



Preventing corruption

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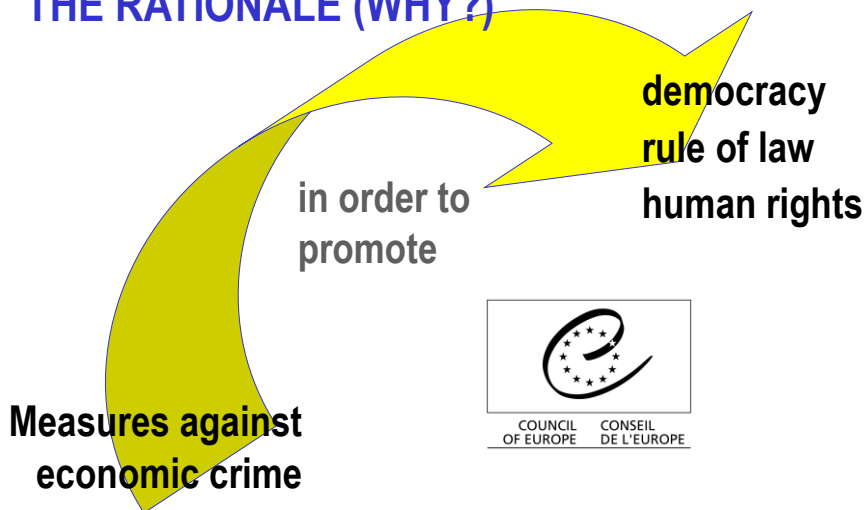
Corruption and ethics in local government

Regional workshop, Albena/Bulgaria, 13 - 15 October 2005

1



Strategy against economic crime
THE RATIONALE (WHY?)



2

2

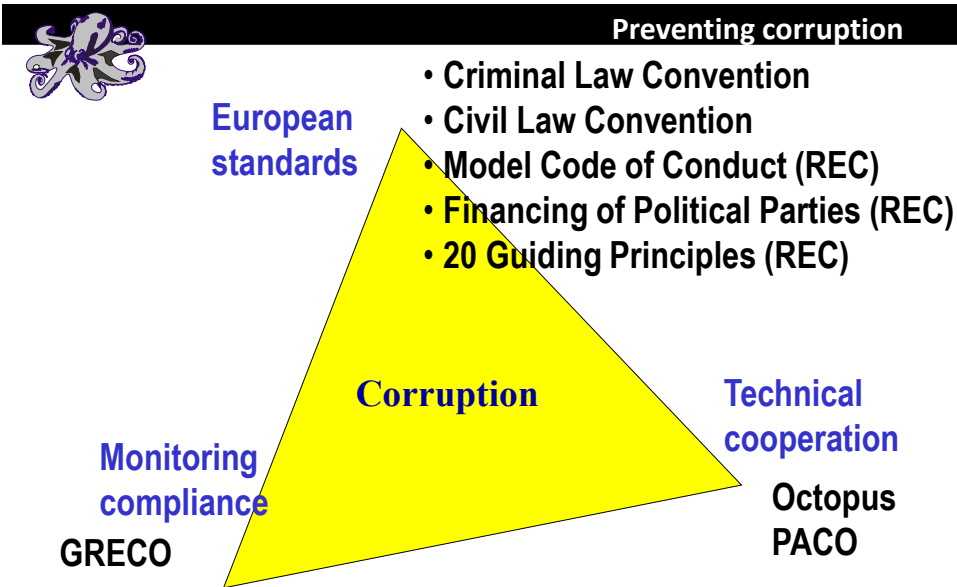
The STRATEGY of the Council of Europe (HOW?)



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3



Problem: Focus on national level and international cooperation; less on local government

4



National anti-corruption strategies

- + Political commitment
- + Criminal legislation and enforcement
- + Prevention
- + Public support

- + Body in charge of coordination, management, monitoring of the strategy

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5

5

National anti-corruption strategies/examples



- Bulgaria [adopted in 2001]
- Romania [NAS II adopted in March 2005]
- Georgia [adopted in June 2005]
- Moldova [adopted in December 2004]
- Albania [strategies updated annually since 2000; last update March 2005]
- “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” [adopted June 2003]
- Montenegro (Serbia and Montenegro) [strategy on corruption and organised crime, adopted July 2005]
- Serbia (Serbia and Montenegro, draft July 2005)
- Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro, draft July 2005)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina [draft strategy on crime and corruption]
- Armenia [adopted in 2003]
- Azerbaijan [State programme adopted in 2004]

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6

6




The prevention of corruption ...

- From general to specific measures
 - Wide range of institutions
 - Problem: Prevention is everything and nothing
- = Need to define “prevention” more clearly

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7

				
General objective:	To prevent corrupt behaviour and corruption-related offences			
Types of prevention:	Prevention A: Integrity and cooperation	Prevention B: Transparency and accountability	Prevention C: Risks and opportunities	Prevention D: Control
Specific objectives:	To promote integrity and cooperation against corruption within society as a whole	To strengthen transparency and accountability within public administration, the business sector and civil society institutions which could be vulnerable to corruption	To reduce risks and opportunities for corruption within institutions and procedures which are vulnerable to corruption	To control compliance with rules, in particular within institutions and procedures highly vulnerable to corruption
Continuum				
From: General measures Awareness Society as a whole	→			To: Specific measures Control Highly vulnerable institutions

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8

8

Institutions and functions particularly vulnerable are those which involve:

- Direct contact with citizens or the private sector
- Management of public funds
- Public procurement
- Licenses and permissions
- Decisions on fees, fines, taxes or other financial demands
- Approval of grants, subsidies and other benefits
- Management and use of internal and confidential information

= Local bodies/authorities particularly at risk



9



Steps towards a coherent approach to prevention:

1. Codes of conduct (“the corruption prevention charter”)
2. Risk analyses (supervisory accountability)
3. Internal control mechanisms (supervisory accountability)
4. Focal points (corruption commissioners)
5. Identification of specific measures
6. Training
7. Preparation and implementation of prevention plans



Examples of prevention measures in national anti-corruption strategies

- Facilitation of procedures for licences and permits (Albania, Armenia)
- Transparency in public procurement (Armenia)
- Access to information and transparency in public administration (Azerbaijan, Bulgaria)
- Codes of conduct (BiH, Montenegro, Serbia and others)
- Information system for customs (Bulgaria)
- Risk analyses (Moldova)
- Declaration of assets (Georgia, Maced. and others)
- Transparency in privatisation process (Georgia and others)
- Transparency in political finances (Moldova and others)
- Conflicts of interest (Romania and others)
- Prevention within local self-government (Maced.)



National anti-corruption strategies and local authorities:

- How to ensure involvement of local authorities in the preparation, implementation, monitoring of national plans?
- Representation of local authorities in coordinating/monitoring bodies?
- What specific activities in national plans regarding local authorities?
- Which “tools” are available and can work effectively?
- Control of corruption versus local democracy: what are the risks?