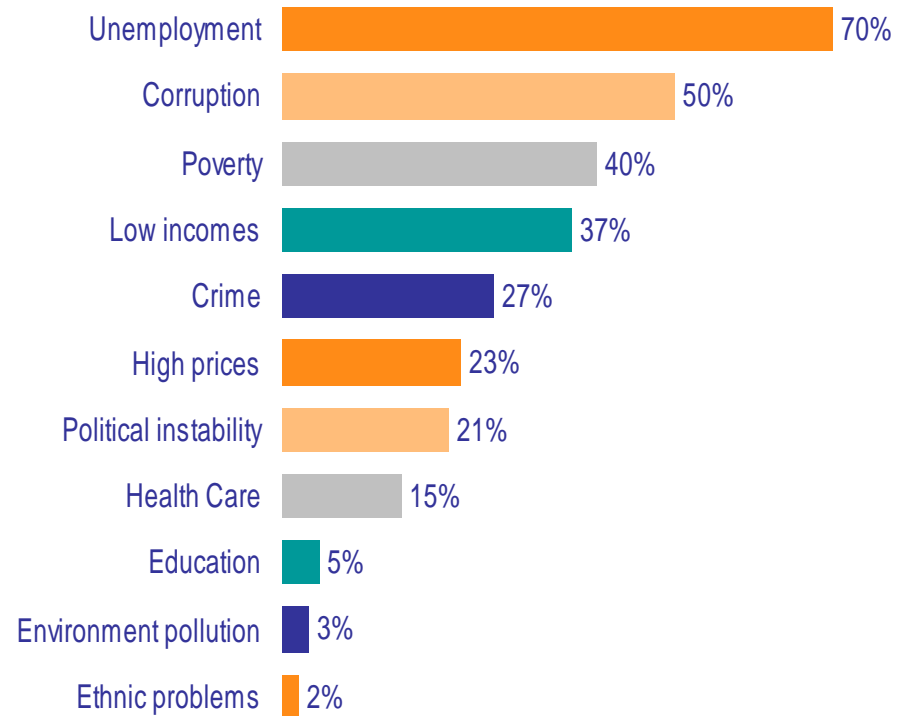


# Main Corruption Challenges in Serbia

Center for Liberal – Democratic Studies



# Some findings



# Survey results

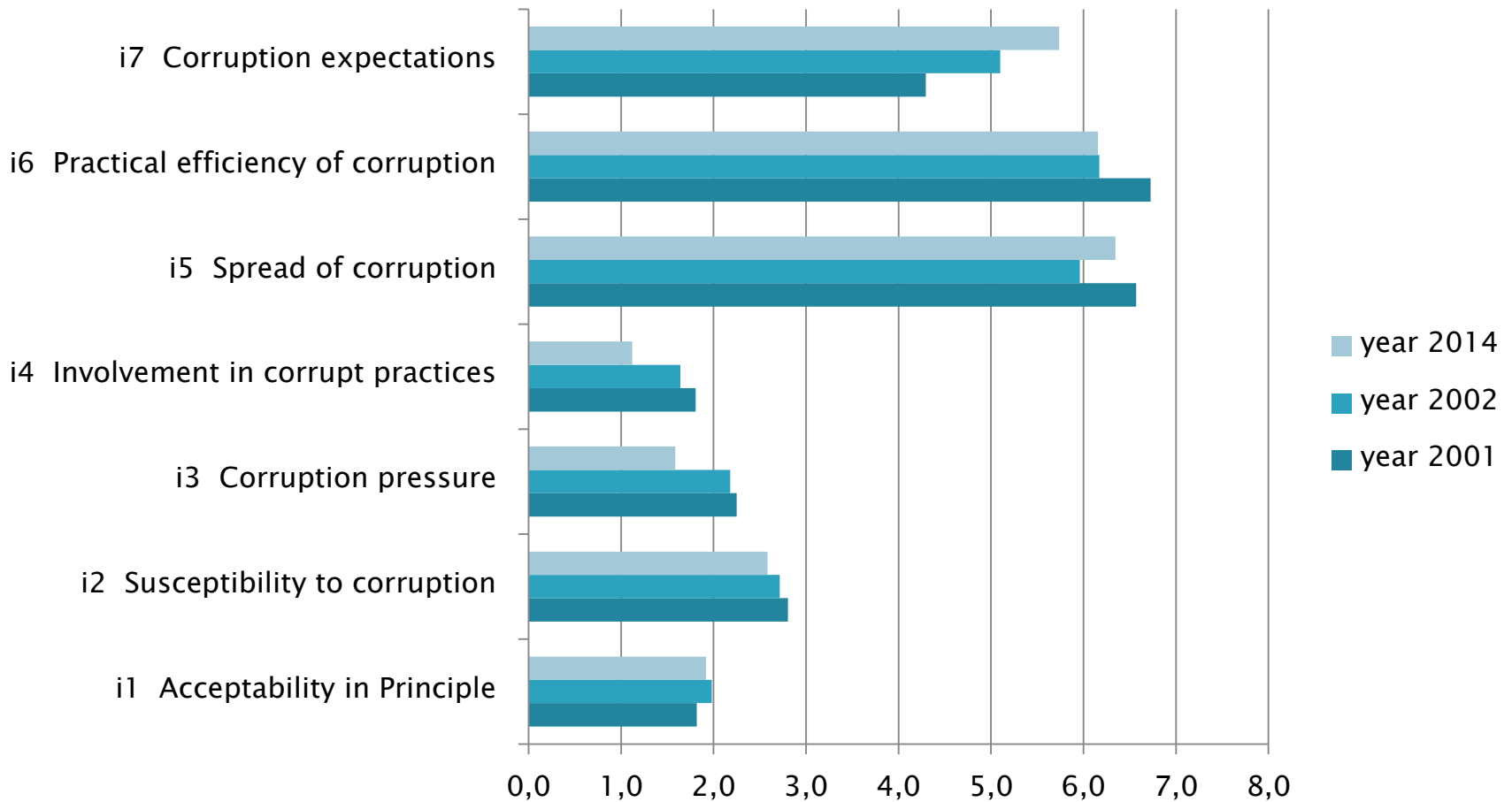
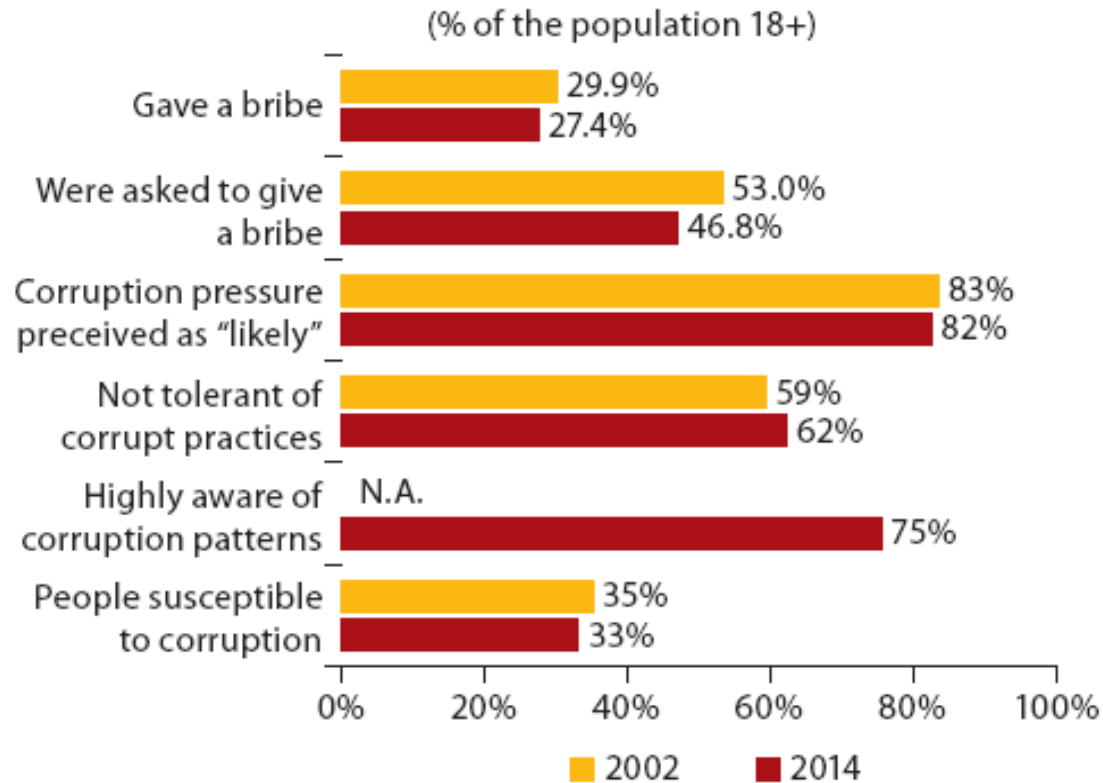


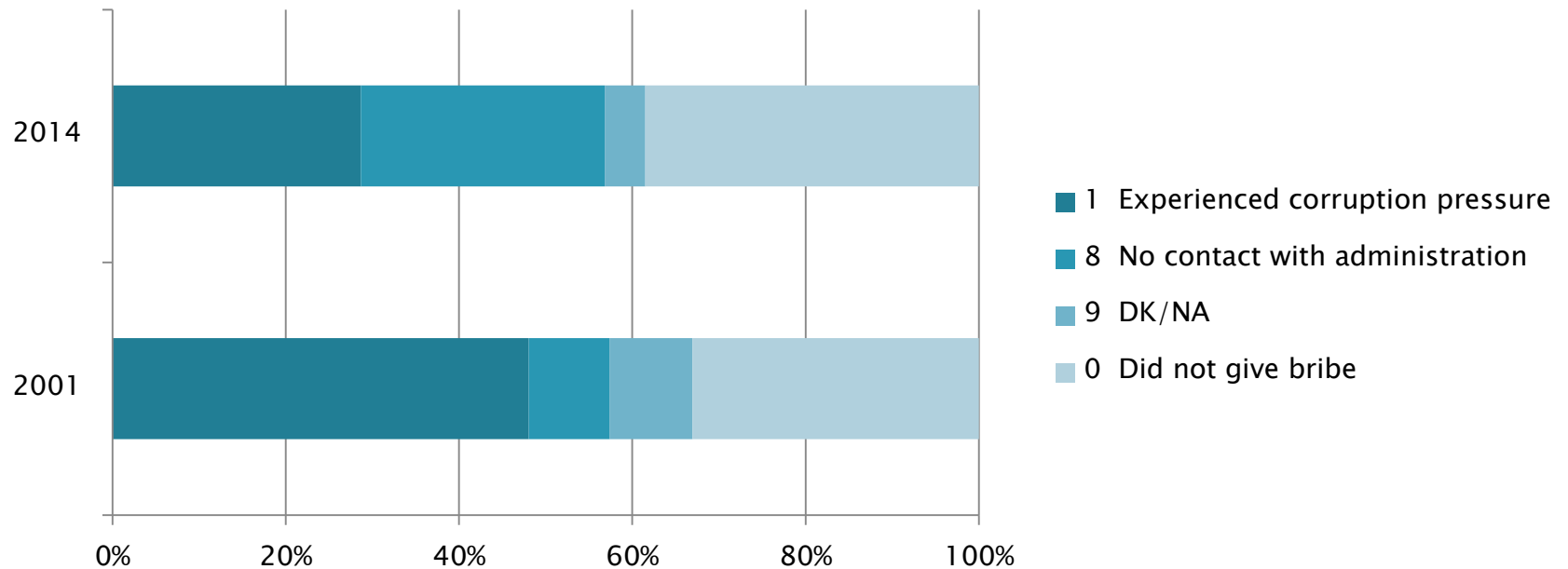
Figure 24. Corruption profile of Serbia



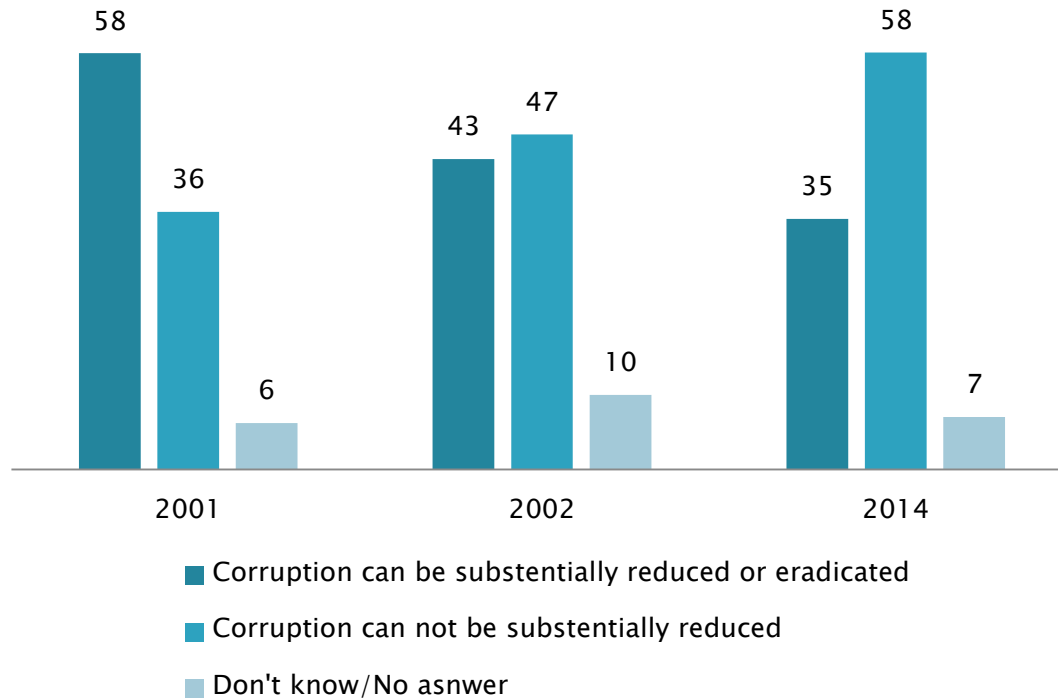
Source: SELDI/CSD Corruption Monitoring System, 2014.

○ There is a significant reduction in involvement in corruption from about 50% to 30%

○ Reduced corruption pressure?



## Perceptions of feasibility of policy responses to corruption (%)



# Policies

- ▶ Recently adopted (2013) new Anticorruption Strategy and Action Plan
- ▶ Most of the relevant regulatory framework and institutions in place
  - Anticorruption agency
    - Party financing
    - Conflict of interest
    - Asset registry
  - Access to information
  - State audit institution

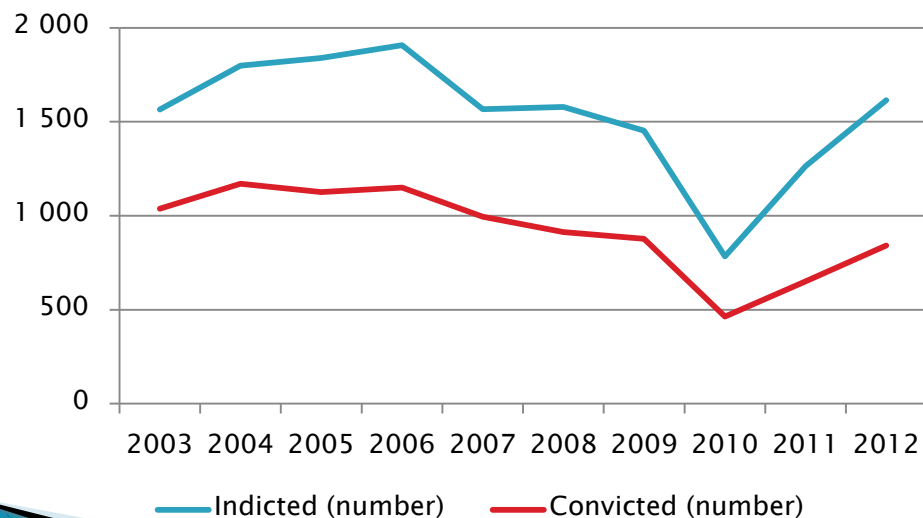
# Law enforcement

- ▶ Fight against corruption is one of the main proclaimed goals of new government
  - Four former ministers and several leading businessmen indicted, no convictions yet
- ▶ Still appears ad hoc and politically motivated
  - ▶ PM announces arrests and investigations
  - ▶ Strange role of the media, mostly covering former governments scandals
  - ▶ However, some exceptions exist (Director of Deposit Insurance Agency)
- ▶ Law on Organization and Authorities of Public Institutions in Combating Organised Crime, Corruption and Other Serious Crimes
  - Special police unit, prosecution and courts

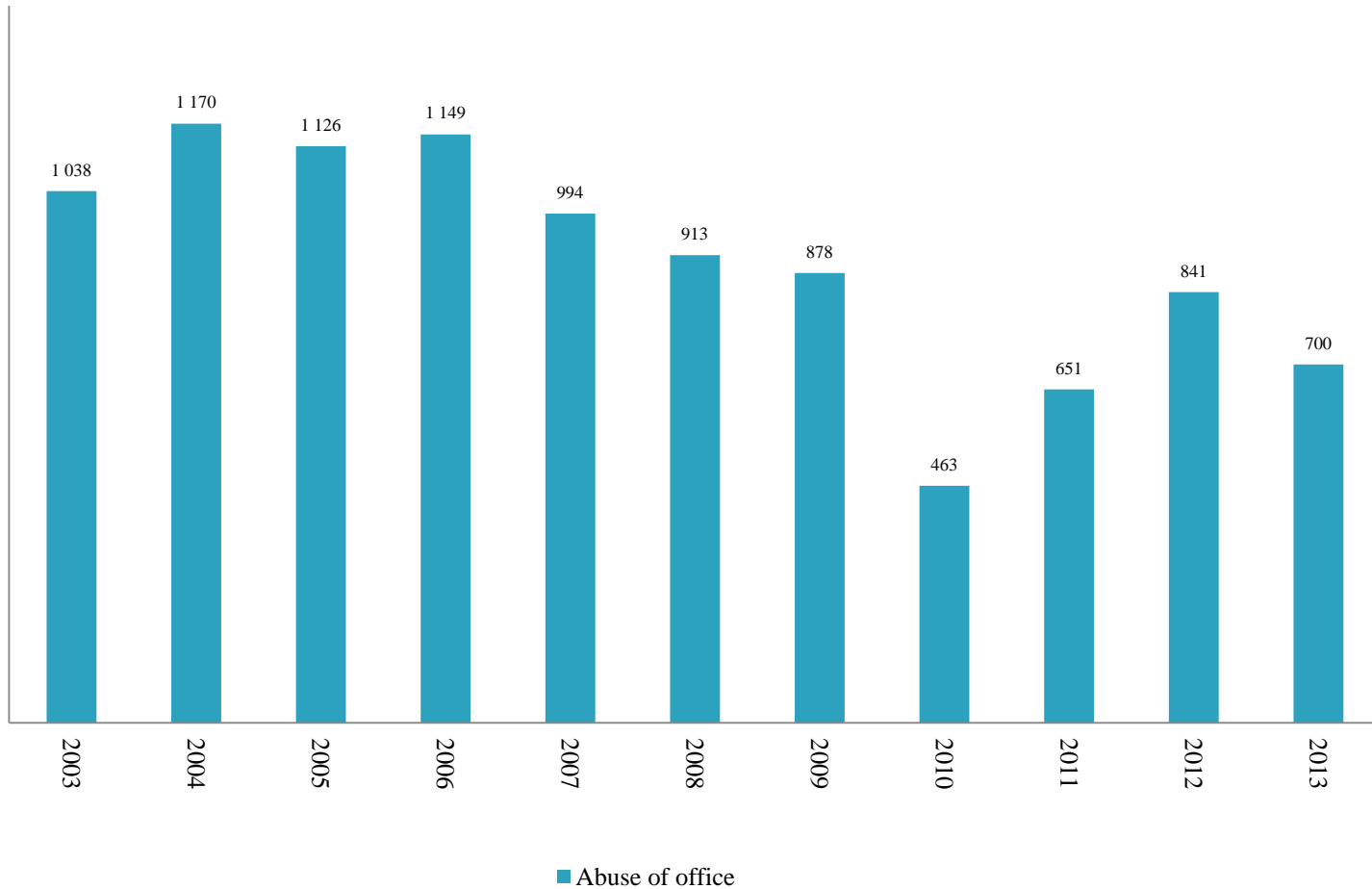


# Judiciary

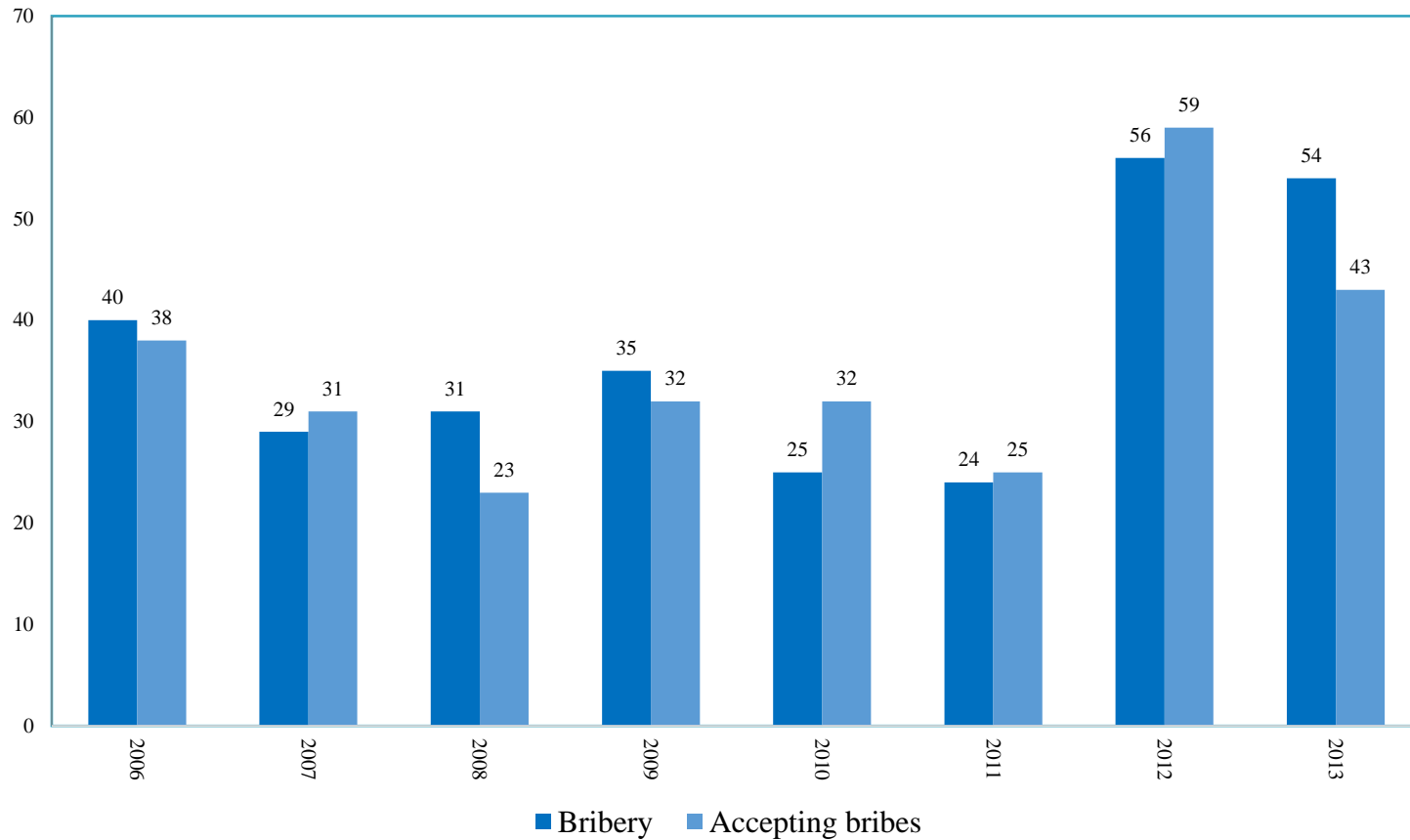
- ▶ One of the major problems in Serbia
- ▶ Failed reforms and a need to “reform the reforms”
- ▶ Specialized prosecutor’s office for organized crime
- ▶ Historical trend (general corruption related cases and in judiciary)



Year	Indicted	Convicted	Conviction rate
2010	30	2	6.7%
2011	67	1	1.5%
2012	91	1	1.1%



- ▶ Number of people sentenced for abuse of office



▶ Number of people sentenced for bribery

# Corruption and economy

- ▶ Low level of economic freedoms and poor business environment
- ▶ Budgeting process closed and intransparent
- ▶ Who is actually procuring G&S?

Year	State bodies %	Public enterprizes %	Public institutions %	Municipalities %
2003	26	59	11	4
2004	20	57	14	9
2005	17	56	22	5
2006	15	65	12	8
2007	16	63	12	9
2008	23	57	13	7
2009	19	54	17	10
2010	19	59	14	8
2011	15	60	14	11
2012	13	69	13	5

# Corruption and economy

- Public procurement well regulated in theory, but:
  - Special law to assist construction industry during crisis
  - Bilateral international financing and construction agreements
- Paramount institutional reforms–Judiciary and Tax administration
- Stop to state aid

# EU

- ▶ 2012: „Serbia has made little progress on anti-corruption policy“
- ▶ 2013: „Anti-corruption policy has been underpinned by a strong ‘zero tolerance’ message from the government“
- ▶ 2014: There is a strong political impetus to fight corruption.
  - Final convictions, especially for high-level corruption, remain rare
  - Finally, repeated leaks to the media about ongoing investigations, in breach of the presumption of innocence, are an issue of serious concern.

# Thank you

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