

UNITED STATES

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 continue to occupy the attention of the United States, including efforts to understand better the link between terrorism and corruption. It is possible that new laws will be enacted at the federal and lower levels as a result of these efforts, as well as from the ENRON scandal.

In June 2002 the Council of Europe, through GRECO, will begin its review of the United States legal framework and mechanisms to assess compliance with the Council Convention against Corruption. Undoubtedly this review will examine the four major federal statutes that resulted from the Watergate scandal and introduced the modern ethics era in the United States, that is, the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Inspector General Act of 1978, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 and the Whistleblower Protection Act.

Mention was also made of the availability in Spanish of the complete set of the Standards of Conduct of the Executive Branch, on the web at:

www.usoge.gov/pages/forms_pubs_otherdocs/fpo_files/reference/rfsocspan_02.pdf.