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# Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices

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Russia

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- Established in **1949** in Strasbourg, France
- Objective: protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law
- Membership: **47 member states**, 28 of which are members of the European Union.
- Common legal space for over **820 million citizens** based on more than 200 European Conventions elaborated by the Council Of Europe



## Council of Europe and the Russian Federation

- ✓ 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Russia's membership in the Council of Europe (1996 - 2016)
- ✓ The Russian Federation signed and ratified more than 50 Conventions, including:
  - Criminal Law Convention on Corruption, that was signed and ratified by Russia
  - Civil Law Convention on Corruption, that was signed but hasn't been yet ratified

## Council of Europe Programme Office in Moscow

- ✓ The Council of Europe Programme Office in the Russian Federation has for objective implementing programmes of cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Council of Europe
- ✓ PRECOP RF is one of the current five major assistance projects of the Council of Europe in the Russian Federation
- ✓ The overall number of cooperation project is around 30 in different fields of CoE activities



## Joint EU/CoE project on “Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices”-PRECOP RF

➤ Project Purpose: **“Strengthened mechanisms to protect the rights of entrepreneurs from corrupt practices “**

- ✓ 1,300.000 Euro
- ✓ 36 Months (1 January 2013 - 31 December 2015)
- ✓ European Union Funding: 86.81%; Council of Europe Funding: 13.19%
- ✓ Contribution “in kind” by the Ombudsman’s Office

## Federal Ombudsman for the Rights of Entrepreneurs

- ✓ Unique body in Europe
- ✓ All subjects of the Russian Federation adopted the necessary legal framework and Regional Business Ombudspersons could be appointed
- ✓ Possible example for other countries





## Promoting international standards and practices

- ✓ The project has delivered a specially tailored Training Handbook and fourteen Technical Papers - legal and technical opinions on legislation and policies aimed at preventing corruption.
- ✓ Trained more than 160 representatives of Regional Business Ombudsmen offices on “Good anti-corruption practices and functioning of Regional Business Ombudsman Offices”





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# Achievements

- ✓ Over 600 representatives of the Federal and Regional Business Ombudsman Offices, Business Associations, Legal Associations, and representatives of various government agencies in the Russian Federation participated in project activities
- ✓ Over 30 Regional Business Ombudsmen who participated in Study visits to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg
- ✓ 85% of Russian regions covered by the project







- ✓ Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for cooperation between Regional Business Ombudsmen (RBO) and with pro-bono lawyers supporting the Regional Business Ombudsmen were signed



- ✓ Facilitated the establishment of the “Inter-regional Centre Business against Corruption”

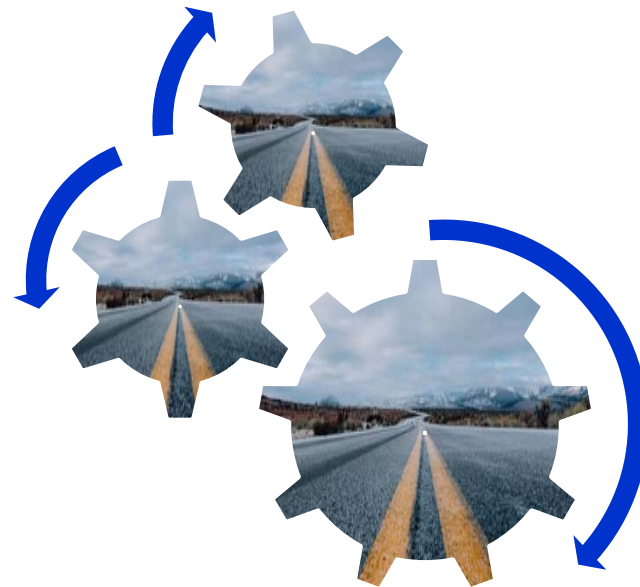




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# The way ahead

- ✓ A follow up project with a focus on addressing corruption at the Municipal Level is in the making





Thank you for your attention!

**Joint EU/CoE project on Protection of the Rights of Entrepreneurs in the Russian Federation from Corrupt Practices  
PRECOP-RF**

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Funded  
by the European Union  
and the Council of Europe



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