



Concept of Corruption, Essence and History of Emergence

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ABSTRACT

Corruption is a social evil that has a huge negative impact on the development of society. Nowadays, there is a fight against this disease on a global scale. The article discusses the concept of corruption, its essence and history of its emergence. The author provides comprehensive information about corruption based on various scientific sources. In recent years, anti-corruption policies, presidential decrees, Cabinet of Ministers decisions and other various legal documents increase the relevance of the topic. During the research, an attempt was made to provide a solution to the problem posed by the topic using methods of scientific knowledge such as historical, comparative analysis, logic, analysis and synthesis.

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Introduction. Everyone has their imagination and understanding about this, of course. It is defined in the law as follows: “Corruption is the illegal use of one’s position or service position by a person to obtain material or non-material benefits for personal interests or the interests of other persons, as well as illegal presentation of such benefits.”

The law clearly defines the bodies and organizations involved in anti-corruption activities, raising legal culture in the field of anti-corruption, measures to prevent corruption, detection of corruption-related offenses, putting an end to them, and the inevitability of responsibility.

It is the civic duty of each of us to familiarize ourselves with this law, study each of its articles in-depth and try to apply it to our lives.

There are many types and descriptions of corruption in the world. Hundreds and thousands of studies have been conducted by scientists, various institutes, and international organizations to find out the causes of its origin and to find effective ways to combat it. Tables with various indicators and numbers have been created, and specific ratings have been compiled. Even different formulas of corruption have been developed. Work and research in this regard continue consistently.

Based on the socio-historical situation, citizens' legal worldview, state structure, and economic development factors, each country fights against corruption in its ways. The most effective way in this regard

has not yet been found. Because corruption seems to be a simple crime at first sight, but in reality, its origin and reasons for viability are very complex and complicated.

A method that works in one country may not work as well in another. Therefore, each state and society chooses its way to fight against corruption, or rather, life shows what the right way is. It is no coincidence that the law envisages comprehensive measures to fight against corruption, and in this regard, special attention is paid to each issue.

Main part. The word corruption also means “selling”. How does a leader or person in charge engage in corruption? What factors cause this? The answer to these questions may vary. But the person who sells or is being sold does not fulfill any task willingly.

“In addition to breaking the law, a person involved in corruption reveals his identity, faith, and spirituality. Such a person not only causes financial damage, but also disrespects the state, and democracy, and destroys the reputation of the country, which raised him by giving him bread and salt, gave him knowledge, skills, prestige, and position.” [1]

In determining the main direction and principles of the state policy in the field of fighting corruption, the issue of ensuring the inevitability of responsibility for such an offense was strictly taken into account.

For a person involved in corruption, who indulges in this abominable vice, great things and noble feelings lose their value. Such a person thinks that everything in life can be bought and sold. They do not trust anyone or faith, and at the same time, such people cannot be trusted with anything that is considered dear to live. Because they are not ashamed to turn their faces to the ground and bow their heads to their parents, relatives, brothers, and sisters.

According to the law, it is established to establish the Republican Interdepartmental Commission on Combating Corruption to coordinate the activities of the bodies and organizations involved in the fight against corruption. It is noted that the formation of this commission and the order of its activity will be determined by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This standard is important for the fight against corruption to be permanent and consistent. According to our Constitution, the President is the guarantor of the observance of the rights and freedoms of citizens, the Constitution, and the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

We know well that the law regulates legal relations. Determines powers, rights, and obligations, and measures to be implemented. If the law does not work in life, it will be no different than a piece of paper. Therefore, it would be a big mistake to think that “the law on corruption has been adopted, and now everything will be traced.” [2] We should all think about getting rid of corruption and freeing reforms from its grip, each of us should take the necessity from our hearts and fight against it.

This struggle begins with simple situations in our daily lives. We will have to behave properly in situations like getting better advice from the doctor, speeding up the queue, putting a more accurate score in the rating book, and so on.

We indeed face various situations and actions in life. Sometimes laws are violated before our eyes, and human rights and dignity are violated. In such a situation, a person's head becomes dizzy from helplessness. But let's not forget that the year is designated as the year of dialogue with the people and the year of human interests, and the changes and updates introduced in this regard will help when citizens are left helpless. The voice of appeals from distant villages is also heard.

Like the nature of people, leaders and managers are different. "All the comforts in the team are for me, this organization was given to me for my services at one time and for my leisurely life, please, let the others carry out their carts." there are also leaders who cannot perceive. Therefore, the law envisages measures to improve the legal culture of the population, to form an intolerant attitude towards corruption in society, and in particular, to increase the legal literacy of the employees of state bodies and other organizations.

As stipulated in the law, the issue of strengthening legal education and upbringing in the field of combating corruption in educational institutions is of urgent importance. A person who learns the happiness of working properly and living properly from childhood and youth will be brave and honest. Young people who have learned that it is impossible to betray one's trust, injustice, disrespect for the law, bribery, corruption, and abuse will become courageous and conscientious people in the future. He respects the law and regulations and serves the country with loyalty. Halal understands that wealth not earned by honest work is not a blessing, it does not command anyone, and it brings not good, but evil and misfortune.

If a young person comes to a responsible task, if he gets it, how happy will his parents and relatives be?... This is a natural and noble feeling, of course. But some wrong, harmful vices, and habits are allowed unknowingly and without understanding, and we should never forget them. Sometimes it happens that the wishes and wishes of relatives, brothers, and sisters like "my son or brother, here, while we are working, give your sister a more appropriate gift for her daughter who is passing away, help your uncle with his insufficient car payment, he is having a hard time..." destroys young personnel. turns his head. Out of respect for his loved ones, the poor man tries to shoot himself, do illegal work, and earn easy money. Unwillingly, he gets into a dead end, caught in the trap of corruption.

Nepotism and familiarity should not harm the interests of the state and society, laws and human dignity should not be violated. A bond, friendship, and brotherhood that is formed for some benefit does not last long and does not bring respect to anyone. There are many examples of this in life.

It is an urgent issue to give freedom to mass media in the fight against corruption, to ensure openness and transparency in the activities of state authorities, to deliver fast and impartial information to citizens, and to increase their influence and position in the process of democratic reforms. Therefore, the issues of participation of the mass media in the fight against corruption, and the protection of persons who provide information on corruption offenses are specified in the law. [3]

Without the free and bold activity of the mass media, it is impossible to democratize the life of society, to encourage people to live independently and to establish a consistent public control, which is as necessary as water and air today. All over the world, the state's respect for democracy, the potential, and the culture of the people are evaluated based on the freedom and justice of the press. Of course, today most of us understand and recognize this fact.

At this point, let's pay attention to another aspect of the fight against corruption. A leader or other responsible person who is prone to "treating", and "dealing", not only harms the organization, society, and employees but also wastes the time and life of the organization, the team, especially young personnel with such a person. If the leader is an example to everyone, instead of working honestly and showing selflessness, he says one thing in the meetings and does the complete opposite, what will the younger staff learn from him? What kind of example will he set? Fighting against corruption is also important because in these processes, workers, and youth learn to operate based on the concept that it is necessary to work honestly, and to respond to trust and authority with service worthy of trust. He is steadfast in the belief that a brave person will always be honest in any situation.

For this reason, in recent years, entrepreneurs and small business entities have been served in our country through the "single window" principle, and state services have been provided electronically through a single portal. Amendments are being made to legal documents, the work activities of state organizations in terms of ensuring openness and transparency, and many other innovations are being introduced. All this is of particular importance in eliminating the scourge of corruption. Citizens wholeheartedly support such an approach.

The world is developing day by day, hour by hour. Rapid, new horizons of cooperation between states and peoples are opening up, national economies are rising and developing in close connection with each other. Today, any country cannot achieve high results without consistent cooperation with other countries, without relying on reasonable investments and resources, without opening its doors to the world, and without becoming a reliable place where people can work freely.

A country where a wide path for free activity has been opened, where human rights and legal interests are strictly protected, no one will leave the threshold, such a country will become a country where businessmen from different parts of the world are sought after.

It is not difficult to understand that the laws, decisions, and decrees of the President, which have recently been passed on the more intensive development of various sectors of the life of our society and the economy of our country, are aimed at this noble goal. Development of tourism, abolition of the visa regime for tourists visiting our country from many countries of the world, or improvement of the judicial system, ensuring the true independence of the courts or giving wide freedom to entrepreneurship, eliminating various bureaucratic barriers and pitfalls, and several other decisions and decrees will open the way for people, serves to increase the attractiveness of Uzbekistan.

The anti-corruption law creates conditions for the reforms in this regard to take a more consistent form and gives great hope to our people.

Corruption (from latin *Corrumpere* “To Corruption”, latin *Corruptio*, “Bribery, Corruption”) is a term that usually means the use of powers and rights assigned by an official, and is also associated with the status of this official authority, opportunities for personal interests that are contrary to laws and ethical principles, and communications. Corruption is also known as the bribery of officials, which is characteristic of dubious countries. The corresponding term in European languages usually has broader semantics derived from the original meaning of the Latin word.

A characteristic sign of corruption is a conflict between the actions of an official and the interests of his employer, or a conflict between the actions of an elected official and the interests of society. Many types of corruption are similar to fraud committed by an official and fall under the category of crimes against public authorities.

Any official (official, deputy, judge, law enforcement officer, administrator, etc.) who has discretionary power to distribute any resources that do not belong to him can be subject to corruption. The main factor that encourages corruption is the opportunity to receive economic benefits (rents) associated with the use of power, and the main obstacle is the risk of influence and punishment.

Dante in his “Divine Comedy” placed bribe-takers in the seventh circle of the grave of hell. [4] The systemic nature of corruption is reflected in its coercive nature for those working in public organizations covered: the lower ranks collect bribes and share them with the higher ranks to maintain their positions.

According to macroeconomic and political economic studies, corruption causes great harm and hinders economic growth and development for the benefit of society as a whole.

Corruption is criminalized in many countries.

Transparency International, the World Bank, and other organizations understand corruption as the abuse of entrusted powers for personal gain. Other definitions are more specific (authority includes credible sources, it can be public and private sector related, etc.) or use stricter legal language.

The first ruler mentioned as an anti-corruption ruler was Uruinim, the Sumerian king of the city-state of Lagash in the second half of the 24th century BC. Despite indicative and often brutal punishments for corruption, the fight against it did not bring the desired results. Fortunately, the most dangerous crimes were prevented, but corruption at the level of petty waste and bribes was widespread. In the 4th century BC, the first treatise on Corruption was published by one of the ministers of Bharata (India) under the pseudonym of Kautilya, *Arta Shastra*. In it, he made a pessimistic conclusion that “the king's property, at least a little, cannot be appropriated by those responsible for this property.” Another important point is that the main purpose of this law and Panama is to protect the royal, that is, state property.

The pharaohs of ancient Egypt faced similar problems, with a huge bureaucratic apparatus of officials that allowed them to create lawlessness and arbitrariness over free peasants, artisans, and even military nobles. The teaching of a certain Itahotel has been preserved, he recommends the following: “Bend your back to the authorities, and your house will be in order, your salary will be in order because it is bad for a person who opposes the boss, but it is easy to live when he likes.”

The severity of the judges was of particular concern, as it led to the illegal distribution of property and the desire to settle disputes outside the framework of the law. It is not without reason that the leading religions, which lead all kinds of corruption, first of all, condemn the bribery of judges: “... the chief demands gifts, and the judge, for bribes, judges and nobles express the evil desires of their hearts and spoil the case ...;

“Do not accept gifts, because blind gifts blind the eyes of the heart and change the work of the righteous”; [1]

“Do not use each other's property illegally and do not bribe the judges to deliberately take part of the property of others” (Qur’an 2:188) [5] and others.

An important impetus to the understanding of corruption is provided by the works of Niccolò Machiavelli. He compared corruption to a disease like consumption. It is difficult to recognize at first, but easier to treat. If it is neglected, it is easy to recognize but difficult to treat.

From the end of the 18th century, there was a turning point in society's attitude to corruption in the West. Liberal reforms were carried out under the slogan that state power exists for the benefit of the people subject

to it, so subjects would support the government in exchange for strict compliance with the laws by officials. Under the 1787 U.S. Constitution, bribery is one of two crimes specifically impeachable against the President of the United States. [6] Society began to influence the quality of the work of the state apparatus more and more. As political parties and government regulation increased, episodes of collusion between political elites and big business became increasingly worrisome. Nevertheless, in the 19th and 20th centuries, the level of corruption in developed countries decreased compared to the rest of the world.

A new stage in the evolution of corruption in developed countries was the beginning of the 19th and 20th centuries. On the one hand, another strengthening of state regulation and, accordingly, the power of officials began. On the other hand, in the competitive struggle, large private businesses appeared, which began to switch to “buying the state” - directing the activities of politicians and high-ranking officials to the protection of capital interests, rather than to the episodic bribery of some small civil servants. As political parties grew in importance in developed countries (especially in Western Europe after World War II), party corruption developed when large firms and multinational corporations paid politicians personally into party coffers rather than lobbying for their interests. [7]

In the second half of the 20th century, corruption became an international problem. Abroad, corporate bribery of high-ranking officials is widespread. Globalization has led to the fact that corruption in one country begins to negatively affect the development of many countries. However, the countries with the highest level of corruption are no longer limited to the Third World: liberalization in the former socialist countries in the 1990s, along with gross abuse of office, the Financial Times declared 1995 the “Year of Corruption” in its December 31, 1995 issue. To promote awareness of corruption, the UN has established International Anti-Corruption Day (December 9). [8]

Corruption can be classified according to many criteria: according to the types of interacting entities (citizens and small employees, firms and officials, nation and political leadership); by type of benefit (profit or cost reduction); by direction (internal and external); through the interaction of entities, the degree of centrality, predictability, consistency, etc. Historically, corruption in Russia has also differed depending on whether there is an illegal preference for legal actions (“bribery”) or illegal actions (“greed”). [9]

Different forms of corruption are given different moral values: some actions are considered criminal, and others are considered immoral. The latter includes nepotism and patronage based on political orientation, which, as a rule, violates the principle of meritocracy. [10]

However, there is also a positive attitude towards corruption: “Corruption can be a useful substitute for the rule of law where it is not developed. In other words, the benefits of corruption—the value created by additional productive operations—may exceed the costs. Such a situation, perhaps, occurs when the legal possibilities of doing business are sharply limited,” says Douglas Houston, professor of business at the University of Kansas, and an economist.

Corruption should be separated from lobbying. When lobbying, an official also uses his or her authority to move up the corporate ladder in exchange for increased opportunities for an appointment or acting on behalf of a particular group. The difference is that lobbying meets three conditions:

1. The process of influencing an official is competitive and follows rules known to all participants.
2. There are no hidden or side fees.
3. Clients and agents are independent of each other because neither group receives a share of the profits earned by the other group.

However, some researchers believe that lobbying is an integral part of corruption.

The most dangerous forms of corruption are classified as criminal liability. These include, first of all, embezzlement (theft) and bribery. Embezzlement is the use of resources entrusted to an official for personal purposes. Its difference from ordinary theft is that initially, a person receives the right to dispose of resources: from the boss, client, etc. Bribery is a type of corruption, and the actions of an official consist of providing any service to an individual or legal entity in exchange for a favor. a certain benefit to the former to the latter. In most cases, unless the bribe is the result of extortion, the bribe is the main beneficiary of the transaction. Vote buying is also a criminal offense (although some consider it a form of bona fide campaigning rather than corruption).

Corruption is often the reason for calls to violently replace the government. At the same time, accusations are often made against the political system as a whole, rather than a specific political elite. As Oscar Arias Sánchez points out, authoritarian regimes can hide most abuses of power from the public, so the conclusion about their corruption is made based on the analysis of the most important evidence and the harmful consequences for the whole society. Conversely, Corruption in a democracy is often widely publicized and suppressed before it can cause significant damage. However, periodic conflicts raise doubts among citizens about their ability to influence the political decision-making process and disenchantment with democracy. [1]

Day-to-day corruption occurs as a result of the interaction between ordinary citizens and officials. It includes various gifts of citizens to the official and his family members. This category also includes nepotism (nepotism). [11]

Corruption in business occurs when government and business interact. For example, in a business dispute, the parties may seek the help of a judge to decide in their favor. Sovereign corruption refers to political leadership and supreme courts in a democratic system. It refers to groups in power whose unscrupulous behavior is pursuing policies that harm their interests and the interests of the electorate.

The most common is decentralized (external) corruption, when these actions are arranged individually between an official and a person. At the same time, the addition of internal corruption - between members of the same organization - gives it the characteristics of organized crime.

According to the doctrine of behaviorism, entering a community, a person accepts the rules of behavior accepted in this community. Therefore, if there is an “atmosphere of complacency, sometimes irresponsibility in solving official issues, lack of transparency in discussing the misconduct of employees” about bribery in the office, then newcomers will accept this behavior as normal and follow it in the future.

However, according to other researchers, a person always has the main opportunity to get out of such an environment; as well as combating and publicizing violations by the micro-community or ignoring them, but at the same time not allowing violations by the individual himself.

The spread of corruption among officials leads to the fact that both subordinates and leaders are interested in it. The assessment of possible benefits and risks of corruption is described in a simplified form according to the following model:

This system is very stable and thus ensures stability. Corruption activity. For example, you may encounter the principle of the presumption of good faith in law enforcement, which means that their employees are very unlikely to be accused of illegal behavior. [12]

In practice, subordinates bribe not only superiors but also themselves. The result is the creation of internal markets and economic mechanisms that are inherently corrupt. In particular, positions with high illegal income will appear. The competition between officials for such positions forms the internal “labor market”.

As corruption develops, there is some centralization of the market, starting at the level of individual departments, with officials setting tariffs for each bribe to reduce internal competition and increase overall revenue. To ensure the stability of illegal financial flows, administrative and legislative measures aimed at reducing legal and social risks are required to increase economic benefits from corruption.

Extortion (“government racketeering”) is carried out by authorized persons to prevent them from obtaining licenses, special permits, or other services within the authority of the official. If the official has the authority to estimate the amount of payments (such as taxes or fees) that he will have to pay, this also opens up opportunities for extortion.

A person faced with extortion by a public servant has the right to complain about the actions of a public servant through an internal or external control body for bribery (which creates the risk of exposure). The decision depends on how expensive the appeal process is, as well as whether the citizen knows the legal rights and obligations of the civil servant.

Bargaining takes place under the same conditions as extortion, but it differs in that it involves making a deal that benefits both parties and harms the state. For example, a customs inspector may be bribed to reduce the number of imports, thereby reducing the amount the importing firm has to pay for duties. The transaction may also include structures responsible for supervising the official.

For the bureaucracy, especially the top political elite, one of the main ways to enrich corruption is through public spending.

Investment projects are mainly determined by decisions made by senior officials. Large investment projects (especially with the participation of foreign corporations) often involve the transfer of monopoly rights to the winner of the competition, which promises to pay especially large bribes to officials. Some projects are created specifically so that certain groups can receive rent (“state rent”) from those appointed as project implementers.

Public procurement, as a rule, involves choosing the best offer objectively based on a tender from several people, but sometimes an official can ensure the victory of the seller who promises the highest “Commission” (“kick”) from the transaction. For this, participation in the tender is limited, its rules are not fully announced, etc. As a result, prices are made at inflated prices.

Off-budget accounts are often created for legitimate purposes (pension, road funds, etc.) But in some funds, for example, to help the disabled, revenues can significantly exceed real costs, which makes some officials want to absorb the “surplus”. encourages. Conversely, in the event of a deficit, officials often decide who gets the money. In some countries, funds received through foreign aid or the sale of natural resources are channeled into special funds that are less transparent and less controlled than budget funds. Due to minute fluctuations in commodity prices, it is not easy to determine the actual amount of the transaction and the amount of allocations to such funds, which allows some of the money to go into the pockets of officials. [13]

Other areas that are most profitable in terms of corruption include:

- tax benefits;
- sale of goods at prices lower than market prices;
- zoning due to impact on land value;
- extraction of natural resources;
- sale of state assets, especially the privatization of state enterprises;
- giving monopoly power to a certain type of commercial (in particular, export-import) activity;
- control over the underground economy and illegal business (extortion, protection from persecution, elimination of rivals, etc.);
- appointment to responsible positions in the government.

According to Prof. T. Gilvason, the lack of free access to public administration information for citizens (that is, its obfuscation) increases corruption and inevitably leads to an economic crisis.

The forms of corruption listed below are primarily related to judges, but regarding administrative offenses, they can refer to officials authorized to consider relevant cases (internal affairs bodies, firemen, tax, customs authorities, etc.).

“Forks” in the legislation, many provisions allow the judge to choose between light and heavy punishment, taking into account the degree of guilt, the severity of the offense, and other circumstances. In this case, the judge has the means to influence the citizen who committed the offense. The greater the difference between the upper and lower limits of punishment, the more a citizen is willing to pay a bribe. [14]

Requalification of offense. Another type of “plug” is the repetition of the offense in different codes. This opens the possibility of reclassification of the committed offense to a lighter category (for example, from a criminal to an administrative or civil category), or vice versa, to a more serious category. Due to the unclear structure of the legislation, it is often difficult to distinguish between crimes and other offenses, and in such cases, judges (or officials) make arbitrary decisions, which opens up opportunities for bribery and extortion.

Non-monetary damage to citizens. Some legal norms can cause corruption if they harm the person who is bound by the legal norms. Even if the amount of the fine and the bribe for the crime are nominally equal, it should be noted that the payment of the fine is accompanied by non-monetary time spent on making the payment at the bank and submitting payment (receipt) documents to the office that issued the fine. The damage caused by the rule of law is different and unpleasant for citizens. It should also be remembered that not all citizens are ready to defend their rights in court.

As Thomas Hobbes wrote, corruption is “the root from which contempt of all law is always and in all temptations.” [15] In the case of highly corrupt officials, most public resources are deliberately channeled into the most easily looted or most easily bribed channels. The policy aims to further curb the mechanisms of

control over corruption: freedom of the press, independence of the justice system, competing politicians (opposition), and individual rights of citizens. For example, some people argue that there are cases where a person's behavior and appearance are a signal for law enforcement agencies to arrest a person for bribery.

There is also a view that corruption can be tolerated. According to one of the arguments, in the history of the development of many countries (Indonesia, Thailand, Korea) there were periods when economic growth was accompanied by an increase in corruption, that is, the increase in corruption did not even hinder economic growth. [16] According to another argument, bribery is only the implementation of market principles in the activities of state and municipal structures. Thus, a tolerant attitude towards corruption is acceptable if it does not affect economic growth or overall market efficiency. Critics of this view argue that, for the above reasons, countries with high levels of corruption are at risk of losing stability after a period of growth and falling into a downward spiral.

As the state eradicates corruption, the costs of fighting corruption increase to such an extent that an endless effort is required to eradicate corruption. By comparing the damages caused by corruption and the costs of eliminating corruption for each level, it is possible to find the optimal level of corruption, reflecting the smallest total losses. It seems that society shouldn't eliminate corruption simply because of the cost of this process. However, we should not forget about the greater effectiveness of the funds spent on the fight against corruption.

In addition, excessive enthusiasm for fighting corruption can deprive the administrative system of flexibility and citizens' civil liberties to the detriment of eliminating its causes. A ruling group can use penal law to increase control over society and persecute political opponents.

Corruption causes multi-billion dollar losses in international trade. One of the reasons for the growing interest in the problem of international corruption in recent years. For example, American exporting firms say they often lose lucrative contracts because they are prohibited from paying bribes to foreign officials. On the contrary, in most of the OSCE countries, giving bribes to foreign partners was not only not prohibited, but could even be withheld from income when paying taxes. For example, German corporations had costs of 5.6 billion dollars per year. The situation changed only at the end of 1997 when the OSCE countries signed the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions. [17] To comply with the convention, laws were passed in the following years prohibiting bribery by national companies. At this point, the UN Convention on Combating Corruption should be evaluated separately.

The production of any goods requires the use of certain resources, which are compensated by the funds received from the consumers of these goods. Employee wages are one of the costs that are ultimately covered by the consumer, but their performance is determined by the will of the boss and the employer. This leads to a situation where the consumer receives the desired service or product from the employee, but it cannot directly affect the employee's performance. A particular state is a public good paid for by taxes and provided by public servants. Although officials are paid for by citizens, their employer is the state, which gives them the right to make decisions that affect the competing interests of various individuals by law.

In the absence of any voluntary power, corruption is impossible. However, a person or group with high power cannot independently implement the policy that they set. For this purpose, he appoints administrators, gives them the necessary powers, puts the necessary resources at their disposal, determines the rules of behavior for them, and supervises them. And here's the problem:

1. Conservatism of the law. In practice, guidelines change much more slowly than external conditions. Therefore, they leave room to act according to their wishes, because otherwise the management system will be completely inflexible, and the inconsistency of strict norms with the realities can completely stop the work. However, this means that in a situation where the law does not provide for it, the administrator can start managing with the most favorable rent.

2. Impossibility of comprehensive control. Control is very expensive, but control also damages the quality of management and leads to the disappearance of creative talent.

Thus, there is a possibility of corruption in the principle of governance itself. This opportunity develops in objective conditions, and the potential rent outweighs the risk.

This problem is repeatedly repeated in the bureaucratic apparatus, as high-level administrators appoint their subordinates, etc. A characteristic feature of systems with representative democracy is that the highest

positions are held by the political elite who receive power from the people, and there is a risk of losing power in the next elections.

Most experts believe that the high cause of corruption is the imperfection of political institutions that provide internal and external mechanisms of struggle (see the next section). There are also reasons to think that some objective circumstances make an important contribution:

- unclear laws;
- Ignorance of the population or lack of understanding of the laws, arbitrary obstruction of bureaucratic procedures to officials, or overcharging of relevant fees;
- unstable political situation in the country;
- lack of established mechanisms of interaction between state agencies;
- the dependence of the standards and principles based on the bureaucratic apparatus's activity on the policy of the ruling elite;
- bureaucracy's incompetence;
- nepotism and political patronage that lead to secret agreements that weaken corruption control mechanisms;
- lack of unity in the system of executive power, that is, regulation of the same activity by different authorities;
- low level of citizens' participation in state management.

Assumptions about the causes of high corruption, other assumptions about the circumstances that may cause high corruption are considered:

- lower wages in the public sector compared to the private sector;
- regulation of the economy by the state;
- dependence of citizens on officials, the state monopoly on certain services;
- separating the bureaucratic elite from the people;
- economic instability, inflation;
- ethnic diversity of the population;
- low level of economic development (GDP per capita);
- religious traditions;
- the culture of the country in general. [18]

To date, there is no agreement on the confirmation of these hypotheses.

Conclusion. Thus, an increase in wages in the public sector relative to the private sector does not lead to an immediate reduction in corruption. On the other hand, it helps to gradually increase the level of bureaucracy's competence and has a positive effect in the long run. In the countries with the lowest level of corruption, the salaries of officials are 3-7 times higher than the salaries in the production sector.

One of the most controversial issues is the state regulation of markets and the role of the state as a monopolist. Advocates of the free market argue that a reduced role for the state and increased competition will help reduce corruption by reducing the amount of discretionary power required and by reducing the ability to gain market dominance through protective regulation and thus the ability to extract rents. All countries with low corruption are characterized by relatively free economies. In contrast, a planned economy characterized by the monopoly power of officials and keeping prices below market levels encourages bribery as a means of obtaining scarce goods and services.

There are also several objections to this argument. First, the private sector cannot always offer satisfactory solutions to problems, and in such cases, most people see government intervention as justified. This, in turn, creates the preconditions for unfair control and the collection of state rent. Thus, even in the conditions of an open economy, it is not possible to eliminate corruption. Secondly, the process of economic liberalization is carried out by the government, and therefore, in essence, it is an active intervention in the economy (which can additionally be accompanied by the creation of sources of enrichment of corruption through privatization). Therefore, in practice, the initial period of liberalization is often characterized by the opposite effect - the increase in corruption. Third, research shows that the level of corruption in a liberal democratic political system does not depend on whether the country's leadership adheres to a neoliberal or

social democratic ideology. In addition, many countries with low corruption have relatively high taxes and public spending (Canada, the Netherlands, and Scandinavia).

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