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The Quest for Good Governance: How Societies Develop Control of Corruption

By Alina Mungiu-Pippidi



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Why do some societies manage to control corruption so that it manifests itself only occasionally, while other societies remain systemically corrupt? This book is about how societies reach that point when integrity becomes the norm and corruption the exception in regard to how public affairs are run and public resources are allocated. It primarily asks what lessons we have learned from historical and contemporary experiences in developing corruption control, which can aid policy-makers and civil societies in steering and expediting this process. Few states now remain without either an anticorruption agency or an Ombudsman, yet no statistical evidence can be found that they actually induce progress. Using both historical and contemporary studies and easy to understand statistics, Alina Mungiu-Pippidi looks at how to diagnose, measure and change governance so that those entrusted with power and authority manage to defend public resources.



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Editorial Review

Review

"This is one of the most important books ever written on the most universal governance challenge of our time - how to control corruption. In this brilliant integration of theory, history, case studies and quantitative evidence, Alina Mungiu-Pippidi shows how countries move from the natural state of corruption, clientelism and particularistic governance to the impersonal norms of fairness, integrity and transparency that make for good governance. This is an indispensable work for any scholar, student or policy-maker who wants to understand how societies mobilize and states reform to control corruption."

Larry Diamond, Director, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford University, California

"Reformers who read this essential book will learn rather than seeking 'toolkits' to attack specific corrupt activities, successful societies have made integrity and accountability widely-accepted norms, backed up by the self-interest of a wide range of citizens. Alina Mungiu-Pippidi makes clear that societies which keep corruption under control have succeeded not just a due to their present laws and enforcement, but through a longer-term story of political development, widespread expectations and the building of effective performance of public institutions."

Michael Johnston, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Emeritus, Colgate University

"Alina Mungiu-Pippidi uniquely straddles the worlds of theory and practice, adding to both worlds with her comprehensive perspective, honesty about what is not known, and bold speculations about the drivers of change."

Robert Klitgaard, Claremont Graduate University

"A strong argument for framing the anti-corruption debate in terms of ethical universalism and impartiality with a focus on grassroots citizen involvement. Mungiu-Pippidi realistically acknowledges the difficulty of lasting reform, but at the same time she usefully seeks to move the policy debate beyond platitudes to concrete proposals that can attract domestic support and fit local contexts."

Susan Rose-Ackerman, Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and Political Science, Yale University

"Mungiu-Pippidi writes that creating collective action and providing political support is the only proven effective strategy against corruption. Specialists will appreciate the comprehensive summary and review of the literature ... Highly recommended."

R. E. Hartwig, Choice

"Mungiu-Pippidi's work is a significant contribution to our understanding of the subject, and one to which policymakers and international donors should pay attention. Her work systematically explores the failed and successful trajectories of different countries in arriving at norms of universalism in governance. It is an important work in its welcome focus on the importance of societal norms in creating and sustaining various types of political corruption, and in the finding that what matters most is not international efforts, but domestic ones ... [The book] would be a welcome addition to an advanced undergraduate or graduate course on the political economy of corruption, and on the political economy of development. It should also serve as required reading for domestic and international policymakers, donors, and NGO activists concerned about corruption."

Carolyn M. Warner, Governance

"The Quest for Good Governance combines sophisticated conceptual discussion (for example, of the varying definitions of corruption and their consequences) with a historical perspective and a critical statistical analysis of various databases. It is a good example of a multi-method approach to a huge and complex problem ... I find this an accomplished and important book, and one which deserves very wide readership." Christopher Pollitt, International Review of Administrative Sciences

"Along with Tilly and Acemoglu and Robinson, Mungiu-Pippidi in this volume smartly re-frames the nature of the modern state. Elsewhere in her superbly thoughtful and conceptually enriching book, [she] focuses on how the Italian city-states in their rise to republicanism largely contained corrupt practices and, by focusing on equality, avoided the kinds of wholesale corruption that is (and has been for years) widespread in the modern Italian state. Fortunately, Mungiu-Pippidi's remarkable book provides a welcome trove of possible solutions to the historical problem of corruption."

Robert Rotberg, Journal of Interdisciplinary History

About the Author

Alina Mungiu-Pippidi teaches democratization and policy analysis at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. She chairs the European Research Centre for Anti-Corruption and State Building Research and is Chair of Policy Pillar of the EU FP7 five-year research project, ANTICORRP. Professor Mungiu-Pippidi has served as an adviser on issues of governance measurement and anticorruption to the European Commission, UNDP, Freedom House, NORAD and the World Bank, among others. She is also a popular op-ed writer and the author of two film documentaries: 'Where Europe Ends' and 'A Tale of Two Villages,' screened by the BBC.

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Aaron Martinez:

The guide with title The Quest for Good Governance: How Societies Develop Control of Corruption contains a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. This kind of book exist new expertise the information that exist in this publication represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to know how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you with new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book on your own smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

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People live in this new time of lifestyle always make an effort to and must have the free time or they will get

lot of stress from both day to day life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not only a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the particular book you have read will be The Quest for Good Governance: How Societies Develop Control of Corruption.

Craig Duran:

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