





# KORUPCIJAI – NĒ

kā atpazīt aizdomīgas darbības un uzvedību,  
kas var liecināt par iespējamu korupciju

seminārs un orientēšanās spēle Siguldas pilsētas ielās  
aktīvajiem iedzīvotājiem un pilsoniskās sabiedrības organizācijām

2023. gada 8. septembrī plkst. 10.00–16.30 Siguldā



## NO – to CORRUPTION – SEMINAR AND ORIENTATION GAME IN SIGULDA

We invite Delna members, active citizens, entrepreneurs, civil society organizations, as well as representatives of public administration to attend the seminar **"No – to Corruption"**. The seminar will take place in person on September 8, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM at the "Hotel Sigulda" in the conference hall "Krimulda." Seminar will be held in Latvian. Please register by September 6th [here](#) ->.

During the seminar, we will provide examples and signs of suspicious activities, behavior, and financial transactions that may indicate possible corruption in both everyday situations and the political sphere.

At the end of the seminar, we will invite to participate in the orientation game in Sigulda. During 1.5-hour activity, we will not only explore the city of Sigulda but also educate ourselves about various signs of corruption and unethical behavior, sharpen our minds, and think about how to better understand and combat this contagion.

Full text available in Latvian.

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## DELNA'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

On August 27, 1998, people gathered who believed then and continue to believe 25 years later that the role of society in the fight against corruption is very important. In 1998, it seemed that if we worked diligently for about five years, everything would be resolved regarding corruption in Latvia. It has been considerably more than 5 years, and here we are.

In an informal atmosphere on the evening of August 25th, at the Delna office building on Veru Street 6, Delna members, former and current employees, and their friends gathered for a festive picnic to celebrate the anniversary year together. We enjoyed reuniting, heartfelt discussions, discussed current politics, the fight against corruption, and transparency. We found time to bake pizzas together and listen to anti-corruption songs.



## DELNA VALUES THE STATEMENTS OF THE NEW RIGA CITY COUNCIL COALITION REGARDING THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

How to assess the statements of the new Riga City Council coalition regarding the fight against corruption?

Delna positively evaluates the intention of the new coalition to *"continue to implement anti-corruption and transparency principles in the institutions of the Riga municipality, including the revival of the anti-corruption commission, whose tasks will be to propose improvements to the governance of the municipality to prevent corruption in matters such as conflicts of interest and more."*

However, careful monitoring is needed to ensure the execution of this declared goal, as the new

However, careful monitoring is needed to ensure the execution of this declared goal, as the new coalition and the city mayor may lead to the belief that preventing corruption and conducting conscientious investigations into possible violations could be merely declarative statements.

Full text available in Latvian.

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## RIGA CITY COUNCIL RESTRICTS CITIZEN PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

In the draft regulations of the Riga city municipality, Riga City Council (Council) planned to significantly restrict citizen participation opportunities. On August 30, 2023, during a session of Council where the issue of approving the new regulations was discussed, a decision was made to set a minimum threshold for initiating public consultations – 20,000 signatures.

In Delna's view, such a threshold is disproportionate, unjustified, and contrary to the goal of public participation established in the Law on Local Governments. There is no justification to believe that a specific number of citizens is required to initiate public consultations, especially considering that organizing public consultations also requires a Council decision.

Delna's opinion can be heard on the Latvijas Radio 1 broadcast ["Pusdiēna"](#) ->

Full text available in Latvian.

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## HOW TO ASSESS THE FORMATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT

In Delna's view, it is important that the governing forces have a unified stance on key issues – the fight against corruption as a matter of national security, a shared understanding of national defense, and Euro-Atlantic integration.

The process of forming the new government indicates that these issues are at risk. This is signaled by the change in the position of "Jaunā Vienotība" (New Unity) and negotiations regarding the inclusion of the Zaļo un zemnieku savienība (Green and Farmers' Union) in the government, knowing about the party's ties to Aivars Lembergs, who is accused of serious corruption crimes. Attempts to convince the public that Lembergs' influence can be excluded by including disclaimers in the coalition agreement are not convincing. It should be noted that Lembergs has regularly been a candidate for the Prime Minister position from Greens and Farmers' Union.

Full text available in Latvian.

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## DELNAS COMMENTS IN MEDIA

### **Ķirsis is ready to engage an external evaluator for the road repair project**

The disciplinary investigation in the Traffic Department of the Riga City Council has concluded without results. Furthermore, there is a lack of confidence that the employees of the Traffic Department acted conscientiously in the use of public funds.

Delna reminds that for the expensive road repair works (renewal of asphalt cover at 118 locations in recent years), the political responsibility lies directly with Vilnis Ķirsis ("Jaunā Vienotība"), who is now the new mayor of the city.

In Delna's view, the shadow of suspicion has not dissipated, and responsible authorities, as well as the public and the media, should continue to monitor what is happening in the municipality. We cannot allow this case to fade from people's memories so quickly!

More in the broadcast [De Facto](#) ->

### **Change of power in the Riga City Council and government crisis**

"Jaunā Vienotība" and "Progresīvie" (Progressives) called the "Coalition for Change" in the capital city had a split. "Jaunā Vienotība" found new allies in the opposition and furthermore "Latvijas attīstībai" ("For Latvia's Development") will replace "Progresīvie," and such former allies of Nils Ušakovs political party "Saskaņa" ("Harmony") as "Gods kalpot Rīgai" ("Honour to Serve Riga") will join.

The political passions in the Riga City Council were discussed by both former and new coalition deputies in the program "Kāpēc" with journalist Olga Dragiļeva. Delna's director Inese Tauriņa participated in the discussion.

Watch the full discussion at [Delfi.lv](#) ->

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**Delna**

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TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL  
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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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Delna's electronic newsletter is funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA and Norway grant program "Active Citizens Fund" and reflects the opinion of Delna.



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