



ŞAHİNKAYA MUN TRAINING 2018

# GA-4: SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION

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Agenda Item: Combatting Corruption in Latin  
American and Caribbean Region

## *Letter from the Secretary-General*

Eminent participants of Şahinkaya MUN Training 2018,

It is with utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the first all-inclusive session of Şahinkaya Training 2018. Organized by one of the most well-known high school MUN clubs in Turkey, we believe that each conference is a story its participants will be able to tell. With this aim in mind, we work as hard as you can imagine for providing you the best academic and organizational experience. This time, our organization team is led by lovely Ms. Sıla Erdem, ready to deliver you the usual excellence of our glory.

A few years ago, a wise man told me that the history is now the way it is because of the ones who stayed silent. The ones who were too afraid to speak up shaped our roots. However, in my humble opinion, the principles of history are capable of evolving. Personally, since then, I wanted to welcome an ever-evolving history by speaking up and standing out. Thus, I wanted to make sure that I was heard, and MUN gave me just that. This is the reason this platform is so special for me and I hope will be for you as well. This generation and century needs people like us; who are not afraid to oppose or to support, who are not afraid to stand up and make themselves heard, and who are not afraid to change or at least shape the world in their own pretty way.

In SPECPOL, delegates will tackle issues that have been causing great unrest in our world in many of ways. I would like to thank our Under-Secretary-General Ms. Ezgi Kaykan for doing her best to make this guide come to life in the cutest way possible, as well as Mr. Atahan Akçalı whom pretty much acted as everything we needed, and lovely Ms. İlkim Dila Özgan for her effort. I am grateful for everything they had done to make this committee happen. They are the exact reason that our conference is standing this strong.

Lastly, remember to stand out and be unique. Let the history be ever-evolving, in your own understanding of it. Şahinkaya glory welcomes you back!

Yours truly,

Selin Ayaz

*Secretary-General of Şahinkaya MUN Training 2018*

## *Letter from the Committee Board*

Esteemed participants,

We, as the board of SPECPOL Committee, it is our honor to welcome you all to the Şahinkaya MUN Training 2018. We feel more than lucky to have the opportunity to be with you for three pleasant days. This experience is going to be our biggest experience, so it can be perceived as our first time. We are sharing your excitement and maybe we are more thrilled than you do. In our first experience we were scared and we were shy. We were like turtles. Every single time we had an opportunity to raise our voice, we would not and we would retreat to our shells. After we started to speak up we realized that, our shell was not that hard. Actually it was pretty brittle and we broke our shells just like we wish you will do. At the beginning we felt naked and unprotected but after we started to speak up, we found ourselves. At the same time we had a strong wall for us to count on. We are right here and we are sure you all will be the best diplomats this world could ever see. You do not need to be afraid, you have the power to speak up and trust yourself. We are ready to be your walls. You will never fall.

“Speak up, because the day you do not speak up for the things that matter to you is the day your freedom truly ends.”

In these three days you will be coping with the issue that has plagued the world for centuries: corruption. Corruption has been one of the major problems that the world faces, but it can affect certain regions more compared to the rest of the world. Latin American and Caribbean Region is the most affected area by corruption which is exactly our topic. It means that you will be dealing with the hardest and the most complicated section of the issue, still not impossible. You will be going deep and going to the root of the subject, in other words you will be fighting with the alpha. It is your time to speak up and change the world. If you cannot change something in a person’s life, no one can. We are expecting your beneficial ideas to deal with the corruption and decrease its impacts which are one of the main problems of our world. We are going to endeavor for new perceptions which lead us to a better world.

The true achiever is the one who recognizes the challenges and does something about it.

Sincerely,

İlkim Dila Özgan

Ezgi Ceren Kaykan

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## I. Introduction to General Assembly Fourth Committee: Special Political and Decolonization

The United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee (also known as the Special Political and Decolonization Committee or SPECPOL) is one of six main committees of the United Nations General Assembly. Membership is open to all members of the United Nations.

When the system of main committees was created, the Fourth Committee was responsible for trusteeship and decolonization-related matters. After the dismantling of the trusteeship system -resulting from independence being granted to all the trust territories and the sharp reduction in the number of non-self-governing territories- the Fourth Committee's workload decreased. Consequently, the Fourth Committee was merged with the Special Political Committee, which had been created as a seventh committee of the whole to deal with certain political issues after the General Assembly found that the First Committee (originally the Political and Security Committee) was too busy.

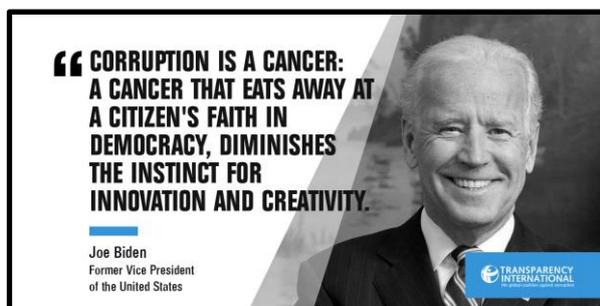
The committee has a wide area of interest that cannot be counted. But briefly, the committee deals with different issues those related to decolonization, human rights, peacekeeping, public information, non-governing territories and also corruption.

## II. Agenda Item: Combating Corruption in Latin American and Caribbean Region

*“Corruption undermines democratic institutions, slows economic development and contributes to governmental instability. Corruption attacks the foundation of democratic institutions by distorting electoral processes, perverting the rule of law and creating bureaucratic quagmires whose only reason for existing is the soliciting of bribes.”*

*-Ban Ki-moon, Former Secretary-General of UN*

### A. Definitions



**a. Corruption:** Corruption is derived from the Latin verb *rumpere*, to break. According to this information, corruption is where the law is clearly broken. This requires that all laws must be exactly stated, leaving no doubts about their meaning and being utterly transparent about the implementation. Corruption has different categories, such as;

**i. Systemic Corruption:** Systemic corruption is the idea that political actors manipulated the economic system to create economic rents that politicians could use to secure

control of the government. In other words, politicians corrupt economics. It can be defined as a type of corruption which is almost considered as a rule rather than an exception.

**ii. Political (Grand) Corruption:** Grand Corruption is defined as corruption occurring at the highest levels of government in a way that requires a significant collapse of the political, legal and economic systems. Such corruption is commonly found in countries with authoritarian or dictatorial governments but also in those without enough policing of corruption.

**iii. Petty Corruption:** Petty corruption occurs at a smaller measure and takes place at the public services mostly. For instance, cases can be giving extortion money that is the money which is paid to the police or any other person to avoid the penalties and fines. So these cases happen between the citizens and the public officers.

**iv. Legal and Moral Corruption:** Legislating for interest focuses upon the legality of an action and not the morality of that same action. Although an act is committed within legal borders it may lie outside moral boundaries. A corrupt act can be camouflaged by lawful justification. Cultural change, rather than legal change, may be necessary to obstruct corrupt behavior.

**b. Transparency:** Transparency, in a business or governance framework, is honesty and openness. Transparency and accountability are generally considered the two main pillars of good juridical governance. It has been defined simply as "the perceived quality of intentionally shared information from a sender"



## **B. Corruption in Latin America and the Caribbean Region**

In the 21st century, corruption has been one of the most common threats to economic sanctions of the countries throughout the world and it keeps spreading every day. According to the research made by Transparency International, most of the countries in the world are

making little or no progress in ending corruption. At the same time, some of the most corrupted regions in the world are emphasized as Latin America and the Caribbean region. 180 countries and territories were ranked on a scale of 0 to 100, the ones scoring 50 or lower have serious problems while countries closer to 100 are far away from being corrupted. As a result, more than two-thirds of countries scored below 50 and the average global score was 43 which is under the limit.

Corruption is a trouble that distresses ordinary people every day, especially in Latin America. When they speak out about it, far too often they face retaliation. Specifically, the journalists are the most killed and retaliated ones about that issue. Further analysis indicates that countries with the least protection for press and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) also tend to have the worst rates of corruption. Every week at least one journalist is killed in a country that is highly corrupt. And lastly, the analysis shows that of all journalists who were killed in the last six years, more than 9 out of 10 were killed in countries that score 45 or less on the index.

It wouldn't be surprising if protests arise from the civilians who wanted to fight corruption, therefore it happened. In Brazil, Guatemala, and Honduras people started to rebel and fight against corruption. In fact, seven of ten people in those countries had the courage to get involved with these protests. However at the same time, the three of ten was still there and they tried to stop these protests, and government officials that are involved in bribery have reported these to the authorities. Sometimes the authorities, of course, got involved and protestors faced huge retaliations but sometimes officials who were involved were the ones who faced retaliation. The situation becomes more and more complicated every day and if corruption continues, none of these will stop.

## **1. Mexico**

Corruption sometimes affects governments, sometimes societies or sometimes international and national economic frameworks which are the most problematic situations. Mexico is among those desperate countries. Corruption is taking the control over national economies more and more every day. Mexico has the second biggest economy in the Latin America and also the country is on the list of the biggest oil producers in the world. Oil production is one of the biggest resources of incomes of the whole country. However, companies that are operating in Mexico's extractive sector are struggling with corruption. The oil producing companies started to concern about the effects on their businesses. Concerns in this sector include the relations between foreign and Mexican oil companies being set up to engage in the local bidding processes with local political and business elites. Concerns also exist over a state-owned oil company's handling of contracts with other providers, an issue highlighted by alleged corruption in the large infrastructure contracts the company signed with a disgraced firm. In September 2017, Mexico's anti-corruption agency announced it had identified USD 6.7 million in irregularities in one of those contracts. With this announcement, it is showed that corruption has reached out to every sector of the countries.

Secondly, the corruption is widespread in the country's police forces and judiciary branch. Collusion between the police, judges, and criminal groups is unavoidable and enormous that it leads to outnumbered crime that is mostly not appropriately punished because of the weak law enforcement. It is indicated that bribes are commonly given to the judges in order to make judicial decisions in favor of the bribe-payers. It is enlightened that decisions are not fair due to bribes, and the efficiency of the legal framework is not enough for settling disputes and making decisions for crimes. A significant part of the country believes that all of the

judges and magistrates are corrupted, and their decisions are manipulated by bribes. Therefore, it is clear that the judiciary has limited independence from the executive.

Police departments are one of the most corrupted services of the country. According to research companies, and civilians have really low reliability to police services and they are faced with high costs and every kind of violence due to crimes. Police forces are highly corrupted, and they frequently operate with impunity. Sometimes the police have been involved in drug organizations and accused of other law violations. For example, in September 2014, dozens of Mexican police officers were accused of kidnapping 43 students in the town of Iguala and handing them over to a local drug gang to later be killed under the order of a high-level politician. The case is indicative of the high level of corruption and impunity within Mexico's law enforcement authorities. Independent investigations into the role the government played in killings were ongoing as of the time of review.

In Mexico, an overwhelming majority of companies stated that corruption and bribery is an irreparable piece of business and it is a job culture. Companies claimed that bribes are paid in order to sustain the progression. Briefly, they defend the idea of the benefits of corruption are bigger than its harms. With that form of thinking corruption has reached huge proportions that most of the local governors have fled the country they have been ousted from office and face massive charges that came with corruption.

Two years ago, Mexico introduced a new accusatory trial system, which is intended to combat corruption and increase the system's efficiency and transparency. However, reporting suggests that the system so far has not led to the desired outcomes and that political support for the system is disappearing.

## 2. Venezuela

The great risk of corruption for the whole world is clearly emphasized by all the sources and experts. Nevertheless, some countries are almost governed by corruption which shows us the actions that have been taken haven't worked or haven't reached out to every region yet. Venezuela is the most suited example for this situation since Transparency International's 2017 Corruption Perception Index ranks the country in 169th place out of 180 countries.



In the early 20th century the oil in Venezuela was discovered. Since then the condition of the country never became better, on the contrary, it became worse. The chaos and the progression of corruption led the incidents such as economic depression or difficulties. For instance, at the present time, the value of Venezuela Bolivar is just devastating the country. A US dollar equals 248.472 Venezuelan bolivars. It means that one bread costs 140 Bolivars. As a result

of these incidents, civilians started to swap instead of using paper money. More important than that is the fact that the rate of crimes are rocketing. In the streets, people are killing each other in order to have the money they have. People are going way back in history and they are becoming barbarians and all of these are happening because of the progression of corruption.

The former government of Venezuela which is led by Hugo Chávez had been constantly accused of corruption, abuse of the economy for personal gain, the wide-spread "Bolivarian Propaganda", the buying of the loyalty of the military, its officials involving in drug trade, assistance for terrorists, intimidation of the media, and human rights abuses of its citizens. According to the prominent political magazine Foreign Policy, Venezuela's corruption helped the present government to gain power. Although the Bolivarian government states that they have implemented strict laws to diminish corruption, enforcement of such anti-corruption laws had been weak following the centralizing powers in the government, creating less accountability for corruption and making it extensive throughout Venezuela.

In daily life, people started to starve due to inflation. The inflation is almost a million percent. For instance, if a carton of milk was 2 dollars last year now it is 20. Despite that people started to see bribery as a normal thing in Venezuela. Except for the ones who still riot most of the people are afraid of the government since the journalists or even the civilians who do not agree with the government are arrested. Additionally, the situation of the courts worsened when President Chávez was in power, as he packed the judiciary with loyalists. In 2013, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the government in 94% of the cases that involve the government itself, due to fear of retaliation.

Most companies in Venezuela pay for the security of their company but at the same time, the number of the companies who do the same to identify crime, theft, and disorder as major constraints to doing business is at the same level. On the other hand, the police have very low wages that they almost cannot feed their family due to an excessive rise in inflation. As a result, they accept bribes and even they do illegal businesses. Even the national army can be involved in bribery and corruption sometimes. For example, in September 2013, an incident involving Venezuelan National Guard placing 31 suitcases containing 1.3 tons of cocaine on a Paris flight astonished French authorities. Months later on 15 February 2014, a commander of the Guard was stopped while driving to Valencia with his family and was arrested for having 554 kilos of cocaine in his possession. Since these crimes are clearly seen by the civilians, many victims are afraid to report crimes to the police because they believe that many officers are involved with criminal activities and may bring even more harm to the victims. Human Rights Watch claims that the "police commit one of every five crimes" and that thousands of people have been killed by police officers acting with impunity in Venezuela.

Venezuela has become a bunker for Colombian guerrillas who move drugs across the country with impunity due to the absence of border controls. A report reveals that cocaine operations are shifting to Venezuela. The report emphasizes that the amounts of the drug going through the country have skyrocketed over the last 10 years. Marked drug traffickers of Colombia live

without fear of prosecution in Venezuela since they have sneaked into the country and the bribes can be given easily and they can leak out from the situation without effort.

## **C. Bribery and Corruption**

Bribery is the act of taking the bribe, which is a payment such as money or a favor given to someone to induce him to act dishonestly whereas corruption is dishonest or illegal behavior especially of people in authority using their power to do dishonest or illegal things in return for money or to get advantage.

### **Types of Bribery**

**Business:** Employees, managers, or salespeople of a business offer money to a potential client in exchange for business. In some cases where the system of law is not well implemented, bribes are a way for companies to continue their business.

**Law:** In legal situations; lawyers, judges, and others with power are subject to bribery or payoff for making a decision that benefits the individual making the payment.

**Medicine:** Pharmaceutical corporations seek to reward doctors through bribes for frequent prescription of their drugs.

**Politics:** Politicians receive campaign contributions and other bribes from powerful corporations, organizations or individuals in return for making choices in interests of those parties, or in anticipation for favorable policy, also referred to as lobbying.

The people of Latin America and the Caribbean are being let down by their governments, their political class and their private sector leaders for too many years. Bribery represents a means for the enrichment of the few, and a significant barrier to accessing key public services, particularly for the most vulnerable in society. One in three people across the region paid a bribe in the past year to police, health services or school. Police and politicians are perceived to be the most corrupt institutions in the region, with almost half of citizens saying that most or all people in these institutions are corrupt. This demonstrates a worrying lack of trust in these vital public sector groups.

According to Transparency International, 53% of Latin Americans believe that their governments are failing to address corruption. This mistrust creates a slipperiness and leads to adverse effects on the economy. First and foremost, it discourages citizens to run for office and create a positive change, because they believe that their efforts will be blocked. With this lack of trust in governments, tax evasion efforts are heightened. People are also less likely to start their own businesses; a report from the IMF asserts “measures of corruption tend to be highly correlated with indicators that measure the ease of doing business, such as the number of days it takes to start a business, or the number of days needed to process imports.” Lastly, corruption hurts the flows of foreign direct investment, which plays an important role in development. If investors feel as though their investment will not be successful, then they are

substantially less likely to invest in a nation. “Corruption has been shown to reduce foreign direct investment, a strong promoter of growth in recipient countries.

In the past years, Latin America faced with the biggest corruption case in history. Construction giant, Odebrecht paid off politicians, political parties, officials of state-owned enterprises, lawyers, bankers, and fixers to secure lucrative contracts in Brazil and abroad. There is still little clarity over who actually pocketed all of the money, or how and where it was laundered.

## **D. Relations with the United States of America**

Until the end of the 19th century, the relations between the United States of America and the Latin American region were very weak since the United States primarily had political and economic relations with only Mexico and Cuba. There was a small amount of trade between other Latin American countries and that’s why relationships have a minor importance between both sides. Then because of the growing oil trades between the Latin American region and the United States, the relations started to develop.



Latin America supplied an enormous amount of drugs, especially marijuana and cocaine, to the American market. Because of the huge drug trade, violent drug gangs in Mexico and some parts of the American territory tried to control the drug supply. That’s the main reason why the United States, Canada and Mexico agreed on The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994 and it made the trade between America, Canada and Mexico even better.

The center-right governments in Argentina, Mexico, Panama, Chile, and Colombia have closer relations with the U.S., with Mexico being the US’s largest economic partner in Latin America and its third largest overall trade partner after Canada and China. Thanks to the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) signed with Canada and Mexico in 1994, the United States enjoys virtual duty-free trade with Mexico. Since 1994, the United States has signed other notable free-trade agreements with Chile in 2004, Peru in 2007, and most recently Colombia and Panama in 2011. By 2015, relations were tense between the United States and Venezuela.

The immigration from Latin America to the United States of America grew since the late twentieth century. Today nearly 18% of the United States population is Hispanic and Latin Americans, mostly have a Mexican background. Most of the immigration to the United States came primarily from Mexico and Cuba. Smaller immigrant populations from El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Colombia exist in the United States. These immigrants

mostly came to the United States because of their poor living standards in their corrupted countries. Lots of them used the United States' improved job opportunities to subsist their families back in their home countries. It was a huge problem for both governments; the country which the citizen immigrated from and the host country, thus the situation was mostly caused by corruption.

Today, the relations between the United States and most of Latin America (except Cuba and Venezuela) are generally well but still, some tension between two sides remains. Latin America is the largest foreign supplier of oil to the United States and its fastest-growing trading partner, as well as the largest source of drugs and U.S. immigrants.

## **E. Past Corruption Crisis**

### **1. Mexico**

#### **a. PRI Rule**

The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) was in power in Mexico for straight 71 years (1929 to 2000) and their policy to maintain the power were bribes in exchange for votes. Their actions created a corrupted political platform and that is the reason why there was no major competition outside their party. It was not possible to contest the PRI system so the parties reign was secured and they remained in power for many years. With this type of corruption, the political path in Mexico was very narrow. There were specified political participation channels (the party) and selective electoral mobilization (party members). These issues deeply established in Mexico's political culture after over a half a century's existence, have continued to generate and political corruption in today's Mexico.

#### **b. Organized Crime**

Mexico has a geographic location which is open for organized crime and drug trafficking. It has borders with a nation which has a high demand for drugs (the United States). The demand for drugs not only occurs in Mexico but also in nearby countries so the borders are crucial for both drug cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs).

The Mexican government has not accomplished a major progress for controlling the TCOs and cartels in the history and they often accused of helping their actions. Many of Mexico's institutions adopted a policy which officials receive money, political support, or other bribes from TCOs for being silent to their affairs. TCOs further developed their connections to Mexico's institutions and to corruption. Many members of the Federal Police and the Army joined TCOs and participated in abuses against citizens.

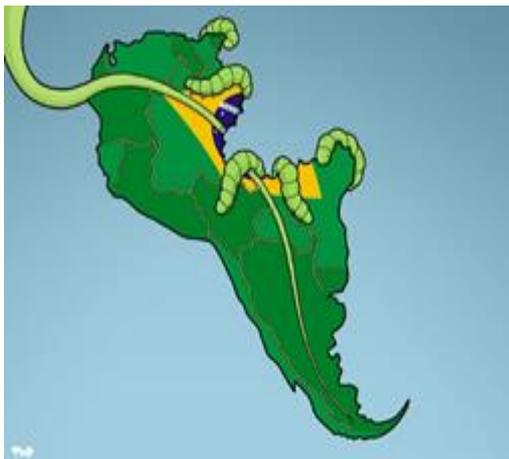
Attempting the combat this crisis, the government took a military action against criminal organizations. However, rather than solving corruption and violence, the army made the situation even worse. The citizens claimed that armed soldiers abused the population with illegal searches, arrests, beatings, theft, rape and torture.

### **c. Media**

Media is also an institution which is affected by TCOs. They violently attacked the media sources which were publishing and reporting stories about gangs, drug cartels and relationships with officials. These actions prevent media forces to publish news about them and freedom of expression and speech were limited because the media faced violent consequences.

Compared to the other Latin American countries, Mexico has the lowest rating for freedom of the press. The international human rights group Article 19 found that in 2014 alone, more than 325 journalists experienced aggressive action by government officials and organized crime, and five reporters were killed due to their line of work. Furthermore, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, since 2005, at least 32 journalists have been killed because of their profession in Mexico.

## **2. Brazil**



All types of corruption exist and widespread in Brazil but one of the most common types of corruption in Brazil is embezzlement of public funds through overbilling. This technique allows individuals to make financial gains, and also finance political campaigns, and is closely linked to public contracts with private enterprises. Construction is a prime example, for example in building roads, sewage, and public buildings. It is estimated that 30% of all Brazilian public funds are embezzled this way each year.

Political corruption is widespread in Brazil. Petrobras and its involvement in Operation Car Wash and the Mensalão scandal serve as important examples of the close links between Brazilian politics and political corruption in Brazil. Politicians and parties use corruption to finance elections, get votes, get a political base in Congress and personally enrich themselves. Lots of politicians from all of the parties interfered with internal buying procedures in Petrobras and distributed contract to private businesses in return for a “commission”. Almost all major contracts for the state-owned oil company, which is Petrobras, passed through this process, so Petrobras was regularly overpaid for services. This money was distributed to the political parties and politicians.

Corruption caused many issues that provoked the 2013 protests. Corruption reduced public investments in health, education, infrastructure, security, housing, among other essential rights, expending social exclusion and inequality.

### **a. Mensalão scandal**

While Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, the former president of Brazil, was in office, reports surfaced of payments made to deputies in return for a pledge to support the government with their votes in Congress. According to investigators, more than a dozen construction companies bribed to corrupt politicians in return for profitable contracts with state-owned company Petrobras.

### **b. Operation Car Wash**

Operation Car Wash is an investigation being carried out by the Federal Police of Brazil. Initially a money laundering investigation, it expanded to cover allegations of corruption at the state-owned company Petrobras, whose executives took bribes for giving contracts to construction firms at extravagant prices. Throughout the investigation, former Brazilian president Dilma Rousseff, who chaired the board of Petrobras from 2003 to 2010, denied knowledge of any corruption.

### **c. Legal Actions**

To respond to widespread corruption in the private and public sector, the Brazilian government enacted the Clean Company Act 2014 (Law No. 12, 846), which held companies responsible for the corrupted acts of their employees. Bid rigging and fraud are prohibited in public procurement, as well as bribery of Brazilian public officials. If found guilty of corruption; the companies can be suspended, dissolved or fined.

## **F. Reasons and Results of Corruption**

One of the biggest plagues of the world, the biggest country-destroying problem, corruption is not just happening. It happens for a reason, does not matter if it is important or not. It matters how it affects people. In order to have efficient solutions, a full comprehension is vital. The reasons have varieties. Some of them can be perceived as personal interests and some of them as a way through the incident.

First reason is the greed for money, power, luxury and any other desires of the ones who are in power; especially the presidents and the governments. This can be easily perceived as a personal interest since in this situation presidents can do anything in order to gain power. Many politicians may and had had put their personal interests before their countries. Consequently, the country's legislation starts to change in a way that president can take advantage of, the judiciary becomes manipulated and it loses its' independence, most importantly people cannot speak up against the government and they lose their freedom. This is probably the most common reason of corruption. It keeps happening in every century and the one who is in power always manipulate people and gain supporters. This way they maintain and even strengthen their position; it becomes harder for civilians to bring him down.

Second reason is a group of situations since they all have connections to each other. Problems are listed as:

- Low levels of government decentralization
- Low levels of democracy
- Weak civil participation
- Low political transparency
- Higher levels of bureaucracy
- Inefficient administrative structures

These problems are sometimes perceived as “results of corruption” but in reality, they are the causes. For instance, if a government is not properly chosen and centralized, all the ones who want to be in power start to corrupt everything. They bribe or buy votes which is an illegal act. Or if the level of democracy is at a really low rate, it becomes way more easy to corrupt the management system or judiciary and even constitution. Most of these actions are not realized by the civilians according to the lack of transparency and these actions cannot be stopped on time.

Third reason again contains more than one problem. These problems are mostly integrated with society and social life. These problems are listed as:

- Low press freedom
- Large ethnic divisions and high levels of in-group favoritism
- Gender inequality
- Low levels of education
- Low Internet access



These problems concern the civilians other than the politicians. These all five problems only affect the civilians and their daily life. In a situation of low levels of education, it can not be expected people to work and improve the country's economy. Lack of freedom of press and speech is the neglect of a true human right and in a country where incidents happen like this, it is more possible for that country to be corrupted.

Last but not least reason is about the economy. These problems are the reasons why the country is corrupted economically and why the economy collapsed. The reasons are listed as:

- Low degree of integration in the world economy
- Low economic freedom
- Poverty
- Resource Wealth

The economy is the column of a country; without it, nothing can be possible. Neither the growth of the country nor foreign affairs are possible. All these problems are not the direct reasons, but they have a huge effect on corruption. Perhaps, if the country is rich with a

supply, it is likely to lose its' freedom economically. After losing its' freedom the first blow will be corruption. Without a column, a building cannot stay strong so long; so, without an economy, a country has no choice other than collapsing with its' people.

## **G. Actions that Have Been Taken**

For centuries actions in order to end corruption have been taken. Nevertheless, most of them cannot be essential or reachable. Some of them can be clarified as Anti-Corruption Program of UNDP (the United Nations Development Program), Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of OECD (the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) and more. Some of the clauses of these of these acts and plans are listed as:

- Countries are obligated to take anti-corruption measures in public and private sectors. These include establishing anti-corruption bodies and enhancing transparency in political financing.
- Latin American and Caribbean countries have taken measures to ensure public services are subject to safeguards that promote transparency, efficiency and merit-based recruitment.
- Public servants are subject to codes of conduct, financial disclosures and disciplinary measures. Transparency and accountability in public finance have promoted, and specific anti-corruption requirements, especially in the judiciary and in public procurement, have established. Countries have promoted the involvement of civil society, raised awareness of corruption and promoted practices aimed at preventing corruption.
- At the international level, the activity of the OAS, the OECD and the United Nations in anti-corruption have helped create a common language, prevention tools and mechanisms to disseminate and combat corruption and to lay the groundwork for some anti-corruption cooperation platforms.

The development projects with anti-corruption components are mainly focused on the institutional strengthening, and their anti-corruption components are mainly focused on the public entities transparency, a higher participation by the civil society and in a lesser extent, the prevention of corruption-based practices and more control.

Fifteen projects are anti-corruption based, being implemented in 11 eleven countries, and 83% of resources are focused on Nicaragua, Colombia, Peru, Guatemala and Uruguay.

## H. Organizations

### 1. Transparency International

Transparency International is an international non-governmental organization which is based in Berlin, Germany, and was founded in 1993. It is a global civil society organization and its main goal is to combat



global corruption and prevent criminal acts caused by corruption. The organization defines corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain which eventually hurts everyone who depends on the integrity of people in a position of authority. Since 1995, Transparency International has published an annual Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI). It also publishes a Global Corruption Report, a Global Corruption Barometer, and a Bribe Payers Index.

### 2. The International Anti-Corruption Conference



The International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) is a series of international conferences organized by the IACC Council, in association with local governments and organizations, with Transparency International as its secretariat. The conference was first held in 1983 in Washington D.C. and has since been held every two years in a different country. The 17th IACC was held in Panama City

in December 2016. IACC has developed a number of global initiatives that run independently of the conference, such as Young Journalist Initiative, Social Entrepreneurs for Transparency, Journalists 4 Transparency, anti-corruption film festival, and the Fair Play music Anti-corruption competition.

### 3. The United Nations Convention Against Corruption

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. The convention's far-reaching approach and the mandatory character of many of its provisions make it a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem.

The vast majority of United Nations member states are

parties to the Convention. The text of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption was negotiated during seven sessions of the Ad-Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of the Convention against Corruption, held between 21 January 2002 and 1 October 2003. The Convention covers many different forms of corruption, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, and various acts of corruption in the private sector.



#### 4. Global Organization Against Corruption



The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) is an independent international institution, which is based in Canada, made up of democratically elected officials from across the world, working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law. There are also National chapters in fifty-two countries, grouped into six continental regions: Africa; Latin America; North America; Oceania; South Asia; and Southeast Asia. Every two years, GOPAC summons a Global Conference to act as an international focus for parliamentarians from across the world to set the international agenda, and to collaborate in fighting political corruption. The 2013 Global Conference was held in Manila, Philippines.

#### 5. The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project



The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) is an investigative reporting platform formed by 40 non-profit investigative centers, scores of journalists and several major regional news organizations around the globe. The network of OCCRP is spread across Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. OCCRP teamed up in 2006 to do transnational investigative reporting and promote technology-based approaches to exposing organized crime and corruption worldwide. Since 2009 its' reporting has led to:

- 84 criminal investigations and government inquiries launched as a result of its stories.
- 81 calls for action by civil, public or international bodies.
- 20 major sackings, including a President, Prime Minister and CEOs of major international corporations.
- Over 1,400 company closures, indictments and court decisions.

### III. Conclusion

Corruption; the biggest torment that the world has faced for many years. It has vanished countless nations that were glorious at the past. Today it continues to wrack the countries from inside. It keeps dilapidating the economies of the countries and life standards of the civilians. Corruption reduces investments in health, education, infrastructure, security, housing, among other essential rights, expending social exclusion and inequality. Besides all these social issues it causes enormous political instabilities. For instance, single party regimes which stand for their own interests.

From the beginning of time, all the institutions and the governments are trying to solve the corruption problem. Nevertheless the complex was never exterminated completely. Some of the countries could minimize some of the difficulties that they face but at the same time, some of the countries who are in need could not step forward, they even stepped way back.

In epitome, corruption complicates every possible system that a country could have. It poisons the foundation of the country and it takes many years for the country to purge itself. It is not easy to reach every single corner that struggles but it is not impossible. Once you move a single step forward, the rest of it will follow.

#### IV. Questions to be Addressed

- How can we strengthen the border controls to reduce drug trafficking?
- How can we make the public aware of the corrupted acts made by their government?
- How can we reduce the embezzlement of the public funds?
- How can the governments prevent the over-migration caused by political divergences?
- How can we prevent the actions against freedom of expression such as unjust imprisonment of journalists?
- How can we encourage governments to maintain political reconciliations between US and their own benefits?
- How can we uncover and prevent the bribery-related crimes?
- How can we intercept the unfair and biased decisions made by corrupted judges?
- How can we ensure the permanency of the anti-corruption acts?

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