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2022 Corruption Perceptions Index reveals scant progress against corruption as world becomes more violent

Corruption levels remain at a standstill for eleventh year straight

Karachi, Berlin, 31 January 2023 – The [2022 Corruption Perceptions Index \(CPI\)](#) released today by Transparency International shows that most of the world continues to fail to fight corruption: 95 per cent of countries have made little to no progress since 2017.

The [Global Peace Index](#) shows the world continues to become a less peaceful place. There is a clear connection between this violence and corruption, with countries that score lowest in this index also scoring very low on the CPI. Governments hampered by corruption lack the capacity to protect the people, while public discontent is more likely to turn into violence. This vicious cycle is impacting countries everywhere from **South Sudan** (13) to **Brazil** (38).

Delia Ferreira Rubio, Chair of Transparency International said:

“Corruption has made our world a more dangerous place. As governments have collectively failed to make progress against it, they fuel the current rise in violence and conflict – and endanger people everywhere. The only way out is for states to do the hard work, rooting out corruption at all levels to ensure governments work for all people, not just an elite few.”

Justice (R) Zia Perwez, Chairman Transparency International Pakistan said:

“It is encouraging to notice that Pakistan’s score on Rule of Law Index 2022, which is one of the seven sources used to calculate Pakistan score on CPI 2022, has improved by 1 point. At the same time, Pakistan’s score on Varieties of Democracy 2022 has declined by 1 point. Overall, in CPI 2022, Pakistan’s score has declined to 27 out of 100 from 28 out of 100 in CPI 2021. Pakistan’s rank in CPI 2022 has remained the same as in CPI 2021 at 140 out of 180 countries. Government must take steps to address corruption in all branches and implement four recommendations of Transparency International Berlin:

- i) Reinforcing checks and balances and promoting separation of powers,*
- ii) Sharing information and upholding the right to access it,*
- iii) Limiting private influence by regulating lobbying and promoting open access to decision making, and*
- iv) Combating transnational form of corruption”*

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

The CPI ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean).

The CPI global average remains unchanged at 43 for the eleventh year in a row, and more than two-thirds of countries have a serious problem with corruption, scoring below 50.

- **Denmark** (90) tops the index this year, with **Finland** and **New Zealand** following closely, both at 87. Strong democratic institutions and regard for human rights also make these countries some of the most peaceful in the world according to the [Global Peace Index](#).
- **South Sudan** (13), **Syria** (13) and **Somalia** (12), all of which are embroiled in protracted conflict, remain at the bottom of the CPI.

- 26 countries – among them **Qatar** (58), **Guatemala** (24) and the **United Kingdom** (73) – are all at historic lows this year.

Since 2017, ten countries significantly declined on their CPI scores.

- The significant decliners are: **Luxembourg** (77), **Canada** (74), the **United Kingdom** (73), **Austria** (71), **Malaysia** (47), **Mongolia** (33), **Pakistan** (27), **Honduras** (23), **Nicaragua** (19) and **Haiti** (17).
- Eight countries improved on the CPI during that same period: **Ireland** (77), **South Korea** (63), **Armenia** (46), **Vietnam** (42), the **Maldives** (40), **Moldova** (39), **Angola** (33) and **Uzbekistan** (31).

For each country's individual score and changes over time, as well as analysis for each region, see the [2022 CPI page](#).

CORRUPTION, CONFLICT AND SECURITY

Corruption, conflict and security are profoundly intertwined. The misuse, embezzlement or theft of public funds can deprive the very institutions in charge of protecting citizens, enforcing the rule of law and guarding the peace of the resources they need to fulfil that mandate. Criminal and terrorist groups are often aided by the complicity of corrupt public officials, law enforcement authorities, judges and politicians, which allows them to thrive and operate with impunity.

Transparency International calls on governments to prioritise anti-corruption commitments, reinforcing checks and balances, upholding rights to information and limiting private influence to finally rid the world of corruption – and the violence it brings.

Daniel Eriksson, CEO of Transparency International, said:

“The good news is that leaders can fight corruption and promote peace all at once. Governments must open up space to include the public in decision-making – from activists and business owners to marginalised communities and young people. In democratic societies, the people can raise their voices to help root out corruption and demand a safer world for us all.”

INTERVIEW REQUESTS

In case of any media engagement request, please contact official spokesperson of Transparency International Pakistan, Justice (R) M. Shaiq Usmani at: 0333-2259225 or 021-35390408.

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