

The European Project "LIGHT: Illuminating Dark Corners", co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union, started in December 2020 with the objective of increasing the competencies of legal professions in the fight against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT). At the end of the project, in November 2022, selected notaries and lawyers will have enhanced their functional competency in AML topics. This will be achieved through four main competence profiles, training activities aim to let participants:

- Acquire experimental insight and knowledge in EU Law on AML/CFT;
- Improve their capacity in ML/FT risk assessment;
- Perform AML/CFT reporting obligations;
- Analyse business relationships without intermediates as required by the Commission (SWD 2019/650) and by the training and need assessment carried out between January and April 2020.

LIGHT Project gathers the following partners under the coordination of the Italian Confederation of Liberal Professions (CONFPROFESSIONI):

- European Council of the Liberal Professions (CEPLIS)
- > The Association for Women Lawyers (WLA)
- > The Italian Federation of Notaries, Federnotai
- The International Union of Notaries (UINL)
- > The General Council of Spanish Notaries
- > The General Council of Spanish Lawyers

In order to reach these objectives, the following activities are being carried out by the Consortium:

- > A preparatory phase, including an assessment of the national implementation of EU law in AML/CFT;
- Implementation of the training activities;
- Complementary activities to promote compliance with AML/CFT lawin day-to-day practice, including a collection of good practices, an action plan and a European conference;
- Communication and dissemination activities

The competency framework is expected to have an impact in terms of:

- > 20% increase in the number of reliable suspicious transaction reports submitted by notaries and lawyers involved in the project;
- > Strengthened preventive approach against ML/FT;
- Reduced information asymmetry between legal professions and enforcement authorities;
- Improved AML/CFT effectiveness due to the role of legal professions;
- > Improved mutual trust among legal professionals of different nationalities.

Find more information about the project <u>here</u>.