

Global Corruption Report: Education (GCR: Education)

Global launch: 1 October 2013

Frequently Asked Questions from the TI Movement

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE *GCR: EDUCATION*

1. *What is the GCR: Education?*

The *GCR: Education* (published by Earthscan from Routledge) examines corruption and corruption risks across the entire education sector, from primary to higher education. It draws on both qualitative and quantitative research to advance our understanding of the dynamics of corruption in the sector and focuses on providing examples of practical solutions.

2. *Who has contributed to the GCR: Education?*

The *GCR: Education* is a collective effort bringing together the research and qualified opinions of over 70 expert authors, an Expert Advisory Panel and over 200 peer reviewers, as well as 28 TI national chapters.

The external contributors include individuals from organisations such as Education International, Human Rights Watch, OECD, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Save the Children, UNESCO, and the World Bank, and higher education institutions such as HEC Montréal, Open University, Sussex University, University of Hong Kong, University of Oslo, University of Minnesota and Vanderbilt University. Contributions from Transparency International's national chapters cover all regions and all aspects of corruption in education. The report also benefited from the guidance of a group of distinguished experts who served in its Expert Advisory Panel.

3. *What topics does the GCR: Education cover?*

The *GCR: Education* covers the following four key areas:

Corruption in school education, from resource leakages in education budgets and children being denied the right to attend school, to teacher absenteeism, nepotism and favourable grades in exchange for bribes.

Corruption in higher education and research, including trading in academic titles, financial and academic fraud, lack of transparency in management, and undue political and private sector influence on research agendas

Innovative tools and solutions to tackle corruption in education, including tools to measure corruption in education and academic research, tools that assist in addressing corruption, and new and innovative solutions to tackle corruption in education, such as information communication technologies, public interest litigation and creating networks to share knowledge.

Education for integrity as an essential tool in the fight against corruption, including approaches to teaching children and future leaders about integrity and anti-corruption.

4. What are some of the key findings of the GCR: Education?

The *GCR: Education* shows that the education sector is particularly prone to corruption due to the huge resources that are disbursed through complex administrative layers and inadequately monitored. Moreover, the importance of education puts service providers in a position to extort favours, and they are driven to do so when corruption higher up leaves them unpaid. The increasing amount of higher education students worldwide puts universities and their staff under pressure to compete for funding, in the absence of effective oversight and control.

The report emphasizes that corruption in education affects most the poor and disadvantaged, who are unable to bear the hidden costs of admission. It swells the ranks of incompetent future leaders and professionals and normalises social acceptance of corruption at the earliest age. For a detailed overview of these findings, please consult the Executive Summary and the Introduction.

5. What does TI recommend?

There are no simple remedies for tackling corruption in the education sector, but the recommendations outlined in the *GCR: Education* can assist in reducing and preventing corruption in education. Strategies need to be tailored to national contexts, and the *GCR: Education* serves as a reference of adaptable tools and solutions for your school, university, locality, district and country.

The *GCR: Education* makes recommendations under the headings of political will and the framing of national policy, transparency, accountability and people's engagement. The recommendations are all presented in the Executive Summary. National chapters can also consult the *GCR: Education* policy briefs, which focus on specific issues and provide practical recommendations.

6. Ok, that all makes sense. But what exactly is the Global Corruption Report?

The *Global Corruption Report* is one of Transparency International's flagship publications. Launched in 2001, it brings together the expertise of the anti-corruption movement – both within and beyond Transparency International – to bear on a specific corruption issue or sector. Past reports have covered, respectively, climate change, the private sector, water, and the judiciary.

Since 2009, the *Global Corruption Report* is no longer an annual report (individual reports are no longer referred to by the respective year of release but by topic). In addition, the series no longer features comprehensive country reports, which can now be found online at <http://www.transparency.org/country>. Instead, the report now features select case studies that cover specific issues.

The next GCR will address corruption in sport.

7. Any further questions?

Please feel free to contact the GCR team at gcr@transparency.org.
