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Women candidates in the General Elections of 2018 in Bosnia and Herzegovina are only the shadow of their male counterparts. Their major problem is invisibility and inequality, as concluded by the representatives of the **Citizens Association Grahovo**, the INFOHOUSE Foundation, the CURE Foundation and the Women's Rights Center during the Second Debate Forum of women candidates held in Sarajevo.

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The Second Debate Forum of women candidates from Election Lists of the General Elections, Sarajevo

The purpose of "Legal Assistance to Women Candidates in the October 2018 General Elections" is the protection of women's rights in the politics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as an increase in legal protection in case of violation of their electoral rights, before and after elections.

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Director of the Grahovo Citizens' Association, Ms. Danka Zelić, said they gathered together to see if and how many candidates are satisfied with the results in this year's elections. She mentioned that this association organized a similar forum in Banja Luka before the elections. It was then that the project of legal aid to women candidates in the elections under the slogan "Remove the False Face of Politics" was promoted.

The Forum presented the analysis titled "Where are the women in the elections in BiH" which showed that women did not succeed in improving the situation with assignment of mandates when compared to the 2014 General Elections.

"We came to a conclusion that political parties have not yet recognized women as equal in that respect," said Zelić. The main task of the representatives of NGOs was to provide free legal aid to women politicians whose names appeared on the lists for general elections.

We informed women candidates at workshops and seminars about the possibility of receiving this type of assistance, and their interest was very significant, said Duška Andrić, public relations officer of the Center for Women's Rights.

Ms. Andrić stressed the fact that most of them said they felt safe because now they know someone is standing behind.

Among other things, she pointed out that the free legal aid form on the website of the Women's Center was visited 372 times, and that 20 candidates contacted the Center via e-mail or telephone.

"However, the real legal assistance begins at the moment when you insert your personal information and start the process. We had three candidates who decided to initiate the procedure which is still in progress. It is their right and freedom to decide how far they will go with it", said Ms. Andrić.

Candidates asked a lot of questions, said Andrić. Some of them related to reasons for attacks by party colleagues, verbal harassment, and placing of false statements through media and social networks.

Dženana Aladjuz, director of the INFOHOUSE Foundation, said that our men, leaders of political

parties, are far from deciding to withdraw from their positions, even when it comes to awarding compensatory mandates.

She emphasized, however, that women do still bear part of the responsibility, the reason being that many of the women candidates have never read the Gender Equality Law of BiH.

"Each political party must apply this law in its statutory and other documents, but on the other hand, even if the candidates are fully familiar with the law, if the party does not provide financial support for their promotion, how will anyone vote for them?", said Aladjuz.

Director of CURE Foundation, Ms. Jadranka Miličević, spoke about the results of communication with the participants in the project.

She said that this foundation held pre-election trainings in Tuzla, Sarajevo, and Banja Luka that included 66 women, all of whom were candidates for the elections.

"It was important for us to contact them all after the election. Out of 43 candidates from whom we received feedback, four managed to fight for their positions", said Miličević.

Ms. Ismeta Dervoz, a former member of the BiH Parliament, confirmed that the position of women in political life is improving. However, she pointed out that neither the democratization of the parties nor the full gender equality in BiH has been achieved.

- It is obvious that we still live in a men's world in which we hardly have an opportunity to show all of our knowledge. Still, the most difficult positions, where the most of the work is done at workplaces, are always occupied by women she stressed, adding that our women do have knowledge and skills but what they need to do is to use them properly.

The Forum participants agree that only as an equal society with equal opportunities and rights can we talk about the stable economic, political, social, and cultural future of BiH. Also, through projects like this, we should continue to support women in politics and empower them to seek and protect their rights.

#### COOPERATION OF THE ACCOUNT AND THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AGENCY OF BiH

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Interpretation and application of the Law on Public Procurement for representatives of judicial Institutions continues to be a challenge in practice. What defines the Public Procurement Law of BiH and what alterations are envisioned by the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement; what are the most frequent forms of violation of the Law; how monitoring of public procurement procedures is conducted and how monitoring data can be useful to prosecutors who conduct investigations - those are the key topics of the educational program "Public Procurement System in BiH: Efficient Implementation of Legislation and Identification of Corruption" organized by ACCOUNT in cooperation with the Agency for Public Procurement of BiH, from October 30 to 31, 2018 in Doboj.

By organizing this event, ACCOUNT provided an opportunity for prosecutors to establish more efficient cooperation with the Public Procurement Agency and the non-governmental sector in order to prevent abuse of the system in public procurement, to enable more efficient law enforcement, timely identification of corruption in public procurement procedures, and more efficient processing of law violations.

The focus of the discussion was primarily on the role of the public procurement inspectorate, initiation of misdemeanor charges, identification of elements of criminal offense in public procurement procedures, use of data available at the Public Procurement Portal for possible launching of prosecutorial procedures and conducting investigations, as well as prosecutorial experience in the practice of conducting cases concerning misuse of public procurement.



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In cooperation with the Justice project, ACCOUNT participated in the XI Expert Conference of Prosecutors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, taking part in the *Corruption, Economic and Organized Crime Panel*. The conference was held on October 2 and 3, 2018 in Neum.





# Helsinški odbor za ljudska prava

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# Хелсиншки одбор за људска права

Within the "*Equal Opportunities - Transparency in Employment in the Public Sector III*" project, the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights drafted an analysis of legislative framework in the field of employment in the public sector covering seven Cantons of BiH (*Posavina, Bosanai-Podrinje, Tuzla, Middle Bosnian, Zenica-Doboj, Una-Sana, and Canton 10*). In order to present the findings of the analysis, a press conferences were held in the mentioned cantons in September. The conferences were attended by representatives of the cantonal anti-corruption teams, civil society organizations, the media and representatives of local governments.



Zenica Press Conference





#### Here are the results of the monitoring of corruption:



ACCOUNT monitoring teams conducted research on corruption in the public sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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Justicia Association, the leader of the ACCOUNT "Public Procurement" monitoring team, in cooperation with CROA, Kvart, ALDI, and KAM, implemented the activity entitled "**Monitoring of appeals procedures resolved by the Procurement Review Body**". The survey provides answers to questions on how contracting authorities carry out procurement, what are the most common complaints by bidders, how the Procurement Review Body acts, what is the price to be paid for violation of the Public Procurement Law.

Center for Civic Cooperation from Livno, in partnership with Women's Association "Duvanjke" and CRCD from Doboj, conducted a survey "**Monitoring of Employment in Cantonal and Municipal Institutions and Enterprises in Canton 10, Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, and Tuzla Canton**".

Women's Rights Center from Zenica, the leader of the ACCOUNT Monitoring Team in the Education Sector, examined **corrupt practices at higher education institutions**. The research was conducted among 600 students with 29 faculties of universities in Zenica, Banja Luka, and Sarajevo. It was conducted in partnership with FRD and Brčko Resource Center.

In the health sector, ACCOUNT conducted the "**Monitoring Process for Procurement of Medicines, Medical Equipment and Materials**". The activity included 30 hospitals, 12 ministries, two funds and 37 health care institutions throughout BiH. The research was conducted by FRD in cooperation with SOS Brčko.

CRCD from Doboj conducted "**Monitoring the Application of the Law on the Protection of Persons Who Report Corruption in Republika Srpska**". CRCD has conducted research in partnership with members of ACCOUNT: Justicia, Resource Center Brčko, Stop Mobbing, and ToPeeR.

You can download the results of monitoring of corrupt practices in the sectors of education, health, public procurement, employment, and the sector of protection of whistleblowers -here

#### NEW SECTOR GRANTS AWARDED

In the coming period, the anticorruption network of civil society organizations in BiH, "ACCOUNT", continues to fight corruption in the education, health, whistleblowers protection, and employment sectors.

New grant funds in the value of up to \$ 12,500 (per grant) were awarded to Justicia, Center for the Development of Youth Activism (CROA), ICVA, and Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in project sectors, and grant funds in the value of up to \$5,000 (per grant) to Association for Local Development Initiatives (ALDI), Center for Civic Cooperation (CGS), the Association KAM, and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights to develop anticorruption action plans at the local level.

#### Whistleblowers Sector Group: JUSTICIA

JUSTICIA Association is the head of the Whistleblowers Sector Group. Since 2013, it has been active in advocating for adoption and implementation of laws that protect persons who report corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including entity levels. Such efforts have a determining effect on more efficient prevention and sanctioning of corruption in the public sector.

#### ACTIVITIES

The activities will focus on public advocating for adoption of the Law on Protection of Persons Who Report Corruption in FBiH, whereby the legal protection of such persons would be established at the level of the entire state of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, activities on the promotion of the Law on Protection of Persons Who Report Corruption in the RS, as well as on improvement of legal solutions at the state level, shall I be undertaken.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS**

JUSTICIA will continue to cooperate with the ministries of justice at all levels in the coming period. It will advocate for amendments to the existing laws on protection of whistleblowers, but will also work on proposing new legal solutions and strongly encourage the adoption and implementation of the FBiH Law on Protection of Persons Who Report Corruption. It will also work on initiatives to grant free legal aid to whistleblowers in cooperation with the ministries of justice at the state, RS, and cantonal levels, as well as for exemption of court fees for whistleblowers in the Federation of BiH.

## Education Sector: Center for Development of Youth Activism CROA

The Center for the Development of Youth Activism CROA is a member of the ACCOUNT Anti-Corruption Network and has over the past year received the status of a leading organization in the Education Sector with the project "Prevention of Corruption in Education: More Knowledge, More Transparency". So far, anti-corruption trainings have been held in 75 elementary and secondary schools in Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, Canton Sarajevo, and Central Bosnia Canton of FBiH, as well as in the regions of Bijeljina and Trebinje of RS and in the Brčko District.

### ACTIVITIES

The goals and activities of this year will be focused on ensuring the support by all relevant stakeholders and their active involvement in the fight against corruption in education. The project will be implemented in the Bosnia-Podrinje Canton, the Tuzla Canton, and the Posavina Canton.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS**

The objective of Prevention of Corruption through Education Project: More knowledge, More Transparency is to create a favorable environment for introduction of ethics and anti-corruption education in the curricula. Changing of young people's perception of corruption is the main reason for introduction of anti-corruption classes in elementary and secondary schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The role of young people in anti-corruption education and the way in which education affects change in their behavior are two central themes of the ACCOUNT project in the education sector. The education system that promotes fight against corruption is a powerful instrument for exerting pressure on institutions to work more accountably, transparently, and to prevent occurrence of corruption.

### Health Sector: ICVA

The Association of Initiatives and Civil Action (ICVA), with public health institutions in Sarajevo, Zenica-Doboj, and Bosnia-Podrinje cantons, has been working on introduction of anti-corruption rules and procedures in those cantons. They will present the same policies in the Tuzla Canton in order to draw the attention of healthcare workers to the need for transparency in their work.

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#### ACTIVITIES

The drafting of rulebooks for prevention of corruption, increase in transparency, and improvement of attitude towards users of services in health institutions of the Tuzla Canton is one of the activities. In addition, the Anti-Corruption Forum is planned to be attended by representatives of all partner public health institutions.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS**

Development and implementation of anti-corruption rules and procedures, and establishing of a dialogue with representatives of public health institutions is a central topic in the ACCOUNT Health sector. The Rulebooks introduce measures that should contribute to the prevention of corruption in areas that are most susceptible to corruption in the health sector, such as public procurement, employment, waiting lists, medical examinations / health services, but also to affect the quality of health services and change perceptions of citizens / patients on corruption in health care.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-CORRUPTION PLANS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

The consequences of corruption in practice are poor public services, increased social polarization, inefficiency of public services, low investment in municipalities, reduction of economic development, poor treatment of beneficiaries by municipal officials ... Although there is no single recipe for combating corruption at the local level, the creation of anti-corruption action plans proved to be a good preventative format.

Following the development of action plans for combating corruption at the local level in 28 select municipalities / cities in the Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska, the third cycle of the Small Grants Program of the Leadership Association, the Association for Local Development Initiatives (ALDI), the Center for Civil Cooperation (CGS) KAM and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, which showed the enviable level of knowledge

and skills necessary for realization of this activity, shall include the work on the development of anticorruption action plans in 12 new municipalities / cities (Fojnica, Kiseljak, Kreševo, Ravno, Jablanica, Vitez, Kladanj, Doboj Istok, Tešanj, Busovača, Maglaj, and Doboj South). In doing so, leadership organizations will use the already established methodology for the development of such plans which, among other things, includes the signing of a memorandum of cooperation with select municipalities / cities, the formation of working groups, (self) assessment of areas that are most prone to corruptive risks, quantitative and qualitative analysis, identification of strategic objectives and measures, and finally the development and adoption of anti-corruption action plans. Upon completion of the project, this methodology will be made available to all interested municipalities / cities in BiH for future use.





#### Interview.ba continues to inform citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina about up-to date topics!

Interview vijesti a-ž interview a-ž kolumne magazin marketing

function, 34 March 2018 12/20

(INFOGRAFIKA) Bijeli hljeb zastupnika za crnu budućnost bh. građana

Samo godinu dána nakon što je Vljeće minstana DH stanio van snage odluku o ostvarivanju prava funkcionera u vlasti na nivou BH na štoji Nježi", a čije ublete bi ble vidžive tek svála sa odlazetim sastvarizma sahva 2016-2018. pojetni smatraju da njihov buduli nerat ponovo troba nagraditi. Foli: Horivencha

#### "KADA NESTANE (BIJELOG) HLJEBA, JEDITE KOLAČE"

Prave na "bijeli hijeb" imali bi oni zastupnici koji nisu ponovno izabrani na požiciju koju su do okončanja mandata obavljali, odnosno nisu izabrani na neku drugu zastupničku poziciju, a koji ne idu u penziju ili nemaju osigurano radno mjesto nakon okončanja mandata.



Phile: Reclaiming Interview ba

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(INFOGRAFIKA) Gdje su žene u politici u Bosni i Hercegovini kodu se mandati dijele?

citiona polipelinicho edititate investo specif. On ce prije francik republiko propovil polipele specifieli mandate Nome de prijazili koletje reć je transje ode poznata kao to je polisiko i do ze u speci matemi sjestili institano kao u preferitivno slatovnu, sa žene enropi nejesta o parlamentimu reće kili.



testa probanna le 2014, godine a Natariwska Keri od urupne 42 poslanitel bili je tek 10 žena. U Spranesta Har u tek bergada zni na bile žene: Ook je a takođinaj leaathir kepatole kyvite bila 21 žena lut ovojno tik norodo natorio.

Interview VIETLAS INTERNEWAS KOUDENE MARASIN MARKETING

#### Samra Filipović Hadžiabdić o rodnoj ravnopravnosti u politici: Ponovo čemo polulati (unijenin Zaken o Vijeću minstara diti

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Interview VIJESTI A-Ž INTERVIEW A-Ž KOLUMNE MAGAZIN MARKETING

Nekom bijeli, a nekom buđav "lebac"

Pred kraj mandata jedanalest poslanika Zastupničkog doma Parlamentame isupštine Bosne i Hercegovine upušli su apelacju ustavnom sudu BH o ponovnom vračanju "bjelog hjeba". Vjece ministani BH je 12. porija 2017. godine stavlo vom stranje oduku o cominnenju prava funkcionem u vlasti na niheu BH na Jelef 1946.". Međutim, nje se račuditi za uputenu spelaciju, jer su neki od potpranika rielito ranje ostvarili značajne prihode za nerad.



Pile: Andokcija Interview ba

Interview viestiaž interviewaž kolumne magazim marketing

(INFOGRAFIKA) U naterative čeliri godine monje žena u zakonodovnim institucijama BHI Testa politika u Borec Hersepten je molili lasti. Te za universpesjenitej Opd alam u Borel Hersepten, koj

Solyt politiku u filomet Henningseni je muliki ležet, Solas polaziti poslednih Opel Oslari u filomet i Henningseni. Koj ulastala de sta zakorodiamet institucijame Episone i Menningshelm sjedit metjo žima nego titi ja to bostala ja mandatama 2014. 2014. godosti o Unaterenarane plasticih Episoni Henningsona u ravona nasta to či oslada ja naradatama 2014. nastavania i ekstriceja dostari Henningsona metokama 18 dolska alabema ali hantologi eksplanti Mandatama 2014. nastavania i ekstriceja dostari i Henningsona metokama 18 dolska alabema ali hantologi eksplanti



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#### Davor Dragičević, otac ubijenog Davida: Znon ko je formino odvokotski ten i odite zastal zašto se rostato

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### **Chronology of deception: Central election theft**

The online magazine Žurnal reveals irregularities and abuses arranged by the Central Election Commission of BiH; points out the illegality of the election of the President of the Central Election Commission of BiH; inconsistency in the decisions of the Central Election Commission of BiH; warns of the danger of violations of the Constitution of FBiH by the Central Election Commission of BiH; and the possibility of political abuse of the House of Peoples of FBiH.



Objavljeno: 09.10.2018. u 20:36h

Dva dana prije izbora kompanija bliska HDZ-u dobila od CIK-a posao "održavanja baze podataka i sistema za zaštitu i pohranu". Firma Atlantik koja je štampala lističe godinama dobijala više papira nego što je ugovoreno. Ruska Federacija platila Ireni Hadžiabdić službeni put u Moskvu.



#### Najnovije iz kategorije >

VLASNIKU POVLASTICE, OBAVEZE IZBJEGNUTE Šta su radnici i država dobili prodajom zeničke željezare?

KO MOŻE PREDAVATI NA SARAJEVSKOM MEDICINSKOM FAKULTETU

Različiti kriteriji za profesorski angažman Sebije Izetbegović

KONJI NA ČEKANJU Lukačeve želje preskupe za MUP RS

#### **ŽURNAL PROVES: Criminal background of the problem in Aluminum Company**

Žurnal reporters investigated why production in Aluminum Company of Mostar was jeopardized and how public companies are blocking its work. Also, we bring a research story about relations between the leadership of Social Democratic Party of BiH and Russian companies regarding the Bosnalijek affair.

Żurnal reports <u>on millions spent for equipping of non-existent teams in the Federation Civil Protection</u> Administration, on violation of laws that regulate the field of protection and rescue by the Administration. We have made research into loans intended for building of "January 9 highway", construction of stables for horses belonging to the RS Ministry of Interior, distribution of budgetary funds by the Sarajevo Canton's Ministry of Education, the purchase of votes for elections, the destruction of the economy in Livno, employment in the Tuzla Canton, tenders assigned to the company accused of tax evasion, illegal opening of a new department at the University of Tuzla, tenders of the RS Government, unintentional spending by the Inter-religious Council of BiH, and how a murderer was pardoned by the FBiH President.



#### ACCOUNT MEDIA POOL REVEALS AND INVESTIGATES

#### The story of corruption in various areas

During October, ACCOUNT Media Pool published three investigative reports. Journalists of ACCOUNT Media Pool investigated <u>illegal sale of burial sites in Sarajevo</u> and the background of these sales, as well as the attitude of the RS authorities towards conflict of interest.

Members of ACCOUNT Media will continue to investigate corruption in the coming period. Members of ACCOUNT Media Pool are: Capital.ba, Noka, eTrafika, Gerila, Inforadar, Moja Hercegovina, Tačno.net, B1 Info, Frontal.ba, Direkt, Impuls.





## ROUND TABLE ORGANIIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ZENICA-DOBOJ CANTON:

FROM EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES TO EFFECTIVE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

#### November 27, 2018

The Government of Zenica-Doboj Canton's Team for Combating Corruption, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Republika Srpska, organized a round table on the topic "Institutional Strategic and Legal Framework for Combating Corruption in Republika Srpska and Zenica-Doboj Canton - Experiences and Good Practices".

"This is one of rare examples of cooperation between the Government of Republika Srpska and cantonal government of the Federation of BiH in the field of fight against corruption. In Zenica-Doboj Canton, an organizational framework is introduced identical to that of Republika Srpska, which is a very well-functioning model. I thank the Government of Zenica-Doboj Canton and its Anti-Corruption Team who recognized the importance of cooperation and exchange of experiences in this field, "said Jelena Vukadinović, Assistant Minister of Justice of Republika Srpska.

The Zenica-Doboj Canton adopted the Strategy and the Anti-Corruption Plan, followed by a series of activities that

include prevention of and fight against corruption in all areas.

"All institutions of the Zenica-Doboj Canton employ coordinators who monitor the implementation of the Action Plan for fight against corruption. Operational plans are in place with clearly defined activities to be implemented. Integrity plans are being designed to include documents in which each institution will recognize the risks within its activities that may create corruptive behavior which leads to criminal offense that falls within the field of repressive measures for which other institutions are competent," said Meliha Omerspahić, president of the Zenica-Doboj Government's Anti-Corruption Team.

ACCOUNT also worked together with the Zenica-Doboj Canton's Anti-Corruption Team on drafting anti-corruption strategic documents. In parallel with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Slovenia, it took part in promotion of the Law on Protection of Persons Who Report Corruption, as well as in development of effective mechanisms for free legal aid.

#### **Prevention of and Combating Corruption in the Municipality of Travnik: One of the few in BiH that have Action and Integrity Plans in place**

#### November 27, 2018

Prevention of and fight against corruption are very important because corruption weakens economy, damages democracy and the rule of law. Travnik Municipality included prevention of corruption among its priority activities. It is the only municipality of Middle Bosnia Canton that adopted a two-year Action Plan for Prevention of Corruption and the Integrity Plan for 2018-2020. A working body was established as an auxiliary body of the Mayor of the Municipality who is tasked with receiving complaints

and opinions on corruption occurrences sent by legal and physical entities of the Travnik Municipality. The working body of the Municipality dealing with prevention and fight against corruption in this institution has conducted a survey among employees, with a special emphasis on the awareness of transparency of the work of the municipality and its employees.

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Objavljivanje ovog biltena omogućeno je uz izdašnu pomoć američkpg naroda putem Američke agencije za međunarodni razvoj (USAID) Sadržaj predstavlja odgovornost Udruženja INFOHOUSE i CRMA i ne odražava nužno mišljenje USAID-a niti Vlade Sjedinjenih Američkih Država.