PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

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***Anti-Corruption Court in Ukraine – to Be or Not to Be? A Discussion in Kyiv***

The Ukrainian chapter of the international anti-corruption network Transparency International invites lawyers, journalists, activists and representatives of local authorities to an expert discussion on creation of the High Anti-corruption Court in Ukraine.

The event will take place on **September 20**, 2017 at 10 AM in *Lybid* hotel at 1 Prospekt Peremohy.

An effectively functioning independent judicial system is a crucial element of any democratic country where supremacy of law dominates. In Ukraine, in the recent years, a great number of systemic reforms have been implemented, including those within the judicial branch. Nonetheless, most reforms have not delivered visible results yet, while the success of the entire process depends on the ability of the judicial system to work independently and efficiently, unaffected by third parties.

At the same time, politically motivated forces influence court rulings, especially on corruption-related cases. As the result, the society has no trust in the current judicial system, while corrupt officials remain unpunished. That is why it is absolutely indispensable to create the independent High Anti-corruption Court, which will make final decisions on the cases investigated by the NABU.

How should the new institution function? How should the judges be selected for the anti-corruption court? How can collaboration of journalists and activists cleanse the remnants of the judicial system from judges with questionable reputation? These are the questions that the discussion participants will answer.

To take part in the event, please register by **September 18** by following the link: <https://goo.gl/forms/rdQqs4pd6t7O4ySF3>

Food and handouts will be provided by the organizers.

To discuss all event-related issues or, for journalists, to obtain accreditation, please contact **Maksym Kostetskyi** at 063 887 46 30.

*The event is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic under the Transition Promotion Program. The information highlighted during the event may not reflect the official position of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.*