**Representatives of the Commission at the conference in Šibenik**

# Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Slovenian Commission for the Prevention of Corruption Mr. Uroš Novak and Head of the Center for Prevention and Integrity of Public Service at the Slovenian Commission Ms. Vita Habjan Barborič attended the conference entitled “Strengthening transparency and accountability to ensure integrity: united against corruption” on 15th and 16th of October 2018.

The high level event in Šibenik was organized in the context of the Croatian chairmanship to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia and the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) of the Council of Europe. The opening speeches were delivered by the Croatian judicial minister Dražen Bošnjaković, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjørn Jagland and the President of the GRECO Marin Mrćela.

The highest representatives of GRECO member states as well as representatives of Kazakhstan, Canada and Hong Kong and their anti-corruption authorities discussed the topic of strengthening the integrity of those preforming the highest executive functions and the authorities responsible for investigation and prosecution, the importance of the freedom of the media in fighting corruption as well as the topic of strengthening of cooperation of anti-corruption authorities at the international level.

The Slovenian Commission in the opening speech emphasized the need for the GRECO as a mechanism of the Council of Europe which controls the enforcement of international anti-corruption standards in its member states, takes on the role of connecting the authorities that prevent and detect money laundering as well as tax criminality. Criminal offences of corruption often represent the preceding criminal offences of the mentioned acts.

The conference culminated in a signing of the Declaration for the network of anti-

corruption preventative authorities which was signed by 14 representatives of the

anti-corruption preventative authorities, including Mr. Uroš Novak, the representative

of the Slovenian Commission.