

**THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED
BY SLOVAKIA
ARTICLE 13 UNCAC**

PARTICIPATION OF SOCIETY

SLOVAKIA (SEVENTH MEETING)

In relation to participation of society (article 13), States parties and signatories may wish to provide information on measures that:

- Establish e-government mechanisms, online platforms, smartphone applications, mobile telephone-based reporting and social media to enhance the effective and efficient participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;
- Enhance the transparency of, and promote the contribution of the public to, decision-making processes, in particular through the use of online platforms to facilitate consultation with the public on issues relating to the prevention of and fight against corruption;
- Promote public information activities, including through the use of information and communications technologies, that contribute to non-tolerance of corruption, as well public education programmes;
- Respect, promote and protect the freedom to seek, receive, publish and disseminate information concerning corruption, in particular through online mechanisms;
- Provide public access, including through online mechanisms, to relevant anti-corruption bodies for the reporting, including anonymously, of any incidents that may constitute an offence established in accordance with the Convention.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.

Information sought may, in particular, include the following:

- **In relation to enhancing the transparency of and promoting the contribution of the public to decision-making processes (article 13 (1) (a)):**
 - Description of how ICT is used to promote citizen and stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes, such as through large-scale consultations, online platforms, working groups, task forces, citizen referendums and community meetings, and measures to promote such involvement;
 - Description of ICT measures adopted to promote an institutional culture of transparency, open data, open-door policies and regular communication between the Government and civil society;
 - Description of ICT measures adopted to allow members of the public to decide or contribute to decisions on how to allocate parts of the public budget in specific institutions;

- Description of ICT measures adopted to provide opportunities for individuals and groups outside the public sector to be consulted during legislative drafting processes;
- Description of the ways in which ICT is used to facilitate public consultations before regulations or other administrative policies are issued, and of any consequences of failure to adhere to the requirement to facilitate such public participation.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.

• **In relation to ensuring that the public has effective access to information (article 13 (1) (b)):**

- Legislation, regulations, policies and procedures regarding public access to information through ICT, such as online platforms, including details regarding:
 - Means by which requests may be submitted (in writing, via Internet, by telephone);
 - The types of bodies required to publish information;
 - The scope of the information published;
 - Any information that must be submitted by the requester as part of the request for information;
- Costs charged to submit a request
- Applicable time limits within which the Government must respond to the request;
- Grounds on which a request by a member of the public for information may be denied;
- Description of staff or entity responsible for administering access to information requests;
- Description of steps taken to ensure that existing laws, regulations, policies and procedures regarding access to information are widely known and accessible to the public;
- Description of the means by which the public is informed of how to access information.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.

• **In relation to undertaking public information activities that contribute to non-tolerance of corruption, as well as public education programmes, including school and university curricula (article 13 (1) (c)):**

- Description of public information (education and awareness-raising) activities that contribute to non-tolerance of corruption, particularly those using ICT, including specific initiatives targeting groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations;
- Description of various means and/or technologies that have been used for the purposes of undertaking public information activities;
- Description of the use of ICT in educational courses or modules that have been introduced in primary and secondary schools that include components on corruption or related issues such as ethics, civil rights or governance;

- Description of the use of ICT in university courses or modules that include components on corruption or related issues such as public administration, public procurement, ethics, criminal law or corporate governance.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.

- **In relation to respecting, promoting and protecting the freedom to seek, receive, publish and disseminate information concerning corruption (article 13 (1) (d)):**

- Outlines of the procedures or regulations that ensure the freedom of the public to seek and receive information concerning corruption, in particular using ICT. States parties and signatories may wish to include the following information, if applicable:

- The extent to which such information is proactively and systematically published by the Government online;
- The extent to which such information is available upon online request for access to information by a member of the public;
- Any restrictions applicable to exercise of the freedom to seek, receive, publish and disseminate such information, in particular using ICT, including:
 - Restrictions necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others (libel and defamation laws, etc.);
 - Restrictions necessary for the protection of national security or *order public* or of public health or morals;
 - Description of how such restrictions are applied in practice;
 - Description of procedures that allow a member of the public to apply for review of, or appeal against, the application of such a restriction by the Government.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.

- **In relation to taking appropriate measures to ensure that the relevant anti-corruption bodies are known to the public and providing access to such bodies for the reporting, including anonymously, of any incidents that may be considered to constitute an offence established in accordance with the Convention (article 13 (2)):**

- Description of online public information campaigns that promote awareness of the existence of anti-corruption bodies;
- Description of the means by which members of the public are provided with access to such bodies, particularly through ICT, for the reporting of acts of corruption;
- Description of the operational mechanisms and applicable procedures for such reporting channels, including reporting obligations, information to be provided and whether reports may be made anonymously.

See above, as well as information listed in the attached material about ECS.