

Transparency International Lithuania
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Lithuania

13 September 2017

Dear colleagues,

I regret having to inform you that errors in the calculation of the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) results tables for 2014 and 2015 were discovered. Unfortunately, the published 2015 CPI score for Lithuania is affected. It was originally published as 61 while it should have been 59. Consequently, Lithuania's 2015 CPI rank has changed from 32 to 36 out of 168 countries.

The error made in 2014 did not affect the 2014 CPI score for Lithuania, however the rank has changed by one position from 39 to 40 out of 175 countries.

Please let me stress that the results for the current 2016 CPI are not affected.

We are aware of the CPI's importance and that it is widely used by stakeholders around the world including in Lithuania to benchmark anti-corruption progress and aspire to the highest standards of accuracy.

The mistake was due to a human error in transferring data from specific sources to the CPI computation files at Transparency International's Secretariat.

The CPI is made up of a number of independent data sources. The errors in question occurred while creating a single meta database containing the relevant parts of those sources that pertain to corruption from these data-sets for all countries covered. In 2015, it happened as the researcher copy and pasted the results by hand from the Bertelsmann Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) into the data-set.

Given the extent of manual work involved in the CPI, we always conduct a "second pair of eyes" verification and check of the CPI results. However, this check unfortunately did not pick up on the 2014 and 2015 "copy and paste" errors. In addition, the external verification and check of the results also did not spot the errors, as it did not go back to the original data sets to check the data transfers. It only re-created the results based on the meta tables.

In order to prevent any future mistakes of this kind, the verification procedures used for the CPI have been strengthened as of 2016, including among other things external, completely independent calculations of the results. Going forward the level of quality control will be increased to further reduce the risk of human error. The source description document has also been updated to clarify the underlying questions asked by the CPI sources and how this data is used in the CPI calculations.

The methodology used for calculating the CPI since 2012 remains strong and valid, and will continue to be used in future editions of the CPI.

All errors in the 2014 and 2015 have now been corrected. Additional information and background documents explaining the error can be found on Transparency International's website [here](#). The research team at the Secretariat remains at your disposal to answer any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,



José Ugaz
Chair, Transparency International