NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

- **Predecessor:** Magistrates’ Training Center, 1999

- **National Institute of Justice,** established in 2002, operational since 1 January 2004

- **Legal basis:** Chapter 11 of the Judicial System Act

- **Legal status:** Public entity, part of the judiciary, in charge of the professional training of judges, prosecutors and clerical staff
NIJ ACTIVITIES

- Initial Training
- Continuing Training
- Training of Court Administration
- Learning and Information Center
- International Relations
INITIAL TRAINING

- **Compulsory Initial Training** – nine-month mandatory course for candidates for junior judges and junior prosecutors
- **Compulsory Initial Qualification** – mandatory course for all other newly appointed judges and prosecutors
- **Compulsory Continuing Training** – for judges and prosecutors who have been promoted to higher instance
CONTINUING TRAINING
Centralized and Regional Trainings

- National Law
  - Sustainable training programs
  - Annual evaluation of the organized trainings
- European Law
  - Training courses in EU law and Human Rights
  - 2012 approach – integrating EU law topics into National law trainings
- Interdisciplinary Training
  - New knowledge and expertise in related areas: economy, finance, management, forensics, psychology, psychiatry, ethics, etc.
TRAINING OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

Initial training:
- newly-appointed clerks in courts and prosecution offices
- 2 weeks training

Continuing training:
✓ General courses:
  ◊ Customer Service, Team Work, Stress and Time Management
✓ Specific courses:
  ◊ Handling Civil, Criminal, Commercial and Administrative Files
  ◊ International Cooperation in Civil and Criminal Cases
  ◊ Court management
  ◊ The summoning process
  ◊ Work in the Conviction Certificates Office
  ◊ Grammar and Minute Taking for Court Secretaries
LEARNING AND INFORMATION CENTER

- E-learning
- EU Law Documentation Center (EDC)
- Development of Extranet
- Maintenance of a database of training materials
- Collection of relevant national and international jurisprudence
- Research and Publications
- Library
- Information services and statistics
NUMBER OF MAGISTRATES AND CLERICAL STAFF

- About 2275 judges / 184 courts
- About 2517 prosecutors and investigators / 156 prosecution offices
- About 9977 clerks and administrative personnel
NIJ trainings
2007-2011

Number of trainings 2007 - 2011

- 2007: 129
- 2008: 174
- 2009: 188
- 2010: 209
- 2011: 207
Anti-corruption training forms

- Within the compulsory training courses and the continuing training seminars
- Centralized and regional trainings
- E-learning courses
- National and foreign expertise
Professional Ethics - I

- Courses within the compulsory forms of training (since 1999)
- Training campaign for the Regional Ethics Commissions (2010)
- On-line course (2012)
Professional Ethics - II

- From general information courses, presenting the Code of Ethics, to practical exercises, case-studies and situations

- Trainers: judges, prosecutors, court clerks, journalists, sociologists, psychologists, etc.

- Selection of topics and participants
Investigation and Prosecution of Corruption Crimes - I

From implementation of the Law (Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code) to techniques and tactics of investigating, prosecuting and judging corruption crimes, collection and evaluation of evidence

Selection of topics: needs assessment, expert opinions, analysis of the case-law
Investigation and Prosecution of Corruption Crimes - II

- Trainers: judges, prosecutors, investigators, experts
- Mixed audience: judges, prosecutors, investigators, police officers, other governmental agencies
TRAINING TENDENCIES

International dimensions - I

- From general presentation of different national systems to exchange of concrete expertise

- Investigating techniques, tactics and practical approaches. Sharing good practices from different countries - Belgium, Germany, Romania, USA

- International judicial cooperation mechanisms: EU (EAW, JIT, etc.), CoE and UN conventions, etc.
TRAINING TENDENCIES

International dimensions - II

- Two OPAC (EU Social Fund) projects, 18 months, over 1,5 M Euro budget
- Partnership with 6 EU countries and 2 European training institutions (ERA & EIPA)

- EJTN training activities and exchanges

- Cooperation with US agencies
Anti-corruption Trainings Statistics

- **2007**: 3 trainings with 62 participants
- **2008**: 7 trainings with 171 participants
- **2009**: 4 trainings with 102 participants
- **2010**: 5 trainings with 397 participants and 3 e-learning trainings with 110 participants
- **2011**: 2 trainings with 61 participants
- **2012**: 1 training held with 50 participants

Planned: 4 trainings for 140 participants and 1 pilot e-learning training for 40 participants
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