

# Anti-Corruption Advocacy in Estonia

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with  
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# Introductions

- Short introductory round
  - Name
  - Organization
  - Previous activities regarding anti-corruption work
  - Expectations from the study trip

# Agenda

- Meetings with 8 organizations and the Moldovan Ambassador
  - TIE, Open Data Estonia, Political Party Funding Supervision Committee, National Audit Office, Ministry of Finance
  - E-governance Academy, Estonian Center of Eastern Partnership, Opinion Festival, Embassy of the Republic of Moldova
- Presentations in English and Russian
- Your feedback is important to us!
  - Feedback sheet in the map to be returned Wednesday at dinner

# Logistics

- Walking (and sightseeing!)
  - Short distances (15 – 20 min at a time)
  - Comfortable shoes
- Carry an ID with you at all times!
  - Will grant you access to the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Emergency contact
  - Anni at +372 562 44 960
  - Iryna (in Russian) at +46 700 700 549

# About TIE

- Transparency International Estonia (TIE)
  - non-profit organization (est. 2000)
  - raise awareness about corruption in public and private sectors
  - since 2007 accredited representative of the global anti-corruption network Transparency International
  - project-based financing

## About TIE

- Our mission is to serve public interests while fighting against corruption and increasing transparency in the society
- TIE does not discover and investigate corruption cases
- Analytical, oversight and advocacy work regarding anti-corruption policies and legislation
- Publishing handbooks and carrying out communication work via the media, homepage, newsletter etc.

# Problems in anti-corruption advocacy

- Lack of political will
- Lack of resources
- Public perception



## How to overcome those problems?

- Raising public awareness one step at a time
- Partnership with anti-corruption actors
  - Ministry of Justice
  - Ministry of Finance
  - National Audit Office
  - Central Criminal Police
  - Security Police
  - Prosecutor General
  - NGO-s



# TIE advocacy work

- Protection of corruption reporters (whistleblowing)
- Political party funding
- Access to information (incl. open data)
- Lobbying
- Public ethics
- Business integrity

# **Business Integrity**

by Lilia Khelfaoui

Intern on business integrity at TI Estonia

# Business Integrity

- Creation of an integrity forum
  - Improve the companies' anti-corruption policies and practices
  - Send a strong message to the society
- Concrete activities
  - Conferences, workshops, share of experiences etc.
  - Projects including creation of useful tools

# **Swedish State Authority – Swedish Social Security Agency**

by Iryna Mikhnovets  
Peer Shadower at TI Estonia

# Swedish State Authority – Swedish Social Security Agency

- Responsible for public security
- Administrates in total around 50 different social security benefits
- Investigates, makes decision and pays out subsidies and compensations within social security
- Is one of the biggest Swedish authorities with around 13 400 employees
- Social focus groups: people on sickness leave, families with children, people with functional disadvantages

# Corruption in Swedish public sector

- The definition of the word "corruption" is not clearly defined in Swedish legislation. Instead the notion of "bribe" is mentioned (e.g. fraud, low trust to the appointed authorities, nepotism).
- According to TI Sweden the heads of companies have the lowest level of trust
- Swedish government improves and strenghtens its work against corruption through:
  - better protection of whistle blowers
  - prevention of anonymous national contributions to political parties
  - strengthening of legislation against any forms of bribes

# The principle of a free access to public records in public sector in Sweden

- the general public and mass media can be able to have a view into the state's and municipal activities
- *open acts*: the public gets opportunity to access the general acts in authorities (if the act is not under confidentiality according to confidentiality law)
- public servant has a right to present the confidential data from the acts for media but has no right to present the confidential acts
- the person can be anonymous and send request to the authority with an aim to read the acts (BUT the authority decides whether the acts are confidential or not)

# Thank you!

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