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Corruption Combating Experience in European States (Finland, Lithuania, Slovenia, Netherlands and Slovakia)

This article is concerning on providing some European states' corruption combating experience overview. In author's opinion, the experience of these countries is of special interest for Ukraine.

The mentioned experience shows that mostly punishment anticorruption measures led to extremely opposite effect. That's why the dilemma is been aroused: what is the best way to solve the problem of corruption – either to continue the policy of repressive social control or enhance the corruption prevention practice?

Finnish legislation was gradually amended to be fully tailored to international conventions and EU commitments. Finland has a very effective system of criminal justice which is able to tackle corruption even on the highest level. In administrative practice it is characterized by high quality standards with regard to its hierarchical structure and seldom the politicization of key state service positions.

Lithuania has become a member of many international organizations and ratified anticorruption documents. Its government implements a strategy to improve this process through enhancement of transparency, efficiency and competitiveness. National program on corruption combating also establishes specific goals in the state procurement area: 80 % of auctions will be performed online and the private sector in tender costs will not exceed 7 %.

In the area of state procurement Slovenia shows good practice in terms of state expenditures' transparency. Interactive application «Supervisor» provides information on all the stages of this process; in 2013 «Supervisor» was awarded with the UN Prize for State Development Contribution.

State sector in the Netherlands is not taken as corrupted but completely transparent due to officials' commitment to the codes of conduct aimed at integrity development. Rules also stipulate that statesmen must inform the public of conflicts of interests and potential misuse of power. The last amendments of legal norms include imposing extra sanctions (e.g. raising the fine up to 10 % of the organization sale).

Taking into account the minimal progress on Slovakia's governmental level, local authorities designed their own anticorruption strategies with NGOs assistance. They are supported by public debates which provide opportunities for continuous state anticorruption campaigns to be implemented. There are still enough obstacles for the effective application of anticorruption legislation due to lack of judiciary independence and interaction between political elite and private sector.

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