

ECPRD Request 1973
Transparency Law
FINAL SUMMARY

First of all, we would like to sincerely thank all parliamentary chambers for their collaboration. The questionnaire was sent to national parliaments through the ECPRD network on the 28th of March 2012. Responses were received from 37 countries. The details of all the replies received can be found in the table annexed to this summary

In summarizing this questionnaire, we found that almost all countries have a **special law on access of citizens to public information**. Some – such as Andorra, Romania, Austria, Russia, Finland and Greece – have included this law in their national constitutions as a fundamental right of citizenship.

While most countries recognize the **right to access public information** to their citizens, there are countries, like the Czech Republic or Montenegro, that stand out because they equate foreigners to nationals in access to public information rights, and others, like Slovenia, stand out because they require a well founded legal interest to access public information.

Regarding the **limits of the right to access**, there are some which are common in most countries, such as national security, international relations and foreign policy, tax procedures, administrative or criminal, commercial or economic interests, and protection personal data.

On the other hand, there two **ways to implement the access to public information**:

1st) by the publishing of information (usually through the website, paper and TV), and

2nd) by the provision of information at the request of the citizen, orally or in writing. In this aspect Israel stands out because the Minister of Justice is responsible for providing the requested information and sets the service rates.

Specifically for Parliaments, the most usual means of making the information available to the public is through their websites. These usually contain information on parliamentary activity and legislative work, such as recordings of sittings or minutes. The Estonian Parliament is obligated to maintain a website. Russia includes in it a form to petition information and the Italian Senate has on it a section of relations with citizens for the same purpose. In Canada and Israel an annual report must be issued.

Regarding information on **income, property and assets of MPs, politicians and civil servants** is generally public and available on the official website of the State or corresponding institution. Andorra attracts attention because it has no regulation on public wages and access to that information and, on the other end, the Former Republic of Macedonia has a State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, the body responsible for ensuring the principle of transparency. The Italian Senate publishes in its website the financial situation declaration of its Members.

Publicity on wages is sometimes regulated in a general manner by acts affecting both civil servants and public authorities (Austria, Romania) or a specific regulation on MPs salaries. The Russian Duma publishes on its website the contracts, salaries and assets of MPs. Cyprus includes the allowances paid to MPs in the annual budget of the Parliament only in total and without mentioning the names of the MPs.

A **Registry of Interests of MPs**, accessible through the website in many Parliaments, exists in different countries, such as the Netherlands, Belgium, Finland, Luxembourg, Portugal, United Kingdom or Montenegro.

In the Netherlands, the Secretary General receives information on the gifts with a value over 50€ received by MPs or the trips abroad at the invitation of third parties.

In Finland, by a decision of the Speakers' Council the MPs are asked to give a notification of interests in the beginning of each parliamentary term and update the notification if necessary during the term. The notification is legally voluntary but most MPs file the notification with the Central Office of Parliament.

In some countries, **the parliament is subject to a specific regime on transparency** differing from the general one. This is the case in France, Norway or Austria where the scope of transparency regarding this institution is narrower. In the United Kingdom, the Freedom of Information Act does not apply to MPs individually; however an Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority publishes the information on this matter in its website, with some exceptions related to parliamentary privilege. The Italian and Danish Parliaments adopt of its own accord to the changes in transparency legislation but are not directly affected by it. The Polish Sejm regulates access to public information in Parliament in its Standing Orders and the European Parliament does so in its Rules of Procedure as well. Furthermore, the European Parliament is also obliged to establish a register of Parliament documents.

At the other end, we can find some countries whose **parliamentary chambers are under the scope of the transparency legislation**, such as Israel, Turkey or Russia.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
ANDORRA	-Article 23 of the Constitution -Article 42 of Administration's Code	The right to petition is configured as a fundamental right, and it includes the right of access to public information.	National security/secrets; data protection; personal privacy or honor/privacy; investigation of crimes. These limits are removed after 50 years of the death of the person concerned.	-Website above all, that is now being renovated to include social media and parliamentary publications -Newspaper -TV	There is no act on public wages, access to that information ...
AUSTRIA	-Federal Constitutional Law -Act on protection of personal data -Regulation on special issues	All civil servants with administrative tasks and civil servants of other public corporate bodies must publish information on issues of their competence, provided that it is not in conflict with the legal obligation to maintain confidentiality.	Maintenance of public peace, order and security, defense of the nation, foreign affairs, interest of a legal person of public right, preparation of a resolution; interest of stakeholders; personal data; regulations which impose publication ban; obligation secret; data protection special right; exemptions.	In the website of Austrian Parliament, there is some information about bill and motions, agendas, committee reports, stenographic records, press releases and general information on parliamentary procedure. The parliamentary materials and records are available in print too.	Salaries of ministers, MPs and civil servants are set by law.
BELGIUM	No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer	MPs must declare their assets at the beginning and at the end of their term in office.
BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA	Act on freedom of access to information	No answer	National security, defense of state, personal privacy, personal data, investigation of crimes and commercial interests.	The frame of reference in the Parliament on public transparency is the website.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
CANADA	-Act on federal responsibility -Act on access to information	No answer	Damage to the government and intergovernmental and international relations; investigation of crimes; security issues; economic interests; personal information; etc.	- Website: reports of both Houses of Parliament and parliamentary procedures. - Library: The Government will print many titles, such as Parliamentary proceedings and reports, departmental reports, and serial publications.	<u>Exemption:</u> Meetings of parliamentary committees 'in camera' are not public.
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE	-Convention on Access to Official Documents -Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to the processing of personal data -Rules of Procedure of the Parliamentary Assembly	Every state will ensure the right of everyone, without discrimination, to have access upon request, to official documents held by public authorities.	-Any state will adopt the necessary measures to meet the data protection principles -It also applies to data from files not automatically processed -It also applies to information about groups of people, associations, foundations, businesses, corporations and other bodies -It does not apply to certain categories of automated personal data files.	All Parliamentary Assembly documents not subject to any classification are public. Also records of Assembly debates, documental work, reports, etc. These documents are public, they may be quoted freely and are published in the Parliamentary Assembly Website.	
CROATIA	-Act on right of access to information -Act on public engagement -Act on rights and obligations of civil servants.	The act regulates: -the right of access to information - the principles relating to the right of access to information -the exemptions to the right of access to information -the procedure for the realization and protection of right of access to information.	The limits are defined by: -the act on right of access to information -the act on protection of personal data (The texts are available only in Croatian).	-Website of the Croatian Parliament: information on the legislative work of Parliament. -Anyone may exercise the right of access to information by submitting a request verbal/written to the competent public authority. -Website of the Commission: Information on income and possessions of civil servants.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
CYPRUS	-Act on protection of personal data -Electronic Communications Regulations -Postal Services Act	The personal data protection guarantees the protection of personal information of an individual against its unauthorized and illegal registration and subsequent use, and also gives rights to individuals (right of information, right of access, etc.)	National security, defense, public security, personal data, investigation of crimes, etc.	-Plenary meetings and records of meetings of the Committees. -Compensations paid to MPs are published in the annual budget -MPs' allowances are published in the annual budget, but as a whole and not mentioning the names of MPs.	
CZECH REPUBLIC	-Act on protection of classified information -Act on free access to information -Others acts: Act on salaries (...) of representatives of the public authority; Act on conflict of interests; Act on public engagement.	-Any natural or legal person has the right to ask for information, without distinction between citizens and non-nationals. The act provides: *conditions for realization of the right of free access to information; *people with responsibility to provide the information; * conditions in order to request information.	Limits are specified in the Act on free access to information and in the Act on protection of classified information.	-The Department of Public Relations is responsible for the petitions and other communications of citizens addressed to the House. -The Website of the Chamber of Deputies includes: contact with all deputies, information on the bodies of the Chamber, data base of bills, etc.	
DENMARK	Act on public administration	This Act ensures the access to records of public administration to citizens.	See Danish answer to request 1759 .	The Parliament's website is used to publish information about the work in the parliament and public administration.	Salaries of politicians and Ministers are published in the website of the Prime Minister Office and Parliament website.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
ESTONIA	Act on public information	Access to public information may be carried out in two ways: -Through the accomplishment of a request for information -Through the broadcasting of information, usually by publishing it via the website.	Foreign relations of the state; sensitive personal data; data revealing details of family life; business secret; information collected in criminal or misdemeanour proceedings, except for the information subject to disclosure under the conditions provided by the Code of Misdemeanour Procedure and the Code of Criminal Procedure ...	-Act on public information establishes the information that must be disclosed via the website, TV or another way. -Documents prepared or submitted to the Riigikogu and Riigikogu Chancellery must be public. -The Estonian Parliament has the obligation to maintain the Website.	
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	-Regulation 1049/01 on Access to public of Conseil & Commission's docs. - Regulation of Procedure of EP: Art. 39: access to documents; Art. 103: Transparency of activities of EP; Art. 104: Access to public of documents.	Any EU citizen or any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Member State has the right of access to documents of EP	Public interest: public security, defense, international relations and financial policy, economic and monetary Union or Member State, data protection, business interests and legal proceedings, inspections, investigations and audits..	-Creation of a record of EP's documents for legislative documents and other documents, directly accessible - Documents directly accessible will be registered in a list approved by the Bureau and published on the EP website. This list does not restrict the right to access to documents not included in the categories listed.	
FINLAND	Article 12 of Constitution Act on transparency of governmental activities.	Everyone has the fundamental right to access public documents and records which are held by the authorities, except as provided by law.	Confidentiality obligations and secret official documents (Chapter 6 & 7 of the Act).	MP publishes his/her incomes and assets; there is no legal obligation, it is voluntary, but most MPs file their notification with the Central Office of the Parliament and the register is published on the Web.	MPs are disqualified from consideration of and decision-making in any matter that concerns them personally.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
FRANCE	Act states the system of free access to administrative documents.	Everyone has the right to get the disclosure of documents held by an administration, regardless of physical form or characteristics.	The Act regulates the access to documents held by the administrative authorities –executive branch- so the legislative and judicial documents are excluded. Also excluded: proceedings of the parliamentary assemblies (included the documents on the organization and performance of parliamentary services).	*CADA –Committee on Access to Administrative Documents- www.cada.fr/ was created in 1978 to ensure the good application of right of access. *CADA is the interlocutor for citizens and administrations in this matter and gives opinions in the pre-litigation phase.	
GERMANY	-Transparency of information act -Act of ministers of federal state -Act on state salaries	Everyone has a right of access to information managed by public administration, but it may be excluded if there is an important reason.	National security; defense of the state; privacy of individuals and protection of personal data; investigation of crimes; other: international relations, external control of finances, etc.	The sessions of the Bundestag are public, but deliberations of committees (in general) are not public. Member's incomes are published in regulation and the Internet.	
GREECE	Article 5 of the Constitution Statute Act 1599/86 Statute Act 2690/99 Statute Act 3861/10	All citizens have a right of access to information, which may only be limited by law.	National security, fight against crime and protection of the rights and interests of others.	Article 2 of the Statute Act 3861/10 provides a list of information which must be published on the Internet.	
HUNGARY	Act CXII. of 2011. about the Informational right of self-determination.	No answer	National security; defense of the state; privacy of individuals; protection of personal data; investigation of crimes.	The website of the Hungarian Parliament includes: information about plenary sessions and committee meetings, legislative procedures, MPs, etc.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
ICELAND	-Information Act 50/96 -Administrative procedure Act 37/93	The Information Act provides access to information from the public administration to the general public.	Private or financial affairs of an individual, unless the person gives his/her permission; matters relating to economic or commercial interests of companies or legal entities; state security or defense; relations with other states or international organizations, etc.	- Information on Althingi should facilitate public information gathering without education or place of residence playing a role. -Information on the work of Althingi must be readily and easily accessible -Information must be politically neutral.	
ISRAEL	Freedom of information act.	Every citizen and resident in Israel has a right to get information from a public authority, according to the law.	State security, foreign policy, commercial or professional confidentiality, privacy of the deceased, third party data protection, etc.	The Minister or Justice is responsible for providing the requested information and fix the rates of application information.	There is no rate when the person requests information about her or himself.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
ITALY	Act 241/90 as amended by Act 15/05; Decree 150/09 in application of Act 15/09; Act on optimization of productivity of work and efficiency and transparency of Government; Act on publicity of the financial situation of representatives elected and executive positions; Act and Regulation on election campaign to both Chambers.	-Citizens have a right to obtain qualified information, access to administrative documents and access to administrative procedures of state affected. -Administrative activity is governed by the principles of economy, efficiency, transparency and publicity.	State secret; prohibition of disclosure; Other exceptions (added by Act 15/05): security, national defense and international relations; monetary policy; public order and prevention and fight against delinquency; privacy of individuals, corporations, groups, companies and associations; state of labor negotiation in course.	-The activity of the Senate is published on the official website. There is a part called "relations with citizens" with information about competitions and tenders. - The honorarium and expenses of the electoral campaign: http://www.senato.it/istituzione/108469/108470/genpagspalla.htm	The Act provides that voters have the right to know the statements of MPs and their publication in a special gazette. The act has extended this obligation to unsuccessful candidates.
LITHUANIA	Law on the Right of Access to Information from the State and Local Authority Bodies	-Individuals have a right to obtain information and documents from the state and local authorities. -The information on the functions and activities of the state and local bodies is public (as a general rule).	National safety; national defense; restrictions on the use of statistical data or state data; official, professional, commercial and banking secret; and other cases provided by law (data protection).	-The Statute of the Seimas and the Rules of Procedure of the Seimas Office regulate how documents and information should be accessible and broadcasted to the public. -All documents of the Seimas and other information concerning the work of Parliament are publicly available on the official website of the Seimas.	Salaries of employees of government institutions, enterprises which provide public services, civil servants, politicians and others are public.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
LUXEMBOURG	There is no act on access to information, however a bill on this subject is being considered.	The right to information is just applied for matters and questions concerning environment	No answer	The Luxembourgish <i>Chambre des Députés</i> 's website offers extensive information on parliamentary and legislative procedures, on bills, committee reports, motions, public debates, agendas a.s.o., etc.	Every MP declares his or her activities and additional remuneration and they are incorporated in a public registry, published on the internet.
MONTE-NEGRO	-Law on free access to information - Law on salaries and other compensation of state and public officials -Law on salaries of civil servants and state employees.	- The Law stipulates that any national or foreign legal entity and individual shall be entitled to access the information filed with the authorities - Information about salaries and other compensation of MPs, ministers and other state and public officials must be accessible to the general public.	National security; defense and international relations; public security; public and private economic, commercial and other interests; economic and monetary exchange; foreign policy of the state; prevention, investigation and prosecution of criminal acts; privacy and other personal rights of individuals, except those required by judicial or administrative proceedings; prosecution and adoption of official acts.	The civil servant, within 15 days after taking office, must submit to the <i>Commission for prevention of conflict of interests</i> a Disclosure form disclosing his/her property and income, as well as the property and income of his/her spouse and children if they live in a household together, disclosing the state of affairs on the day of being elected, appointed or nominated.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
NETHERLANDS	-Act regulating the compensation of Members of the House of Representatives. -Senate: Act regulating the allowances from work, secondary facilities and the expenses of the members of the Senate of the States General and of the allowance and other facilities of the President of the Senate of General.	No answer	No answer	-There are three registers in the House of Representatives: 1) Register of Interests of outside posts of the MPs 2) Register of MPs' foreign trips made at the invitation of third parties 3) Register of gifts of more than 50€ received by MPs -The members of the Senate are legally required to report their secondary functions.	
NORWAY	Freedom of information Act Regulation on public access to documents in the Norwegian Parliament	Any person may require the access to documents, magazines and other documents of Parliament, unless otherwise provided.	Confidentiality under law; internal documents; documents for preparation; documents on judicial proceeding; foreign policy; national defense and security; etc.	No answer	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
POLAND	Act of 6 September 2001 on the Access to Public Information	According to article 3 of the Act, the right to public information shall include an entitlement to: 1. obtain public information, including information processed to the extent that is particularly required for protection of vital public interest; 2. inspect official documents; 3. attend sittings of collective organs of public authority formed by universal elections.	Limitation (art. 5 of the Act): - protection of confidential information, - protection of other secrets being statutorily protected. - protection of the privacy of natural persons or trade secrets.	According to Article 202a of Standing Orders of the Sejm, the Chancellery of the Sejm shall make public information accessible by publicizing documents and other information on the Information System of the Sejm. The Information System of the Sejm is designated to collect, process and make accessible data relating to the activities of the Sejm and its organs and the Chancellery of the Sejm. Public information concerning Parliament may be made accessible by indicating a place of public access or a place of storage in the Chancellery of the Sejm.	
PORTUGAL	-Act on access to administrative documents -Data protection Act	The Act tries to facilitate the access of citizens to the information according to the principles of transparency, publicity, equality, fairness and impartiality.	National safety, national defense and state defense; criminal investigation; health data; information on the environment; notarial records; meetings of the Council of Ministers and Council of State; parliamentary committees of research; etc.	- Website -Public records.	Political office holders and assimilates must submit a statement of salaries within the 60 days.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA	-Act on access to public information -Act on public engagement -Salaries and allowances of politicians, ministers or civil servants: *Act on system of salaries of public sector *Act on access to public information	Everyone has the right to obtain public information provided that there's a well founded legal interest in law, except as provided by law.	"Classified" information; business secrets; data protection; violation of confidentiality; Act on statistical activities of Government; violation of confidentiality of tax proceeding; information on criminal proceeding; information on administrative proceeding; other legal proceedings, etc.	-Website of the National Assembly -The applicant has the right to acquire information on the site, with a copy or by an electronic copy.	
ROMANIA	-Article 31 of the Constitution consecrates the right of information as a fundamental right. -Act on transparency in the decision-making process in the public administration. -Act on free access to public information	-Everyone has the right to request and obtain information of public interest of public authorities or institutions. -The authorities and institutions have an obligation to provide the public information requested orally or in writing. -Every public authority or institution has an obligation to communicate certain information.	National defense; public safety and order; deliberations of authorities; economic and politic interests; information on commercial or financial activities; principle of fair competition; data protection; criminal or disciplinary procedure; judicial proceedings; youth protection.	The access to information is carried out through: a) A bill at the seat of the public authority or institution, by publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, through mass information as well as on the website; b) Filing a request directly at the seat of the public authority or institution.	Salaries of politicians, ministers or civil servants are published on the web of the institutions and by the National Integrity Agency.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
RUSSIA	-Constitution and Constitutional Acts - Federal Law of February 9, 2009 No. 8-FZ "On Providing Access to Information on the Activities of Government Bodies and Bodies of Local Self-Government" - Federal Law of December 22, 2008, N 262-FZ, "On providing access to information on the activity of courts in the Russian Federation" -Other Federal Acts - Other normative legal acts of the Russian Federation.	Access to information is guided by the principles of openness and accessibility, reliability, freedom of search, reception, transmission and diffusion; respect of the citizen's rights.	Personal data, procedures yet to be examined by the Government institutions on citizens' demands; information on the activity of government bodies related to their competencies.	- publication in mass media, internet, premises, libraries and archives, - presence of citizens in meetings, -granting of information at the citizen's request, - other methods.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	- Constitutional Act No. 357/2004 Coll. on Protection of the Public Interest within the Execution of the Functions of Public Office, as amended, - Act No. 211/2000 Coll. on Free Access to Information, as amended, - Act No. 428/2002 Coll. on Protection of Personal Data, as amended, - Act No. 215/2004 Coll. on Protection of Classified Information, as amended.	No answer	National security, defense of the State, Privacy of the persons, data protection, investigation of crimes.	For the aims of public transparency the website of the National Council of the Slovak Republic provides several items of information: contacts to speaker, deputy speakers and to all deputies, database of the draft bills and approved acts, digital archive and library, resolutions of the National Council of the Slovak Republic, agenda and timetable of parliamentary sessions and committees, results of voting, online broadcast – live transmission of the proceedings of the National Council of the Slovak Republic and annual reports of the political parties. Within the structure of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic exists the Department of Communications which follows the <i>Act No. 211/2000 Coll. on Free access to information</i>.	

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
SWEDEN	Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act Freedom of the Press Act	All Swedish citizens and aliens are entitled to read the official documents held by public authorities	National security or Sweden's relations with a foreign state or an international organization; the central financial policy, the monetary policy, or the national foreign exchange policy; the inspection, control or other supervisory activities of a public authority; the interest of preventing or prosecuting crime; the public economic interest; the protection of the personal or economic circumstances of private subjects; or the preservation of animal or plant species.	No answer	Not all documents of a public authority are in fact considered to be official documents. Thus, for example, a draft of a decision, a written communication is not an official document if the draft is not used when the matter is finally determined. Secondly, a number of official documents are <i>secret</i> .

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
SWITZERLAND	-Act and Ordinance on the Freedom of information in the administration; -Act on Freedom of information in the parliamentary services; -Act and ordinance on public market; -Electronic place for public engagements.	-Everyone has right to inspect official documents and get information about its contents. -Documents may be inspected <i>in situ</i> or request a copy of them. -Copyright reserved.	By the process of free formation of opinion and decision-making authority subjected to this or any other act; implementation of measures taken by an authority in accordance with its objectives; national & international security; foreign policy and international relations; relations between the Federal Government and cantons or inter-cantonal relations; etc.	When an official document is published by the Federal Government in paper or electronic form, the rights provided above are fulfilled.	Salaries of politicians, ministers, deputies and civil servants are published on the Internet.
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	Act on free access to public information	This act states the conditions, form and procedure for exercising the right of free access to public information.	"Secret" information; data protection; confidential information on tax, administrative, civil or criminal procedure; interests of monetary and fiscal policies; etc.	The MPs, within 30 days of the verification of their mandate, shall declare their assets in the Property Declaration Form that will contain a detailed inventory of real estate, movable objects of greater value, stocks and claims and debts, as well as other property in their ownership, or in the ownership of their family; the MPs shall state the basis for buying the declared property and shall give a statement verified by a notary for cancellation of protection of bank secrecy regarding all accounts in domestic and foreign banks. The MPs shall fill in a Property Declaration Form within 30 days upon the termination of the mandate.	The body responsible for the application of the Act and the respect of the principle of transparency is the State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption.

COUNTRY	REGULATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	NATURE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION	LIMITS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION	FRAME OF REFERENCE ON PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY	COMMENTS
TURKEY	Act on the right of information.	Individuals or legal entities have a right to request information from government agencies and authorities, professional organizations established as a public entity.	Principle respect of the confidentiality of private life; trade secret; state secret (state safety, foreign relations, national defense and national security); economic interests, administrative, military and civilian investigations.	Members of the Assembly and Parliamentary are subject to: -Act and regulation on the right to get information -Act of statement of assets, fight against bribery and corruption.	
UKRAINE	Act on access to public information	The Act on access to public information describes the types of information and regulation to access it.	National security; privacy of individuals; data protection; investigation of crimes; Others: territorial integrity, public order to prevent disorder or crime, protection of public health, etc.	Parliament website; public records; visit the meetings of committees of Parliament; Parliament TV Channels.	
UNITED KINGDOM	Freedom of information Act. It applies to both Houses of Parliament	Each public body has to publish a Publication Scheme, which would indicate the type of information which it would make available proactively, before a specific request had been made.	There are two exemptions in the FoI Act which allow the Speaker in the Commons to certify that disclosure should not be made. These are: to avoid the infringement of parliamentary privilege (this protects confidential documents relating to the formal work of the House, such as draft committee reports); to avoid disclosure of provision of advice (for example, confidential briefings to the Speaker). Other more general exemptions include: personal data; commercial confidentiality; criminal investigation.	Under the <i>Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000</i> MPs and politicians are required to disclose donations made to them over a certain limit in a public register maintained by the independent Electoral Commission	Salaries of MPs must be disclosed by the House and published on the website every two months.