

Public Discussion on "Conflicts of Interest in Municipalities"

Delna has been following the issue of conflicts of interest in municipalities. In response to the proposal by parlamentarian Viktors Valainis (Union of Greens and Farmers) to strike paragraph 76 from the proposed Law on Municipalities, which places limits on officials in municipalities to combine positions, on April 14, 2022 Delna organized a public discussion and expert forum on the issue.

In the view of the experts, striking paragraph 76 from the proposed legislation is a step back not only from Latvia's own proposed future goals, but runs counter to principles of good governance and division of power. In view of the administrative-territorial reforms recently enacted there is no basis for creating exceptions for local government officials to combine positions.

Panelists drew attention to the increased duties of local officials and growing support for making their positions full time with commensurate compensation.

A summary of the public discussion and video (in Latvian) can be accessed on the Delna homepage->



Civically Active High Schoolers Complete

Educational Programme "Delna Youth"

In February and March Delna organized a series of seminars for highschoolers where they learned about democracy and justice, and how to identify and combat corruption.

During the concluding session on April 2 the participants were greeted by Delna director Inese Tauriṇa and parliamentarian Inese Voika. Ineta Cīrule, Deputy Director for Investigation Matters of the Corruption Prevention and Combatting Bureau (KNAB) spoke with the participants about the agency's fight against corruption and investigation of corruption related crimes.

More about the seminars (in Latvian) on the Delna homepage->



Drawing Contest "Es redzu" (I See) Concludes

In February Delna invited young people between the ages of 12 and 19 to submit drawings to the "Es redzu" contest. Contestants could choose from the following themes: "Es un Godīgums" (Me and Honesty), "Es un Atbildība" (Me and Responsibility), "Es un Drosme" (Me and Bravery), "Es un Cieṇa" (Me and Respect).

By the conclusion of the contest at the end of March, Delna had received 133 submittals from 24 schools in Latvia and one family.

Learn more about the contest here-> (in Latvian)



Integrity Pacts

At the end of March in Lisbon, Portugal Delna met with colleagues from Transparency International to discuss future plans for expanding the use of integrity pacts in EU member states.

In spite of all the benefits integrity pacts can offer as part of a successful project management, they are not held in high esteem and included in public procurements in Latvia. In other European countries, such as the Czech Republic and Hungary, these pacts are highly regarded and recognized as excellent management tools.

More on this (in Latvian) here->

Please support our efforts! Every Donations Helps in the Fight Against Corruption in Lativa!

DELNA COMMENTARIES IN THE MEDIA



On the Path to an International Society Free from

"Dirty Money"

Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022 has brought the world's attention to the issue of preventing the legitimizing of illegally obtained money or financial resources gained from illicit sources. The war has turned a bright spotlight on how dirty money threatens a country's national security.

In an article in the book journal "Jurista Vārds" Delna's researcher Olafs Grigus examines the West's reaction to sanctions against Russia, how Russia is attempting to get around the sanctions, and how to combat dirty money.

Olafs Grigus's article (in Latvian) in "Jurista Vārds" can be accessed by subscribers at juristavārds.lv-> or on the Delna homepage->

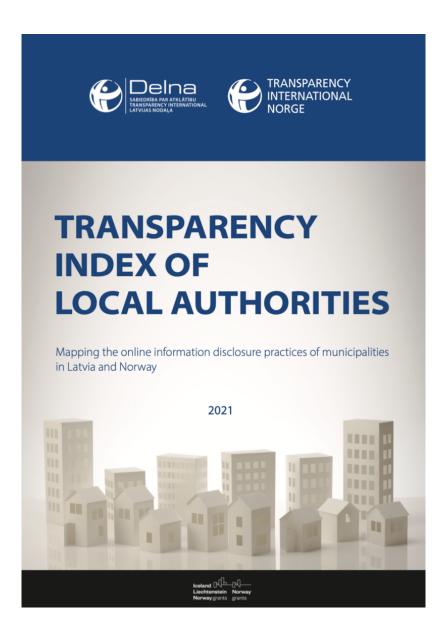
How Well Has Latvia's Fight Against Corruption Gone in the Past Five Years?

June 2022 marks the end of the five-year term of the Corruption Prevention and Combatting Bureau (KNAB) director Jēkabs Straume. How well has the fight against corruption gone during his term?

On April 27 Delna researcher Olafs Grigus participated in a discussion on the Latvian Radio 1 program "Krustpunktā" together with other experts, members of Latvia's Parliament, and KNAB director J. Straume, on how well KNAB has been fighting corruption and what needs to be done in the next five years.

The broadcast "Krustpunktā" can heard (in Latvian) here->

WE INVITE YOU TO SUPPORT OUR WORK AGAINST COTTUPTION



How Transparent is Latvia's Local Authorities toward Its Inhabitants?

It has been almost a year since the implementation of the administrative territorial reforms and local elections. In the summer of 2021 Delna assessed the level of transparency in the homepages of municipalities in Latvia. To find out which are the most transparent local governments and what are Delna's and Transparency International Norway's indicator criteria, please visit atklatibasindekss.lv and transparencyindex.lv

Plans are underway to repeat this research project again this year. In the coming weeks Delna will be publishing guidelines for municipalities on how to be more transparent toward local inhabitants and the business community.

If you wish to take part in the effort to reduce corruption in Latvia, we invite you to join Delna. As a Delna member you will become part of our 80 person community in Latvia and be part of Transparency International's global anti-corruption network with chapters in more than 100 countries.



Kopā pret korupciju!

WE ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE DELNA'S FIGHT AGAISNT CORRUPTION!

FOLLOW DELNA IN THESE SOCIAL PLATFORMS









TI Latvia electronic newsletter is funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA and Norway Grants Program "Active Citizens Fund" and reflects the opinion of Transparency International Latvia.



Šo vēstuli nosūtīja Sabiedrība par atklātību – Delna uz <u>p.termanis@apollo.lv</u>. Sabiedrība par atklātību - Delna | Citadeles iela 8, Riga, LV-1010