

Report on the monitoring of local administration – The municipality of Aleksinac



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Summary

The analysis of information on the public administration of Aleksinac led to the conclusion that the public administration of Aleksinac performed well in the field of public finances, in the part that monitors the degree of compliance with the budget calendar and the successful planning of income and expenses, as well as whether the public procurement procedures are based on the principles of equal treatment, non-discrimination, proportionality and transparency in the field of providing services to citizens. The municipality of Aleksinac achieved the lowest points in the area of policy development and coordination in the part of dealing with the transparency of the Council's work and the preparation of drafts and proposals for decisions in local administration, as well as in the area of the public services and human resources management in the area of openness and transparency of recruitment in local self-government. The area of effective protection of senior civil servants' position from unwanted political interference and the effectiveness of measures for the promotion of integrity and prevention of corruption in local self-government were also rated with a low number of points. When it comes to the web-presentation of the municipality of Aleksinac, it is necessary to harmonize the content and technical standards with the Regulation on detailed conditions for the creation and maintenance of the organ's web-presentation.

As for the communication with the research team, the cooperation was at the correct level, the public administration officers responded in a timely manner to the sent Requests for access to information of public importance.

Conclusions



Policy development and coordination

The Development Plan of the Municipality of Aleksinac and the steps taken in its preparation and adoption were done without taking into account all the capacities and the real needs of the citizens, as further analysis of the indicators shows. Although it was stated that civil society participated, nothing showed that it was done in a transparent manner, and therefore the inclusion through the mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of this planning document is missing. It is particularly worrying that one association was invited to participate, and the other associations in Aleksinac did not even know that this planning document was being prepared.



Strategic framework for public administration reform

There are no available materials from the sessions, except in the form of news on the main page, which makes the work of the Parliamentary Affairs Service non-transparent. Also, there is a bad practice of involving civil society organizations by handing them a decision on membership in a working group for policy development without a prior assessment of the organization's capacity (e.g. whether the public policy in question is in the scope of the organization's work).



Accountability

The management of personnel records is at a satisfactory level, as well as the competition procedures for executive positions, except for publicly available decisions of competition commissions and decisions on unsuccessful competitions. What is not a good practice, and what we were told in the conversation with the Municipal Administration officer is that there is practically no competition in filling the positions of civil servants (indicator 6), but the Head of the Municipal Administration appoints the officials himself. We have not received a written response to this question, although we have sent a Request for Access to Information of Public Importance.

Also, there is no local anti-corruption plan of the municipality, nor a mechanism for its monitoring.

As for the Statute, strategic documents, budget, public procurement plan – they are not immediately available. We notice that the practice is to publish all valid documents in the list of legal regulations, so we get to them through Official Gazettes – which is difficult to find.



Service delivery

The development and improvement of services is planned by a general planning document, which represents, as we have previously stated, "capacity and resources saving" in public policy developing. Single administrative point was not open at the time of the research, and the administration building is inaccessible and unavailable for people with disabilities, there are no unified eUprava services, but there are some unified procedures that make everyday life easier for citizens.



Public financial management

The budget process was completed, as was the presence of at least one gender-responsive goal / measure in the budget. The budget is publicly available as a document, but not the Report on budget execution and the Report on final account, which made comparative analyzes of income and expenses difficult. There is also no Citizen's guide through the budget and Citizen's guide through the final account. Available documents are not in machine-readable format. They do not have an internal act that regulates the public procurement procedure in more detail, and there is no available information on the initiation and outcome of public procurement procedures.



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ЗА ТЕБЕ**

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