

Press release

November 14, 2018

A note on the validity of data disclosed by the Hungarian Public Procurement Authority

1. On November 13, the chairman of the Hungarian Public Procurement Authority (HPPA) was interviewed by the Echo TV, which is a TV channel close to the Hungarian government (See in Hungarian: <https://bit.ly/2TaPIDx>). In this interview the chairman claimed *"that the non-governmental organization [i.e. the CRCB] uses a database that provides such false conclusions as, for example, can also be found in the study on single bidder contracts in the Sargenti report done by an – how shall I put it – expert"*. (in Hungarian: *"...olyan adatbázisból dolgozik az említett civil szervezet, amelyből ugyanarra a téves következtetésre jut, mint mondjuk a Sargentini jelentésben szereplő, szintén az egy ajánlatos közbeszerzéseket vizsgáló, hát, szakértő... "*).
2. During this interview the journalist said: *"...so, 193 public contracts were analysed by the Center between 2005 and 2008..."*
3. To clarify these statements, all stakeholders need to know that in the report referred to in the interview, the CRCB used (see: <https://bit.ly/2QEfsAY>) the data of HPPA, which were disclosed by the HPPA itself on its webpage (see: <https://bit.ly/2PuPjbt>).
4. The CRCB analysed 193,000 contract award notices instead of 193 in this report.
5. With the publication of our research results the CRCB also published the list of the analysed contract award notices (see: <https://bit.ly/2PqQyIt>). Therefore, everybody could verify our calculations and discuss our research results.
6. We strongly believe in the validity and accuracy of the data disclosed by the HPPA.