

## INTRODUCTORY ARTICLE

## THE MAIN DIRECTIONS OF STATE POLICY IN THE FIELD OF COMBATING CORRUPTION

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Received: October 31, 2021

Accepted: November 30, 2021

Published: December 9, 2021

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## HOW TO CITE

Narbaeva, T. 2021. The main directions of state policy in the field of combating corruption. Uzbekistan Anti-Corruption Digest. 1, 1 (Dec. 2021), 4–6.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.47689/uacd-2181-3345-vol1-iss1-pp4-6>



Corruption is a vice that destroys a society and nation from the inside and leads to the decline of the foundations of the state system and the decomposition of social foundations.

Corruption and its consequences have an impact on the economic, social, political spheres, and also affect the international image of Uzbekistan. Manifestations of corruption can lead to destructive inactivity of the mechanisms of the economy and the collapse of the country. This inevitably leads to social problems, and subsequently to the protests of the population. The appearance of facts of corruption invariably lead to the stratification of various segments of the population. It discredits the principle of the rule of law, namely the law is equal for all, and in the political sphere – to the loss of public trust in the current government.

Therefore, the first document that Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed as President upon taking office in 2016, was the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Combating Corruption".

The main directions of state policy in the field of combating corruption were defined by the law.

In particular, raising the legal awareness and legal culture of the population, the formation of an intolerant attitude towards corruption in society, the implementation of measures to prevent corruption in all spheres of state and public life, the timely detection, suppression of corruption offenses, elimination of their consequences, causes and conditions, conducive to their commission, ensuring the principle of inevitability of responsibility for committing corruption offenses are among them.

Over the past short period, there have been created organizational and legal mechanisms aimed to implementation state policy in the field of combating corruption.

In particular, there have been adopted more than 80 normative legal acts aimed to combating corruption factors in all spheres of state and social construction.

It was created the Anti-Corruption Agency, which is a specially authorized state body responsible for the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of preventing and combating corruption.

There have been established the activities of individual anti-corruption committees in both chambers of parliament.

The Agency was established in order to coordinate the activities of bodies and organizations responsible for combating corruption, to comprehensively study the state of work carried out in the field, improve existing legislative acts, and develop effective anti-corruption measures. The National Anti-Corruption Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its territorial councils were formed.

The purpose of entrusting the Senate with the task of guiding the National Council is to establish effective parliamentary that is public control in this area.

The work we have begun to combat corruption has become irreversible character. It was especially emphasized in the Shavkat Mirziyoyev's speech at the joint session of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis, dedicated to the solemn ceremony of inauguration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In particular, it was noted the need to go beyond the attracting perpetrators to legal responsibility and taking systematic preventive measures, realizing effective measures on this basis to prevent not only the consequences, but also the causes of corruption.

Currently, in our country it takes action to eliminate bureaucratic barriers and reduce the "The shadow economy", projects "Sphere without corruption" are being implemented in the system of higher education, healthcare, construction and state procurement.

A system of internal anti-corruption control ("compliance control") is being introduced in state and economic management, state-owned enterprises and enterprises with a state share in the authorized capital as well as banks.

It is being established the maintenance of an open electronic register of persons found guilty of committing corruption offenses. Thus, persons included in the register are prohibited from entering the state service and being awarded state awards, it is prohibited to nominate their candidates for elective and specially appointed positions and they are also prohibited from exercising a number of other rights.

With the widespread use of the capabilities of information and communication technologies in many areas, especially, in the provision of state services, effective mechanisms are being introduced, aimed at reducing the corruption and human factor, as well as prevent various abuses. Today through modern information and communication technologies, more than 150 state services are provided to the population.

Due to the widespread using of the possibilities of digital and online technologies, the responsibility of state authorities and administrations to the public are increased, the transparency of their activities is ensured, which gives impetus to the development of the institution of public control, which is an important tool for preventing and combating corruption.

The ongoing anti-corruption reforms are also recognized by the international community and rating organizations.

For example, if in the Corruption Perceptions Index of the international organization "Transparency International" Uzbekistan took 157th place among 180 countries in 2017 and by 2020 Uzbekistan has climbed 11 steps and took 146th place.

According to the "The absence of corruption" indicator of the Rule of Law Index, compiled by the international non-governmental organization "World Justice Project", Uzbekistan climbed 19 positions in the ranking compared to the previous year and took 70th place among 139 countries in 2021.

One more example, in the ranking of open data, which is compiled by the international non-governmental organization "Open Data Watch", in 2020 Uzbekistan took 44th place among 187 countries, 1st place in Central Asia and among Asian countries became the country with the greatest growth.

To rise to a new level of the uncompromising fight against corruption was noted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly.

It should be noted that the policy pursued by the head of state to create a new Uzbekistan is based on the transformation of Uzbekistan into a country free from corruption.

For this, it is of great importance to unite all the healthy forces of our society against this evil, including ensuring close interaction between the parliament, executive authorities, local representative bodies and the public.