


Media Against C!RRUPTION!N



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A black and white portrait of Christophe Deloire, a man with glasses and a beard, looking slightly to the left. The image is partially obscured by text and a blue bar.

**“ NONE OF THE MAIN
ISSUES WHICH HUMANITY
IS FACING WILL BE
RESOLVED WITHOUT
ACCES TO INFORMATION.**

Christophe Deloire

Reporters Without Borders, Secretary General

 **TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL**
the global coalition against corruption

Photo: OZAN KOSE / AFP



ROOTS OF CORRUPTION



- **Grounded in:**
- ***Social and cultural history***
- ***Political and economic development***
- ***Bureaucratic traditions and policies***



CORRUPTION



- **Flourish** when **institutions** *weak* and **economic policies** *distort marketplace*
- Distort **economic** and **social development**
- Engendering **wrong choices**
- Encouraging competition in **bribery** rather than in **quality** and **price** of goods and services



ANTI-CORRUPTION



- **Reduce:**
- ***Monopoly power*** (e.g. by ***market-oriented reforms***)
- ***Discretionary power*** (e.g. by ***administrative reforms***)
- **Enhance accountability** (e.g., through watchdog agencies)



ANTI-CORRUPTION



- System of **checks and balances**
- Manage **conflicts of interest** in public sector
- **Comprehensive** view of reform



ANTI-CORRUPTION



- **Government** processes (*leadership codes, organizational change*)
- **Civil society participation** (*democratic process, private sector, media*)



ANTI-CORRUPTION



- **Complementary** schema
- Focusing on **knowledge** and **data** as **prerequisite**
- Successful anti-corruption programs (**AC**) dependent on knowledge and information (**KI**) plus leadership (**LE**) plus collective action (**AC**)
- **(AC) = (KI) + (LE) + (AC)**



MEDIA



- **Force against corruption**
- **Tangible and intangible**



TANGIBLE

- Readily **identifiable**
- **Visible outcome** attributed to particular news story or series of stories



TANGIBLE



- *Launching of **investigation** by authorities*
- ***Scrapping** of law or policy*
- ***Impeachment** or **forced resignation** of crooked politician*



TANGIBLE

- *Firing of **official***
- *Launching of **judicial proceedings***
- *Issuing of **public recommendations** by watch-dog body*



INTANGIBLE



- Broader **social climate** of enhanced **political pluralism**
- Enlivened **public debate**
- Heightened sense of **accountability** among politicians, public bodies and institutions
- By-product of **hard-hitting, independent** news media



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- Most **spectacular** when **corrupt** bureaucrats or public office-holders **impeached, prosecuted** or **forced to resign** after misdeeds exposed to public light



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- **Less spectacular but equally important ways**
- **Public bodies launch formal investigations** into allegations of corruption
- Disseminate findings of public **anti-corruption bodies**
- Reinforcing **legitimacy**
- **Reducing ease** with which interested parties who hold power meddle



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- Expose **flaws** and **corruption** within various bodies of the state
- Resulting public pressure lead to **reform**
- Long-term effectiveness and potential to act as **counterweight** against corruption strengthened



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- Arouse **ire** of public
- Hard-hitting journalism expose **flaws** in policy, laws or regulation
- Create **pressure** for reform



PRIVATE VERSUS PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF MEDIA

- **Privatization** of state-owned news media seen as mean of strengthening **autonomy**
- **Privatization** may not always produce desired results
- Small entrenched business elite **close ties** to power-holders
- Publicly owned media sometimes **aggressively** assert independence



ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAMME

- *Critical element effective media*
- **Dual** role:
 1. *Raise **public awareness** about **causes, consequences** and **remedies***
 2. ***Investigate and report** incidences of corruption aiding other **oversight** (and **prosecutorial**) bodies*



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- Depend on **access to information** and **freedom of expression**
- **Professional** and **ethical cadre of investigative journalists**



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- *Private versus public* **ownership**
- Improved **protection** of journalists



EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIA



- Tangible and intangible ways in which journalism serve as **impediment** to corruption
- **Strengthened** to enhance role in **curbing corruption**

**“ FIGHTING CORRUPTION IS
NOT AN END IN ITSELF.
BUT A FIGHT FOR SOCIAL
JUSTICE, PEACE AND
SECURITY**

Huguette Labelle,
Chair of the IACC council.



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