

CORRUPTION IS AN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM**Rotkina K.E., Nikitina K.O.****The supervisor of studies Associated cand. phil. sciences Gavrilina L. E.
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Analyzing the Corruption Perceptions Index 2012, one comes to a conclusion that corruption is a major threat facing humanity. Corruption destroys lives and communities, and undermines countries and institutions. It generates anger and blind fury that threatens to further destabilize societies and exacerbate violent conflicts.

The Corruption Perceptions Index scores countries on a scale from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (almost no corruption). While no country has a perfect score, two-third of countries scores below 50, indicating a serious corruption problem.

Corruption is translated into human suffering, with poor families being extorted for bribes to see doctors or to get access to clean drinking water. It leads to failure in the delivery of basic services such as education or healthcare. It both derails the building of essential infrastructure and corrupts leaders skim funds. [1]

Corruption amounts to a dirty tax, and the poor and most vulnerable are its primary victims.

Country corruption rating:

Rank	Country	Score
1	Denmark	90
1	Finland	90
1	New Zealand	90
4	Sweden	88
5	Singapore	87
6	Switzerland	86
7	Australia	85
9	Canada	84
11	Iceland	82
13	Germany	79
17	Japan	74
19	USA	73
22	France	71
69	Brasilia	43
80	China	39
86	Thailand	37
123	Belarus	31
133	Russia	28
144	Ukraine	26

In a world Index of corruption, made by Transparency International non-governmental organization, Russia took the 133rd place from 176. Elena Panfilova, the head of the Russian division of Transparency International said: «The bottom third is a zone of a national shame for any country. It is an institutional problem. It means any wrong relation of the power and society due to corruption.»

Corruption exists in all the countries, but the problem of Russia is in the fact, that there is actually no judicial system to prevent corruption. There is even no independent court. Our Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev is constantly speaking, that our country desperately needs an independent judicial system.

But this problem affects not only Russia. Let's give some examples of corruption in the USA:

- The federal government made at least \$72 billion in improper payments in 2008;
- Washington spends \$92 billion on corporate welfare (excluding Troubled Asset Relief Program) versus \$71 billion on homeland security.;
- Washington spends \$25 billion annually maintaining unused or vacant federal properties;
- Government auditors spent the past five years examining all federal programs and found that 22 percent of them -- costing taxpayers a total of \$123 billion annually fail to show any positive impact on the populations they serve;
- Washington recently spent \$1.8 million to help build a private golf court in Atlanta, Georgia. [2]

All administrative bodies, including governments need to integrate anti-corruption actions into all aspects of decision-making. They must prioritize better rules on lobbying and political financing, make public spending and contracting more transparent, and make public structures more accountable.

We can offer the following measures fighting against corruption:

- frequent and compulsory rotation of officials, especially of the top management, limitation of term of holding a position not more than two years;
- banning the possession of the offshore companies;
- declaring of the income and expenses of officials;
- publicity and openness of all procedures which are carried out by the authorities.

Nowadays corruption is antisocial, the phenomenon which has penetrated all branches of the power menacing to economic and political safety of the Russian Federation, making set of the crimes committed by officials for personal enrichment at the expense of the state, commercial and other organizations and citizens. Corrupt officials derive all benefits using their high positions to the detriment of the state interests.

Finally corruption fight must be carried out with a help of civil society and coordinated state activities.

[1] <http://www.transparency.org/cpi2012/results>

[2] <http://origin.heritage.org/research/reports/2009/10/50-examples-of-government-waste>