



The Emergence of Networks of Corruption in Hungary up to 2010

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Dr. Róbert Sándor Szűcs

ATTITUDES ABOUT CORRUPTION AMONG FUTURE ECONOMIC EXPERTS

In Hungary, the extent of corruption is above the average of the European Union countries. Corruption as a negative social and economic factor has an impact on the entirety of the national economies around the world. The social perception of corruption and the attitudes toward it can be measured. The present paper discusses the attitudes of university students in economics (472 persons). In the course of the research it was found that the young professionals are aware of the weight and extent of corruption (cognitive component). As the result of the factor and cluster analysis, it was found that 21.1% of the respondents are prone to commit acts of corruption (at least verbally), while the percentage of those absolutely rejecting it is 18.3%. The elimination of corruption is not an easy task, since the percentage of those who report acts of corruption is only 9.5%, while the percentage of those absolutely refusing to report them is 44.1% (conative and affective component).

Keywords: corruption, attitude, segmentation, corruption index

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Nikoletta Kelemen-Hényel

CORRUPTION IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The Hungarian building industry is in a deep crisis, which is due not only to the effects of the financial and economic crisis starting in 2008, but several other effects also contribute to the drastic decline of the sector. The appearance of corruption can likely be dated back before 1989, and the situation has continuously deteriorated since. Since Hungary's accession to the EU in 2004, the country has received funds aimed at reducing disparities, as a result of which corruption in the field of the building industry also appeared in state agencies and organizations. According to the survey, provisions of law are insufficient to solve the issue of corruption: additional measures are also needed to achieve a long-term, quality change in the Hungarian building industry.

Keywords: corruption, building industry, mega investments

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Anett Sipos

THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE PERCEIVED DEMOCRATIC DEFICIT AND JUDGES' INDEPENDENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

In Hungary the belief seems to persist that we will never be a proper, liveable country. There is a lack of honesty, vision for the future and external power that would exert pressure, and there is no internal solidarity that would provide opportunities. The young, and increasingly also other generations are leaving the country in throngs. Those who remain hate each other, since they have no courage to hate themselves. They trust no one, not even the courts that would represent the essence of democracy—and often with a reason. The opportunity for the change would be if court judgments were public and subject to criticism. Also, judges should be independent in their persons when adopting judgments, and should become accountable in case of any absolutism. As a journalist I have encountered numerous cases where the court, despite its duties, failed to serve justice. In such cases, as I was looking for the reasons, a network of connections also seemed to transpire, which was more than corruption and only slightly less than dictatorship. It is a commonplace and textbookish statement, but there is no avoiding it: without courts ensuring the rule of law, there is no state governed by the rule of law. “The essence is frailty. ... All starts from there.” (Murakami Haruki)

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Gábor Kovács

CORRUPTION IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR

Since the early 2000s, a number of research projects dealing with the issues of exposing and preventing corruption have been published. Few of these research projects dealt with the financial sector, which has a unique degree of regulation in comparison with other sectors, and (also) for this reason it was worth examining the actual situation. The main focus of the present research project is on the detection of corruption and the preventive actions by the individual financial institutions, but the opinions on corruption are also considered important and taken into account. People in different executive positions of 13 financial institutions of various size participated in this anonymous survey. The respondents attempted to define the concept of corruption and to estimate how widespread it is in the financial sector, to determine what forms of corrupt conduct are there, what organizational units and areas are affected by corruption. They also proposed solutions, methods of prevention, procedures (anti-corruption measures), as well as methods that in their opinion would contribute to reducing the levels of corruption.

Keywords: corruption, financial sector, preventive methods or anti-corruption measures

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Dr. István Pintér

NETWORKS OF CORRUPTION IN HUNGARY IN 2010

Those struggling against corruption have failed to take into proper consideration the 1995 manual of Transparency International, written by Jeremy Pope, a co-founder of TI. Since corruption is not a phenomenon appearing in isolation, without a holistic approach there is no chance for an effective enforcement of the regulations. Similarly, ignoring international factors, whose role has been emphasized by the World Bank and the OECD since the 1990s, is also harmful. The novelty of this paper is that, by way of exposing the single-party state origins of networks of corruption, it sheds light on the consequences of the survival of the nomenclature system. Following in the footsteps of Jeremy Pope, the paper analyses the networks of corruption characteristic in Central Europe, and their shared characteristics are defined. Returning to the structure of the TI manual of 1995, it analyses, in addition to the area of justice, also the networks of corruption in the media. It calls attention to the harmful consequences of one of the most endangered areas, workplace corruption.

Keywords: corruption, networks of corruption, corruption in the justice system, corruption in the media, corruption in the workplace