



WORK PRIORITIES OF THE NEXT LATVIA'S PRESIDENT

On June 10, 2023 at the conversation festival "LAMPA", Delna organized the discussion "Inauguration address of the president of my country" in order to find out what Latvian society expects from the next president of Latvia – Edgars Rinkēvičs.

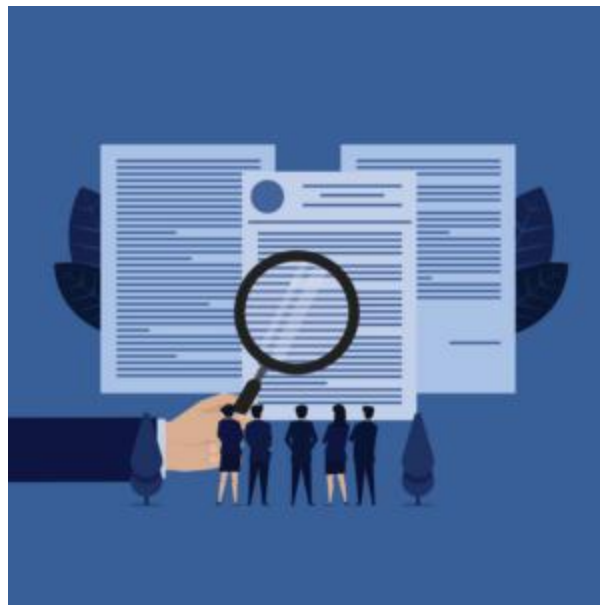
The wishes and vision of the public about what directions of action the president should emphasize in the next four years are not so different at all, they are similar and very necessary for a democratic society:

- Community cohesion, especially in the current geopolitical conditions of the Russian war in Ukraine,
- Investing in national security and providing further assistance to Ukraine in the fight against Russia and in the reconstruction of the country,
- Actively representing Latvia and creating a positive image internationally.

The main qualities that speakers and attendees of the conversation most want to see in their country's president are **integrity, courage** and **empathy**.

Full text available in Latvian.

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CODE OF ETHICS FOR PROSECUTORS IN ACTION

On June 13, 2023, the Riga City Court continued to consider the case of the murder of Mārtiņš Bunkus. At the court session, the representatives of the defendants filed a motion to dismiss prosecutor Armin Meister. Pointing out that in the interview given to the magazine "Klubs" in the June 2023 edition, the chief prosecutor spoke biasedly and violated the presumption of innocence regarding the accused.

In 2021, Delna cooperated with the Prosecutor's Office in the development of the new Code of Ethics for Prosecutors. Delna believes that it is essential to find a balance between informing the public about the work of the Prosecutor's Office, its decisions and cases, while at the same time not disclosing confidential information and not raising doubts about the prosecutor's ability to be objective in maintaining the prosecution.

Full text available in Latvian.

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SUPPORTING THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT OF THE CODE OF ETHICS OF OGRES LOCAL AUTHORITY

On May 25, 2023, the Council of Ogre's Local Authority decided to create a working group for the development of the project of the Code of Ethics of the Ogre's Local Authority and determined that the Code of Ethics should be developed no later than August 30, 2023.

On June 21, 2023, Delna sent a letter to the working group for the development of the project of the Code of Ethics. Considering Delna's previous experience, activities and strategic goals, as well as the relatively short deadline for the development of the project of the Code of Ethics, Delna offered the working group free support and assistance in the development of the document.

Full text available in Latvian.

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DELNA WILL MONITOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE DISCIPLINARY CASE IN THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT OF RIGA COUNCIL

As reported in the media, on June 16, 2023, acting director of the Riga City Council Transport Department (RDSD) Jānis Vaivods and head of the RDSD Traffic Infrastructure Department Andrejs Urtāns were suspended from their positions for the duration of the investigation of the disciplinary case. By July 15, 2023, it is planned to review the disciplinary cases of the mentioned persons.

Delna received an invitation and on June 22, 2023, agreed to cooperate with the Riga City Council and monitor the disciplinary investigation process, as well as evaluate the process that led to the order to suspend officials from their positions for the duration of the disciplinary investigation.

Full text available in Latvian.

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COMPANIES HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTECT THEIR REPUTATIONS

Damage to the reputation of companies is not uncommon. Companies surveyed by Delna, almost all said they had experienced reputational damage, with a third agreeing that it was a very big problem. In order to promote the topic and look for solutions to the challenges, on March 28, 2023, Delna called for a discussion "Undermining the company's reputation. What to do?".

Building and maintaining a company's reputation should happen every day, based on good management and communication. However, any company can face damage to its reputation at the most unexpected moment, so it is essential for every company to be aware of potential risks in time and to prepare for an operative and quick response. The situation now mainly depends on the company's ability to react, so the first step for the company is to develop a crisis

on the company's ability to react, so the first step for the company is to develop a crisis management plan.

Full text available in Latvian.

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CIVIC EU TRAINING - HOW TO MONITOR THE WORK OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

From June 29 to July 1, Delna is in Liepāja and together with active and curious young people we are discussing the civic participation of young people and involvement in the work of the municipality.

Step by step, young people get to know how to practically carry out civil supervision, where to look for data and information on the topic of interest, so that they can conduct practical research in mid-July.

The young people plan to present the findings of the research to the decision-makers of their local government and express their vision on the development of the chosen issue and municipality.

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DELNAS COMMENTS IN MEDIA

The role of regulation in the sustainability of the Latvian political party system

In the article for the magazine "Jurista Vārds", Delna researcher Olafs Grigus explains the financing of political parties from the state budget in Latvia.

- The existing regulation strengthens national-level parties, but also weakens and does not help to prevent existing risks of corruption in regional-level parties and, moreover, distorts party competition in municipal elections.
- Latvia's party system is still characterized by instability and fragmentation.
- At the beginning of 2023, only one of the active political parties "Vienotība" exceeded the threshold of 2,000 members, which is the minimum number of members for founding parties, for example, in Lithuania.

Full text available in Latvian [here](#) ->

Discussion "Elections 2.0 - a view into the future"

On June 9, 2023, the Central Election Commission held a discussion "Elections 2.0 – a view of the future" at the LAMPA conversation festival, the director of Delna, Inese Tauriņa, also participated in it.

During the discussion together with young people, voters, experts and representatives of non-governmental organizations, answers to these and other questions were sought - What should the future of elections look like? What opportunities and risks are there in the application of technology? What can we learn from neighboring countries?

Full discussion available in Latvian [here](#) ->

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