

## **ANALYSIS OF THE TRAINING HELD FOR OFFICIAL PERSONS IN 2020**

The Agency for the Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information, in accordance with Article 30, Paragraph 1, Paragraph 7 of the Law on Free Access to Public Information, as one of its responsibilities, undertakes activities related to the education of the holders of public information for the right of free access to the information they have.

Fulfilling its legal responsibilities, the Agency, even in the new circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, adapted to them and continued with the education of officials among the holders of public information at the central and local level, as well as the other holders of information. For this purpose, the Agency has prepared and published a training program for officials to mediate public information for 2020 and published it on its website.

Through the trainings, the Agency aimed primarily to put in focus the action under the Law on SPIJK adopted in May 2019, the implementation of which began at the beginning of 2020. For that reason, the training included officials for mediating information of information holders who appear for the first time on the List of Holders and officials who are newly appointed in the institutions of already existing information holders, as well as officials who, despite the fact that they have attended training, that is, officials from institutions that the Agency has determined were not successful enough or had difficulty handling requests for access to public information.

The Agency, in cooperation with the National Democratic Institute and SEE THIS, and with financial support from USAID, produced an educational video intended for officials with public information holders. The educational video covers the entire legal procedure for implementing the constitutionally guaranteed right of access to public information, and the video can be viewed on the Agency's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgRv8tYxuTo>

In 2020, in accordance with the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Agency held a total of 15 trainings for officials with public information holders. The trainings were carried out in the period September-December 2020 and were conducted under a common general title: "PROCEEDING UPON REQUESTS FOR FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2019 LFAPI".

The main goal of the trainings was to train the officials with the holders of information, how to properly and promptly respond to the requests for free access to public information, in accordance with the Law on SPIJK.

The specific goals of the trainings were for officials to get to know each other and, through practical exercises, to train them for: the enactment of administrative acts based on law, for the proactive publication of public information, familiarization with the goals and activities of the Agency and the establishment of mutual cooperation, preparation and acting on requests for free access to public information through experiential exercises, simulations of the implementation of the Harm Test, as part of the process of acting on requests for free access to information, getting to know and learning the procedures for handling of appeals, according to LFAPI, as well as exercises with practical examples (subjects) from the experience of the employees of the Agency.

Five of the total 15 trainings were held with physical presence and in strict compliance with the

recommendations of the Ministry of Health, in the premises of the Agency, and the remaining ten trainings were carried out through the ZOOM platform.

Officials from all holders of information were invited to the training: state institutions, judicial authorities, municipalities and centres for the development of planning regions, public enterprises and institutions, health institutions, educational institutions, legal and natural persons exercising public powers and public activity, as well as officials from political parties. A total of 71 officials attended, while 56 invited officials, although properly invited to the training, showed an ignorant attitude towards the law that protects the constitutional right of citizens to be informed about the work of the institutions, and is also one of the pillars for preventing corruption.

In the end, we want to emphasize that the trainings organized and shared by the Agency are free of charge, and therefore we appeal to the officials, and above all the responsible persons among the holders of information, in the period in which new trainings will follow, to register for them at the electronic address: [obuki@aspi.mk](mailto:obuki@aspi.mk), which the Agency opened for officials to self-initiatively apply for participation in the trainings, for reasons that through them they will become familiar with the procedure for better implementation of the Law on the Public Prosecutor's Office, and are in the interest of the citizens and their right to KNOW WHAT THE INSTITUTIONS WORK!

Prepared by: Oliver Serafimovski

### **ANNEX:**

#### **Attachment:**

#### **1. List of information holders whose officials attended the training:**

2. State-owned joint-stock company for performing energy activities National Energy Resources-NER AD - Skopje
3. Development Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia AD-Skopje
4. Joint-stock company for energy activities City Energy Systems-Skopje AD Skopje
5. Thermal energy distribution company Distribution of Heat Balkan Energy DOOEL-BEG Skopje
6. ZAN MITREV CLINIC-Legal Affairs and Human Resources Specialist
7. Institute for Authorized Auditors of the Republic of North Macedonia
8. Faculty of Islamic Sciences - Skopje
9. City Shopping Center - AD Skopje
10. Ministry of Culture
11. Institute of Accountants and Chartered Accountants
12. Office of the President of the Republic of North Macedonia Government
13. State Video Lottery of Macedonia - Cassions Austria LLC Skopje 14. JNU

- Institute for Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of Albanians - Skopje
15. Republic Council for Road Traffic Safety
  16. Center Municipality
  17. PE for public parking lots Parking lots of the Municipality of Centar
  18. JPCommunal Hygiene Skopje
  19. Center for the Development of the Skopje Planning Region Skopje
  20. JSP-Skopje
  21. Basic Civil Court Skopje
  22. Faculty of Business Economics FBE
  23. Institute of Business Economics IBE
  24. City of Skopje
  25. Food and Veterinary Agency AHV
  26. Directorate for protection and rescue
  27. Fund for Health Insurance Skopje
  28. Operational-technical agency Skopje
  29. Joint-stock company in state ownership for performing the activity of providing services in air navigation M-NAV AD Skopje
  30. City shopping centre AD Skopje
  31. Public enterprise for managing sports facilities owned by RSM
  32. Municipality of Chucher Sandevo
  33. Administration for Public Revenues
  34. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
  35. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
  36. Municipality of Delchevo
  37. NU Memorial hook of Mother Teresa-Skopje
  38. Agency for Financial Support in Agriculture and Rural Development
  39. Ministry of Finance
  40. Želino municipality
  41. Municipality of Probishtip
  42. National Security Agency
  43. General Secretariat of the the Republic of North Macedonia Government
  44. Ministry of Internal Affairs
  45. Ministry of Information Society and Administration
  46. State Archive of the Republic of North Macedonia
  47. Municipality of Gorče Petrov
  48. NU Museum of the Macedonian Struggle for Independence - Skopje
  49. Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia
  50. Agency for foreign investments and export promotion of the Republic of North Macedonia
  51. Agency for the support of entrepreneurship of the Republic of North Macedonia
  52. Agency for the promotion and support of tourism
  53. Agency for the application of the language spoken by at least 20% of the citizens in the

Republic of North Macedonia

54. A.D. for construction and management with residential space and business space of importance for the Republic-Skopje
55. State-owned Water Company of the Republic of North Macedonia, Skopje
56. Shuto Orizari municipality
57. Administration for keeping registers
58. Political party-Left
59. JP-National Forests
60. Political Party-Social Democratic Union of Macedonia
61. Insurance Supervision Agency
62. Municipality of Ohrid

**2. List of invited information holders whose officials did not attend the training:**

1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones
3. Ministry of Health
4. Ministry of Political System and Relations between Communities
5. Ministry of Labor and Social Policy
6. Municipality of Saraj
7. Municipality of Sopishte
8. RSM Wrestling Federation
9. Zelenikovo municipality
10. Public Institution Reception Center for Asylum Seekers - Skopje
11. Macedonian Academic Research Network MARnet
12. PHI University Institute for Positron Emission Tomography of the Republic of North Macedonia
13. PHI University Clinic of State Cardiosurgery-Skopje
14. Orthodox Faculty of Theology
15. Party of United Democrats of Macedonia-PODEM
16. Municipality of Kratovo
17. Skopje Sever-AD Skopje
18. Municipality of Debarca, village of Belchishta
19. Municipality of Strumica
20. Agency for youth and sports
21. Municipality of Mavrovo and Rostushe
22. Public enterprise-Communal-Struga
23. JP ISAR-Stip
24. PUC Tetovo-Tetovo
25. Municipal waste disposal company-Drisla-Skopje
26. Chamber of the Republic of North Macedonia for private security

27. Dental Chamber of Macedonia
28. Democratic Party of Albanians-DPA
29. Regulatory Commission for Energy and Water Services of the Republic of North Macedonia
30. Ministry of Transport and Communications
31. State Communal Inspectorate
32. State Inspectorate for Construction and Urbanism
33. Agency for the realization of the rights of communities
34. RSM Film Agency
35. JP "Parks and Greenery" - Skopje
36. Chair Municipality
37. National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia
38. Municipality of Karposh
39. Democratic reconstruction of Macedonia-DOM
40. PE for protection and maintenance of main and regional roads-Skopje
41. Agency for commodity reserves
42. KJP Low Construction Ohrid
43. KJP Low Construction - Bitola
44. Public institution National Park-Galičica-Ohrid
45. Intelligence Agency
46. Forfeited Property Management Agency
47. Agency for Administration
48. VMRO-DPMNE (VMRO-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity) - VMRO-DPMNE
49. Democratic Union for Integration-DUI
50. Political party ALTERNATIVE
51. Political party BESA Movement
52. Democratic Union-DS
53. New Social Democratic Party-NSDP
54. Liberal-Democratic Party-LDP
55. Socialist Party of Macedonia
56. Civic option for Macedonia-GROM