

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) initiated the meeting between Members of the Subcommittee on Public Sector Auditing of the Parliament of Albania and Representatives of ALSAI

On 17-18 September, a working meeting organized by the National Democratic Institute (NDI) was held in Shkodra, aiming to strengthen cooperation between the Subcommittee on Public Sector Auditing of the Parliament of Albania (the Subcommittee) and the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI).

At the meeting, it was noted that increasing the effectiveness of cooperation between Parliament and ALSAI is essential for ensuring effective parliamentary oversight of the use of public resources and for increasing the impact of ALSAI's recommendations. The establishment of the Subcommittee will also serve as one of the mechanisms and drivers for deepening this relationship.

Representatives of the Parliament of Albania and NDI highly appreciated the decision of the Chairman of ALSAI to establish the Directorate for Relations with the Parliamentary Subcommittee, as well as ALSAI's accountability and readiness to increase the level of cooperation with Parliament.

The purpose of the meeting was to finalise the Subcommittee's Internal Rules of Procedure and the Work Plan for the autumn session. The topic "Understanding the Role of ALSAI" was also presented by Mr. Alastair Swarbrick (SIGMA) and Mr Lage Bende (NDI), with reference to the International Standards of Auditing.

ALSAI representatives expressed their readiness to respond to requests, coordinate their activities with the Subcommittee's work plan, and provide assistance to the Subcommittee members within its scope of work and in accordance with the principles of transparency, accountability and institutional independence.

ALSAI thanks Ms Ana Kovacevic, Director of NDI Albania, and the experts Mr Anthony Staddon (NDI), Mr Lage Bende (NDI) and Mr Alastair Swarbrick (SIGMA) for facilitating this working meeting and for sharing their expertise and experience.

The Parliament of Albania was represented at the meeting by Mr Eduard Shalsi, Chair of the Standing Committee on Economy and Finance; members of the Subcommittee on Public Sector Auditing: Ms Emilia Koliqi (Chair), Ms Enslemvera Zake (Deputy Chair), Mr Alban Xhelili, Ms Sorina Koti, Ms Pranvera Resulaj and Ms Antoneta Dhima (members); as well as Ms Alkida Llakaj, Director of the Service for Monitoring Independent Institutions at the Parliament of Albania.

ALSAI was represented at the meeting by Ms Brunilda Zeneli, Director of the Directorate for Relations with the Parliamentary Subcommittee; Mr Bledar Mustafaraj, Director of the Legal Directorate; and Ms Alketa Çobo, Ms Kristina Pushi and Ms Paola Shera, auditors in the Directorate for Relations with the Parliamentary Subcommittee.