

5. At the seminar the role of the IFJ/EFJ in working for improvements in levels of protection of working journalists and their right to report freely and to work ethically and professionally, including in the protection of confidential sources of information was particularly emphasized. Participants expressed their conviction that a good working relationship is in the mutual interest of both OAFCN-members and the IFJ/EFJ and is in the public interest, too.

Conclusions of the Joint Seminar of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)

6. The IFJ/EFJ believes that the balancing of rights, for instance on whether to publish or not to publish, is a matter for the judgement of journalists aware of the cardinal principles of their profession: respect for the truth, the need for independence and impartiality, and an acute awareness of the consequences of a publication.

7. The anti-fraud service and OAFCN-members for their part, need to communicate truthfully and respond as soon as possible to journalists' questions, including those coming from foreign media. In order to guarantee a free flow of information they should be as transparent and as explicit as possible with the information they hold.

8. OAFCN-members and the IFJ/EFJ agreed on the usefulness of seminars and awareness raising activities between journalists, their associations and OAFCN-members in order to ensure up to date information on latest developments, to promote relations are based upon mutual professional respect, and to generally improve the flow of information about anti-fraud and anti-corruption work.

9. OAFCN-members and the IFJ/EFJ further noted that, within its competencies and constitution in co-operation with its national member organisations, the IFJ/EFJ supports the right of all journalists to report freely and to seek out relevant sources of information.

10. Participants took note that the IFJ/EFJ is willing to consider, where all parties are in agreement, to encourage discussions between journalists and their representatives and OAFCN-members or any national law enforcement agency to resolve problems that may arise.

11. OAFCN-members and the IFJ/EFJ called for the continuation of the common dialogue, not only on European but also on national level. They also agreed that meetings like the present one should be repeated at least once a year.



Партньори по проекта са:
Комуникационната мрежа
на Европейската служба
за борба с измамите (OLAF)
Прокуратурата
на Република България
Агенцията
за финансово разузнаване
АФКОС – България
Софийският университет
„Св. Климент Охридски“



Проектът се реализира от
Клуб – журналисти срещу корупцията
с финансовата подкрепа
на Правителството
на Република България

ПРЕВЕНЦИЯ НА ЗЛОУПОТРЕБАТА С ЕВРОФОНДОВЕТЕ ЧРЕЗ МЕДИЕН КОНТРОЛ



MEDIA CONTROL FOR PREVENTION OF FRAUD IN REALIZING THE EU FUNDS IN BULGARIA

**Принципи на сътрудничество между
Европейската служба за борба с
измамите OLAF и**

**Международния/Европейския съюз на
журналистите IFJ/EFJ – заключения от
съвместен семинар, Брюксел –
октомври 2005 г.**

Управляващите Еврофондовете, разследващите органи и журналистите трябва да се стремят към близки и редовни взаимоотношения в областта на информацията, свързана с противодействието на измамите и корупцията. Тази комуникация следва да бъде без предразсъдъци едни към други, при запазване на свободата на словото, както и при защита на социалните и професионалните интереси на журналистите.

**ПРОЗРАЧНОСТ
ОТКРИТОСТ
КОМУНИКАТИВНОСТ**

Откритостта, прозрачността и добрите комуникации между управляващите фондовете, органите за разследване и журналистите могат да помогнат за разкриване и превенция на измами, корупция и друга незаконна дейност чрез провокиране на публичен дебат и повишаване информираността и познанията на гражданското общество.

**ИНФОРМИРАНОСТ и ПОЗНАНИЕ на
ГРАЖДАНСКОТО ОБЩЕСТВО**

Независимата и професионална журналистика със свои запазени източници на информация и медии, свободни от политическа и икономическа цензура, играят основна роля за успешен публичен мониторинг срещу корупцията и измамите, засягащи интересите на Европейската общност във всяка отделна страна и в ЕС като цяло.

**НЕЗАМИСИМА ЖУРНАЛИСТИКА
СВОБОДНИ МЕДИИ
УСПЕШЕН МОНИТОРИНГ**

Решението “за” или “против” дадена публикация принадлежи на журналиста, основано на принципа на респект към истината, нужда от независимост и при ясната професионална оценка за възможните последици от нея, както и за действия в рамките на Закона.

**ПРОФЕСИОНАЛНА ОТГОВОРНОСТ
РЕСПЕКТ КЪМ ИСТИНАТА**

Управляващите Евро-фондовете трябва да отговарят на въпросите, както на българските, така и на чуждите журналисти, колкото е възможно по-бързо и най-обстойно! Въпросите и отговорите следва да бъдат зададени на основата на взаимното уважение в посока на стремеж към пълен и открит достъп до информация.

ВЗАИМНО ДОВЕРИЕ!



**Conclusions of the Joint Seminar of the European
Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the International Feder-
ation of Journalists (IFJ) “Building mutual trust
BETWEEN
anti-fraud services and journalists”
CONCLUSION OF THE
Joint Seminar of the International Federation of Jour-
nalists (IFJ) and the European Anti-Fraud Office
(OLAF) for the OLAF Anti-Fraud Communicators’ Net-
work (OAFCN)
Brussels, 28 October 2005**

The seminar “Building mutual trust between anti-fraud services and journalists”, jointly organised in Brussels by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) for the OLAF Anti-Fraud Communicators’ Network (OAFCN) on 28 October 2005, has led to the following conclusions:

1. OAFCN-MEMBERS and the IFJ and its regional organisation, the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ), agreed that they should promote close and regular cooperation in the field of anti-fraud information and communication, without prejudice to any legal provisions or to the right of journalists to report freely and the defence of the social and professional interests of journalists.
2. During their discussions OAFCN-MEMBERS and the IFJ/EFJ expressed their belief that transparency, openness and good communications can help deter and prevent fraud, corruption and any other illegal activity by raising awareness and promoting public debate.
3. They also underlined the fact that independent and professional journalism and free media not only play a pivotal role in contributing to raising awareness about anti-corruption activities within the European Union, but that they also act as public watchdog.
4. OAFCN-MEMBERS and the IFJ/EFJ noted that in the context of their responsibilities and obligations under European law, national law and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms national law enforcement agencies strive for effective and comfortable relations with all media, both national and foreign. In this context they also pointed out that that OLAF and its partners in the Member States as the services in charge of investigating cases of fraud, corruption and any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the European Community, are key interlocutors for media professionals.