



United States Mission to the OSCE

Response to Report by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on Combating Corruption

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Tim Hanway
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
December 12, 2024

Special Representative Ramasastry, Anita, welcome back to the Permanent Council. As this marks your final address here, I want to express our deepest gratitude for your contributions over the past four years. Your leadership has strengthened the OSCE's capacity to combat corruption and address its corrosive effects on security and governance.

We greatly value your report's forward-looking recommendations to shape the OSCE's work to combat corruption. Your focus on prioritizing prevention, incentivizing action by all participating States, and enhancing cross-dimensional collaboration offers a crucial framework for progress. The United States shares your vision, particularly your emphasis on deepening engagement with civil society. We also support fostering stronger partnerships with academia and the private sector, which are essential to achieving sustainable results.

We remain firmly committed to combating corruption as a cornerstone of safeguarding democratic institutions, fostering economic resilience, and promoting sustainable development. Guided by the U.S. Strategy on Countering Corruption, we prioritize curbing illicit finance, strengthening accountability, and deepening multilateral cooperation. These efforts are especially important as we strive to strengthen climate resilience and sustainable development, where corruption can derail progress and weaken public trust.

Your emphasis on corruption risks in the clean energy transition highlights the urgency of addressing this challenge, and we hope to see more work on this next year. Corruption in climate investments distorts investments, diverts essential resources, and threatens security and stability by worsening inequalities and weakening governance. The OSCE can—and should—play a role in supporting participating States in safeguarding climate initiatives from corruption, ensuring they advance sustainable development and collective security.

Anita, your tenure has set a strong foundation for the future, and your legacy will guide the OSCE in addressing corruption as a transnational threat. We thank you for your unwavering dedication and visionary leadership.

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