

Research activity and impacts of CRCB in 2018

a briefing

“The Committee on Budgetary Control calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

- having regard to Article 325(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
- having regard to the study entitled “Intensity of Competition, Corruption Risks and Price Distortion in the Hungarian Public Procurement – 2009-2016” prepared by the Corruption Research Center Budapest

(...)

1. Believes that the current level of corruption, and the lack of transparency and accountability of public finances, affects Union funds in Hungary; considers that this might represent a breach of the values referred to in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) and warrants the launch of the procedure under Article 7(1) TEU;
2. Notes with concern that the share of contracts awarded after public procurement procedures that received only a single bid remains very high, at 36%, in Hungary, which is the second highest number in the Union;
3. Calls on the Commission to incentivise Member States to join the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) and, in case Member States are not willing, spending of Union funds should be suspended.”

[<https://bit.ly/2KhSbRk>]

I. Papers, Reports and Research Notes

Data publication practices of public procurement authorities around the world – 2018, CRCB, November 2018

<http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1563>

Missing Data, Intensity of Competition and Corruption Risks.

Analysis of Contract Award Notices of Hungarian Public Procurement Published between January 2005 and August 2018.

CRCB’s Flash Report, CRCB, Budapest, October 2018. <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1482>

István János Tóth – Miklós Hajdu: The Intensity of competition, corruption risks, and the winner companies. Analysis of public procurement of a European capital 2011-2016. CRCB, July, 2018. www.crcb.eu/?p=1419

István János Tóth – Klára Ungár: The models of rent-seeking and cronyism in the Hungarian energy market. The analysis of the Hungarian government – MVMP – MET case, CRCB, April 2018, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1387>

The impact of Russia’s state-run propaganda apparatus on online media in Hungary – 2010–2017, CRCB, March 2018, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1350>

Bangladesh, Zambia and Hungary. Data publication practice of the Hungarian Public Procurement Authority, CRCB, February 2018, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1322>

István János Tóth – Miklós Hajdu: How does the Kleptocratic State Work in Hungary? A research note based on Hungarian public procurement data. CRCB, January 2018, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1293>

István János Tóth – Miklós Hajdu: Public tenders of Hungarian hospitals on the standard dissection table of the economic analysis. Analysis of intensity of competition, corruption risks and price distortion of Hungarian public procurement. CRCB, January, 2018. <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1257>

II. Presentations

- Cronyism in Hungary. Empirical analysis of public tenders 2010-2016. Presentation at the conference “János Kornai 90th birthday” in Corvinus University of Budapest, Budapest, February 21-22, 2018, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1336>
- The impact of Russia’s state-run propagand apparatus on online media in Hungary – 2010–2017
- Presentation in the [POLTEXT Incubator Workshop](#) in Hungarian Academy of Science (pdf), May 11th, 2018;
 - Presentation in Hungarian in an event organised by the [MENSA Hungary](#) (pdf), May 8th, 2018;
 - Presentation in Hungarian the [Budapest Science Meetup](#) (pdf , video), April 12th, 2018

III. Press review - 2018

in English, in Polish and in Espagnole

- Bloomberg: <https://bloom.bg/2EMJgod>
- The Times: <https://bit.ly/2CnNmWz>
- Foreign Policy: <https://bit.ly/2EtX40R>
- New York Times: <https://nyti.ms/2GZM6LY>
- Financial Times: <https://on.ft.com/2FaM8Mw>
- Reuters: <https://reut.rs/2GDTx8L>
- Neue Zürcher Zeitung: <https://bit.ly/2Cn0tqT>
- Kurier: <https://bit.ly/2NI8x7G>
- Polityka: <https://bit.ly/2Coi8hJ> , <https://bit.ly/2VGuEkf>
- Spectator: <https://bit.ly/2PEjw3R>
- US News & Word Report: <https://bit.ly/2Oxj339>
- Hungarian Spectum: <https://bit.ly/2LO7E0y>
- Vox <https://bit.ly/2D1UD0e>
- Klub Jagiellonski: <https://bit.ly/2qqnPF0>
- Diario Financero: <https://bit.ly/2RyONWW>
- cooperativa.cl <https://bit.ly/2QuUBU6>
- diarioconcepcion.cl <https://bit.ly/2QxfGx7>

in Hungarian

- Zoom: <https://bit.ly/2NZiZbn>, <https://bit.ly/2Arlgu9>, <https://bit.ly/2OwEC43>, <https://bit.ly/2J1iL6y>, <https://bit.ly/2Rv1cef> , <https://bit.ly/2PgBqIY>
- Index: <https://bit.ly/2Ka7NGt>, <https://bit.ly/2OsWQDz>, <https://bit.ly/2At3hn6>, <https://bit.ly/2LNddMv>, <https://bit.ly/2NZIUkl>, <https://bit.ly/2LFPi2r>, <https://bit.ly/2FVjhRx>
- 444: <https://bit.ly/2E4sOBa>, <https://bit.ly/2F5k1zn>, <https://bit.ly/2NYTQ0u>, <https://bit.ly/2vq5B8q>, <https://bit.ly/2OsoG6g>, <https://bit.ly/2KRf5kB>, <https://bit.ly/2RylYtq>
- HVG: <https://bit.ly/2LHdktZ>, <https://bit.ly/2vp6PAQ>, <https://bit.ly/2vp8feE>, <https://bit.ly/2Kddkfg>, <https://bit.ly/2LD1zVk>, <https://bit.ly/2mZfG8O>, <https://bit.ly/2NYXd7K>, <https://bit.ly/2EtIXEd>, <https://bit.ly/2zHeLAC>
- hir24: <https://bit.ly/2PLbQMY>, <https://bit.ly/2CnxZ0f>, <https://bit.ly/2zHRmPp>
- G7: <https://bit.ly/2LQTPHy> , <https://bit.ly/2vntDkJ> , <https://bit.ly/2NZLxSd> , <https://bit.ly/2rsVJc1> ,
- Magyar Hírlap: <https://bit.ly/2Lllrgh>,
- Magyar Narancs: <https://bit.ly/2UCPikq> , <https://bit.ly/2QwIW4f>
- Magyar Idők: <https://bit.ly/2KcjcFG> ,
- Tilos Rádió: <https://bit.ly/2BPe89u> ,
- Népszava: <https://bit.ly/2M71nKi> , <https://bit.ly/2LE9em5> , <https://bit.ly/2CjHi1f> , <https://bit.ly/2BQtsmp>
- 168ora: <https://bit.ly/2Pflary> , <https://bit.ly/2OwPrTJ> , <https://bit.ly/2RWR3b8> , <https://bit.ly/2yJl6Jb>
- porfolio.hu <https://bit.ly/2zHUhHK>

Articles in Hungarian pro-governmental news portals and TV channels which try to discredit our scientific activities and our research results:

Magyar Hírlap: <https://bit.ly/2mXn5VS>
Magyar Idők: <https://bit.ly/2NZdMAu>, <https://bit.ly/2tN9WCG>, <https://bit.ly/2M8E4zP>
Origo: <https://bit.ly/2AszLxl>
Mandiner: <https://bit.ly/2EmNYy6>
Figyelő: <https://bit.ly/2rlmgIB>
Figyelő: <https://bit.ly/2rkPJT4>
Echo Tv: <https://bit.ly/2U8vDc9>

IV. Impacts on public policy

European Parliament - Committee on Budgetary Control:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/CONT/PA/2018/04-25/1149120EN.pdf. This report was part of the Sargentini's Report (<https://bit.ly/2PEhvVk>).

V. Selected citations (2016-2018)

Warf, B. (ed.), 2018, *Handbook on the Geographies of Corruption*, Edward Elgar Publ. <https://bit.ly/2IOLb4D>

Szücs, F., 2017, *Discretion and Corruption in Public Procurement*, CEU, Job Market Paper, <https://bit.ly/2KTvmFB>

Plaček, M. – Půček, M. – Ochranal, F., 2018, "Identifying Corruption Risk: A Comparison of Bulgaria and the Czech Republic", *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis: Research and Practice*, DOI: 10.1080/13876988.2018.1472473

Albano, G. L. – Nicholas, C., 2016, *The Law and Economics of Framework Agreements. Designing Flexible Solutions for Public Procurement*, Cambridge University Press, <https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO978113993958>

Oosterlynck, S. – Beeckmans, L. – Bassens, D. – Derudder, B. – Segaert, B. – Braeckmans, L. (eds.), 2019, *The City as a Global Political Actor*, Routledge Studies in Urbanism and the City, Routledge. <https://bit.ly/2FYPTcX>

Dassah, M. O. 2018, "Theoretical analysis of state capture and its manifestation as a governance problem in South Africa" *The Journal for Transdisciplinary Research in Southern Africa*, Vol 14, No 1., a473, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4102/td.v14i1.473>

VI. Other international reception

ChileCompra: <https://bit.ly/2FXeKy3>,

Open Contracting Partnership: <https://bit.ly/2KQjpAw>,

Council of Europe: Corruption risk assessment of the public procurement, <https://bit.ly/2ALrUs1>

VII. Ongoing projects

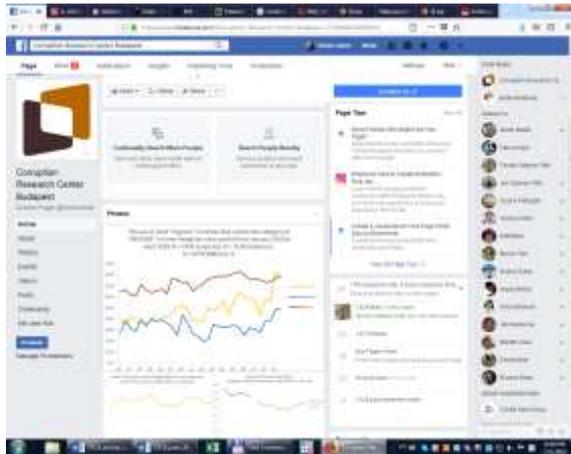
- Analysis of the kleptocratic state in Hungary based on public procurement data 2009-2018
- Analysis of the data publication activity of Hungarian local governments (cooperation with Budapest Institute, financed by Open Society Foundations)
- The map of corruption networks in public procurement 2005-2018
- Racist (or "anti-migrant") speeches in Hungary 2010-2018. Before and after the elections in April 2018.
- Quality of the Hungarian legislation 2006-2017 – an empirical analysis
- Assessment of the data publication activity of public procurement authorities around the world. An empirical analysis of data from 118 counties.
- The Evidence Based Index of Corruption (EBIC) – an evidence based approach

VIII. Application for grants

- EU Anti-Corruption Project (member of an international consortium led by PSD Zagreb)

IX. Social media

Facebook (1,472 likes and 1,504 followers)



Twitter (172 followers)



X. Legal proceedings, lawsuits

The Hungarian Public Procurement Authority (HPPA) initiated twice in 2018 a lawsuits against CRCB in relation of our research note (Bangladesh, Zambia and Hungary. Data publication practice of the Hungarian Public Procurement Authority, <http://www.crcb.eu/?p=1322>). The court of Budapest Capital (Fővárosi Törvényszék) dismissed twice these lawsuits on formal grounds (<https://bit.ly/2N6v121> and <https://bit.ly/2CNqUXF>). We are waiting for the next steps.

See other similar Hungarian cases in which the Hungarian State sentenced the author of a scientific work in the XXth century: the Hungarian Kingdom against Imre Kovács, 1937 (the “Néma Forradalom” case); the Hungarian Kingdom against Géza Féja, 1938 (the “Viharsarok” case); The Hungarian People's Republic against Miklós Haraszti, 1974 (the “Darabbér” [A worker in a worker's state: piece-rates in Hungary, Harmondsworth ; New York : Penguin, 1977.] case).