

democratic institutions and especially the cooperation of Parliaments; support the rule of law; support the welfare state; address economic inequalities; and support the training of labor, administrative and scientific work force, of the benefiting states”.

The key terms here are the modernization of public administration and self-government, as well as the support of democratic institutions, rule of law and training of administrative work force. These objectives constitute necessary elements in a policy of building good governance structures in the region. To complete the picture, it is, nonetheless, necessary to examine, whether these objectives are also incorporated in the bilateral agreements and in what form.

All six agreements contain a preamble and a common Art. 1, where the objectives and the general orientation of the bilateral assistance are set and specified. In the preamble, the parties “reiterate the importance of a regional development approach aiming at contributing to peace, security, prosperity and stability in the region”. They also express their eagerness “to enter into an advanced contractual relationship, based on partnership and transparency, coupled with a development assistance program; that the objectives of the present program aim at contributing to the economic development and European orientation” of the recipient state.

Furthermore, common art. 1 formulates the objectives of the agreements. These objectives are almost identical with those of the Greek Law 2996/2002. Among them are “the modernization of public administration and self-government, the support to democratic institutions and the cooperation of Parliaments, support for the rule of law and support to education and vocational training, to the administrative and scientific potential”.

The key elements of the Greek Plan for the Reconstruction of SEE are therefore development, security and good governance. The three elements cannot be separated and need to be integrated into a comprehensive policy. In that respect, Greece supports only programs that realize these objectives. This integrated approach is in line with the policies and practices of the international community and follows closely the philosophy of the three agendas enunciated by the former UN Secretary General B.B. Ghali: The agenda for Peace, the Agenda for Development and the Agenda for Democratization. The international community consistently supports the fight against corruption and transnational crime. The objectives of the Greek Plan for the Economic Reconstruction of SEE are so defined, that they enable the adoption of projects that serve these objectives.

II. Practical and procedural guarantees

We should now examine, how the objectives are incorporated in the concrete decision-making of the Contracting Parties. Under the system of the Greek Plan for the Economic Reconstruction of SEE, the selection of the projects that are going to be financed takes place after the conclusion of the bilateral treaties and following the procedures provided by it. According to Annex A of the bilateral agreements, the beneficiary makes proposals on the selection of the projects through the National Coordinator. The Coordinator is a high official of the public administration of the beneficiary state – or the Minister of