



## **Delna publishes a report on transparency during COVID-19**

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly changed the course of everyday life. We have been facing its challenges now already for a year. Delna has conducted a study on the impact of measures taken by the government during Covid-19 on the level of openness in Latvia.

The report is based on COVID-19 crisis trends identified by Transparency International (TI) as well as focus group discussions with residents of Riga, Liepaja and Daugavpils and with NGO and media representatives. The aim of the focus groups was to identify issues of public importance related to the COVID-19 crisis trends identified by TI.

The report (in Latvian) on the impact of the pandemic on transparency and Delna's conclusions is available on the [Delnas website->](#)



## **Global Anti-Corruption Barometer: Latvians are Pessimistic About Corruption**

TI has published the results of the Global Corruption Barometer 2020 (GCB), revealing the perception of corruption in the European Union, including in Latvia. Both Latvia's and the EU's overall results show that society as a whole does not see progress in combating corruption, rating governments' work in

this area to have failed. In addition, a third of the population admit that they have used bribes and personal acquaintances to receive a public service.

To get acquainted with respondents' answers and recommendations by TI and Delna for a more successful fight against corruption, visit [Delna's website](#)->

At the LAMPA Conversation Festival on August 21, Delna will present an analysis of the outcomes and invite experts to a discussion on the results of the GCB in Latvia. For more about the discussion, see Delna's website.



## **Delna participated in the LAMPA Conversation Festival**

This year, the LAMPA Conversation Festival took place in Cesis on August 20 and 21. The main theme of the festival was Dignity: encouraging people to build relationships on a more dignified basis in society, the family and the nation. Seven discussions on topics including whistleblowing, openness in municipalities and money laundering took place on the Delna stage, "Kā uz Delnas".

Get acquainted with Delna's stage programme (in Latvian) on the [Delna website](#) ->.

Video recordings and summaries of discussions soon will be available on the Delna website. Follow up to the information.



## **Delna Participates in the Development of the KNAB Anti-Corruption Action Plan for 2021–2024**

Delna is one of 20 NGOs operating in the Public Consultative Council of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB) and is participating in the development of the KNAB Anti-Corruption Action Plan for 2021–2024. Delna is providing opinions on current anti-corruption activities within the framework of its responsibility within the project development process. To get acquainted with Delna's proposals during the public consultation as well as Delna's position after the announcement of the draft plan at the meeting of State Secretaries (in Latvian), go to [Delna's website](#)->

Also, see the [KNAB website](#) (in Latvian) for information on anti-corruption activities, responsible institutions and expected results included in the draft plan.

**Please Support Our Efforts!**  
**Every Donations Helps in the Fight Against Corruption in Latvia**

### **DELNA'S COMENTARIES IN THE MEDIA**

#### **Obliging electoral candidates to submit their income tax returns**

The public initiative portal Manabalss.lv has started collecting signatures for an initiative to oblige candidates for elected positions to submit income declarations, with the aim of promoting transparency about the candidates' connections with specific companies. In its assessment of the initiative, Delna points out that it is a major step toward greater openness in politicians' relations with the electorate, as well as an opportunity for the media to study, evaluate, detect and inform the public about potential conflicts of interest.

To get acquainted with the initiative and with comments by Delna researcher Olafs Griguss, turn to [Radio Latvia](#) (in Latvian).

## Transparency over Officials' Declarations

There are two divergent views on the issue of transparency of public officials' declarations: to protect the privacy of high-level officials, or to use officials' declarations as tools to detect possible professional crimes.

Following the [discussion on conflict of interest organised by Delna](#) (in Latvian), the LV portal has summarised the views of several Saeima deputies and experts' arguments on the need to publish officials' declarations. Moreover, experts go further and point to shortcomings in the current official declaration system. Read more on the [LV portal](#) (in Latvian)

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### **Valts Kalniņš: KNAB's plan is focused on evaluating possibilities**

Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB) has compiled the proposals made in the course of public participation regarding the "Plan of Measures for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption for 2021-2025", for which Delna and the Providus think tank have also proposed a number of improvements.

Evaluating the plan developed by KNAB, expert Valts Kalniņš points out that in many areas, the measures envisaged in the plan are aimed at evaluating possibilities but not offering specific solutions. He emphasises that, taking into account the experience gained over the years, the plan should include not only an assessment of the current situation, but also specific amendments to the law.

To see the interview (in Latvian), visit the [LV portal](#) ->

#### **Opportunities provided by Online Tools**

Although experts acknowledge that e-government and the development of e-services are at a good level, based on the results of a survey conducted by Manabalss.lv, active members of the Latvian population want more say in a timely fashion, while legislation and regulations are still being drafted.

With a view to increasing civic activism and involvement of small and medium-sized civic organizations in the legislative work of the Saeima, Manabalss.lv has actualised this problem and developed a preliminary study of the possibilities provided by online participation tools.

The results of the introductory research are available [here](#) -> (in Latvian)

**SUPPORT THE FIGHT AGAINST  
CORRUPTION!**

If you would like to participate in the work of Delna to reduce corruption in Latvia, please become a member. As a Delna member you will join [80 others in Latvia](#) and become part of [Transparency International's](#) global anticorruption network with chapters in more than 100 countries.



**Delna**  
SABIEDRĪBA PAR ATKLĀTĪBU  
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL  
LATVIJAS NODAĻA

# Kopā pret korupciju!

**WE ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE DELNA'S FIGHT  
AGAINST CORRUPTION**

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PLATFORMS



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Kāpēc es saņēmu šo vēstuli?

[Lai atteiktos no turpmākām vēstulēm, spiediet šeit](#) | [Atjaunot profilu](#)