

UNODC

Working Group on Prevention – 5th Session

**Transparency in the funding of
political parties and campaigns –
Slovenia**

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LATEST LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

- Act amending the Political Parties Act (ZPolS-E) – 21 November 2013 – entered into force on 18 December 2013, applicable from 1 January 2014
- Act amending the Elections and Referendum Campaign Act (ZVRK-B) – 19 November 2013 – entered into force on 14 December 2013
- Act amending the Political Parties Act (ZPolS-F) – adopted 12 June 2014 – entered into force on 24 June 2014

First two acts brought the Slovenian legislation in political parties financing and election campaign financing in line with GRECO recommendations (3rd Eval. Round).

MAIN NOVELTIES INTRODUCED

- The prohibition of financing of a party is extended to all legal persons, sole proprietors and individuals who independently perform activities;
Before: no transparency as regards substantial corporate donations, and acts and decisions which could be beneficial to these donors.
- A party has to assign contributions acquired in contravention of the law to charity no later than in 30 days from receipt of the contributions;
Before: if donation received from non-permitted sources or donations above permitted threshold, a fine which can be imposed may actually be lower than the received donation.

MAIN NOVELTIES INTRODUCED

- Rules on the preparation and submission of reports are clearer and more detailed (all forms of income and expenditure presented; disclosure of information on the provider of contribution if exceeds a certain threshold; information on loans to the party/campaign organizer - amount, interest rate and payback period);
Before: no donations disclosed; the officially reported campaign expenditure did not correspond to the actual costs of advertising; the issue of loans was not addressed, etc.;
- Parties/campaign organisers have to submit their reports to the Agency for Public Legal Records and Related Services (AJPES) which publishes them on the internet portal;
Before: publication of the e.c. reports by the Court of Audit

MAIN NOVELTIES INTRODUCED

- AJPES publishes full annual reports and reports on campaign financing on its website;
Before: only abridged versions of reports made public
- A comprehensive audit undertaken by the Court of Audit; increase of resources of the Court of Audit and its investigative capacity;
Before: reviews of political parties' annual reports (rather formalistic) and audits of elections campaign organisers entitled to partial reimbursement of their campaign expenses; only few audits undertaken; Court's limited investigative capacity.

MAIN NOVELTIES INTRODUCED

- New minor offences established; fines for certain offences are higher;
Before: no offences provided for some violations; fines were not
dissuasive, proportionate and effective.
- Clarified jurisdiction and scope of competencies of bodies entrusted with
supervisory tasks;
Before: vague jurisdictions and scope of competencies of some
bodies; limited view of some bodies on the form the supervision
might take.



Questions?