

TI-Turkey Business Supporter Forum for

ZERO TOLERANCE TO CORRUPTION

Nho We Are

TI-Turkey was founded in 2008 through the voluntary efforts of a group of professionals. The organization aims to establish the principles of transparency, integrity and accountability as the rule in all segments of society for the democratic, social and economic development of the country.

TI-Turkey sees corruption as a major source of social, economic and political crises and an obstacle in the way of economical development, rule of law, fair competition and appropriate use of natural resources. In its anti-corruption efforts and activities, TI-Turkey collaborates with the public sector, business, unions, universities, professional chambers and non-governmental organizations. TI-Turkey demands open, honest, ethical, legal and accountable conduct of activities from all individuals and institutions in society and itself operates within the framework of such principles.

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According to the Corruption Perceptions Index of Transparency International (CPI), Turkey was the country that experienced the largest fall in its scores in 2014 with a decrease of 5 points. Similarly, the country ranking of Turkey has also dropped 11 places, from 53 rd to 64th place, in the 2014 CPI Index. The decrease in the score and rankings indicate a regression in reforms that have been referred to as progressive in the previous years.

According to TI-Turkey's 2015 survey of "Corruption in Turkey: Why, How and Where?", %28,35 of participants admitted making illicit payments or providing gifts, when receiving basic public services in the last 12 months. When compared to other countries in Europe, this figure stands out as considerably high.

The participants of the surveys believe that the private sector is a significant contributor to corruption in Turkey. Moreover, 61% of the participants claim that the private sector has a significant influence over public sector transactions and legal regulations, through the use of bribery, gifts or other illicit payments.

Another study carried out by TI-Turkey (TRACK report) in 2015 that focuses on the transparency of companies in the BIST- 100 index, an index consisting of the 100 largest publicly owned companies in Borsa lstanbul (formerly known as the Istanbul Stock Exchange), reveals that, these companies perform poorly, with a score of 28 out of a hundred, with regards to how transparent they report on their anti-corruption programs. When compared to the average result of %70 in the world, it indicates a low performance by Turkish companies.

This study further highlights that BIST-100 companies fail to share adequate information with the public with regards to their anti-corruption efforts and do not report in a transparent manner. Moreover, only 9 out of the 100 companies included in the BIST-100 Index adopted a specific anti-corruption program.

As a final remark, the TRACK report reveals that public companies once again perform poorly with regards to the personal messages of senior management referred to as "tone at the top".

The report concludes that, the senior management of only 10 BIST-100 Index companies have highlighted the importance of anti-corruption in their personal messages.

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The Business Supporter Forum aims to bring together those companies that are committed to the principles of transparency, integrity and accountability when conducting business.

The Business Supporter Forum will be a membership-based platform, through which members will be able to promote their commitment to anti-corruption efforts to both their stakeholders and the public, follow recent developments in the field of anti-corruption and reinforce their anti-corruption programs through trainings and other activities available through the Forum.

Why Become a Member of the Forum

Members of the Forum are entitled to the following benefits:

- Improved organizational reputation, a strong signal to investors, competitors and employees of their commitment to comply with Turkish and international legislation, and raise standards of integrity in their operations and transactions;
- Appearance of the Company name and logo on TI-Turkey's dedicated Forum webpage and in the periodical called "the Transparent Agenda", as well as in the publications and statements issued on behalf of the Program;
- Opportunity for members to publicize their participation in the forum to their stakeholders and industry leaders;
- Access to the expertise and publications of Transparency International;
- Regular expert-led roundtables and briefings presenting a range of perspectives on recent issues;
- Regular workshops/presentations/events with special guests, focusing on compliance, transparency or accountability issues;
- Forum Newsletters featuring the latest news from Transparency International, as well as updates of developments in domestic and international regulatory frameworks and providing up to date information on issues of corruption, transparency and accountability;
- Subscription to the Transparency International Daily Corruption news;
- Corporate self-assessment tools (online Self-assessment compliance checklist) for use by companies to self-evaluate their system and to provide them with concrete guidance on avoiding corruption and curtailing bribery;
- Invitation to other events organized by TI-Turkey (i.e, the Conference on International Anti-Corruption Day) and workshops organized for specific project activities;
- 20% discount on tailor made courses and practices based on consultation with the company, in house trainings for top management, management, employees or third parties of the company, sector-specific trainings and training on business ethics.

Membership

Membership is open to all businesses who are committed (or are ready to commit) to the principle of "zero tolerance" towards corruption. Businesses who wish to become a member of the Forum may apply to TI-Turkey starting from October 2015. Application for membership should be initiated by the applicant company's management. Provided that the applicant is considered eligible for membership, they are then required to sign the "Membership Policy" and the "Membership Pledge".



For further questions or applications for membership, please send an e-mail to ozelsektor@seffaflik.org or contact us on our phone number 0 212 240 52 81