

1. On electoral irregularities: Have there been any further developments as regards the follow-up (including investigation and prosecution) given to reports of corruption-related electoral irregularities?

In the process of preparation and conduct of the National Assembly elections on April 19, 2026, with regard to the measures undertaken in response to reports of corruption-related activities associated with electoral violations within the General Directorate for Combating Organized Crime (GDBOP), and in implementation of an action plan of the Ministry of Interior, under the coordination of the Chief Secretary of the Ministry of Interior, a Structured mechanism has been established to ensure that, upon receipt of information concerning crimes or irregularities related to the electoral process, such information is promptly transmitted to the competent structures of the Ministry of Interior in accordance with the established procedures.

In order to ensure security, prevent and counteract offences against the political rights of citizens, and safeguard public order during the preparation and conduct of the parliamentary elections to be held on 19 April 2026, all incoming reports are collected by the information unit within the GDBOP.

Reports containing indications of criminal activity, related to the electoral process, are immediately forwarded to the respective Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Interior or the Operational Headquarters within GDBOP.

2. On the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC): Following the closure of the ACC, will there be an annual activity report of the ACC for the year 2025? If not, how will reporting be ensured for 2025?

Following the dissolution of the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC), its competences have been redistributed in accordance with their respective mandates between the National Audit Office and the General Directorate for Combating Organised Crime (GDBOP). The reporting obligations related to policy implementation, previously carried out by the ACC, are now fulfilled within the framework of the legally established procedures of the National Audit Office, the State Agency for National Security (SANS), and the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Bulgaria (PRB).

Following the permanent closure of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in early 2026, the National Audit Office assumed key responsibilities for the prevention and detection of conflicts of interest. Under the new legal provisions, the institution has specific reporting and accountability obligations in these areas:

1. Reporting to the National Assembly

-Annual Report: The National Audit Office includes in its annual report on activities and results the details of its new powers under Chapter 12 of its law (prevention of corruption and conflicts of interest).

- Public Register: The institution maintains and updates a public register of submitted declarations of assets and interests, which is accessible to the public on its official website.

2. Reporting of Identified Violations

The Court of Auditors is required to inform the relevant authorities upon the discovery of irregularities:

- Prosecutor's Office: where there is data of a committed crime (e.g., corruption offenses or false declaration of assets), the audit institution forwards the relevant reports and materials to the Prosecutor's Office.

- National Revenue Agency (NRA) and the State Financial Inspection Agency (SFIA): in cases of established violations of tax legislation or financial discipline, the information is forwarded to the National Revenue Agency (NRA) or the State Financial Inspection Agency (SFIA) for follow-up action.

Decisions establishing conflicts of interest involving persons holding senior public office are published on the National Audit Office' website and forwarded to the appointing authority for implementation of the measures provided for by law.

Pursuant to § 34 of the Law Amending and Supplementing the Law on National Audit Office, adopted on January 28, 2026, and effective as of February 14, 2026 (published in the State Gazette, Issue 16 of February 10, 2026) "Upon the entry into force of this Act, the Anti-Corruption Commission shall transfer to the State Agency for National Security all archived operational case files, as well as the other databases of the Anti-Corruption Commission containing information regarding these cases.

Pursuant to § 35, "The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) shall transfer to the General Directorate for Combating Organized Crime of the Ministry of the Interior all active operational case files maintained by the ACC."

Further to that, pursuant to Article 132(3) of the State Agency for National Security Act, the Chairperson of the Agency submits an annual report on the Agency's activities to the Council of Ministers by 31 March each year. The Council of Ministers subsequently submits the report to the National Assembly, where it is adopted by decision.

Un accordance with Art. 84, item 16, first sentence of the Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 138a, para. 1 of the Judiciary Act the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Bulgaria prepares and publishes an annual report on crime and prosecutorial activity, providing a comprehensive overview of the structure and dynamics of crime, as well as the effectiveness of the prosecution system. The report includes statistical data on pre-trial proceedings, indictments, convictions, and key categories of crime, including corruption and organised crime, and serves as an important tool for transparency, accountability, and evidence-based policy development.

The report is submitted to the National Assembly and is subject to public discussion, thereby ensuring institutional oversight and democratic scrutiny. It also contributes to interinstitutional co-ordination and informs the work of relevant national authorities involved in crime prevention and law enforcement.