

# HOW CORRUPT IS EUROPE?

Transparency International report on corruption  
in 25 European countries

**PRESS CONFERENCE & ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

**Wed., 6 June 2012, 9:00 - 13:00**

European Parliament, PHS building, room: P1C051

**Why do three-quarters of Europeans think [corruption is a major problem](#)?**

The European Commission launched its anti-corruption policy [one year ago](#) (6 June 2011). Since then, corruption scandals have erupted across Europe, with leaders on trials in France and Italy, resigning in Germany and governments falling in Latvia, Slovakia, Romania, with protests in many more.

On 6 June 2012, Transparency International will issue a ground breaking report on the causes of corruption in Europe, containing a wealth of new information and data including:

- The countries most vulnerable to corruption.
- The institutions most and least effective in preventing corruption.
- Key areas of corruption risk and what needs to be done about them.

The **first study to offer such a comprehensive assessment of corruption in Europe**, it builds on national research from 25 European countries, covering more than 300 national institutions, including political parties, parliaments, judiciaries and private sectors.

The research in countries such as [Greece](#), [Portugal](#) and [Italy](#) has already identified links between corruption and **Europe's economic crisis**.

We would like to invite you to join journalists, high-level EU officials and civil society for the report launch, followed by a roundtable discussion in Brussels on the morning of 6 June 2012.

> **Please RSVP** by 1 June to Lucy Strang, [lstrang@transparency.org](mailto:lstrang@transparency.org). Participants in need of an access badge to the European Parliament are kindly asked to include their date of birth and citizenship.

# PROGRAMME

## > 9:00 – 9:30 Press conference: The State of Corruption in Europe

(non-press welcome)

### Opening:

Dennis de Jong, Member of the European Parliament

Stefano Manservigi, Director General for Home Affairs, European Commission

Cobus de Swardt, Managing Director, Transparency International

## > 9:30 – 9:45 Q & A

(media interviews & breakfast refreshments)

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## Debate: Voices from the front line: EU Corruption trends in national context

## > 9:45 – 9:55

Moderation: Anne Koch, Director, Europe & Central Asia, TI-S

## > 9:55 – 10:40 Systemic weaknesses: corruption and the Euro crisis

**Role of corruption in the Greek crisis:** Costas Bakouris, Chair, Transparency International, Greece

**The “lolaos” recovery proposal for Greece:** Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Member of European Parliament

**Austerity and corruption in Portugal:** Luis de Sousa, Chair, Transparency International Portugal

## > 10:40 – 10:50 Q & A

## > 10:50 – 11:35 Politics for sale?

**Cleaning up political party funding in the UK:** Chandu Krishnan, Executive Director, Transparency International United Kingdom

**Country reporting on political party financing – a view from GRECO:** Wolfgang Rau, Executive Secretary, Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), Council of Europe

**Attacking the public interest: State capture in Hungary -** Noemi Alexa, Executive Director, Transparency International Hungary

## > 11:35 – 11:45 Q & A

## > 11:45 – 12:00

Closing remarks: Cobus de Swardt, Managing Director, Transparency International

## > 12:00 – 13:00

Light lunch (possibility of media interviews - also throughout the afternoon)

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