

Office of Anticorruption and Integrity  
International Anticorruption Day 2022

# Building Trust, Igniting Integrity

9 December 2022 | 10:00–11:15 a.m. (GMT+8) | Hybrid (ADB Auditorium Halls & Zoom)



## Jamilya Maricheva

Journalist and Founder  
ProTenge.kz

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**iACT** with integrity.

● The goal of the project in 2020: with the help of social networks, involve **2 million Kazakhstanis** in the control of budget expenditures to reduce corruption in the country.

● The intermediate result in 2022: the project ProTenge is read by **120,000 Kazakhstanis**; with their support inefficient public procurement for **\$3 million** was canceled.

Today, ProTenge is the largest community in social networks where citizens of Kazakhstan can discuss government spending and express their opinions about that spending.

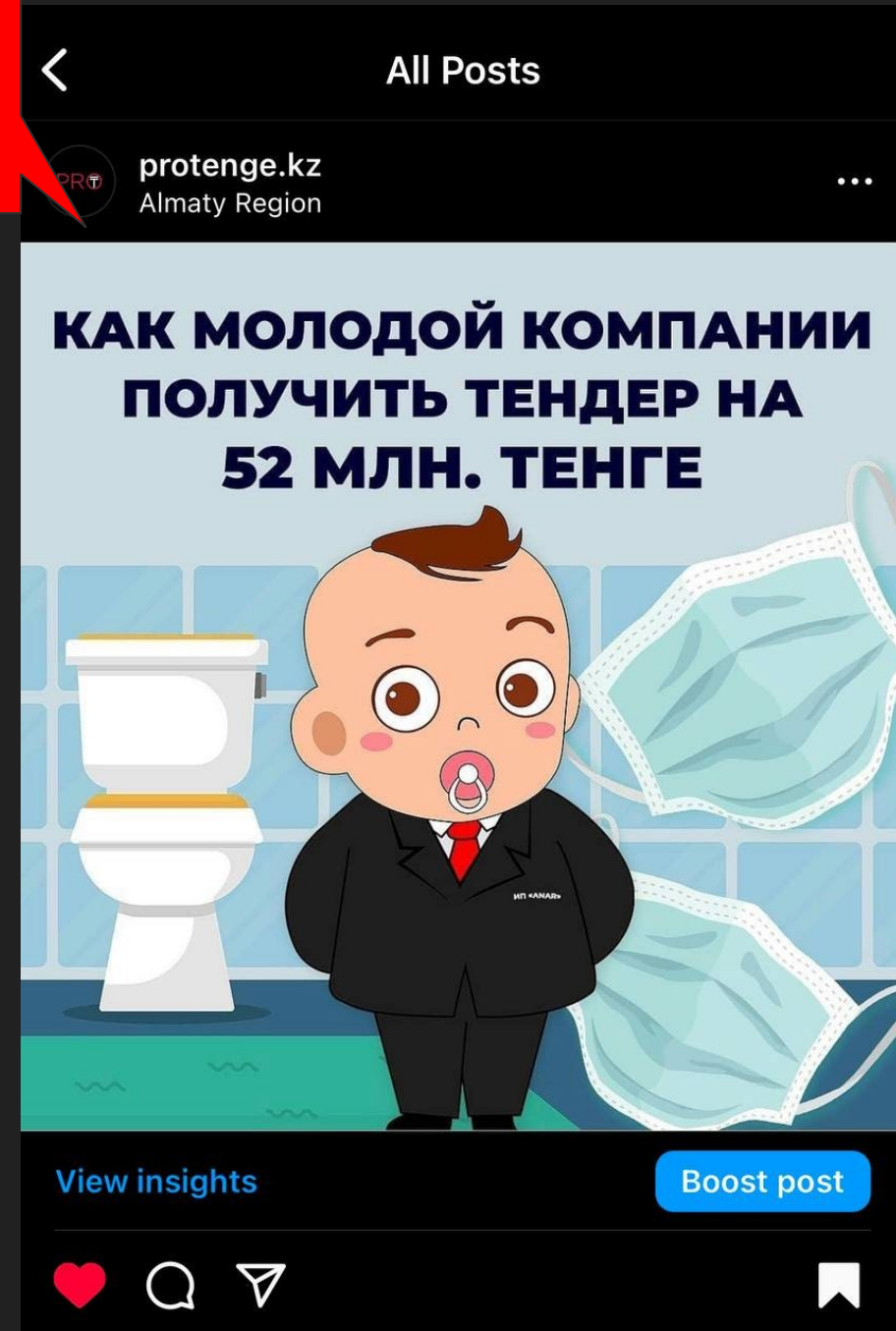


The pandemic has seriously changed the views of Kazakhstan's citizens on corruption in the country.

The newborn company was awarded a \$140,000 contract

Corruption schemes that were used during the pandemic in Kazakhstan:

- Procurement of goods and services at inflated prices (organizers demanded 10 to 20% of the contract amount)
- Contracts were given to newborn firms registered to relatives of the organizers

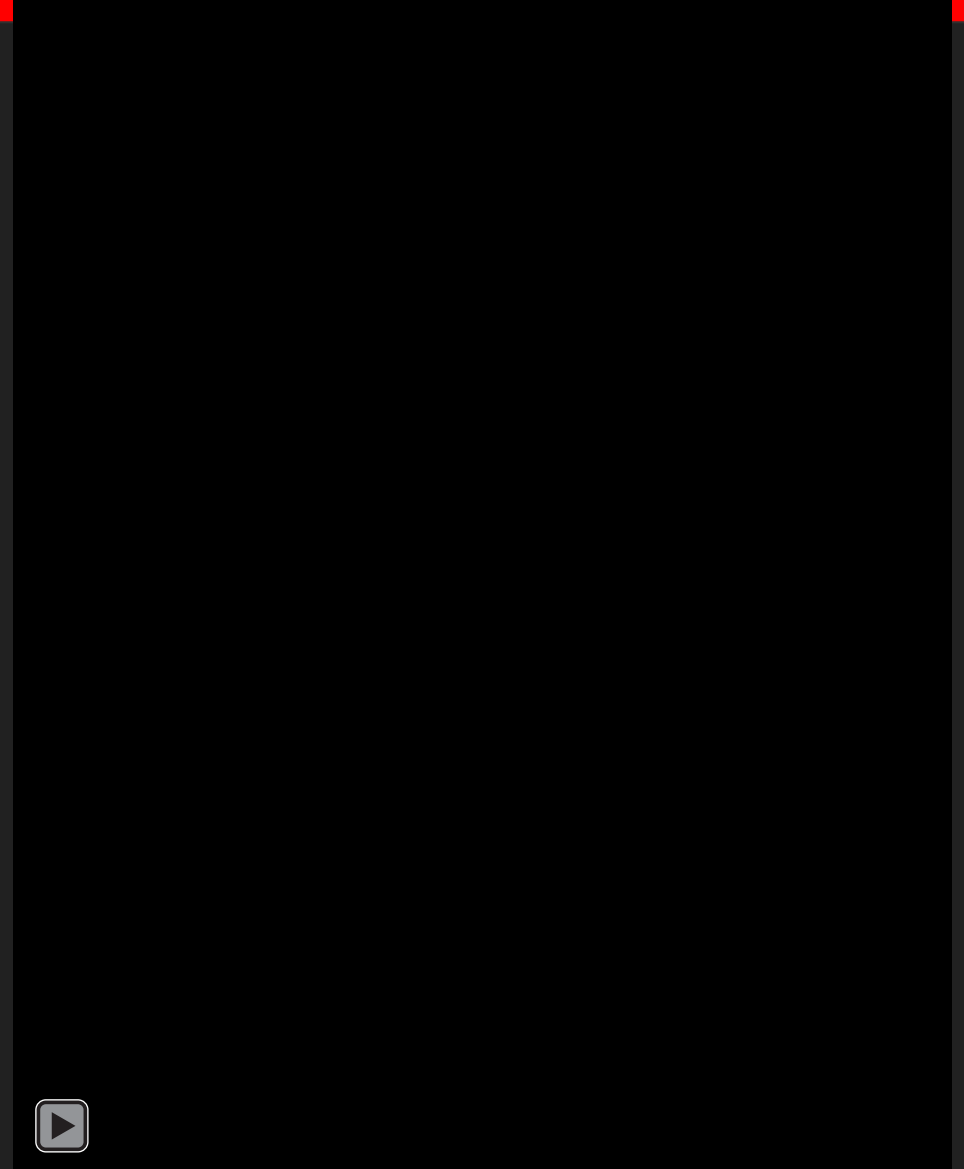


This is one of the first cases where, with the help of our readers, a contract to purchase overpriced protective equipment was cancelled.

We intervened and the police were unable to buy \$500 worth of protective suits at their \$50 price point.

If the deal had gone through, the police chief would have certainly celebrated it with a dance like the one in this video

You can have a dance:  
when you sold a \$50 protective suit for  
\$500 and made \$300,000



Police commented on the situation with the \$500 protective suits::

“It was a draft contract, the contract is not a real contract, but we terminated a not real contract”.

# July 6, 2020 Capital Day of Kazakhstan

The hospitals were overcrowded, there was a shortage of doctors and medicine, people were losing loved ones, and there were large-scale fireworks in the nation's capital. The public had questions for the government of the country...



# The pandemic had changed the people of Kazakhstan.

## We realized that:



- we, too, are responsible for the quality of our lives and the future of our country;
- that volunteer work is important (you can't just depend on the government);
- that we must be involved in government processes.



# How ProTenge helped the people of Kazakhstan:

- We created a platform in social networks where active citizens could build horizontal connections to solve important problems.
- We gave tools to control budget money.
- We tell why it is important to demand transparency and how to protect the interests of taxpayers.

**Corruption is afraid of the light.**

**Our task is to direct the maximum attention of the citizens of Kazakhstan to the budget money.**

“Show that the dragon can be defeated and give a suitable sword.”



# Our advantages in the fight against corruption:

Kazakhstan is a country with advanced digital technologies.

Kazakhstan has open databases on budget expenditures.

Kazakhstan has an open economy, which has a good history of partnership with international financial institutions.

# What is important in the fight against corruption?

External pressure (international financial institutions)

+

Internal pressure (public control)

=

More effective government action against corruption

ADB helped Kazakhstan in the pandemic through a program to support budget expenditures.

An important requirement of the agreement: targeted spending of money.

And here the interests of Kazakhstanis converge with the interests of ADB.

We work according to the principle:

**Trust but verify.**