



ACTIVITY

Map the corruption!

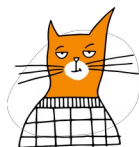
ARTICLES ABOUT CORRUPTION CASES

1. K.-AFFAIR – A COMPLEX CASE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

This case is still under judicial investigation, but it illustrates quite well the breakdown of trust associated with public office: Mr. K, a senior official at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, joins the board of directors of a major shipyard operator. He is suspected to have worked in the interests of the company while holding his public office – a company with which he has family and professional ties he avoided declaring. After the opening of an investigation for illegal trade in influence and corruption, the prosecutor's office received a statement from the president of the republic Mr. M. discouraging the magistrates from pursuing the investigation against his loyal collaborator, who followed him to the Palace, where he has now become secretary general. After the revelation of this undue pressure, and following the legal action of a civil society organisation, the investigation has been reopened and is currently not concluded... Mr. K is presumed innocent.

2. MASKS-AFFAIR – A CASE OF PERSONAL ADVANTAGE-TAKING IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Whether criminal conduct has actually occurred is still unclear, various investigations have been initiated. The mask affair is a complexity of events of alleged advantage-taking by several members of two political parties, related to the procurement of protection equipment against the COVID-19 pandemic. In the wake of the pandemic, there was an increased need and shortage of protection



equipment. Ministries were therefore in need of supplies. The deal became public in early March 2021 through an investigation by a well-known newspaper in the country. In total, the group composed of two Members of Parliament and three other partners should have received millions of euros in commissions for facilitating the ordering of breathing masks. According to the newspaper S. the money went through the Liechtenstein account of an offshore company. Investigations are also being conducted on suspicion of tax evasion.

In May 2021, further cases of undue mediation became known. Politicians and related relatives brokered large orders of masks, receiving millions of euros in commission. Some of the masks ordered, paid with taxpayers' money, have been significantly more expensive than other masks: a specific region even bought masks worth 9,90 euros each!

3. A.-AFFAIR – A CASE OF POLITICAL CLIENTELISM AND VOTE-BUYING

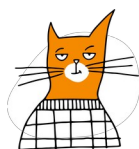
Miss. S., who back then was serving as both Member of Parliament and county councillor, was convicted of allocating EUR 700.000 to fake associations which were fashioned to look like social outfits for disadvantaged youths or deprived neighbourhoods. Their members, in return, campaigned for her political election. More generally, the investigation revealed a clientelistic management of public resources, since one out of the four budget items allocated to her department was devoted almost exclusively to her electoral district.

In this sense, the judicial enquiry concerned only a very small part of the funds used for patronage purposes: the vast majority of these subsidies had been legally allocated to associations that actually existed and were active in the area.

In addition to the judicial level, there are political and administrative consequences: on the political level, the party lost its electoral district in the following elections; on the administrative level, instruments were introduced to limit (or rather make explicit) the political pressure on the public officials in charge of approving funding applications.

4. XX PARTY HEAD L.D. SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR ABUSE IN OFFICE – A CASE OF FAKE HIRINGS

The head of the XX Party, L.D., has been sentenced to three years and six months in jail for instigating abuse in office. He was cleared of allegations of forgery in a case involving fake hirings at the Social



Assistance and Child Protective Services Agency. Mr. D. has been accused by the Anti-Corruption Agency of having used his influence to get two women employed at the Social Assistance and Child Protective Services Agency in his home county. Thus, they would get a wage from the state without showing up at work, while working in reality for the XX Party organisation in the county. The former head of the Agency and former employees have received jail sentences in the case. The former wife of Mr. D. was ordered to pay a (currency) 1,000 fine in this case. The sentences issued by the High Court can be appealed.

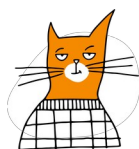
5. FORMER GOVERNOR IN PRISON – A CASE OF DIVERSION OF PUBLIC MONEY TO PRIVATE HEALTHCARE INSTITUTIONS

The former governor of XXX, Mr. R.F., who was in power for almost 20 years, was sent to prison. The judges sentenced him to 5 years and 10 months for corruption. The prosecutor had spoken before the Supreme Court of a 'massive corrupt deal'. The investigations, initiated in 2012, concern the diversion of public funds to finance two private hospitals, looking for profits, for 30 and 70 million respectively. The first case, however, is already time-barred. The conviction comes therefore for only one hospital.

The prosecutor's thesis, confirmed by the Court, is that Mr. F. arbitrarily decided to allocate public money, after being bribed by lobbyists S. (former councillor for health) and D., his long-time friend. In particular, it was the latter who paid for his notorious yacht holidays. The judicial police had quantified the amount of corruption, i.e. the benefits received in about 10 years, in 8 million, then recalculated by the first instance ruling in 6.5 million.

6. RELATIVES-AFFAIR – A CASE OF NEPOTISM IN THE PARLIAMENT

In 2013, several cases of nepotism by Members of the Parliament came to light. They had employed spouses as well as first and second-degree relatives paying them with public money from their budget – which has been banned since 2000. Despite this, it was discovered that a total of 79 MPs continued to employ relatives and spouses at the state's expense. Most of the parties in power were involved. With the publication of this information in April/May 2013, a big public discussion started in the country. The existing cases had to be disclosed and the affected cabinet members were asked by the minister-president Mr. S to return the money. A stricter parliamentary law was passed, banning the employment of one's own relatives up to the fourth degree of kinship and other Members of Parliament's relatives up to the third. Moreover, the still-existing employment relationships of relatives had to be terminated.



7. FINAL SENTENCE FOR FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE TRIBUNAL: THE JUDGE WAS ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT AND CORRUPTION

The sentence of five years and six months' imprisonment for G.B., the former president of the Court of XXX, has become final. The sentence was pronounced by the Supreme Court at the end of a trial initiated in 2011. The former magistrate was found guilty of embezzlement and corruption, while he was acquitted of the charges of attempted abuse of office and extortion of credit because they were already time-barred. Mr. B. had been accused of having created an illicit system to favour some friends by means of assignments and consultancies, and to benefit himself financially from these.

In addition to the conviction of Mr. B., the Court decided to confirm the sentences to four other co-defendants, including the one against a freelancer, P.B., who was considered to be the judge's bribe-giver.

8. INTERIOR MINISTER MR. M. HAS RESIGNED FOLLOWING AN INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED CORRUPTION LINKED TO THE ALLOCATION OF RESIDENCE PERMITS

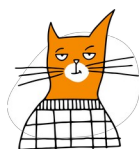
Police arrested 11 people following the scandal that disclosed the providing of 'golden visas' to foreigners willing to invest heavily in the country's property. They are suspected of corruption, money laundering, influence-peddling and embezzlement.

Searches were carried out at several locations, including the Interior Ministry. The Interior Minister Mr. M. told state television he was not implicated in the scandal but was resigning to preserve the credibility of state institutions. Mr. M.P., head of the country's immigration service, has been questioned by a judge on suspicion of accepting bribes, his lawyer said.

Meanwhile, the country's government has defended the visa scheme, which in two years has brought in over 1 billion euros in investment.

9. A CASE OF CORRUPTION IN THE ENERGY MARKET

A citizen, representing a private company, offered a €100,000 bribe to the project MANAGER of a



company developing energy projects. The bribe was offered in return for the company represented by the suspect to be declared the winner of a public tender for the construction of wind farms with a bid of more than 100 million euros. According to the pre-trial investigation, the suspect asked for approval of additional works in the project and wanted to obtain inside information on the projects, additionally, he sought that the company he represents would be favored in the future as well. The citizen suspected of attempted bribery was arrested and remanded in custody under a written promise not to leave and bail.

10. MONARCHY AND MONEY LAUNDERING

In mid-2018, the main media of this country (X) made public some recordings where it was commented the collection of millionaire commissions illegally by a former monarch and also the existence of some accounts in Switzerland where these sums of money would be deposited. As a result of the above, judicial proceedings were opened in this country (X) and in Switzerland, the public prosecutor's office of the country (X) could not investigate cases prior to the abdication of this monarch, only after his abdication. The judicial investigation in the country (X) and after approximately two years of investigation, the prosecutor's office determined that no charges would be brought against the former monarch among the reasons are that the national constitution considered him inviolable by then.

SOLUTIONS

- 1) This story happened in France. For more information click on this link:

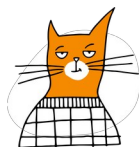
<https://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/cinq-minutes-pour-comprendre-l-affaire-alexis-kohler-24-06-2020-8341311.php>

- 2) This story happened in Germany in 2020.

For more information click on this link: <https://www.spiegel.de/thema/maskenaffaere/>

- 3) This story happened in France, more specifically in the Provence-Côte d'Azur region. For more information click on this link:

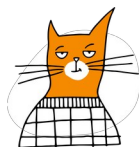
<https://www.nouvelobs.com/justice/20140923.OBS9953/clientelisme-la-deputee-sylvie-andrieux->



[condamnee-a-un-an-de-prison-ferme.html](#)

https://www.lemonde.fr/politique/article/2016/11/09/marseille-la-deputee-sylvie-andrieux-definitivement-condamnee-a-un-an-de-prison-ferme_5028494_823448.html

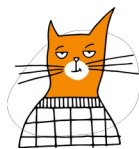
- 4) This story happened in Romania in 2018. For more information click on this link: <https://business-review.eu/business/legal/psds-liviu-dragnea-sentenced-to-3-years-and-six-months-in-jail-174144>
- 5) This story happened in Italy in 2019. For more information click on this link: <https://www.ilsole24ore.com/art/formigoni-condannato-5-anni-e-10-mesi-cassazione-ABfZhxWB>
- 6) This story happened in Germany between 2000 - 2013. For more information click on this link: <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/thema/Verwandtenaffäre>
- 7) This story happened in Italy in 2019 For more information click on this link: <https://genova.repubblica.it/cronaca/2019/05/15/news/condanna-definitiva-per-l-ex-presidente-del-tribunale-di-imperia-226358438/>
- 8) This story happened in Portugal in 2014. For more information click on this link: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-30077266>
- 9) This story happened in Lithuania in 2023. For more information click on this link: <https://www.stt.lt/naujienos/7464/lietuvoje-tiriamas-tarptautines-korupcijos-atvejis-itarimai-pareiksti-lenkijos-imones-atstovui:3668>
- 10) This story happened in Spain in 2021. For more information click on this link:





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<https://elpais.com/espana/2021-12-19/juan-carlos-i-hechos-probados.html>



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