

PRESS RELEASE

**ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE
LAUNCH OF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN NATIONAL
ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITIES AND THE NOTARIAT**

Rome, 19 November 2014 – An agreement was signed yesterday in Rome between Raffaele Cantone, President of the National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC) and **Maurizio D'Errico**, President of the National Council of Notaries, to start a technical working group on the prevention and combating of corruption and illegality in the public administration.

The agreement is the result of a common awareness of the usefulness of a partnership to spread a culture of legality; it aims to prevent possible risks of Mafia infiltration and collusion in the system of public contracts.

The technical group soon to be set up jointly by ANAC and CNN has three agreed objectives:

- establish a system of integrated flows and exchange of data gathered in order to check the correspondence between the information collected by ANAC for the monitoring of public contracts and that acquired by notaries in the drawing up of contracts;
- start free training for contracting entities and provide methodological support during the definition of public contracts;
- collaborate, with a view also to implementing the new EU directives on procurement, on measures to strengthen the protection of legality in procedures relating to public contracts.

In *Transparency International's* 2013 survey, Italy registered an index of perceived corruption of 43 (where maximum transparency has a value of 100); this reflects the impact corruption and embezzlement have had on the national and international perception of the phenomenon. Italy's rank is at the same level as many countries in Asia and Latin America.

From 2006 to 2011 – according to ANAC data - the phenomenon of corruption in Italy proved stable, except for 2009 when the number of corruption charges (in an aggregate sense) went from 975 to 1205.

The panorama of the distribution of the crimes of bribery and corruption in individual Regions is variable. The former are more frequent in Liguria, Lombardy and Emilia Romagna in the north of the country; in Lazio, Marche and Tuscany in the centre; in Abruzzo, Basilicata, Campania, Calabria, Molise, Puglia and Sicily in the south. Crimes of corruption, however, prevail in Friuli Venezia Giulia, Lombardy and Liguria in the north of the country; in Tuscany and Lazio in the centre; in Abruzzo, Basilicata, Campania, Calabria, Molise and Puglia in southern Italy.

From an analysis of convictions for bribery and corruption that have become final - according to ANAC data - the number of those convicted of corruption decreases significantly from 2007 to 2011 (from 749 to 458), while the number of those sentenced for extortion triples from 134 to 344.

The distribution of the conviction rate can help assess the results of the fight against corruption conducted in individual Regions. Judicial investigations that led to a significant uncovering of crimes of corruption in 2011 were concentrated, in descending order, in Liguria, Puglia and Abruzzo for bribery; and in Lazio, Campania, Calabria and Lombardy for corruption. This finding is also tends to be confirmed by data from previous years.

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