



Anti-Corruption Focus

May 2013

Transparency International UK's
Quarterly Newsletter

www.transparency.org.uk



Latest News

You can keep up to date with the latest corruption news by visiting the TI-UK Newsroom: www.transparency.org.uk/newsroom

or by signing up for TI's [Daily Corruption News](#)



David Cameron announces support for corporate transparency

The Prime Minister has voiced support for accurate information on who ultimately runs, owns, and profits from a company to be made public, making it harder to hide stolen money. [Read more...](#)



Money Laundering – Are BVI leaks a game changer?

The recent leaks of information about who actually owns the companies registered in the British Virgin Islands offer a first glimpse for many people into this very murky world. [Read more...](#)



New efforts to kill off the Bribery Act

Is there an assault being mounted to undermine the Bribery Act – before it has had a chance to take effect? [Read more...](#)



Asset disclosure

It has been striking how far and how quickly France has moved towards asset disclosure by government ministers in recent weeks. What should the UK be doing on this? [Read more...](#)



Fake bomb detectors deliver the latest casualties of corruption

A British 'businessman' was found guilty of fraud for selling millions of pounds worth of utterly useless bomb detectors to governments around the world, including a major contract in Iraq. [Read more...](#)

Top Ten Stories

Transparency International UK's selection of 10 interesting articles or reports about corruption published during the past quarter.

The Financial Times | [Bribery Laws are Designed to Stop Abuse of Power](#)

Reuters | [TI-UK to take anti-graft battle to City of London](#)

The Independent | [Russia orders tax police to raid foreign charities and human rights watchdogs](#)

Guardian | [Leaks reveal secrets of the rich who hide cash offshore](#)

Telegraph | [100 people arrested for hacking and corruption](#)

BBC News | [Is Russian crime arriving on UK shores?](#)

The Independent | [Secret veto on fraud inquiries](#)

The Financial Times | [Arrests put Finmeccanica strategy at risk](#)

Telegraph | [MI6 'handing bundles of cash to Hamid Karzai'](#)

Guardian | [Anti-bribery expert resigns in frustration at lack of FIFA progress](#)

G8 – Tax & Transparency

This year the UK Government assumed presidency of the G8 and has prioritised three focus areas – trade, tax, and transparency. We have been feeding TI-UK's key advocacy positions to the Cabinet Office in the run up to the June summit, [setting out three areas](#) in which we feel the UK should take action - money laundering, tax havens, and transparency in the extractive industries.

Progress has already been made – the Government recently announced that British Overseas Territories with significant financial centres [have signed up](#) to the Government's strategy on global tax transparency. The Government has also committed to review the UK's position on signing up to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

We also continue to work with a group of civil society organisations as part of the Government's Open Government Partnership process, working to ensure that anti-corruption remains a priority for the UK.

Money Laundering & company transparency

David Cameron has called on fellow governments to "break through the walls of corporate secrecy" by making companies' beneficial ownership information public. This is welcome news for TI-UK and our colleagues within civil society who have been [advocating](#) for this as part of our efforts to [curb money laundering](#). Accurate information on who ultimately runs, owns, and profits from a company will be made public, making it harder to hide stolen money. More information is available [here](#).

UN Arms Trade Treaty

TI-UK very much welcomes the historic adoption of the UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). It is the result of years of work by concerned countries, its diplomats and TI-UK's partners in civil society—particularly the [Control Arms](#) coalition. It is also the result of TI-UK's own work with governments, institutional investors and the defence industry towards a robust ATT fortified by strong anti-corruption measures. Alongside its partners in the Control Arms coalition, TI-UK is calling on states to see the treaty as a starting point to set new international standards.

[Three sections in the ATT](#) will help states to address the corruption risks at the various stages of an arms transfer. This includes the strictest level of arms export assessment criteria, alongside international humanitarian law and human rights law. Please click [here](#) for more detail on these provisions, which also relate to diversion as well as preventive domestic anti-corruption action and international cooperation.

Millennium Development Goals

Transparency International has published [its recommendations](#) to the United Nations to adopt a goal on governance as part of new global commitments to succeed the Millennium Development Goals, a set of development pledges made in 2000 which will come to an end in 2015.

Ahead of the UN High Level Panel meeting on 15 May, TI-UK has [written to the UK Prime Minister](#), asking him to ensure that anti-corruption and good governance are an integral part of the global agenda post-2015.

News from the TI Movement

The **TI Russia** offices [were inspected by the Russian authorities](#) as the government moved to enforce a series of controversial laws aimed at identifying organisations that receive foreign funding. TI Russia has also received an official warning to register as a foreign agent. Read more [here](#).

TI EU in Brussels celebrated when the European Union [reached a deal](#) to match a US law that requires oil, gas and mining companies to publish payments they make to governments and release information on how much they earn in each country.

TI Kenya [launched](#) the '*I run for integrity – I am the change*' peace campaign, ahead of the March General Election in Kenya.

Recent Publications



Arresting Corruption in the Police (Spanish)

This report, prepared for the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), sets out TI-UK's views on what constitutes good organisational integrity practice and how this could be applied to the police. [Download](#)



Looking Beyond 2015: A Role for Governance

As the world looks beyond 2015, TI calls on the UN and its member governments to establish a governance goal for open, accountable and participatory governance. [Download](#)



Government Defence Anti-Corruption Index – Middle East & North Africa report

This report focuses on the 19 Middle East & North Africa countries assessed in the Government Defence Anti-Corruption Index. All 19 countries in the region are assessed to have a high risk of corruption in the sector. The report shows that the risk of defence corruption in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Syria, and Yemen is at a critical level. [Download](#)



National Integrity System Greece

The unfolding of the Greek debt crisis has left a large number of its citizens on the margins, presenting one of the greatest socio-economic upheavals in the nation's history. It has also precipitated a broader political, financial and social crisis across the EU. The report analyses the framework of institutions and actors that play a key role in the prevention of corruption. [Download](#)

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in the fight against corruption. To keep abreast of TI-UK's perspective on developments through our news releases, blog posts and publications, please visit our website www.transparency.org.uk

Dates for your diary

To attend any of the events below, please register with us at:
events@transparency.org.uk



Corruption in sport: The impact of match-fixing

This event will explore the reality of corruption in sport and what can be done to effectively tackle it. The findings from TI-UK's research into match-fixing in football will also be presented.

Time 18.00 - 20.15

Location Norton Rose, 3 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2AQ

[More info...](#)



Corruption in local government

TI-UK will be publishing a paper on corruption in local government in autumn 2013. This event will feature a presentation of the main findings of the report, and facilitate discussion and debate on the issue.

Time 18.00 - 20.15

Location Norton Rose, 3 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2AQ

[More info...](#)



Citizens against corruption

Pierre Landell-Mills, author of *Citizens against Corruption: Reports from the Front Line*, will be speaking about the importance of grassroots engagement, and sharing stories of how groups of courageous and dedicated citizens across the globe are taking direct action to root out corruption.

Time 18.45 - 20.15

Location FTI Consulting, Holborn Gate, 26
Southampton Buildings, London, WC2A 1PB

[More info...](#)

External events:

C5 7th Annual Forum on Anti-Corruption (London) 25 - 26 June 2013 [More info...](#)

Support TI-UK

If you would like to become a member or supporter, or renew your existing membership, please contact Kate Zechner at kate.zechner@transparency.org.uk or on 020 7922 7906, or go online at <http://www.transparency.org.uk/get-involved/join-us>

Thank you for your support!