



Centar za građansko obrazovanje  
Centre for Civic Education

institut alternativa



# LET'S CLEAN UP CORRUPTION: start from your street!



*Corruption at the local level – zero tolerance!* – This project is funded by the European Union through the Delegation of the EU to Montenegro within the IPA 2011, and is implemented by the Centre for Civic Education (CCE) in cooperation with the NGO Institute Alternative (IA) from Podgorica, NGO Bonum from Pljevlja and NGO Nada from Herceg Novi.

## Corruption...

“...is the abuse of public office for private gain.”<sup>1</sup>

“...represents a major threat to the rule of law, democracy and human rights, fairness and social justice, hinders economic development and endangers the proper and fair functioning of market economies.”<sup>2</sup>

“...means requesting, offering, giving or accepting, directly or indirectly, a bribe or any other undue advantage or prospect of thereof, which distorts the proper performance of any duty or behaviour required of the recipient of the bribe, the undue advantage or the prospect thereof.”<sup>3</sup>

*“... remains prevalent in many areas and continues to be a serious problem.”<sup>4</sup>*

## Corruption at the local level...

... is corruption at lower levels of government, where there a direct contact between citizens and the administration exists, and it usually occurs in situations when it comes to issuing the most diverse documents, licenses, as well as during penalty charges, public procurements, employments procedures, etc..

This type of corruption can survive only if circumstances for this phenomenon exist, and these circumstances are being created by the


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1 The World Bank

2 The Civil Law Convention on Corruption, the Council of Europe

3 The Civil Law Convention on Corruption, the Council of Europe

4 The Montenegro Progress Report 2013, the European Commission



*systemic corruption*, where at the higher levels of government (local or national ones) individuals or groups dominate the decision-making processes of public interest.

Systemic corruption is impossible to maintain without *political corruption*, which is related to illegal actions in the exercise of political functions, and represents the abuse of positions of political leaders and their closest associates in obtaining personal or group gain, at the expense of all citizens.

***Corruption brings into question the basis of the democratic system – the equality of citizens before the law.***

Subsystems particularly vulnerable to corruption are: the *party system and parties* as the largest source of the most common form of maintenance and extension of political corruption, the *police, prosecution and judiciary* that should investigate and prosecute corruption crimes, the *administration* which the citizens most come in contact with due to different issues, followed by the *tax, customs, inspection and public procurement system* through which a threat to the budget and the resources that citizens are investing occurs, the *health and pension subsystems* within the social system, the *education system* within the value system, as a system which contains a small amount of money but in which corruption produces most tragic consequences.

Citizen participation in the decision-making process is a sound basis for establishment of a



modern local government and improvement of democracy in total.

*As citizens, we can all contribute to the fight against corruption in these areas!*

You can report corruption at the local level on 020/665-112 during weekdays from 08-16h.



**CALL AND PREVENT!  
020/665-112**

Also, you can report corruption via citizen card! Look for the box in your municipality.<sup>5</sup>

**CITIZEN REPORT CARD FOR CORRUPTION**

Name of the local body/service on which work/act third party has objection/complaint/charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of the working position, preferably name of the local official/employee on which work/act/lack of act the report on corruption is referring to: \_\_\_\_\_

Listing of body/service/official/employee eventually connected with act or lack of act concerning the report on corruption: \_\_\_\_\_


Title of the file (identification of the file) for which the third party addressed the local body: \_\_\_\_\_

Short description of the acting for which the third party assess that contains elements of the corruption: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of the report submission \_\_\_\_\_



<sup>5</sup> Applies for the following municipalities: Bar, Budva, Cetinje, Danilovgrad, Herceg Novi, Kolašin, Kotor, Mojkovac, Nikšić, Pljevlja, Plužine, Podgorica, Rožaje i Tivaf.

## Criminal acts with elements of corruption:<sup>6</sup>

- » Abuse of an official position,
- » Passive bribery,
- » Active bribery,
- » Passive bribery in business operations,
- » Active bribery in business operations,
- » Disclosing a business secret,
- » Trading in influence,
- » Abuse of monopolistic position,
- » Negligence in business operations,
- » Causing bankruptcy,
- » Instigation to trading in influence,
- » Abuse of authorizations in economy,
- » Violation of equality in the conduct of business activities,
- » Money laundering,
- » Fraud in the conduct of an official duty,
- » Causing false bankruptcy,
- » False balance, and
- » Abuse of appraisal.

<sup>6</sup> Criminal Code of Montenegro



## Measures in the fight against corruption at the local level:

- » Definition of severe punishments for corruption as preventive and repressive measure,
- » Institutional and normative improvement and protection of the status of whistleblowers,
- » Development and implementation of integrity plans at the local level,
- » Establishment of effective control mechanisms in all local governments,
- » Strengthening the capacity of the State Audit Institution and the Department for Inspection of Public Procurement and their regular control of local governments,
- » Inclusion of the employment policy and urbanism as priorities in local action plans for fight against corruption,
- » Legal redefinition of the local parliament's control role,
- » Involvement of NGOs in working groups for drafting the general acts and development plans,
- » Improvement of the procedures and quality of public discussions,
- » Conduct of periodic surveys regarding transparency of municipal services' performance and trust in municipal authorities,
- » Improvement of the system and functionality of local communities.

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