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(Cyber) Bullying by Faceless Bureaucracy in Research Funding

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Main topics covered in the paper

1. Ordinary bureaucracy vs Cyber harassment/bullying
2. Main characteristics of CSF's correspondence („bureaucratic cybullying“)
3. A case study regarding CSF's project managers
4. Academic vulnerability in Croatia

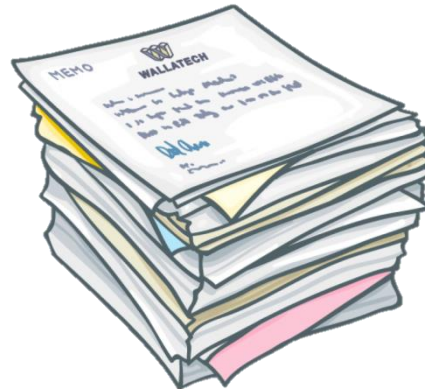




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Six Characteristics of Bureaucratic Cybullying

1. Excessive bureaucracy
2. Cyber correspondence
3. Facelessness
4. Transparent arbitrariness
5. Absolute authority
6. Nonsense





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A Victimisation Survey

- 12% of Croatian Science foundation (CSF) (co)funded project managers (89/734)
- 5/6 „bureaucratic cybullying” characteristics found



1. Excessive bureaucracy ✓
2. Cyber correspondence ✓
3. Facelessness ✓
4. Transparent arbitrariness
5. Absolute authority ✓
6. Nonsense ✓



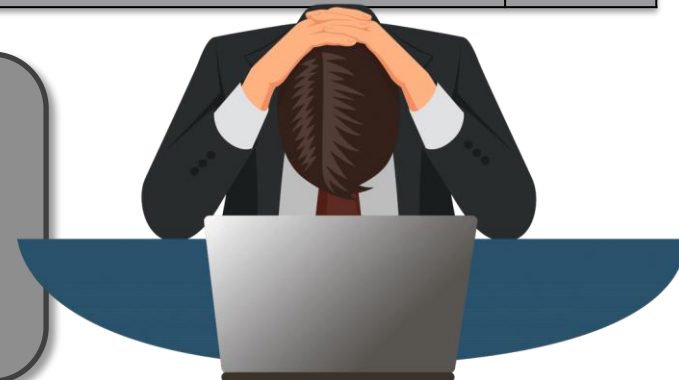
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A Victimisation Survey

Regarding my cooperation with CSF as project manager I feel...

dissatisfied due to managing/administrative obligations on my project (N=89)	65%
predominantly frustrated (N=88)	55%
predominantly exposed to nonsense (N=89)	49%
predominantly helpless (N=88)	40%
predominantly revolted in terms of my scientific research (N=88)	25%

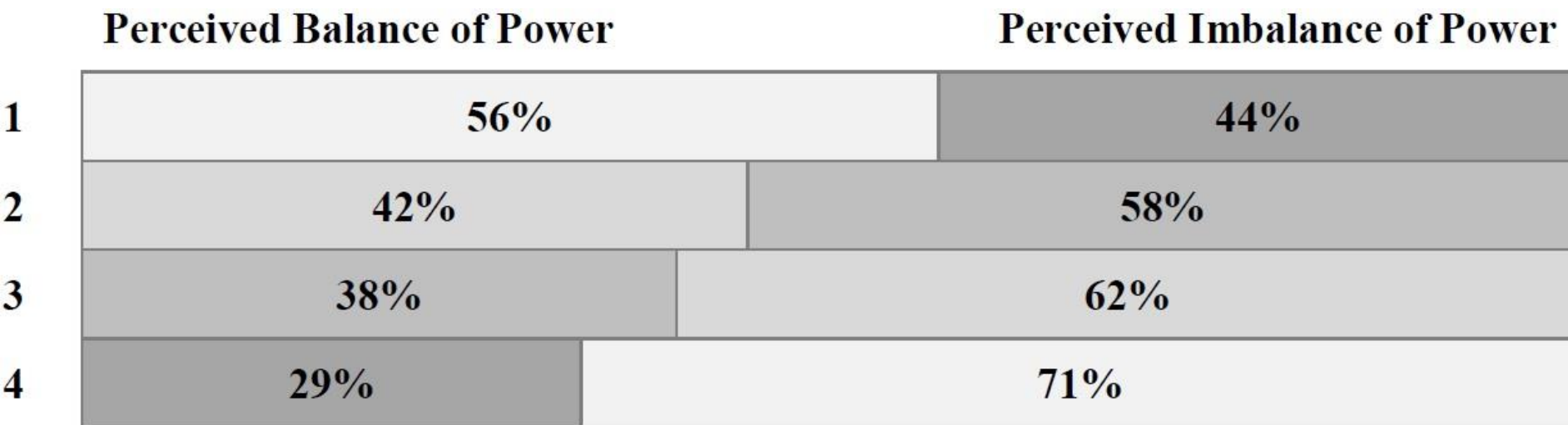
51% would report CSF's illegal conduct to CSF
44% says no one is „in charge of overseeing CSF's work“
7% recognize Croatian Parliament as responsible, but
only 1 would accurately report illegal conduct





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A Victimisation Survey



Legend: 1) "I am satisfied with the contractual obligations and rights" (yes/no); 2) "During contracting my CSF project I had the possibility to actually negotiate (in terms of content and/or funding)" (yes/no); 3) "The CSF project I am managing was contracted following the principle of 'take it, or leave it'" (no/yes); 4) "I feel that I am, as a project manager, an equal contractual party, with same obligations and rights as CSF" (yes/no).



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Potentials for (Criminal) Tycoonisation of Public Research Funds

- **Fictional** control of the Croatian Parliament
- Administrative and/or inspectional oversight of CSF as a legal public entity
- Judicial competence of the courts in Croatia
- The evaluators



Thank you for your attention!

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