



TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
SLOVENIA
#SvetBrezKorupcije



TRANSPARENCY OF ELECTIONS AND ELECTORAL INTEGRITY

Case study of local elections

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SLOVENE LOCAL ELECTIONS



- **ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN ACT
(LAST AMENDMENTS IN 2013) + 11 OTHER CONNECTED ACTS**
- **MAIN FEATURES:**
 - ü **30 DAY CAMPAIGN**
 - ü **SPENDING CAP (PER CAPITA)**
 - ü **OBLIGATORY FINANCIAL REPORTING (4 MONTHS AFTER ELECTIONS)**
 - ü **RULES ON HOW TO MARK CERTAIN CAMPAIGN MATERIAL**
 - ü **HIGH PENALTIES**
 - ü **PROHIBITION OF FINANCING FROM LEGAL ENTITIES**

TRANSPARENCY OF ELECTIONS AND ELECTORAL INTEGRITY



- 3 MAIN SUPERVISORY BODIES: INSPECTORATE FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, COURT OF AUDIT, INSPECTORATE FOR CULTURE AND MEDIA
- 212 MUNICIPALITIES, 5 MONITORED
- MORE THAN HALF NON-PARTY MAYORS

OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS COMMON VIOLATIONS



- **INADEQUATE OR FALSE LABELLING OF MATERIALS**
- **DAMAGING OF RIVAL MATERIALS**
- **ABUSE OF POWER FOR ELECTION PURPOSES**





- NEW LEGISLATION SINCE 2013
- 1 OUT OF 10 BILLBOARDS CORRECTLY LABELED
- SYSTEMATIC VIOLATIONS OF LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK
- PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT?



OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS SANCTIONS (CASE STUDY IN 2014)



- **101 VIOLATIONS REPORTED**
- **ONLY ONE FINE ISSUED**
- **ONLY ONE AUDIT OF A CAMPAIGN**

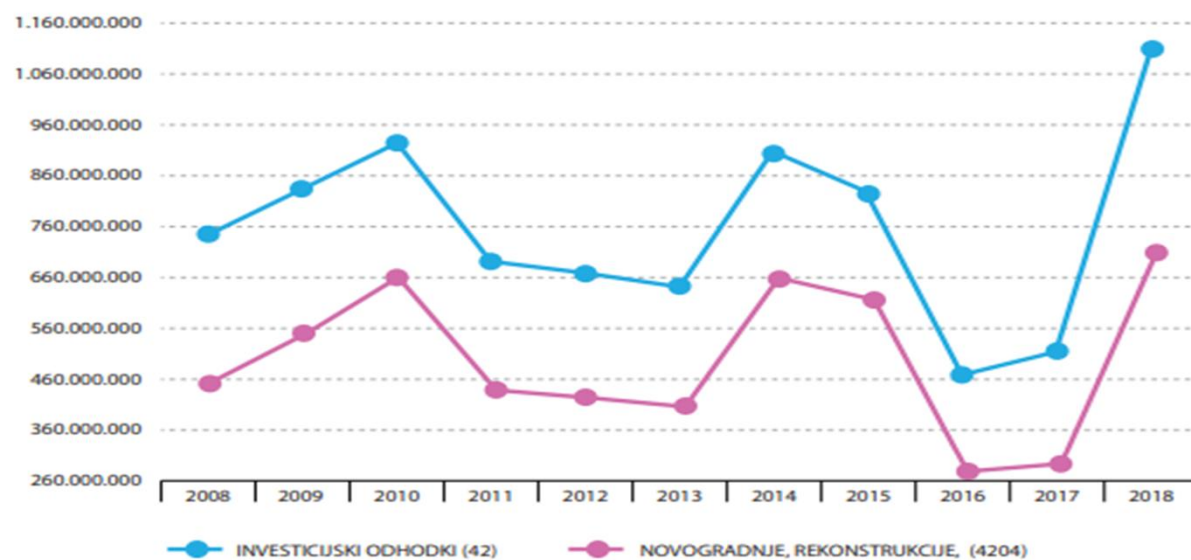
OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS INVESTMENTS



- **SLOVENE MUNICIPALITIES SPEND OVER 2 BILLION EUROS PER YEAR**
- **EXPENDITURE FOR INVESTMENTS HIGHER IN ELECTION YEARS**
- **CONFIRMED TREND OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED INVESTMENTS IN ELECTORAL YEAR IN MUNICIPALITIES**



OBSEG INVESTICIJSKIH ODHODKOV
IN ODHODKOV ZA NOVOGRADNJE 2008–2018 (V EVRIH)





MUNICIPAL BUDGETS: 2008 – 2018



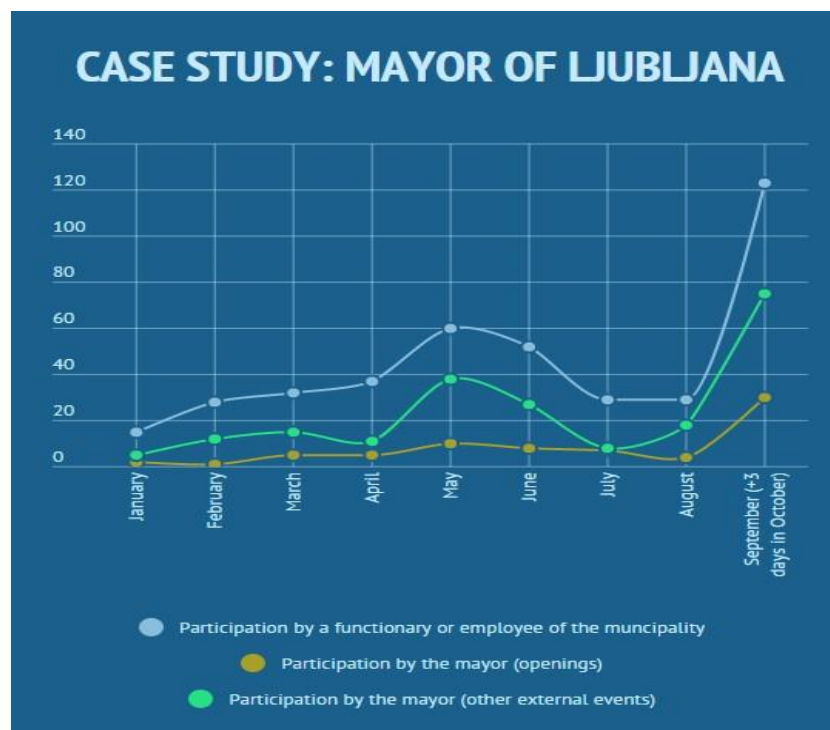
- TREND OF RISING INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE IN ELECTORAL YEARS (5 BIGGEST MUNICIPALITIES)
- TEMPORARY RISE OF GDP, NO INDICATION OF RISE OF COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
- LACK OF EVALUATION OF THIS PHENOMENON
 - EFFECT ON REELECTION – FAIR PARTICIPATION AND USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS?
 - CORRUPTION RISKS?
 - RATIONAL USE OF FUNDS?

OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS MEDIA



- **MEDIA TEND TO REPLICATE OFFICIAL SOURCES, LITTLE CRITICAL REPORTING**
- **MAYORS ABUSING POWER TO GAIN MEDIA ATTENTION**
- **LOCAL MEDIA CONTROLLED BY MUNICIPALITIES HIGHLY PROBLEMATIC**

OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS MEDIA



OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS MEDIA



OBSERVATIONS AND PROBLEMATIC AREAS FINANCIAL REPORTING



- **REPORTING OF INELIGIBLE COSTS**
- **FAILING TO REPORT COSTS, INADEQUATE REPORTING**
- **DEBT**
- **LACK OF IMMEDIATE TRANSPARENCY**

RECCOMENDATIONS



- CONNECTIONS WITH PARTY FINANCING – 75,1 % OF FUNDS OF POLITICAL PARTIES FROM PUBLIC FUNDS (2014) – FOI?
- NEED FOR IMMEDIATE, PROACTIVE AND REAL TIME TRANSPARENCY
- LACK OF EFFICIENT CONTROL – LEGISLATURE, FINANCIAL AND STAFF RESTRICTIONS AND/OR LACK OF AWARENESS (ESPECIALLY LOCAL ELECTIONS)
- INCREASING THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY? UNTAPPED POTENTIAL AND RESOURCES
- DEFINING THE ISSUE AREA OF LOCAL MEDIA
- DEFINING THE ISSUE AREA OF DEBTS AND ELECTIONS CAMPAIGNS
- BANNING THE CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH
- REMUNERATION OF ELECTION COSTS SHOULD BE TIED TO SUCCESSFUL REPORTING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN COSTS



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THANK YOU!

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