



“SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUPPORT PROGRAMME”

**NATIONAL TRAINING EVENT
ON SOCIAL-SECURITY CO-ORDINATION**

**Tirana, Albania
6 June 2006**

A National Training event on social security co-ordination in the light of EU and Council of Europe requirements and legal instruments took place on 6 June 2006, in Tirana, Albania.

The event was held in hotel Tirana International, in very center of the city. The total number of participants was 33. Participants from the following institutions took part in the event: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of European Integration, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and Ministry of Health. Also, the Ombudsman Office, Tirana Court and ILO Office in Tirana were represented on the training. From the future prospective of having people trained on the social security matter, it might be considered very important the participation of the administration representing: Social Insurance Institute, Health Care Insurance Institute, National Employment Service, Central Post Office and Faculty of Social Sciences.

Presentations were given by Mr. Sixto Molina, SISP Programme Manager, DG III- Social Cohesion, Council of Europe; by Prof. Francis Kessler, Professor at University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne, and lawyer at Gide, Loyrette, Nouel Paris, and by Mr. Bruno de Pauw, expert at the National Office for Social Security, International Agreements Service, Belgium, and lecturer at the University of Gent, Belgium.

The presentations covered the following subjects:

- Council of Europe perspective and legal instruments for social security coordination;
- Personal scope, and the four principles of social security co-ordination;
- Principles of applicable legislation;
- Pension benefits
- Unemployment benefits
- Health care benefits
- Social security system in Albania,
- Social security co-ordination in the Western Balkan region.

Most presentations were followed by workshop in which the participants were invited to demonstrate the knowledge and understanding they had acquired of social security co-ordination, by solving practical case examples.

The training has been conducted in a very positive and constructive atmosphere, and the participants actively participated in the workshops.

Many of the participants expressed their interest in further training of this type, which they consider useful and needed, especially having in mind present aspirations of Albania for full membership into the European Union.