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Θέμα:

«Αιτίες και τρόποι καταπολέμησης της διαφθοράς στην ελληνική οικονομία»

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Abstract

This paper deals with the problem of corruption in the Greek economy. The issue of corruption is important to politicians, citizens and firms. In this specific paper, data is given about the causes and the size of corruption in the EU countries and Greece in particular. The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) and the Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) are presented thoroughly for all the European Union's (EU) members. Comparisons among EU countries are made with the use of the CPI and the GCB in order to specify cultural and legislation differences. Statistical data and graphs about Greek corruption are presented thoroughly and comparisons for years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are made. Finally, cures for corruption are stated and they are divided according to the sector as legislative, institutional and practical measures.

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Introduction

Over the last years theoretical and empirical search has been made about corruption. Corruption is a phenomenon found everywhere but is mostly entrenched in poor countries. Corruption is operationally defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. The cost of corruption is four-fold: political, economic, social, and environmental.

On the political front, corruption constitutes a major obstacle to democracy and the rule of law. In a democratic system, offices and institutions lose their legitimacy when they are misused for private advantage. Though this is harmful in the established democracies, it is even more so in newly emerging ones. Accountable political leadership can not develop in a corrupt climate. Economically, corruption leads to the depletion of national wealth. It is often responsible for the funnelling of scarce public resources to uneconomic high-profile projects, such as dams, power plants, pipelines and refineries, at the expense of less spectacular but fundamental infrastructure projects such as schools, hospitals and roads, or the supply of power and water to rural areas. Furthermore, it hinders the development of fair market structures and distorts competition, thereby deterring investment.

The effect of corruption on the social fabric of society is the most damaging of all. It undermines people's trust in the political system, in its institutions and its leadership. Frustration and general apathy among a disillusioned public result in a weak civil society. That in turn clears the way for despots as well as democratically elected yet unscrupulous leaders to turn national assets into personal wealth. Demanding and paying bribes become the norm. Those unwilling to comply often emigrate, leaving the country drained of its most able and most honest citizens. Environmental degradation is yet another consequence of corrupt systems.

Since 1995 corruption is measured globally with the CPI (Corruption Perception Index). Reliable data for all the EU countries is given after 2001.

What is the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)?

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) measures the perceived level of public-sector corruption in 180 countries and territories around the world. The CPI is a "survey of surveys", based on 13 different expert and business surveys.

The CPI focuses on corruption in the public sector. The surveys used in compiling the CPI ask questions relating to the abuse of public power for private benefit. These include questions on: bribery of public officials, kickbacks in public procurement, embezzlement of public funds, and questions that probe the strength and effectiveness of public sector anti-corruption efforts, thereby covering both the administrative and political aspects of corruption.

It is difficult to assess the overall levels of corruption in different countries based on hard empirical data, e.g. by comparing the amount of bribes or the number of prosecutions or court cases directly related to corruption. In the latter case, for example, such data does not reflect actual levels of corruption; rather it highlights the extent to which prosecutors, courts and the media are effectively investigating and exposing corruption. One reliable method of compiling cross-country data is, therefore, to draw on the experience and perceptions of those who see first hand the realities of corruption in a country.

Countries are chosen for inclusion in the CPI by a minimum of three reliable sources of corruption-related data is required for a country or territory to be included in the CPI. Inclusion in the index is not an indication of the existence of corruption but rather depends solely on the availability of the minimum data requirements.

Today's score in the CPI cannot be compared to those in past CPIs. The index provides a snapshot of the views of business people and country analysts for the current or recent years. Given its methodology, the CPI is not a tool that is suitable for monitoring progress or lack of progress over time. The only reliable way to compare a country's score over time is to go back to individual survey sources, each of which can reflect a change in assessment.

Year-to-year changes in a country's score could result from a changed perception of a country's performance, a change in the ranking provided by original sources or a change in the CPI's methodology.

Apart from the CPI there is also another index which help us understand how citizens conceptualize corruption at their countries which is called Global Corruption Barometer.

The Global Corruption Barometer is a survey that assesses general public attitudes toward, and experience of, corruption in dozens of countries around the world.

CPI in the EU countries

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Finland	9,9	9,7	9,7	9,7	9,6	9,6	9,4	9	8,9	9,2
Denmark	9,5	9,5	9,5	9,5	9,5	9,5	9,4	9,3	9,3	9,3
Sweden	9	9,3	9,3	9,2	9,2	9,2	9,3	9,3	9,2	9,2
Netherlands	8,8	9	8,9	8,7	8,6	8,7	9	8,9	8,9	8,8
Luxembourg	8,7	9	8,7	8,4	8,5	8,6	8,4	8,3	8,2	8,5
United kingdom	8,3	8,7	8,7	8,6	8,6	8,6	8,4	7,7	7,7	7,6
Austria	7,8	7,8	8	8,4	8,7	8,6	8,1	8,1	7,9	7,9
Ireland	7,5	6,9	7,5	7,5	7,4	7,4	7,5	7,7	8	8
Germany	7,4	7,3	7,7	8,2	8,2	8	7,8	7,9	8	7,9
Spain	7	7,1	6,9	7,1	7	6,8	6,7	6,5	6,1	6,1
France	6,7	6,3	6,9	7,1	7,5	7,4	7,3	6,9	6,9	6,8
Belgium	6,6	7,1	7,6	7,5	7,4	7,3	7,1	7,3	7,1	7,1
Portugal	6,3	6,3	6,6	6,3	6,5	6,6	6,5	6,1	5,8	6
Estonia	5,6	5,6	5,5	6	6,4	6,7	6,5	6,6	6,6	6,5
Italy	5,5	5,2	5,3	4,8	5	4,9	5,3	4,8	4,3	3,9
Hungary	5,3	4,9	4,8	4,8	5	5,3	5,3	5,1	5,1	4,7
Slovenia	5,2	6	5,9	6	6,1	6,4	6,6	6,7	6,6	6,4
Lithuania	4,8	4,8	4,7	4,6	4,8	4,8	4,7	4,6	4,9	5
Greece	4,2	4,2	4,3	4,3	4,3	4,4	4,6	4,7	3,8	3,5
Poland	4,1	4	3,6	3,5	3,4	3,7	4,2	4,6	5	5,3
Bulgaria	3,9	4	3,9	4,1	4	4	4,1	3,6	3,8	3,6
Czech republic	3,9	3,7	3,9	4,2	4,3	4,8	5,2	5,2	4,9	4,6
Slovakia	3,7	3,7	3,7	4	4,3	4,7	4,9	5	4,5	4,3
Latvia	3,4	3,7	3,8	4	4,2	4,7	4,8	5	4,5	4,3
Romania	2,8	2,6	2,8	2,9	3	3,1	3,7	3,8	3,8	3,7
Cyprus	-	-	6,1	5,4	5,7	5,6	5,3	6,4	6,6	6,3
Malta	-	-	-	6,8	6,6	6,4	5,8	5,8	5,2	5,6

Definition: The CPI should be interpreted as a ranking of countries with scores ranging from 0 (highly corrupt) to 10 (highly clean).

For 2010, Denmark has the highest score with 9.3 points. Finland and Sweden follow with 9.2 points. The Netherlands score 8.8 points, Luxemburg scores 8.5 points, Ireland scores 8 points, Austria and Germany score 7.9 points, United Kingdom scores 7.6 points, Belgium scores 7.1 points, France scores 6.8 points, Estonia scores 6.5 points, Slovenia scores 6.4 points, Cyprus scores 6.3 points, Spain scores 6.1 points, Portugal scores 6 points, Malta scores 5.6 points, Poland scores 5.3 points and Lithuania reaches the basis of 5 points.

The countries that scored under the basis are the following:

Hungary scores 4.7 points, Czech Republic scores 4.6 points, Slovakia and Latvia scores 4.3 points, Italy scores 3.9 points, Romania scores 3.7 points, Bulgaria scores 3.6 points and last is Greece with 3.5 points.

Global Corruption Barometer (GCB)

Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) is the only worldwide public opinion survey on views and experiences of corruption. As a poll of the general public, it provides an indicator of how corruption is affecting individuals on a national level and how efforts to curb corruption around the world are viewed on the ground.

The Barometer includes a variety of corruption-related questions including which domestic institutions are seen as most corrupt and how respondents rate their government in the fight against corruption. It also provides insight on people's experiences with bribery, gathering information on how frequently citizens were asked to pay bribes when interacting with different public services.

In the past 3 years, how was the level of corruption in your country?

	Decreased %	Same %	Increased %
Finland	7	43	50
Denmark	2	69	29
Sweeden	NA	NA	NA
Netherlands	6	43	51
Luxembourg	13	43	44
United kingdom	3	30	67
Austria	9	45	46
Ireland	10	24	66
Germany	6	24	70
Spain	3	24	73
France	7	28	66
Belgium	NA	NA	NA
Potugal	3	16	83
Estonia	NA	NA	NA
Italy	5	30	65
Hungary	4	20	76
Slovenia	5	22	73
Lithuania	8	29	63
Greece	5	20	75
Poland	26	45	29
Bulgaria	28	42	30
Czech republic	14	42	44
Slovakia	NA	NA	NA
Latvia	9	36	55
Romania	2	11	87
Cyprus	NA	NA	NA
Malta	NA	NA	NA

5% of Greeks believe that the level of corruption has decreased, 75% believe that the level has increased and 20% believe that the level has remained the same.

To what extent do you perceive the following institutions in your country to be affected by corruption? (1 - Not at all corrupted, 5 - extremely corrupted)

	Political parties	Parliament	Police	Business	Media
Finland	3,7	2,9	1,9	3	2,7
Denmark	2,8	2,3	2	2,8	2,6
Sweedn	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Netherlands	3	2,7	2,6	3,1	2,9
Luxembourg	2,9	2,5	2,5	3	2,7
United kingdom	4	3,8	3,1	3,5	3,4
Austria	3,2	2,7	2,6	3,3	2,8
Ireland	4,4	4	3	3,5	3
Germany	3,7	3,1	2,3	3,3	3
Spain	4,4	3,5	3,1	3,5	3,4
France	3,6	3,1	2,7	3,3	3
Belgium	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potugal	4,2	3,7	3,2	3,6	2,8
Estonia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Italy	4,4	4	3	3,7	3,3
Hungary	3,9	3,4	3,2	3,8	3,1
Slovenia	4,3	3,7	3,2	3,7	3,1
Lithuania	4,2	4,2	3,7	3,5	2,9
Greece	4,6	4,3	3,7	3,6	4,3
Poland	3,6	3,4	3,2	3,5	2,8
Bulgaria	4,1	3,9	3,8	3,7	2,9
Czech republic	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Slovakia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Latvia	4	3,7	3,3	3	2,5
Romania	4,5	4,5	3,9	3,6	3,1
Cyprus	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Malta	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Cont'd

	Public officials	Judiciary	NGO	Religious bodies	Military	Education
Finland	2,7	2	2,5	2,7	2	2,2
Denmark	2,5	1,6	2,2	2,3	2,2	2
Sweedden	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Netherlands	3	2,6	2,5	2,9	2,5	2,3
Luxembourg	2,7	2,5	2,3	2,7	2,3	2,3
United kingdom	3,4	2,8	2,9	3	2,5	2,5
Austria	2,8	2,5	2,3	2,7	2,5	2,3
Ireland	3,3	2,7	2,5	3,9	2,3	2,5
Germany	3,2	2,4	2,6	2,9	2,6	2,3
Spain	3,5	3,4	2,8	3,5	2,7	2,6
France	3	2,8	2,4	2,5	2,2	2,1
Belgium	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potugal	3,25	3,4	2,6	2,6	2,6	2,5
Estonia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Italy	3,7	3,4	2,7	3,4	2,8	2,9
Hungary	3,2	2,9	2,4	2,2	2,8	2,5
Slovenia	3,6	3,5	2,7	3,2	2,8	2,9
Lithuania	3,8	4	2,6	2,5	2,4	3
Greece	4	3,9	2,8	3,5	2,9	3,2
Poland	3,4	3,3	2,6	2,7	2,4	2,6
Bulgaria	3,9	4,3	2,8	2,7	2,5	3,2
Czech republic	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Slovakia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Latvia	3,6	3,2	2,1	1,8	2,3	2,6
Romania	3,8	4	2,9	2,3	2,4	3,1
Cyprus	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Malta	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Greeks believe that the most corrupted institutions are:

Political parties with 4.6 points, Parliament and the Media with 4.3 points, Public officials with 4 points, Judiciary with 3.9 points, Police with 3.7 points, Business with 3.6 points, Religious bodies with 3.5 points, Education with 3.2 points Military with 2.9 points and NGOs with 2.8 points.

How would you assess your current government's action in the fight against corruption?

	Ineffective %	Neither %	Effective %
Finland	65	0	35
Denmark	44	0	56
Sweedeen	NA	NA	NA
Netherlands	43	0	57
Luxembourg	30	2	68
United kingdom	66	0	34
Austria	34	37	28
Ireland	82	0	18
Germany	76	3	21
Spain	74	0	26
France	68	5	27
Belgium	NA	NA	NA
Potugal	75	16	10
Estonia	NA	NA	NA
Italy	34	17	19
Hungary	51	7	42
Slovenia	78	0	22
Lithuania	78	16	6
Greece	66	10	24
Poland	57	27	16
Bulgaria	26	26	48
Czech republic	NA	NA	NA
Slovakia	NA	NA	NA
Latvia	73	15	11
Romania	83	10	7
Cyprus	NA	NA	NA
Malta	NA	NA	NA

66% of Greeks consider the current government's action in the fight against corruption as ineffective, 24% as effective and 10% as neutral.

Global Corruption

Corruption is a phenomenon found everywhere and yet very little is known for sure about what causes corruption to be higher in one place than another. It is noticed that corruption is mostly entrenched in poor and less developed countries.

Development

Economic development is correlated with corruption. Higher economic development reduces corruption (Treinsman 2000, Mauro 1995). On the other hand, corruption reduces domestic and foreign investments, encourages overspending in government and in extension, reduces the economic growth rate and the country's development. Usually, less developed countries are characterised as overregulated and unmotivating bureaucracy holds in public administration.

According to the CPI ratings Latin America and Eastern Europe are more corrupt than Western Europe and North America.

Culture and Regions

Some theorists argue that corruption is a phenomenon which exists in countries according to their history and culture. For example, at Asia in general, there has always been a tradition of corruption. At Russia, especially after the Cold War, the level of corruption is extremely high. At Greece, democracy came before the industrial revolution and clientel relationships between citizens and deputies were created and became a part of the country's culture.

Examination of the CPI ratings confirms that Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East are all perceived to be more corrupt than Western and North Europe and North America.

Countries that were British colonies have lower corruption and this might reflect the fact that they have common legal systems which has created a 'legal culture'.

Political systems

Inefficient political systems cause corruption. Politically instable countries can't serve the citizen's needs because of the continuous changes at the public sector and the governance in general. Countries that had been democracies continuously since 1950 tended to be perceived as less corrupt (Treinsman 2000). The level of corruption on democratic countries differs according to the level of poverty, the stability of each time governments, the media's independency and mostly how many years has a country been democratic. According to Treinsman, what really matters is whether or not a country has been democratic for decades.

European Union

Northern countries of the European Union (E.U) are at the top of the CPI's index list. These countries live in wealth and prosperity, citizens are well educated and good governance obtains. On the other hand, southern countries face the problem of corruption widely. The main causes are bad governance, lack of transparency, bad incentives, huge public debt, high unemployment rate and inadequate law systems. Three countries will be represented thoroughly and comparisons among them will be made: Sweden, Slovenia and Greece.

Sweden

As a northern European country, Sweden is typically regarded as having a low level of corruption. From an international perspective this may well be the case, but nonetheless corruption can be found. Since 2001, Sweden is at the top-3 less corrupted countries of the European Union according to CPI index.

Presenting a brief description of the legal situation in Sweden, which has a population of 9 million, we see both the prosecution service and the police are state concerns. This means that the local authorities have no responsibility for either. Sweden's legal system is not based on common law so that investigations and legal hearings differ to some extent from Balcanian countries. There are three levels in the criminal court system - district courts, appeal courts and the Supreme Court. Sweden has no Courts of Cassation or Constitutional Courts. International comparisons would probably indicate that the ways in which criminal cases are investigated in Sweden are rarely subject to special legal review. As a result, it is rare to hear arguments in court about how evidence has been obtained or whether certain evidence is admissible or not.

Bribery or corruption of a private or public official is either classified as a crime of the normal degree or an aggravated offence. The penalty for bribery of the normal degree is up to two years in prison, and up to six years for an aggravated crime. The wording of the statutes distinguishes between totally private corruption on the one hand, i.e. when only private entities are concerned, and corruption in which state or local authority interests are to some extent involved on the other. In practice, the difference is mainly that in the private area a complaint is required from the company affected by the corruption of one or more of its employees before a prosecutor can bring charges. A prosecutor may also initiate proceedings in the private sphere if it is felt necessary for the public good. This means that from the point of view of the community at large there must be good grounds for prosecution even though the crime stems from totally private business dealings. However, no such appraisal is required if state or local authority interests are involved and here prosecution is always initiated provided that there is sufficient evidence.

Another sector is jurisdiction. In somewhat simple terms it can be said that if a crime is committed either completely or in part in Sweden, it is always possible to prosecute in a Swedish court. But it is also the case that if a Swedish citizen has committed a crime abroad, he can be charged in Sweden. The implication of the latter is that there are fairly extensive possibilities of prosecuting someone for crimes committed in other countries. The argument here is that it must not be possible to avoid punishment merely because a crime was committed in some other part of the world. Investigations of crimes committed abroad are always conducted in collaboration with the authorities in the countries concerned.

Slovenia

Slovenia is one of the newly established countries in Central Europe. Corruption was one of the country's major problems until 2000. The anti-corruption measures were failing or weren't efficient enough. These measures were mainly focused in traditional ways, such as use of police, prosecution and judiciary.

In December 2001, Slovenia adopted a national anti-corruption strategy and the office for prevention of corruption was established. Its main tasks were preparation of the key regulation on prevention of corruption and preparation of the national anti-corruption strategy. The strategy was concerning all the areas of public administration, judiciary, police and the private sector too.

Slovenia took effective measures for the corrupted sectors and the main parameters of its anti-corruption strategy was guided from the corresponding anti-corruption strategies of the northern countries.

Slovenia managed to diminish bureaucracy and create an efficient law system. The law system became more efficient. The country's progress is shown at the CPI index. At 2001 the country's CPI was equal to 5.2 while at 2010 is equal to 6.4.

Greece The CPI

Greece's CPI for the last ten years is:

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Greece	4,2	4,2	4,3	4,3	4,3	4,4	4,6	4,7	3,8	3,5

As we may notice, Greece was stable with a small but steady increase from 2001 (4.2 points) to 2008 (4.7 points) but still below 5 points which is the basis that sorts out developing and developed countries. Greece has the lowest CPI for 2010 (3.5 points) among European countries. Bulgaria (3.6 points), Romania (3.7 points) and Turkey (4.4 points) surpass Greece.

Global Corruption Barometer (GCB)

According to the GCB for Greece, 5 % of the Greek citizens believe that in the last 3 years corruption has decreased while 75 % believe that it has increased and 20 % believe that it remained the same.

Furthermore, citizens asked: "To what extend do you perceive the following institutions in your country to be affected by corruption?" (1 - not at all corrupted, 5 - extremely corrupted) responded:

Most affected institutions are the political parties with 4.6 points. Second in the row, is the parliament with media scoring 4.3 points. Third are the public officials with 4 points. Fourth is the judiciary with 3.9 points. Fifth is police with 3.7 points. Sixth is business with 3.6 points. Seventh are the religious bodies with 3.5 points. Eighth, education with 3.2 points and last, military with 2.9 points.

Citizens were also asked: "How would you assess your current government's action in the fight against corruption?"

66 % believe that government's action in the fight against corruption is ineffective, 24 % believe that it is effective while 10 % believe that it is neither effective nor ineffective.

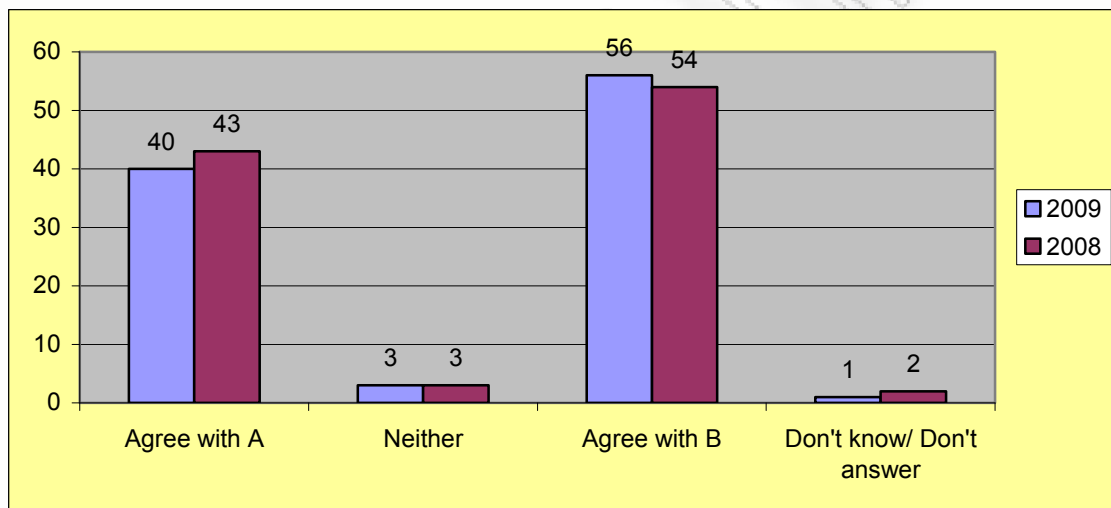
More detailed data:

With which opinion do you agree?

A) Greece is a country where corruption will always incur.

B) Greece is a country that can fight corruption.

	Agree with A	Neither	Agree with B	Don't know/ Don't answer
2009	40	3	56	1
2008	43	3	54	2

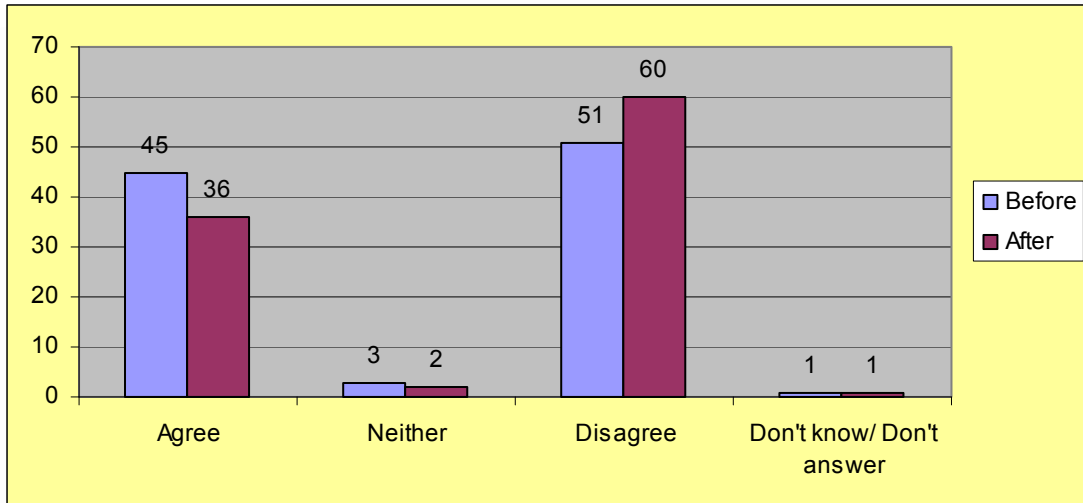


At 2009, 40% believed that Greece is a country where corruption will always incur, 56% believed that Greece is a country that can fight corruption and 3% believed neither of the above occurs.

At 2008, 43% believe that Greece is a country where corruption will always incur, 54% believe that Greece is a country that can fight corruption and 3% believe neither of the above occurs.

The same question was asked before and after Greek elections.

	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don't know/ Don't answer
Before	45	3	51	1
After	36	2	60	1

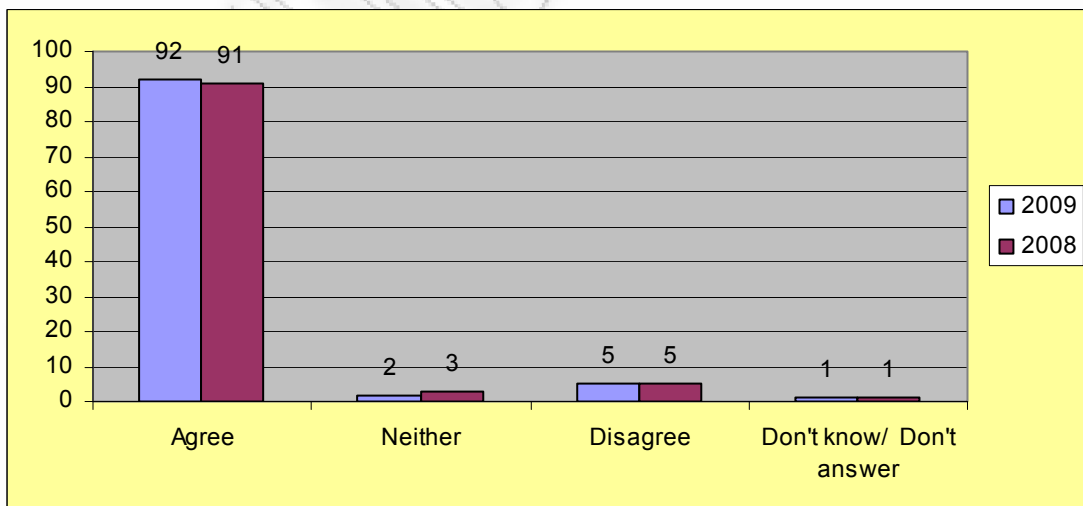


Before the elections, 45% believed that Greece is a country where corruption will always incur, 51% believed that Greece is a country that can fight corruption and 3% believed neither of the above occurs.

After the elections, 36% believed that Greece is a country where corruption will always incur, 60% believed that Greece is a country that can fight corruption and 2% believe neither of the above occurs.

Do you agree or disagree with the opinion that there is a huge problem with corruption in Greece?

	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don't know/ Don't answer
2009	92	2	5	1
2008	91	3	5	1



At 2009, 92% believed that there is a huge problem with corruption in Greece, 5% believed that corruption is not a huge problem in Greece and 2% believed something in the middle.

At 2008, 91% believed that there is a huge problem with corruption in Greece, 5% believed that corruption is not a huge problem in Greece and 3% believed something in the middle.

Causes of Corruption

Corruption in Greece is notoriously rife at all levels of government. State and local officials go unchecked, ministers elected to Parliament enjoy immunity from prosecution while in office, and a lower administrative court can overturn decisions rendered by the Supreme Court. There are countless loopholes and no accountability. Corruption is detected in all state bodies and all levels of the political and social system.

Public sector and Politics

Legal system

Presenting a brief description of the legal system in Greece, we realise that prosecution service and police are not autonomic. The Government decides the placement of both Chief of Greek police and head of the country's Supreme Court, Areios Pagos. Both of these places are judged every year.

Corruption can be caused when a country's law system has gaps or is too complex. The Greek law system and the Greek penal code in specific, appear to contain conflicting laws which creates gaps and/or complexity. Under these circumstances, individuals who have excessive control and a sort of monopoly of power take advantage of the existing situation for private gain. Furthermore, it is noticed that every case that goes to court needs six years on average for judgment. However, the limitation of some actions is five years, so the court is obligated to acquit the accused for the specific accusations. Most of the cases concerning corrupted actions that proceed to court, lead to acquittal. Verdict is made at the advantage of the group of persons who dominates political control. As a result, citizens rights are disdained and public resources are often plundered for the personal gain of the public officials.

There are two levels of courts: the lower administrative court and the Supreme Court. Supreme Court can overturn the decisions of the lower administrative court. However, the accused individual can't get a higher sentence at the Supreme Court for the same charges.

Bribery of a private or a public official is classified according to the occasion and the penalty according to the penal code is from three months to ten years in prison. Furthermore, public officials get suspended from their office. The suspension can't last more than one year. Every ministry has its own councils that determine for the official's punishment. The council can punish the official from a fine to dismissal. If an official is dismissed and, however, the Supreme Court verdict that the official is not guilty, then the office must reemploy the official and pay back his wages from the day he was suspended.

Deputies elected to Parliament enjoy immunity from prosecution while in office. If a deputy is accused for illegal actions then the brief goes to the parliament. The parliament decides whether the case will go to court and under which charges. Rarely these kinds of cases go to court.

Bribery in Greece is considered to be a misdemeanour and not a criminal offense, since February 2008. However, this measure also says that only bribes over 73,000 € would be punishable. Thus, paying and accepting bribes less than 73,000 € is an illegal action which usually leads to a fine and probably a sentence with suspension.

There is also legislation according to which political parties are funded from the Budget every year. In Greece all political parties have taken this fund in advance for the next five years. This fund is approved by a commission which is composed by deputies.

Deputies are obliged to present a means test every year which gives emphasis on which are their belongings and not how they acquired them.

Every region does not elect the same number of deputies. As an example, Attica elects more than forty deputies while Samos elects only one.

There is no observance of the ethical principles and violators enjoy some kind of immunity because it is prohibited to publish their names.

Lack of transparency

Transparency is defined as the free access by citizens to public information. Every transparent government gives availability to the public, to access rules, procedures and objectives of the government. Lack of transparency is usually ascertained in countries where free press and democracy does not exist or in countries where press is manipulated and democracy is theoretical. When there is lack of transparency, power may be abused in favour of the corrupt official only.

Although there are many laws in Greece that obligate public offices for transparency, the law is violated. According to the law, every public office must answer to citizen's requests as soon as possible within a limit of thirty days. Usually, the answers to these requests are incomplete or out of date.

Bad incentives

Bad incentives, such as public servants earning low wages or not having job security might encourage corrupt behaviour. Clerks that are not well paid usually can't satisfy their family needs and they know very well that they will not be able to satisfy these needs in the future. It is much easier to bribe an underpaid clerk. Moreover, clerks that do not have job security face the exact same difficulties. They might lose their jobs at an uncertain time and this makes them corruptible.

In Greece, clerks are not well paid. The average wages are 1232 € for public servants and 947 € for clerks of the private sector while the average rents for an apartment is close to 550 €.

Political instability

Political instable countries are usually governed by governments that are not set up and managed properly. This occurs because governments must modify their governance in order to serve the citizen's needs. Many changes take affect at the public sector and usually principles change. As a result, services aren't and can't be responsive to citizens. Under these circumstances, services providers take advantage of the inconvenient governance and demand bribes for either legal (to theoretically hasten procedures) or illegal services.

In Greece, political instability occurred the last two years and mostly at the year 2009. Before the elections, the ex-government was accused for corruption. After the elections, the government changed and many gaps were created because of delays at the placement of new principals at the public sector. Furthermore, at the end of 2009 Greece obligated to enter the Support Mechanism of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This decision was difficult and generated political instability until today.

High taxes rates

Greece is a country with high taxes rates. Citizens notice that some government laws are illegitimate. Therefore, citizens disregard the law and tax evade. The law system has many gaps as far as tax evasion is concerned. In order to avoid the consequences of their illegal actions, they bribe tax collectors who are, usually, clerks with bad incentives.

Furthermore, the tax law is extremely complicated. It is consisted with 570 pages while in other European countries, tax laws do not get over 30 pages.

Public expenses

A huge amount of money is given in expenses called “confidential expenses”. Rural police paid for these expenses 100,000 € and by September 2007 they were spent 77 million € in secret funds from the Ministry of Public Order. There is no accounting of these funds and there is lack of checking these expenses.

Ministers promising to root out corruption cannot realistically deliver. They face opposition not only from fellow ministers, but also special interest committees, a bevy of tax dodgers and rich and powerful voters who elected them in the first place.

Education

The education system in Greece has many gaps. Every university has asylum and public officials are not allowed to enter universities without the permission of the government, the prosecutor and the doyen at the same time. Asylum creates obstacles for the checking of its intervals by public officials.

Moreover, students take advantage of the complex system and capture the university in order to pretend to their rights.

These are the main reasons that the Greek education system depreciates day by day.

Public administration

The main problems/causes of corruption in the public administration are the following:

- Public officials' acts are not systematically observed by another public service. Public officials enjoy discretionary rights and this creates a feeling of labour certainty and apathy at the same time.
- Public officials are trained at the beginning of their career and further training during their tenure is extremely rare.

- The existing hierarchic system defines that a public official gets promoted according to how many years he is in office. No other qualifications are taken into account.
- The legislation for corrupted public officials' acts defines the penalties for every specific act. It is noticed that public officials are not punished hard. For example, public official who was accused for malversation of 120.000 € was punished with a fine of 3.000 €. The example itself doesn't baffles corrupted acts.
- A code of ethics exists but it is not observed.
- In general, there is no regulation which will oblige all administrative authorities to periodically assess the corruption risk of an authority and the posts therein or appropriate preventive measures of formalised internal supervisory procedures.
- There is deficient regulation on the organization and transparency is not ensured.
- The councils are considered to be biased from superiors. Generally, decision making is not formulated on objective criteria and causes imbalances.
- Individuals who want to report corruptive actions face bureaucracy and they are not protected from the state when this is needed (e.g. in cases where a lot of money is malversated).
- In general, citizens face bureaucracy in all of their dealings with public services.
- It is usually noticed a delayed respond in citizens' applications and many responds are incomplete.
- The Greek transparency organization (Transparency International Greece) exists but does not have an institutional role as it should. There is no cooperation between the Transparency International Greece and the Greek Government.
- President of the Transparency International Greece is an ex-deputy and ex-minister which should be avoided.

Judicial bodies and law enforcement in specific

The main problems/causes of corruption at the judicial bodies and law enforcement are the following:

- Many regulations prevent and prohibit corruptive conduct but most of them are not abided. The problem is detected in all the bodies involved in investigation, prosecution and the judicial bodies. The independence of these bodies because both the Chief of Greek police and head of the country's Supreme Court, Areios Pagos are placed by the Greek Government. This situation creates relationships of dependance and in some cases creates manipulation.
- Policemen and judges have bad incentives which make them susceptible to potential illegal acts.
- The penal code is antiquated and there are many articles which conflict each other. This means that the penal code can be interpreted in many ways which creates imbalances to the magisterial decisions.

- The pre-trial process is ineffective in many cases because it is dealt as a process than should be done quickly and not as the main process of a case which would lead to a fair magisterial decision.
- Punishment for corruption is quite mild. Bribery of a private or a public official is classified according to the occasion and the penalty according to the penal code is from three months to ten years in prison but most of the magisterial decisions concerning corruption are not strict enough to prevent others from corrupted acts.
- Witnesses who report corruption are supposed to be protected by the police but because of lack of personnel, this does not occur.
- The Internal Affairs of the Greek police are internal only in the title. The specific unit is supposed to check for corrupted policemen but because of lack of any other service, the Internal Affairs of the Greek police is responsible for any kind of corruption at the public sector. The lack of personnel along with the width of the purviews makes this unit inefficient.
- In general, there is lack of specialised training of police officers, public prosecutors and judges in the areas of corruption, fraud, tax evasion, money laundering, and illegal practice in accountancy.

Private sector

The public and private sectors are inseparably linked in all societies. This means that corrupt conduct can take place within the private sector itself. In Greece corruption at the private sector is common (case of Siemens, etc).

The main problems are:

- There is insufficient regulation for the deals among public services and individuals. Contract works worth over a certain amount (10.000 €) must be approved by the ministry's council and there should be at least two offers for the specific work. This does not occur. For example, if a contract work worth 45.000 € is separated in five sections in order to avoid the approval of the ministry's council.
- There is lack of regulation for enterprises' tax evasion and for their financial obligations towards the state (IKA, OAEI etc)
- In general, there is lack of sufficient and efficient regulation and auditing services.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)

The main problems are:

- Non-governmental organizations are supposed to assist for the prevention of corruption. Civil society in Greece is very poorly organised in relation to anti-corruption efforts and there are no active NGOs in Greece apart from Transparency International Greece which does not have an efficient cooperation with the Government.
- The Government offers financial assistance to NGOs without any kind of standard and objective criteria.

- Furthermore, there is no supervision over the use of the financial assistance.
- There are no transparent procedures in the handling of NGO funds.
- The existing NGOs do not apply pressure on known unethical cases or corrupt conduct in society. This occurs because of the financial dependence among the NGOs and the Government.
- NGOs do not inform citizens about corruption and all its components.
- In general, NGOs seem to exist mostly for the financial assistance and less for the assignment they were created.

Media

Media is the sector which shapes public opinion and plays one of the most important roles in preventing and combatting corruption. Unfortunately, media in Greece seem to be biased and manipulated.

The basic reasons are:

- The public channels (ERT, NET and ERT-3) change their staff according to the elected Government. The new Government places a new board of directors, newscasters and journalists and moves on internal displacements.
- Furthermore, the whole programme changes and new broadcasts take place with new broadcasters. This creates a relationship of dependence among the Government and the members of these public channels.
- The same relationship of dependence occurs for the private channels and newspapers too. The main revenue of the private media is advertisement. Ministers are authorised to decide in which media they would delegate the advertising of public services and the huge amount of money comprehended. There is no transparency on which criteria are used for this kind of delegations.
- The journalists' union (ΕΣΗΕΑ) seems to be deficient and can't fully protect cases of violations of journalists' independence.
- Journalists on average have bad incentives.

General Public

The efforts of all state and non-governmental institutions in preventing corruption will be unsuccessful, if the majority of the population is not involved in some manner in those efforts. Unfortunately, Greeks are not well informed about corruption and its components.

This occurs because:

- There is a total absence of campaigns aiming to the presentation of the causes and consequences of corruption.
- There is no encouragement on reporting a corrupted action.
- An apathy way of thinking exists in many citizens because of the inefficient dealing of corruption.

Statistical data

Greek citizens were asked some questions in order to create an ideological approval scale of corrupted acts.

“Do you consider the following acts as corrupted?”

Statistics show that:

	2009			
	Yes	It depends	No	Don't know/ Don't answer
Give money to pass the driving licence examinations	97	0	3	0
Give money to an Internal Revenue Service's clerk to arrange our debt	96	0	3	1
Give money to a Town Planning's clerk to arrange our building licence	96	0	3	1
Give money to a policeman in order to arrange our tickets	95	1	4	0
Give money to private centres for vehicle technical checking	94	1	5	0
Use illegitimately ways for employment	88	1	10	1
Give more money to a doctor for better treatment	84	3	13	0
Use illegitimately ways for transfer in military	80	2	17	1

Most of Greeks consider the above acts as corrupted but there is also a big percentage that consider these acts as usual (17 % - use illegitimately ways for transfer in military, 13 % - give more money to a doctor for better treatment, 10 % -use illegitimately ways for employment).

The same question was asked at 2008.

	2008			
	Yes	It depends	No	Don't know/ Don't answer
Give money to pass the driving licence examinations	96	0	3	1
Give money to an Internal Revenue Service's clerk to arrange our debt	95	0	4	1
Give money to a Town Planning's clerk to arrange our building licence	95	1	3	1
Give money to a policeman in order to arrange our tickets	95	0	4	1
Give money to private centres for vehicle technical checking	93	1	5	1
Use illegitimately ways for employment	85	1	12	1
Give more money to a doctor for better treatment	80	4	15	1
Use illegitimately ways for transfer in military	79	2	18	1

Most of Greeks also consider the above acts as corrupted but there is also a big percentage that consider these acts as usual (18 % - use illegitimately ways for transfer in military, 15 % - give more money to a doctor for better treatment, 12 % - use illegitimately ways for employment).

These three acts have become natural as time goes by and many citizens consider them as not corrupted.

“Do you agree/disagree with the following opinions?”

2009

	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don'tknow/ Don't answer
Bribe in order to do our business	13	6	81	1
Violate the law when nobody knows about it	7	2	90	1
Don't care about corruption when my personal interests are not offended	6	3	91	1

The same question for 2008:

2008

	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don'tknow/ Don't answer
Bribe in order to do our business	12	6	81	1
Violate the law when nobody knows about it	6	3	90	1
Don't care about corruption when my personal interests are not offended	7	3	89	1

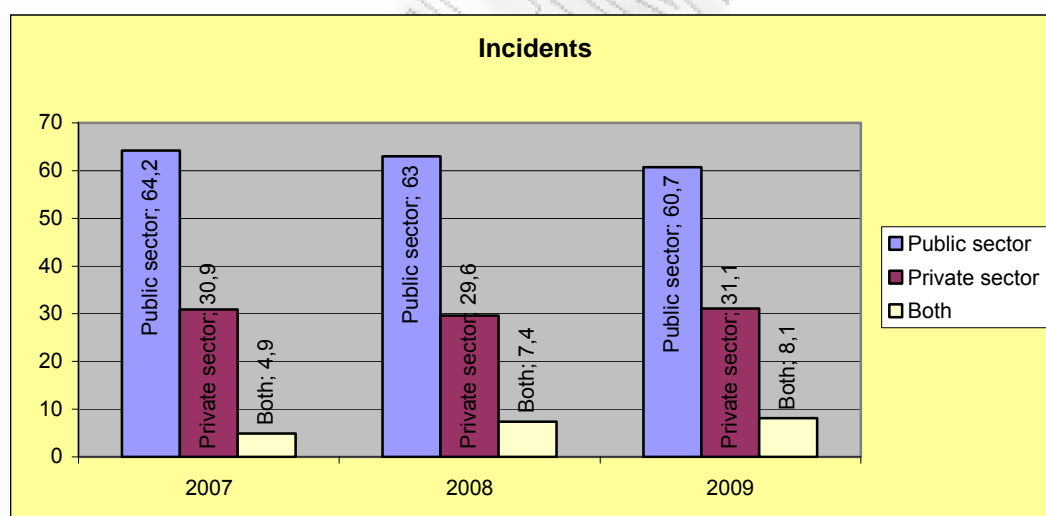
As we notice 19% does not disagree with bribing in order to “do their business” at 2008 and 2009 which is a quite impressive percentage. Furthermore, 10% don't disagree with law violation when nobody knows it at 2008 and 2009.

Asking the above question before and after the elections:

	Before			
	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don't know/ Don't answer
Violate the law when nobody knows about it	9	2	88	1
	After			
	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Don't know/ Don't answer
Violate the law when nobody knows about it	6	2	92	1

At the table following, we may see the number of corrupted incidents occurred at the public sector, the private sector and both public and private sector.

	Incidents %		
	2007	2008	2009
Public sector	64,2	63	60,7
Private sector	30,9	29,6	31,1
Both	4,9	7,4	8,1



At 2007, 64.2% of the corrupted incidents occurred at the public sector, 30.9% occurred at the private sector and 4.9% occurred at both public and private sector.

At 2008, 63% of the corrupted incidents occurred at the public sector, 29.6% occurred at the private sector and 7.4% occurred at both public and private sector.

At 2009, 60.7% of the corrupted incidents occurred at the public sector, 31.1% occurred at the private sector and 8.1% occurred at both public and private sector.

At the table following, we may see the amounts of money that were asked from citizens categorized in sectors at year 2008.

2008		MONEY ASKED		
SECTOR		AVERAGE	FROM	TO
Public sector	Hospitals	869,00 €	50,00 €	6.000,00 €
	Town-planning	2.169,00 €	30,00 €	15.000,00 €
	Internal Revenue Service	2.362,00 €	60,00 €	30.000,00 €
	Ministry of Transportation	222,00 €	20,00 €	1.000,00 €
Private sector	Hospitals	4.543,00 €	60,00 €	80.000,00 €
	Lawyers	811,00 €	50,00 €	4.000,00 €
	Banks	2.282,00 €	56,00 €	8.000,00 €
	Doctors	1.204,00 €	100,00 €	3.000,00 €
	Medical clinics	3.336,00 €	150,00 €	10.000,00 €
	Driving licence schools	272,00 €	200,00 €	500,00 €
	Private centres for vehicle technical checking	48,00 €	20,00 €	100,00 €

Bribery for nursing at a private hospital is most common and the biggest amount of money is paid for this reason (4.543 € on average). Doctors who work at public hospitals are allowed to work at private hospitals too when the circumstances allow this to happen, e.g. the doctor must always give priority to the public hospital's duties. It is noticed that patients who visit public hospitals face 'technical obstacles' and they are usually prompted to visit a private hospital for better treatment and safety and a big amount of money is usually asked when visiting the private hospital.

The health's system gaps along with the high debt of the public funds (IKA, OAAE etc) magnify these 'obstacles' while the services become deficient.

The exact same reasons occur for corruption at private medical clinics (3336 € on average), at public hospitals (869 € on average) and at doctors of the private sector (1204 € on average).

Bribery is also common at the Internal Revenue Service (2.362 € on average). Citizens comprehend that some government laws are illegitimate and in conflation with the clerks' bad incentives lead to corruption. There is variety of bribes from 60 € to 30.000 €. That phenomenon shows that citizens from every social degree can 'manage' their obligations towards the Service.

Finally, corruption at the Ministry of Transportation is everyday occurrence. Drivers bribe from the minute they start driving lessons until they quit driving. Statistics show that bribery at driving license schools is 272 € on average and at the same time bribery at the Ministry of Transportation is 222 € on average. Furthermore, bribery is noticed at the private centres for vehicle technical checking (48 € on average).

This is one of the reasons, plus the bribes given to acquire driving licence as shown at the table above, why Greece is second in the rank of EU countries in fatal car accidents.

2007-2008

Comparing 2007 and 2008 we may see that things went worse according to the table following. The amount of money asked from bribe increased. In particular, the same research from the same company at 2007 showed that Greek citizens paid in average 1313 € to public sector and 1554 € to private sector while at 2008 they were paying in

average 1374€ to public sector and 1575 € to private sector providing an increase of 4.6% at public sector and 1.4% at private sector.

	Money notified for this research		Average amount of money		Change 2007-2008	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	In €	Percentage
Public sector	434.440,00 €	439.542,00 €	1.313,00 €	1.374,00 €	61 €	4,60%
Private sector	333.046,00 €	382.070,00 €	1.554,00 €	1.575,00 €	21 €	1,40%

The CPI index at 2007 was equal to 4.6 while at 2008 was equal to 4.7. There was a small increase which occurred because of new anti-corruption laws which determined higher punishments for corrupted officials.

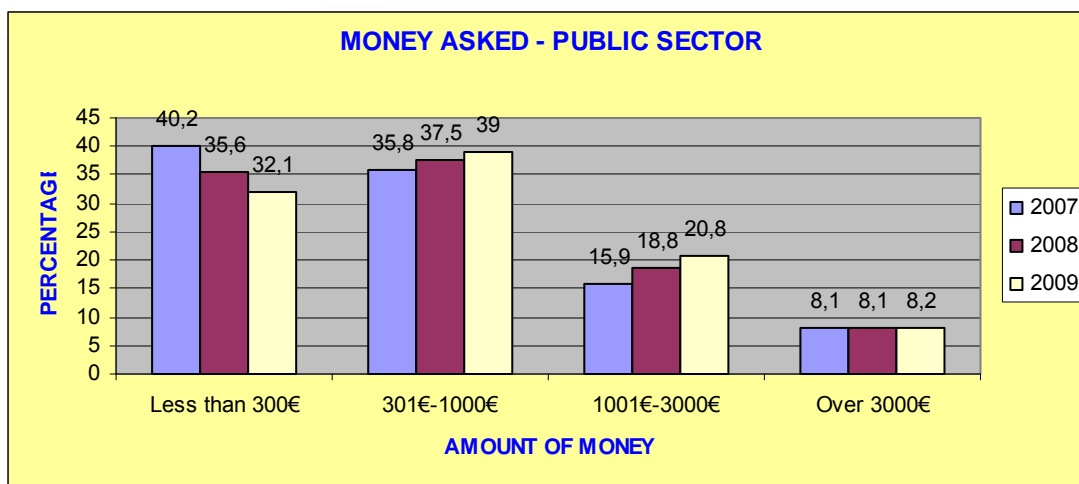
At year 2009, things went even worse. The CPI index was equal to 3.8. There was a huge increase which occurred because the implementation of the anti-corruption failed, mostly because of defective law observance.

At the table following, we may see the amounts of money that were asked from citizens categorized in sectors at year 2009.

SECTOR	2009	MONEY ASKED		
		AVERAGE	FROM	TO
Public sector	Hospitals	1.169,00 €	50,00 €	5.000,00 €
	Town-planning	998,00 €	50,00 €	5.000,00 €
	Internal Revenue Service	1.684,00 €	50,00 €	10.000,00 €
	Ministry of Transportation	457,00 €	20,00 €	1.500,00 €
Private sector	Hospitals	2.159,00 €	100,00 €	10.000,00 €
	Lawyers	1.577,00 €	200,00 €	10.000,00 €
	Banks	5.036,00 €	20,00 €	15.000,00 €
	Doctors	649,00 €	20,00 €	1.000,00 €
	Medical clinics	1.965,00 €	150,00 €	5.000,00 €
	Driving licence schools	303,00 €	160,00 €	500,00 €
	Private centres for vehicle technical checking	100,00 €	30,00 €	150,00 €

Although the average amount of money given for bribes to public sector has decreased, the number of citizens that were asked to give higher bribes increase thoroughly.

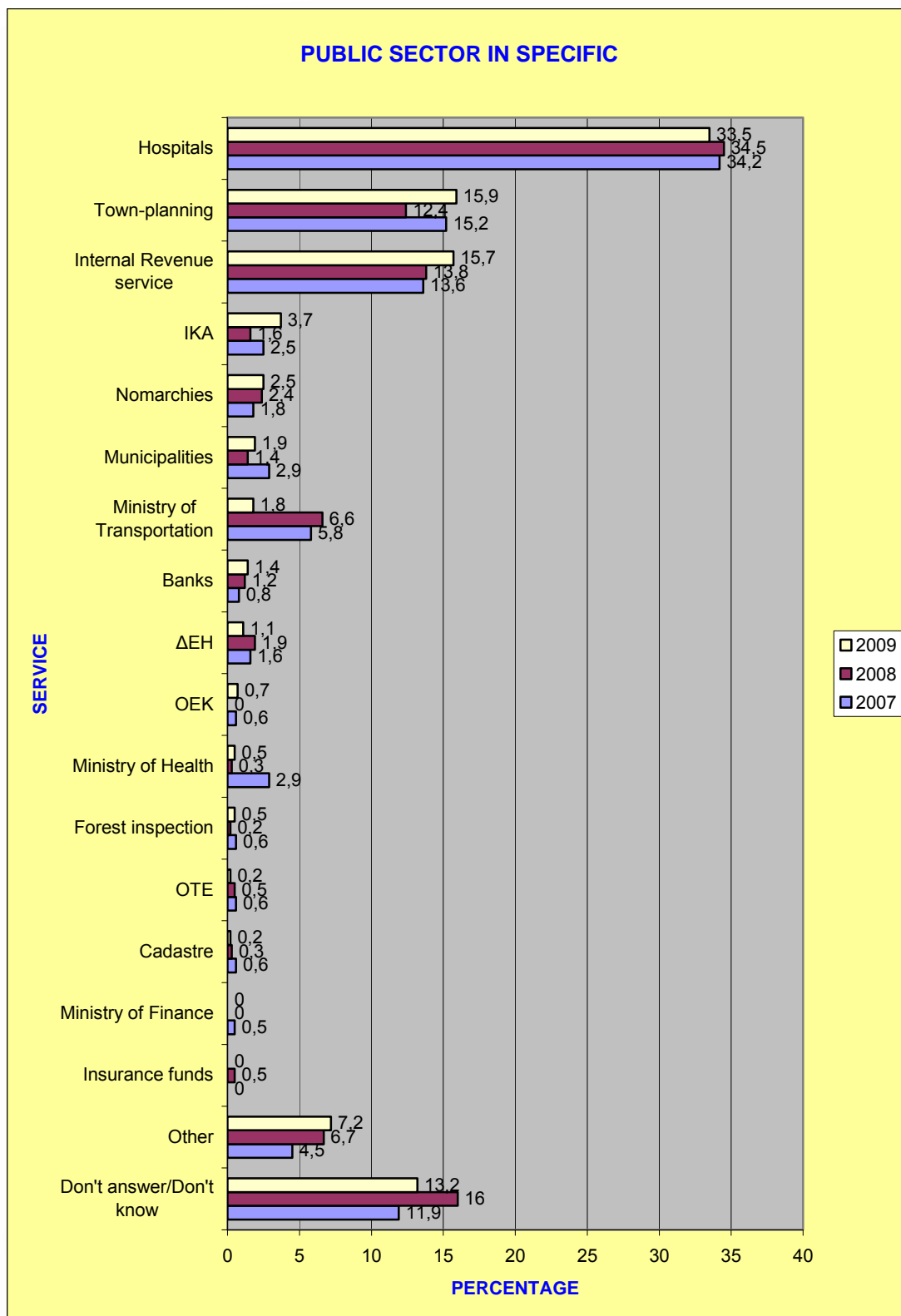
As we notice at the table following, the percentage of citizens who were asked to pay less than 300€ was 40.2% at 2007, 35.6% at 2008 and 32.1% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay 301€-1000€ was 35.8% at 2007, 37.5% at 2008 and 39% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay 1001€-3000€ was 15.9% at 2007, 18.8% at 2008 and 20.8% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay over 3000€ was 8.1% at 2007, 8.1% at 2008 and 8.2% at 2009.



The average amount of money asked from public officials from 2007 to 2009 is represented at the following table:

	2007	2008	2009
Average amount of money	1.313 €	1.374 €	1.355 €

At the following graph, we notice the specific services of the public sector where citizens gave bribes.



Not many differences occurred from 2007 to 2009. Most of Greeks paid bribes at public hospitals (34.2% at 2007, 34.5% at 2008 and 33.5% at 2009). Second service is Town Planning (15.2% at 2007, 12.4% at 2008 and 15.9% at 2009). Third service is the Internal Revenue Service (13.6% at 2007, 13.8% at 2008 and 15.7% at 2009).

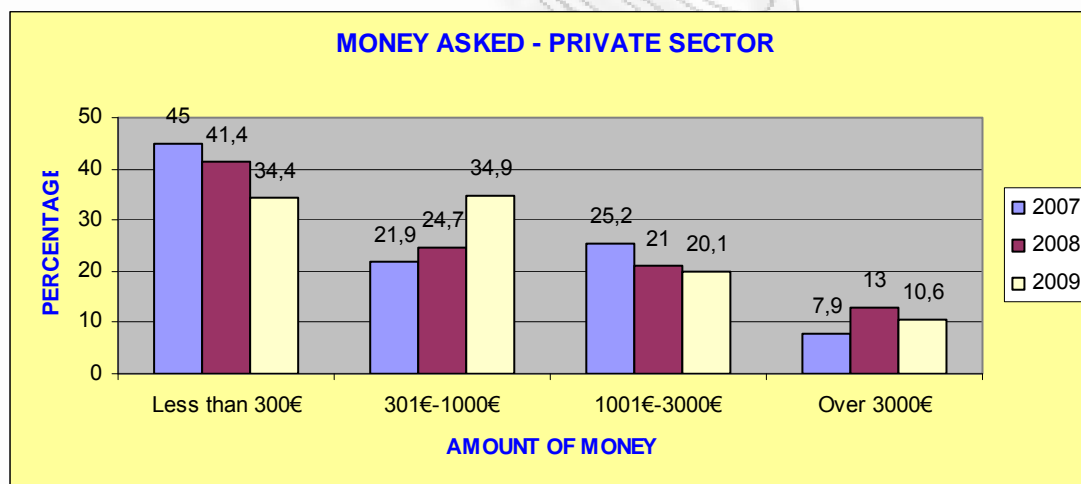
The rest services following with smaller percentages are:

IKA, Nomarchies, Municipalities, Ministry of Transportation, Banks etc.

The same conclusion stands for the private sector too, but the only difference is that the average amount of money paid for bribes at the private sector has increased from 2007 to 2009 as it is represented at the following table:

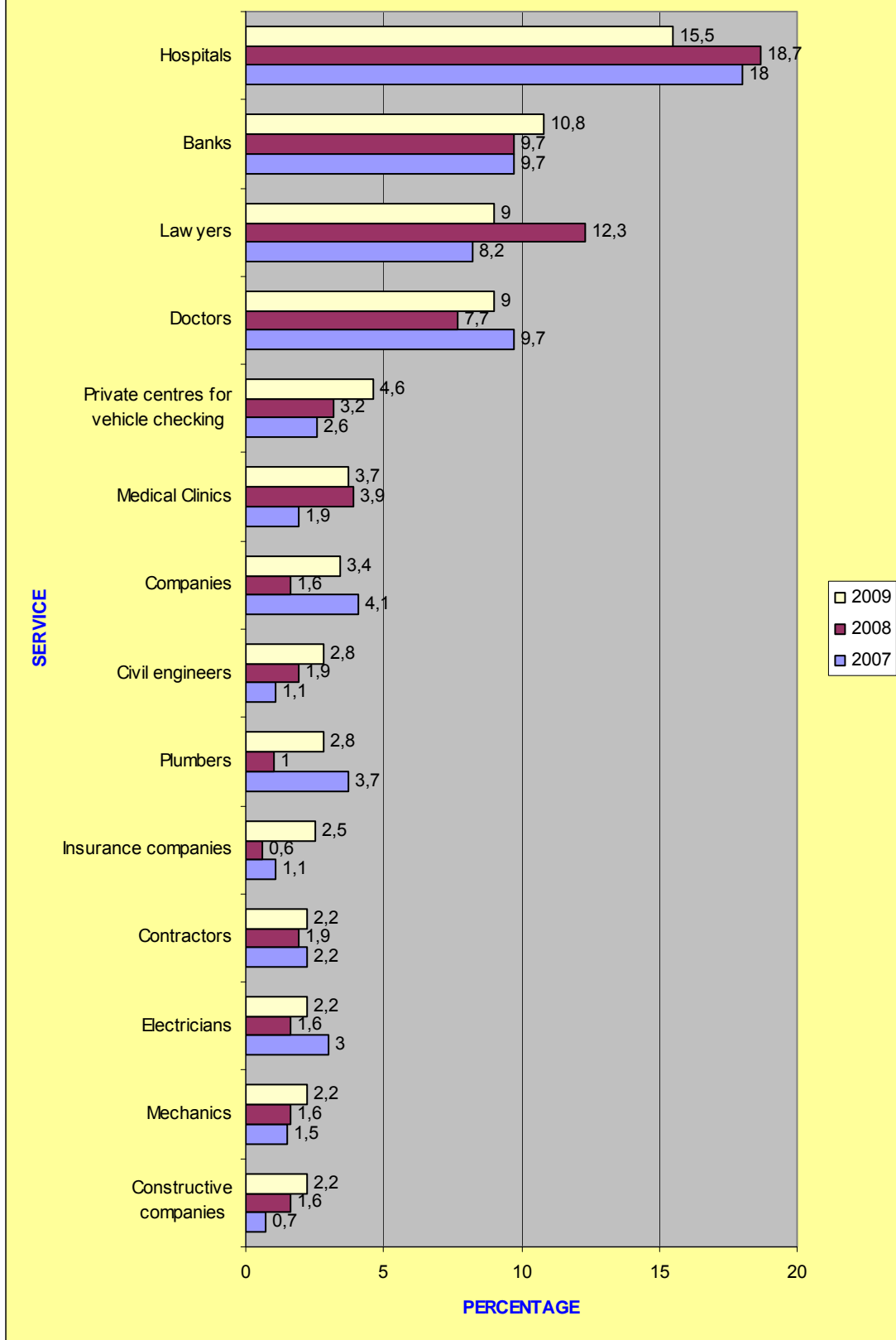
	2007	2008	2009
Average amount of money	1.554 €	1.575 €	1.671 €

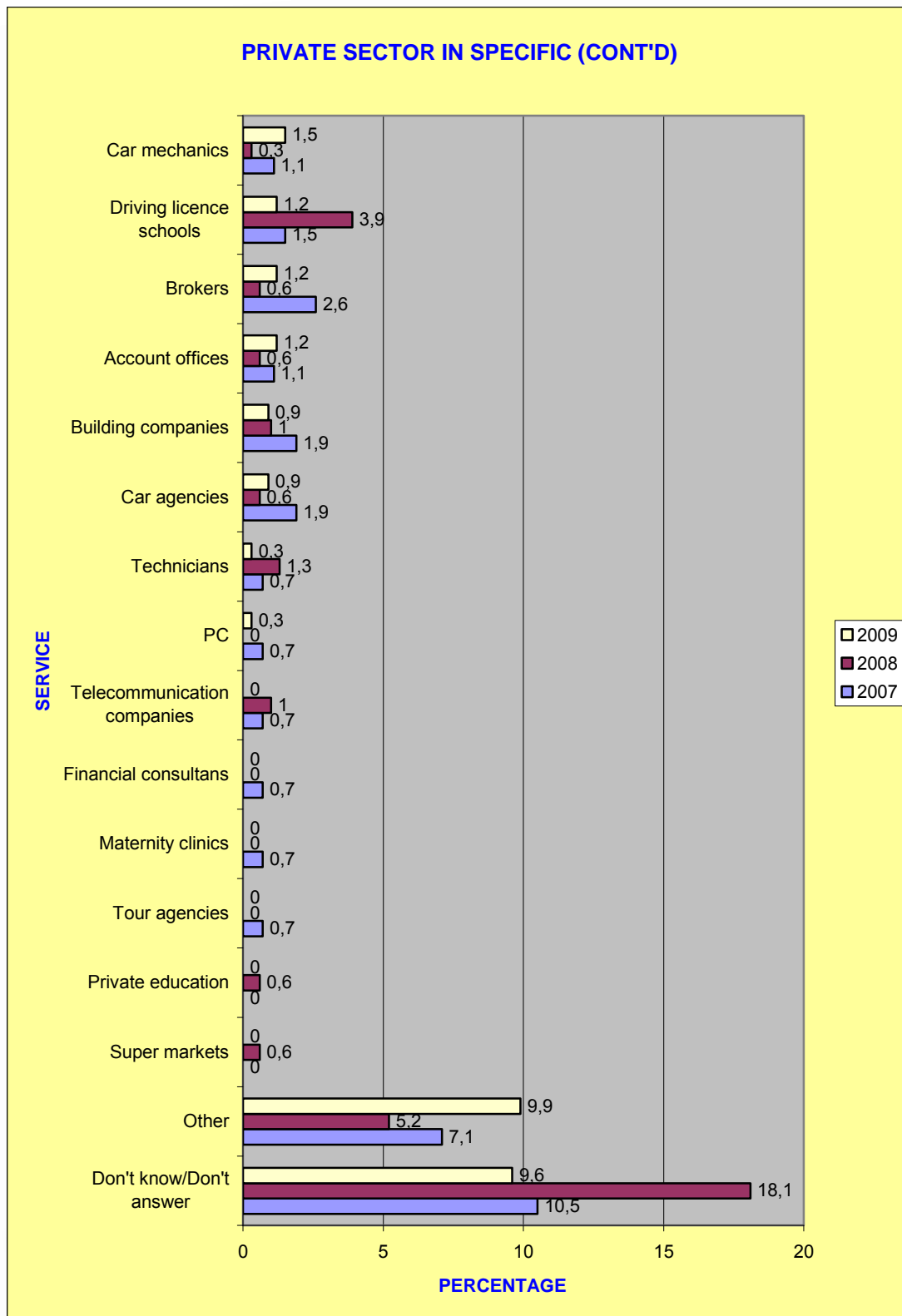
As we may see at the table following, the percentage of citizens who were asked to pay less than 300€ was 45% at 2007, 41.4% at 2008 and 34.4% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay 301€-1000€ was 21.9% at 2007, 24.7% at 2008 and 34.9% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay 1001€-3000€ was 25.2% at 2007, 21% at 2008 and 20.1% at 2009. The percentage of citizens who were asked to pay over 3000€ was 7.9% at 2007, 13% at 2008 and 10.6% at 2009.



At the following graph, we notice the specific services of the private sector where citizens gave bribes.

PRIVATE SECTOR IN SPECIFIC





Most of Greeks paid bribes at private hospitals (18% at 2007, 18.7% at 2008 and 15.5% at 2009). Second in the row are banks (9.7% at 2007, 9.7% at 2008 and 10.8% at 2009). Third in the row are lawyers (8.2% at 2007, 12.3% at 2008 and 9% at 2009).

The rest services following with smaller percentages are:

Doctors, private centres for vehicle checking, medical clinics, companies etc.

Cures in general

Political will

The prevention, detection and prosecution of corruption are possible only with a wide-reaching and clearly expressed political will. Planning and implementing long-term changes is possible only with the broadest social consent as regards the dangerous consequences of corruption and as regards the importance of anticorruption measures without division between government and opposition political parties.

Correct timing

Greece has recently faced a number of suspected corruption cases and reactions to them (Vatopedi, Siemens). The court proceedings and a number of voluntary or forced resignations of senior public officials as a consequence of the activities conducted by the detection and prosecution authorities and the media have caused increased public awareness as regards legally and morally disputed actions of mainly senior state representatives. The inhabitants of Greece have become very critical on the one hand and on the other they expect a suitable reaction of the state authorities. This reaction in the form of a long-term and all-encompassing strategy is vital, not only because of public expectations, but also because these expectations have not yet reached a level when urgent, extraordinary, short-term or partial measures would be required and planned and systemic action is still possible. International organisations and institutions also expect Greece to adopt and begin the implementation of a strategic anticorruption document.

Correct situation assessment

It does not make sense to plan the measures to improve the situation in a certain area unless reliable and relevant data in this area exist. One of the basic reasons for the activities relating to corruption is the previous shortage of realistic data on the extent of the issue and its trends. The data collected so far shows that Greece is burdened with corruption to a larger extent than revealed by the statistics of the law enforcement bodies, which calls for a comprehensive and deliberated action. The fact is that Greece is less burdened with corruption than comparable transition countries but still cannot be compared with the countries that have managed to control the issue.

Cooperation between the public and private sectors and the civil society

Corruptive actions damage the public as well as private sector, civil society and individual citizens, which calls for the inclusion of all parties in the preparation and implementation of national anticorruption policy. The participation of state bodies alone causes incomplete and unsuitable reactions to the complex corruption issue, which is the reason that civil society must be included in all activities, in particular in the supervision of the implementation of jointly set tasks, as an equal partner, and enable a continuous influence on the content and procedures of making the most important decisions.

Prevention before repression

Repressive reactions alone to corruption lead only to elimination of harmful consequences in individual cases while the causes, reasons and circumstances surrounding the corruption remain untouched. Not only due to clearly expressed global trends but also due to more rational and efficient preventive action, the basic position for the content and implementation of Greek anticorruption measures is the prevention, detection of causes and conditions for the corruption and their elimination, while repressive action remains a corrective measure applicable for sanctioning illegal operations.

Graduated approach

Corruption is a system subject to social, cultural and political features of every individual country, including Greece, and the elimination of such system is not possible in short periods or even at once. Effective action is feasible only by identifying priorities and by realistic time planning of their solutions. Understanding the sequence of causes and consequences and a rational, gradual approach are absolute preconditions for planning the activities relevant for the drafting and implementation of anti-corrupted behavior.

Transparency and openness of the project

Transparency, which is one of the basic principles and conditions for effective fight against corruption, can be achieved only by full transparency of all actions and by its appropriate response to the reactions from the environment.

Cures in specific

Politics

The basic measures in the area of politics that may contribute to elimination of causes and conditions for the occurrence of corruption are further development of democracy, consolidation of the principles of the rule of law, development of civil society and strict implementation of the principle of the separation of powers.

Legislative measures

Legislative measures include the following most important ones:

- Annul the law which gives immunity from prosecution to the deputies elected to Parliament while in office and for all illegal actions that took part at this specific period.
- Amendment of legislation on funding political parties and elections, which will ensure fully transparent funding of political parties, as a rule raised from the Budget and realistic, comparable and comprehensive reporting on financial operations of political parties and candidates, define general rules for fully documented and unified bookkeeping by political parties, establish clear and precise supervision procedures and enable the supervisory mechanisms to

effectively carry out their tasks, including the enforcement of the sanctions provided.

- The establishment and monitoring of implementation of the new regulations on incompatibility of public function with profitable activity, reporting on the financial situation of certain categories of persons, the acceptance of gifts and resolution of the conflict of interests, including provisions on effective central supervisory mechanism and proportional, serious and deterrent sanctions.
- The adoption of the regulation on incompatibility of individual public functions, e.g. deputies and mayors.
- The adoption of regulations on lobbying, including the ethical principles for the work of persons involved therein.
- Transfer of public authorisations to the private sector, when that is possible without increasing the risk of corruption.
- Systematic analysis of valid and future regulations from the aspect of their anticorruption consistency and drafting of necessary amendments.
- Introduction of legal obligation to report criminal offences of corruption for all public functionaries.
- Introduction of a list of gifts received by public functionaries and obligations to submit those lists to a competent authority.
- Inclusion of measures for the prevention of corruption and provision of transparent operation of the relevant authorities among the basic tasks of public functionaries.
- Examination of the issues of incompatibility of simultaneous membership of public functionaries in management and supervisory bodies of public institutes, public companies, public funds, public agencies and enterprises in the majority ownership of Greece or local communities.
- Upgrade the commission, which audits the parties and their candidates' election expenditures, with members who will have as a main activity this specific mission, change the commission's composition by removing deputies, audit with a powerful audit mechanism and collate them with tax statements, infliction without parliament's interference and straight committal to the election court, abolition of the distributed commissions which concern audits of election expenditures.
- Finance parties and their candidates only through a specific bank account per party or candidate.
- Create a mixed financing model according to the election percentages of each party.
- Prohibit loan allowances from banks to political parties which have as a guarantee the state financing of future periods. Permit financing by individuals to political parties and their candidates putting an upper bound to this kind of financing.
- Change of the means test by giving emphasis mostly on how they acquired their belongings and less on which are their belongings.
- Publish the financing and other kind of help that the political parties give to municipality candidates.
- Publish all economic affairs between politicians and advertising/gallop companies.
- Change of the existent election law so that every region elects four to six candidates.

- Publish the political party's balance sheet every year and inform citizens about it.

Institutional measures

This area requires the following changes:

- Establishment or appointment of bodies that will decide on the violations of the code of ethics within individual institutions.
- Appointment of persons or authorities that will keep a list of gifts for public functionaries.
- Establishment of professional association of lobbyists of Greece with its code of ethics.

Practical measures

This area requires the following:

- To ensure more effective internal and external supervision of the implementation of the valid regulations.
- To ensure the observance of valid ethical principles.
- In cases of established irregularities or inobservance of procedures to strictly and publicly enforce the provided sanctions.
- To ensure the issuing of annual reports on the major and/or most frequent violators of valid regulations and ethical principles in this area.
- To strictly observe the prescribed legislative procedure while ensuring full transparency in the implementation of political and professional arguments and to prevent any possible urgent interventions of different formal or informal social groups or individuals.
- To publish the lists of gifts received by public functionaries in the form of a public annual catalogue.
- To introduce anticorruption clauses in all contracts concluded by the state and which exceed a certain value.
- To strictly impose the security measure of banning public functionaries convicted of corruption from the profession.
- To strictly implement the prohibition of participation by public functionaries in management and supervisory bodies in companies if such participation is not necessary in order to represent public interest.

Public administration

Alongside general and political measures the area of public administration is where the state wins or loses the war against corruption. Discretionary rights determined to the highest possible extent, precise description of tasks and authorisations of public officials and effective implementation of their codes of ethics are the areas that most contribute to the elimination of causes and conditions for the occurrence and development of corruption within public administration.

Legislative measures

The required legislative measures include the following:

- Systematic monitoring of the implementation of the public officials act, other acts and implementing regulations, and in cases of established deficiencies the adoption of appropriate amendments, which are to ensure to the largest possible extent genuinely apolitical, professional, effective and transparent public administration, increasingly operating independently from personnel changes deriving from the elected and appointed officials; in the case of unauthorised pressures to provide the option of legal remedies for individual public officials and their associations, including the council of officials; to ensure the implementation of exclusively merit criteria in the recruitment and promotion of public officials.
- The introduction of prohibition on public officials holding direct hierarchic superior rank over relatives in direct or indirect line to those four times removed and spouses or extramarital partners with a definition of alternative measures in cases of such situation occurring for objective reasons.
- Creation of a code between citizens and public officials.
- Transparent and reliable means test for public officials.
- The criteria for the recruitment of individual persons to posts in the public sector should be adjusted to assessments of the corruption risk of these posts.
- Introduction of integrity plans in the public sector.
- Introduction of legal obligations for reporting corruptive actions for all public officials.
- Adoption and monitoring of the implementation of regulations on the resolution of the conflict of interests, incompatibility of offices and the acceptance of gifts in public administration.
- Amendments and adjustments of the code of ethics of public officials to international standards.
- Adoption and monitoring of the implementation of regulations enabling extra-budgetary funding of state authorities, in particular the regulation of supervisory procedures with compulsory inclusion of formal supervisory mechanisms and the civil society.
- Analysis of administrative procedures in all areas concluded with the issuing of different authorisations or licences, and in the areas where decisions on the rights of individuals are made as well as their reduction to the most necessary and simplified extent in order to achieve the following:
 - elimination of all authorisations not explicitly provided by the law,
 - amendment of implementing regulations determining different authorisations, consents or licences, which have no basis in explicit provisions of laws,
 - elimination or change of all regulations allowing inadmissible arbitration in making decisions on authorisations, consents and licences,
 - composition of lists of required authorisations or consents for users in individual areas.
- The adoption of regulations which will oblige all administrative authorities to periodically assess the corruption risk of an authority and the posts therein, to

the adoption of appropriate preventive measures and the drawing up of formalised internal supervisory procedures.

- Monitoring the implementation of regulations on the accessibility of information to the media, the enforcement of potential necessary changes and strict provision of judicial protection in cases of violation of regulations.
- The extension of duties as regards the supply of information by state authorities in favour of economic entities, non-governmental organisations and individual persons.
- The adoption of regulations enabling electronic operations with administrative authorities to the largest possible extent for all users and binding them to formulate software which will enable the users of administrative services to follow procedures on-line, in particular proposed and actual deadlines for the resolution of their applications and names of public officials involved in the procedures.
- Detailed anticorruption analysis of regulations in the area of public finance, in particular as regards public procurement, tax and customs area and healthcare, the adoption of appropriate changes.
- Transfer of concessions for the issuing of different authorisations or consents to the private or non-governmental sector where this is justified and possible without an increase in the corruption risk.
- Formulation of simple internal rules for reporting corruption actions within state authorities and the formulation of the rules for the protection of people reporting corruption within state authorities.
- Analysis of organisational and other legislation relating to local government from the aspect of its anticorruption consistency and the formulation of proposals for potential improvement.
- Formulation of samples of undestatutory anticorruption acts for the whole public sector.
- Monitoring regulations on the organisation, field of work and tasks of the public administration authorities, which are to ensure transparent, rational and effective implementation of legally stipulated tasks, without overlapping authorisations and doubling tasks and taking into account specific features of certain bodies.
- Determination of the assumption of the code of ethics for public officials as a condition for conclusion of employment.

Institutional measures

This area requires the following:

- Monitoring the objective and politically unbiased operation of the council of officials to ensure that the recruitment and promotion of public officials occurs exclusively according to merit.
- Appointment of persons responsible for integrity plans in the public sector.
- Determination of services or persons in state authorities responsible for keeping a list of gifts to public officials.
- Establishment and training of authorities making decisions on the violations of codes of ethics for public officials.

- Establishment of regular cooperation between the central state authority responsible for the area of corruption and working bodies of the Greek Government involved in cases also relevant for the prevention of corruption.

Practical measures

This area requires the following:

- Elimination of discretionary rights for public officials where possible, and formulation of objective criteria for decision making in cases where this is not possible.
- Prior formulation of supplementary criteria for determining levels of confidentiality in any state authority.
- Inclusion of price accessibility of services of state authorities among the criteria for pricing.
- Drawing up of brief, simple and easily accessible notices to individual persons relating to their rights in the processes at different state authorities.
- Introduction of a simple standardised form enabling individual persons to report corruptive actions of public functionaries and public officials.
- Introduction and strict implementation of one-stop shop system for obtaining required permits and consents of state authorities.
- Formulation of criteria for the assessment of corruption risk of state authorities and their posts, and periodical analyses of the exposure according to the adopted criteria.
- Depersonification of contacts between citizens and public officials with simultaneously ensured transparency of the identity of decision-making officials or members of collective bodies.
- Consistent division of tasks between the authorities issuing different authorisations and consents, and authorities carrying out the supervision of the use of the authorisations or consents.
- Development and implementation of the beginners' and advanced programmes of professional training courses for public officials with obligatory inclusion of know-how relating to ethics and professional integrity, introduction of supervision of the implementation of the programmes.
- Provision of all forms of assistance to unjustly stigmatised public officials and public officials aggrieved by unjustified promotions in state administration.
- Provision of on-line public access to databases with no prescribed requirement of confidentiality or protection of personal data.
- Limitation or elimination of cash operations between public officials and customers.
- Formation and publication of precise and unambiguous conditions for the participation in public tenders for any acquisition of budget funds by the private sector.
- Periodical analyses of the procedures conducted in the area of public procurement, state aids, subsidies, credits and other forms of use of public finance, in particular by the criterion of frequency of individual users of these services.
- Conclusion of integrity pacts between state authorities and their business partners in the private sector.

- Enforcement of effective internal supervision of the operation of the public administration, in particular as regards the division of competences, documenting work processes, risk management and internal auditing, including the supervision of the procedures of promotion of public officials.
- Ensuring the greatest transparency of operation of the council of public officials.
- Analysis of operation of all authorities with inspection authorisations with a view to detect systemic or individual deficiencies and inconsistencies and the formulation of proposals for the improvement of the situation.
- Consistent implementation of public tenders and consistent application of professional criteria in recruiting to senior executive posts in state administration and companies owned by the state.
- Consistent imposition of a security measure of banning public officials convicted of corruption from the profession.
- Ensuring better participation of non-governmental sector in appeal procedures against the work of public officials.
- Detailed anticorruption analysis of established practices in the area of public finance, in particular as regards public procurement, tax and customs area and healthcare, the adoption of appropriate changes.
- Strict implementation of the prohibition of participation of public officials in management and supervisory bodies in companies if such participation is not necessary in order to represent public interest.
- Ensuring a suitable number of internal auditors in state administration and their actual independence and professionalism.

Judicial bodies and law enforcement

Despite all the regulations preventing and prohibiting corruptive conduct, they still occur in every society. This calls for the bodies involved in investigation, prosecution and the judicial process to express their independence and professionalism. Above and beyond all the requirements that apply to the public administration in general, the importance of the work of these bodies means that even more stringent conditions apply to them.

Legislative measures

The measures required in this area are as follows:

- Revision of the Greek penal code and the adjective law.
- Simplify the tax law, in specific.
- Ensuring the independence of the judiciary in the appointment and promotion of judges and ensuring their budgetary independence.
- Ensuring the independence of the public prosecution service in the appointment and promotion of public prosecutors.
- Quick law enforcement with no exceptions.
- Strict law enforcement to those who accept bribes.
- Strict law enforcement to those who give bribes.
- Increasing the effectiveness of the pre-trial process.

- Full harmonisation of material criminal law provisions on corruption and fraud with the provisions of the international legal instruments adopted by Greece.
- Increasing the punishment for corruption.
- Making procedural regulations more strict to prevent their abuse by participants in those procedures.
- Studying the issue of shifted burden of proof in proving illegal financial benefit deriving from criminal acts.
- Introduction of public catalogue of legal entities convicted of corruption.
- Adoption of regulations on the protection of witnesses and persons that report corruption.
- Adoption of regulations on the division of confiscated financial benefits within the public administrative bodies of Greece and on the division of such benefits between Greece and other countries.

Institutional measures

This area requires the following measures:

- Reorganisation of specialised anti-corruption police units, with greater centralisation to maximise their functional capacity and ensuring full harmonisation of their operations and full independence of potential illegitimate influence.
- Increase in the number of police positions in the detection of corruption and making appointments to those positions with experienced and well-trained staff that have demonstrated a high level of integrity.
- Rationalising the use of existing capacity within Greece's public prosecution service.
- Enabling bodies to deal with violations of rules on the disclosure of financial situation for prosecutors and judges within the public prosecution service or judiciary.
- Organisational solutions for the multidisciplinary handling of cases, when police officers, public prosecutors or public functionaries and public officials above a specific rank are suspected of corruption.
- Establishing adequate coordination between representatives of the ministries of justice and the interior, the police, the public prosecution service and other bodies with authority to detect and investigate illegal conduct, with the objective of strengthening inter-institutional cooperation and information sharing and specialisation knowledge.

Practical measures

This area requires the following:

- Introduction of basic and advanced specialised training of police officers, public prosecutors and judges in the areas of corruption, fraud, tax evasion, money laundering, and illegal practice in accountancy.
- Introduction of the principle of joint police and prosecution service action on important corruption cases.

- Introduction of continual professional supervision of decision making by police officers and prosecutors in cases of abandoning or postponing a case in important corruption cases.
- Ensuring regular periodic assessments of the effectiveness of prosecutors and judges' work.
- Restricting the opportunities for the illegitimate influence of senior police officers on police procedures regarding corruption.
- Practical training prosecutors to lead the pre-trial process.
- Improving police pay system.
- Introduction of additional conditions for the appointment of people to positions important to the detection and investigation of corruption and the appointment of their superiors.
- Ensuring the active participation of non-governmental sector in appeal procedures against the work of the police.
- Detailed anti-corruption analysis of practice in investigation, prosecution and judging and adoption of any required changes.

Private sector

Corruption cannot be prevented, without action being taken in the private sector and without the participation of businesses, not only because the public and private sectors are inseparably linked in all societies, but also because corrupt conduct can take place within the private sector itself. As the state cannot force the private sector to follow specific patterns of conduct without enforceable legislation which is always an extreme option, most depends on the extent to which the sector itself acknowledges the danger that corruption represents and to what extent it voluntarily adapts its conduct. Again cooperation between the state and private sector is vital, however it must be based entirely on the content of solutions and not their external imposition. Institutional and practical solutions are entirely left to the private sector alone, making the sector itself responsible for the anti-corruption atmosphere within the economy at large.

Legislative measures

The concept "legislative measures" in this chapter contains measures the private sector prepares and applies on its own initiative. The measures required in this area are as follows:

- Greater punishments for the crimes of forging or destroying business documents.
- Introduction of a prohibition on legal persons convicted of corruption in public procurement.
- Analysis of arrangements to prevent illegal work and employment and introduction of any necessary changes.
- Introduction of the obligation to include anti-corruption clauses in contracts worth over a certain amount.
- In the case of the sale of legal persons in state ownership, the mandatory audit of their operations for a set period before the sale.

- Promotion of the introduction of codes of ethics within legal persons in the private sector and in business and professional associations.
- Adoption or review and consistent application of codes of ethics for professions most at risk.
- Analysis of legislation in areas most at risk (stock market, gambling, insurance) regarding their anti-corruption consistency and preparation of proposals to improve them.
- Review of rules to resolve conflicts of interest in the private sector and application of necessary changes.
- Promotion of further creation and updating of recommendations on the content of individual contracts and criteria for salary and other rewards for managers.
- Promotion of introduction of integrity plans in legal persons in the private sector.

Institutional measures

The measures required in this area are as follows:

- Further strengthen the role and importance of existing courts of honour in strengthening good business practice and business morals.
- Promoting the establishment of new courts of honour in individual economic sectors and professional associations.
- Definition of persons responsible for integrity plans and for monitoring the implementation of adopted codes of ethics.

Practical measures

The measures required in this area are as follows:

- Production of sample anti-corruption clauses.
- Promoting the introduction of anti-corruption clauses in all contracts.
- Introduction of integrity pacts.
- Introduction of integrity assessments and certificates.
- Promoting business and trade union activities to prevent corruption.
- Definition of internal procedures for reporting suspected corruptive conduct in companies.
- Complete transparency in procedures relating to the transformation of ownership of legal entities in state ownership.
- Inclusion of successful efforts by companies to prevent and detect unethical business conduct in the criteria for granting business achievement awards.
- Regular training on the dangers of corruption and opportunities to prevent it in the private sector.
- Consistent refusal to acknowledge income received from illegitimate payments in the tax procedures.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)

No state can successfully prevent corruption without assistance from the non-governmental sector. Civil society in Greece is very poorly organised in relation to anti-corruption efforts. Except for individual attempts by some in the media, its influence is not felt, and there are no active NGOs in Greece that address the problem of corruption. The basic principle on which NGOs function in developed countries, is that they are organised themselves, which ensures their objectivity and the impartiality of their work, especially when monitoring the functioning of the state. There is a growing recognition that the state can encourage civil society activities first through appropriate legislation, and providing assistance in the organisation of various forms of civil society action, by leaving some areas of its activities to civil society and finally by part financing these activities. Only in this way can all the professional and human potential of a country be employed in the prevention of corruption. A precondition for this are clear legal rules on all possible relations between state bodies and civil society. Greece still has considerable work to do in this area; the media and general public are given special treatment because of the importance of their role.

Legislative measures

This area requires the following action to be taken:

- Analysis of regulations on the organisation and functioning of all state bodies with the objective of discovering opportunities for civil society to be included in the disciplinary procedures of these bodies.
- Formalising the possibility of NGOs participating in the work of state bodies in all three branches of power and leaving individual tasks of state bodies to the non-governmental sector.
- Adoption of standard, transparent criteria for financial assistance to national NGOs, definition of minimum annual spending on this area, establishing conditions for supervision over the use of this assistance and determining safeguards to ensure the independence of organisation financing.
- Application of codes of ethics for all NGOs.
- Review of legislation on the criminalisation of corrupt conduct of persons in the non-government sector and application of necessary changes.

Institutional measures

Although it is extremely important that initiatives originate from civil society itself, it is nevertheless possible to find ways of improving the current situation:

- Use of existing NGO associations to directly coordinate the work of organisations in similar fields.
- Creation of effective mechanisms to deal with violations of legal and ethical norms within all organised forms of civil society.

Practical measures

The most important tasks in this area are as follows:

- Cooperation between trade unions and professional and business associations in creating codes of ethics.
- Effective provision of information to the non-governmental sector on the availability of domestic and foreign funding for their activities.
- Ensuring genuinely transparent procedures in the handling of NGO funds.
- Implementation of independent research into integrity, individual ethical problems and corruption in Greece.
- Coordination of NGOs in the field of ethics and integrity to apply considerable pressure on known cases of unethical or corrupt conduct in society.
- Active inclusion of NGOs in the work of the commission for the prevention of corruption.
- Regularly informing the public of civil society positions on individual cases of unethical or corrupt conduct in the country.
- Plan the promotion of all organised forms of civil society by area of operation to raise their profile and consolidate the public sense of identification with them and consolidate the ethical principles for their functions.
- Inclusion of NGOs in appropriate international anti-corruption associations.
- Giving NGOs the knowledge to receive reports on the violation of legal and moral norms, which the person making the report does not want to send directly to a state body, and sending these reports to the appropriate state body; popularising this role for NGOs.
- Drawing up agreements on cooperation between state bodies and NGOs.

Media

In most countries the media, as shapers of public opinion, plays an important role in preventing and combating corruption, not only by highlighting individual cases, but also by raising anti-corruption awareness in general. Given the power and importance the media has in shaping public opinion, journalism is one of the professions most exposed to various forms of pressure. Activities must therefore be planned to assist journalists in raising ethical standards in a specific environment, to focus as much attention as possible and ensure their independence, objectivity, professionalism and impartiality.

Legislative measures

This area requires the following:

- Analysis of existing regulations on the media with regard to possibility of inappropriate influences on the work of journalists to remove any journalistic dependence, direct or indirect, on such influences.
- Creation of regulations that will ensure that journalists have genuinely equal status with owners and management within individual forms of media in the adoption of decisions of importance to actual journalistic work, including personnel related issues.

- Analysis of regulations on the status of media houses as legal subjects under commercial law to ensure full transparency of ownership and prevent monopolies.
- Analysis of Greek journalism's code of ethics with respect to possibilities of clarifying ethical principles that ensure objective and ethically correct journalistic work, independent of all attempts at corrupt influence.
- Study possibility of additional legal strengthening of journalistic independence and enforcement of their liability in the case of a violation of existing legislation and the code of ethics for journalists.

Institutional measures

The measures required in this area are as follows:

- Organising media houses to enable journalists to exercise their rights, particularly in the cases of violations of their independence.
- Enhance internal mechanisms to deal more effectively with violations of legal and ethic norms by journalists.
- Appoint an internal media ombudsman.

Practical measures

This area requires the following action:

- Introduction of initial and supplementary training for journalists on the dangers, forms and methods of illegitimate influence on their work and on the possibilities of opposing such influences.
- Introduction of initial and supplementary training for journalists on the most common forms of corruption in Greece.
- Introduction of regular analysis of anti-corruption media articles to ascertain the independence of state institutions on their content; publication of analysis results.
- Ensure media support to positive anti-corruption efforts by state bodies.
- Introduction of a special annual prize for journalists for achievements in the field of exposing and preventing corruption.
- Ensure suitable pay for journalists.
- High level of publicity for decisions by journalists' association council (ΕΣΗΕΑ) of significance to corruption.
- Application of internal procedures for reporting conduct suspected to be against the journalism's code of ethics to the journalists' association council.
- Consistent provision of legal protection to journalists in cases of refusal to provide information or obstruction on the part of state bodies.
- Ensure transparency of the basic elements in negotiations between advertisers and the media.
- Clear separation of advertising and journalistic activities within individual media.

General public

The efforts of all state and non-governmental institutions in preventing corruption will be unsuccessful, if the majority of the population is not involved in some manner in those efforts. Increasing anti-corruption awareness, developing among individuals and generally a culture of refusal to accept any unethical and illegal gain of any advantage or benefit, changing ways of thinking about the role, status and rights of individuals in relation to state institutions, does not occur spontaneously in transition states such as Greece. In addition to all the other anti-corruption activities that can motivate individual citizens only to a limited extent, state institutions must pay considerable attention to lasting, well planned measures to achieve these objectives. Only in this way can we expect to see a long-term improvement in the situation, especially in improving understanding of the causes and consequences of corruption among the majority of citizens. As there is always the risk that this form of communication with the public may be misused, measures from this chapter must be completely apolitical and can in no way be linked to any political party, in government or opposition.

Legislative measures

There are not a large number of possibilities in this area:

- Improving regulations on the transparency of all state body operations (documents, procedures, responsible persons and other), where there is no obstacle relating to the protection of confident data or personal data.

Institutional measures

The development of new institutions exclusively for this area is not necessary.

Practical measures

Most of the objectives in this chapter can be achieved through appropriate practical conduct:

- Creation and implementation of permanent, public campaigns that are balanced and properly oriented, with special focus on selecting the most important target groups, particularly young people, using all modern social marketing tools (audio-visual methods, posters, promotions, themed campaigns) and the mandatory design of a logo, slogan and single "corporate identity" for the campaign with the aim of presenting the causes and consequences of corruption.
- Implementation of activities as part of or in addition to the campaign such as: production and regular publication of audio-visual promotional messages, regular columns in periodicals, publication of data on corruption in other environments, production of special free-of-charge brochure, organisation of "anti-corruption days" in micro-environments and other events.
- Production of a simple manual for secondary school pupils on the functioning of the state, with a description of basic tasks and institutions and the rights of the individual in relations with them.

- Development of anti-corruption content within existing education programmes in primary, secondary and tertiary education.
- Production of simple, free-of-charge anti-corruption handbook for all citizens.
- Media friendly publication of results of empirical research into corruption.
- Encouragement for more attention from various sectors of the population by organising various competitions.
- Review of possibilities of including religious institutions in anti-corruption efforts, implementation of acceptable actions.
- Organisation of anti-corruption workshops and lectures for citizens in specific environments.

Statistical Data

Greeks opinion about the effectiveness of the following measures for fighting corruption is:

2009			
	Effective %	Ineffective %	Neither %
Quick law enforcement with no exceptions	98	2	0
Strict law enforcement to those who accept bribes	96	4	0
Transparent and reliable means test for public officials	88	10	2
Creation of a code between citizens and public officials	84	13	3
Strict law enforcement to those who give bribes	80	19	1
Make school courses for fighting corruption	77	22	2
Make campaigns against corruption	73	25	2
Reassure judges' independancy	72	19	9
Less interference to economy by the state	38	50	12

The same question for 2008:

2008			
	Effective %	Ineffective %	Neither %
Quick law enforcement with no exceptions	97	3	0
Strict law enforcement to those who accept bribes	94	5	1
Transparent and reliable means test for public officials	81	16	3
Creation of a code between citizens and public officials	79	17	4
Strict law enforcement to those who give bribes	77	20	3
Make school courses for fighting corruption	75	22	2
Make campaigns against corruption	70	28	2
Reassure judges' independancy	69	22	9
Less interference to economy by the state	37	50	13

At 2009, 98% of Greeks consider that quick law enforcement with no exptions is an effective measure. 96% of Greeks consider athat strict law enforcement to those who accept bribes is an effective measure while 80% of Greeks consider that strict law enforcement to those who give bribes is an effective measure. 88% of Greeks consider that transparent and reliable means test for public officials is an effective measure. 84% of Greeks consider that creation of a code between citizens and public officials. 77% considers that school courses for fighting corruption are needed. 73% consider that campaigns against corruption are useful and 72% believe that judges' independancy must be reassured.

At 2008, 97% of Greeks consider that quick law enforcement with no exptions is an effective measure. 94% of Greeks consider athat strict law enforcement to those who accept bribes is an effective measure while 77% of Greeks consider that strict law enforcement to those who give bribes is an effective measure. 81% of Greeks consider that transparent and reliable means test for public officials is an effective measure. 79% of Greeks consider that creation of a code between citizens and public officials. 75% considers that school courses for fighting corruption are needed. 70% consider that campaigns against corruption are useful and 69% believe that judges' independancy must be reassured.

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