TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL GREECE

the global coalition against corruption

Project Brief

Development of infographic presentation for the

Greek Presidency Scorecard Results

Overview

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1. Describe in few words the objective of the project.

   ⇒ To develop an attractive, modern, innovative and user friendly presentation of the Anti-Corruption Scorecard of the Greek Presidency using inforgraphics

   ⇒ To help user navigate to the Scorecard results in an easy and simple way

2. What's the target group?

   ⇒ General Public

   ⇒ Media

3. Could you provide similar examples?

   ⇒ http://www.transparency.org/glossary/#/

   ⇒ -http://www.transparency.org/gcb2013/country/?country=greece

Look and feel
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4. What will be the feel of the infographics presentation

   ⇒ modern

   ⇒ innovative with fascinating design

   ⇒ user friendly and simple

Basic Info
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5. What will be the content of the infographics;

The infographics should present the results of the Anti-Corruption Scorecard Evaluation of the Greek Presidency (see Annex).

The inforgraphic presentation should integrate the following fields:

-Pillar I/ Presidency Preparation:

   -Access to Presidency Goals

   -Presidency Goals aligned with national & EU agenda

   -Access to Presidency Budget

   -Transparency of Presidency Budget

-Pillar II/ Presidency Accountability:

   -Contribute to Presidency Discussions

   -Inclusiveness of Presidency Process

   -Access to Presidency Expenses & distribution of costs

   -Transparency of Presidency Expenses

-Pillar III/ Anti-corruption reforms

A) EU Anti-corruption Report

   -Level of Priority

   -Progress results

B) Political Party Financing

   -Level of Priority

   -Progress results

 C) Transparency Register

   -Level of Priority

   -Progress results

D) Anti-Money Laundering

   -Level of Priority

   -Progress results

 E) European Prosecutor Office

-Level of Priority

-Progress results

F) Public Procurement

-Level of Priority

-Progress results

G) Corporate Reporting

-Level of Priority

-Progress results

Each field will be rated with a traffic light -red, yellow, green (see Annex).

6. What will be the presentation language?

Greek

Navigation
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7. Describe the key structure of the infographic presentation

⇒ Overview of all infographics: Present the icons from all fields. The user could see –by putting the cursor on each icon –without clicking-, the traffic light. Moreover, the traffic light system should be presented.

(see 2nd example, GCB institutions under section 3).

⇒ Detailed presentation: By clicking each icon, the traffic light rate should be presented bigger and a drop text should include info:

For Pillar I & II: Why is this important? / Results

Pillar III: Why is this important? / The key recommendations

Timeline
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8.   What's the deadline for the infographic development?

Beginning of September 2014

Useful links

⇒ http://www.transparency.gr/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/PR_PP-GreekPres_GR_05_FINAL.pdf
⇒ http://www.transparencyinternational.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Scorecard-for-Lithuanian-EU-Presidency.pdf

ANNEX

EU PRESIDENCY ANTICORRUPTION SCORECARD FOR LITHUANIA

Scorecard Results

PILLAR I – PREPARATION OF THE PRESIDENCY

1.1 Access to information / Justification of Presidency Agenda

1.1.1 Is information about the goals of the presidency publicly accessible?

Why is this important?
The earlier the preliminary goals of the Presidency are known publicly, the easier it is for stakeholders to contribute to the discussion of the issues.

Results:
- Preliminary goals and the main sectors were publicly accessible on the website of the Lithuanian Parliament in 2011
- Upon final confirmation the programme of the Presidency was available on the official Presidency website. The Website featured the agenda, the calendar of events, relevant publications, interviews and articles and is available in four languages

1.1.2 Were the goals of the presidency aligned with National and EU Agendas?

Why is this important?
A strong divergence between the goals of the Presidency and the priorities of national and European agendas could indicate that various interest groups exerted undue influence in the planning stage.

Results:
- With the exception of *Financing of European Political Parties* all the key transparency issues were aligned with either National or EU agendas
- No specific goals related to the financing of European Political Parties were identified in any of the official documents/ programmes

1.2 Budget and expense justifications

1.2.1 Is information about the budget of the Presidency publicly available?

Why is this important?
By publishing the foreseen budget, the presiding country ensures transparency and accountability for the planned expenses.

Results:
- The total Presidency budget and the cost distribution over the years were publicly available since 2011 (the Presidency budget was part of the Inter-Institutional Action Plan for 2012-2014)
- The final budget was available online after the government introduced changes in the Inter-Institutional Action Plan and confirmed the budget for the Presidency in 2012
- The budget was published on the official website of the Presidency before the start of the Presidency

1.2.2 How transparent is the Presidency budget?

Why is this important?
Only a budget with clear and precise disclosure of the expenses creates the conditions for public monitoring. If the information is not available in open data formats it severely hampers the public's ability to hold the government to account.

Results:
- The foreseen bulk sum expenses of the Presidency were available online
- Online information about the ongoing public procurements was provided in the official website
- It was not possible to obtain financial details in open data format

PILLAR II – ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE PRESIDENCY

2.1 Inclusiveness of stakeholders

2.1.1 Was it possible for stakeholders to contribute to the discussions?

Why is this important?
If the Presidency does not proactively provide public information about the main events and discussions the public is not able to contribute to the discussions.

Results:
- Information about all events was provided on the official website in open data format (html, pdf, xml)
- In a majority of cases all necessary information about the events was public

2.1.2 How inclusive was the EU Presidency Process?

Why is this important?
The Presidency should make efforts to ensure that interested parties are able to engage and to contribute to the discussions in public events of the EU presidency.

Results:
- Logistical details were provided about the majority of events, which means that it was technically possible for interested parties to provide written contributions
- No information was provided about whether interested parties could actually access the events or whether there was any follow-up

2.2 Management of expenses of the EU Presidency

2.2.1 Is information about the expenses and distribution of costs disclosed?

Why does this matter?
By disclosing the actual budget, the Presidency ensures that it is transparent and accountable for the way that allocated money was spent.

Results:
- The overall expenses of the Presidency, sources of funding and cost distribution in certain sectors were available online (including separate documents for each quarter)
- Financial and narrative reports for each quarter of 2013 were available online in analyst-friendly format
- Reports of the Parliamentary Committee on European Affairs and additional financial documents were available online

2.2.2 How transparent and how well disclosed are the expenses of the EU Presidency?

Why does this matter?
Only a budget with clear and precise disclosure of the expenses creates the conditions for public scrutiny. If the information is not available in open data formats it severely hampers the public's ability to hold the government to account.

Results:
- Information about the expenses was provided either in bulk sums or specifically for certain groups of goods and services
- All goods and services were obtained via public procurements
- Reports of concluded public procurements were provided in the central public procurement database but did no detailed information about procurement relating to the Presidency was provided
- There is no way to learn about public procurements conducted during the Presidency in one place. Information is not provided in open data formats
- The National Audit Office of Lithuania prepared a state audit report "Preparations for the EU Presidency" which evaluated the process, outlined recommendations and is available online

PILLAR III – KEY ANTI-CORRUPTION FILES

Key issue:
Political Party Finance

Why is this important?
The current regulation of political party finance at European level has a number of loopholes and grey areas which risk undermining the integrity and accountability of the system, especially in view of the upcoming European elections

What is the key recommendation?
Monitoring and sanctions should be clearly assigned to an independent oversight body and European party finance information should be made available in a citizen-friendly, searchable database

Key Issue:
Public Procurement

Why is this important?
Despite the rules currently set at the EU level, corruption scandals and irregularities tied to public procurement are still quite common in member states. This was also emphasised in the recent EU anti-corruption report
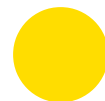
What is the key recommendation?
The Public procurement reform should result in stronger monitoring systems, include whistleblower protection provisions, supply clear definitions of conflicts of interest and ensure that documentation is publicly available

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What priority was given to Political Party Finance?

- The Lithuanian Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs stated the intention to adopt the *Proposal on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations* in his initial address to the Constitutional Affairs Committee at the European Parliament on July 15, 2013
- The Minister announced this was a priority for Lithuania and that all institutions had to reflect hard on how to unblock the outstanding issues

What priority was given to Public Procurement?

- The adoption of the public procurement reform package featured in the presidency programme, but due to its advanced stage in the legislative process this was not declared a priority
- The Presidency prioritised an unrelated *directive on e-invoicing in public procurement* which had been proposed by the Commission in June 2013
- The Presidency held that the e-invoicing directive has the potential to increase transparency and competition in public procurement

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What progress did the Council make?

- The Council working party on general affairs met several times to discuss the proposal with more frequent meetings during October and November
- Due to the complex legal aspects of the proposal the Council did not adopt a full position by the end of the Presidency term
- On December 17, 2013 the Presidency succeeded in reaching a preliminary agreement on which institutions would be responsible for party financing and established an independent authority that will be in charge of the registration of political parties
- The Council agreed that the rules that govern political party funding will be streamlined and adapted to their specific situation and needs
- As part of this compromise the overall amounts made available under the EU budget will stay the same

What progress did the Council make?

- After long negotiations the Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional political agreement In June 2013
- The Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER I), i.e. national ambassadors to the EU, endorsed this agreement in July 2013
- Following endorsement by COREPER no further action was possible for the Council, due to delays in the translation of the agreed text > The Lithuanian Presidency had no room for manoeuvre to push for additional changes
- The adopted reform package includes definitions of conflicts of interest but lacks crucial provisions for whistleblower protection
- On December 2, 2013 the Council agreed on a general approach on the *Directive on e-invoicing in public procurement*

Key Issue: **Establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office**	**Why is this important?** Despite the loss of billions of Euros every year few cases of fraud and corruption are ever brought to justice in the 28 EU member states **What is the key recommendation?** The EPPO should be provided with a broad mandate that includes serious EU crimes including cross-border corruption and related financial crimes (such as fraud, money laundering, etc.)

What level of priority was given to the EPPO?	• This was one of the priority issues in the field of criminal law • The Lithuanian Minister of Justice stated that while new ways to fight crimes that affect the EU's financial interest are absolutely necessary, sufficient time needs to be devoted for discussion amongst Member States • To ensure that negotiations are accompanied by in-depth analysis the Presidency organised a high level conference in Vilnius to bring together various stakeholders for an exchange of ideas
What progress did the Council make?	• Upon publication of the proposal in July 2013 the Presidency immediately invited member states to provide an assessment via questionnaire • Discussions in the coordinating committee (CATS) soon revealed concerns by some delegations as to structure and competence of the EPPO • The proposal was presented at the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council in October 2013 • an "article-by-article" examination of the proposal took place during meetings of the Council's working party on Cooperation on criminal matters (COPEN) • The Presidency steered negotiations by contributing a discussion paper which focused on the contentious issues • national parliaments raised subsidiarity concerns with the proposal which triggered an automatic review by the Commission (yellow card procedure) • The Commission dismissed the concerns raised by the member states • In its recommendations to the next Presidency Lithuania stressed that the setting up of the EPPO should be pursued further

Key Issue: **Association and Trade Agreements**	**Why is this important?** The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) agreements have not included concrete anti-corruption objectives and civil society participation, which undermines local ownership of anti-corruption efforts and limits the ability for citizens to hold their governments accountable **What is the key recommendation?** The negotiations around Association Agreements should be made more transparent and include concrete anti-corruption objectives in ENP Agreements

What level of priority was given to the Eastern Partnership?	• This was a core priority for the Lithuanian Presidency under its stated objective to create an "open Europe, promoting democratic values and contributing to safe neighbourhood" • Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaite promoted the Third Eastern Partnership Summit, which took place in Vilnius in November 2013, as the "summit of opportunity for both the EU and its neighbours" during her opening address to the European Parliament • The Lithuanian Presidency devoted considerable attention and resources to the Eastern Partnership and organised a number of assemblies, seminars, youth forums, civil society forums and conferences in Vilnius, Luxembourg and Moldova around the Third Eastern Partnership Summit
What progress did the Council make?	• The aim of the Eastern Partnership Summit was to initial and sign political association agreements with Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine • While Georgia and Moldova initialled political association agreements at the Summit the EU failed to initial an agreement with Armenia and also failed to sign the agreement with the Ukraine • The Presidency organised a joint ministerial Justice and Home Affairs meeting, which will be held on a regular basis to monitor reforms and provide political guidance • The joint declaration of the Summit included a commitment to strengthen multilateral cooperation in the fight against corruption and positions anti-corruption and good governance in Eastern Partnership countries as an important priority for the EU agenda • The Council conclusions provide backing for further anti-corruption reforms and state clearly that there is a real need to take action in this field

Key Issue:
Anti-Money Laundering

Why is this important?
Money laundering enables the corrupt and criminal to legitimise the illegal, distorts economies and is a major obstacle to a stable EU internal market

What is the key recommendation?
Member States should establish public registers of who ultimately controls and benefits from anonymous shell companies and other opaque legal structures like trusts and foundations to enable public scrutiny

What level of priority was given to the 4th Anti Money- Laundering Directive (AMLD)?	• Despite previous European Council conclusions which stipulated that the 4th AML Directive should be adopted by the end of 2013 this file was a low priority for the Presidency • AML was on the indicative agenda of the Economic and Financial Affairs (ECOFIN) Council of October 15 but was eventually dropped from the final agenda • AMLD was also not included on the ECOFIN Council agenda of November 15 but was eventually added at the request of France, Italy and Germany • The Presidency did not organise any high-level events to push discussions
What progress did the Council make?	• The compromise text drawn up by the Presidency on August 30 did not include public registers of beneficial ownership • On November 4, 2013 the Presidency informed the Committee of Permanent Representatives that, despite having met eight times, the working party on Financial Services was not able to overcome the outstanding issues • Following submission of a French issues paper to the Council this was added to the Economic and Financial Affairs (ECOFIN) Council agenda on November 15, 2013 • The November ECOFIN Council took stock of the work in progress but in a context of strongly divergent views amongst Member States was not able to agree on a general approach • The creation of public registers of beneficial ownership remains the main outstanding issue

Key Issue:
Corporate Reporting

Why is this important?
Citizens must also have adequate information in order to assess the activities of companies operating in their territory, including financial information. In the absence of country-by-country reporting, the local public is unaware of how much profit such operations generate and what, if any, special arrangements their governments may have entered into with multinational companies

What is the key recommendation?
The Directive should require that all large companies based in the EU should (i) disclose information on their anti-bribery and anti-corruption programmes and (ii) disclose details of revenues, sales, profits, taxes paid, political party contributions and other community contributions for every country in which they operate around the world

What level of priority was given to Corporate Reporting?	• Despite previous European Council conclusions which called for rapid progress on this proposal this file was a low priority for the Lithuanian Presidency • While this proposal was included in the Presidency agenda the Lithuanian authorities displayed no great enthusiasm for this file • The presidency programme merely stated that Lithuania would "launch discussions within the Council" • The intention to start discussions in the Council working groups was reiterated by the Lithuanian Minister of Economy in his address to the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee at the European Parliament on July 9, 2013 • Subsequent backing at ministerial level did not materialise and the Presidency scheduled no high-level events to advance this proposal

Key Issue:

Corporate Reporting (continued)

What progress did the Council make?

- The working party on company law examined this proposal five times
- The Presidency's first compromise text reflected the desire by a group of member states to weaken the proposal
- On December 13, 2013 Member states met in the Council to finalise their position
- The critical review clause which stipulated country-by-country reporting was not included in the Council mandate for the trialogue negotiations
- The watered down proposal severely reduces the scope of companies that have to report, it lacks robust reporting provisions and crucially makes no reference to country-by country reporting
- The speed with which this dossier advanced came at the expense of substance

ANNEX