



GOVERNMENT
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN



Code of conduct for the prevention of corruption

for the government of the Principality of Liechtenstein



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Legal notice

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1 General principles

This Code of Conduct gives concrete form to the constitutional and statutory requirements governing the organisation, accountability, and integrity of State decision-makers. The Code constitutes an internally binding organisational and ethical framework designed to align the personal and institutional conduct of the members of the Government with clear guidelines and to strengthen integrity vis-à-vis the State, the administration, and the public in a visible, comprehensible, and credible manner.

Members of the Government share responsibility not only for complying with this Code, but also for visibly exemplifying its principles in the daily exercise of their office.

The members of the Government act on the basis of the Liechtenstein Constitution and the relevant laws and, in their function, bear the supreme directing and executive responsibility of the State. Their conduct has a decisive bearing on the population's trust in the lawfulness, integrity, objectivity, and independence of State action.

Government and administrative activities are guided by principles laid down by law, such as appropriateness, proportionality, economic efficiency, transparency, and cooperation, as well as by an orientation towards the common good. Members of the Government shall safeguard the rights of citizens, act responsibly, and ensure that official business is conducted in an orderly, comprehensible, and lawful manner.

2 Conflicts of interest, bias, and recusal

A conflict of interest exists where circumstances arise which, under the statutory recusal provisions, are liable to call into question the impartiality of a member of the Government or to constitute statutory grounds for incompatibility, exclusion, or disqualification.

Members of the Government shall observe the statutory provisions on recusal, in particular on exclusion, and on disqualification in accordance with Articles 6 and 7 of the National Administration Act (LVG) and Article 17 of the Ordinance on the Rules of Procedure of the Government.

Where statutory grounds for exclusion exist, the member of the Government concerned shall not take part in the preparation, deliberation, or decision of the matter in question. Grounds for exclusion exist in particular where the member of the Government or persons close to them, to the extent defined by law, are affected by the matter, have an economic or personal interest in its outcome, or were previously substantially involved in the same administrative matter.

Where circumstances exist that are liable to give rise to doubts as to the impartiality of a member of the Government or to create an appearance of bias, the provisions of Articles 6 et seq. LVG apply.

Grounds for exclusion or disqualification must be reported without delay to the Prime Minister or, where the Prime Minister is concerned, to the Deputy Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister or, where the Prime Minister is concerned, the collegial Government shall decide definitively on participation in accordance with the statutory provisions.

3 Official secrecy

Members of the Government shall maintain official secrecy and use official information exclusively in the performance of their statutory duties. Use for private purposes or for the benefit of third parties is never permissible. Breach of official secrecy is a criminal offence.

4 Gifts and other advantages

Members of the Government shall exercise their office independently and exclusively in the public interest. Particular restraint is required when accepting gifts, invitations, or other advantages, as even the appearance of improper influence can undermine trust in the integrity of their actions.

In connection with their official activities, members of the Government may not accept, demand, or allow themselves to be promised any gifts, commitments, services, or other advantages if this could impair their independence or objectivity or create the appearance of such impairment. This prohibition covers in particular situations in which an advantage is connected with a specific official act.

Impermissible advantages include in particular:

- money or benefits with a monetary value,
- gifts or vouchers,
- discounts or special terms that are not generally available,
- personal services,
- regularly recurring “courtesies”.

By way of exception, minor and socially customary gifts in kind may be accepted, provided that:

- there is no connection with a specific or imminent official act,
- there is no regularity or expectation of anything in return,
- no influence on official decisions can arise.

The acceptance of customary hospitality or protocol-related services is permissible if:

- participation is required for official reasons,
- the nature and extent of the hospitality are customary and appropriate,
- it takes place in the context of official events or protocol practice,
- there is no expectation of influence.

Such services are not deemed a personal advantage, but rather part of official duties, provided they are exclusively connected with the official function.

Particular restraint is required in the case of invitations from undertakings, interest groups, or other potentially affected stakeholders.

Members of the Government bear personal responsibility for compliance with the provisions of criminal law. In case of doubt as to the permissibility of a benefit, legal advice must be sought at an early stage.

5 Secondary employment and public offices

Members of the Government shall exercise their function on a full-time basis.

The statutory incompatibilities must be observed. In particular, members of the Government may not practise any profession or trade. They may also not participate in corporate entities, establishments, or foundations that aim to make a profit. The acceptance of mandates in public or public-benefit organisations that serve special public interests of the State and municipalities is permitted.

6 Dealings with interest representatives (lobbyists)

Members of the Government shall conduct their contacts with interest representatives objectively and in the public interest.

Information on institutionalised meetings with interest groups, in particular meetings with executive boards, shall be made accessible in an appropriate form, for example in the Accountability Report of the Government, through press releases, or on the Government's website.

Decisions shall remain free from external influence.

7 Reporting obligation

By virtue of their position and responsibility, members of the Government have a duty to identify indications of breaches of the integrity of State action and to put a stop to them.

If indications of criminal offences come to light in the exercise of their office, members of the Government shall report them without delay to the prosecution authorities.

The reporting obligation applies irrespective of political, personal, or institutional considerations. Members of the Government shall support the competent bodies in the further clarification of the facts within the scope of their statutory duties.

8 Consequences

Violations of this Code of Conduct may, depending on the facts of the case, entail consequences under criminal law.

9 Information

All members of the Government shall receive a copy of this Code of Conduct. The Code shall be published on the Government's website. The Government Chancellery shall ensure that the version currently in force is centrally available and updated as required.

The Office of the Government Secretary and the Office of the Government Chancellery shall support the members of the Government within the scope of their respective responsibilities in the practical implementation of this Code, in particular by:

- providing guidance on procedural requirements and transparency obligations,
- coordinating with other competent bodies within the National Administration.

10 Entry into force

This Code of Conduct enters into force on 1 October 2026 (BNR 2026/1351).

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