GLOBAL CORRUPTION BAROMETER 2016 – EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. What is Transparency International's *Global Corruption Barometer*?

Transparency International's *Global Corruption Barometer* is the most extensive worldwide public opinion survey on views and experiences of corruption. For the 2016 *Global Corruption Barometer*, the ninth edition, we are initially releasing the results in a series of regional reports. For this Europe and Central Asia report, the results are based on the responses of 58,238 people in 42 countries/ territories. The Africa and Middle East and North Africa editions have already been published (please see here and here). An Americas report and an Asia Pacific region report will be subsequently released in 2017. A final global release will also be published in 2017.

2. What kinds of questions are included?

The *Global Corruption Barometer* asks for people's views on corruption in their country generally, and in which institutions the problem of corruption is most severe. It also provides a measure of people's experience of bribery in the past year across eight different services. The survey asks people how well or badly they think their government has done at stopping corruption.

The 2016 *Global Corruption Barometer* also includes a number of new questions. A battery of indicators asks respondents whether they have reported a corruption incident and what happened when they reported the incident. We also explore what barriers exist to reporting corruption in their country. Another module probes for details on the willingness of citizens to get involved in the fight against corruption. We also ask for the first time whether people feel that wealthy individuals have too much undue influence over government decisions.

3. Who conducts the survey and when was it carried out?

The 2016 *Global Corruption Barometer* was carried out on behalf of Transparency International in the Europe and Central Asia region by two survey companies. TNS Opinion (from September 2016 trading as Kantar Public Brussels) collected data for the module using face to face interviews. Efficience3 was responsible for the interviews conducted over the telephone.

TNS Opinion collected the data using face to face household interviews with Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). A random probability stratified clustered sample was designed in each project country. The sample was stratified by regions and by level of urbanisation. Households were selected at random, either with prior enumeration using random walk, or using existing registers. The respondent was selected at random from all adults in the household.

Efficience3 organised the implementation of the survey using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI). Random digital dialling was using to randomly select households and respondents were selected at random from all adults in the household. Both landline telephones and mobile phones were selected for interviewing. Samples were stratified across all regions in the country according to population size.

The questionnaire is reviewed by Transparency International's Index Advisory Committee of leading international experts in the field of corruption, research methodologies, econometrics and statistics. Fieldwork took place from

November 2015 until July 2016. A full description of the methodology on a country by country basis, is available on page 32 of the report.

4. Why were certain countries included/ not included in the survey?

The *Global Corruption Barometer* aims to include as many countries as possible in the survey on the basis of where we can safely conduct the interviews. For the Europe and Central Asia region, the *Global Corruption Barometer* module was included as part of a longer survey implemented by TNS Opinion. This covered countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, plus Germany and Italy. Transparency International did not influence the country coverage by TNS Opinion. We also surveyed additional countries in Western Europe on the basis of our available limited funding available for the survey. We will aim to increase our coverage in the next round of the survey.

5. How can the survey be used?

The *Global Corruption Barometer* is a rich insight into people's personal experience of corruption, as well as their views on the situation in their country. Policy makers can use the survey to identify public institutions and services that are seen as corrupt and where bribes are most frequently paid by citizens. This enables anticorruption policies and programmes to effectively target the most at risk services and institutions in a country. Civil society and journalists can use the survey as evidence of the views of people in a country with respect to this important issue. The data can be used to raise awareness about the impact of corruption on people in their everyday lives. It can also be used to mobilise people to get involved in stopping corruption, by demonstrating popular willingness to engage personally by reporting incidences of corruption for example. The private sector can use the *Global Corruption Barometer* to better understand the political climate in a country and the strength of national institutions. Researchers can use the survey to explore determinants and consequences of corruption and bribery in a wide range of countries. It offers both a breadth of country coverage and some time series data for a number of important questions. The *Global Corruption Barometer* is therefore a rich and unique data source for the research community.

6. Can different editions of the Barometer be compared?

Where questions have been repeated in multiple editions, the Barometer allows direct comparisons over time to be established. After the 2013 edition of the survey, we undertook an academic review of the questionnaire. Due to that, we made a number of changes and also questions have changed from year to year, with some cycling in and out. Therefore only data for questions that have been repeated are comparable over time. Please contact the research department for further information. For previous editions of the Barometer visit: www.transparency.org/research/gcb/

7. Why was the bribery module not asked in all countries?

Due to limited funding available for the survey, the bribery module was not asked in the following countries: Belgium, France, Greenland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK. When calculating the European Union average bribery rate and country bribery rates we used the 2014 Eurobarometer survey results on bribery in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, and the UK, as a comparable data source (see here). Unfortunately no comparable data source could be found for Greenland and Switzerland so these two countries are excluded from our bribery analysis. In all other countries an extensive bribery module was implemented looking at bribery risk in eight public services.

8. How does the Barometer differ from Transparency International's *Corruption Perceptions Index*?

The Barometer is a public opinion survey that offer views of the general public on corruption and its impact on their lives, including personal experience with bribes. The *Corruption Perceptions Index* (CPI) relies on the views of experts. The CPI reflects the perception of informed observers on corruption in the public sector and politics. For more information on the CPI, please see: www.transparency.org/research/cpi/