

# **USER MANUAL FOR THE PLATFORM INTEGRITY WATCH SERBIA**

## Contents

|                                                            |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| About the Platform.....                                    | 3  |
| PLATFORM STRUCTURE AND NAVIGATION.....                     | 3  |
| Basic Website Organization.....                            | 3  |
| Homepage.....                                              | 4  |
| THEMATIC SECTIONS OF THE PLATFORM.....                     | 4  |
| Public Procurement.....                                    | 4  |
| Contracts.....                                             | 4  |
| Framework Agreements.....                                  | 5  |
| Companies Related to Politics.....                         | 5  |
| EXPO 2027 MODULE.....                                      | 6  |
| Purpose and Importance of the EXPO 2027 Module.....        | 6  |
| Content and Structure of the EXPO Module.....              | 6  |
| EXPO 2027 as a Case Study.....                             | 7  |
| Analytical and Oversight Use of the EXPO Module.....       | 7  |
| Integrity Watch Platforms in Other Countries.....          | 7  |
| DATA SEARCH AND FILTERING.....                             | 8  |
| Text Search.....                                           | 8  |
| Filters.....                                               | 9  |
| VISUALIZATIONS AND INTERACTIVITY.....                      | 9  |
| DATA DOWNLOAD AND FURTHER PROCESSING.....                  | 10 |
| METHODOLOGICAL NOTES AND LIMITATIONS.....                  | 10 |
| USE OF THE PLATFORM IN RESEARCH AND JOURNALISTIC WORK..... | 10 |
| Use of the Platform in Research.....                       | 10 |
| Use of the Platform in Journalism.....                     | 11 |
| Ethical and Professional Standards.....                    | 11 |
| CONCLUSION.....                                            | 11 |
| TERMINOLOGICAL GLOSSARY.....                               | 12 |

## ABOUT THE PLATFORM

The Integrity Watch Serbia platform is a digital tool designed to enhance transparency, accountability, and oversight of public spending in the Republic of Serbia. The platform is developed and maintained by Transparency Serbia as part of the international Integrity Watch initiative, implemented in multiple European and regional countries with the aim of strengthening institutional integrity and reducing corruption risks.

The platform's primary purpose is to consolidate data from various publicly available sources and present them in a clear, systematic, and analytically usable manner. This enables users to gain insight into patterns of public spending, identify potential risks of conflicts of interest, and analyze relationships between the public and private sectors.

The platform is intended for a wide range of users, including:

- public authorities,
- journalists and media organizations,
- civil society organizations,
- researchers and analysts,
- citizens interested in transparency and accountability issues.

### PLATFORM STRUCTURE AND NAVIGATION

## Basic Website Organization

The Integrity Watch Serbia [website](#) is organized into several thematic sections accessible via the main navigation menu. The structure is designed to allow users to easily move between different databases and analytical views, regardless of prior experience with similar tools.

The main navigation elements include:

- the homepage,
- thematic modules (public procurement – contracts, framework agreements, companies linked to political actors, etc.),
- a dedicated module focused on the EXPO 2027 project,
- an informational page on methodology and data sources,
- language selection.



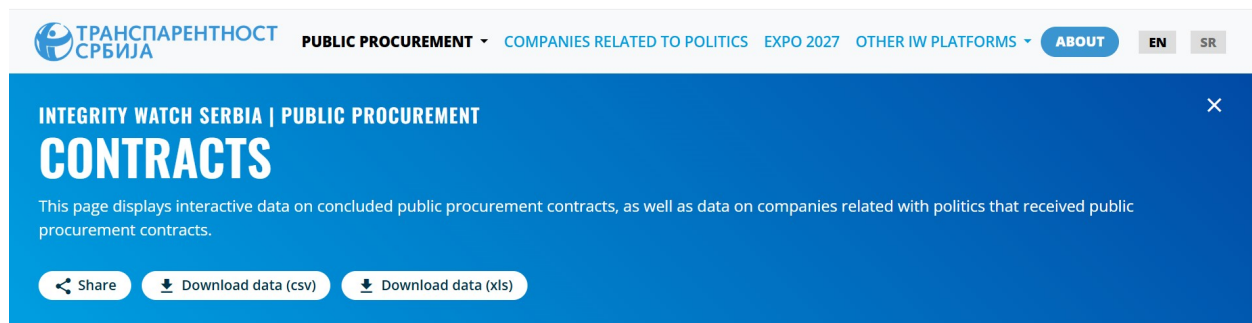
## Homepage

The homepage serves as the main entry point to the platform. It contains basic information about the purpose of the website, as well as highlighted visualizations illustrating key data and trends. From the homepage, users can access all other sections of the platform.

## THEMATIC SECTIONS OF THE PLATFORM

### Public Procurement

#### Contracts



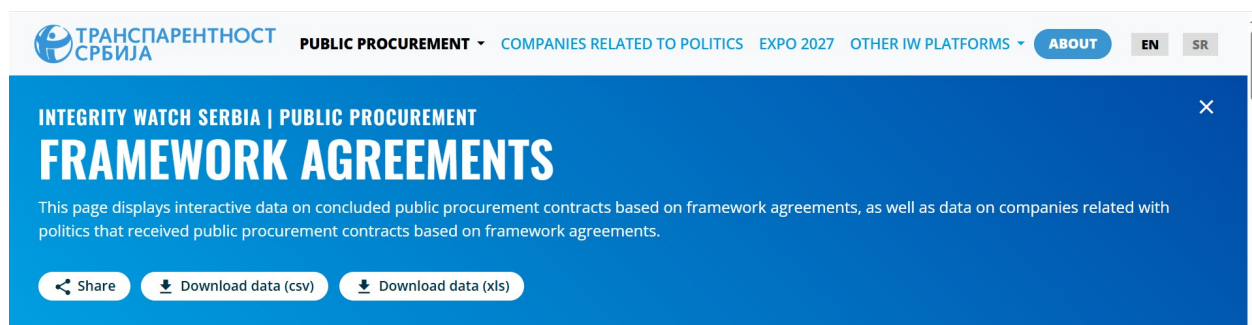
The *Public Procurement* section contains two subsections. The Contracts subsection enables an overview of contracts concluded by public authorities with economic operators using public funds.

The following data are available within this section:

- name of the contracting authority (institution or public enterprise),
- name of the bidder,
- contract value,
- contract conclusion date,
- name of the public procurement procedure.

The data are presented through a combination of tables and graphical displays, allowing users to simultaneously observe general trends and individual cases.

#### Framework Agreements



The *Framework Agreements* section represents the second subsection of the Public Procurement category and includes data on long-term contractual arrangements that enable repeated procurements without conducting a full procedure for each individual purchase.

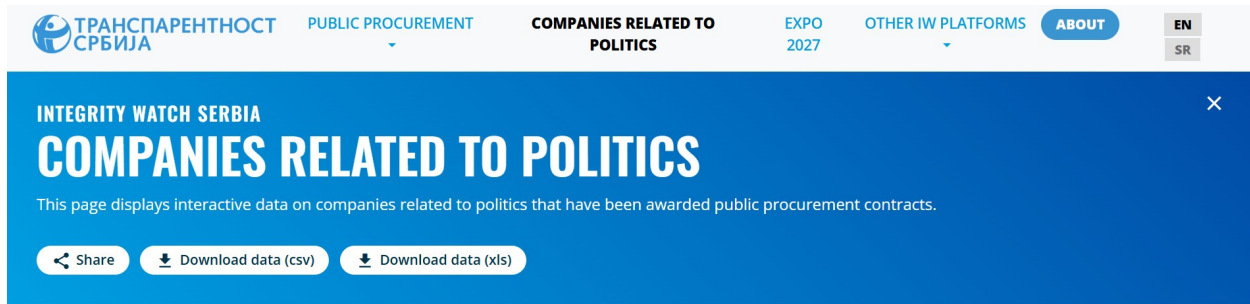
Users can analyze:

- institutions that most frequently use framework agreements,
- total financial values of these agreements,
- economic operators most often appearing as contracting parties.

This section is particularly important for analyzing the concentration of public funds and long-term business

relationships between the public and private sectors.

## Companies Related to Politics



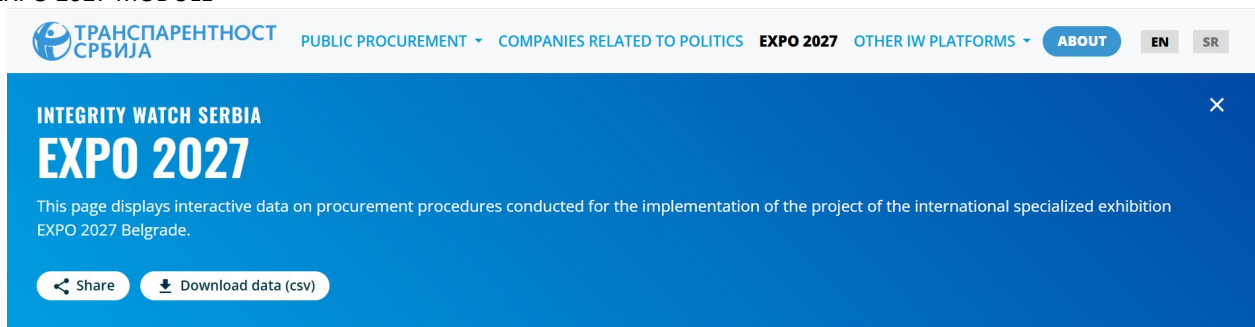
The *Companies Related to Politics* section focuses on identifying economic entities that have certain connections to political actors while simultaneously generating income from public sources.

In this section, users can:

- review a list of identified companies,
- analyze the total amounts of public funds received by these companies,
- compare their participation in public procurement with other companies.

It is important to emphasize that the presence of a company in this section does not constitute evidence of unlawful conduct but rather serves as a basis for further analysis and investigation.

### EXPO 2027 MODULE



## Purpose and Importance of the EXPO 2027 Module

The module dedicated to the *EXPO 2027* project was developed in response to the exceptionally large volume of financial resources, institutional actors, and public policies involved in this project. Given that this is one of the largest and most financially demanding projects in the Republic of Serbia, the goal of the EXPO 2027 module is to enable a higher level of transparency, monitoring, and public oversight over the processes accompanying its implementation.

The module is designed to allow users to systematically track the flow of public funds allocated to EXPO 2027, identify key institutions and economic operators involved in the project's implementation, and recognize potential risks associated with large-scale infrastructure and organizational projects.

## Content and Structure of the EXPO Module

The EXPO module includes data related to:

- public procurements and contracts directly or indirectly linked to the EXPO 2027 project;
- public authorities, public enterprises, and other legal entities involved in planning and implementation;
- economic operators engaged in infrastructure, logistics, and related activities;
- individual contract values as well as aggregated amounts of public funds committed within the project.

The data are presented through tables and visualizations methodologically aligned with the rest of the platform, enabling comparability with other public procurement segments.

## EXPO 2027 as a Case Study

The EXPO module can be used as a case study for analyzing the implementation of large public projects. By using available filters and visualizations, users can:

- monitor the concentration of contracts among specific institutions or companies,
- analyze changes in contract values over time,
- identify patterns that may indicate elevated risks, such as frequent awarding of contracts to the same suppliers or a limited number of bidders.

This approach allows EXPO 2027 to be viewed not only as an individual project, but also as an example of broader practices in managing large public investments.

## Analytical and Oversight Use of the EXPO Module

The EXPO module is particularly useful for:

- journalists and researchers monitoring large infrastructure projects,
- civil society organizations engaged in public finance monitoring,
- decision-makers seeking insight into project implementation patterns.

By combining the EXPO module with other parts of the platform, it is possible to compare data related to this project with general public procurement trends in Serbia.

### Integrity Watch Platforms in Other Countries

Within the Integrity Watch Serbia platform, there is a dedicated section linking to related platforms in other countries that are part of the broader Integrity Watch initiative. This section allows users to quickly access similar tools for transparency and oversight of public finances, procurement, and political integrity across various countries in Europe and worldwide. The list includes links to official national platforms in neighboring countries and across Europe, as well as to the central EU platform - IntegrityWatch.eu, which aggregates data on risks and irregularities in public procurement at the EU level. This interconnected ecosystem enables comparative analysis and monitoring of transparency and accountability practices across countries, which is particularly useful for researchers, journalists, activists, and citizens interested in international standards and comparative analysis.

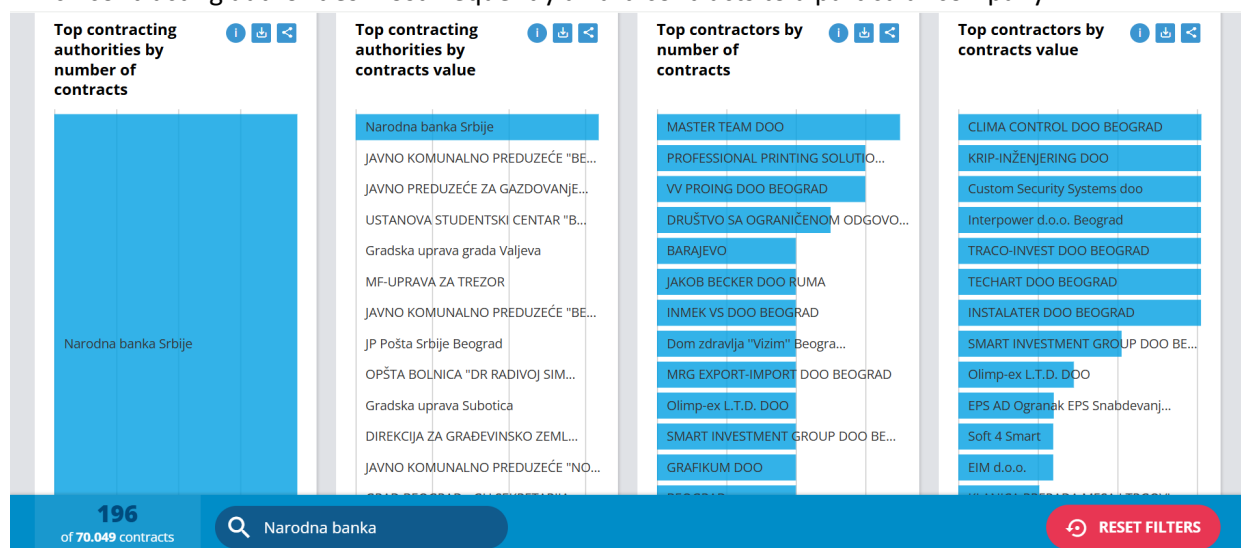
### DATA SEARCH AND FILTERING

## Text Search

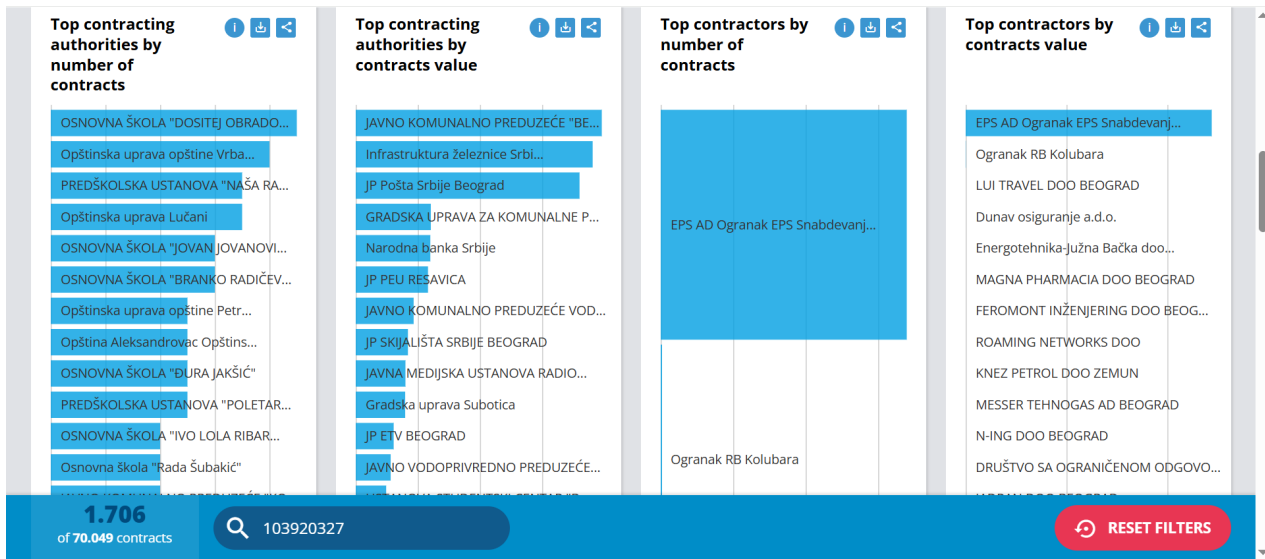
The platform allows users to enter keywords to quickly identify relevant data. Searches can be used to find institutions, companies, or specific contracts. Text search is available through a search bar located at the bottom of each webpage.



By entering the name of a contracting authority or an economic operator, users can identify all public procurement procedures conducted by that authority or all procedures in which a specific company won a tender and concluded a public procurement contract. After filtering the table using the text search field, not only will matching values (names) be listed, but the charts above the table will also change accordingly. In this way, users can, for example, identify the largest suppliers within a local government unit or determine which contracting authorities most frequently award contracts to a particular company.



Search is also possible by PIB (tax identification number), which is particularly important for easier identification in cases where a contract is concluded by a consortium of bidders.



These search options are available across all three thematic sections of the platform.

## Filters

Users have access to various filters, including:

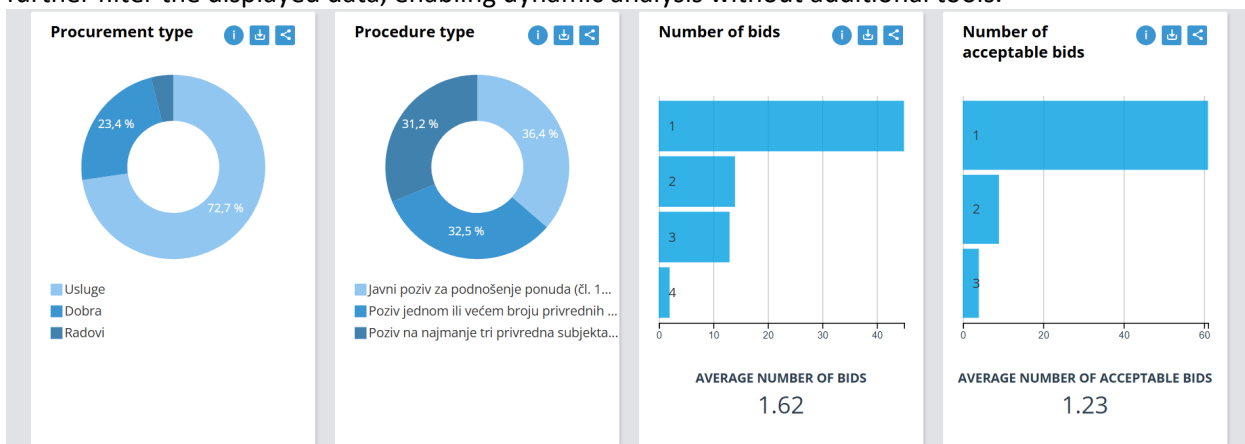
- time period,
- sector or field,
- contract value range,
- contract type.

Filters can be combined for more precise analysis. Filters are located in the header of tables on each webpage.

| Contracts |             |               |             |                       |             |                   |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Nr        | Contract Nr | Contract Date | Tender Name | Contracting Authority | Contractors | Final Value (RSD) |

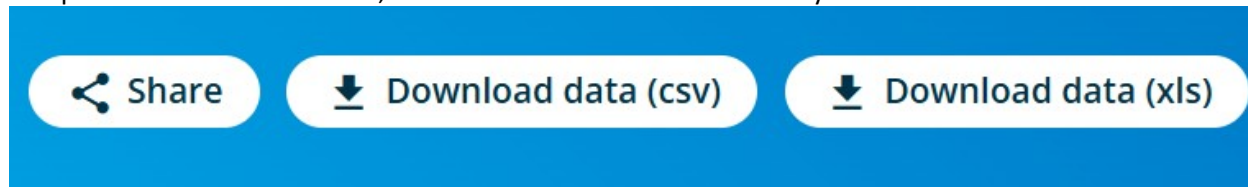
### VISUALIZATIONS AND INTERACTIVITY

Data are presented through interactive charts and tables. By clicking on specific chart elements, users can further filter the displayed data, enabling dynamic analysis without additional tools.



#### DATA DOWNLOAD AND FURTHER PROCESSING

The platform allows data to be downloaded in open formats (CSV and XLS), enabling further processing, comparison with other sources, and the creation of users' own analyses.



#### METHODOLOGICAL NOTES AND LIMITATIONS

The data presented on the platform originate from publicly available sources. Accuracy and timeliness depend on the quality of the source registers. The platform does not provide value judgments or legal assessments but rather serves as a basis for informed analysis.

#### USE OF THE PLATFORM IN RESEARCH AND JOURNALISTIC WORK

## Use of the Platform in Research

Integrity Watch Serbia is a significant resource for researchers in public policy, economics, and anti-corruption fields. The platform enables:

- identification of patterns in public spending,
- comparison of data across sectors and time periods,
- combination of platform data with other sources for more comprehensive analysis.

Researchers can use data download options to conduct quantitative analyses, build statistical models, or perform comparative studies.

## Use of the Platform in Journalism

For journalists, the platform serves as a tool for:

- identifying data-driven story ideas,
- verifying information on public contracts and suppliers,
- identifying potentially relevant cases for further investigation.

Visualizations and tables can serve as a starting point for journalistic stories, with mandatory additional verification in primary sources.

## Ethical and Professional Standards

When using platform data, adherence to professional and ethical standards is recommended, including clear citation of data sources and avoidance of premature conclusions.

## CONCLUSION

*The Integrity Watch Serbia platform* represents a comprehensive tool for enhancing transparency, accountability, and public oversight over the use of public funds in the Republic of Serbia. Its core value lies in its ability to consolidate complex and fragmented data from various public sources and make them

accessible, understandable, and analytically usable for a broad range of users.

Through clearly structured thematic sections, interactive visualizations, and advanced search and filtering capabilities, the platform enables identification of public procurement patterns, monitoring of the roles of individual institutions and economic operators, and recognition of potential risks that may require additional attention from the public, media, or competent authorities.

A special contribution of the platform is reflected in the development of *the EXPO 2027 module*, which demonstrates how digital open-data tools can be used to monitor large-scale and financially demanding public projects. This module not only enhances transparency of a specific project, but can also serve as a model for monitoring similar initiatives in the future.

It is important to emphasize that Integrity Watch Serbia is not a mechanism for delivering final judgments or conclusions regarding the legality of individual procedures. Instead, the platform functions as an analytical and informational tool that provides a foundation for further research, verification, and public debate, in accordance with professional and ethical standards.

In the long term, regular use and continuous improvement of this platform can contribute to strengthening a culture of accountability, increasing public trust in institutions, and improving the quality of public policies. As such, Integrity Watch Serbia represents an important contribution to the development of an open, informed, and participatory society.

## TERMINOLOGICAL GLOSSARY

**Integrity Watch** – An international initiative of organizations within the Transparency International network and a digital platform for monitoring transparency, integrity, and potential corruption risks in public policies, particularly in the areas of public finance and political-economic relations.

**Integrity Watch Serbia** – The national version of the Integrity Watch platform, developed and maintained by Transparency Serbia, focusing on data relevant to the Republic of Serbia.

**Public Procurement** – Procedures through which public authorities procure goods, services, or works using public funds, in accordance with legally prescribed rules.

**Framework Agreement** – A specific type of contractual arrangement in public procurement that predefines conditions for future procurements over a certain period.

**Contracting Authority** – A public authority, public enterprise, or other legal entity that conducts a public procurement procedure and concludes a contract.

**Bidder** – An economic operator that participates in a public procurement procedure and with whom a procurement contract is concluded.

**Companies Related to Politics** – Economic operators that have identified links to political actors (e.g., ownership, management, or other relevant connections) while participating in activities financed from public funds.

**Conflict of Interest** – A situation in which a public official's private interest may influence, or be perceived as influencing, the impartial performance of their public duties.

**EXPO 2027** – An international specialized exhibition entrusted to the Republic of Serbia, involving extensive infrastructure, organizational, and financial activities.

**EXPO 2027 Module** – A dedicated part of the Integrity Watch Serbia platform intended for monitoring public procurements, contracts, and actors associated with the EXPO 2027 project.

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