

Project Name: The Impact of Time on Digital Whistleblowing Systems



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The Hidden Problem: *Time Matters*

Mandatory Internal Reporting Channels

Since 2019, **EU Directive 2019/1937** has required organizations to implement **internal whistleblowing systems** — secure, confidential, and effective.

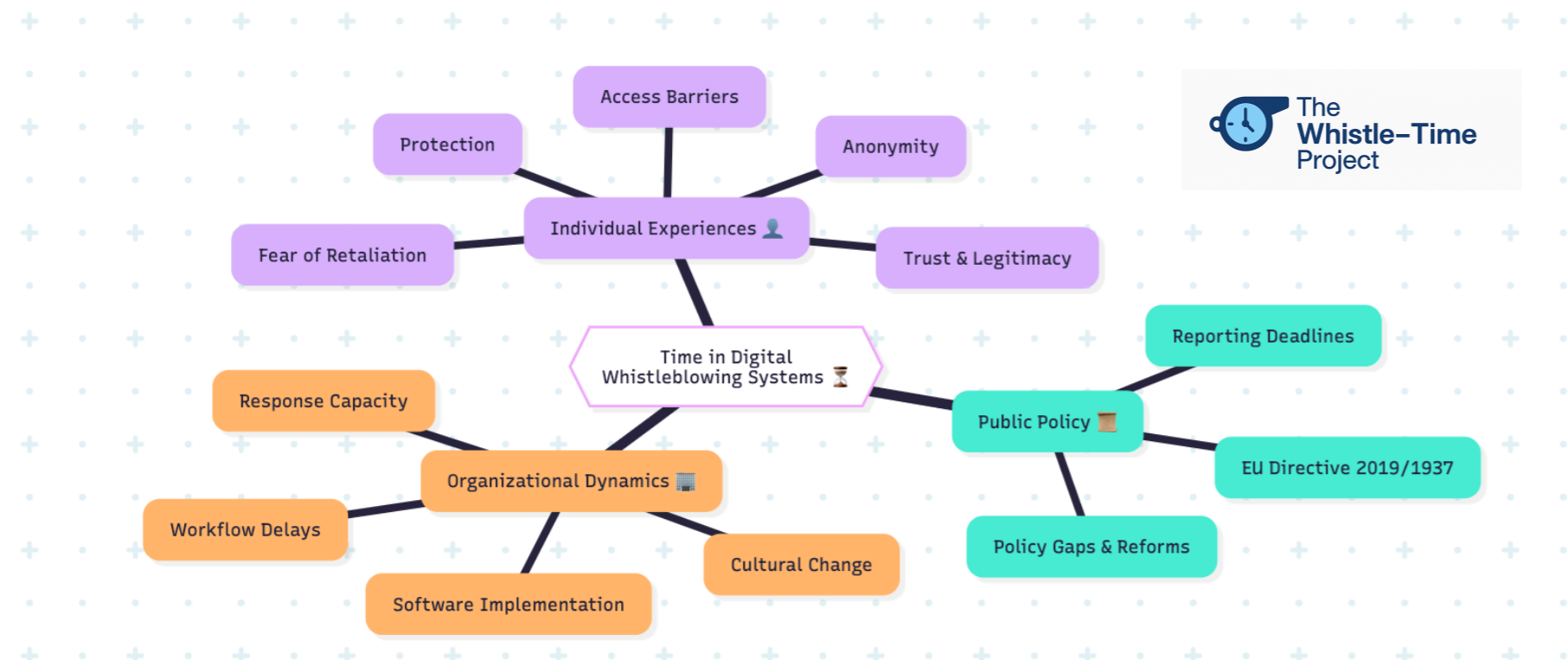
To meet these requirements, **digital platforms** have emerged as key tools, offering **faster and safer** reporting processes. But one critical factor is often overlooked: **time**.

Delays in handling reports or taking action lead to distrust and greater risk of retaliation.

Time is not neutral — it shapes access, trust, and the legitimacy of systems.

Even advanced digital tools can **reproduce exclusion** if time is not thoughtfully addressed.

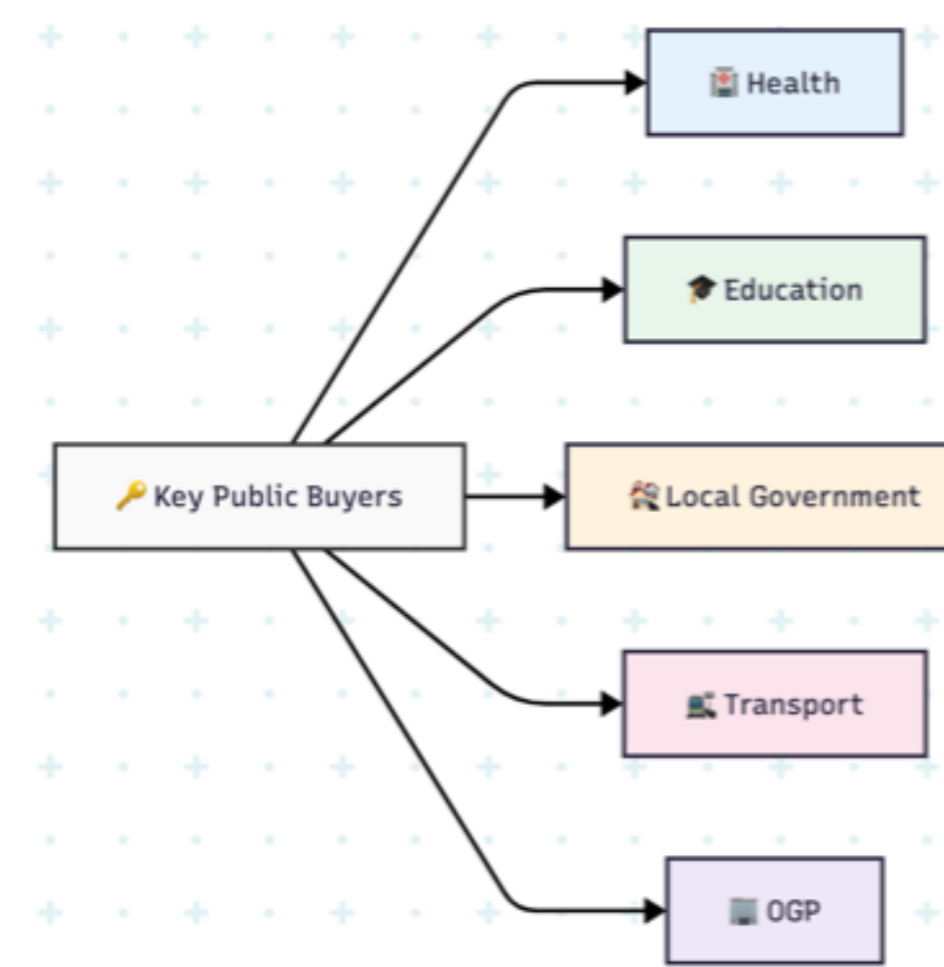
Time Matters Across Multiple Dimensions — **Individual, Organizational, and Public Policy** —.



The WhistleTime Project, explores how time is managed — or overlooked — in digital whistleblowing systems, with a particular focus on public procurement contexts.

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Why Public Procurement?



- Accounts for one-third of national budgets and 15% of global GDP (OECD, 2023).
- Its scale and complexity make it prone to corruption, mismanagement, and delays.
- Increasingly relies on digital platforms and software tools for oversight, compliance, and reporting.

The WhistleTime Project focuses on procurement to:

- Examine how software-based whistleblowing systems operate in complex, high-volume sectors.
- Show how time pressures interact with digital tools and reporting workflows.
- Identify opportunities to use technology to strengthen trust, oversight, and accountability in public spending.

Strengthening the integrity and efficiency of public procurement is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

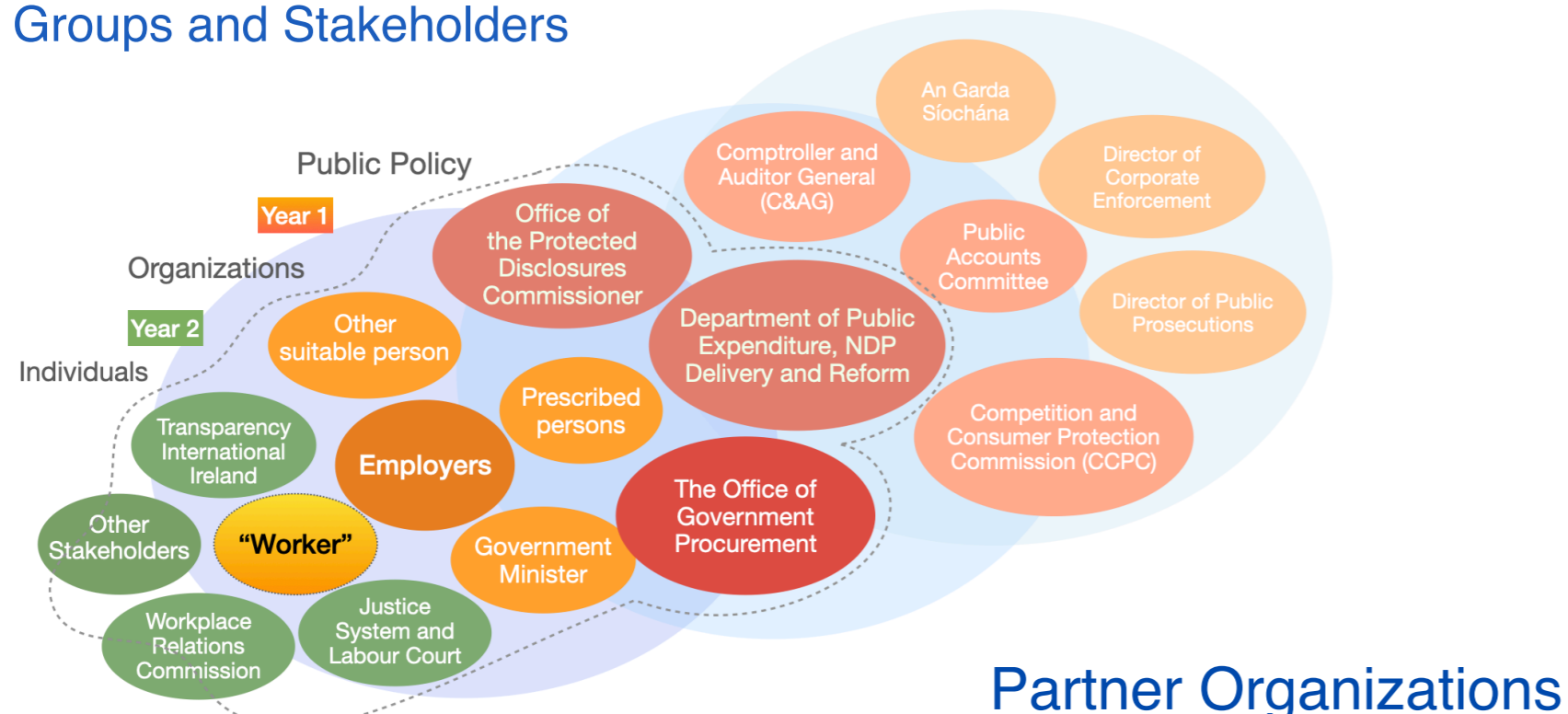


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Who is this For?

- Regulatory and Oversight bodies managing whistleblowing systems
- Public agencies involved in procurement and public spending
- Organizations implementing internal and external reporting systems (Purchasers and contracting authorities)
- Civil society organizations supporting whistleblowers and software developers

Target Groups and Stakeholders



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Main Activities

Large-Scale Survey with Public Buyers

Online questionnaire to **diagnose technological solutions in the public sector**, assessing how time is managed in **digital whistleblowing environments**.

Comparative Case Analysis

Review of selected cases to capture **sectoral, institutional, and technological dynamics of time**.

Interviews & Focus Groups

Conversations with whistleblowers, officials, **technology providers**, and civil society to identify delays, vulnerabilities, and user experiences.

Policy & Digital Tools Assessment

Critical analysis of legal frameworks and **software-based solutions**, evaluating their impact on time, effectiveness, and equity.

Co-Creation of Recommendations

Participatory process to design **context-sensitive proposals and digital solutions as Public Goods**, fostering **fairer, inclusive, and more accessible whistleblowing systems**.

Dissemination & Collaboration

Sharing findings through publications, events, and **collaborative platforms**.

Are you currently working on whistleblowing, transparency, or anti-corruption policy design?

GET IN TOUCH !

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