

Financing of election campaign from the budget

Since there were no changes in the Law on Financing of Political Activities, the system of allocation of budget subsidies remained the same. However, the total amount available for contestants differed in comparison to 2022 elections, as there were no presidential elections this time.

In total, according to the criteria defined in LFPA and Budget Law for 2023 overall tax revenue, contestant were entitled to 1.142.750.000 RSD, or approximately 9,75 million EUR. In 2022, central budget subsidies (parliamentary and presidential elections) were as much as 15,7 million EUR.

It was planned to distribute total of 457,1 million RSD, or 3,9 million EUR in advance. As there were 18 electoral lists, each political subject that submitted such list had chance to get 25,394,444.44 RSD, or approximately 216 thousand EUR, no later than on December 6th 2023. The precondition was to deposit electoral bond, which only seven participants did.

Out of those seven, one will have to repay money back to the budget, due to insufficient success on elections (citizens' group led by Cedomir Jovanovic).

Political subjects that did not deposit electoral bond (11) are entitled to the abovementioned amount, if having more than 1, i.e. 0.2% of valid votes. That "budget threshold" was not reached by Narodna stranka, Srbija na zapadu, and two minority lists (Koalicija za mir i toleranciju and Albanska demokratska alternativa). This means that more than 1 million EUR of budget funds will either stay in the budget or will be repaid.

It is still unknown when the remaining budget subsidies will be paid to the contestants, as it depends on proclamation of final elections results. However, based on the currently available data distribution will be following (table includes funds distributed before elections or to be distributed after elections):

Amount RSD	Amount EUR	List title
0.00	0.00	Koalicija za mir i toleranciju
0.00	0.00	Nardna
25,394,444.44	216,719.97	DJB-SDS
0.00	0.00	Srbija na zapadu
0.00	0.00	Č. Jovanović-Mora drugačije (money received but has to be repaid)
0.00	0.00	ADA
25,394,444.44	216,719.97	Dveri – Zavetnici
28,137,044.44	240,125.73	Ruska
28,137,044.44	240,125.73	PBA
30,879,644.44	263,531.49	SDA
33,622,244.44	286,937.24	SPP – DSHV
41,850,044.44	357,154.51	SVM

61,048,244.44	520,994.81	Mi-glas iz naroda
61,048,244.44	520,994.81	NADA
74,761,244.44	638,023.60	SPS
203,663,444.44	1,738,094.17	Srbija protiv nasilja
376,447,244.44	3,212,656.86	SNS
990,383,333.33	8,452,078.90	Total from the budget

When compared to previous elections, national minority lists are in more favorable position, but the increase in available budget funds will mostly cover inflation. These parties in 2022 reported expenditure mostly to the level of budget funds they received.

SPS will receive smaller amount than 2022, purely due to worsening of its result in elections. This part will have to use significant other sources of income in order to reach expenditure level, that was, most probably, no smaller than in 2022 (blue column in the graph).

Parties that had presidential candidate along with parliamentary lists, received comparatively higher level of budget support than they are entitled now. That is why the grey column in graph for NADA and UPS + Moramo (in 2023 Srbija protiv nasilja) is lower than the orange one. The difference is particularly high for the list of Dveri and Zavetnici, that will receive in 2023 only basic budget support, while in 2022 enjoyed subsidies for two of their lists, presidential candidates and successful pass of the threshold.

The biggest financial changes are visible for the biggest party – SNS. In 2022 that party claimed that their election campaigns costs were 9.25 million EUR, out of which more that 8 million EUR came from the state budget. However, in 2023, this electoral list could count to 3.2 million EUR from the budget only, which means that they require at least 6 million EUR from other sources only to cover cost of campaign that would be on similar level as in 2022. Furthermore, as shown in other parts of this report, the campaign of SNS was actually significantly higher than in 2022, which means that even greater portion of income that will be reported would have to be from other sources.

Koliko je ko prijavio troškova 2022 za sve vrste izbora (EUR),
koliko je tada dobio novca iz budžeta, a koliko dobija 2023

