Executive Training Programme in Anti-corruption, Transparency and Public Integrity for CSOs from Poland

22 – 24 May 2024
Berlin, Germany

Day 1
Wednesday, 22 May 2024

09.00 – 10.30
Session 1: What is corruption? Corruption as exception vs corruption as a norm

In this session, trainers will introduce the program and participants will introduce themselves to the group, share briefly how they connect to the topic and discuss concepts of corruption in an interactive way based on their personal experiences and knowledge from studies, work and media. Through this they will explore how omnipresent the broader concept of corruption in our societies is, be it political corruption, petty corruption, forms of loyalty or favouritism, everyday life decisions or the abuse of power through societal groups or class. The session will set the tone for further work and ensure that every participant finds his or her own connection to the topic.

Trainers: Sandor Lederer & Krzysztof Izdebski

10.30 – 10.45
Coffee Break
| 10.45 – 12.15 | **Session 2: Diagnosing and measuring corruption. Understanding corruption causes and mechanisms**  
Building on the previous session, participants will move from experience-based discussions that examine concepts and forms of corruption into discussing the causes of it. Then participants will move into a discussion on how corruption and the costs of it for the economy and society can be measured.  
Participants will meet with a representative from Transparency International (TI), who will discuss TI's Corruption Perception Index and similar instruments with the group.  
*Trainer: Sandor Lederer* |
| 12.15 – 13.30 | **Lunch** |
| 13.30 – 15.00 | **Session 3: Domestic, regional and international anti-corruption regimes**  
In this module, participants will learn about legislation at the national, regional and global level that relates to corruption - its prevention and the fight against it. They will also learn where to report cases of corruption.  
Participants will acquire basic information on the existing legal framework for fighting and preventing corruption, in particular:  
- The provisions of the Polish Criminal Code concerning corruption offences (e.g. active and passive bribery, invoking influence, exceeding powers, etc.), the Act on restricting business activity of selected public officials (e.g. declaration of assets, revolving doors, etc.)  
- Regional legislation - (EU legislation on whistleblowers, work on the draft of the EU anti-corruption directive and Council of Europe Conventions.)  
- Global – United Nations Convention against Corruption  
Participants will also receive basic information on the functioning of the prosecutor's office, the courts and the role of organisations such as OLAF and GRECO. |
Participants will be joined by Adam Földes of Transparency International, who will talk about how international instruments can be used effectively to combat corruption at national and local levels.

Trainers: Krzysztof Izdebski & guest - Adam Földes, Transparency International Secretariat

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| 15.15 – 16.45 | **Session 4: Conflict of interests and financial disclosure**  
This session aims to familiarise participants with the tools and policies that support the fight against corruption. Procedures for disclosure of assets and conflicts of interest will be overviewed - with examples of national (Polish) and EU solutions. Participants will also familiarise themselves with the regulations on transparency of political financing and activities (openness of contributions to political parties and use of public resources during election campaigns). The session leader will also present the basic features of conflict of interest and how to deal with such situations.  
The anti-corruption mechanisms implemented by business institutions will also be outlined, as well as the rules on whistleblower protection.  
The latter is important as by the time of the workshop, Poland should just implement the provisions of the EU whistleblower protection directive.  
Trainer: Krzysztof Izdebski |

Day 2
Thursday, 23 May 2024

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| 09.00 – 10.30 | **Session 1: Transparency and freedom of information**  
Transparency and access to information are essential tools for preventing and combating corruption. This session aims to build participants' competencies in obtaining information and methods to deal with denial of access. Mainly, the session will refer to procedures under Polish law, but the procedures present in the EU institutions will also be outlined.  
Trainers: Krzysztof Izdebski and Sandor Lederer |
<p>| 10.30 – 10.45 | Coffee Break                                |</p>
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| 10.45 – 12.15 | **Session 2: Public procurement**               | This session is structured to provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and solutions related to corruption in public procurement, with a strong focus on practical tools and examples relevant to the Central Eastern European context. Participants will also meet a representative from the open contracting community who will talk about how to monitor public procurement to bring about systemic change in the fight against corruption and irregularities.  
*Trainers: Sandor Lederer & guest - Mara Mendes* |                                                                       |
| 12.15 – 13.30 | **Lunch**                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                           |
| 13.30 – 15.00 | **Session 3: Follow the traces: Money laundering and asset recovery** | In this session, participants will gain insight into the work of law enforcement agencies and the obstacles of fighting corruption. They will receive hints regarding collecting evidence or supporting cases and how to present it to the relevant services. More specifically, participants will learn about concepts and technical ways of tracing and recovering criminal assets and will gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and solutions related to financial investigations and autonomous money laundering, with a strong focus on practical tools and examples relevant to the Central Eastern European context.  
*Trainer: Camelia Bogdan* |                                                                       |
| 15.00 – 15.15 | **Coffee Break**                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                           |
| 15.15 – 16.45 | **Session 4: Working on individual cases of corruption** | Building upon the previous session, this module is structured to provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges law enforcement face when carrying out financial investigations to ensure the principle of Crime Does Not Pay, with a strong focus on practical tools and examples relevant to the Central Eastern European context.  
*Trainer: Camelia Bogdan* |                                                                       |
Day 3  
Friday, 24 May 2024

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| 09.00 – 10.30 | **Session 1: Corruption prevention**  
This session aims to summarise the material discussed over the two days and reemphasise why corruption prevention matters. Participants will delve into a model anti-corruption policy and discuss what elements it should contain. In addition the group will also discuss the topic of organisational integrity. All this has utmost relevance as the Polish government is about to prepare an anti-corruption strategy in 2024. The session will support participants to become conscious followers of the strategy development process and obtain the ability to contribute to the drafting and assessment.  
*Trainers: Krzysztof Izdebski and Sandor Lederer* |
| 10.30 – 10.45 | **Coffee Break**          |
| 10.45 – 12.15 | **Session 2: Summary and taking lessons back home**  
The aim of the entire workshop is for participants to gain knowledge and competence in preventing and combating corruption to apply it practically in their own country. Therefore, this session will be devoted to translating the acquired knowledge into concrete proposals for action. Trainers will talk about their activities and experiences of being active in the field of anti-corruption and will deliberate about potential ideas for action with participants. Participants themselves, in groups, will reflect on what the biggest challenges in Poland in this area are and what - taking into account, among other things, their resources - they can do to step up against corruption.  
In a closing round participants will share their learnings and takeaways from the training.  
*Trainers: Krzysztof Izdebski and Sandor Lederer* |
| 12.15 – 13.30 | **Closure & Lunch**       |
Krzysztof Izdebski | Senior Policy Officer at the Stefan Batory Foundation and Co-Lead of Open Spending EU Coalition.

Krzysztof is a member of the Osiatyński Archive Advisory Board, the Marshall Memorial, Marcin Król, and Recharging Advocacy Rights in Europe -RARE- alumnus. He is a lawyer specializing in Freedom of Information, the reuse of public sector information and technologies that impact democracy. He has wide expertise in relations between public administration and citizens. He is the author of publications on freedom of information, technology, public administration, corruption, and public participation. He was recognised as one of Poland's 50 most influential lawyers in 2020.

Sandor Lederer | Co-founder and Director of K-Monitor

Sandor is the co-founder and director of K-Monitor, a non-profit public funds watchdog based in Budapest. K-Monitor was founded to improve the levels of transparency and the rule of law in Hungary. Civic participation and technology driven solutions are among the organisation's key instruments. Beside K-Monitor's tech focus, the organisation is also active in anti-corruption advocacy, litigation and research. Sandor was contributing to the European Commission’s Anti-corruption Report as a Local Research Country Correspondent. He is a European Young Leader at Friends of Europe, an Obama Fellow and Ashoka Fellow.

Dr. Camelia Bogdan | Independent Arbitrator and former Criminal Judge

Camelia is an independent arbitrator and former criminal judge with eighteen years of experience across high-level corruption, transnational money laundering, economic crime litigation, and investigations. An accomplished scholar with a doctorate in criminal law from the University of Bucharest, she has authored two monographs on asset recovery and money laundering, several practical guides to asset recovery for practitioners at the national and EU level, and over 130 judicial studies in law journals. She is an associate researcher with the Centre Régional Francophone de Recherches Avancées en Sciences Humaines et Sociales de Bucarest (CEREFREA–Villa Noël) and contributes regularly to the University of Cambridge’s International Symposium on Financial Crimes. In 2018, she was a Fulbright scholar at the University of Florida’s Levin College of Law. Her scholarship aims to draw upon her own experience as a judge in Romania in developing a set of policy recommendations for addressing corruption and money laundering through the national and international legal system. In recognition of her work, she received the 2019 Ion Ratiu Democracy Award from the Woodrow Wilson Center. Other recognition for her work in against high-level corruption
include the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellowship Award from the National Endowment for Democracy -NED- and the Draper Hills Fellowship Award on Democracy and Development, hosted by the Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) at Stanford University, Stanford. She is an Honoured Listee in Marquis Who's Who (2023).

HERTIE SCHOOL EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

Frank Garrison | Manager

Frank Garrison is a Manager in Executive Education at the Hertie School and oversees our specialised projects, particularly those related to capacity-building for human rights defenders and conflict resolution. Frank manages the implementation of several projects including the Economic Connectivity | Armenia-Azerbaijan Dialogue Series (ECAADS), the Capacities for Rights in Georgia project funded by the European Commission, and Recharging Advocacy for Rights in Europe (RARE). Frank holds a Master of International Affairs from the Hertie School and a Master of Public Administration from Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Before rejoining the Hertie School, Frank worked as a management consultant, assisting government clients with strategic projects related to sustainability, energy, infrastructure, and economic development. His areas of interest include transatlantic affairs, international security, and conflict resolution.

Katharina Neumann | Project Coordinator

Katharina Neumann is Project Coordinator for Executive Education and responsible for customised programmes for international executives. She studied International Economics and Development (B.A.) at the University of Bayreuth and at the Tel Aviv University as well as International Economics (M.Sc.) at the University of Göttingen. Before joining the Hertie School, Katharina gained experience in international development cooperation as a consultant at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and in development economics research at the University of Göttingen, among others.