



EUROPEAN UNION  
DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Head of Delegation

Belgrade 29 11 12  
VD/MK/mvk/ - 2012 (D)04820

Mr. Miroslav Petrovic,  
NGO "Pravo na zdravlje"  
e-mail: [pravo.zdravlje@gmail.com](mailto:pravo.zdravlje@gmail.com)  
tel. 063 388 335

**Subject:** Allegations of corruption in EU Delegation to Serbia

**Correspondence:** Your e-mail messages of 31 October and 12 November 2012

Dear Mr. Petrovic,

Thank you for your two messages and drawing our attention to your concerns related to potential corruption in relation to EU funded projects in the health sector in Serbia.

The EU Delegation closely monitors the implementation of all EU funded projects, including the ones that have raised your concern, the "Implementation of hospital information systems (EU-HIS)" and the project "Supply of equipment for the Implementation of the National screening programme for colorectal, cervical and breast cancer".

The first project is implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in close collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO). The EU-HIS implementation team, including their Project Manager, was selected following transparent UN procedures. The members of project teams are chosen based on competence and performance in their professional career and previous projects. The EU-HIS Project Manager has considerable experience from a number of EU-funded projects in the area of development of electronic infrastructures, which justifies his recruitment by the project. He was not hired to implement his own software as you allege.

Instead, the project team will customize, upgrade and deploy software at the beneficiary hospitals, which was developed through previous projects funded by the EU and World Bank. The software and modifications made by EU-HIS are owned by the Ministry of Health and not by the Project Manager.

The information you provided is about the co-ownership of a company by the Project Manager but we are not aware of any link between this company and EU-HIS.

Regarding the privacy and adequate usage of personal health related data, EU-HIS aims at the establishment of secure, appropriately used and legally founded Electronic Medical Records and Electronic Health Records, based on the results of previous projects in the field. It also assists the Ministry of Health in improving the legal framework on records in healthcare, patient privacy and application of IT in the Serbian healthcare system. It is clear that the legal framework for data protection has to be fully complied with.

The aim of this project is to contribute to optimising the performance and efficiency of the Serbian healthcare system. We are convinced that adequate application of information and communication technologies will improve traceable and justified use of patient health data and will provide the Serbian public with many obvious benefits. We therefore do not share your assessment that the project achieves no results or wastes public funds.

As regards your email of 12 November about the project supporting the national cancer screening programme, your allegations have also been analysed by the Delegation. I can confirm that the evaluation process has been conducted in full compliance with our procurement rules and that the offers received have been assessed by the Evaluation Committee on the basis of the content of the published tender dossier. On the basis of the offers received and the answers to the clarifications requests, the Evaluation Committee recommended to the Contracting Authority an award in favour of Kardesler, Turkey. The contract was signed by both parties on 6 April, 2012.

The equipment foreseen in this contract have not yet been delivered. Therefore, at this stage we have no grounds to suspect that the supplier will not respect the rules of origin. Only after delivery and provisional acceptance, we can confirm the origin of the material. Delays which occurred in the implementation are unfortunate but do not allow to conclude about any form of corruption or irregularity.

In compliance with the rules and procedures to which we are bound, your allegations and this reply will be transmitted officially by my services to the Anti Fraud Office of the European Commission (OLAF)

Yours sincerely,



Vincent Degert

CC: Pierre Mirel, Director; Myriam Ferran, Head of Unit C2;  
Martin Kern; Renaud Henoumont