

CIVIL SOCIETY IN ANTI-CORRUPTION: COUNTERING CSO CAPTURE

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CSOs

01

Although the space for civil society is shrinking, CSOs need to continue their work not only by identifying organized crime and corruption, but also by raising collective awareness about the related problems and their impact.

02

Civil society needs to be creative in using tools such as big data and social media to promote integrity, transparency, accountability and good governance.

03

Develop more significant partnership and mechanisms for cooperation between the government and CSOs that will enable CSOs to become more involved in all phases of processes that lead to policy, legal and strategy reforms in the Western Balkan countries.

04

CSOs and the media need to strengthen the cooperation in order to increase public presence and to express independent attitudes and opinions regarding key society issues in all of the Western Balkan countries.

05

Networking and more cooperation between CSOs in the Western Balkan, especially in research and advocacy activities are highly recommended.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES IN THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

01

Governments need to demonstrate real political will to fight corruption by involving all stakeholders in this process.

02

Government representatives need to show their will and readiness to improve the dialogue and cooperation with CSOs that will enable their engagement in the process of creating public policies.

03

It is necessary to improve funding for the CSOs in general and the CSOs working in the field of good governance and fight against corruption, as well as to establish mechanisms for transparent financing of the programs and projects.

04

Participate and support activities of the existing anti-corruption CSO networks and coalitions, and initiate creation of the new ones in order to ensure better dialogue and more effective cooperation of the competent state bodies and institutions with CSOs.

05

Participation in public debates and other public actions, as well as finding a way to include citizens in debates on public issues.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DONORS AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

01

Donors should rely more on the national expertise of the CSOs and provide them flexibility when selecting their research and advocacy areas, based on the needs identified on the ground.

02

The international community should focus more on facilitating the dialogue between civil society and government.

03

CSO networks working in the field of good governance and fight against corruption need to be more encouraged, because they are an important element for improving the CSOs' knowledge base and contribute to their constructive cooperation with state institutions.

