

Committee: Forensics Junior Group Discussion (FJGD)

Topic: Addressing corruption in the public sector

Student Officer: Iliana Brosnan and Ariadni Kakara

Position: Co-Heads

Personal Introduction

Dear Delegates,

My name is Ariadni Kakara, I am fifteen years old, and go to Campion School. This will be my third MUN conference, and my first time serving as a Student Officer. I am thrilled to be co-chairing in the Forensics Junior Group Discussion in this year's CSMUN! Although I am a new member to the MUN community, I have found MUN to be an incredibly educational and fun experience. I hope you all will feel the same way, after participating in conferences.

The second topic in our committee this year is "Addressing corruption in the public sector". In the following study guide that my co-chair Iliana and I have put together, you will find information such as where the issue of corruption is rooted, what consequences it has had on the public sector, as well as ways in which we as a community can tackle this current issue. Although you will find most of the content that you will need for our discussion in this study guide, I would also highly encourage you to conduct your own research, in order to have a deeper understanding of this topic.

Finally, knowing that many of you will be newcomers, I would like to urge you to have a positive outlook on this conference and to not be afraid to make mistakes! I am looking forward to meeting you all, hopefully in person! If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me using my email. Good luck with your preparation!

Yours truly,

Ariadni Kakara



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Dear Delegates,

My name is Iliana Brosnan, I am fourteen years old and I go to Campion School of Greece. I have participated in 5 conferences as a delegate (two of which were held by Campion) but this is my first conference as a Student Officer. I am very excited to be a co-chair in this year's Forensics Junior Group Discussion committee as it was the first committee that I attended and marked the start of my MUN journey! My MUN journey has been extremely fun and educational, as I have had the pleasure of meeting lots of people and have educated myself on a variety of topics.

As far as what you need to know about this Study Guide, it is important to mention that while my co-chair Ariadni and I have included the key elements that you will need to know so that you can participate in the committee work, such as the key terms that are going to be used, possible solutions et cetera, I heartily encourage you to do your own research on your country and our committee's topic, which is: "Addressing corruption in the public sector", as it will help you understand the topic more deeply and also provide you with more information to use during our conference.

I would like to remind you all and especially those of you who are new to MUN to not hesitate to ask questions either throughout the conference or before by contacting me using my e-mail. Lastly we would like to encourage you to not be afraid to make mistakes, since mistakes only help you learn and progress further. I can't wait to meet you guys in October (either online or hopefully in person) and I hope that this conference will be a fun and educational experience for you all and for the newcomers, I hope that this is going to mark a good start to your MUN journey!

Best Regards!

Iliana Brosnan

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Topic Introduction

The word corruption derives from the Latin word *corruptus*, which “is the past principle of *corrumpere*, meaning ‘mar, bribe, destroy’.”¹ One of the first ever noted examples of corruption occurred in The First Dynasty (3100-2700 BC) in the Egyptian judiciary, which was then followed by other myths on corruption in Chinese and Greek mythology.

During the 20th century, as the global economy inflated, corruption rates also rapidly increased. However, since practices of corruption are carried out in secret, it is difficult to calculate the exact values. According to the World Bank, international bribery surpasses 1.5 trillion US dollars every year which equates to 2% of the global GDP or otherwise, ten times the amount of total global aid funds.

Corruption in the public sector namely exists in one of the following forms: abuse of functions, embezzlement, bribery and illicit enrichment. Actions of corruption such as the above are carried out by authority figures such as high-ranking politicians and government officials. Although corruption is common in less economically developed countries, it will often be the case that a global chain company, in one of the wealthiest countries in the world will offer a large bribe.

Some of the main reasons why corruption takes place in many countries are: behindhand administrative systems, ineffective economic management, and above all an absence of transparency. Corruption leads to the misspending of public funds and resources, which therefore has lasting effects on a country’s social, political, and economic development.

Focusing more on the economic effect, corruption indirectly impacts many aspects of a country’s economy which enable economic growth, such as “investment,

¹ Asit K. Biswas Distinguished Visiting Professor, and Cecilia Tortajada Senior Research Fellow. “From Our Ancestors to Modern Leaders, All Do It: the Story of Corruption.” The Conversation, 13 July 2021, theconversation.com/from-our-ancestors-to-modern-leaders-all-do-it-the-story-of-corruption-102164.



taxation level, and composition and effectiveness of public expenditure”². Corruption leads to the misbudgeting of resources, as it distorts incentives and non-intervention. Moreover, corruption takes the position of an ineffective tax on corporations, eventually raising production costs and making investments less profitable. Finally, corruption may make investments ineffective by lowering the quality of investments. For instance, by weakening health and education services, corruption decreases a country’s human resource. For the aforementioned reasons, tackling the problem of corruption is vital and you will meet ways in which this can be achieved in a later section of this guide.

Definition of key terms

Bribery

“Is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of any item of value to influence the actions of an official, or other person, in charge of a public or legal duty.”³

Corruption

“Dishonest or illegal behaviour, especially of people in authority”⁴

Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

“It is an index, which ranks countries by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, as determined by expert assessments and opinion surveys”⁵

² Chêne, Marie. “The Impact of Corruption on Growth and Inequality .” Transparency International, Robin Hodess, PhD, Transparency International , 15 Mar. 2014, www.transparency.org/files/content/corruptionqas/Impact_of_corruption_on_growth_and_inequality_2014.pdf.

³ “Bribery.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 30 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bribery.

⁴ “Corruption.” Corruption Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/corruption?q=corruption.

⁵ “Corruption Perceptions Index.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 8 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_Perceptions_Index.



Cronyism

“The situation in which people in power give jobs to their friends” ⁶

Embezzlement

“The act of stealing money that you are responsible for or that belongs to your employer” ⁷

Graft (Politics)

“Graft, as understood in American English, is a form of political corruption defined as the unscrupulous use of a politician's authority for personal gain. Political graft occurs when funds intended for public projects are intentionally misdirected in order to maximize the benefits to private interests.” ⁸

Illicit Enrichment

“A significant increase in the assets of a public official that he or she cannot reasonably explain in relation to his or her lawful income” ⁹

Influence Peddling

“The practice of using one's influence in government or connections with persons in authority to obtain favours or preferential treatment for another, usually in return for payment.” ¹⁰

⁶ “Cronyism.” Cronyism Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/cronyism?q=cronyism.

⁷ “Embezzlement.” Embezzlement Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/embezzlement?q=embezzlement.

⁸ “Graft (Politics).” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 20 June 2021, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graft_\(politics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graft_(politics)).

⁹ Andrew Dornbierer Asset Recovery Specialist +41 61 205 55 39 Biography. “Andrew Dornbierer's Quick Guide to Illicit Enrichment .” Basel Institute on Governance, 22 June 2021, baselgovernance.org/blog/andrew-dornbierers-quick-guide-illicit-enrichment-updated#:~:text=At%20the%20international%20level%2C%20the,his%20or%20her%20lawful%20income%E2%80%9D.

¹⁰ “Influence Peddling.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Influence_peddling.



Nepotism

“Giving unfair advantages to your own family if you are in a position of power, especially by giving them jobs.”¹¹

Kleptocracy

“A government whose corrupt leaders (kleptocrats) use political power to appropriate the wealth of their nation, typically by embezzling or misappropriating government funds at the expense of the wider population.”¹²

Patronage

“The system in which a person of authority/status helps someone or provides them with a job, in exchange for their support.”¹³

Private Sector

“The part of the economy of a country that is not under the direct control of the government, such as plumbers, contractors, retail, leisure, legal services etc.”¹⁴

¹¹ “Nepotism.” Nepotism Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/nepotism?q=Nepotism.

¹² “Kleptocracy.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kleptocracy.

¹³ “Patronage.” Patronage Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/patronage.

¹⁴ “The Private Sector.” The-Private-Sector Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/the-private-sector?q=private%2Bsector. / PrivacySense.net. “What Is the Private Sector? Definition & Examples.” PrivacySense.net, 24 May 2016, www.privacysense.net/terms/private-sector/.



Public Sector

“The part of the economy of a country that is controlled by the government, such as the military, law enforcement, public education, healthcare and those working for the government itself (elected officials etc.)”¹⁵

Sector

“A part of an area of activity, especially of a country’s economy”¹⁶

Sextortion

“When people in power seek to extort sexual favors in exchange for something within their authority to grant or withhold.”¹⁷

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

“An organization of industrial countries that encourages trade and economic growth”¹⁸

Background Information

Forms Of Corruption

Examples

Some examples of corruption include: bribery, which is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of any item of value to influence the actions of a person, in charge of a public or legal duty and embezzlement, which is the act of stealing money that you are responsible for or that belongs to your employer. Statistics have shown

¹⁵ “The Public Sector.” The-Public-Sector Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/the-public-sector?q=public%2Bsector.

/ “Public Sector.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 1 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_sector.

¹⁶ “Sector.” Sector Noun - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/sector?q=sector.

¹⁷ “Sextortion.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 21 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sextortion.

¹⁸ “OECD.” Oecd Abbreviation - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/oecd?q=OECD.



that 1.6 billion people have to pay a petty bribe to get public services, due to corrupt public employees demanding them so that they can offer their services. In developing countries that leads to petty bribes reducing the effectiveness of donor aid for programmes intended to reduce poverty. ¹⁹ Furthermore, an example of an action that is defined as embezzlement is forging checks. This is when an employee writes company checks or makes electronic payments to himself and then alters facts or figures dishonestly or illegally to hide his actions. ²⁰

Some other examples of corruption include: illicit enrichment, which is a significant increase in the assets of a public official that he or she cannot reasonably explain in relation to his or her lawful income, influence peddling, which is the practice of using one's influence in government or connections with persons in authority to obtain favours or preferential treatment for another, usually in return for payment and abuse of functions. An example of a case of illicit enrichment, is the Uganda vs Geoffrey Kazinda case, which has become one of the most significant illicit enrichment cases due to the vast sum of money that was involved (UGX 4,630,195,258, over USD 1,252,600). Kazinda, a former Principal Accountant in the Office of the Prime Minister, was convicted on three counts of illicit enrichment contrary to section 31 of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2009 and the case ended on October 28th 2020 with Uganda achieving victory. Moreover, an example for influence peddling, is the Nicolas Sarkozy case. The former French president was sent to trial on the accusation that he got in contact with a senior judge who was investigating claims that Sarkozy's 2007 presidential campaign was illegally funded and that he allegedly promised the judge a comfortable promotion in return for information about the fraud inquiry. ²¹

¹⁹ Rose, Richard. "Reducing Bribery for Public Services Delivered to Citizens." CMI, www.cmi.no/publications/5663-reducing-bribery-for-public-services-delivered-to.

²⁰ Published: Sep 26, 2019 Last Updated: Mar 20. "25 Examples of Embezzlement and Workplace Theft." Small Business Trends, 20 Mar. 2021, smallbiztrends.com/2019/09/embezzlement-examples.html.

²¹ "Nicolas Sarkozy to Face Trial for Corruption and Influence Peddling." The Guardian, Guardian News and Media, 29 Mar. 2018, www.theguardian.com/world/2018/mar/29/nicolas-sarkozy-to-face-trial-for-corruption-and-influence-peddling.



Some examples for Abuse of Functions are patronage, the use of State resources to reward individuals for their support in the elections, cronyism, the giving of jobs or other advantages to friends or family and sextortion, which is the demand of sexual favours as a form of payment.

Consequences Of Corruption

Direct Consequences

An example of a direct consequence of corruption is the increase of the cost of public goods and services and the misallocation of public resources. Furthermore, a consequence of corruption is the weakening of policymaking and the implementation of laws and regulations. In addition, it also destroys public confidence in the government.

Indirect Consequences

An example of an indirect consequence of corruption, is the fact that corruption severely affects the human rights of the citizens in the country. Other than that, corruption in healthcare or infrastructure could potentially lead to physical harm of the citizens. Moreover, corruption could affect the quality of the citizens supplies and education.

Societal Consequences

Corruption severely damages the trust that citizens have in the public sector to act in their best interest and the trust that they have in the law and the rule of law, education and consequently the quality of life. Furthermore, corruption leads to damage to the organisation's reputation and to the employee moral, while corruption could also affect the employee's relationships with family, friends and colleagues.²²

²² "Impacts of Corruption." IBAC, www.ibac.vic.gov.au/preventing-corruption/corruption-hurts-everyone.



Major countries and organizations involved

Brazil

Brazil CPI in 2019 was 35 out of 100. One of the biggest attempts Brazil made to fight corruption was Operation Car Wash. Operation Car Wash was a criminal investigation conducted by the Federal Police of Brazil, which started in March 2014 and ended in 2019. It is considered by Federal Police to be the largest corruption investigation in the country's history. Brazil has made numerous attempts to fight corruption in the public sector with anti-corruption laws, such as the Brazilian Criminal Code (Decree Law No. 2,848), Article 333 and the Brazilian Anti-Bribery law.

China

China is ranked 78th out of 180 countries in CPI (tied with Argentina, Bahrain, Kuwait and Solomon Islands). Corruption in China is a significant problem as it has impacted all aspects of administration, law enforcement, healthcare and education through means such as bribery, graft, backdoor deals, embezzlement, nepotism, patronage, and statistical falsification. Public surveys on the mainland since the late 1980s have shown that the corruption that is occurring in the country is among the top concerns of the general public.²³

Finland

Finland's overall corruption is relatively low and the country is ranked 3rd out of 180 countries in the Corruption Perceptions Index (tied with Singapore, Sweden and Switzerland) with a CPI of 85 out of 100.²⁴ Finland's public sector rarely faces corruption, as companies report that irregular payments and bribes hardly ever occur when obtaining public utilities, business permits, licenses and other related services²⁵.

²³ "Corruption in China." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 25 June 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_China.

²⁴ "Corruption Perceptions Index." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 28 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_Perceptions_Index.

²⁵ "Finland Corruption Report." GAN Integrity, 5 Nov. 2020, www.ganintegrity.com/portal/country-profiles/finland/.



Furthermore, Finland's regulatory system is described as transparent, efficient and competitive and the country's public administration is characterized by high standards, relatively non-hierarchical structures, and little if any politicization of key civil service positions. This combined with social factors, such as the country's high education level, has contributed to a low level of corruption in Finland's public institutions.

New Zealand

New Zealand is considered to have one of the lowest levels of corruption in the world and it is ranked first out of 180 countries in the Corruption Perceptions Index (tied with Denmark), a placing which the country has held for seven consecutive years, with a CPI of 88 out of 100.²⁶ When acquiring public services in New Zealand there is a very low risk of encountering corruption, as the country's government enforces a strong code of conduct for all state service employees. Moreover, companies in New Zealand report that bribes connected with public utilities rarely occur. It is important to mention, that New Zealand's regulatory system is transparent, and foreign investors can make commercial transactions with ease. Statistics also show that 23 percent of surveyed organizations in Australia and New Zealand reported to have encountered bribery in the last five years, most of which involved the private sector and only a small fraction involved public officials.²⁷

Russia

Russia ranked lowest in Europe in CPI (30 out of 100)²⁸. Corruption is engraved in the history of Russia due to the general weakness of the rule of law in the country. In the judicial system and public procurement high level and petty corruption are common and it is considered common for companies to have encounters with irregular payments and bribes when they are applying for public utilities. Reportedly, nine out

²⁶ "Corruption in New Zealand." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 27 Mar. 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_New_Zealand#International_ranking.

²⁷ "New Zealand Corruption Report." GAN Integrity, 5 Nov. 2020, www.ganintegrity.com/portal/country-profiles/new-zealand/.

²⁸ "Corruption in Russia." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 26 May 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_Russia#:~:text=The%20phenomenon%20of%20corruption%20is,International%20ranking%20lowest%20in%20Europe.



of ten entrepreneurs have encountered bribery at least once, with the average bribe for all purposes reaching 9,810\$.²⁹

Somalia

Somalia ranked in CPI 179th out of 180 countries (tied with South Sudan), however Somalia has made attempts to fight the corruption that is occurring in the country in both private and public sectors . For example, due to a reported lack of accountability in the receipt and expenditure of public funds by the Transitional Federal Government, a federal Anti-Corruption Commission was put into place in 2011 so as to deter and eliminate graft.³⁰ Moreover, in 2013 it was announced by the Somali federal government that it had launched a new Public Finance Management Policy (PFMP), so that it could have a more transparent, accurate and timely public sector financial system.

South Africa

South Africa is ranked 69th out of 180 countries and has a CPI of 44 out of 100.³¹ Corruption and inefficient government bureaucracy pose significant risks in South Africa's public services sector, as irregular payments and bribes are perceived to be very commonly exchanged and nepotism and cronyism are found frequently. Although legal, regulatory, and accounting systems are generally transparent and consistent with international norms, political uncertainty and the failure of economic policy to promote growth are major concerns for investors.³²

²⁹ "Russia Corruption Report." GAN Integrity, 30 Sept. 2020, www.ganintegrity.com/portal/country-profiles/russia/.

³⁰ "Corruption in Somalia." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 5 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_Somalia.

³¹ "Corruption Perceptions Index." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 28 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_Perceptions_Index.

³² "South Africa Corruption Report." GAN Integrity, 4 Nov. 2020, www.ganintegrity.com/portal/country-profiles/south-africa/.



USA

The main issue of corruption in the USA is in the political spectrum and specifically has to do with government officials abusing their political powers for private gain, mainly through bribery. This is a growing problem as the USA has fallen in ranks from 18th to 25th in CPI from 2016 to 2020.³³ In 2020 a Vox article made the argument that the U.S. was a major contributor to kleptocracy around the world, as the United States has become one of the largest Offshore financial centre in the world³⁴. Furthermore, allegations of misconduct and corruption have been made against the New York City Police Department in numerous occurrences.³⁵

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The ILO is the first and oldest specialised agency of the United Nations agency founded in October 1919 under the then League of Nations, whose mission is to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards. The ILO attended a convention called: “United Nations Convention Against Corruption”, in which convention resulted in a resolution being drafted (General Assembly resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003).³⁶

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The OECD is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives, as their goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all.³⁷ The OECD has organised many projects and has co-ordinated their efforts many times to fight corruption globally, an example of that being the project

³³ “Corruption in the United States.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 8 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_the_United_States.

³⁴ “Corruption in the United States.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 8 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_in_the_United_States.

³⁵ “New York City Police Department Corruption and Misconduct.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 5 July 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City_Police_Department_corruption_and_misconduct.

³⁶ “International Organizations .” International Organizations - United Nations Convention Against Corruption., www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=83887&p_country=ORG&p_count=228.

³⁷ “The OECD .” OECD, www.oecd.org/about/.



that it launched in 2016 together with Greece and the European Commission to increase integrity and reduce corruption in Greece through technical empowerment of the Greek authorities for the implementation of the NACAP (National Anti-Corruption Action Plan), which was completed in January 2018.³⁸

South African Municipal Workers' Union (SAMWU)

The SAMWU is the largest union in local government in South Africa and was founded on 24 October 1987, when the Municipal Workers' Union of South Africa merged with the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association (CTMWA), and the municipal workers' sections of General Workers' Union of South Africa, South African Allied Workers' Union and Transport and General Workers' Union.³⁹ Despite the scandal that occurred involving the SAMWU in 2015, where Samuel Phaswane, the union's project management consultant, had been arrested in connection with the missing almost R10-million, the organisation has been active in exposing corruption at the municipal level across the country.

³⁸ "Greece-OECD Project: Technical Support on Anti-Corruption." OECD, www.oecd.org/corruption/greece-oecd-anti-corruption.htm.

³⁹ "South African Municipal Workers' Union." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 27 May 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_African_Municipal_Workers'_Union.



Timeline of events

<u>1999</u>	The OECD's (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) Anti Bribery Convention is put into force.
<u>2001-2004</u>	(Example of corruption) "Siemens is accused of having paid 10 million euros to Nigerian cabinet members" ⁴⁰ .
<u>December 14th 2009</u>	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
<u>2020</u>	The World Bank announces it is calling for papers as part of its Anticorruption Initiatives.
<u>March 15th 2021</u>	Deadline to submit proposals regarding Anticorruption (part of Anticorruption Initiatives, organised by the World Bank).
<u>May 14th 2021</u>	Written notice is passed by the World Bank, regarding the decision on Anticorruption Initiatives.

Previous attempts to solve the issue

Anti-corruption Agencies (ACA's)

These are agencies which are aimed towards fighting corruption, raising awareness, and encouraging anti-corruption activities and practices. They have been set up by a vast number of countries, with over 100 ACA's currently existing in the world, and are being funded mostly by each country's state. Although these have been found effective in certain states, anti-corruption agencies are merely the first step in combating

⁴⁰ Watchsmart, and ATIS547. "Corruption: Responsibility." RESET.to, en.reset.org/knowledge/corruption.



corruption. More actions must be taken in order to close the gap between governments establishing ACA's, and them becoming fully aware about the root of the problem.

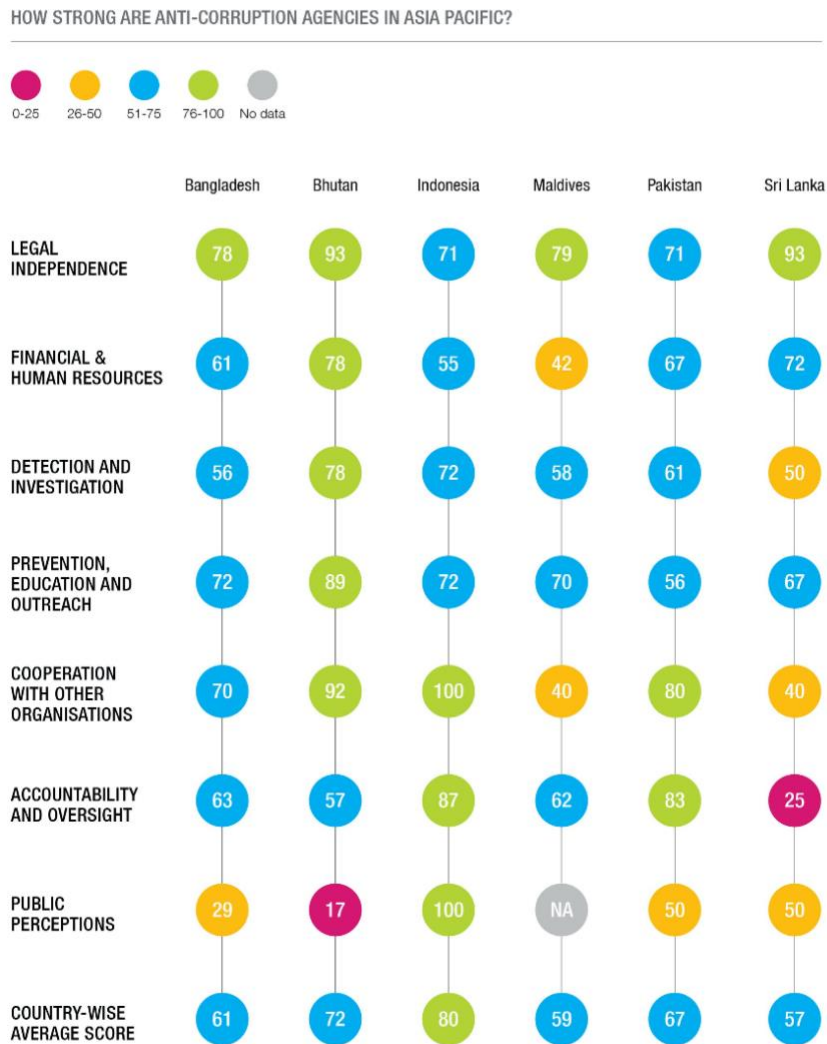


Figure displaying the mean effectiveness of anti-corruption agencies.⁴¹

The Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (STAR)

This is a partnership between the World Bank and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and is working towards carrying out asset recovery. Asset recovery refers to the process by which unused assets “transferred abroad are

⁴¹ “Anti-Corruption Agency Strengthening Initiative - Projects.” Transparency.org, www.transparency.org/en/projects/anti-corruption-agency-strengthening-initiative



recovered and repatriated to the country from which they were taken or to their rightful owners”⁴². In other words, stolen public funds are returned to states.

Anticorruption Initiatives

The Anticorruption Initiatives are a set of motives launched by the World Bank, in order to help emphasize its commitment in helping countries abolish corruption. These cover a range of ideas such as including financial centers in developing countries, having a more open outlook on the politics of corruption, as well as introducing new technologies for the prevention of corruption. However, as a result of their overly ambitious nature, and the vast gap between the motive and reality, most Anti-corruption Initiatives end up failing. Initiatives which are more reasonable to achieve, are usually a success. “Effective design and implementation processes enable” the closure of this gap and “improve the likelihood of success”⁴³

Relevant UN Resolutions, Events, Treaties and Legislation

First High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels on 24 September 2012

This meeting resulted in the adaptation of an important political Declaration by consensus, which has a separate paragraph on the issue of corruption, which states that: “We are convinced of the negative impact of corruption, which obstructs economic growth and development, erodes public confidence, legitimacy and transparency and hinders the making of fair and effective laws, as well as their administration, enforcement and adjudication, and therefore stress the importance of the rule of law as an essential element in addressing and preventing corruption,

⁴² “Asset Recovery .” UNCA Civil Society Coalition, uncaccoalition.org/learn-more/asset-recovery/ .

⁴³ “Understanding the Successes and Failures of Anti-Corruption Initiatives.” U4 BRIEF, www.cmi.no/publications/file/3978-understanding-success-and-failure-of-anti.pdf.



including through strengthening cooperation among States concerning criminal matters.”⁴⁴

UN Global Compact

It is a call directed towards companies to align their strategies with 10 universal principals related to human rights, labour and anti-corruption. From those 10 principals the one that mention corruption is principal 10, which states that: “Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.”⁴⁵ The UN Global Compact provides a universal language for corporate responsibility and provides a framework to guide all businesses regardless of size, complexity or location⁴⁶. Furthermore it helps the businesses commit to, assess, define, implement, measure and communicate their sustainability strategy.

United Nations Envoy To Afghanistan (10 March 2017)

It was a mission to assist Afghanistan with matters related to corruption and has made visible steps forward on anti-corruption, the electoral process and women's economic empowerment. The Government is determined to hold parliamentary elections which are seen as fair, inclusive and transparent by the Afghan people, as it has appointed the commissioners of the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission.

World Press Freedom Day (May 3rd)

World Press Freedom Day is there to remind us among others that the transparency that freedom of information promotes has a direct relationship with fighting corruption and that that is important, because corruption is a violation of human rights and hinders the development of a country. Freedom of the press and

⁴⁴ “Delivering Justice on the Ground: The Challenges of Fighting Corruption at the National and International Levels.” United Nations, United Nations, www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/delivering-justice-ground-challenges-fighting-corruption-national-and-international-levels.

⁴⁵ “The UN Global Compact: Finding Solutions to Global Challenges.” United Nations, United Nations, www.un.org/en/un-chronicle/un-global-compact-finding-solutions-global-challenges.

⁴⁶ “Why Join: UN Global Compact.” Why Join | UN Global Compact, [www.unglobalcompact.org/participation/join#:~:text=The%20UN%20Global%20Compact%20provides ,and%20communicate%20your%20sustainability%20strategy](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/participation/join#:~:text=The%20UN%20Global%20Compact%20provides,and%20communicate%20your%20sustainability%20strategy).



the media helps ensure transparency, accountability and the rule of law, as well as promote participation in public and political discourse.

Possible solutions

Implementing a stricter use of debarment

Debarment, also known as blacklisting, “is one of the best tools that organizations can use to sanction bad actors and shield themselves from repeated attempts at exploitation or fraud”⁴⁷. It refers to the process of forbidding corrupt contractors from accessing government contracts. A blacklist is a list of institutions that an establishment does not wish to do business with, later in time. Varying situations call for the need of debarment, ranging from cybersecurity to environmental activism. In our case, it is mostly used in avoiding practices of corruption such as embezzlement.

Awareness Raising

Additionally, the raising of awareness within states is vital for the amelioration of the issue at hand. All state governments must be made aware of the corruption taking place in the community, through a number of different means, such as but not limited to: social media campaigns, seminars and school assemblies, hosting events, and distributing brochures.

Refining anti-corruption agencies

This means making anti-corruption agencies more controlled and making minor changes, so as to make them more effective. One way in which this could be achieved is by implementing a higher level of authority in order for ACAs to be more ‘hands on’ and constructive. This approach refers to ensuring that the leaders of countries ACAs are qualified for their position through thorough interviewing processes and

⁴⁷ “What Is Blacklisting?: Blacklisting Definition.” GAN Integrity, www.ganintegrity.com/compliance-glossary/blacklisting/.



questionnaires. Moreover, enriching the available resources in ACAs is a change that would ensure that corruption is being dealt with more effectively.

Implementing a ‘rewards and penalisations’ system

Introducing a system with rewards and punishments in each state would be a worthwhile idea which could make for the decreasing of corruption rates. This way, ethical behaviour in the public sector would be recognised, and in some way rewarded, and corruption would be penalised.

Introducing support groups for victims of corruption

Finally, corruption not only impacts whole countries but also individuals on a personal level. Mental health aid should be provided to those affected by corruption, which is why having designated support groups could be a beneficial solution.

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