



IRRESISTIBLE? A symposium on the phenomenon of CORRUPTION

Berlin, 16 – 18 June 2017

Corruption is a highly complex social phenomenon that defies clear definition. In the long term, corruption in all its various forms (nepotism, patronage etc.) is certain to negatively affect modernization and transformation processes and to produce inequality. Corruption is present in various qualities and quantities around the world – in Eastern European countries it is part of everyday life, both in the public and private sector. Although it affects many areas of life, and despite it being culturally conditioned, corruption is often reduced to its economic and political dimensions. Analysis of the phenomena of corruption therefore often excludes questions such as where the historical roots of corruption lie, what social framework conditions enable corruption, and what shapes, structures and patterns corruption is currently taking in politics and society. How are the oligarchy and corruption linked in Ukraine, for example? How does state corruption operate in different countries and how are (civil) societies responding to this? What is the role of traditional and digital media in the so-called fight against corruption? And what forms of artistic reception, narratives and narrative strategies have arisen as a result?

The project IRRESISTIBLE? intends to fill these gaps. It takes a multi-perspective view of corruption, focusing not only on political and economic aspects, but also on social, cultural, historical, religious, artistic, philosophical, civic and journalism-related dimensions. The project consists of two modules. One is an international symposium organised by the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) on 16 – 18 June 2017 in Berlin. The symposium introduces the topic and offers the opportunity to engage with experts from corruption research and the fight against corruption. The symposium is also an educational platform and means of exchange for young target groups and multipliers from Eastern partnership countries and Europe.

The second module consists of cultural productions supported by the Goethe Institute Ukraine, which will be presented in autumn 2017 in the Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. These will reflect on the phenomenon of corruption in an urban context whilst at the same time integrating local and universal markers, narratives and concepts. Artists, theatre professionals, curators and performers are searching for alternatives to corruption, taking their quest beyond simplification and stereotypical perceptions. Productions include an exhibition of Ukrainian, Moldovan and German artists, a documentary theatre project that takes a satirical look at the current cultural scene in Ukraine, and a film package consisting of six German and international film productions. Selected elements of the cultural programme will be presented at the Berlin symposium.

Building on an exchange between disciplines and actors, IRRESISTIBLE? sensitises a broad range of target groups to the phenomenon of corruption in the countries of the Eastern partnership and Germany. It communicates the phenomenon of corruption through interdisciplinary approaches and formats that are being created in collaboration between different actors. The artistic approaches in public spaces and in different regions link various positions, making them and their respective interconnections and contexts legible to a broad audience. IRRESISTIBLE? highlights the global dimensions of corruption and points to the multiple interdependencies between a range of actors from the political, economic and cultural sphere and civil society.

IRRESISTIBLE? is a cooperation project of the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) and the Goethe-Institut Ukraine, supported by the Federal Foreign Office.

Programme

**FRIDAY,
16 June 2017
9.00 – 17.30** **Pre-Conference (participation optional)**
**Moderation: Nina Schillings (Federal Agency for Civic Education) and
Kateryna Stetsevych (Curator)**

Please note: The working language at the Pre-Conference is English and all workshops will be held in English.

9.00 – 9.30 **Welcome**

9.30 – 16.00 **Workshops**

Workshop 1: Hack. Corruption Idea Garage

All-day workshop, including coffee and lunch breaks

The aim of the Idea Garage is to encourage participants to propose and validate new ideas that would address corruption and engage the public in preventing and reporting corruption. The workshop is intended for everybody who is willing to tackle corruption regardless of their background. With the help of mentors you will discuss main points of the field, brainstorm possible (technological) solutions and present the concepts that will play an essential role in building a corruption-free society. Garage48 is a non-profit organisation based in Estonia but working in more than 20 countries. Garage48 is a hackathon, a playground of new ideas, extreme startup schooling and next-level networking event.

Moderation: *Kai Isand* (Head of Garage48 Foundation), *Joao Rei* (Garage48 mentor, Digital Strategist at IDEA Group), *Liis Narusk* (Head of Garage48 Elevate)



Workshop 2: Shift. Shape. Mobilize. 2017.

Tackling Corruption. Blogger-Workshop

All-day workshop, including coffee and lunch breaks

The *Shift. Shape. Mobilize.* workshop focuses on two main topics: How do you investigate anti-corruption in your country? And how do you secure your communication and work in an inherently dodgy field, for example when in contact with sensitive sources? The internet enables bloggers to use resources and opportunities for their own investigations and provides them with platforms to publish any non-transparent activities they uncover. With the power of social networks their message finds an audience - sometimes within minutes or hours. The internet provides people with the ability to connect across borders, and every single person can become a sender of information, as the old mechanisms of gatekeeping have become obsolete. We aim to connect blogging-experienced people from different European countries, provide a platform for networking and exchange, discuss examples of successful anti-corruption movements and investigations and share methods for securing one's own work. For your participation you should have experience in blogging or have a strong interest in using blogs and social media to inform on and investigate corruption.

Moderation: *Christian-Zolst Varga* (n-ost) and *Attila Bátorfy* (data journalist, research fellow at Central European University's CMDS)



9.30 – 12.30 **Parallel workshops**
including coffee break

Workshop 3: Civil Society as an Actor in the Anti-Corruption Fight



A strong civil society is believed to be an integral part of any successful fight against corruption. This workshop aims to provide a forum for discussion and exchange on the role of civil society / civic engagement in anti-corruption. What role is civil society able to play in shaping democratic and transformational processes and how can the impact of non-governmental organisations in anti-corruption be increased? What is being done and can further be done in terms of civic education and anti-corruption education to tackle these issues? How can participation in decision-making processes and community engagement be further encouraged, and how can democratic values (human rights, rule of law, good governance, transparency etc.) be promoted? What proven to be good practice in NGO anti-corruption projects/ programmes/ campaigns?

Elena Panfilova (Transparency International Russia)

Chiara Putaturo (Project Officer Transparency International Italy)

Andrii Borovyk (Transparency International Ukraine)

Moderation: *Valentina Rigamonti* (Regional Manager Transparency International)

Workshop 4: Corruption and the European Union



The discussion on the phenomenon of corruption within the European Union and its member states is a very complex one. Not only in dealing with very diverse notions, experiences and historical perspectives on corruption but also with respect to very current issues like the influence of lobbyism on European politics. The network Young European Professionals (YEP) sheds light on some of the most pertinent discussions and invites you to contribute!

Moderation: *Marie Bornickel* and *Vincent Schreiber* (Young European Professionals)

Workshop 5: The Global View: Corruption and Development



The German multiplier network teamGLOBAL consists of enthusiastic youngsters who work on various topics related to globalisation, such as climate change, migration, and global trade flows. Since 2004, the core activity of this peer-to-peer network has been participatory short-term workshops on these topics in schools and at youth events in Germany. The workshop will offer participants the opportunity to be part of a simulation game to experience and discuss the effects of impenetrability, opacity, and nepotism.

Moderation: *Tamás Herbst* and *Paul König* (teamGLOBAL)

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch break

13.30 – 16.00

Parallel workshops
including coffee break

Workshop 6: How to Measure Corruption with Data Journalism



After an introduction to data journalism, participants will create a database of corruption cases from their respective countries. In the second part of the workshop, the databases will be analysed and graphical representations will be created. Visualisations of numerous data help to better understand complex phenomena such as corruption.

Moderation: *Lucy Chambers* and *Anne-Lise Bouyer* (journalism++)



Workshop 7: 'How to become corrupt'

How do I earn 25,000 euros per hour? How do I get luxury trips for free? Over the last few years, Germany and Austria have produced internationally recognised experts in the field of bribery, nepotism, and embezzlement, enabling us to study the various forms of corruption and their clean execution, from finding the right friends to getting the perfect deal. In this interactive tongue in cheek seminar, you will be shown a step by step approach to finding your own personal path to success. Moderation: *Roland Spitzlinger* (innovation policy consultant, author) und *Julia Draxler* (author)

Workshop 8: DIGIWHIST (EU Horizon 2020 Project):

Making Public Tenders More Transparent:

How big data can be used in the fight against corruption



Some governments have led the way in the commitment to increasing transparency in public contracting and have actively taken steps to increase the amount and quality of information in the public domain. This potential to use this information to improve the efficiency of public spending, but also to hold government to account is immense. Only with widespread public engagement can this new wave of openness and big data reach its full potential. DIGIWHIST created national procurement portals for 34 countries. The goal of this workshop is to introduce the large amounts of public procurement data unlocked by DIGIWHIST and jointly explore the ways in which it can be used in the fight against corruption.

Moderation: *Aram Khaghaghordyan* (Hertie School of Governance)

16.30 – 17.30

Summary

**FRIDAY,
16 June 2017**

Official Opening of the symposium *IRRESISTIBLE?*

Moderation: *Constanze Abratzky* (TV journalist and moderator)

Simultaneous translation German / English

18.00

Registration

18.30 – 20.30

Opening

Welcome

Thomas Krüger (President, Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany)

Johannes Ebert (Secretary General, Goethe-Institut, Germany)

Keynote

Peter Eigen (Founder of Transparency International and HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform, Germany)

International corruption as a challenge for democracies

The current situation of democratic systems can be characterised as fragile. The loss of confidence in a democratic order, challenged by populism, propaganda and authoritarianism, is one of the reasons for this fragility. Structures of globalised corruption also contribute to the destabilisation of modern societies. Nevertheless, in many countries 'grassroot' movements are fighting corruption at an institutional as well as non-governmental level. What is the current situation of different governmental, institutional or private players within the fight against corruption?

Which strategies are most effective and have a positive impact on governments and societies? How can civil-society-actors contribute to these strategies?

Dialogue

between *Peter Eigen* (Founder of Transparency International, HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform, Germany) and *Constantin Schreiber* (Journalist and Moderator, ARD, Germany)

20.30 – 22.30

Reception

Music: *B&B Project* (Ukraine)

SATURDAY, 17 June 2017

9.15 – 9.30

Introduction to the day

9.30 – 11.00

Panel I

Corruption - less than clearly defined? Theories of corruption and their applicability

How does corruption arise? How does it work as a system of order, and what factors facilitate corrupt action? What theoretical interpretations are being used to explain the phenomenon as historically and culturally contingent? What (normative) criteria form the core of the various definitions? What is the relationship between corruption and power/ the political system, and corruption and civil society/ democracy?

Andreas Bågenholm (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Jens Ivo Engels (Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany)

Davide Torsello (Central European University, Hungary)

Moderation: *Florian Kühner-Wielach* (IKGS, Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, Germany)

11.00 – 11.30

Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00

Parallel panels

Panel II

(Fighting) state corruption: Actors, forms, methods

State corruption, oligarchy, nepotism or patronage have been and continue to be one of the most important reasons for protest in Ukraine, Moldova, Russia, Romania or Georgia. What is the present status of corruption prevention and the fight against corruption in these countries? Who are the actors of the reform process? How are reforms being implemented? What methods are used, especially in the fight against corrupt oligarchies? How successful has the fight against corruption been so far? And what is the public perception of, and trust in, state institutions against this background?

Anna Dolidze (President's Parliamentary Secretary, Georgia)

Ioan Amariei (National Anticorruption Directorate, Romania)

Alena Ledeneva (University College London, Great Britain)

Artem Sytnyk (National Anti-Corruption Bureau, Ukraine)

Moderation: *Manfred Sapper* (German Association for East European Studies, Germany)

Panel III

Globalised networks and corruption

An increasingly global economy facilitates the emergence of global and transboundary practices of corruption. These in turn demand new forms of fighting corruption. What instruments, strategies and models are currently available to uncover globally corrupt networks? How effective are they in different political and social contexts? What role is being played by the latest technologies?

Serhij Leshchenko (Deputy of the Ukrainian parliament and investigative journalist, Ukraine)

Elena Panfilova (Transparency International, Russia)

Francesco Calderoni (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

Moderation: *Volker Weichsel* (German Association for East European Studies, Germany)

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 15.30

Parallel panels

Panel IV

Corruption and civil society

What is the role of civil society actors in the fight against corruption? What arenas can civil society occupy to minimise inequalities in resource distribution, and what strategies are civil society actors using in this context? What legitimates NGOs in countries with fragile democracies or autocracies, and how effective are they in such countries?

Ryhor Astapenia (Ostrogorski Centre, Belarus)

Vitaliy Shabunin (Anti-Corruption Action Center, Ukraine)

N.N.

Moderation: *Walter Kaufmann* (Heinrich Böll Foundation, Germany)

Panel V

Corruption and media

Investigative journalism is one of the essential pillars in the fight against and the prevention of corruption. How do journalists work in the various countries? What are the impacts and consequences of exposing corrupt practices at the national and regional level?

Aleksandrina Elagina (Russiangate, Russia)

Paul Cristian Radu (Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, Romania)

Natalie Sedletska (Radio Liberty, Ukraine)

Moderation: *Andreas Breitenstein* (New Journal of Zurich, Switzerland)

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee break

16.00 – 19.00

Guided city tours

Tour 1: The political-historical center of Berlin 1

In front of the today's Ministry of Finance we remember the brutal suppression of a demonstration in the German Democratic Republic on 17 June 1953. Only a few years later, the wall was erected behind this building and the city was divided. Next to the remains of the wall are the terrifying Gestapo Headquarters which now commemorate Nazi terror. A different perspective is offered by Gendarmenmarkt, where French religious refugees built their own church and thereby initiated the development of Berlin as an immigration city.

Tour 2: The political-historical center of Berlin 2

Everyone is looking at the new building of the Stadtschloss in the centre of Berlin – but why this is needed has not been clear for a long time. One of several curiosities

and controversies in historical Berlin. We'll be looking at restored Prussian palaces, sites of the Nazi dictatorship and the curiosities at Checkpoint Charlie. You'll see and hear different points of view of the politics of memory in Germany in the historical centre of Berlin.

Tour 3: Kreuzberg - A City of immigrants: From Immigrants to Inhabitants

Immigration has always characterised the history of Berlin. In the most colourful district of Berlin one now finds Turkish, Swabian or Polish Kreuzbergers. Between churches, mosques and synagogues social tensions emerge: holding on to tradition versus assimilation, and supporting a local culture versus hoping for a new "city" culture. Tourists and real estate dealers are causing new disturbances in this multi-cultural district, driving up real estate prices and causing some local residents to be left behind.

19.00 – 21.00
FORUM Factory,
Besselstraße 13,
10969 Berlin

Culture against corruption.

Film, conversation and dinner

In close cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Ukraine



Cultural receptions of political or civic phenomena are able to unfold a subversive aesthetic power. This is also relevant for anti-corruption movements. Which strategies and methods are used by artists to draw attention to the phenomenon of corruption? Which kinds of artistic approaches are there and what are their effects? Which visual codes must be deciphered? Where are the limits of cultural means of expression within the fight against corruption, and where are their special opportunities?

Rael Artel (Tartu Art Museum, Estonia)

Serhij Leshchenko (Investigative journalist and Deputy of the Ukrainian parliament, Ukraine)

Leon Kahane (Artist, Germany)

Kateryna Mishchenko (Publicist, curator, Ukraine)

Moderation: *Katharina Raabe* (Suhrkamp publishing house, Germany)

Screenings:

„Mezhygirya“ (*Volodymyr Tykhyy*)

„Livoberezhna“ (*Oleksiy Radynskiy*)

„Art of Giving“ (*Stanislav Menzelevskiy, Anna Onufrienko, Oleksandr Teliuk*)

SUNDAY, 18 June 2017

09.30 – 11.30

Introduction to the day

Concluding plenary

The fight against corruption and democracy: Opportunities and challenges

What opportunities are presenting themselves in the global fight against corruption? How can social inequalities be reduced, and what anti-corruption projects can act as models for the future?

Thomas Krüger (Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany)

Edda Müller (Transparency International Germany, Germany)

Eka Tkeshelashvili (European Union's Anti-Corruption Initiative in Ukraine, Georgia)

Ilya Yashin (Politician, journalist, Russia)

Moderation: *Constanze Abratzky* (TV journalist and moderator, Germany)

11.30 – 12.30

Open space

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch and close

At a glance:

Date: June 16, 2017, 09.00 until June 18, 2017, 13.30

Pre-Conference Venue: dbb forum berlin, Friedrichstraße 169, 10117 Berlin, Germany

Conference Venue: dbb forum berlin, Friedrichstraße 169, 10117 Berlin, Germany

Evening Event Venue, Saturday 17 June: FORUM Factory, Besselstraße 13, 10969 Berlin

Language Pre-Conference: English

Language Conference: English / German with simultaneous translation

Find all important documents (reimbursement, how to get there) and the access to the online-evaluation of the symposium on our website: www.bpb.de/irresistible

Imprint

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Issued: June 14, 2017

Organised by:



In cooperation with:



Supported by:

