

Corruption and poor governance are acknowledged as major impediments to realising the right to education and to reaching global development goals. Corruption not only distorts access to education, but affects the quality of education and the reliability of research findings. From corruption in the procurement of school resources and nepotism in the hiring of teachers, to the buying and selling of academic titles and the skewing of research results, major corruption risks can be identified at every level of the education and research systems. At the same time, education serves as a means to strengthen personal integrity and is a critical tool to address corruption effectively.

The *Global Corruption Report* is Transparency International's flagship publication, bringing the expertise of the anti-corruption movement to bear on a specific corruption issue or sector. The *Global Corruption Report: Education* consists of more than 70 articles commissioned from experts in the fields of corruption and education, from universities, think tanks, business, civil society and international organisations.

This report provides essential analysis for understanding the corruption risks in the sector and highlights significant work already done to improve governance and educational outcomes. It pulls together cutting edge knowledge on lessons learnt, innovative tools and solutions to fight corruption in the education sector.

Transparency International has done a great service by focusing its *Global Corruption Report* on the issue of corruption in education. In the context of my own work on the global financial crisis, it became clear that pervasive financial conflicts of interest in the disciplines of economics, management, law and political science contributed significantly to the crisis. As this *Global Corruption Report* demonstrates, the problems I witnessed form part of a far larger issue, one which must be addressed in order to fulfil the promise of education to improve global welfare. This document provides an excellent, broad survey, and will unquestionably stimulate valuable policy debate.

Charles H. Ferguson, President, Representational Pictures, Inc. and Director of the Academy Award-winning documentary *Inside Job* (2010)

Education is unequalled as a force for good. As such, it is of crucial importance that we maintain vigilance for any activity that undermines trust in it, misappropriates its funding, or diminishes its power to change lives. Transparency International's role in doing this, and the work detailed in the *Global Corruption Report: Education*, must be supported by all.

John Gill, Editor, *Times Higher Education*

From the misappropriation of education funds and bribery, to nepotism and outright fraud, Transparency International shows how corruption in our sector is hurting our students, our teachers and our communities. If we are to achieve the goal of education for all, then teachers, schools, governments and international agencies must work together to identify and eliminate corruption.

Fred van Leeuwen, General Secretary, Education International

Transparency International is the global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption. Through more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, Transparency International raises awareness of the damaging effects of corruption and works with partners in government, business and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to tackle it.

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