

Webinar

Effectively Identifying Corruption Risks in the Central - Local Level Budget Distribution and Spending

Agenda

10 October 2023, [Zoom](#)

9:15 CET [Registration](#)

9:45 CET *Opening remarks*

Desislava Gotskova, Head of Secretariat, Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative

Daniela Mineva, Senior Analyst, Economic Program, Center for Study of Democracy

10:00 CET *Session: The role of international organizations and civil society networks in increasing the levels of transparency and accountability of public distribution and spending*

Ioannis Vlassis, Analyst, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC)

Alexandra Tekijaski, Senior Officer, Program and Fundraising and **Ajda Turk** Officer, Leadership and Learning Ecosystems, Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF)

Zorana Markovic, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Liljana Cvetanoska, Anti-Corruption expert and trainer on the Corruption Prevention Programme at the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

Snezana Kamilovska, Chief of Party, USAID Citizens Against Corruption Activity, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC)

Moderator: **Nikola Naumovski**, Senior Anti-Corruption Advisor, RAI Secretariat

11:00 CET *Examples of promising anti-corruption and integrity practices on oversight of budget distribution and fiscal decentralization*

Maksim Acevski, General Revisor, State Audit Office, North Macedonia

Margarita Dobrynina, Special Investigation Service of the Republic of Lithuania
Head of the Strategic Analysis Division

Vanya Petrova, Senior Analyst, CSD and **Ivica Simonovski**, AML/CFT Consultant, Lecturer
Budget Committee to the Parliament of North Macedonia/TBC

Leila Bicakcic, Executive Director, Center for Investigative Journalism, Sarajevo

German Filkov, President of the Center for Civil Communications, North Macedonia

Discussion:

- Examine whether the preparation of national anti-corruption strategies aligns with international standards when addressing corruption risks in financial management.
- Explore the key governmental measures implemented that detect and reduce partisan, discretionary and discriminatory national, and foreign donors' budget allocation from the central to local level.
- Discuss the efficiency and effectiveness of these measures as well as the public body that is in charge of mandating and addressing these issues (parliamentary committees, agencies, ministries, central audit offices, financial police, EU funds managing authorities, etc.)
- Discuss which practices best ensure civil society participation, transparency, and accountability when budget planning, and spending, at both a local and national level.
- Examine the types of civil society, media, international donors support, and cooperation among public authorities that is needed to tackle the process of discretionary and discriminatory budget allocation at a local level (e.g. regular checks and audits, capacity building).

Moderator: **Aneta Arnaudovska**, RAI Anti-Corruption Expert

12:15 CET *Closing remarks*

The working language of the forum is English.