ACTUAL PROBLEMS OF ANTICORRUPTION ACTIVITY

The problem of corruption is one of the oldest in the history of mankind. It starts its history from the time of primitive society and does not lose its relevance till the present day.

Since the end of the XVIII century there was a crucial time for the society attitude to corruption in the Western Europe. From that moment the society began to have an increasing impact on the quality of the government apparatus and shifted its attention to the relationship of the political elite and big business[1].

In the second half of the XX century corruption became a significant problem in the context of globalization. The fight against corruption has moved from the category of national to international rank. Local methods of fighting against devastating effects of corrupted activity became almost impossible.

For the last 15 years, the problem of corruption is in the focus of society in general and politicians, scientists and law enforcers are engaged in it in particular. Nowadays it is a serious international
problem that requires a joint approach and needs certain anticorruption instruments of a global character. Corruption does not recognize national borders. It is pervasive. Therefore, the study and analysis of the global practice of fighting against corruption is essential.

Fighting against corruption has not just turned into a problem of international importance. The main criterion for making this issue on the agenda of the international community is the great and increasingly growing influence of this phenomenon on the global development.

It is important to determine the impact of corruption on the scope of global development. It plays a key role in understanding the problem. Corruption is a serious threat to the national security and entails serious negative economic, social and political results.

In modern society, there is a plenty of different studies, monitors, ranking countries in terms of corruption. Among a large number of corruption studies the most preferred for an overall picture of the world’s situation and identifying corruption factors are studies of the international organization Transparency International.

Transparency International is a non-profit independent organization, which studies and fights against corruption at the international level and on the scale of separate countries, one of its goals is to achieve greater transparency and accountability.

Transparency International offices were set up in many countries around the world. They all share a single anti-corruption ideology aimed to establish a common base transparency regime, primarily in the financial sector. This is the most extensive organization that explores a long time corruption fight in various spheres of life and indicates possible solutions of the identified problems.

Transparency International and the Gallup International published their researches of the level of corruption in the world in 2016. According to the results over a third of Ukrainian citizens bribed (near 35 %)[3].

Bribe «rates» is remarkable. Courts reached the first level in this rating: 66% of respondents consider that this sphere in judicial
system is the most corrupted. Law enforcement agencies are on the second place - 64%. The third is the public service sector (56%) and the health sphere (54%). They are followed by parliament (53%), political parties (45%) and the educational system (43%)[3].

The majority of Ukrainians (74%) believe that the public sector is corrupted[4]. In other words the Ukrainians believe that the state will not protect them if they do not "stimulate" a "help" financially or do not use the "telephone" law.

What is the reason for the growth of corruption? Every year the authorities actively take measures to combat corruption, to make appropriate laws. There are government programmers, but 43% of Transparency International and Gallup International respondents believe that for the last two years the level of corruption has only grown[5].

Obviously, the opinion of the citizens was affected by a number of factors. First of all we can mention the fact of demanding a bribe by judicial and law enforcement authorities.

The second important factor is the immunity of people, close to power. For example, over the past few years in many news stories flashed incidents - road fatal crashes caused by children and other relatives of famous people in Ukraine. None of them were punished. But the victims, their relatives, neighbors and witnesses remember the tragedies and understand that the guilty ones escaped punishment due to corruption.

Not only ordinary Ukrainians suffer from corruption. The State has the image and financial losses. Large investors leave Ukraine. They do not like the adverse business conditions - corruption, a weak judicial system and administrative barriers.

It is obvious that in order to change such an awful situation Ukrainian authorities, Ukrainians must work hard. It is noteworthy that among the countries of the former Soviet Union the least corrupted is Georgia. The minimal level of corruption in the world is (1%) in Australia, Japan, Denmark, and Finland. We are far from it, but there is a hope. I don't think, that our compatriots want to live as citizens of Sierra Leone (the most corrupt country - 84 %), Liberia (75%) or Yemen (74%)[4].
Incidentally, there is the following interesting data in the same report of Transparency International. 35% of respondents reported about cases of extortion bribes, while 53% of them said, that they had refused to pay. Rating reasons of bribery are the following: failure to obtain service by others (33%), assumption of a gratitude (33%), acceleration of a process (28%), reduction of the cost of services (6%). 74% do not report corruption cases, 24% are afraid of consequences, 63% believe that it will not change anything[3].

But it is worth to mention that 36% of Ukrainians are ready to go out to fight against corruption[5].

So we need to be completely fair. Corruption in Ukraine is not only an internal problem. It is strongly influenced by external factors. Corporations from developing countries bring to Ukraine a corrupt corporate culture, but mostly it is a sin of Russia and China.


Russian companies with business in Ukraine, in particular: Gazprom, Alfa-Group (represented in Ukraine by Alfa-Bank), Lukoil and others have negative figures in the study. Experts rated the degree of disclosure of financial transactions of Gazprom to 0% which is largely caused by relatively low rating. The lowest position among Russian companies has Severstal - 3 points, Alfa-Group - 2.7 points and Lukoil - 2.2 points [5].

More than a third of companies caught in the list - from China. So the car manufacturer Chery Automobile got 0 points and ended at the bottom of the list with Mexican company Mabe. The biggest amount of points got the Indian telecom company Tata Communications which received 7.1 points[5].

Such bodies are usually independent of other law enforcement agencies and report directly to the supreme leader of the country. The most worthy and spotless frames are selected. Such bodies are given extraordinary powers for operational and investigative actions including the background of an effective system of public oversight over its operations.
Prosecution of corruption is only part of the system of measures to combat corruption. Especially in a time when the country's population does not trust the police and the judicial system. The mentality of the general population needs to be changed.

Beyond the immediate prosecution of corruption, anticorruption organization conduct measures to prevent and control corruption: law revision, salary increase, effective propaganda of the rule of law and "clean hands". Real fight against corruption is not a campaign which has definite time. This is a direction of state activity which should be carried out continuously.

Now corruption in Ukraine reached the critical exponents. This is evidenced by at least the position of the country in the international rates of investment attractiveness.

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