

# 6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE ON LOCAL SAFETY AND SECURITY



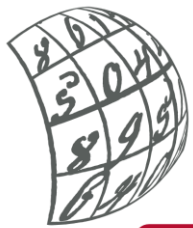
UNIVERZITET CRNE GORE  
PRAVNI FAKULTET



University of Maribor

---

Faculty of  
Criminal Justice and Security



**ARRS**

SLOVENIAN RESEARCH AGENCY

## PREVENTIVE MECHANISMS FOR COMBATING CORRUPTION IN THE POLICE

Ana Perković

Belkisa Husović

Nikša Milatović

Aleksa Raičević

# INTRODUCTION



- Solving and dealing with corruption in the police is crucial for establishing public trust in institutions and creating an atmosphere in which the **principle of the rule of law** will fully be implemented.
- The first step in creating an effective anti-corruption strategy involves a clear understanding of different **forms of corruption** in the police.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Šumi R. Laličić L. (2014) *Analiza rizika korupcije u policiji*, Kuća Štampe plus, Beograd, str. 9

# FORMS OF CORRUPTION

```
graph TD; A([FORMS OF CORRUPTION]) --> B([PETTY OR BUREAUCRATIC CORRUPTION]); A --> C([CRIMINAL CORRUPTION]); A --> D([POLITICAL CORRUPTION]);
```

PETTY OR  
BUREAUCRATIC  
CORRUPTION

CRIMINAL  
CORRUPTION

POLITICAL  
CORRUPTION

# FORMS OF CORRUPTION



- **Petty corruption** – bribery in daily interaction with citizens, when police officers use powers they have to get money from citizens in exchange for not reporting their violations or speeding up some bureaucratic procedure.
- **Criminal corruption** – manifests itself through launching “insider” criminal enterprises as well as through protecting, hiding, sponsoring illegal activities and preventing them from being the focus of police attention.
- **Political corruption** – interfering politicians in police investigations, launching false investigations, “packing” political opponents, leaking classified information to politicians, etc.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Kesić Z. (2017), *Pojavni oblici korupcije u policiji*, Kriminalističko-policijska akademija, Beograd, str. 3

# INDICATORS FOR DETERMINING THE CAUSES OF CORRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE POLICE

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES	ORGANIZATIONAL CAUSES	EXTERNAL CAUSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tendency towards corrupt activities</li> <li>▪ Cost benefit assessment</li> <li>▪ Risk analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bureaucratic organizational structure in the police service</li> <li>▪ Management</li> <li>▪ Human and material resources</li> <li>▪ Legal regulation and clarity of measures to fight against corruption</li> <li>▪ Recruitment process</li> <li>▪ Training of police officers</li> <li>▪ Support in work from colleagues and police associations</li> <li>▪ Effectiveness of the internal control system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prospects for corrupt activity</li> <li>▪ Assessment of public opinion on corruption in the police</li> <li>▪ The existence of corruption in the judiciary</li> <li>▪ External methods of police control</li> <li>▪ Political, economic and social situation <sup>3</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> Đorđević S. Analiza – korupcija u policiji, Beogradski centar za bezbednosnu politiku, str. 5

# CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION IN THE POLICE



The main consequence of corruption in the police is the damage to the reputation of the police service, which is a symbol of honor, dignity and honesty

The Knapp Commission divided police officers involved in corrupt practices into two categories. One of them includes those who are passive, who do not seek an opportunity for corruption themselves, but do not refuse it when it is offered to them. Others are more aggressive and actively create opportunities for corruption to be offered to them.



Corrupt activity is constantly increasing because corruption is more difficult to detect due to more perfect methods of practice. The awareness of the importance of reporting corruption by citizens and fellow police officers is not sufficiently developed, which means that in order to prevent corruption, we need a stable political situation, a stable economy and conscious society.



# METHODS OF PREVENTION

```
graph TD; A([METHODS OF PREVENTION]) --> B([PRIMARY  
Raising officers' awareness of integrity and ethics.]); A --> C([SECONDARY  
Practice through discussions and seminars/workshops]); A --> D([TERTIARY  
Treatment of perpetrators]);
```

## **PRIMARY**

Raising officers' awareness of integrity and ethics.

## **SECONDARY**

Practice through discussions and seminars/workshops

## **TERTIARY**

Treatment of perpetrators



# PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND TERTIARY MEASURES

## **Primary measures:**

- code of ethics, training, transparency, control, exchange of information, incentive systems.

## **Secondary measures:**

- supervisory control, internal control, ethics and training, monitoring of financial transactions, judicial control.

## **Tertiary measures:**

- court judgements, cause analysis, monitoring and reporting, reorganization and restructuring, changes in laws and regulations

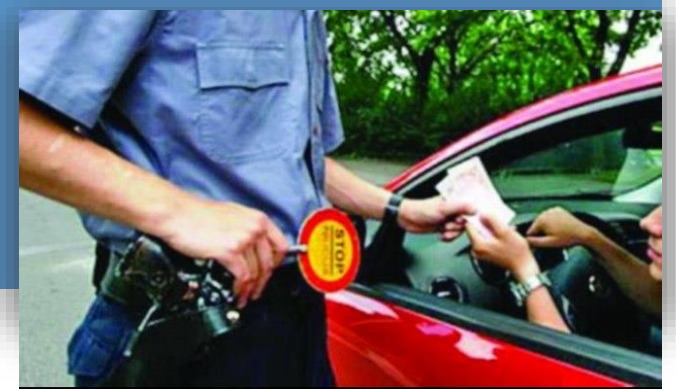


# INTEGRITY TEST

- ▼ The best tool for preventing corruption and identifying those prone to corruption and unethical behavior
- ▼ Since 1994, the NYPD has conducted integrity tests in the following frameworks:
  - the subject of testing can be any violation of ethical norms: bribery, discrimination...
  - tests targeting police officers suspected of corruption
  - realistic scenarios, such as a situation where an arrested drug dealer offers money, in that scenario the drug dealer is actually an internal control officer
- ▼ Past impacts of integrity tests:
  - Police officers who failed the test were expelled from the police force, according to which, this type of repressive measures also had a preventive character for all future cases
- ▼ Testing Objectives:
  - recognition of officials prone to corruption
  - gathering evidence for the prosecution
  - an incentive for officials to report a bribe offer <sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> R. Šumi, L. Laličić (2014) *Analiza rizika korupcije u policiji*, Kuća Štampe plus, Beograd, str. 24


# EXAMPLES OF CORRUPTION




- **Petty corruption** - The case of police officer S.B. , who was sentenced to three years and eight months in prison for accepting bribes. He was accused of using his position in the police to help the suspect avoid criminal liability, and in return, he received money from him.
- **Criminal corruption** - In January 2021, the former head of administration for organized crime and corruption in the Montenegrin police, S.S. , was sentenced to four years in prison for abuse of office. S.S. was accused of using his position to help suspects in the investigations of his sector to avoid criminal responsibility.
- **Political corruption** - In one of the most famous cases of political corruption in Montenegrin police, police officers and members of one of the political parties were arrested on suspicion of planning a terrorist attack on the day of the parliamentary elections in 2016. The case went through the court process, and some of the accused were convicted, while others were acquitted.

# CONCLUSION

From the aspect of structure and organization, the police is very susceptible to corruption, which manifests itself in numerous occasions and temptations, and the generated deviation within the profession.



Corruption in the police significantly impairs citizens' willingness to cooperate with the police, which causes a decrease in the effectiveness of police work and a loss of citizens' trust



In order to completely eradicate this phenomenon, it is necessary that all actors involved in the fight against corruption are fully committed and ready to work together.

# LITERATURE:

Šumi R. Laličić L. (2014) Analysis of the risk of corruption in the police, House of Press plus, Belgrade, p. 9, 24

Kesić Z. (2017), Forms of corruption in the police, Criminal and Police Academy, Belgrade, p. 3

Đorđević S. (2012), Analysis - corruption in the police, Belgrade Center for Security Policy, p. 5

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

