

## In Focus

### Trainings conducted at the Academy of Judges and Public Prosecutors

November marked a significant momentum in terms of delivery of training activities as part of the thorough plan of the Twinning Project, aiming to strengthen the enforcement of intellectual property rights and improve the performance of the appropriate stakeholders.



These trainings represent a milestone in regards to the enhancement of knowledge and skills of judges, public prosecutors, lawyers, other law enforcement authorities and all concerned stakeholders about Intellectual Property Rights. Namely the entire process of adequate handling of these rights is extremely relevant in each stage. So the only way to comprehend and apply these competences is by mutual, joined and coordinated approach, where all law enforcement authorities have the same uniformed understanding in terms of recognition, detection and prosecution of any possible infringement.

### Structural division and delivery of the training

These trainings represent an output of comprehensive process in terms of assessment of trainings needs, recognition of the weaknesses distinguished and conceptualised in close collaboration with the competent authorities of the Academy of Judges and Public Prosecutors. Following that frame these trainings were devised and designed to be more practical, explicit and case oriented, because of the fact that in the course of the initial meetings prevailed the opinion that the judges and public prosecutors are adequately knowledgeable about theoretical issues rather the legal framework of the beneficiary country.



Based on this principle there were delivered three different training. The first training was provided for criminal judges. Among the attendees there were representatives from High Courts and Basic Courts, High Public Prosecution and Basic Public Prosecution, lawyers (attorneys), representative from MoIA, SOIP and other relevant beneficiaries. The key aim of this training was to present the relevance of protection of intellectual property rights, characteristics of trademarks,

patents, geographical indications including all relevant court cases related to infringement of these rights. Participants were highly motivated and created significant interaction.

The second lap of trainings was delivered for administrative judges. The composition of participants was diverse as well, where apart from administrative judges there were representatives of MoIA, Ministry of Justice, Customs Administration, lawyers etc. Structurally there were provided definitions of trademarks, patents, procedures of applications for actions and other best practices in EU countries in terms of procedures of appealing and objections against infringements of intellectual property rights.



The last round of trainings were delivered for the needs of civil judges, including participants from other beneficiary institutions. The concept of presentations was firmly positive and practical. It managed to increase and intensify the interaction and development of discussions. The cases reviewed by EUIPO or initiated at European Court of Justice enhanced the eagerness of participant, and enabled the aims of the trainings to be achieved.

