



Corruption Prevention
and Combating Bureau
Republic of Latvia

Monitoring and control of political parties financing

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the Division of Control of political
parties financing

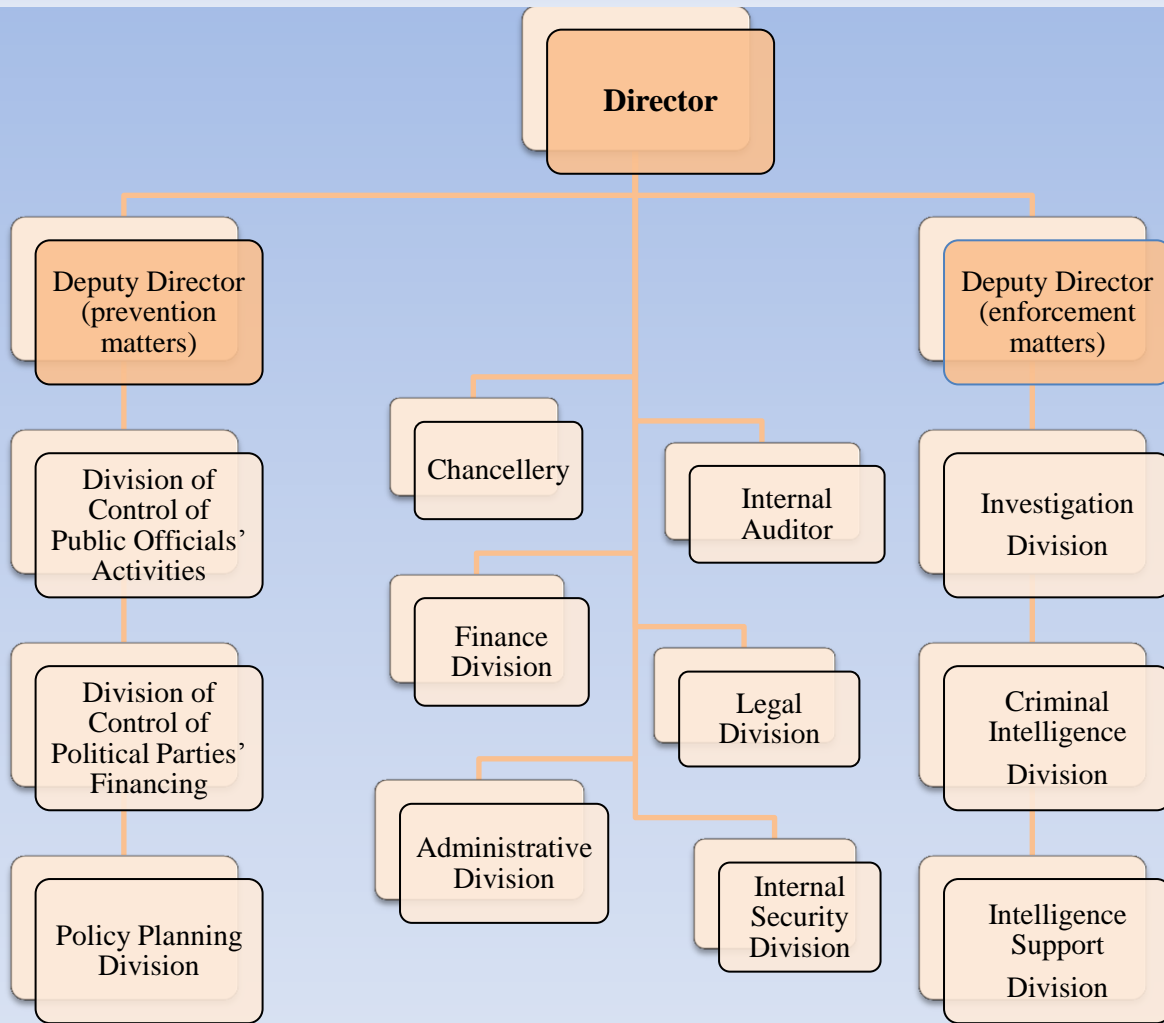


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The Bureau is an institution of the State Administration under the supervision of the Cabinet, which performs the functions determined by Law in corruption prevention and combating, as well as in controlling fulfilment of financing provisions of political organisations (parties) and associations thereof.

Structure





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Our bureau checks if a political party has

- received an illegal donation;
- violated limitations of financing, for example third party mediation in donating to a party;
- received an anonymous donation;
- violated limitations of the pre-election expenditure amounts;
- and submitted to our bureau the following information:
annual financial declaration; election income and expenditure declaration.
- Our bureau can ask political parties to return to the state budget illegally acquired funding.



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Legal acts:

Law on Financing of Political
Organizations (parties)

Pre-election Campaign Law



In Latvia

1 950 000 citizens

76 registered parties

of which 6 parties receive state budget





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Political organizations (parties) may be financed by:

- Natural persons membership fees and joining fees.
- The income earned by economic activities of the relevant political organization (party).
- The State budget –in cases determined by law.
- Other sources of financing, except by those prohibited by law.



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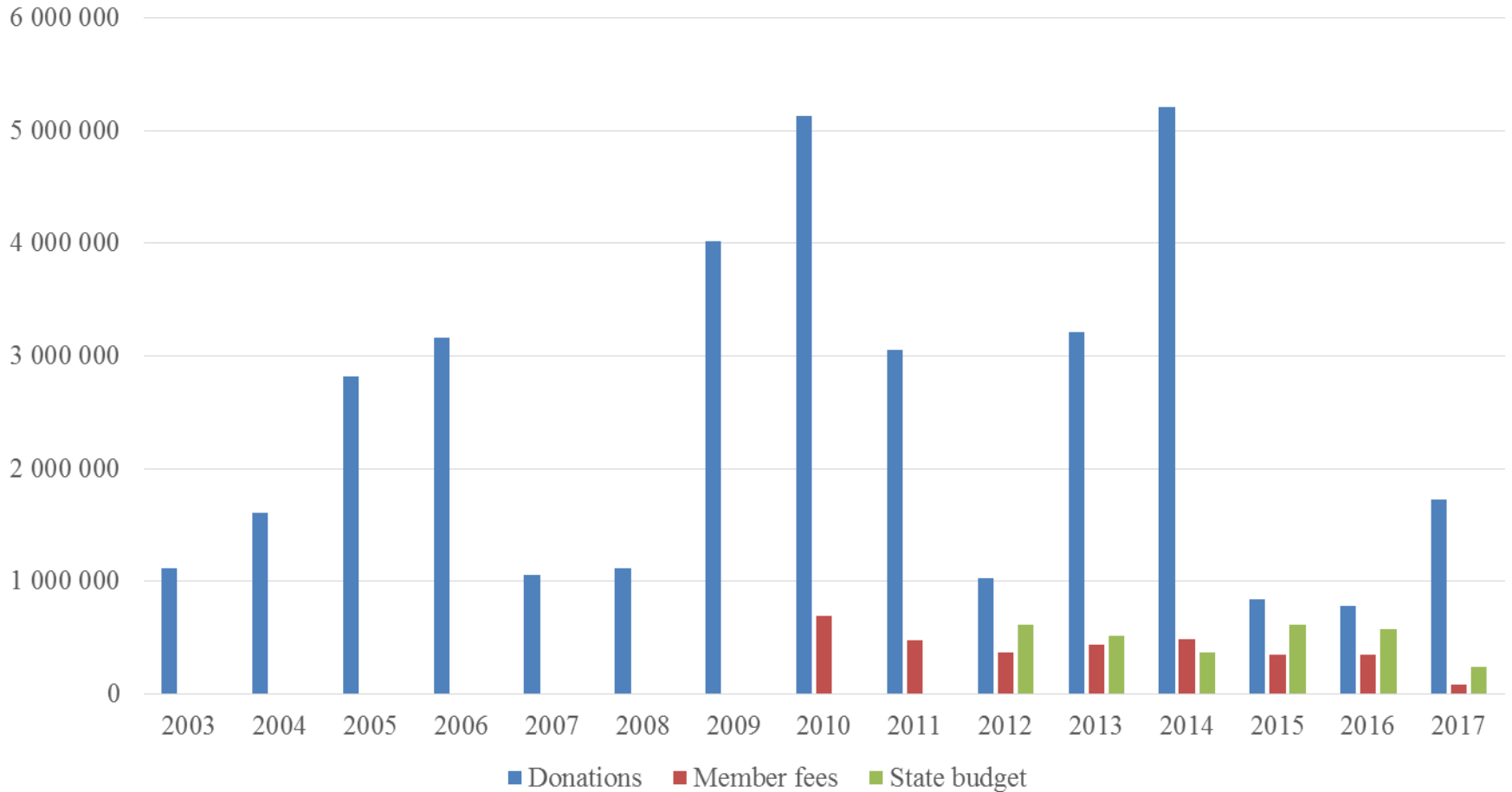
And restricted by:

- Legal persons.
- Loans.
- Gifts (donations) from natural persons exceeding 19'000 euro in 2017.



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Political party financing





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The political organisations (parties) must submit such reports:

- Declaration of income and expenses of elections.
- Annual report.
- Report about donations and member fees.
- A notification on the estimated placement of the pre-election campaign materials or provision of postal services.



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There are limited expenses of elections:

- Placement of election campaign ads (TV, radio, internet, in public places).
- Sponsorship (benefaction) during the election campaign.



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and unlimited expenses:

- Postal services.
- Production of election campaign ads.
- Planning, arranging, and managing the election campaign.
- Wages and other payments related to the planning of the election campaign.
- Rental of movable and immovable property required for the election campaign.
- Production of booklets, magazines, etc.



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Pre-election campaigning spendings limitations

- 2017 year 488027.31 euro (local government councils elections) .
- 2014 year 422997.09 euro (the European Parliament elections)
- 2014 year 317247.82 euro (Saeima elections)



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Pre-election campaign spendings limitations

year	2013 local government councils elections	2014 Saeima elections	2014 the European Parliament elections	2017 Local government councils elections
political parties which take part (in Latvia are registered 76 parties)	50	13	14	40
limited expenses euro	1 228 536,43	2 321 422,73	1 262 620,02	1 121 975,26
All expenses of elections euro	2 966 358,10	3 816 776,56	2 147 264,95	2 763 680,66



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Pre-election campaign spendings limitations

- Use of administrative resources in pre -election campaign is prohibited.



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Enforcement methods

- Checking and analyzing information, notifications by media and agitator.
- Monitoring of posted agitation (purchased).
- Checking information from residents (applications, complaints, submissions. anonymous calls, volunteers).
- Audit of declarations and reports.



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Audit results:

- Illegal donations (over limit , anonymous, from legal person);
- Violated limitations of financing, for example third party donating for election;
- Violated limitations of the pre-election expenditure amounts;
- Used administrative resources in pre -election campaign;
- Used European funds;
- Violations in the use of the state budget.



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Audit results:

- After Audit results Bureau took motivated decisions about administrative liability and on transfer of the relevant financial means into the State budget.
- Inform the society regarding the detected violations of the pre-election campaign, as well as regarding measures taken for elimination thereof.
- Refusal to grant state budget financing and interruption or suspension of disbursement of state budget financing.
- Initiate suspension of the activity of the relevant political party.



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Audit results:

- In previous years there were more serious violations than in recent years. Situation has improved significantly.



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Thank you for your attention!

Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau

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