



Corruption Prevention
and Combating Bureau
Republic of Latvia

Monitoring and control of political parties financing

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parties financing

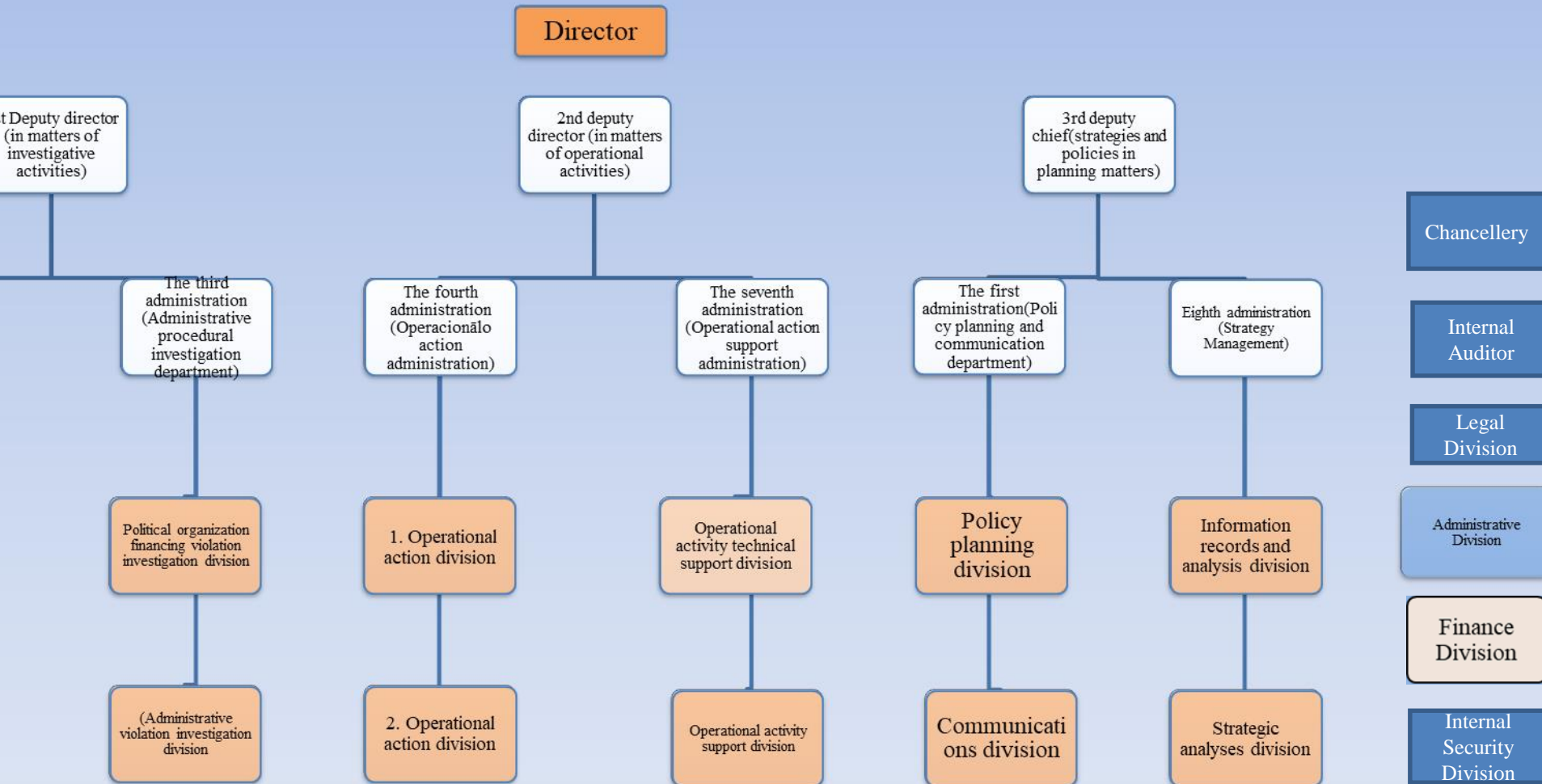


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The Bureau is an institution of the State Administration under the supervision of the Cabinet, which performs the functions determined by Law in corruption prevention and combating, as well as in controlling fulfillment of financing provisions of political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

Structure





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Legal acts:

Law on Financing of Political
Organizations (parties)

Pre-election Campaign Law



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Political organizations (parties) may be financed by:

- individual person membership fees and joining fees, sum of these fees can't exceed 25 000 EUR per year.
- Donations from individuals:
 - a) if party is funded from State budget then 2500-6000 EUR per year.
 - b) if party isn't funded from State budget then 10000 EUR per year.

And restricted by:

- legal persons.
- loans.
- mediator of the donation.



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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.

Pre-election campaing spendings limitations

- 2019 year 430 221 euro (the European Parliament elections)
- 2021 year 439 323 euro (local government councils elections) (Saeima elections)
- 2022 year 708 053 euro (Saeima elections)



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In the last elections, parties used more advertising on social networks - Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, Telegram.

Public relations firms, consultants and influencers are involved in paid online advertising.

All campaign materials must state that this is a political ad and who pre-election campaigning is paid for.

Bureau asks society to report election-related offenses. Citizens can send reports about possible pre-election campaign violations in the "Report KNAB!" mobile app, as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

To control social networks Bureau is using Facebook Ad Library tool.



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Enforcement methods

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



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Enforcement methods:

- 5) Checking information from residents (applications, complaints, submissions, anonymous calls, volunteers).
- 6) Audit of declarations and reports.
- 7) Bureau asks society to report election-related offenses.
- 8) Citizens can send reports about possible pre-election campaign violations in the "Report KNAB!" mobile app, as well as on Facebook and Twitter.



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Audit results:

- After Audit results Bureau take 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 funding from the State budget in case of violations.
- Initiate suspension of the activity of the relevant political party.



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Monitoring is a huge challenge in digital age and we are always looking to improve it!



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Thank you for your attention!

Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau

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