A Representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine Conducted Training for Customs Officers in Albania

A representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (hereinafter - the SFS), an employee of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS, at the invitation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, took part as a WCO certified expert trainer in the field of strategic trade control enforcement in conducting a workshop (week 1) together with the WCO expert.

The workshop was held for the officials of the port control units of the Port of Durrës, territorial customs units, units of the National Police and the Albanian State Export Control Agency in Tirana, Albania, on July 02-06, 2018.

The main purpose of the workshop was to present the WCO instruments for strategic trade control enforcement, to raise the level of knowledge and skills of the officials dealing with the control over the movement of goods subject to export control.

The rules of international documents regulating the transfer of dual-use and military items were considered during the event, as well as open sources of information containing the necessary data were introduced, practical exercises on identification of goods subject to export control were carried out.

The workshop improved the level of professional knowledge and special skills of Albanian officials involved in export control, as well as contributed to the improvement of interagency cooperation in identifying strategic goods.

A Visit of Canine Teams of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine to Slovakia

On September 03-09, 2018 two canine teams of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (hereinafter - the SFS), one of which was a canine team of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS (hereinafter - the Department), took part in a special advanced training on the search for drugs and tobacco at the Training Center of Service Cynology of the Financial Directorate of the Slovak Republic, and on September 10-13, 2018 - in International Cynology Competition “Memorial of Milan
The events were held in order to exchange experience in the field of professional training and use of canine teams.

The special training course focused on obedience skills of a service dog. A representative of the Department had the opportunity to improve his knowledge and gain new experience from Slovak colleagues in canine teams training for the search for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and tobacco products which is used in the process of special training conducted on the basis of the Department.

27 canine teams of the Slovak Republic, customs and financial administrations of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Poland, Hungary, Ukraine participated in the competition.

Canine teams of the SFS of Ukraine took part in the competition where they demonstrated clear, well-coordinated and professional work.

Such events make it possible to establish and continue cooperation among canine services of various countries, to exchange experience in effective use of service dogs during customs control.

It should be noted that within the framework of the activities of the Regional Dog Training Centre of the World Customs Organization, on the basis of the Department, a canine team of the customs administration of the Slovak Republic successfully completed a special training course in the search for tobacco in 2018.

**A WCO Expert-Trainer Improved Knowledge of the Officials of the Port Control Units of Albania**

A representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (hereinafter - the SFS), a specialist of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS, as a WCO expert-trainer, participated in a Strategic Trade Control Enforcement (STCE) workshop (week 2) which took place in Tirana, Albania, on October 08-12, 2018. The workshop was conducted in the framework of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme for the officials of the port control units of the Port of Durrës, territorial customs units, units of the National Police and the Albanian State Export Control Agency.

The event was held jointly with a Strategic Trade and Export Control Trainer of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme Adam Bacheller. “Modern development of technologies and facilitation of global trade carry extraordinary risks of threatening terrorist attacks with the use of weapons of mass destruction, which demands constant improvement of knowledge and skills of the officials conducting control over the movement of goods directly at the border, and this, in its turn, emphasizes the significance of the workshop,” - said Adam Bacheller.

During the event, the participants had the opportunity to revise theoretical knowledge gained during the first week by discussing methods for identifying goods subject to export control, as well as conducting practical exercises aimed at recording
the results of customs inspection of controlled items, including identifying their specific features and order of taking photos; they also considered potential threats of controlled items and discussed the ways to minimize them for the health and lives of the officials conducting customs inspection of such goods.

The representative of the SFS of Ukraine initiated testing the participants’ knowledge with the use of modern Internet technologies followed by the discussion of the results which contributed to the revision of the materials.

At the end of the event the participants received certificates and were given the task to prepare materials related to the practice of control of dual-use and military purpose goods for the next stage of the course.

Participation of representatives of the SFS of Ukraine in such international events contributes to the development of interaction and expansion of cooperation among states and customs administrations of the European region.

**Participation of a Representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the First Global Integrity Experts Meeting in Brussels**

A representative of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine (hereinafter - the SFS), a specialist of the Department for Specialized Training and Canine Services of the SFS, took part in the First Global Integrity Experts Meeting held in Brussels, Kingdom of Belgium, on October 23-26, 2018.

The event was attended by representatives of the customs administrations of Uruguay, Indonesia, Montenegro, Swaziland, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Iceland, Norway, etc.

The aim of this meeting was to enhance the knowledge of already recognized integrity experts and familiarize with the latest WCO integrity tools and activities as well as to identify new experts to support the growing need expressed by Member administrations for assistance to implement the Revised Arusha Declaration on integrity in customs.

During the meeting the representative of the SFS had the opportunity to learn best practices of customs administrations of foreign countries and current trends in their development, share experience on
issues of common interest, and made a presentation “Integrity Training as a Part of a Comprehensive Anti-Corruption Strategy”. The presentation highlighted the importance of integrity raising awareness and training for customs officers, peculiarities of adult learning and modern teaching methods that can be used in training; described the presenter’s own experience of participating in the WCO missions on the development of integrity training course, training procedure, its content and main challenges.