

# GLOBAL CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX (CPI) 2024

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### **Corruption Perception Index CPI 2024**

Global (180 states/territories)

agregate Index (up to 13 different dana sources) which measures corruption (abuse of public authority for private benefit)

perception (of experts/business people)

in public sector (state officials and public servants)

## Corruption Perception Index CPI 2024

- The CPI is an annual survey that provides dana that can be monitored continuously. CPI 2024 is 29<sup>th</sup> in a row.
- At least 3 surveys per country/territory for ranking
- Research must be published within the previous 24 months
- Countries are scored on a scale of 100 (very 'clean') to 0 (very corrupt)
- It examines perception, not necessarily performance in the fight against corruption, the quality of regulations, intentions or potential for the fight against corruption (e.g. the number of reported cases, the number of convictions, the number of articles in the media on this topic, adopted laws, announcements by politicians etc.)





## **Possibility of Comparison**

- For long-term comparisons, a country's score is more relevant than its position in the table since the number of countries/territories included has changed. Since 2017, this number has remained the same 180.
- Changes in the index for individual countries/territories may be the result of a change in the sample – researches that were taken into account when compiling the index. Likewise, since not all countries are covered by the same studies during a given period, this should be taken into account when interpreting the results and comparing countries.
- The current CPI score is fully comparable with results since CPI 2012 rating.
- Due to methodological changes from 2012, the possibility of comparing the current CPI with results from earlier years (before CPI 2012) is limited: one can compare the place on the list (taking into account the changes in the number of countries in the sample and the movement of other countries) or compare the results by individual researches; it is not methodologically correct to multiply the score from years before 2012 by 10 or divide the current score by 10! Comparisons with previous years should be taken with a grain of salt because the number of sources has increased, which has affected the way grades are calculated.



#### **Data Sources**

CPI relies on 13 data sources that include the assessment of experts and business people on a range of corrupt practices in the public sector, including:

- Bribery
- Abuse of public funds
- Use of public office for private gain
- Nepotism in the civil service
- State capture

Some of the sources also discuss the mechanisms available to prevent corruption in countries/territories, such as:

- the government's ability to implement integrity mechanisms
- effective prosecution of corrupt officials
- professionalism of public administration
- the existence of adequate laws on the publication of financial data, conflict of interest, prevention of corruption and access to information
- independence of the judiciary
- legal protection of whistleblowers and journalists



## **CPI Objectives**

- To measure the presence of corruption in the public sector as perceived by business people, experts and risk analysts
- To improve the comparative understanding of the level of corruption
- To offer a cross-section of views of decision-makers that affect trade and investment
- To stimulate scientific research, and analysis of the causes and consequences of corruption, on the international and domestic level
- To contribute to raising awareness of corruption in public and create a climate for change

#### CPI Advantages and Disadvantages TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL the global coallition against corruption

#### **Advantages:**

- CPI provides an opportunity to advance the debate on corruption in the public
- CPI is a good incentive to conduct further analysis
- CPI enables global comparability it covers almost all countries of the world
- Other mechanisms for assessing the level of corruption give similar findings to the CPI

#### Disadvantages:

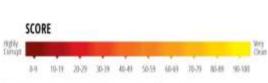
- The index will not reflect the achieved results in the fight against corruption until the change in practice becomes clearly visible and convincing to the respondents; the index changes relatively slowly, as it includes research from the last two years
- Developing countries can be portrayed in a worse light due to the biases and prejudices of foreign observers. That is why there are other means for measuring corruption, e.g.



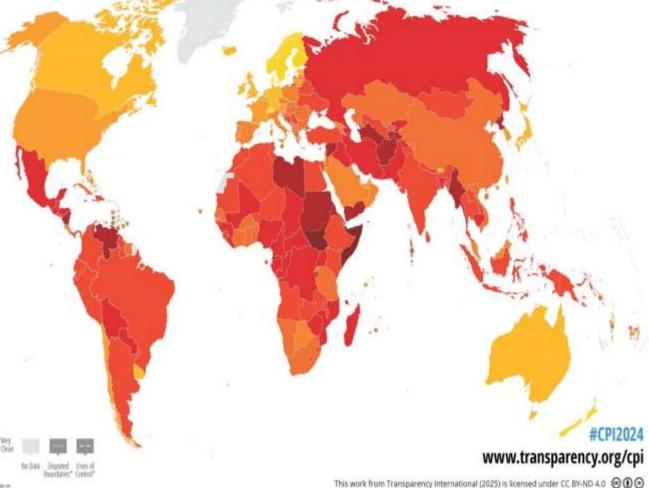


# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2024

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.

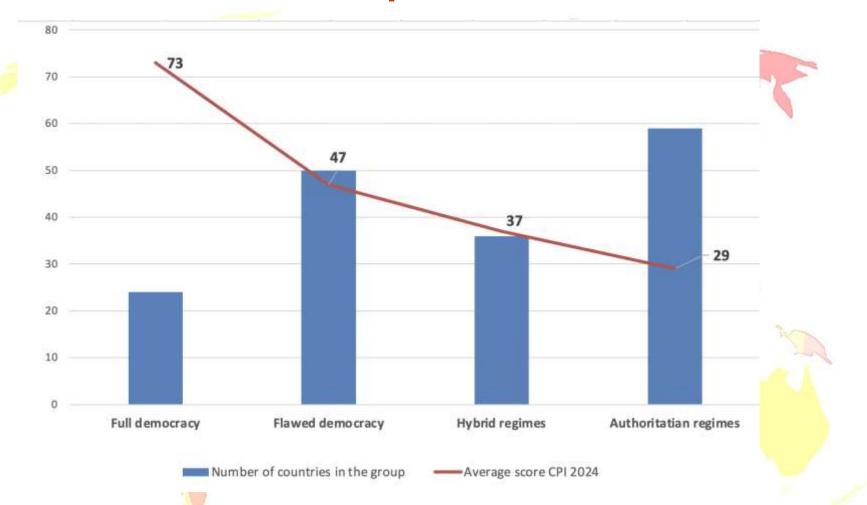








# Quality of democracy and perception of corruption



## Methodological Notes for Serbia - CPI 2024

- Serbia was included in 8 surveys considered when compiling this year's index. The same eight sources for Serbia have been used for 7 years, (when a new one was added). The same seven sources have been used for 12 years in a row. This results in high reliability when comparing dana over a longer period of time.
- The territory of Serbia was observed without Kosovo and Metohija (for which the index is prepared separately).
- Of the original surveys that were taken into account when compiling the CPI for Serbia, dana were collected during 2024 (three surveys), during 2023 (three surveys), and during both years (one survey), while one includes an earlier period.
- Of the eight original surveys for CPI 2024, the score improved in four studies, while in the other four, the score was worse compared to CPI 2023. The lower scores outweighed the improvements, leading to a decline in the overall score (35).

#### Source of data in initial research that includes Serbia



Sources	Sample research
FH (Freedom House, Nations in Transit) 2024	Observations of non-residents; respondents mostly come from developed countries
BF (Bertelsmann Foundation) Transformation Index 2024  EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit) 2024  GI (Global Insight Country Risk Ratings) 2023  PRS ICRG (Political Risk Services International Country Risk Guide) 2024	Experts hired by the bank/institution
WEF (World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey) 2024	Perceptions of residents; respondents are mostly local experts, local business people and multinational companies
WJP (World Justice Project Rule of Law Index) 2024  Varieties of Democracy Project 2024	Local experts

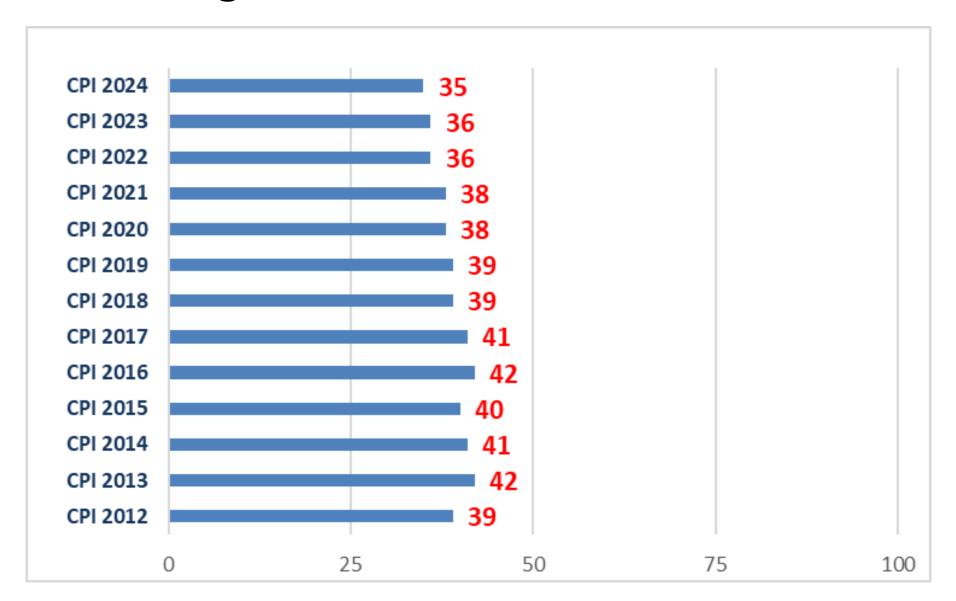
#### Results of Serbia in CPI 2024

Rank	Country	Score 2024	Number of research
105	Serbia	35	8

- Serbia shares the 105th place with Ukraine.
- Last year, with the score of 36 we shared the 104th place with three other countries (Algeria, Brazil, Ukraine)



### Changes in Serbia's score on the CPI



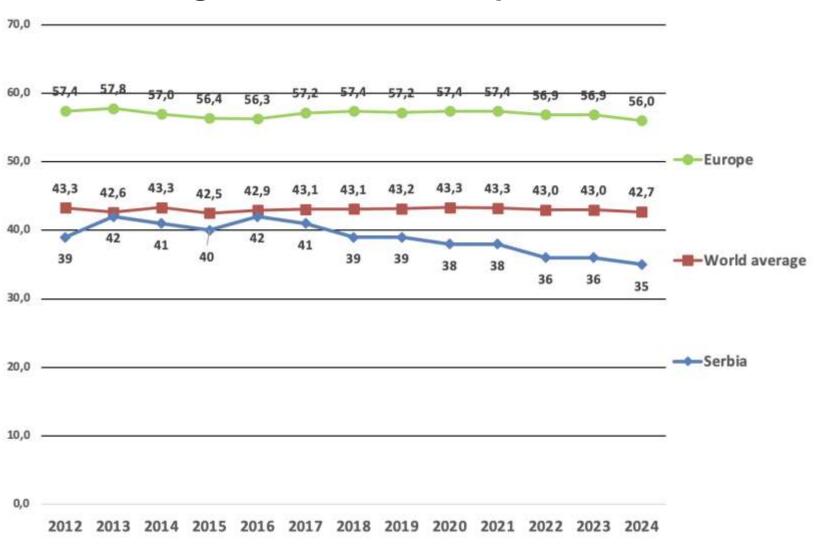


## Ratings for Serbia by sources 2012-2024





#### CPI changes for Serbia, Europe and the World



#### **CPI 2024** – Best and Worst Ranked



#### Countries perceived as the least corrupt

Rank	Country	Score (0-100)	No. of research
1	Denmark	90	8
2	Finland	88	8
3	Singapore	84	9

#### Countries percieved as the most corrupt

Rank	Country	Score (0-100)	No. of research
180	South Sudan	8	5
179	Somalia	9	6
178	Venezuela	10	8



## CPI 2024 – Serbia and the Region

Rank	Country/territory	Score 2023	Score 2024
36	Slovenia	56	60个
63	Croatia	50	47 ↓
65	Romania	46	46 =
65	Montenegro	46	46 =
73	Kosovo*	41	44 ↑
76	Bulgaria	45	43 ↓
80	Albania	37	42 ↑
82	Hungary	42	41 🗸
88	North <mark>Macedon</mark> ia	42	40 ↓
105	Serbia	36	35 ↓
114	Bosnia and Herzegovina	35	33↓

Legend: green - EU members



## CPI 2024 and comparisons with previous years

- Perception changes slowly only in rare cases are changes in a country significant, even annually. The global average remained 43, as in the previous three years. The average score for Europe has dropped from 57 to 56. The average for EU countries is 62.
- Compared to the previous year, Oman made the most progress globally (+12). On the other hand, the perception of corruption worsened the most in Eritrea (-8), as well as in Malta, Slovakia, Mexico, Libya and Egypt (-5).
- In our region, Albania has made the most progress (+5).



# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2024

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.

#### SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY Singapore New Zealand Luxembourg Norway Switzerland Sweden Netherlands Australia Iceland Ireland Estonia Uruguay Canada Germany Hong Kong Bhutan Seychelles Japan United Kingdom Belgium Barbados United Arab Emirates

Austria France

67	Taiwan
65	Bahamas
65	United States
64	Israel
5.5	Korea, South
63	Chile
63	Lithuania
6.3	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
62	Cabo Verde
58	Dominica
60	Slovenia
59	Latvia
59	Qater
59	Saint Lucia
59	Saudi Arabia
58	Costa Rica
57	Botswana
57	Portugal
57	Rwanda
56	Cyprus
50	Czechia
56	Grenada
56	Spain
35	Fiji
55	Oman
54	italy
53	Bahrain

53	Georgia
513	Poland
51	Mauritius
50	Malaysia
50	Vanuatu
49	Greece
49	Jordan
49	Namibia
49	Slovakia
47	Armenia
47	Croatia
46	Kuwait
46	Malta
46	Montenegro
46	Romania
45	Benin
45	Côte d'Ivoire
15	Sao Tome and Principe
45	Senegal
10	Jamaica
44	Kosovo
44	Timor-Leste
43	Bulgaria
41	China
13	Moldova
43	Solomon Islands
-12	Albania

427	Ghana
41	Burkina Faso
41	Cuba
41	Hungary
41	South Africa
41	Tanzania
41	Trinidad and Tobago
40	Kazakhstan
40	North Macedonia
40	Suriname
80	Vietnam
39	Colombia
39	Guyana
39	Tunisia
39	Zambia
38	Gambia
301	India
36	Maldives
77	Argentina
37	Ethiopia
37	Indonesia
37	Lesotho
37	Morocco
36	Dominican Republic
35	Serbia
35	Ukraine

34	Algeria
34	Brazil
34	Malawi
34	Nepai
34	Niger
34	Theiland
34	Turkey
33	Belarus
33	Bosnia and Herzegovina
33	Laos
33	Mongolia
33	Panama
33	Philippines
33	Sierra Leone
32	Angola
32	Ecuador
32	Kenya
32	Sri Lanka
32	Togo
32	Uzbekistan
33	Djibouti
31	Papua New Guinea
31	Peru
30	Egypt
30	El Selvador
30	Mauritania

28	Bolivia
28	Guinea
27	Eswatini
27	Gabon
27	Liberia
27	Mali
27	Pakistan
26	Cameroon
26	Iraq
26	Madagascar
26	Mexico
26	Nigeria
26	Uganda
25	Guatemala
25	Kyrgyzstan
25	Mozambique
24	Central Africas Republic
24	Paraguay
23	Bangladesh
23	Congo
29	Iran
22	Azerbaijan
22	Honduras
22	Lebanon
22	Russia
21	Cambodia
21	Chad

21	Comoros
21	Guinea-Bissau
21	Zimbabwe
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
19	Tajikistan
17	Afghanistan
17	Burundi
17	Turkmenistan
16	Haiti
16	Myanmar
15	Korea, North
15	Sudan
14	Nicaragua
13	Equatorial Guinea
13	Eritrea
13	Libya
13	Yemen
12	Syria
10	Venezuela
9	Somalia
8	South Sudan









#### Results CPI 2024 and Serbia

- This year's result reflects an eight-year negative trend of stagnation and decline, starting from 2016. Serbia's problem is not only the perception of corruption; there has also been no substantial progress in combating it, and the legal and institutional mechanisms that should help prevent corruption have been further weakened over the past year.
- The similarity of trends in the research based on which the CPI is calculated drastically reduces the possibility that it is only a matter of subjective impressions or a reaction to individual disputed situations.
- Serbia is considered a country where the level of corruption is high; it is in the lower half of the world's list. Serbia's score has reached the global average only twice during the last decade, and now it is eight points below it. The rating is far below the average of our continent and has been below the Balkan average for several years.
- Serbian citizens also have the impression of a high prevalence of corruption, although, in those surveys, the fluctuations in the perception of corruption are significantly greater. Also, research on the implementation of specific anti-corruption regulations and findings of international organizations speak of the malfunctioning of the system.

## Main problems in the fight against corruption

- The fight against corruption is not a priority.
- The reform of the judiciary has not brought visible progress regarding the independence of action of public prosecutors in detecting and prosecuting corruption
- There is no systematic follow-up of actions following whistleblower reports / and cases brought to the public remain unexamined
- The Government of Serbia openly violates existing anti-corruption rules
- Public resources are not protected
- Critical decisions are made outside the (competent) institutions and without explaining the reasons and impact

## Demands of the students and civic protests and the government's response

- The protests include a specific demand for the disclosure of information regarding an infrastructure project that was contracted without a tender, as well as a general call for transparency, accountability, and institutional compliance with their mandates.
- The government responded by publishing numerous documents on multiple occasions, each time claiming that everything had been disclosed. However, some key documents are still missing, which are essential for determining responsible management of public finances related to the railway infrastructure project from Novi Sad to the Hungarian border.
- There are no indications that the government intends to change its general practice of non-transparency in contract negotiations and project execution, which costs Serbia several billion euros annually.
- As a response to public anti-corruption demands, an announcement was made regarding "results that will be visible by the end of March 2025". However, this statement came from an unauthorized source—the President of the Republic.
- Even if such an announcement had been made by the Chief Prosecutor or the Director of Police (who has yet to be appointed), the message would still be problematic. It could only be interpreted as confirmation that investigative authorities already possess evidence of a significant number of corruption cases but have failed to act on them in a timely manner.



- Insufficient importance given to the fight against corruption
  - The national strategy was adopted five and a half years after the previous one expired;
  - The Prime Minister's 2024 address lacked concrete action plans;
  - No reports on the Action Plan for Chapter 23 were published during 2024;
  - Ignoring recommendations from GRECO and ODIHR.
- The achievement of the overall goal of the Strategy is measured through progress on the CPI the goal is to reach the global average by the end of 2028 (43), but we are now even further from that goal than at the time this act was adopted.



The Strategy and Action Plan for the first year of implementation do not offer solutions for some of the most pressing issues:

- Public prosecutors do not proactively investigate publicly disclosed and documented suspicions of corruption;
- The government proposes, and the parliament adopts, special laws and intergovernmental agreements that exclude the application of the Public Procurement Law;
- State-owned enterprises and public administration are managed by illegally appointed acting officials;
- The government does not publish signed contracts or other key information on decision-making, leaving room for numerous suspicions of hidden influences;
- Instead of parliament effectively overseeing the work of the government using reports
  from independent state bodies, the legislative and executive branches are subordinated
  to the President of the Republic, and the role of independent bodies is marginalized;
- The ability of the media, civil society, and citizens to contribute to the fight against corruption has been significantly reduced, as media outlets that question accountability are treated as political opposition, and there is an absence of public debate in the decision-making process;



#### Judicial Reform

- Constitutional guarantees of the independence of public prosecutors have not brought any changes in practice;
- Not only do public prosecutors and other state authorities fail to act proactively, but they also do not provide information on the outcomes of criminal reports that the complainants have made public.
- Although many whistleblowers receive legal protection for their labor rights, no state
  institution systematically monitors what happens following their reports. The strongly
  negative attitude of officials toward certain whistleblowers who publicly exposed
  corruption and other irregularities discourages the use of this mechanism.

#### Open Disregard for Anti-Corruption Rules:

- Continuation of illegal management of public enterprises. Decreased transparency in the operations of state-owned enterprises transformed into joint-stock companies;
- Additional risk: executives in these enterprises are not classified as public officials due to an unfounded authentic interpretation of the Law on the Prevention of Corruption;
- Retroactive and otherwise unlawful appointments of acting officials in public administration;



#### Unprotected public resources:

- Determining priorities that are financed by borrowing without an adopted plan, the ability of citizens to influence them and without respecting the opinions of relevant state authorities (Fiscal Council);
- Large public expenditures that can be linked to elections;
- Unexamined cases where harmful and illegal decisions were pointed out (e.g. reports of the Council for the fight against corruption);
- Awarding the most valuable jobs by direct negotiation or based on special laws;
- Waiver of potential public revenues without adequate explanation and information about the beneficiaries.

#### Making decisions - outside (competent) institutions without explaining the real reasons and impact

- Construction plans for infrastructure facilities;
- Lithium Mining Decisions;
- Failure to act on requests for access to information and decisions of the Commisioner, completely ineffective legal protection when information is requested from the Government of Serbia;
- Incomplete explanations of acts;
- Absence of information about possible lobbying.

## Unexploited Opportunities to Fight Corruption

- EU integration and international recommendations:
  - The fact that the progress in the fight against corruption is monitored throughout the negotiations was not used - the critical problems are repeated in the EC's annual reports;
  - The method of monitoring progress by the EU sometimes sends misleading signals "limited" or "certain progress" is recorded, even when there is no substantial improvement; Useful but insufficient measures are foreseen in the Reform Agenda.
  - Recommendations from other international organizations (ODIHR, GRECO) have either not been implemented at all or only to a very limited extent.
- Concentrated political power since 2014, the situation in which the
  government is stable enough to implement reforms has not been used to
  establish a complete system of institutional fight against corruption but to
  weaken it;
- Support of citizens Research consistently shows that citizens express (in principle) intolerance towards corruption, but they have generally been inclined to prioritize other issues. Additionally, the failure to address uncovered cases of suspected corruption has fueled apathy.



## Anti-corruption priorities in 2024 Political corruption

- Establishment of safe channels for reporting irregularities related to abuse of public resources, use of public office and election procedure and their promotion by state authorities;
- Urgent investigation of all disclosed violations before and during the December 2023 and June 2024 election campaigns;
- Legally restricting the possibility of conducting a "public officials' campaign", that is, apparently
  regular activities of public officials undertaken for political promotion and the establishment of
  functional independent supervision, as well as public expenditures in the period before and
  immediately after the election;
- Limiting the expenses of the election campaign, specifying the duties of the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption in the control of reports on campaign expenses, ensuring greater public disclosure of data while the election campaign lasts;
- Ensuring greater public influence on the adoption of regulations and individual decisions, whether it is registered lobbying, unregistered lobbying or informal forms of communication, which the Law on Lobbying does not regulate;
- Respect for constitutional and legal rules and principles of separation of powers in decisionmaking.



## **Anti-corruption plans - priorities**

- Determining the reasons for not achieving the goals from the National Strategy for the Fight against Corruption 2013-2018 and accountability for the failure to fulfil activities from the Action Plan for Chapter 23;
- Development of the Action Plan for the Anti-Corruption Strategy for the period 2026-2028, identifying issues omitted from the Strategy, and its amendment through a process involving all relevant stakeholders, to be adopted by the National Assembly rather than the Government;
- Incorporating anti-corruption measures into the new Government's program, with a clear commitment to abandoning unlawful practices (particularly regarding the appointment of acting officials), introducing a practice of regular action on reports from the Government's Anti-Corruption Council, and ensuring the publication of documents of public interest (contracts, information on influences in the decision-making process, explanations of by-laws and personnel decisions, government conclusions, and similar matters).



#### **Prosecution and Punishment of Corruption**

- Investigating all cases of suspected corruption in connection with which documents
  have been disclosed or direct accusations have been made, without waiting for the
  public prosecutor to file a criminal complaint, and publishing information about the
  outcome of the investigation, including the explanation in case it is determined that
  there is no criminal responsibility;
- Ensuring all conditions for prosecuting corruption using special investigative techniques, for conducting financial investigations alongside criminal ones and for proactivity in investigating corruption, which includes amendments to the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Law on the Organisation and Competence of State Authorities in Suppression of Organised Crime and Terrorism and corruption for more effective prosecution of certain forms of corruption;
- Improvement and comprehensive supervision of the implementation of the Law on the Protection of Whistleblowers;
- Publishing of information on the current implementation of the Law on the Investigation of the Origin of Property and Special Tax and an overview of its anticorruption effects (if any), and opening a discussion on the criminalisation of "illegal enrichment" in the sense of Article 20 of the UNCAC as a potentially better solution.



## **Prevention of Corruption – Public work**

- The Government of Serbia should ensure the execution of the Commissioner's decision and start acting regularly on the received requests;
- The possibility of appealing to the Commissioner should also be introduced in cases where information is withheld by the Government, the National Assembly, the President, the Supreme Court, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, the Constitutional Court and the National Bank;
- The right to access information must not be restricted by provisions of other laws, and the exercise of this right should be expanded to include information held by currently uncovered entities (e.g., joint ventures within public-private partnerships).;
- Government authorities should publish all information in an open format, and state control bodies should cross-check data from these databases when determining their work plans and conducting oversight;
- The obligation to prepare and publish explanations for decisions should be introduced where it does not currently exist (e.g. certain conclusions of the Government);
- The National Assembly should apply the provisions of the Code of Ethics in cases where MPs do not explain their actions to the public.

#### TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL the global coalition against corruption

#### **Public Finances**

- Ensuring complete information regarding the transformation of public enterprises, the impact of unprofessional management on public finances, and the possible role of external consultants in future management;
- Conducting oversight of the planning, implementation, and execution of public procurement in a significantly larger number of cases by the Public Procurement Office, Budget Inspection, and the Commission for Protection of Competition, as well as by the State Audit Institution regarding their costeffectiveness;
- Ensuring full transparency in public-private partnerships and annulling all contracts that essentially constitute PPPs but were concluded without applying the law or any valid legal basis;
- Ending the practice of signing intergovernmental agreements that allow for the exclusion of transparency and competition in concluding public procurement contracts, public-private partnerships, and the sale of public assets;
- Ceasing the practice of conducting procurements based on special laws enacted for infrastructure projects and repealing the recently adopted special law for EXPO 2027;
- Increasing the transparency of data on allocations from the budget reserve;
- Providing comprehensive justifications for the selection of infrastructure projects, the profitability of borrowing, and measures of financial support;
- Enabling citizens to influence budget priorities at the national level;
- Publishing budget execution data throughout the year in a manner that allows tracking by budget users and programs;
- Regularly reviewing reports and analyses prepared by the State Audit Institution and the Fiscal Council
  and acting on their recommendations.

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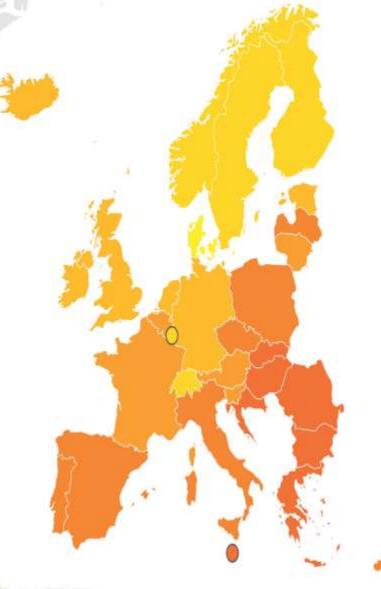
### WESTERN EUROPE & EUROPEAN UNION

64/100

**AVERAGE SCORE** 

#### SCORE







#### SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

90	Denmark
88	Finland
81	Luxembourg
81	Norway
81	Switzerland
80	Sweden
78	Netherlands
777	Iceland
77	Ireland
76	Estonia
75	Germany
71	United Kingdom

Belgium Austria

France

63	Lithuania
60	Slovenia
59	Latvia
57	Portugal
56	Cyprus
56	Czechia
56	Spain
54	Italy
53	Poland
49	Greece
49	Slovakia
47	Croatia
46	Malta
46	Romania
43	Bulgaria

Hungary

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# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2024

#### **EUROPEAN UNION**

**62**/100

**AVERAGE SCORE** 





2000	COURTER	OTTOWN !	TORNE
OF FIRMS	COUNTRY	/TEWES	TOTAL STREET
JUNE -	COUNTRIES	CHEMN	IIVNI.

90	Denmark
88	Finland
81	Luxembourg
80	Sweden
	Netherlands
	Ireland
	Estonia
	Germany
69	Belgium
67	Austria
67	France
63	Lithuania

Slovenia

59	Latvia
57	Portugal
56	Cyprus
56	Czechia
56	Spain
54	Italy
53	Poland
49	Greece
49	Slovakia
47	Croatia
46	Malta
46	Romania
43	Bulgaria
41	Hungary

SCORE



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## CORRUPTION **PERCEPTIONS INDEX** 2024

#### **EASTERN EUROPE** & CENTRAL ASIA

**AVERAGE SCORE** 

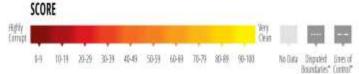




#### SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

- Georgia
- Armenia
- Montenegro
- Kosovo
- Moldova
- Albania
- Kazakhstan
- North Macedonia
- Serbia
- Ukraine
- Turkey
- Belarus
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Uzbekistan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Azerbaijan
- Russia
- Tajikistan

Turkmenistan



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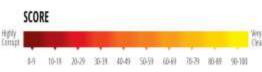
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# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2024

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.



"The independence employed and the presentation of instantial and the mop follow the UN practice to the frest of our knowledge as of Jensey 2005. They do not employ the expension of any opinion on the part of 2 impagations for training of constrained concerning the legislature of any company, instructing, they are an or of 2 as a distriction of construing the delete statement of 15 involves to include less.

