Report on information security issues, in accordance with Albania’s annual reports to United Nations.

The Classified Information Security Directorate, representing the National Security Authority in Albania, seeks to draft programs, policies and procedures for securing classified information marked as ‘National Secret’; it also intends to assess and ensure the implementation of these means, by the relevant state institutions, in all the areas below:

a. Physical Security,
b. Security of staff,
c. Security of information,
d. Security of information in Communication & Information Systems
e. Industrial Security

In the context of the appropriate measures that we have undertaken, in order to strengthen information security and to promote international cooperation in this matter, we have revised our legal statutes. To this end, we have drafted and approved the Council of Ministers’ decision (VKM) no. 836, date 14.10.2015 ‘‘On approval of the Regulation On Dealing with NATO and European Union’s classified information’’; Council of Ministers’ decision no. 188, date 04.03.2015, "On the approval of rules ensuring staff security’’; VKM no. 189, date 04.03.2015, "On ensuring physical security of classified information marked as ‘state secret’, NATO information, EU information and other foreign states’ or international organizations’ information; VKM no.190, date 04.03.2015 "For several alterations and additions on VKM no.81 ‘‘For defining the criteria and the procedures to destroy classified information’’; and VKM no. 701, date 22.10.2014, "On approving the rules for securing classified information in the industrial area’’.

The field of security, management of classified documents and the Central Registry of NATO, has undergone through a voluminous preparatory work; and currently, nine other state institutions have been made subject to the law "On Classified Information ", by: participating in trainings and receiving teams’ assistance to familiarize themselves with this information; the establishment of a Classification and Declassification Committee; establishing sub offices of NATO and ensuring that Classified Information Offices comply with the eligibility standards of NATO; the creation and completion of the List of classified documents, etc.
Following the entry into force of Decision no.189, dated 04.03.2015, "On the physical security of classified information marked as ‘state secret’ “, we now have a more comprehensive legal regulation which is concerned with the physical security of classified information. They are redefined and located at the “Areas of security”, taking into account the levels of classified information, produced and managed by the structures of the institution. This redefinition is associated with the Security’ Measures Plan.

Following the adoption of the new decision for Staff Security, inter-institutional cooperation, supervision and the inspection of state institutions have eventually increased. State Institutions have started the process of revising the lists of staff duties to start for device security certificates tire me, and normative acts for verification procedures –Regulation. An important element of the work in the field of security personnel has also been cooperation with counterpart structures of the member countries of NATO and Partner - s EU.

As far as the Industrial Security is concerned, based on NATO and BE’s best practices and discussions with other relevant state institutions of our country, we have been concentrating on reviewing politics of information security to the core, by reviewing practices VKM No 701, date 22.10.2014.

In relation to the security of Communication and Information systems, we have focused on verifying the implementation of requirements of VKM Nr.922, date 19.12.2007 ‘’On ensuring the security of classified information marked as ‘state secret’ which is produced, protected, developed or transmitted to communication systems (INFOSEC)”, as amended. We are in the process of drafting a new version of this regulation which aims to aligns VKM no.922, date 19.12.2007 with EU Decision 2013/488/EU, as amended.

Another important step which we have put an emphasis into, is also the fact that we have been drafting a new law for dealing with classified information—an initiative which constitutes an efficient, up-to-date and with high european standards piece of law.

The adaptation of national legislation with the NATO’s Security Policy Document and its Support Guidelines has been a priority of our reforms for this period. Review of national legislation in this field is done taking into account the acquis of the European Union and in particular, the Council Decision 2013/488 / EU, "On the rules of security and protection of classified information of the EU “.

The Department of Security of Classified Information, pursuant to paragraph 2 of the decision of the Council of Ministers, no. 377 , dated 05.31.2001 , "On the security of classified information marked as ‘state secret " in the international arena " , as amended , is the National Security Authority in the field of information classified as "state secret" when working with NATO , other countries or international organizations.
Pursuant to this provision, CISD holds talks and signs framework agreements on mutual protection and exchange of classified information, on behalf of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania.

In this context, between the Department of Security of Classified Information and Security counterpart Authorities of the Member States of NATO partner, 23 bilateral agreements on dealing with the exchange and security of classified information, have been signed.

In the field of international relations, the main priority in the field of foreign policy, security and protection for classified information is the signing of the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Albania and the EU—the agreement on the security procedures for the exchange and protection of classified information. This agreement was signed on 3.03.2016 in Tirana and it is soon expected to be ratified by the Assembly of the Republic of Albania.