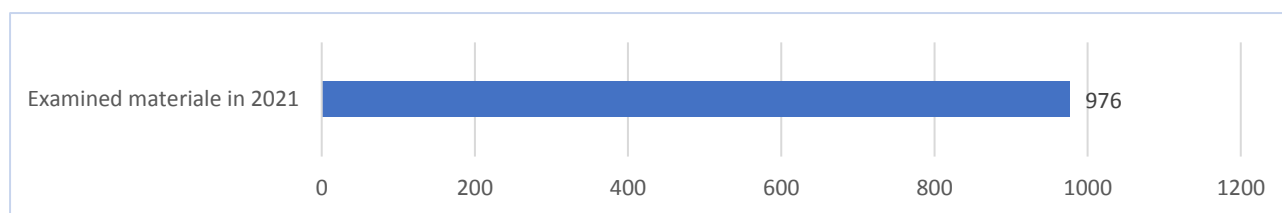
The following courses were conducted within the PAA:

- „Management and leadership” - Module „Integrity and integrity control” (4 hours), intended for managers within MIA institutions - 5 courses, 213 managers;
- “Integration in the civil service” of the “Integrity” mode (4 hours) - 7 courses, 218 executive civil servants;
- "Cultivating integrity in the public service" (12 hours) - 3 courses, 96 civil servants.

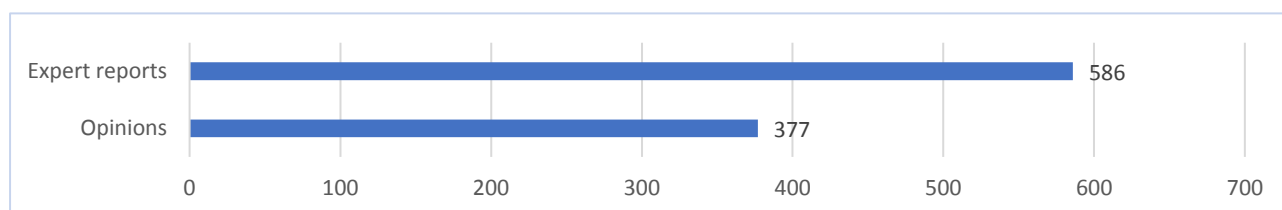
### Anti-corruption expertise of normative acts

A specific and particularly important preventive action, which falls within the competence of the Center, is the analysis of the level of corruptibility of the draft normative acts.

During the reference period, 959 projects from public authorities were received in the specialized subdivision of the Center, and 17 projects remained under examination since 2020.



586 anti-corruption expert reports were prepared and 377 opinions were issued on draft regulations.



As a result of the generalization of the expertise activity of the corruptibility of the draft normative acts “laws”, it was found that out of the total of the expertized projects, as a legislative initiative of the deputies in the Parliament, 199 projects were submitted and 58 projects were submitted by the Government and by other entities (National Bank of Moldova, President of the Republic of Moldova, etc.).



Of the projects subject to anti-corruption expertise, 256 were full projects, 322 were amended and / or supplemented, and 8 were repealed.

Carrying out the in-depth evaluation of the projects subject to expertise, 2,687 factors of corruption were identified. The most common of these were:

- lack / ambiguity of administrative procedures - 458;
- ambiguous wording that admits abusive interpretations - 337;
- gap in law - 327;
- attributions that allow derogations and misinterpretations - 275.

For the reference period, about 50% of the total recommendations submitted by the Center's experts, in the anti-corruption expert reports, were accepted by the project authors. The efficiency of the anti-corruption expertise is measured by reporting the number of corruption risks, formulated in the anti-corruption expert reports, to the number of recommendations accepted and the risks eliminated by the authors from the text of approved / adopted projects, withdrawn, rejected or declared null.

At the same time, the process of monitoring web pages and Government meetings was ensured, in order to identify projects that are subject to anti-corruption expertise, but the authors avoided / hesitated to submit them for anti-corruption expertise. Thus, on the part of the draft laws placed on the website of the Parliament, it is found that in 2021, 430 legislative initiatives were registered, of which 258 projects are subject to anti-corruption expertise. Of the total draft laws subject to anti-corruption expertise (258), one was not submitted to the Examination Center, and 257 draft laws were subject to anti-corruption expertise.

Also, it is worth mentioning the "reLAWed" platform, which was launched on 17.06.2020 and developed within the project "Curbing corruption by building sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova" implemented by UNDP, in partnership with the National Anticorruption Center, with the financial support of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Norway. Through the "reLAWed" platform, any person can report ambiguous or interpretable laws or regulations that can generate acts of corruption, which are examined by the Center, in order to identify the risks of corruption, after which they are proposed for amendment.

During 2021, 61 alerts were received, submitted through the "reLAWed" platform, 56 of which were examined.

### **Institutional integrity assessment**

Another pro-active tool for preventing the manifestation of corruption in the activity of a public entity is the institutional integrity assessment, by identifying the risks of corruption and analyzing the factors that generate them, as well as offering recommendations for their removal.

The targeted activity is carried out by the Center, under the conditions of Law no. 325 of 23.12.2013 on the institutional integrity assessment and the Methodology for identifying the risks of corruption in public entities, identifying the public agents exposed to these risks and analyzing the risk factors that generate them, approved by the Order of the NAC Director no. 50 from 20.03.2018.



Thus, during the reporting period, the evaluation process was completed at 6 public entities, including: the Environment Agency, the Agency for Technical Surveillance, the College of Ecology, the Department of Registration of Transport Means and Driver's Qualification within the Public Services Agency and Center for Centralized Public Procurement in Health and the National Agency for Food Safety. The full version of the reports on the results of the assessment and recommendations for removing the identified corruption risks was submitted to these entities / profile ministries, as well as posted on [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md). Among the mentioned entities, the optional stage of testing professional integrity was carried out at the Agency for Technical Supervision and the National Agency for Food Safety.

The head of the evaluated entity is obliged, according to the provisions of art. 19 para. (2) of Law 325/2013, within 30 days to adopt an integrity plan. In this context, 6 entities reported on the approval of the Integrity Plans, which were developed based on the recommendations and with the methodological support provided by the Center's experts.

As of 01.01.2022, the activity of assessing the institutional integrity of 4 public entities is underway (stage III): Material Reserves Agency, General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, General Inspectorate of Border Police and National Agency for Health Publish. Also, during the reporting period, 2 analytical notes were elaborated on the corruption risks identified in the activity of two public entities (I evaluation stage) - the context of the motivated Decision to initiate the professional integrity testing regarding the employees of these entities.

At the same time, during the reporting period, 12 monitoring reports were prepared on the implementation of the Integrity Plan within: the Migration and Asylum Office, Moldsilva Agency, Environmental Protection Inspectorate, Public Property Agency, National Agency of Road Transport, Technical Surveillance Agency, Environment Agency and the College of Ecology, the conclusions being posted on the NAC website. As of 01.01.2022, the integrity plans of 5 entities are under monitoring: the Environment Agency, the Agency for Technical Supervision, the Center for Centralized Public Procurement in Health, the National Agency for Food Safety and the Department of Registration of Transport Means and Driver's Qualification within the Public Services Agency.

In accordance with Art. 24 para. (2) of Law 325/2013, in March this year, the Public Report on Institutional Integrity Assessment Activities was prepared, carried out during 2020 and submitted for information to the National Security, Defense and Public Order Commission and to the Legal Commission, Appointments and Immunities of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.



## 7. STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS OF CORRUPTION

In the fight against corruption, the Center carries out an extensive activity of analyzing the phenomenon of corruption, both in general and as concrete acts of corruption in particular. The genesis factors, potential threats and vulnerabilities, the level and trends of corruption in the socio-economic fields of the Republic of Moldova and in the activity of public authorities, public and private law institutions and organizations are studied.

During the reference period, 15 reports of strategic analysis, 3 analytical notes of strategic level and 355 reports of operational analysis on the phenomenon of corruption in the investigated cases and in the socio-economic fields of the Republic of Moldova were carried out.

At the same time, the analysis of the information was continued within the strategic analyzes in the procedure (with permanent execution term), being elaborated 23 case reports and 10 sectoral analytical notes, with submission to the subdivisions of the Center and other authorities, according to the competence.

In total, as a result of the strategic analyzes developed and their related actions, 48 complaints (including strategic analysis reports, analytical notes, case reports) were submitted to the public authorities and subdivisions of the Center, in order to intervene regarding established corruption threats / vulnerabilities.

Strategic analyzes performed (see Annex 4):

- on some corruption vulnerabilities in the promotion of the state policy on the circulation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors for the period 2018-2020;
- on the threats of corruption in the acquisition and supply of electricity in the context of the liberalization of the energy market in the Republic of Moldova;
- on the sentences adopted by the courts in 2020 on criminal cases for acts of corruption and those related to corruption;
- on the profile of the offender on the cases of passive corruption, active corruption and influence peddling from the analysis of the sentences on the corruption files for 2020;
- on the practice of the bodies involved in the process of combating the illicit circulation of narcotic substances;
- on the assessment of vulnerabilities and trends in the process of implementation and realization of the Chisinau Penitentiary Construction Project;
- regarding the threats and tendencies of corruption in the process of finding and documenting the violations of unauthorized deviation from the projects of organization or use of the lands, their illegal occupation (art. 116 of the Contravention Code);
- on the criminal and contraventional judicial practice of imposing fines on acts of corruption, acts related to corruption;
- on the vulnerabilities of corruption found in the process of price formation for medicines imported into the Republic of Moldova;
- regarding the court decisions adopted, between 2018 and September 2021, on the contravention cases found and examined by the National Anticorruption Center;





- on the threats of corruption in the activity of the National Council of Historical Monuments;
- on the vulnerabilities of corruption admitted in the process of managing the National Fund for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Environment;
- on the perception of corruption in the society of the Republic of Moldova, in terms of the impact of the mass media;
- on corruption trends in the process of authorization, construction and registration of real estate in Chisinau, Balti and Cahul;
- on the threats and tendencies of corruption in the public procurement process.

Strategic level analytical notes:

- regarding the judicial practice regarding the acts of finding and the contravention processes found and examined by the National Integrity Authority;
- regarding the publication on the National Portal of the Courts of the judgments pronounced on the criminal and contravention cases of corruption;
- on the risks of corruption in the administration of vaccines against COVID-19.

The operational analyzes focused on the properties of public persons, in relation to their income (60% of the operational analyzes), the relationships between extras (30%) and the activity of economic agents, including winners of public tenders (10% of the analyzes). The subjects subjected to the operational analysis were 330 persons with a position of public dignity / civil servants / public agents, as well as 3,402 natural / legal persons.

The products of the operational analysis were sent for examination, according to the competence, to the criminal investigation officers and the investigation officers within the NAC, as well as to the anti-corruption prosecutors. Thus, depending on the applicant, 85% of the operational analyzes were sent to the specialized subdivisions of the NAC and 15% - to the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office.

Operational analysis	Share	Results
<b>Analyses regarding the properties of public persons in co-relation with the incomes</b>	60%	The individuals subjected to the operational analysis regarding the property of public persons in relation to the income were 149 persons with a position of public dignity / civil servants / public agents, as well as 1,290 natural / legal persons. The analyses have established: - 63 cases of possession of unjustified property by the subjects, whose value is approximately 118.1 million lei; - 39 cases in which the subjects possibly own 555 real estate registered on third parties (relatives), amounting to about 100 million lei;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 27 cases in which the non-declaration of 1667 real estate was established, with a total value of 32 million lei;</li><li>- 20 cases of non-declaration of 41 transport units, with a total value of 10.2 million lei;</li><li>- 20 cases of non-declaration of 51 sources of income, in the amount of 4.4 million lei;</li><li>- 14 cases regarding suspicious loans declared by the subject, in a total amount of 15 million lei;</li><li>- 14 cases in which 12 shares were not declared, held by extras in some companies.</li><li>- 7 possible cases of conflict of interest / abuse, in which the estimated benefit was 5.3 million lei.</li></ul>
<p><b>Analysis of kinship and business relations or telephone connections between extras</b></p>	<p>30%</p> <p>The individuals subjected to the operational analysis regarding the kinship and business relations or telephone connections between the extras were 166 persons with a position of public dignity / civil servants / public agents, as well as 1440 natural / legal persons. The analyses have established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 24 cases in which approximately 8.77 million telephone connections were analyzed, as a result of which 13,009 common connections between extras were established.</li><li>- 3206 relations (kinship, service, business) between the targeted subjects.</li></ul>
<p><b>Analyses regarding the economic-financial activity of legal entities, including beneficiaries of public funds and assets</b></p>	<p>10%</p> <p>The economic-financial activity of 485 legal entities and their relations with public persons have been analyzed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- in 27 cases, 749 relationships were established between extras.</li><li>- 2 analyzed cases regarding suspicious loans in the total amount of 885 million lei, with the establishment of the destination of the financial means used.</li><li>- 4 possible cases of conflict of interest, in which the benefit obtained may amount to 41 million lei.</li></ul>



- 2 cases of possession by the subjects of some unjustified properties, whose value constitutes approximately 451 thousand lei;
- 7 cases regarding suspicious loans declared by the subject, in a total amount of 1.58 billion lei.



## 8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICIES

The responsibility for consolidating the national climate of integrity, systematizing and streamlining the efforts of public entities in the field of preventing and combating corruption are coordinated within the main public policy instrument - the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy for 2017-2020 (NIAS, Strategy).

Ensuring the monitoring and evaluation of the strategy implementation process is carried out by the National Anticorruption Center, which also provides the secretarial function of the Strategy Monitoring Groups.

During the reporting period, the Monitoring and Evaluation Report of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy for 2017-2020 was prepared, which includes a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the progress of the due and permanent actions for implementation, as well as identifies the progress and challenges faced by implementing entities.

The report also includes an assessment, including a quantitative assessment of the implementation of actions based on progress indicators, expected results and performance indicators, a description of the risks to the implementation of the actions, and a description of the impact of the implementation of the NIAS.

At the same time, the Report reflects the evolution of the Strategy's Grade of Impact Indicators, according to alternative data sources collected from surveys conducted by non-governmental organizations or other national and international organizations.

The report was published on the official website of the National Anticorruption Center, [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md), in the section National Anticorruption Strategy / Strategy Implementation / Evaluation Reports.

At the same time, during the reporting period, with the support of the project “Curbing corruption by building sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova”, the process of assessing the impact of the Sectoral Anti-Corruption Plan in the field of environmental protection for the years 2018-2020 has been initiated by the Public Association Independent Analytical Center EXPERT-GRUP. Thus, during the period, 3 meetings were held with the contracted experts, as well as the approval of the projects of the Methodology for the evaluation of the above-mentioned plan and of the Questionnaires, as part of the present methodology.

Also, during the reporting period, the evaluation exercise of anti-corruption initiatives was carried out, which included the qualification of the level of implementation by the ministries, in 2020, of the anti-corruption actions provided by Pillar II of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy.

The evaluation of anti-corruption initiatives has encouraged compliance with measures aimed at strengthening the climate of institutional integrity, as well as the creation of specific monitoring and control systems in areas vulnerable to corruption. The evaluation report of the ordinary anti-corruption initiatives of the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova: implementation of 10 policies in 2020, was presented on 28.09.2021, in a public meeting with the participation of representatives of all subjects - parties of this exercise. Also, in order to ensure the access of the general public to the data presented in the Report, it was placed on



the website of the Center, [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md), in the section National Anticorruption Strategy / Implementation of the Strategy / Evaluation Reports /.

During the reporting period, the third survey on the evolution of the impact indicators of the Strategy started. Sociological research measures the perceptions and experiences of the population, private sector representatives and public officials on corruption, and is also balanced from a gender perspective. At the same time, the findings of the sociological document, which includes a comprehensive assessment of the efficiency and impact of the implementation of the Strategy, are reflected in the Monitoring and Evaluation Reports on the implementation of the Strategy.

Subsequently, in order to ensure the continuity of the implementation of the policy document, the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy, in accordance with the Decision of the Parliamentary Commission on National Security, Defense and Public Order no. 275 of 25.11.2020, the deadline for the implementation of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy for the years 2017-2020 (Parliament Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017, in force since 30.06.2017), is to be extended for 2 years, according to the provisions of Chapter. V "Reporting and Monitoring Procedures" of the Strategy.

Thus, requests were made to the actors involved in the implementation process, to submit proposals for supplementation with additional actions to ensure the achievement of the objectives set out in the policy document, based on the institutional competencies and shortcomings in the implementation of the Action Plans for Pillars I-VII of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy. Following the reception of the proposals that formed the basis of the draft Action Plan of NIAS for 2021-2022 and the approval of the experts involved in this exercise, the draft Parliament Decision on amending Parliament Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017, for the approval of the NIAS for 2017–2020, which was posted on the NAC website, in order to ensure the public consultation process of the project.

At the same time, on 03.02.2021, an online public consultation session of the project was organized, with the participation of representatives of non-profit organizations and development partners. Thus, after ensuring the process of finalizing the draft Parliamentary Decision on amending the Parliamentary Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017, for the approval of the NIAS for 2017–2020, based on the approvals received, it was sent to the Parliament for approval.

In the alternative, on 19.05.2021, during the meeting of the National Security, Defense and Public Order Committee of the Parliament, it was submitted for examination for the report - Draft Parliament Decision on the amendment of the Parliament Decision no.56 of 30.03.2017 for the approval of the NIAS for 2017 –2020, no. 147 of 12.05.2021, submitted as a legislative initiative by the deputy, Mr. Serghei Sîrbu. Therefore, after being drafted in accordance with the established technical requirements, the above-mentioned draft was to be presented in the plenary of the Parliament for adoption, but due to the dissolution of the Parliament of the Xth Legislature, it was not examined.

In this regard, in order to strengthen the efforts of public entities in the field of preventing and combating corruption, by implementing the policy document at national level – the NIAS, as well as avoiding a lack of coverage of the policy document during



## ACTIVITY REPORT 2021

the period of conceptualization, elaboration and adoption of a new strategic document in the field of anti-corruption, the draft Parliament Decision on the amendment of the Parliament Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017, for the approval of the NIAS for 2017–2020, was sent repeatedly for its submission for approval in the plenary of the Parliament. As a result, on 15.12.2021 and 23.12.2021, during the meetings of the National Security, Defense and Public Order Committee of the Parliament, the provisions of the above-mentioned Decision were discussed, following its submission for approval in the plenary of the Parliament, as a legislative initiative. Thus, on 24.12.2021, the Parliament approved the Parliament Decision on amending the Parliament Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017, for the approval of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy for 2017–2020.



## 9. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The effective approach to the phenomenon of corruption requires a continuous development of existing instruments, as well as the development of the initiative in taking over the good international practices. To this end, one of the objectives of the institution is to develop cooperative relations with similar institutions / organizations abroad, diplomatic and consular missions accredited in the Republic of Moldova, with foreign, regional and international organizations / institutions, EU Member States and other donors (external development partners).

In order to ensure the effective application of the mechanisms for preventing and combating corruption, new techniques and tools in the field, in 2021, the Center participated in establishing and implementing actions in the context of external assistance projects, which contribute to strengthening the institutional capacities of law enforcement agencies and other entities involved in the fight against corruption in the Republic of Moldova in order to sustainably implement the priorities set at the national level.

During the reporting period, the Center was involved in the implementation of several external assistance projects, thanks to which it was possible to strengthen the institution's capacity to achieve the set objectives.

Thus, we mention:

**The financing agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the European Commission on “Strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova”**, Annex no. 3 to the Annual Action Program for 2018 of the European Union for the Republic of Moldova, to be funded under the European Neighborhood Instrument. Government Decision no. 351/2019 for the initiation of negotiations and approval of the signing of the Financing Agreement, signed by the Republic of Moldova in Brussels, on 24.07.2019.

The overall objective of the project is to help prevent and combat corruption.  
Specific objectives are:

- developing zero tolerance for corruption among the citizens of the Republic of Moldova;
- strengthening anti-corruption mechanisms, including in particular criminal investigation and prosecution mechanisms, asset recovery functions, wealth declaration, conflicts of interest and the prevention of corruption.

The financing agreement sets out 5 expected results, as follows:

- a greater degree of citizen participation (involvement), especially at the local level, in the field of preventing and combating corruption, as well as a higher degree of public awareness of the harms of corruption and the methods of combating it;
- enhanced institutional and operational capacity of specialized investigative institutions and prosecutors' offices to prevent and fight corruption and money laundering effectively and effectively;



- the national system for the recovery of criminal assets is operational and progress is being made in identifying, freezing, managing and confiscating illicit / unjustified assets;
- the effective system of declaring wealth and personal interests is fully implemented;
- strengthening measures for more effective prevention of corruption risks (identified and addressed in 3 high risk sectors), based on the results of the Sectoral Action Plans (NISAs).

The financing agreement is to be implemented by: the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) from April 2020 to March 2024 (48 months).

The beneficiaries of the project are: the management and employees of the specialized anti-corruption bodies of the Republic of Moldova, citizens of the selected administrative-territorial units, including local councils, media and individual journalists.

Stakeholders in addition to the Center are: National Integrity Authority, General Prosecutor's Office, Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases, Money Laundering Prevention and Combating Service, Ministry of Justice, town halls and local councils, civil society organizations, agencies and regional development councils.

During the reporting period took place:

- handing out diplomas to participants in continuing education courses organized by ASEM;
- information seminar - “Fighting corruption in the city of Hamburg. Recovery of criminal assets”;
- information seminar - “Fighting corruption in the city of Hamburg. The phenomenon of corruption and its approach in German criminal law”;
- in-service training courses organized by ASEM: “MS Excel”, “MS Access”, “Network Management”, “MySQL”;
- meeting with the Project Manager “Strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova” \_implementation of SNIA;
- the request for funding for the participation of CNA collaborators in a Training and Exhibition Conference, which will take place in Prague, Czech Republic, on June 1-03, 2021, organized by ISS World Europe;
- meeting (online - ZOOM) with Mr. Birger NERRE (GIZ), Team Leader / Project Manager (Project “Strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova”).

**The project “Fight against corruption by consolidating sustainable integrity in the Republic of Moldova”**, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway and implemented by UNDP Moldova.

The main beneficiary and implementation partner was the National Anticorruption Center, in the period 2019 - 2021, the project being completed in December.

Expected results are:

- ensuring the efficient and participatory monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy (SNIA);
- enhanced capacity of the anti-corruption authority to implement and improve integrity instruments;





- establishing strong institutional integrity mechanisms at sectoral and local level;
- private sector integrity standards have been developed and endorsed by key stakeholders;
- strengthening civic engagement for effective and objective monitoring of the integrity system.

During the implementation of the project the following activities have been conducted:

- the studies: “Impact of anti-corruption expertise in the period 2019-2020”, “Impact of corruption on the realization of human rights in the Republic of Moldova”, “Deterrent sanctions for acts of corruption. Specialized / complete anti-corruption courts. International practices and proposals for Moldova ”;
- the 7 PRO-INTEGRITY Quizzes for young people, members of the USM Faculty of Law Students Association, high school students from Ungheni, Nisporeni, Criuleni, Leova, Cahul districts, IPLT O.GHIBU, students from the Faculty of Law within USM. Logistics support, prizes and gifts to Quiz participants;
- 4 editions of QUEST PRO-INTEGRITY. Logistical support, prizes and gifts were provided for the young participants from the Ungheni and Nisporeni District Youth Center;
- Graphic execution of study objects by ASCENDIA experts. Currently, the distance learning platform is in the process of maintenance, being tested between 29.09 - 12.10.2021, by the National Probation Inspectorate and by the National Social Insurance House, between 06 - 20.10.2021;
- making awareness-raising, information and anti-corruption products;
- information and awareness-raising activities carried out jointly with public entities and other partners;
- the financial support of the Integrity Award, offered within the National Contest “Trademark of the Year 2020”, in the nomination category “Implementation of integrity standards in the private sector”;
- organization of the workshop from 28-29.09.2021, during which the Evaluation Report of the Anticorruption Initiatives for 2020 and the Training Session “Corruption Risk Management” were presented;
- ensuring the maintenance of the “E-Integrity” software (at the final testing stage);
- assessment of the impact of the sectoral anti-corruption action plans in the fiscal field for the years 2018-2020, as well as of the sectoral anti-aorruption plan in the field of environmental protection for the years 2018-2020.

**EU / CoE regional project "Strengthening measures to prevent and combat economic crime"**, implemented by: Council of Europe under the Partnership for Good Governance 2019-2021.



Beneficiaries of the project are the Eastern Partnership countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine. It was implemented between January 2019 and December 2021.

The overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of the Eastern Partnership countries to fight and prevent economic crime. The project focused on areas where common challenges are facing Eastern Partnership countries in order to improve understanding and adopt new tools and mechanisms for effectively combating corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing.

Expected results:

- effective measures to prevent corruption;
- strengthened institutional and legal capacities to fight corruption;
- effective measures to prevent and detect money laundering and terrorist financing;
- (cross-border) cooperation and the strengthened regulatory framework for the seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of crime.

### **Break the silence: Improving the policies and culture of whistleblowers in the Western Balkans and the Republic of Moldova**

Donor - European Union. Implemented by the Regional Anticorruption Initiative (RAI), April 1, 2020 - 2023. Beneficiaries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia and Serbia.

The overall aim of the project is to provide assistance to RAI partners in the governmental and non-governmental sectors, namely by:

- improving the channels for disclosing illegal practices and the mechanisms for protecting whistleblowers by strengthening the regulatory and institutional framework;
- strengthening the capacity of civil society to support integrity warnings through public policy, public education, legal aid and other support for whistleblowers;
- raising society's awareness, especially among young people, of the importance of integrity warning in the fight against corruption and educating society about the mechanisms for protecting whistleblowers.

During the reporting period:

- the second annual regional training on whistleblower protection and the regional meeting of public institutions - Sarajevo;
- approach addressed to the Ministry of Health - examination of the opportunity to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and cooperation with the RAI Secretariat as well as the appointment of a contact person;
- examining and commenting on the Report on the Assessment of Legislation on the Protection of whistleblowers in the Western Balkans and the Republic of Moldova;
- the “Final Whistle” event;



- online course “Experiences of public institutions and civil society in managing disclosures of illegal practices: solutions to improve mutual cooperation and coordination”;
- online course "Creating effective protection of whistleblowers for the benefit of citizens, in accordance with the EU Whistleblower Directive".

### **The project "Action against corruption in the Republic of Moldova"**

Implementation period - 18 months (starting with 01.06.2020), being completed in December 2021. Donor - USA, International Bureau for Drug Enforcement and Enforcement, US State Department. Implemented by: Council of Europe - Economic Crime and Cooperation Directorate, Crime Action Department, Directorate General for Human Rights and the Rule of Law.

The aim of the project is to increase the capacity of the institutions to implement the GRECO recommendations. The project's actions provided direct support to the authorities to address the shortcomings identified in the fourth round of GRECO evaluation, so as to bring the Moldovan authorities' measures in line with international standards and good practices in preventing and combating corruption. This was achieved through the following results:

- improving the prevention of corruption for judges and prosecutors;
- strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of ANI in the management of declarations of assets and personal interests by judges, prosecutors and members of Parliament.

Partners / beneficiaries: Ministry of Justice, National Integrity Authority, Civil Society Organizations, Superior Council of Prosecutors, Superior Council of Magistracy, National Institute of Justice.

In 2021 took place:

- the final meeting of the Steering Committee + Closing Event;
- presentation of the Report on the mechanisms for verifying the integrity of judges in the process of selection and promotion in the judicial system of the Republic of Moldova;
- the second meeting of the Project Steering Committee.

**The Regional Project “South-Eastern Europe - Together Against Corruption”,** implementation period: 1.11.2020 - 31.10.2023. Donor - Austrian Development Agency (ADA). Implemented by: Regional Anticorruption Initiative (RAI) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Beneficiaries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia and Serbia.

The overall goal is to help strengthen the resilience of Southeast European societies to corruption by strengthening the capacity of governments, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media to prevent and combat corruption.

Expected results are:

- strengthening the capacities of the jurisdictions concerned in assessing the risks of corruption and the mechanisms for conducting anti-corruption expertise of the legislation;



- the regional framework for cooperation on the exchange of data on wealth declaration will be fully operational;
- better informing the general public about corruption prevention and the work of relevant entities;
- civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders will increase and expand their capabilities, knowledge and involvement in the implementation of UNCAC;
- Civil society organizations, SMEs and chambers of commerce have improved their knowledge and cooperation in the areas of collective action and compliance.

During the reporting period, the following was performed:

- completing the online risk identification questionnaire, including the risks of corruption in higher education legislation, in order to strengthen the mechanisms for assessing the risks of corruption (CRA) and anti-corruption expertise;
- regional event regarding the mapping of the sectors most prone to corruption; Bilateral bilateral dialogue mapping the sectors most prone to corruption;
- anti-corruption expertise meeting\_institutional integrity assessment;
- completing the Questionnaire regarding the vulnerable domains;
- participation in the Project launch event.

**The project "Support for Eastern Partnership countries to improve the asset recovery mechanism"**, which is part of the "Fight against organized crime in the Eastern Partnership region" project.

Implementation period: 1.04.2020 - 1.04.2023. Donor: European Union, implemented by: UNICRI. Beneficiaries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

The overall objective of the project is to create an increased capacity in the Eastern Partnership countries to track, freeze, make unavailable, confiscate, recover and manage assets related to organized or related serious criminal activity, in a better alignment with international standards.

**Outcome 1:** Increased ability to conduct financial investigations.

**Achievement 1.1:** Police, prosecutors and other relevant officials (including forensic financial analysts and financial intelligence analysts) have improved their ability to coordinate the initiation and prosecution of financial crimes.

**Key activities:**

- 1.1.1. Up-to-date assessment of the capacity of each of the Eastern Partnership countries to conduct financial crime investigations effectively and to successfully prosecute such offenses;
- 1.1.2. Expert technical advice (mentoring) on specific cases in order to transfer practical knowledge about the best methodologies for investigating financial crimes;
- 1.1.3. Peer-to-peer cross-border missions to promote the advancement and resolution of key cases (as well as to strengthen cross-border coordination with counterparts in financial crime cases);



1.1.4. Training in the investigation of financial crime (including the preparation and training of a guide to forensic financial analysis): how to track down, freeze, make unavailable, confiscate and recover assets related to organized crime (and related criminal activity);

1.1.5. Prepare and train standard operating procedures for the successful initiation and prosecution of financial crime cases.

**Outcome 2:** Eastern Partnership recovery practitioners will have the enhanced capacity to pursue, freeze, seize, confiscate, recover and manage assets related to organized crime or other serious crime.

**Achievement 2.1:** Several stakeholders have improved inter-agency and cross-border coordination to facilitate the pursuit, freezing, making unavailable, confiscating, recovering and managing assets related to organized crime and other serious crime.

**Key activities:**

2.1.1. Mapping (regional needs assessment) of interinstitutional and cross-border asset recovery cooperation;

2.1.2. Study assignments, including annual general meetings, asset recovery agencies and asset management agencies (within and outside the region);

2.1.3. Workshops on strengthening interinstitutional cooperation, including consensus building for the structures of the Non-judgmental Asset Recovery / Asset Management and Asset Management Agencies;

2.1.4. Workshops to strengthen regional cooperation;

2.1.5. Development, printing and distribution of relevant visibility / awareness materials on asset recovery and management.

**Achievement 2.2:** Improved ability to track, freeze, make unavailable, recover and manage assets related to organized crime.

**Key activities:**

2.2.1. Mapping (regional needs assessment) of the capacity to prosecute, freeze, make unavailable, confiscate, recover and manage assets related to organized crime (and related criminal activity);

2.2.2. Technical advice on the legal and operational frameworks to be implemented (criminal and non-criminal structures, structures of Asset Recovery Agencies and Asset Management Agencies) to enable: (a) Asset recovery agencies or entities similar national networks to access, under one roof, more cross-reference databases and to more quickly identify properties and other assets that are in the name of third parties but for which a suspect may be the beneficial owner; (b) Asset Management Agencies or similar national entities to optimize asset management; and (c) the political and technical takeover of non-conviction-based confiscation mechanisms;

2.2.3. Technical and legal advice (mentoring), where appropriate, on pending cases, including recommended wording for judicial decisions, formulation or modification of requests for mutual legal assistance (to ensure compatibility with the requirements of foreign jurisdictions) and coordinated mapping of assets (analysis link);

2.2.4. Peer-to-peer missions to address and resolve cases in advance.



## 10. INTERACTION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

In 2021, communication with the public took place through the available tools, focusing primarily on increasing the level of information of the population and attracting its support in the fight against corruption, the main emphasis being on the fact that "The Center is an institution that comes to support the citizen, defending his rights and legal interests".

The institution is committed to providing quality information to the public, to taking all reasonable steps to ensure the objectivity, fairness and impartiality of the dissemination of information of public interest. Specifically, the Center used the opportunities to promote the image by disseminating press releases on the institution's website, by distributing them on social networks, mainly on the institution's Facebook page, by ensuring participation in public management events, conferences press, television shows, radio, information campaigns, round tables, etc.

The column "Weekly synthesis" continued - information that presents the activity of the most important subdivisions of the institution, for a week, which appeared for the first time in 2018 and continues to be popular.

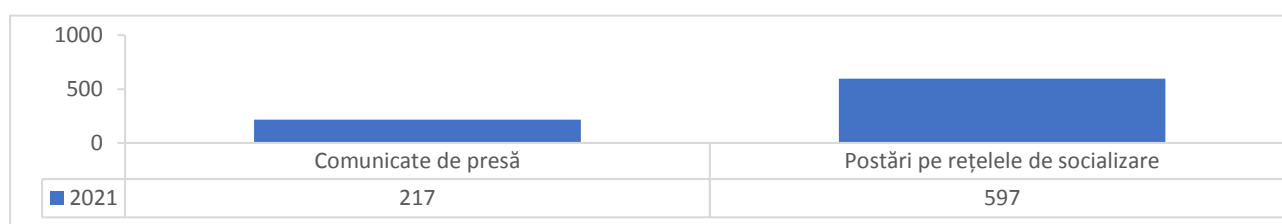
Thus, on the web page of the institution - [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md), 217 press releases were placed. In addition to NAC's official press releases, 469 posts were made on the Facebook page and 128 posts on the Centre's Instagram page, and their impact was monitored. The total number of views on the [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md) website is around 140,000, on Facebook and Instagram around 2,373,400 views were registered.

The subject with the highest impact was the "Airport Corruption Scheme", and the post about it gained over 924,000 views.

It should be noted that there is an increase in the number of views and, respectively, in the interest of citizens for the Center's interventions in the social fields - the sectors closest to the daily interests of the people.

For a better result, in 2020, the NAC Communication Strategy for 2020-2023 was approved, which comes to streamline the internal and external communication process, by achieving the main elements of the communication process and aims to increase the level of trust to the National Anticorruption Center, by correctly and impartially informing the public and the media about its activity, in order to ensure the consolidation of the integrity climate at national level.

For the implementation of the Action Plan of the Communication Strategy, depending on the scope of the communication elements, the audiences to which it is addressed and the desired effects, the subdivision responsible for public relations uses as official communication tools the official page of the institution [www.cna.md](http://www.cna.md), social networks (Facebook, Instagram).





## 11. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR 2022

Ensuring the continuity of the efficient management of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy in accordance with the provisions of the Parliament Decision on amending the Parliament Decision no. 56 of 30.03.2017 for the approval of the National Integrity and Anticorruption Strategy for the years 2017–2020.

Further implementation of the Strategic Development Program of the National Anticorruption Center for the years 2020-2023, approved by the Decision of the NAC College no. 1 of 31.01.2020, which was developed in order to achieve the priorities of Pillar III of SNIA and contributes to streamlining the activity of the institution.

Promoting the draft legislative acts, which were not approved in 2021, related to the efficiency of the Centre's activity.

Launch additional actions to effectively promote policies to prevent and combat corruption in the priority areas for 2022.

Strengthening the capacities of the Crime Asset Recovery Agency within the NAC, by creating the database operable on the basis of the automated Information System "Register of unavailable criminal assets", adherence to the ISO 55000 standard, in the field of management of unavailable criminal assets, creating access to information resources of many state and private providers of relevant data.

Adjusting the legal and institutional framework to international standards in the field of recovery of criminal assets and international cooperation.

Promoting the image of the Center through all available tools, a special priority being to increase the visibility and transparency of the institution, which will increase the credibility of society towards the institution and last but not least by implementing the NAC Communication Strategy for 2020-2023.

Preventing and combating corruption in the following fields:

- centralized public procurement in health, primarily those carried out in the context of the pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus;
- execution of road repair programs in the Republic of Moldova;
- combating systemic corruption;
- the process of managing external funds.



### **Annex 1: Examples of investigated corruption schemes**

- Documentation of passive corruption committed by employees of the Border Police Sector "Chisinau International Airport" of the General Inspectorate of Border Police of the Ministry of Interior, who initiated a scheme under which, under the pretext of a suspicion of possession and presentation of the PCR test "Covid- 19 "With signs of falsification, by extortion they claimed, accepted and received from the citizens crossing the border of the Republic of Moldova on the way of " EXIT " money in amounts between 50-100 euros, in order not to register and document the case in accordance with the legislation in force. Thus, 56 criminal cases were initiated on the invoked aspects, which in the near future are to be submitted to the court, and 8 contravention cases filed under art. 315 of the Contravention Code (receipt of illegitimate reward or material benefit) and art. 105 of the Contravention Code (medical theft from the owner's property) will also be handed over according to the competence.
- The scheme by which the officials of the Chisinau Municipal Directorate for Food Safety, within the National Agency for Food Safety, for profit, systematically demanded and received financial means and the so-called "protection fees" from economic agents operating in the municipality Chisinau, in order to avoid the planned sanitary-veterinary controls, the controls regarding the observance of the requirements for the spread of the "COVID-19" infection, as well as for the issuance of the permitting sanitary-veterinary acts of operation. In fact, more than 30 searches were carried out on 14 public figures and 6 economic agents, which resulted in 8 detentions and 6 arrests. As a result of the untaken measures, 58 criminal cases were initiated pursuant to art. 324 and 325 Criminal Code. Currently, they are in the procedure of the criminal investigation body, they are to be submitted to the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office with the proposal to send them to court.
- Falsification and subsequent use of certificates (Covid-19), through which persons acting as intermediaries, together with employees of public health institutions in the country, organized the issuance of dozens of vaccination certificates against COVID-19, without the de facto immunization and with the introduction of distorted data in the register of vaccination certificates, for the amounts between 4 and 6 thousand lei, for a certificate, money that was shared according to the role of each participant in the criminal scheme. Thus, 7 criminal cases were initiated regarding 3 of the targeted persons, they were accused, and the other 2 persons were suspected of corruption. Currently, criminal proceedings are being carried out to establish all the beneficiaries of fictitious vaccination certificates as well as the public persons who issued them. The defendants under the preventive measures have fully admitted their guilt, due to this fact the files are to be separated and sent to the court.
- Not less relevant is the corruption scheme, involving several public officials within the Ghidighici City Hall and other authorities, investigated in 38 criminal cases, connected in a procedure, in which the main figures are suspected of acts of corruption, manifested by the legalization, for a fee, of some constructions in village Ghidighici. According to the accumulated evidence, the chief architect would have been the person who "administrated" the network made of officials from other authorities and, in exchange for





- illicit remuneration, ensured the completion of permissive documents for the construction or final reception of works, for the urgent release of town planning certificates, building permits, necessary approvals, as well as for the distribution of land or changing their status. Currently, they are in the procedure of the criminal investigation body, they are to be submitted to the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office with the proposal to send them to court.
- The corruption scheme was counteracted by which the employees of the Public Services Agency, depending on the duties exercised, according to prior agreements with real estate agents and an intermediary, against some remunerations, during September-October 2021, issued excerpts with evaluations from the Register real estate, organized the completion of requests for cadastral services and abusively issued documents issued / registered, without the presence of beneficiaries. In fact, more than 69 searches were carried out on 38 people - employees of PSA (cadastral registrars) and real estate agents, which resulted in 14 detentions and 1 arrest. As a result of the measures taken, 11 criminal cases were initiated, based on art. 324 and 325 Criminal Code. Currently, they are in the procedure of the criminal investigation body, they are to be submitted to the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office with the proposal to send them to court;
  - fraudulent issuance of driving licenses, which was identified by the Center and anti-corruption prosecutors. About 100 people would have obtained driving licenses, without being assessed in accordance with existing regulations, and for this they would have paid amounts between 500 and 2000 euros to employees of the Public Services Agency and to some intermediaries. According to the accumulated materials, the group consisted of several people who had the role of organizing the support of the theoretical and practical tests, by pre-scheduling, over-the-top and evaluating the candidates with the admitted grade. Through third parties, the candidates passed on the money, which was eventually divided among the members of the group. The case has been documented for several months, and evidence has shown that this scheme is protected by Public Service Agency officials who are currently suspected of influencing members of the examination boards. To strengthen the evidence, the Center's officers conducted more than 30 searches of the homes, bodies, offices and cars of the suspects.

**Annex 2. Statistical indices regarding the activity of detecting crimes**

Criminal offence	2021	2020	+/- %
<b>Corruption and corruption-related offenses</b>	<b>602</b>	449	<b>+34%</b>
<b>Other categories</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>-18%</b>

Criminal offence	2021	2020	+/- %
<b>art.324 CC, passive corruption</b>	<b>237</b>	128	<b>+85,2%</b>
<b>art.325 CC, active corruption</b>	<b>108</b>	50	<b>&gt;de 2 ori</b>
<b>art.326 CC, influence peddling</b>	<b>159</b>	182	<b>-12,6%</b>
<b>art.327 CC, abuse of power or abuse of office</b>	<b>40</b>	39	<b>+2,6%</b>
<b>art.328 CC, excess of power or exceeding the service attributions</b>	<b>8</b>	9	<b>-11,1%</b>
<b>art.329 CC, negligence of service</b>	<b>3</b>	4	<b>-25%</b>
<b>art.3302 CC, illicit enrichment</b>	<b>1</b>	3	<b>-66,7%</b>
<b>art.332 CC, false in public documents</b>	<b>34</b>	20	<b>+70%</b>
<b>art.333 CC, taking bribes</b>	<b>4</b>	6	<b>-33,3%</b>
<b>art.334 CC, giving bribes</b>	<b>1</b>	1	<b>-</b>
<b>art.335 CC, abuse of office</b>	<b>7</b>	7	<b>-</b>
<b>art.243 CC, money laundering</b>	<b>15</b>	9	<b>+66,7%</b>
<b>art.191 CC, embezzlement of foreign property</b>	<b>13</b>	15	<b>-13,3%</b>
<b>art.190 CC, scam</b>	<b>42</b>	97	<b>-56,7%</b>
<b>art.239 CC, violation of credit rules, credit policies or rules for granting insurance claims/compensation</b>	<b>-</b>	1	<b>-</b>
<b>art.335-1 CC, false in the accounting documents</b>	<b>-</b>	1	<b>-</b>
<b>art.352-1 CC, false declarations</b>	<b>6</b>	4	<b>+50%</b>
<b>art.361 CC, fabrication, possession, sale or use of official documents, imprints, stamps or false seals</b>	<b>39</b>	23	<b>+69,6%</b>
<b>other types of crimes detected</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>+18,2%</b>



### **Annex 3. Anti-corruption awareness-raising campaigns carried out by the NAC**

- The National Anticorruption Center, together with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Moldova, started organizing the National Contest "Trademark of the Year 2020", in the nomination category "Implementation of integrity standards in the private sector," participating for the second time in this event. The purpose of the Business Integrity Award is to support honest business and strengthen the integrity climate in the private sector, to ensure a competitive, fair business environment based on standards of integrity, transparency and professionalism in interacting with the public sector. The institution provided participation in all stages prior to the contest: preparation of the package of documents for the organization and conduct of the Contest; advisory and methodological support was provided to the economic agents regarding the application conditions for the nomination of the Integrity Award; participated as a member of the jury in the said competition, etc. Following the evaluation, nine private companies in the country became holders of the Integrity Award for implementing business integrity standards and seven companies were awarded honorary diplomas, which were offered at the Moldovan Business Gala event, organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the State Intellectual Property Agency and awarded the integrity awards to the winning companies. The competition was organized with the support of the UNDP project "Curbing Corruption by Building Sustainable Integrity in the Republic of Moldova", implemented by the UNDP Moldova with the financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway;
- A new awareness-raising and information product **Pod\_Cast „Anticorupție și Integritate pe înțelesul tuturor” (Anti-corruption and Integrity Clearly to Everyone)** was realized and mediated on social networks and through the radio station EcoFM. 20 editions were held with the participation of representatives of the Centre's subdivisions, public entities, NGOs, the private sector, as well as foreign experts. They discussed the specific activities in the field of preventing or combating corruption, difficulties and opportunities, as well as the promotion of integrity and anti-corruption standards in all possible ways, in order to reduce the phenomenon of corruption;
- The information campaign entitled **„Integritate: credibilitate în sistemul educațional” (“Integrity: Credibility in the Education System”)**, for employees in the field of education. The anti-corruption training activities were carried out for the teachers from primary, secondary, high school, early education and the employees of the Education Directorate from the localities: Hâncești, Ungheni, Ialoveni, Nisporeni, Soldanesti and Straseni. Also, information activities were carried out with the leaders of the local student councils and the presidents of the parents' committees from the localities mentioned above. The information activities addressed the measures to ensure institutional integrity, responsibility for the lack of integrity, the mechanisms for notifying the Center, managerial responsibilities for ensuring integrity, including the collaboration of educational institutions with parents' public organizations. A total of 19 meetings were held with 1064 participants;
- There have been created and maintained anti-corruption awareness sections on the Facebook page of anti-corruption volunteers under the title **„ȘTI AȚI CĂ...” (“DID YOU**



- KNOW THAT...” (about 36 posts), Giffs (2 Giffs), awareness-raising drawings (2 drawings), comics- anti-corruption awareness (about 4 comics), posts with volunteers of the week (about 10 posts). Also, other types of pro-integrity awareness-raising images were developed and covered on Facebook (7 posts), a new anti-corruption awareness-raising section was initiated and maintained with the caption **”CITATE COMENTATE”** (“COMMENTED QUOTES”) (about 10 posts) and **„File din istorie”** (“History files”) ( 1 post); 4 posts **”Despre cinste prin versuri”** (“About honor through lyrics”);
- The activities continued to carry out the “Pro-Integrity” Quiz. Thus, the questions for the Quiz were elaborated and systematized, the license for carrying out the Quizzes was purchased, the Quiz was tested and the schedule of this activity was drawn up. Also, applications were developed for the first edition of the Quiz with the theme "Corruption and integrity in the pages of history". The first edition of the online "Pro-Integrity" QUIZ has been launched. At the request of the Law Students Association of the MSU, a Quiz was organized for its members. Subsequently, a workshop was held for the development of an application of the "Pro-Integrity" Quiz and it was also organized for young people from the District Youth Center and educational institutions in Nisporeni district and in the city of Ungheni, with the participation of 50 students from IP LT "Mihai Eminescu". In October, 4 applications for Pro-Integrity Quiz were developed and updated for the students of the Faculty of Law of the Moldova State University and IPLT Onisifor Ghibu. In November, the Pro-Integrity Quiz was held within the Scientific Circle of the MSU Department of Criminal Law, with the theme "International Legislative Framework on Preventing and Combating Corruption," and one for high schools in Ialoveni district, also, during the Anticorruption Week were conducted 3 Quizzes: for students from ULIM, ELSA ULIM and AIESEC;
  - The information and awareness-raising campaign **”Denunță! Atitudinea Ta contează!”** (“Blow the Whistle! Your attitude matters!”) which took place within the police inspectorates and their locations. The campaign took place in the localities: Straseni, Hincesti, Orhei, in Chisinau municipality (IP Botanica, IP Buiucani, IP Center, IP Ciocana, IP Rascani, Police Department in Chisinau municipality), IP Ialoveni, IP Criuleni, IP Anenii Noi, IP Nisporeni;
  - The “4Integrity” game was launched, developed by the Center with the financial support of the UNDP-Moldova assistance project and can be accessed on [www.4integrity.md](http://www.4integrity.md) . The game is an interactive and creative educational tool to raise awareness of the negative phenomenon of corruption and its impact on the development of society. The game has been covered on social media, including by anti-corruption volunteers;
  - In June, the NAC - NAAT (ANTA) campaign started with the launch of an official working meeting, attended by the management of the authorities and the representatives of the transport companies. The campaign also includes public awareness activities that interact with them. During the campaign, joint awareness-raising activities took place at the NAAT headquarters, “Gara Nord”, a mobile weighing point, as well as training for the NAAT public agents and representatives of car carriers' associations;
  - The NAC- General Inspectorate of Carabinieri (GIC) campaign was officially launched at the GIC and provided training to the institution's territorial subdivisions. During the



- campaign, 9 trainings were offered for 470 public agents. Public information was also provided with the use of the Mobile Information Center;
- In July, the Center, in partnership with the General Police Inspectorate (GPI), organized and held „**Ștafeta integrității**” (Integrity Relay event). In the context of this activity, the NAC Anti-Corruption Volunteers conducted an integrity lesson for the GPI Integrity Messengers about cultivating and perpetuating values such as honesty, respect, verticality and others associated with them, among children and young people, right from the beginning of their educational training or professional. The event was also attended by the rapper Kapushon with the song ”Dacă-i dat, dacă-i luat” (“If given, if taken”), being one of the promoters of integrity in society and an active partner in the activities of the Center. At the end of the event, the Anti-Corruption Volunteers of the Center and the GPI Integrity Messengers were awarded, the latter also receiving diplomas for participation and active involvement;
  - In September, other information campaigns started: the NAC - Chisinau City Hall, during which 4 trainings were provided for 95 civil servants. The event was provided with the involvement of the Mobile Information Center; the NAC - Ministry of Defense, provided 7 trainings for 505 public agents and students of the Military Academy "Alexandru cel Bun" etc .;
  - A new project „**Pledoarie pentru integritate**” (“Advocacy for Integrity”) for volunteers was launched following the conclusion of the tripartite agreement between the Center, A.O. Top Toastmasters Chisinau and A.O. MEET Institute. The activity aimed to develop their public communication skills on issues of integrity and anti-corruption. Thus, 3 thematic trainings were carried out: “Verbal communication. The structure of public discourse”; "Nonverbal Communication" and "Techniques for Preparing a Public Advocacy". The project "Advocacy for Integrity" was concluded with a competition of pleas, carried out on the same theme. Each of the participants in the project gave a public speech on "Anticorruption and Integrity", being appreciated by 5 professional jurors. The three winners received prizes and diplomas, and the others - participation mentions.



#### **Annex 4. Relevant analytical products**

- **The strategic analysis of some corruption vulnerabilities in promoting the state policy on the circulation of narcotics, psychotropic substances and precursors for the period 2018-2020**, found the organizational inefficiency of the National Anti-Drug Commission, failures in the cooperation and coordination of the bodies involved, lack of a mechanism and strict control and transparency procedures in the implementation of the Strategy, as well as the lack of separate funding and reporting for each period of the plan. As a result of the analysis, the Minister of Internal Affairs, as Chairman of the National Anti-Drug Commission, was notified to intervene in the field of competence in order to strengthen the capacities of the profile institutions, excluding formalism and problematic situations in the execution of activities, under the National Anti-Drug Strategy for 2020-2027. At the same time, the strategic analysis was posted on the Centre's website.
- **The strategic analysis on corruption threats in the acquisition and supply of electricity in the context of the liberalization of the energy market in the Republic of Moldova** was initiated according to the Center's Activity Plan for 2021, and was intended to identify threats, vulnerabilities, risks and corruption trends within the acquisition and supply of electricity in the context of the liberalization of the energy market in the Republic of Moldova. The strategic analysis was presented to the management with the proposal of sending the General Directorate for Combating Corruption, for use in the activity process of the elucidated aspects. In this context, research was recommended in terms of indicators on the acquisition, transportation and distribution of electricity, which develops the risk of increasing the tariff when providing it to household consumers, as well as issues that generate risks of admitting acts of corruption among non-household consumers and public authorities subsequent launch of procurement procedures.
- **The strategic analysis of the sentences adopted by the courts in 2020 on corruption and corruption-connected criminal cases**, carried out on the basis of the decisions of the courts of law, published on the national court portal ([www.instante.justice.md](http://www.instante.justice.md)). Thus, 314 acts of corruption and related to corruption were analyzed, and some issues were identified in the examination of cases and the adoption of sentences. In order to reduce the criminal punishment, the punishments were applied below the minimum established by the criminal legislation as a result of the recognition of guilt by the defendants. At the same time, there has been a significant decrease in the application of life sentences to defendants and an increase in the application of suspended prison sentences.
- **The strategic analysis on the profile of the offender on the cases of passive corruption, active corruption and influence peddling from the analysis of sentences on corruption cases for 2020**, was conducted based on court decisions published on the national court portal. Out of the 141 sentences analyzed, 259 corruption and corruption-related acts were identified with the involvement of 162 defendants. The share of defendants, depending on gender, is 92% men and 8% women, and the sensitivity to committing crimes is outlined at the age of 35-45 years. Most corrupt and influential traffickers admit guilt and request that the case be examined in a simplified procedure. Corruption offenses are most often committed in the streets.



- **The strategic analysis on the practice of the bodies involved in the process of combating the illicit circulation of narcotic substances** elucidated the role and intervention of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the practice on criminal cases examined in court, the activity of the Customs Service (Ministry of Finance), National Administration of Penitentiaries (Ministry of Justice), the activity of the institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, as well as the comparative analysis of the official data presented by different entities, and other relevant aspects. In essence, the data presented by the entities involved in the fight against illicit drug trafficking differ significantly from the officially reported data. Moreover, the information from the official sources of the entities does not corroborate each other, generating a compromised assessment of the veracity, while creating a confusing picture of the drug phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova and the efforts of the authorities to combat it.
- **The strategic analysis of the assessment of vulnerabilities and trends in the implementation and realization of the Penitentiary Construction Project in Chisinau**, revealed, as a result, that since the launch, within seven years, the tender for designating the winner for the provision of construction services has not been carried out. The analysis of the available data revealed allegations of auction fraud and the interest of some interested groups in promoting certain companies. Initially, the project was expected to be completed by the end of the first half of 2018, and the value designated for its implementation was 44.5 million euros. At the moment, the value approved in this respect is increased by 12.3 million euros (over 20%), reaching the total amount of 56.8 million euros, the term being extended until 31.12.2022. The total amount of expenditure recorded by the Unit is EUR 1 615 040, more than 56% of which is for the purpose of developing capital investments, approximately 42% was used for staff remuneration and almost 1.5% was recorded in the category of other expenditure.
- **Strategic analysis on threats and trends of corruption in the process of finding and documenting violations of unauthorized deviation from land use or organization projects**, their illegal occupation (art.116 CC) addressed the practice of documenting and combating illegal land use in view of the implementation of the provisions of art.116 of the Contravention Code, being ascertained some aspects and circumstances associated with the potential risks of corruption and those related to corruption. The most relevant issues identified in the strategic analysis concerned the contradictory aspects regarding the competences of public institutions with responsibilities in the field, the risk of drawing up minutes without the application of the demolition measure, the risk of admitting omissions by civil servants in documenting cases, the risk of committing corruption and the worrying tendency for courts to terminate misdemeanor proceedings, the risk of intentional omission by the courts of a demolition measure classified as a judicial error by the courts of appeal, and multiple aspects vulnerable to the risks of corruption in the actions of detectives .
- **The strategic analysis on the criminal and contraventional judicial practice of imposing fines on acts of corruption**, acts related to corruption shows that, for the most part, the courts pronounced, in the period 2018-2020, convictions (79% of cases), however, with the application of lenient punishments. Thus, in 64% of the cases of application of criminal fines, its value was below the minimum limit provided by the criminal law and in



another 26% - the minimum amount was applied. The frequent application of the minimum value is also characteristic of other punishments (deprivation of liberty, deprivation of certain functions and activities) provided in the Criminal Code, as well as those applied under the Contravention Code (in 51% of cases fines were applied in the minimum amount).

- **The strategic analysis on corruption vulnerabilities found in the process of price formation for medicines imported into the Republic of Moldova** was initiated based on the report of the Analytical Directorate and the Center's Action Plan for 2021 (action no. 63 of the analytical activity in anti-corruption), approved by College Board Decision no. 1 of 29.01.2021. Following the analysis, it was found that the market for medicinal products in the Republic of Moldova is dominated by a group of influential companies, which directly control their imports, and in such circumstances an unfair competitive environment could be maintained when setting prices. The current wording of art. 11 para. 7 of Law no. 1456-XII of 25.05.1993 on the pharmaceutical activity, in the circumstances of the lack of an efficient control system, creates vulnerabilities in the segment of fair competition on the pharmaceutical market, offering possibilities to import unauthorized products under the pretext of special cases. With the exclusion from the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices structure of the Pharmaceutical Inspectorate, the function of periodic analysis of prices for drugs on the pharmaceutical market was not assigned to another institution. The absence of an effective control mechanism could favor abuses by pharmaceutical network administrators, encourage the presentation of distorted data in the activity of the entities involved, as well as the admission of an environment conducive to acts of corruption.
- **The strategic analysis regarding the judgments adopted, between 2018 and September 2021, on the contravention cases found and examined by the National Anticorruption Center** was initiated in order to make the 1<sup>st</sup> point of the minutes of the operative working meeting of the director of the Center no.16 from 20.09.2021. In the trial, it was found that out of 125 cases solved, in 42 cases (34%) the person was found guilty of committing the offense, with the application of a fine and deprivation of rights. In another 83 cases (66%), the court decided to terminate the contravention process. The reasons for the termination of the contravention proceedings were the absence of the contravention act (41 cases, or 49%), the expiration of the limitation period (30 cases, or 36%) and the null recognition of the act on the basis of which the contravention case was initiated (12 cases, or 15%). At the same time, the tendency to increase the number of contravention proceedings terminated due to the lack of the contravention act was distinguished, and in the period 2021 they had a share of approximately 50% of the total solved contravention proceedings. At the same time, there is a decrease in the share of infringement proceedings terminated due to the intervention of the limitation period. The analysis of the amount of fines applied, for the contraventions that provide for fines, identified 28 cases of application of the minimum fine (72%), 6 cases with the application of the average value (15%) and 5 cases with the application of the maximum value (13%). In one case, a fine was imposed below the minimum limit provided by the contravention rule. At the same time, the court decided to ban a certain position with the application of minimum values (3-4 months) in 29 cases (71%), average values (5-6 and 9 months) in 7





cases (17%), and the maximum values (10 and 12 months) in 5 cases (12%). Based on the issues clarified, the strategic analysis was sent to the GDCC and the Legal Service with the necessary recommendations.

- **The strategic analysis regarding the threats of corruption in the activity of the National Council of Historical Monuments** found that the change of the composition of the Council, from 13.01.2021, determined the considerable increase of the number of approved projects, the approval rate of requests increasing from 47% to 95%. The new composition of the Council does not ensure the publication of extracts from the minutes of the meetings, and the actions in this respect are limited only to the general information in the table with the decisions adopted. Although the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the National Council of Historic Monuments provides for the legal possibility of remunerating members, none of them recorded salary income in this segment of activity. Only 6 members of the Board did not have the status of founder and / or manager of a legal entity, while 20 had at least one of these qualities, being decision-makers in 9 state-owned enterprises and 18 private companies, some even active in the field of architecture. The mentioned issues, the common links between the members of the Council and the project applicants or beneficiaries (8 identified cases), the non-recording of conflicts of interest in the minutes of the meetings, as well as other identified ones develop the risk of promoting private interests and admitting acts of corruption.
- **The strategic analysis on the vulnerabilities of corruption admitted in the process of managing the National Fund for Agriculture and Rural Development (NFARD)** found aspects of corruption risks and related to corruption that would favor the granting of NFARD grants to the detriment of others. Grants paid to beneficiaries exceed the amount initially requested or even authorized payments. On-the-spot checks are allowed a few days before the inspection schedule approved by order of director of the Agricultural Intervention and Payments Agency (AIPA). The findings of the working group on inspections are not systematized separately for statistics / records, and the lack of transparency in this regard would allow changes or even destruction of the minutes drawn up at the time of field inspections. In the case of AIPA employees responsible for carrying out inspections, the declaration of income in addition to those in the salary, such as income recorded as donations, transfers or purchases, is attested. Some employees have taken part in more checks, and this would reinforce the possibility of admitting inappropriate interventions by agricultural producers, or even admitting acts of corruption. The AIPA employees also own agricultural land, and some of them even register more than 80 plots of such lands.
- **The strategic analysis on the perception of corruption in the society of the Republic of Moldova, in terms of the impact of the mass media** (permanent) monitored 61 sources of information (electronic press) through which were published 262,677 news on various topics, which contributed to the identification, systematization and analysis of 2,817 articles targeting the scourge of corruption. Out of the total news analyzed, 1,816 news items (61%) referred to the details of the documentation (especially of a criminal nature) of the facts of corruption, which demonstrates the interest of the news portals on these cases, which are mostly taken from the press releases. press of the National Anticorruption



Center. The tendency of increasing the volume of information regarding the acts of corruption during the electoral campaigns was highlighted, with the accusations of the electoral contestants appearing towards the deputies. Influence trafficking, passive corruption and abuse of power were a large part of the news items analyzed, which represents a 61.6% of the facts reflected in the selected articles. In order to establish a feedback from the company regarding the activity of the Center, the reactions to 452 posts published in 2021 on the NAC Facebook page were evaluated, of which approximately 1/4 of the number of written comments had a negative impact for institution. Posts that contain information about any merits, decorations (except sports) of the center's employees, collide with criticism from Internet users. The publication of video sequences proving the commission of crimes documented by the NAC, enjoys the greatest interest, having a beneficial impact on the image of the institution. The publication of the awareness-raising measures of the society, with the participation of the young anti-corruption volunteers of the NAC, registers only positive reactions and comments. (4 case reports, which were sent to the GDCC).

- **The strategic analysis of corruption trends in the process of authorization, construction and registration of real estate in Chisinau, Balti and Cahul** (permanent) found that all stages of the construction process are affected by the risk of admitting acts of corruption, from planning (faulty) of constructions by non-compliance with the urban regime and the imposed norms, (compromising) the issuance of permissive acts (town planning certificates and construction permits), inefficient monitoring of the construction and their registration in the real estate register. Consequently, most of the goods built with deviations from the legal provisions, or even built illegally, without strategic planning, which endanger the security of the citizens and contribute to the uneven, uncomfortable and unattractive development of the localities, manage to be legalized, put into operation and registered in the real estate register. In the study's recommendations, it was proposed to notify the local public administrations in order to adjust the General Urban Plans and strictly comply with them, the Ministry of Justice in order to speed up the process of approving the demolition regulation and the Public Services Agency to initiate changes in legislation. with deviations from the legal provisions.

**The strategic analysis on corruption threats and trends in the public procurement process** (on a permanent basis) was developed in order to identify corruption issues and vulnerabilities during the procurement procedures initiated through the MTender system. To the extent of the deficiencies found, several procurement issues emerged in the procurement procedures, including: the lack of transparency criteria at the stage of public procurement planning; problems at the stage of elaboration of the award documentation; failure to ensure purchasing efficiency (luxury cars are purchased); passivity of economic operators; division into lots; unmotivated withdrawal of appeals; concentrating certain types of acquisitions around a small circle of economic agents; the division of procurement in order to apply low value procurement procedures, which does not ensure transparency in this process and promotes the personal interests of the leaders of the contracting authorities; outdated legal framework (especially the regulation on low value public procurement) etc.