

# ANTI-CORRUPTION CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS UNIFIED NETWORK

# ACCOUNT

## ACCOUNT NETWORK SENT PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO LAW ON PROTECTION OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS IN THE BIH INSTITUTIONS

The INFOHOUSE Foundation, as part of the ACCOUNT Network, in cooperation with Association KAM and Association JUSTICIA, has forwarded to the Parliamentary Commission for election and supervision of the APIK, comments and proposals for improvement of the Law on protection of whistle blowers in BiH institutions. Amendment of the identified shortcomings in the Law would contribute to creation of suitable legal framework in this area, prevent possible abuses of discretionary powers and enable suitable protection for persons reporting corruption. More specifically, 16 proposals for amendments were provided, most importantly related to the need for the Law to include deadlines in the process of alleviation of unlawful action. Namely, deadlines need to be specified related to reporting procedures, in which APIK is responsible for requesting relevant documentation from the institutions. The same is relevant for deadlines and obligation on the part of APIK to request Administrative Inspection of the BiH Ministry of Justice to look into allegations and establish facts related to the above described. The Law does not specify deadline for Administrative Inspection to undertake actions, as quoted in the article **“provided for in the Law and deliver report to APIK”**. In addition, it was proposed to specify clear procedures for external and internal reporting, since the institutions have wide discretionary right (internal), as well as APIK (external), to decide as they seem fit. Specific definition of the procedure for awarding someone whistle blower status was also proposed. The proposals were drafted, with support of the Project for strengthening government institutions and processes in BiH (USAID/SGIP). The report does not necessarily reflect opinions of the USAID or US Government or USAID/SGIP project.

## Interview

[www.interview.ba](http://www.interview.ba)

D.B. decided to report to ACCOUNT Network an attempted violation of the law related to appointment of new acting director in the Primary School Fatima Gunic. Via Anticorruption Network in BiH - ACCOUNT, the corruption in the case of employment was prevented.

Read the story

<http://interview.ba/interview/item/225-b-d-b-prijaviteljica-korupcije-b-kolegice-sute-jer-se-boje-odmazde>



## EACH THIRD INSTITUTION IN BIH BREAKS THE LAW



Press MT Whistle-blowers

A large number of BiH institutions does not respect the Law on protection of whistle blowers in BiH institutions, by not having guidelines, rulebooks, forms and contact point for reporting corruption. This was established as a result of monitoring of the Law conducted by Centre for civil society development (CRCD). Almost every third institution in BiH, i.e. 27% of them, did not meet their obligation under the Law to publicise rulebooks/guidelines for reporting corruption on their web pages, although the deadline for publication was 90 days from the day Law on protection of whistle blowers in BiH entered into force in 2013. Namely, monitoring of availability of mechanisms for reporting corruption in BiH institutions indicated that 49% of BiH institutions did not publicise on their web pages forms for reporting of corruption, 83% of them has no contact point (email, phone, ethical line) for reporting of corruption and 91% of BiH institutions has no publicised/available decision/information on appointment of bodies for review of internal corruption reports.

## MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLANS FOR FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Representatives of six members of the ACCOUNT Network spent October doing field work. As part of monitoring of the implementation of the action plans for fight against corruption in 13 municipalities that developed the plans (2015-2017), they met with representatives of the municipalities to discuss implemented measures. The purpose was to find out if the **implemented measures had positive or negative effect in the local communities**. So far, the monitoring was implemented in Goražde, Pale Municipality (FBiH), Foča Municipality (FBiH), Ljubuško, Čitluk, Odžak, Ugljevik, Lopare, Usora, Gračanica and Lukavacu.



## RESULTS



MT Education

### Schools recognised the importance of education on anticorruption

Schools throughout BiH recognised the importance of introduction of ethics and anticorruption programmes into school curricula. ACCOUNT monitoring results in education sector indicate that as much as 87% surveyed education institutions deems that introduction of ethics and anticorruption theme is important and necessary for development and strengthening of ethics, integrity and accountability in the society. In addition 18% of BiH schools have already introduced these themes, while 5% of the surveyed teachers attended training for implementation of such programme. In terms of introduction of anticorruption procedures, each fourth surveyed school has mechanisms for reporting corruption and action plans for fight against corruption, while 48% of them has code of ethics.

“In general, introduction of anti-corruptive procedures and education programmes into schools is seen as an additional job, so they responded reluctantly and with few words to the questionnaires. However, it is encouraging that there is awareness on the importance and need to introduce anti-corruptive programmes into education process”, noted Aleksandar Žolja, coordinator of the survey. Helsinki Citizens Assembly Banja Luka, in cooperation with partner organisations Perpetuum Mobile Banjaluka, Centre for promotion of civil society Doboj and Centre for woman's rights Zenica, implemented monitoring in 82 elementary and secondary schools, focusing on implementation of anti-corruption procedures in education institutions and ethics and anti-corruption programmes.



## AT THE ORDER OF PRIME MINISTER: Dogs from Sarajevo killed at the city landfill Smiljevići!

Online magazine Žurnal continues to investigate stories of corruption, crime and abuse of public authority and budget funds throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina. It was discovered that personal interests of SDA are behind demolition of childrens park and construction of the business centre, and that money for employment of persons with disability was spent for purchase of fitness equipment, as well as that mayor of Novi Grad Municipality gave 80,000 to his party boss, and that he wrote off 280,000 KM to an SDA tycoon.

Žurnal reporters investigated the story of how Civil Protection spent 600,000 KM on a NATO exercise, and how the Independent Systems Operator spent 2,3 KM for business premises in Pale. You can read who are court experts for economy sector, and about FBiH Motorways attempts to remove consortium ranked as number one on the tender, as well as who are the members of the FA BiH. It was discovered that archive of the Tuzla Municipal Court was robbed and that children of the Ministers from Ministry of HB Court received scholarships for vulnerable students from Croatia.

[Read Žurnal!](#)



## COOPERATION

### NEW MUNICIPALITIES IN FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

In the past period, ACCOUNT Anticorruption Network in BiH and municipalities of Breza, Ilijaš, Travnik and Visoko signed memorandums of cooperation to develop action plans for fight against corruption locally. Mayor of Travnik Municipality, Admir Hadžiemrić, noted that Travnik, in cooperation with ACCOUNT, under this action plan, will adopt certain principles of work. *"In this way we want to demonstrate that the Municipality is committed to fight corruption and thus bring benefit to all of its citizens. We want to do things transparently, but also serve as an example to other municipalities"*, he said.



Signing Breza



Signing Ilijaš



Signing Visoko



Signing Travnik



Meeting CGS Livno-Općina Bosansko Grahovo

Representatives of the Centre for civic cooperation Livno met with Duško Radun, the Mayor of Bosansko Grahovo, in late September. They agreed on cooperation regarding development of the anti-corruption action plan. The meeting was also attended by Danka Zelić, Director of Citizen Association UG Grahovo, a partner organisation on this project, Luka Krstanović, President of OV Tomislavgrad and Asmir Orman, representative of the Centre for civic cooperation Livno.

Working group for development of the anti-corruption action plan in mid- October *drafted proposal of the Anti-corruption action plan for the local administration of the City of Bihac (2017-2019)*. The plan was submitted to Mayor Šuhretu Fazlić, who will forward it to Bihac City Council.

## PRIZMA BRČKO:

### Politicians should be more accountable to citizens

In the past month PRIZMA Brčko carried out campaign focused on pressuring political subjects in Brčko District of BiH to be more accountable. The essence of campaign was to exert pressure on political subjects to act in line with their party documents, since in case they violate their own statute they can be expected to act the same in terms of laws and other regulation. Political subjects delegate their representatives into executive and legislative authorities, despite their tendency to disobey own party provisions and act on their own, which is carried over into public offices by breaking the laws or designing laws which favour corruption and criminal behaviour.

### Selector groups meetings held

Over the past month, members of the sectoral groups Education, Health Care and Whistle-blowers held their regular meetings. On that occasion, results achieved so far were presented and new activities for the period 2017-2018 were announced. In addition, the groups discussed ideas and proposals to mark the day and week of fight against corruption.



Sector health group

### NEW CAMPAIGN

**MY HANDS ARE CLEAN, HOW ABOUT YOURS?** The CROA association, as part of the project Prevention of corruption in education: More knowledge, more transparency, launched an online campaign 'My hands are clean' which aims to raise awareness on the need to prevent corruption. The campaign invites young people from Bosnia-Herzegovina to post a selfie on the social media with raised palms, to announce that they have not participated in corruptive activity.



### LAW ON PROTECTION OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS SOON AT THE FBiH LEVEL

Foundation INFOHOUSE and FBiH Ministry of Justice have agreed to start developing draft Law on protection of whistle-blowers at the level of FBiH, as part of the Anticorruption Network in BiH -ACCOUNT. The signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation and establishment of the working group were agreed. Ervin Turbic from Association JUSTICIJA was appointed as the member of the working group on behalf of the ACCOUNT Network.

### ANNOUNCING!!!!

- Marking of the anticorruption week in December
- Results of the monitoring of implementation of the anticorruption action plans at the local level
- Education on ethics and anticorruption for teachers in primary and secondary schools continues in Canton Sarajevo, CBC and Brčko District of BiH.

