



INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY  
DISCUSSION AND LECTURE

## **CORRUPTION – A THREAT TO NATIONAL AND GLOBAL SECURITY**

SPECIAL GUEST

**Sarah Chayes**, US anti-corruption expert



**09.12.2022**



**12:00-15:00**



**Delna**  
LABORATORY FOR ANTI-CORRUPTION  
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL  
LATVIAN BRANCH



### **ON INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY DELNA HIGHLIGHTED THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION ON NATIONAL AND GLOBAL SECURITY**

Corruption is a phenomenon that in the long term can have a negative impact not only on individual sectors, but also on the economy and the well-being of society as a whole. Due to this year's geopolitical upheavals, Delna and Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (KNAB) call for special attention to be paid to the negative impact of corruption on national and global security on International Anti-Corruption Day.

Delna with the KNAB on International Anti-Corruption Day, December 9, held a thematic event "Corruption – a threat to national and global security". More information on [www.delna.lv](http://www.delna.lv) in Latvian and English.

Watch the event on [Youtube](#).

[Read more](#)



## DELNA ENCOURAGES MORE OPEN PLANNING OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETS

The amount of information provided to residents of local governments regarding budget-related documents, decision-making and opportunities for involvement is currently quite diverse. For the most part, the law establishes a minimum threshold for information to be published, which is not only insufficient to ensure full and accessible involvement of citizens, but in some cases is not even followed by local governments.

Delna draws attention to the fact that in the process of preparing the state budget, the current regulatory framework is not followed. It has degraded the rule of law in Latvia and served as a basis for widespread protests by representatives of various industries during the budgeting period.

In order to discuss potential solutions to this problem, as well as other possible improvements in the budgeting process, Delna organized discussions with representatives of non-governmental organizations and public administration institutions in October 2022.

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## COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW IN BUDGETING – GUIDELINES FOR SECTORAL ORGANISATIONS

In order to ensure that the participation of Delna and other non-governmental organisations in the formation of the state budget is meaningful, Delna has developed guidelines to identify the problems of the process and provide recommendations for the activities of sectoral organizations.

The guidelines provide a brief insight into the normative acts regulating the procedure as well as outlines the content in October's discussions with various representatives and officials of organizations involved in the budgeting process.

[Read more](#)

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## **DELNA SENDS A THIRD LETTER TO DAUGAVPILS CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE DISMANTLING OF THE MONUMENT**

On 15 November 2022, Delna received a reply from Daugavpils City Municipality to Delna's letter of 4 November 2022.

Taking into account the answer provided by the municipality, Delna wishes to clarify the information related to the price survey conducted. The Procurement Monitoring Bureau explains that the term "price survey" usually refers to a procurement, which estimated contract price does not reach the contract price specified in the public procurement law. Thus the internal procedures should be developed by the contracting authority itself and applied for its performance. Delna is aware that any information about the results of the price survey, involved tenders or other companies and personally identifiable information should be classified.

However, the information related to the procedure of conducting the price survey should not be hidden and public should have access to information to follow the efficient use of public funds and fair competition.

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## **THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION WANTS TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC TO GET INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION**

On 22 November 2022, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) passed a judgment invalidating a provision of the AML Directive of 30 May 2018 that provides for the right of every member of the public to have a free access to information on the beneficial owner register.

The judgment of the CJEU poses a serious threat to the long-standing efforts of Europe and Latvia to develop a high-quality and efficient register of beneficial owners to facilitate the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing.

Delna believes that openness and free access to information on beneficiaries of companies, both for active public and journalists, is absolutely necessary for the state to be able to effectively work with the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing and to enlarge a greater transparency.

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## **LATVIA SHARES ITS EXPERIENCE WITH UZBEK PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION INSTITUTIONS**

From 22 to 24 November 2022, Delna visited Uzbekistan to meet with local state authorities in a grant project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia "Support to Uzbek public authorities in strengthening administrative capacity and prevention of corruption" and to clarify their needs for far-sighted reforms in reducing corruption and promoting civil society.

Delna plans to resume its activities in the field of development and cooperation and with its experience and expertise promote anti-corruption work of other countries and development of their civil society.

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## DELNA'S REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES TO SELECT THE COUNCILS OF THE STATE FOUNDED HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Delna participated in twelve selection committees to select members of the council of state-founded higher education institutions as an observer with no voting rights from October 2021 to February 2022. In accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 636. "Procedures for the Selection, Nomination and Recall of Members of the Council of a State Higher Education Institution Directed by the Cabinet of Ministers."

Taking into account the set goals and main directions of work, Delna prepared a report, summarizing what has been observed so far in the selection committees, identifying situations and proposals for improving the work of the commissions. In general, we evaluate the work of the selection process as a high-quality and responsible.

[Read more](#)

### PUBLISKA DISKUSIJA

"Par atklātu atlīdzību valsts un pašvaldību iestādēs"

2022. GADA 4. NOVEMBRIS



## SUMMARY: THE LATVIAN PARLIAMENT SHOULD RE-OPEN DISCUSSIONS ON THE PUBLICATION OF REMUNERATION OF EMPLOYEES OF STATE ADMINISTRATION

How to balance privacy with openness? It could describe the dilemma in the discussion on the publication of the remuneration of local governments and public administration employees. A few years ago the Latvian Parliament already adopted the law stipulating that the salaries of state and local government employees must be public. However, after the teaching staff of two higher education institutions – Riga Technical University and Rīga Stradiņš University – approached the court complaining about the violation of the principle of privacy, the Constitutional Court invalidated the provisions of the law.

After the abolition of norms, the level of openness of the use of state and local government funds and the mechanism of public control have been significantly weakened. In order to create a wider resonance of this issue in society, among public administration officials and employees, as well as decision-makers, Delna held an online expert forum and public discussion and



published the summary (in Latvian).

[Read more](#)

## DELNA'S COMMENTS IN THE MEDIA

### DELNA: SOME MINISTRIES DO NOT WANT TO PROMOTE THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF DATA

When developing the new anti-corruption plan of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB) 2021-2025, it has been observed that some ministries are moving in the opposite direction and opposing the transparency of data and access to information.

Delna's researcher Olafs Grigus informed that expressions of some MPs of 13th Saeima cause a concern. MPs believe that an availability of data is not important and affect nothing and could be left at the current level or even reduced.

Read more on [jauns.lv](https://jauns.lv)

### RIGA CITY COUNCIL DOES NOT DISCLOSE HOW MUCH MONEY IS SPENT ON SPRINKLING TECHNICAL SALT IN WINTER

This year more money is going to be spent from wallets of Riga residents for technical salt, which is sprinkled on the streets in winter to melt snow and ice. But how much it costs for residents is not disclosed by the city council.

Inese Tauriņa, director of Delna, commented that municipalities should disclose the amounts of public spending, pointing out that the streets are used by all residents and it is important to raise awareness of these works and what is happening.

Read more on [ism.lv](https://ism.lv)

### PUBLIC SUPPORT IS BEING COLLECTED TO DISCLOSE REMUNERATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION EMPLOYEES ON MANABALSS.LV

Representatives of Delna recalled that since the Constitutional Court judgment in 2019, there is no more opportunity to follow the remuneration of public administration, as it is no longer published on the websites of the public institutions.

The Cabinet of Ministers should determine the state administration institutions whose remuneration cannot be published due to state security reasons, as well as the deadline at the end of which this information becomes publicly available in the National Archives of Latvia.

The initiative on civic participation platform manabalss.lv currently collected over 6000 people's votes. After collecting 10 000 votes, the initiative will be submitted to the Latvian Parliament.

Read more on [apollo.lv](https://apollo.lv)

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



If you also want to participate in Delna's work and help reduce corruption in Latvia – we invite you to become a member. As a member of Delna, you will join a community of [89 people in Latvia](#) and be part of [Transparency International's global anti-corruption network](#) with chapters in more than 100 countries around the world!

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Transparency International Latvia (Delna) | Veru iela 6, Centra rajons, Rīga, LV-1010

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