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Public Policy

Integrity Reform and Strategic Corruption Control

*A course offered in the framework of Central European University's Summer University series,
convened by Tiri and the Center for Policy Studies*

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In partnership with the **Commonwealth Legal Education Association** (CLEA), the **Open Society Justice Initiative** (OSJI), **Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative**–Open Society Institute (LGI), the **International Budget Project** (IBP), the **Revenue Watch Institute** (RWI) and the **Network for Integrity in Reconstruction** (NIR)

Course director: Fredrik Galtung, Tiri, London

Course description

Held for the third time in 2007, this intensive advanced course addresses critically the challenges of integrity reform and strategic corruption control. Drawing on interdisciplinary academic perspectives and lessons learned from practice, the course represents one of the few targeted, applied and yet conceptually grounded efforts currently available internationally for the analysis of corruption and anti-corruption, straddling law, economic, public administration, public sector ethics, as well as politics, statistical and ethnographic approaches. Topics covered include cross-cutting issues such as definitions, measurements and research methodology, and also distinct areas such as access to information, fiscal transparency, and risk assessment and management. The course seeks to give equal emphasis to public sector reforms as well as to social accountability as actionable rights as essential to democratic governance.

Course structure

The course will be divided into two tracks: morning sessions will be devoted to crosscutting issues and skills and perspectives relevant for all participants, while the afternoons will be dedicated to **Policy Labs**, creating a forum for the in-depth analysis of four thematic areas that will allow for further specialization and expert discussion in a small group format. All course participants will attend the joint morning sessions, while the four afternoon policy labs will run simultaneously. At the time of application submissions, participants will need to clearly state which policy lab they are interested in.

The morning sessions are intended to be introductory in nature, and will cover:

- Introduction and critical review of the global integrity movement
- Issues of definitions, typologies and classifications

- Strategies of reform
- Principles of risk management as applied to corruption control and organizational integrity
- The role of ethics and ethics education in the context of reform.

The policy labs will bring together international experts in a given field and experienced stakeholder representatives to identify and address the key policy challenges faced in a particular domain. The aim is to provide sufficient coverage of the analytical, methodological and strategic issues faced in a number of different contexts to enable a credible strategic policy review to be developed. It is intended that the groups generate a coherent structure and set of learning outcomes that can be used as the basis of teaching in mainstream education. The policy lab is problem-centered; it is a collaborative effort that calls for innovation, experimentation, and testing based on empirical evidence.

There will be 7 sessions dedicated to each Policy Lab over the duration of the course. Each Policy Lab will be expected to have between 8 to 15 participants. The policy labs will draw on and feed back to the general sessions scheduled for the mornings, and the group projects will be presented to at the end of the course.

The four Policy Labs on offer are:

1. Applied Legal Skills for Integrity Reform and Anti-Corruption
2. Fiscal Transparency and Corruption Risks
3. Governance and Natural Resource Revenue
4. Incorporating Integrity and Post-war Reconstruction

1. Applied Legal Skills for Integrity Reform and Anti-Corruption

In partnership with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association and the Open Society Justice Initiative

Lab convener: **John Hatchard** (Commonwealth Legal Education Association and the Open University)

The policy lab on ALS will emphasize the legal skills and tactics for NGOs, journalists, citizens, whistleblowers, public interest lawyers, etc. Much emphasis has been placed in recent years on strengthening the competencies, skills and means available to public prosecutors and to shoring up the integrity and independence of the judiciary. Since the early 2000s, a range of legal actions by non-state actors have directly sought to address corruption and improvements in public integrity standards. No systematic comparative legal analysis has been undertaken of these practices and experiences, nor are these experiences and approaches reflected in the modest but growing attention that law schools are giving to anti-corruption.

2. Fiscal Transparency and Corruption Risks

In partnership with the Local Government and Service Reform Initiative–Open Society Institute and the International Budget Project

Lab convener: **Gabor Peteri** (Consultant, Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, OSI)

The objective of this lab is to combine a civil society agenda, focusing on transparency and accountability, with a governmental perspective in terms of corruption risks in public finances,

budgeting and financial management. The multidisciplinary approach taken will involve insights from public finance, public policy making and various fields of public service management. Participants will trace transparency within the good governance framework promoting accountability. They will analyze the conditions of transparent fiscal planning, management of public property, dealing with the private sector, elements of successful conflict of interest and anti-corruption measures at national and local governments. The lab is grounded in two distinct but complementary perspectives on public finance -- one arising from the fiduciary duties of governmental agencies, the other from demands of opening up budgeting and financial management to wider social control -- both of which imply increased attention to minimizing loss of public money to corruption and incompetence.

3. Governance and Natural Resource Revenue

In partnership with the Revenue Watch Institute

Lab convener: ***Evelyn Dietsche*** (Centre for Energy, Petroleum, and Mineral Law and Policy, University of Dundee)

At least since the 1970s many natural resource rich countries have shown worse economic performance and other negative outcomes when compared to their less well-endowed peers. This paradox, known as the resource curse, has stimulated a lively debate about the possible economic and political reasons for this result. Government mismanagement and political corruption feature among these, but they are not the only explanations. Revenue reporting and transparency in managing resource wealth are seen as important aspects to overcome these challenges. The policy lab tackles critically a range of issues surrounding this debate. They include an overview of the resource curse literature, the economic analysis of property rights systems, natural resource fiscal regimes, institutional solutions to natural resource revenue management, and the role of public administrative systems and social cohesion in managing natural resource wealth.

4. Incorporating Integrity and Post-war Reconstruction

In partnership with the Network for Integrity in Reconstruction

Lab convener: ***Sultan Barakat*** (Post-War Reconstruction and Development Unit, University of York)

This policy lab aims to examine and conclude on how principles for integrity can be incorporated effectively into the variable processes of post-war reconstruction. Reconstruction will be understood broadly as 'a range of holistic activities designed to reactivate political, economic and social development while also preventing a relapse into violence.' This lab is premised on evidence from recent research that demonstrates how improved standards of integrity (defined as accountability, professionalism and corruption control) can foster greater legitimacy and effectiveness in reconstruction, and strengthen stability post-war. Participants will pursue two core objectives: to review critically the nature and purpose of reconstruction after war; and to develop practical tools that can be used to address the specific challenges faced by integrity reformers in post-war contexts. During the afternoon seminars, participants will reflect on their professional experiences and further their expertise through structured discussions and role-play exercises while also gaining insight into a range of empirically-grounded case studies drawn from the unique research of the PRDU and Tiri.