

8th Meeting of the Permanent Conference of Organized Crime Prosecutors for Organized Crime of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Greece, Hungary, Italy, North Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia and Serbia, took place online on 28 April 2022, following the information of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime of Bulgaria on the adoption of the Law envisaging the termination of the work of the specialized judicial bodies of Bulgaria for criminal prosecution and trial for organized crime. The members adopted the following

CONCLUSIONS

1. The Permanent Conference of Organized Crime Prosecutors is deeply concerned about the abolition of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime in Bulgaria, being this contrary to European Union recommendations, principles promoted by the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the views of professional prosecutors' associations.
2. Relying on common professional experience, members of the network deem that such a decision will have a negative impact on the results of the fight against organized crime in Bulgaria, on the countries whose prosecutor's offices are members of the network and international co-operation with other countries.
3. The Permanent Conference of Organized Crime Prosecutors points to the need for specialization of prosecutors in the fight against organized crime, in order to enhance the responsiveness to its new emerging forms, to improve efficiency, results, international co-operation as well as the response to the challenges that the complexity of modern society poses to the prosecutorial function, while emphasizing that is a common element in many countries where for many years there has been full awareness that only in this way it is possible to ensure an effective fight against organized crime and terrorism.
4. The Permanent Conference of Organized Crime Prosecutors supports the activities of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office of Bulgaria in preserving the specialized judicial bodies for the fight against organized crime.