



КАМАРА НА СЛЕДОВАТЕЛИТЕ В БЪЛГАРИЯ

1797 София , бул. „Д-р Г.М.Димитров № 42”, тел.(02)906 93 45, факс (02) 982 66 65

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**TO
MRS LAURA KOVESI
EUROPEAN CHIEF
PROSECUTOR**

**TO
THE COLLEGE OF THE
EUROPEAN PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**

DEAR MRS KOVESI

**DEAR MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**

The Chamber of Investigators in Bulgaria is the largest professional organization in the judicial system of our country. It is an association to protect the independence and professional interests of investigating magistrates and to support their professional qualifications.

We have closely followed the procedure of selecting the candidates for European Delegated Prosecutors. Selection was held within four days in accordance with the clearly written Rules adopted by the Prosecutors' College of the Supreme Judicial Council, (SJC). Candidate interviews were held both in person and remotely via videoconference.

The procedure took place under conditions of transparency, general availability of the candidates' information and their hearings. The candidates presented their documents which were published on the SJC's official website. Pursuant to Article 11 of the Rules, non-profit legal entities registered for the purpose of carrying out public benefit activities and organizations from the academic and professional community were given the opportunity to ask questions to the candidates within the seven-day period specified by the Rules. Applicants themselves decided whether to answer these questions in writing or orally. Written answers from candidates were published on the SJC website.

Candidate interviews took place in strict compliance with the procedure set out in the Rules of the Prosecutors' College of the SJC and no violations were found.

The interviews from the candidates included a 10-minute presentation and questions from the College of a practical and theoretical nature. After all candidates were interviewed the Prosecutors' College of the SJC selected by means of open, transparent, and impartial voting those candidates they felt had

demonstrated the highest levels of competency and suitability for European Delegated Prosecutors.

We express our satisfaction that among the nominated candidates are investigating magistrates who are highly qualified magistrates taking into account their personal and professional qualities:

Investigating magistrate Biserka Stoyanova has a master's degree in law and has a long-term service record as an investigating magistrate with over 23 years of legal experience in the Sofia Investigation Service, the Investigation Department of the Sofia City Prosecutor's Office and the National Investigation Service, including as Head of Specialized Departments in the National Investigation Service. She is a full-time lecturer in Criminal Law and Process of Candidates for Junior Investigating magistrates from the class of 2005-2006 and the class of 2020-2021. She speaks excellent English, has received a number of training courses, including on crimes related to misuse of EU funds, in which she has been involved both as a participant and as a lecturer. She has extensive experience in investigating cases of factual and legal complexity of economic crimes - embezzlement, malfeasance, fraud, corruption, money laundering, crimes against the financial, tax and social security system and for crimes affecting the financial interests of the EU. Mrs. Stoyanova is a member of the Chamber of Investigators in Bulgaria and was part of a team of investigating magistrates that lectured on the implementation of a project for the training of investigating magistrates under a project funded by the Operational Programme 'Good Governance' and co-author of manuals on money laundering.

Investigating magistrate Maya Kovacheva has a master's degree in law and social psychology. She has over 16 years of legal experience in the judiciary as a junior investigating magistrate in the District Investigation Service - Haskovo, an investigating magistrate in the District Investigation Service - Haskovo and in the Investigation Department at the Sofia City Prosecutor's Office. She was part of the Specialized Unit for Combating Corruption and Financial and Tax Fraud, committed by high-ranking government officials. She has investigated crimes committed by magistrates and senior government officials, organized crime groups, malfeasance, fraud, corruption etc. As an intern at the European Judicial Training Network, she was part of the Bulgarian National Desk at Eurojust and worked under the leadership of the Bulgarian National Representative. Mrs. Kovacheva is fluent in English, including legal terminology and Russian. She speaks Spanish and has experience in investigating economic and corruption cases of particular factual and legal complexity. She has taken part in seminars on the problems of misuse of EU funds and corruption.

Investigating magistrate Preslava Petkova has a master's degree in law and specialization in International Relations with the qualification 'Associate in the International Department'. She has over 19 years of legal experience of which over 16 years are in the judiciary. She has worked as a junior investigating magistrate in the Lovech District Investigation Service and in the Sofia

Investigation Service, an investigating magistrate in the Sofia Investigation Service, the Investigation Department at the Sofia City Prosecutor's Office, the Specialized Anti-Corruption Unit at the Sofia City Prosecutor's Office and the Investigation Department at the Specialized Prosecutor's Office. She has taken an active part in many training, seminars and specialist courses both in Bulgaria and abroad. She is fluent in English and has successfully completed courses in English legal terminology issued by the National Institute of Justice, the National Institute of Magistracy – Romania, the British Council and the British Embassy in Sofia. She speaks German at a good level. She has extensive experience in corruption cases of high public interest with factual and legal complexity. She is a Member of the Management Board of the Chamber of Investigators in Bulgaria. She took an active part in the organization and implementation of a project for the training of investigating magistrates under a project funded by the Operational Programme 'Good Governance'.

We believe that after a transparent and objective procedure, with a detailed and motivated decision by the Prosecutors' College of the Supreme Judicial Council, the nominated candidates are the best performing at the hearing, the best prepared theoretically and practically magistrates who have high ethical standards and integrity. We express our support for the proposals made for the nominated investigating magistrates and we hope that, upon your proposal, they will be appointed as European Delegated Prosecutors in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 17 (1) of the COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office.

19.02.2021

**CHAMBER OF INVESTIGATORS
IN BULGARIA**