



LEICA: LAW ENFORCEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

Newsletter Issue No. 2 May 2021



Memorandum of Understanding signed between the CIVIPOL and the Antiterrorist Centre of the Kyrgyz State Committee of National Security (GKNB) on 20th May 2021.

This document provides a clear strategic view on the objectives of LEICA in Kyrgyzstan and will contribute to enhance ownership by all relevant Law Enforcement agencies in the country.

A word from the LEICA Project Director

Distinguished colleagues,

With this 2nd issue, I am pleased to announce the completion of the Inception Phase of the LEICA Project after 9 months of intense consultations with each of you to propose an ambitious and coherent action plan that is as close as possible to your structural and operational priorities. We will conclude this initial period with a Project Steering Committee meeting in Bishkek on 15 June to confirm the launch of the Implementation phase. From September onwards, the first concrete activities will take place in the Central Asia region with the arrival of European experts and training courses planned in the EU Member States. For the first year, we are planning many activities in the form of workshops, round tables, technical and operational trainings and working visits in Europe and Central Asia. That's about 5 per month!

I will however hand over this project to my successor, Guenaël Lebreton, as of this summer, and I wish him full success in achieving the objectives we have set ourselves. I will then join the French Ministry of Defense where I will be called upon to exercise new responsibilities, including in external partnership relations, which will give me many opportunities to welcome you to Paris and to provide you with operational and technical support. Good luck to the whole team and long live LEICA!

Jérôme RIBAUT-GAILLARD

Validation Workshops

From 18th May to 24th May, a series of validation workshops was organized online with representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, all potential partners in the region to agree the national and regional plans of activities discussed during the inception phase.

Kazakhstan

It took place online, as scheduled on 18/05/21. Total 19 participants. From KZ side participated Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Prosecutor Office / academy, Anti-Terrorist Centre of KNB, Ministry of Internal Affairs. They highlighted the importance of cooperation with the LEICA project, the first CT/CVE-focused EU project in the region. The participants confirmed interest of participation in the national activities proposed in the work plan for Kazakhstan, activities discussed previously online and during the two missions the LEICA team carried out in Nur-Sultan. Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed satisfaction also with the proposed regional activities and added their interest of discussing them with the rest of the CA countries during the steering committee meeting planned for 15 June 2021.

Uzbekistan

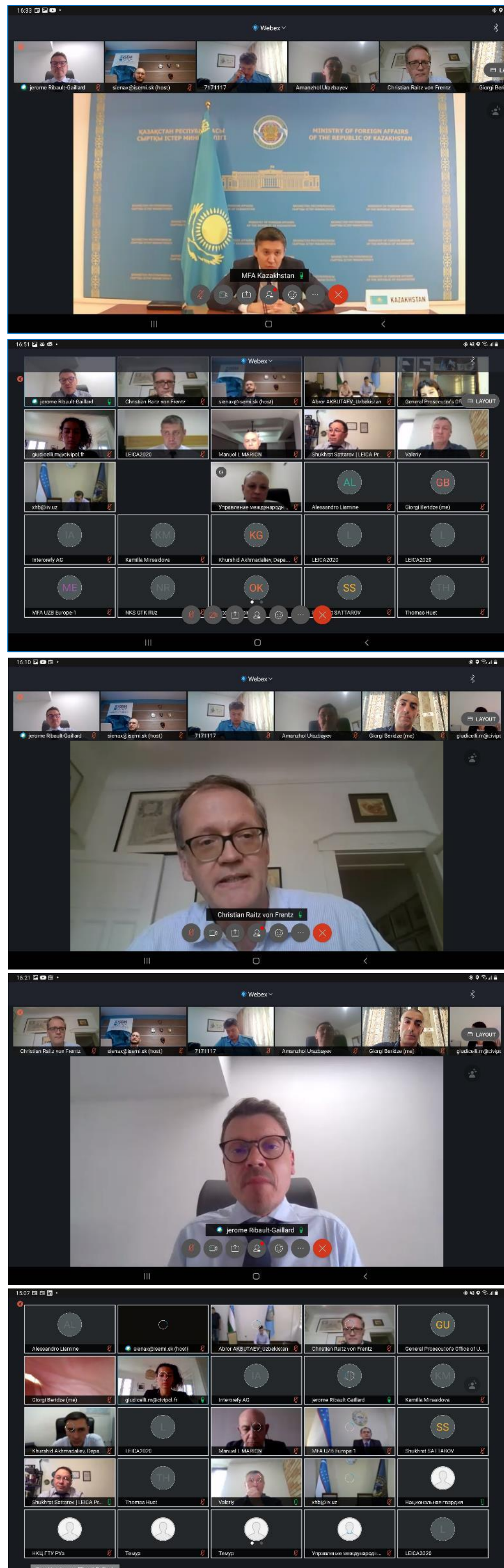
It took place online, as scheduled on 19/05/21. Total 26 participants. From UZ side participated Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Prosecutor Office / academy, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Interpol, Prisons, Academy), Customs Service and National Guard. Uzbek participants confirmed their interest of participation in the activities at national and regional level activities previously discussed with them. Some representatives even proposed to widen the spectrum of agencies targeted by each activity.

Tajikistan

It took place online, as scheduled on 20 of May. Total 14 participants. From the side of Tajikistan participated the General Prosecutor Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, National Bank (FIU), Committee of Emergency Situations (CES) and Customs Service. In general, there was support to the proposed activities, some of them, as suggested by General Prosecutor Office, could be organized in its training centre in Gulistan.

Kyrgyzstan

It took place online as scheduled on 24 May. Total 20 participants, including from General Prosecutor Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), Prisons Department, Customs Service and State Committee of National Security (GKNB). Participants were constructive and expressed their support and readiness to start implementation of the activities that were listed.



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Other Activities

Meeting With CBRN Centers of Excellence

On 21st May 2021, at the office in Bishkek, LEICA team of key experts welcomed a delegation of members of the Eu-funded Center of Excellence for CBRN based in Tashkent, to study a possible joint regional activity based on a Tabletop Exercise (TTX) scenario. In parallel Mr. Bakhtiyor Gulyamov, Head of the Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, Chairman of the State Committee for Industrial Safety of the Republic of Uzbekistan has joined the meeting remotely.

Cooperation With Eurasian Group

The LEICA Project Director attended an “open session” online of the regional organization EAG (Eurasian Group) on 25th May to present tentative activities related to countering financing of terrorism for Central Asian beneficiary countries. Comments by the Secretary General of EAG, Mr. Sergei Teterukov suggested that coordination between LEICA and EAG is much appreciated by Central Asian countries to avoid duplication with other international donors and provide a coherent and balanced assistance to strengthen national capacities aiming to comply with FATF recommendations on AML and CFT.

Cooperation With Radicalization Awareness Network

The team also participated online on 25th May at a “Virtual Central Asian Tour” by RAN dedicated to the thematic of radicalization. This event gave opportunity to strengthen the network of practitioners in the region who may be interested in the activities foreseen during the implementation phase.

Center for the Study of Countering Terrorism, Violent Extremism and Radicalization under the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Tajikistan

During the first contact mission in early March, the Prosecutor General's Office played a very proactive and leading role during this mission, offered to organizing a working visit for the Project experts to its Research and Training Center in Goliston (Sogd Province), to validate quality of infrastructure and verify in view of the organization of future seminars and trainings in the national or regional format.

LEICA experts visited the training center during the second field mission held in late April 2021. Training center is accommodated in tree-story building, clean and well-equipped indoors and outdoors infrastructure, conference room and spaces for trainings activities,, canteen, gym, outdoor swimming pool, living rooms to host high level officials as well as training participants. The training center is capable to host up to 50 guests.



Hosting CBRN CoE in LEICA office. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



Radicalisation Awareness Network



Training Center of the General Prosecutor's Office of Tajikistan
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