

# Damir Al-Watan

Conscience of the Nation



Administrative Control Authority \ Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA)

Center for Research and Studies on Preventing and Combating Corruption (CRSPCC)

Issue No.6 June, 2024





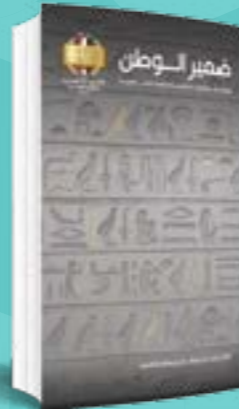
Issue No. 1 of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine is released as the first thematic cultural publication in the field of combating corruption and related sciences.



This is a documentary issue of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine on the Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Sharm El Sheikh (City of Peace) in December 13-17, 2021.



Issue No. 2 of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine is released with a number of significant files, namely: National Strategy & Security and Crisis Management The Anti-Corruption Regulatory and Legal Framework Governance and the Use of Data & Information



The third issue of the "Conscience of the Nation" magazine has been released, which includes a collection of articles and files, including: The battle of awareness in confronting corruption and combating it in times of emergencies and crises. An analysis of Egypt's strategy to combat money laundering crimes and illegal immigration



The fourth issue of the "Conscience of the Nation" magazine has been released, and it includes a collection of articles and files: Sustainable Development in a Changing World The Impact of Data and Information and Their Reflection on Decision-Making Abilities A Golden Age for Empowering Egyptian Women Strategic Management and the Egyptian Economy"



The fifth issue of "Conscience of the Nation" magazine has been published. It included a collection of articles and files, such as: An overview of an African experience in combating corruption (Mali) The role of technology and cybersecurity in supporting national efforts to combat corruption The prominent role of international cooperation in combating cross-border corruption



All issues of the 'Conscience of the Nation' magazine are published on the official website of the Egyptian Knowledge Bank.



Conscience of the Nation

# Damir Al-Watan

Issue No. 6 June, 2024



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Prepared by:  
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## Major General Amr Adel

Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority  
Chairman of the EACA Board of Directors

General Supervision

## First Secretary Khaled Abdelrahman

Assistant to the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority for the EACA Affairs & International Cooperation and Member of the EACA Board of Directors

Editor-in-Chief

## First Secretary Dr/Mohamed Salama

Director of the EACA and Rapporteur of the Board of Directors

Media Consultant

## Dr/Samy Abdel-Aziz

Press Consultant

## Ahmed Ayoub

Art Director & Graphics:  
Mostafa Saeed Abu-Stait



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**JUNE  
30**

**Partners in  
Protecting  
the Nation's Interests**



**Corruption is not just bribery;**  
it is also poor performance, greed, waste of resources,  
negligence, passivity, and irresponsibility. Lack of  
accountability and work ethic, poor planning is corruption,  
poor judgment is corruption, and poor execution is corruption.

**President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi**

August, 2016

مصر . دائماً



# 60 Years in Confronting Corruption



Sixty years have passed in the fight against corruption, forming a long history for the Administrative Control Authority. Over the years, successive generations of the Authority's members have combated corruption in all its forms, despite the growing challenges and changes faced by the Egyptian state in all economic, social, and administrative fields.

As we congratulate the members and employees of the Authority on this occasion, we pledge to the Egyptian state, its leadership, and its people to continue in the same path of confronting and preventing corruption. We

will follow a distinguished scientific approach while infusing the Authority with new blood from young and high quality cadres who are worthy of trust. Together with their experienced colleagues, they will be at the forefront of the Egyptian state's efforts to support development and combat corruption.

We pray to Almighty God to grant us success in fulfilling this noble mission.

**Amr Adel**  
Chairman of the Administrative  
Control Authority



**Towards a Societal Culture against Corruption**

The transition to the New Administrative Capital  
**From here we begin a new era**



Administrative Control Authority Building in the New Capital City

# CONTENTS



**Distinguished Contributions of the Administrative Control Authority at the Arab League Headquarters in Cairo and Riyadh**

**14**



60 Years of Excellence:  
The Administrative Control Authority's Legacy

**New Horizons for Corruption Prevention**

First Secretary Dr/Mohamed Salama

Editor-in-Chief

**16**



**The Battle for Sustainable Development in the African Continent**

Mrs. Seynabou Ndiaye Diakhate

**18**

**Significant Role of Administrative Control Authority Egypt's Success Against Human Trafficking**

Ambassador/ Naela Gabr

**20**



**Egypt's Comprehensive Legislative Measures Against Corruption**

Judge/ Ahmed El-Beharawy

**24**



**Mechanism for Recovering Corruption Funds**

Judge/ Mohamed Khalaf

**28**

**Criminalizing Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of International Institutions**

Brigadier-General Dr/ Ahmed Adly

**34**



**Will Arab countries succeed in investing in artificial intelligence**

Prof. Dr. Nagwa Samak

**36**

**The Internet of Bodies: Enhancement Technologies and Governance Challenges**

Prof. Dr. Heba Gamal El-Din

**40**



**For the third consecutive year, the Administrative Control Authority participates in the Cairo International Book Fair**

**50**



**46**



**Efforts of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy in Months**

## Distinguished Contributions of the Administrative Control Authority at the Arab League Headquarters in Cairo and Riyadh



### Editorial Board

As part of supporting regional and Arab efforts in combating and preventing corruption, Minister Amr Adly, Head of the Administrative Control Authority, participated in the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Arab Convention Against Corruption held at the General Secretariat of the Arab League from May 5 to 7, 2024. Representatives from the States Parties to the Arab Convention Against Corruption, as well as representatives from other Arab League member states and regional and international organizations, participated in the session's activities.

In his speech, the minister reviewed the efforts of Arab countries in preventing and combating corruption, which come in implementation of the provisions of the Arab Convention Against Corruption, complementing the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. He emphasized that the establishment of an Arab review mechanism for the efforts of Arab countries participating in the convention reflects the concerted efforts of the States Parties to overcome the challenges posed by the UN review process.

The minister pointed out that Arab countries have adopted global initiatives in preventing and combating corruption, including the Marrakech Declaration, which established the fun-

damental principles of combating corruption, the Doha Declaration, which contributed to promoting values of integrity and raising youth awareness of the dangers of corruption, the Abu Dhabi Declaration, which emphasized the importance of enhancing coordination between regulatory bodies, and the Sharm El Sheikh Declaration, which defined the framework for combating corruption in emergencies and crises.

He also highlighted the importance of strengthening cooperation at the regional and multilateral levels in light of the commitment of the member states participating in



the Arab and international conventions to prevent and combat cross-border corruption. He noted the fruitful cooperation between the National Academy for Combating Corruption, the training and knowledge arm of the Administrative Control Authority, and similar regulatory bodies worldwide. This cooperation includes organizing training programs for Arab experts in combating corruption and signing memoranda of understanding with counterpart agencies in many countries to exchange information and expertise.

In concluding his speech, the minister stressed the importance of all regional anti-corruption bodies' efforts to safeguard the wealth and resources of Arab peoples amid global crises. He also thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its efforts during its presidency of the fourth session of the States Parties to the Arab Convention Against Corruption.

The Arab Convention Against Corruption, signed on December 21, 2010, is the first official convention aimed at enhancing joint cooperation among the States Parties to activate mechanisms for preventing, combating, and detecting corruption in all its forms, recovering assets, and upholding the values of integrity, transparency, accountability, and the rule of law. The convention also works on involving civil society in efforts to prevent and combat corruption by raising awareness of its negative impact on individuals and communities.



In the same context, Minister Amr Adly participated in the fifth forum of anti-corruption agencies and financial investigation units held on May 15-16, 2024, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister. The forum aims to enhance cooperation among entities concerned with combating corruption, money laundering, and terrorist financing in the Middle East and North Africa region.

In his speech, titled "Combating Corruption and Its Necessity for Achieving Economic Growth," he highlighted the connection between fighting corruption and achieving economic growth for countries. This is included in the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations as means to achieve a better future for peoples. International institution reports indicate that the cost of corruption and tax evasion is about 8% of the global GDP, which could

have been used to increase economic growth in countries.

He referred to the directives of the President of the Republic, emphasizing the state's adherence to the rule of law, rejecting all forms of corruption, and establishing the values of integrity and transparency, with everyone being equal before the law. He reviewed Egypt's efforts in preventing and combating corruption through information infrastructure projects, digital transformation, and separating service providers from recipients. He also mentioned the experience of the Administrative Control Authority over the past sixty years since its establishment in 1964, keeping pace with the development of economic policies, communication systems, and banking services, which has led to advancements in anti-corruption systems.

He noted that the success factors of the anti-corruption system are summarized in a legislative framework capable of confronting corruption, strong

political will, an institutional structure with capable agencies, good planning through the preparation of national anti-corruption strategies, prevention by stopping corruption incidents before they occur, enhancing law enforcement efforts using technology, developing monitoring and suspicion mechanisms, and using artificial intelligence. Finally, he stressed the importance of international cooperation, both bilateral and multilateral, as experiences have shown the complexity and interconnection of corrupt practices extending across multiple countries.

At the end of his speech, he thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for organizing the forum and hosting anti-corruption and financial investigation officials to exchange views, ideas, and experiences to achieve the hopes of peoples in reducing the scourge of corruption, preserving the resources and wealth of countries, and achieving economic and social development.





60 Years of Excellence:  
The Administrative Control Authority's Legacy  
**New Horizons for  
Corruption Prevention**

**First Secretary Dr/Mohamed Salama**  
Editor-in-Chief

**60 Years of Diligent Work to Combat Corruption**

The Administrative Control Authority celebrates its anniversary on the 25th of June each year. On this day, the Authority's leadership meets with its employees and members to reflect on this extensive history, celebrate significant achievements, honor successive generations of exemplary leaders and teachers, and review the work accomplished over the past year. They also propose and discuss future plans and objectives for the coming year. The celebration at the esteemed Administrative Control Authority is not a mere superficial event, but rather a thorough and methodical analysis of past efforts and a sharp look towards the future. On its anniversary, **May the Administrative Control Authority remain effective, progressive, and bright.**

**Internal Audit as an Effective Means for Corruption Prevention**

Activating the role of internal auditing is a crucial pillar for implementing governance systems within various entities and institutions, especially in the state's administrative apparatus. Internal auditing works to close gaps, improve working conditions, eliminate negative aspects of work deficiencies, identify flaws in administrative, technical, and financial systems, and address actions targeting the integrity of public duties and services, thus reflecting positively on protecting and preserving public funds.

**Concept of Internal Audit:**

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) defines internal auditing as "an independent, objective activity that provides assurance and consulting services aimed at adding value to an organization and improving its operations. This activity helps an organization achieve its objectives by adopting a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of governance, risk management, and control processes."

Internal auditing aims to ensure the accuracy of operational information, identify and manage risks, ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and instructions, verify the achievement of targets according to performance indicators, and ensure the best use of resources efficiently and economically. The independence of the internal audit function is a crucial condition for achieving its objectives.

Internal audit systems are widely recognized for their ability to identify and manage risks within companies and various banking units. Similarly, their importance is evident in the administrative units of the state and different government entities.

**The Concept and Role of Internal Audit Units in Government Entities:**

In 2017, the Administrative Control Authority proposed the establishment and organization of internal audit units. The proposal was reviewed by the Cabinet and several partners, including the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, the Central Agency for Organization and Administration, and several specialized consultants. The diagnostic study of the internal

**The Administrative Control Authority, supported by its partners, continues to strive in selecting and qualifying internal audit personnel as a key measure to implement corruption prevention and deterrence procedures. This effort aims to improve the capabilities of entities to perform their tasks efficiently and smoothly, enhance service delivery to citizens, and identify corruption risks to enable effective counteraction by administrative or regulatory authorities.**

control system in the cooperating entities—such as the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, the Ministry of Finance, and the National Council for Women—highlighted the essential relationship between the internal audit function, governance, and the internal control system. Achieving the objectives of internal audit units and governance relies on enhancing the internal control system with its various components, supporting the existence of an effective and efficient internal control system within the government entity.

Internal audit units in government entities play a role in supporting decision-makers by determining the dimensions of situations within entities and assessing the effectiveness of institutional internal control. This enables the appropriate decisions to be made to improve performance.

Responsibilities of the Organizational Division for Internal Audit, Governance, and Training of its Members:

In the context of defining the organizational division for internal audit and governance, the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1146 of 2018 was issued regarding the establishment of certain organizational divisions in the administrative units of the state that specialize in internal audit. The head of the Central Agency for Organization and Administration is to issue the necessary decisions to establish the organizational divisions specified in the administrative units of the state.

In implementation of the mentioned Prime Minister's decision, the head of the Central Agency for Organization and Administration issued Decision No. 54 of 2020 to establish an organizational division for internal audit and governance within the administrative units of the state as follows:

1- Objective of Establishing Internal Audit and Governance: The decision specifies the objective of establishing internal audit and governance as protecting state funds and enhancing principles of transparency, integrity, and accountability in the unit's operations through the following:

- Ensuring the protection of the unit's funds, properties, and resources of all kinds.
- Ensuring the effectiveness of administrative, financial, and technical operations and procedures, and the smooth functioning of the unit.
- Enhancing compliance with legislations, regulations, instructions, policies, and plans mandatory for the unit.
- Supporting governance principles and applying internal audit values and standards.
- Contributing to strengthening the state's efforts in preventing corruption.

2- Responsibilities of Internal Audit and Governance: The decision outlines the responsibilities of internal audit and



Administrative Control Authority Building in the New Capital City

governance, which include:

- Conducting periodic and sudden audits on functional affairs, records, and files, verifying the correct application of applicable laws.
  - Providing corrective proposals for the unit's operations to avoid errors or violations, ensuring improved performance levels and efficiency.
  - Preparing periodic reports with the results and observations of audit activities in other departments within the unit, to be presented to the competent authority.
  - Reviewing compliance with administrative and financial decisions, circulars, and publications.
  - Reviewing the consistency and adequacy of current working procedures.
  - Ensuring the accuracy and correctness of financial audit procedures during and after disbursement using samples and comprehensive checks.
  - Reviewing the efficient use of financial and material resources to ensure the protection of the unit's funds and properties.
  - Reviewing compliance with the constitution, laws, regulations, policies, programs, approved instructions, and the code of conduct, as well as instructions from the competent authority and relevant entities.
  - Reviewing the unit's strategic, executive, and operational plans to ensure their effectiveness.
  - Reviewing compliance with contracts, agreements, and cooperation protocols in which the unit is a party.
  - Conducting periodic and unexpected inspections of all the unit's activities to ensure smooth workflow.
  - Conducting periodic and sudden inventories of storerooms, assignments, warehouses, and mechanical fleets, ensuring the accuracy of their ledgers, records, documents, and applied procedures.
  - Submitting periodic reports to the Administrative Control Authority on the unit's activities, with immediate reporting upon discovering any criminal offense, financial or administrative violation, fraud, or misappropriation of public funds, and fulfilling the tasks assigned by the Authority.
- 3- Training Initiatives by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy
- Starting in January 2024, the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, in collaboration with several partners, conducted 10 training courses for the cadres of internal audit and governance units in the administrative apparatus, training 353 trainees from 59 entities. Additionally, in May 2024, 270 cadres from various youth and sports directorates were trained via remote electronic training methods. The academy aims to organize a range of basic, advanced, and

**Continuing the educational efforts previously implemented, such as holding seminars, various events like workshops and lectures, participating in the Cairo International Book Fair, and publishing the cultural magazine "Conscience of the Nation" over three consecutive years, the academy has progressed to issuing a peer-reviewed scientific journal titled "Governance, Preventing and Combatting Corruption" This journal is the first of its kind**

high-level training courses for internal audit personnel across the republic to enhance their skills.

The Administrative Control Authority, supported by its partners, continues to strive in selecting and qualifying internal audit personnel as a key measure to implement corruption prevention and deterrence procedures. This effort aims to improve the capabilities of entities to perform their tasks efficiently and smoothly, enhance service delivery to citizens, and identify corruption risks to enable effective counteraction by administrative or regulatory authorities. This requires cultivating a culture of acceptance for these units among government leaders and employees, recognizing the complementary roles rather than conflicting ones. To sum up, the Administrative Control Authority and its partners are actively working to address this challenge and create a positive work environment to achieve the desired goals under the motto "Towards a Societal Culture Against Corruption."

**Launch of the Scientific Journal "Governance, Preventing and Combatting Corruption"**

Driven by the vision of the Administrative Control Authority, the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy believes in developing methods to combat corruption and activate prevention procedures based primarily on raising awareness and culture among citizens through a scientific approach. Continuing the educational efforts previously implemented, such as holding seminars, various events like workshops and lectures, participating in the Cairo International Book Fair, and publishing the cultural magazine "Conscience of the Nation" over three consecutive years, the academy has progressed to issuing a peer-reviewed scientific journal titled "Governance, Preventing and Combatting Corruption" This journal is the first of its kind at the continental and regional level, adhering to the highest standards of quality in scientific publishing. It serves as a platform for modern, innovative thought and a forum for specialists and researchers in governance and corruption prevention fields. The goal is for the journal to aid researchers in presenting their refined scientific work at local, regional, and international levels, supporting the objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and contributing to the state's efforts to achieve Egypt's Development Vision (2030).

**And the journey continues!**





Headquarters of the Advisory Board of the African Union on Anti-Corruption - Arusha, Tanzania



## Fighting Corruption: The Scourge of Nations The Battle for Sustainable Development in the African Continent

**Mrs. Seynabou Ndiaye Diakhate**  
President of the African Union Advisory Council on Corruption

**Corruption is a scourge that undermines the economies of countries around the world, particularly those in Africa. Concerned about the negative impact of this phenomenon and its detrimental consequences on the economic and social development of African peoples, the heads of state adopted the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption on July 11, 2003, in Maputo, Mozambique, during the 2nd ordinary session of the Assembly of States Parties of the African Union**

The Convention came into force on August 5, 2006, 30 days after the deposit of the 15th instrument of ratification. To date, 48 states have ratified it.

The goal of the Convention is to make good governance a significant lever for the development of the African continent.

Article 22(5) of the said Convention established a monitoring mechanism called the African Union Advisory Council on Corruption, tasked among other things with promoting and encouraging the adoption and implementation of measures to combat corruption on the continent, advising governments on how to combat corruption and related offenses, and carrying out any other task that may be assigned to it by the Union's deliberative bodies.

To successfully fulfill its mission, the Council has taken a number of initiatives:

Legal tools have been established (evaluation guides and questionnaires sent to member states to facilitate evaluation missions of the conformity of states' legal and institutional

frameworks with the Convention); About ten countries have been evaluated, the latest being Egypt.

Institutional cooperation frameworks have been developed with stakeholders such as technical and financial partners, associations, etc.

Strategies and plans to combat corruption have been adopted (**strategic plan 2011 – 2015**); it is structured around the following axes:

- Support for the implementation of the Convention, with major objectives related to the ratification of the Convention, the promotion of harmonized codes of conduct for state agents, and the development of methodologies designed to analyze the nature and extent of corruption in Africa;
- Raising awareness of the Convention and increasing the visibility of the Council and other mechanisms of the Convention;
- Establishing partnerships, through which the Council will consolidate its relations with stakeholders for better coordination and effectiveness of anti-corruption initiatives;
- Operational effectiveness of the Council, monitoring and



Meeting of the Prime Minister with the Delegation of the Advisory Board of the African Union in the presence of the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority

evaluation intended to establish appropriate work systems.

**A second strategic plan for 2018-2022 was developed after evaluating the first plan. The Plan aims to achieve 4 objectives:**

- Provide a roadmap that clearly defines the Council's actions;
- Provide a strategic framework and common standards of accountability that allow the Council, stakeholders, and partners to align on how the goals are achieved, and the flexibility to respond to rapid and unexpected developments;
- Create a strong link between the Council, partners, and stakeholders who will assist it in its mission (short term), measure the level of progress in the fight against corruption in Africa (medium term), and significantly reduce the effects of corruption on good governance and development in Africa (long term).
- Provide a platform to align the Council's activities with the AU's Agenda 2063 and the framework for the African Governance Architecture.

The Council has also sponsored studies aimed at reviewing the implementation of the Convention and identifying best practices as well as the methodology and measurement of corruption.

On a continental level, since 2017, the Council celebrates July 11th as African Anti-Corruption Day followed by the

annual dialogue between anti-corruption bodies and other stakeholders engaged in this fight.

In line with its mission, the council has engaged with the Regional Economic Communities (COMESA, SADC, ECOWAS) in partnerships and is finalizing a cooperation agreement with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, another organ of the African Union located in Banjul, in accordance with the recommendations of the Convention.

In 2021, the Council focused on promoting closer collaboration and harmonization of efforts among the Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

As a reminder, the fifth African dialogue on the fight against corruption was focused on the theme: "Regional Economic Communities: Key Players in the Implementation of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption," held virtually from November 9 to 11, 2021.

This event brought together representatives from Member States, International Organizations, National Anti-Corruption Agencies (NACA), Civil Society, and other actors.

A significant step was taken with the commemoration of the African Year of Anti-Corruption in 2018 on the theme "Winning the Fight Against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa's Transformation," which led to the Nouakchott Declaration.



Visit of the Delegation of the Advisory Board of the African Union on Anti-Corruption to the Academy Headquarters - May 2023

**Advisory Council against Corruption plays a fundamental role in the fight for the eradication of corruption on the African continent.**

**This fight, whose ultimate goal is the sustainable development of African countries, requires not only political will from leaders but also, and above all, sustained commitment on their part.**

In 2015, during the ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State, a special declaration regarding illicit financial flows was adopted, followed by the adoption in 2020 of the Common African Position on Asset Recovery (CAPAR).

The Executive Council charged the Advisory Council, in partnership with the African Union's Department of Peace and Security, to follow up and implement the decision on CAPAR and to regularly submit reports to the Conference.

The African Union Advisory Council on Corruption thus plays a crucial role in the implementation of the Common African Position on Asset Recovery.

In conclusion, we can say that the African Union Advisory Council against Corruption plays a fundamental role in the fight for the eradication

of corruption on the African continent. This fight, whose ultimate goal is the sustainable development of African countries, requires not only political will from leaders but also, and above all, sustained commitment on their part.

It also requires that the body I have the honor to lead has sufficient human and financial resources to fulfill the mission entrusted to it.

Such is the price to pay to rid ourselves of this insidious evil and have the Africa we want.

## Significant Role of Administrative Control Authority

# Egypt's Success Against Human Trafficking



### Ambassador/ Naela Gabr

Chairperson of the National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Migration and Human Trafficking,

The world faces the threat of transnational organized crime, namely human trafficking, which is a modern form of slavery. This crime primarily involves the exploitation of a weaker party by a stronger one, often in situations of severe need. Human trafficking generates enormous profits for its perpetrators, making it the third-largest criminal enterprise globally, after arms smuggling and drug trafficking. Consequently, it has become one of the most widespread and dangerous international crimes. Global economic crises, wars, and conflicts in many regions contribute to the growth of this crime. Poverty, lack of opportunities, and dire need all provide fertile ground for its expansion.

There is no doubt that the growth of this crime is also closely linked to the spread of corruption. Egypt has recognized the danger of human trafficking and has adopted a comprehensive vision to combat both illegal migration and human trafficking, focusing on criminal justice and human rights protection. Egypt joined all relevant international agreements early on, such as the Convention to Combat Slavery, the International Labour Organization's Forced Labour Convention No. 29 of 1930, the 1949 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography of 2000, and the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Egypt's commitment to these international treaties was crowned by its early accession to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in 2000 and its accompanying protocols on preventing, suppressing, and punishing trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and combating the smuggling of migrants by land, sea, and air, with a focus on upholding and protecting human rights for all citizens and residents, both Egyptians and foreigners.

Egypt has established an institutional mechanism to enhance coordination among national agencies involved in combating this crime by creating a ministerial national committee in 2007. This committee drafted Law No. 64 of 2010 on combating human trafficking, one of the first laws of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa. This law aims to combat this crime, provide a deterrent for criminals, and ensure the protection of victims. The law also acknowledges the link between this crime and corruption by imposing harsher penalties on perpetrators if the offender is a public official or someone tasked with a public service and commits the crime by exploiting their position.

Since its establishment, the committee has sought to build an integrated strategic framework reflecting Egypt's vision in combating both crimes, aligning with the state's development plans and covering the four internationally recognized pillars of crime prevention: prevention, prosecution, protection, and partnership.

This strategy is fundamentally based on the rule of law and human rights principles and standards.

In this context, the national committee adopted the National Strategy to Combat Illegal Migration 2016-2026, and we are currently completing its third action plan for 2021-2023. Additionally, successive strategies to combat human trafficking have been adopted, with the third National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking 2022-2026 launched in September 2022.

The National Strategy to Combat Illegal Migration aims to protect those most vulnerable to exploitation by smugglers, including youth, unaccompanied minors, their families, and irregular migrants in Egypt. It also aims to deter and punish human smugglers through stringent measures and penalties, build and strengthen the capacities of government agencies responsible for implementing the strategy, and engage community leaders and civil society.

The third National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking builds on the achievements of previous strategies to develop an integrated system to combat human trafficking, with a particular focus on protection. This is especially relevant given the ongoing economic and social conditions and the political crises affecting the world and the region, which also impact Egypt.\*\*

Intensified Efforts Against Human Trafficking in Egypt (2020-2023)

From 2020 to 2023, the National Committee and its government partners have intensified their efforts to protect Egyptian

**Egypt has recognized the severity of the crime of human trafficking and adopted a comprehensive approach to combating the crimes of illegal migration and human trafficking. This approach focuses on the criminal perspective and the protection of human rights. Consequently, Egypt joined all relevant international agreements early on, such as the Convention against Slavery**



and foreign citizens from the clutches of human trafficking and migrant smuggling networks. This initiative comes in response to the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse effects on employment opportunities.

Aligning with international efforts that link combating human trafficking with fighting corruption, special powers to combat human trafficking were added to the Administrative Control Authority (ACA) according to its founding law No. 54 of 1964, as amended by Law No. 207 of 2017. This step represents a qualitative shift in crime-fighting strategies, linking criminal activities with money laundering and corruption. Consequently, the ACA joined the National Coordinating Committee, which now combats illegal migration in addition to human trafficking. The ACA operates directly under the Prime Minister, encompassing 30 ministries and authorities, as well as the three national human rights councils.

Since then, the ACA has achieved significant successes in monitoring, combating, and capturing human trafficking gangs. The cases they have successfully handled have become models for training and awareness programs for law enforcement agencies.

Egypt's vision in combating and monitoring these crimes is based on the understanding that they are linked to corruption and money laundering. The ACA, along with the Central Bank's Anti-Money Laundering Unit, follows up on money laundering cases, contributing to crime reduction and control. Given the immense profits generated by these crimes, it is crucial to find suitable methods to conceal the gains. The ACA plays a vital role in uncovering criminal plans, especially at the near-final stage of the crime, where evidence is concealed, and funds are laundered to appear legitimate.

Moreover, the ACA provides educational support, sharing its unique experience with law enforcement agencies to highlight this critical phase that can lead to uncovering perpetrators.

The National Committee is committed to enhancing partnerships with all national entities involved in combating these crimes, recognizing the importance of cooperation among active institutions in Egypt. Given its responsibility to develop training programs and strengthen the capabilities of those combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling, the National Committee signed a cooperation protocol with the ACA in 2022 to implement joint training and awareness activities. The Anti-Corruption Academy plays a crucial role in supporting this collaboration, promoting administrative governance and sound leadership principles to achieve sustainable development as per Egypt's Vision 2030. This initiative is based on the ACA's reputation for relying on highly trained personnel and its readiness to contribute effectively to the state's development plans.

The partnership between the National Committee and the ACA stands out as a successful model of national cooperation. The National Committee relies on the ACA to respond to international reports and surveys related to combating illegal migration and human trafficking. Additionally, the National Committee, in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Academy, conducts training courses for ACA members on human trafficking and migrant smuggling crimes, enhancing their understanding of these crimes' components, international legal framework, and the human rights aspect in combating them. The Academy also hosts numerous training sessions organized by the National Committee for targeted groups such as media professionals and labor inspectors.

As part of its efforts to develop awareness materials and lectures for all entities involved in monitoring and combating these crimes, the committee enlists experts to present practical, real-world scenarios. The ACA has significantly contributed in this regard, with its representatives delivering practical lectures in workshops on "mock trials for migrant smuggling and human

**Egypt's vision in the field of combating and monitoring is based on the understanding that these crimes are linked to corruption and money laundering. The Administrative Control Authority, along with the Anti-Money Laundering Unit of the Central Bank, uniquely monitors money laundering cases, contributing to the reduction and containment of these crimes.**



**The national strategy to combat illegal migration aims to protect the groups most vulnerable to exploitation by smugglers, including young people, unaccompanied children, their families, and those entering Egypt illegally. It also seeks to deter and punish brokers and traffickers of illegal migration through stringent measures and penalties.**

trafficking cases" for law enforcement agencies from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Justice, and the Public Prosecution.

Among the topics of cooperation between the ACA and the National Committee is the issue of new forms of human trafficking. Criminals and those with ill intent continually evolve their methods to trap victims, using the latest electronic means to achieve their goals.

It is worth noting that criminal gangs use these techniques both domestically and internationally. There are numerous false advertisements for job opportunities in Egypt and abroad, and many unlicensed employment offices engage in all forms of exploitation of Egyptians and foreign residents in Egypt. These exploitative practices include granting travel visas or providing fake employment contracts, and many instances of blackmailing inexperienced women by unscrupulous individuals. The availability of monitoring and deterrence measures serves as an ideal means to protect individuals and society from these evils.

The Administrative Control Authority (ACA) has also focused on a crucial legislative aspect: the protection of witnesses and whistleblowers reporting corruption crimes. This is considered a key element in encouraging citizens to report these covert crimes that criminals strive to hide from law enforcement agencies. The aforementioned draft law is still under study and drafting.

The cooperation between the ACA and the National Committee extends beyond the local level to regional and international levels, aiming to learn from successful models in monitoring and combating these crimes and to share Egypt's pioneering experience with sister Arab and African countries. The ACA participated in the "Regional Conference on International Cooperation in Criminal Matters Related to Investigating and Prosecuting Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling" held in Sharm El Sheikh in July 2023. The conference aimed to support participating countries from West and North Africa in their efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, human trafficking, and migrant smuggling, and sought to enhance the collective capacities of participating countries to combat these heinous crimes by addressing the growing challenges posed by human trafficking

Participants in the Workshop on "Enhancing the Capacity of Labor Inspectors to Identify and Refer Victims of Human Trafficking" at EACA Academy

**The Administrative Control Authority has achieved significant successes in monitoring, combating, and apprehending human trafficking gangs. The cases it successfully handled have become exemplary models used in training and awareness programs for law enforcement agencies.**

and migrant smuggling.

Additionally, the ACA participated in several field visits, including a high-level visit to Spain with various national entities such as the Ministry of Interior, the Public Prosecution, the Ministry of State for Immigration and Egyptian Expatriates' Affairs, the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, the National Council for Human Rights, and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood. This visit aimed to learn about the Spanish experience in monitoring and combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling as part of the "Migration Governance through Institutional Support" project funded by the European Union in cooperation with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

The ACA also participated in a visit to the Kingdom of the Netherlands as part of the Human Trafficking Combat Program in

**The model of cooperation between the National Committee and the Administrative Control Authority is considered one of the successful examples of national cooperation and partnerships. The National Committee utilizes the expertise of the Administrative Control Authority in responding to international reports and questionnaires related to combating the crimes of illegal migration and human trafficking. Additionally, the National Committee collaborates with the Anti-Corruption Academy to conduct training courses for the Authority's members on human trafficking and migrant smuggling crimes.**

Egypt, implemented in cooperation with the International Labour Organization in Egypt and funded by the U.S. Department of State. The visit aimed to learn about best practices and exchange experiences regarding the management of shelters for victims of human trafficking and domestic violence, as well as the protection and response to victims. The Netherlands is recognized globally for its leading role in combating human trafficking. This visit contributed to the transfer and exchange of technical knowledge on crime combating, familiarization with internal work regulations, and coordination and networking with entities providing social, psychological, and health services to victims and mechanisms for integrating victims into society. The delegation included national officials from the technical secretariat of the National Committee and the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

Finally, the ACA participated in a visit to Armenia to learn about best practices and exchange experiences in the field of migrant return and reintegration.

Additionally, the ACA was part of the Egyptian delegation in a tripartite roundtable that included Egypt, Tunisia, and Morocco, with the participation of Bahrain. The roundtable aimed to exchange experiences and best practices in combating human trafficking. The discussions during the session focused on various aspects of combating human trafficking, including prosecuting offenders, preventing impunity, and the role of law enforcement agencies in protecting victims and witnesses. Each participating country presented an overview of its role in combating human trafficking, ensuring victims' rights, guaranteeing fair trials, and coordinating efforts at the national and regional levels. The discussions also highlighted the importance of cooperation among criminal justice actors at both national and regional levels.

In conclusion, it can be said that the close cooperation between the National Coordinating Committee and the Administrative Control Authority achieves integration in relevant areas, particularly in combating illegal migration and human trafficking. This collaboration aligns with the main pillars of the Anti-Corruption Strategy 2023-2030 and fulfills its objectives, especially those related to the legislative and judicial infrastructure supporting anti-corruption efforts and ensuring swift justice. Additionally, it focuses on building the capacities of entities capable of combating corruption and enforcing the law, creating a society aware of the dangers of corruption and capable of fighting it, and enhancing effective international and regional cooperation in combating corruption.

# Egypt's Comprehensive Legislative Measures Against Corruption



**Judge/ Ahmed El-Beharawy**  
First Attorney General  
Cairo Court of Appeals

Since ancient times, the Egyptian state has been committed to combating and tracking corruption through all legislative and institutional means. It has aimed to develop its methods and tools to keep up with the evolving nature of crime in this regard and to work on containing and preventing all forms of corruption.

In this context, the Egyptian constitution issued in January 2014 includes clear and comprehensive provisions for combating corruption. In Chapter Seven, under the title "National Councils, Independent Authorities, and Oversight Bodies," it emphasizes the technical, financial, and administrative independence of the bodies and agencies working in the field of combating corruption. It stipulates that the appointment of the heads of these bodies is done by the President of the Republic, and these bodies are required to submit annual reports to him regarding their activities.

The Egyptian legislator has enacted numerous punitive legislations in this field, with the Penal Code being foremost among them. The third and fourth sections of the second book of the Penal Code address the provisions and penalties for crimes of bribery and embezzlement of public funds, respectively. The third section criminalizes and penalizes all forms of bribery, expanding the definition of a public official beyond the scope of administrative law. It includes employees in government-affiliated or government-supervised departments, members of national or local legislative councils, whether elected or appointed, arbitrators, experts, bankruptcy trustees, judicial guardians, board members, managers, and employees of companies and institutions in which the state holds any share.

This broad scope of criminalization thus encompasses anyone connected to public service in any capacity, facilitating the prosecution of those who exploit their positions for personal gain. It criminalizes not only the act of bribery but also the mere request or acceptance of a bribe or the promise thereof, as well as accepting mediation in such matters.

Similarly, the legislator has applied the same approach in the fourth section of the second book of the Penal Code concerning crimes of embezzlement of public funds, expanding the definition of a public official. Under the provisions of this section, it includes individuals carrying out public authority duties, state employees, employees of local administration units, heads and members of popular councils and organizations, and others with a general representative capacity. It also includes anyone authorized by a public authority to perform a specific task and employees of entities whose funds are considered public funds under this section.

The legislator's commendable expansion of the definitions of criminalization aims to provide necessary protection for public funds and achieve the required deterrence against those who tamper with it. Embezzlement is considered a crime as soon as the perpetrator changes their intention regarding the funds in their possession due to their work, thus opening the door for criminalization and deterrence as soon as they contemplate appropriating public funds. Additionally, the mere attempt to profit illegally is considered a complete crime, and in cases of facilitating others' acquisition of public funds and profiting others, the public official is considered a principal perpetrator in these criminal acts, as they are the primary target of criminalization and deterrence in this context.

**Legislative Leniency and Procedures Regarding Statute of Limitations**

The legislator has relaxed the calculation of the statute of limitations period, commencing it from the date a public official leaves their position. This measure prevents officials from exploiting their powers to conceal their crimes until the statute of limitations for criminal prosecution expires. The legislator ensures that the statute of limitations is calculated from the date the official leaves office unless investigations had already begun prior to that date.

Furthermore, the legislator has granted public prosecutors, with the rank of Chief Prosecutor at minimum, the powers of an investigating judge for crimes of embezzlement of public funds and bribery, excluding the detention periods for the latter. This provision aims to facilitate the prosecution's ability to detect and gather evidence of

**The law stipulates the establishment of the Illicit Gains Department within the Ministry of Justice, composed of a director chosen from among the advisors of the Courts of Appeal and a number of presidents from the primary courts. This department is responsible for requesting data and clarifications related to complaints, as well as assisting the examination bodies tasked with reviewing financial disclosure statements submitted by those subject to the provisions of this law.**



House of Representatives-Egypt

crimes, preparing for the punishment of the perpetrator. Additionally, the public prosecutor has the right to request the competent court to seize the assets of the accused, as well as those of their spouse and minor children, ensuring the fulfillment of any financial penalties or restitution that may be imposed.

The Illicit Gains Law No. 62 of 1975 defines those subject to its provisions, including individuals carrying out public authority duties and those working in the state's administrative apparatus, except for third-level categories. It includes the President and members of the People's Assembly, presidents and members of local popular councils, and those with a general representative capacity, whether elected or appointed. It also encompasses presidents and members of boards of directors, and employees of public authorities, institutions, and economic units affiliated with them, excluding third-level categories. Additionally, it includes presidents and members of boards of directors, and employees of companies in which the government or public authorities, institutions, or economic units hold shares. Moreover, it covers presidents and members of the boards of professional syndicates, labor unions, public benefit associations, and cooperative associations, except for those whose earnings do not exceed the final financial link of the third level. It also includes village heads, mayors, tax collectors, their deputies, trustees of deposits, cashiers, procurement and sales representatives, and members of procurement and sales committees in the aforementioned entities. Furthermore, it applies to taxpayers under the tax card system, according to Law No. 82 of 1973, if the total transactions of the taxpayer with the aforementioned entities exceed fifty thousand pounds.

The legislator has adopted an expansive approach in defining the scope of those subject to this law, including categories beyond those carrying out public authority duties. The legislator requires individuals in these categories to submit a financial disclosure statement detailing their assets, including those of their spouse and minor children, and to provide such statements periodically in January every five years. Subsequent statements must include explanations for any increases in their financial assets. The law stipulates imprisonment or fines, or both, for those who fail to submit their financial disclosure statements within the legally prescribed timeframes or deliberately provide false information in such statements.

**The legislator has commendably expanded the scope of criminalization in order to provide the necessary protection for public funds and to ensure the necessary deterrence for those who manipulate them.**

The Illicit Gains Law also mandates that the specified entities report relevant data about their personnel who are subject to its provisions, imposing fines for non-compliance. It imposes severe penalties on those who acquire illicit gains, prescribing imprisonment, a fine equal to the value of the illicit gains, and restitution of the illicit gains.

**Legislative Provisions on Illicit Gains**

The law stipulates the establishment of the Illicit Gains Administration within the Ministry of Justice, comprising a director selected from among the appellate court advisors and several presidents of primary courts. This administration is tasked with requesting data and clarifications related to complaints and assisting the examination bodies responsible for reviewing financial disclosure statements submitted by those subject to the provisions of the law.

The legislator did not stop with the aforementioned laws to combat corruption; they also enacted Law No. 106 of 2013 concerning the conflict of interest of state officials. This legislation aims to preclude and eliminate corruption at its source. It explicitly defines the term "government official" for the purposes of its application and describes a "related person" as anyone with a kinship relation to the government official up to the fourth degree, as well as companies in which they have shares or manage. The law defines conflicts of interest as any situation where the

**The legislator has delayed the commencement of the statute of limitations period to the date the public employee leaves their position, anticipating the misuse of their powers to conceal any crimes committed in this field until the criminal case's statute of limitations expires. Thus, the legislator ensured this by calculating the statute of limitations period from the date the employee leaves the position, unless the investigation had already begun before that.**

government official or a related person has a material or moral interest that absolutely or relatively conflicts with the requirements of their position or job, the integrity and independence required, and the safeguarding of public funds, or that results in illicit gains for themselves or the related person.

The law further delineates an absolute conflict of interest as any situation that results in direct or definite harm to the public interest or job, whereas a relative conflict of interest is any situation that might potentially cause harm to the public interest or job. The law mandates that in cases of absolute conflict of interest, the government official must eliminate the conflict either by relinquishing the interest or by leaving the position or job. In cases of relative conflict, the government official must disclose the conflict and take necessary measures to prevent harm to the public interest.

The law explicitly states that holding a government position while serving on the boards of private commercial companies or working in them constitutes an absolute conflict of interest. It requires the government official to resign from such memberships or positions immediately upon appointment to a public office.

Additionally, the law requires a government official, upon appointment, to take necessary actions to separate their ownership of shares or stakes in companies or commercial enterprises from the management of any shares or stakes in these companies. The law allows them to retain ownership of these shares or stakes provided they are not in companies under their supervision or directly or indirectly affiliated with their government role.

The law prohibits the government official, throughout their tenure, from purchasing shares or stakes in companies or commercial enterprises or increasing their holdings, except when participating in capital increases of a project in which they were involved before assuming office, provided that the increase is offered to all partners or through subscription in Egyptian investment funds open to public subscription, and that the purchase is at a fair price.

**Legislative Provisions**

The law prohibits government officials from receiving or accepting gifts or any other forms of courtesy from any entity, whether public or private. Exceptions are made for symbolic gifts customarily given during holidays and special occasions, provided their value does not exceed three hundred Egyptian pounds, and for gifts presented by visitors or officials, whether Egyptian or foreign, during official events, according to customary practices and considerations of courtesy. Such gifts must be handed over to the respective workplace and recorded in its registers.

The law also prohibits government officials, upon leaving their position for any reason, from assuming any role or position in the private sector with a company or entity that was affiliated with or related to their previous work, or under their supervision, for six months following their departure. They are also prohibited from engaging in private professional work related to such entities or interacting with the entity they previously headed, unless approved by the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Violation of the aforementioned provisions results in penalties of imprisonment, fines, or both.

Lastly, the Egyptian legislator enacted the Anti-Money Laundering Law No. 80 of 2002, with its subsequent amendments, the latest being Law No. 154 of 2022. This law aims to deprive the accused of any benefit from the proceeds of a crime, whether a felony or misdemeanor, by imposing a penalty of imprisonment for up to seven years and a fine equal to twice the amount and assets involved in the crime, provided the required criminal intent is established.

Through these measures, the Egyptian legislator has effectively achieved its objective of both general and specific deterrence by enacting laws to combat corruption and punish its perpetrators.

Public Prosecution and National Committee Showcase Effective Efforts

# Mechanism for Recovering Corruption Funds



**Judge/  
Mohamed Mahmoud Khalaf**  
Head of the Court of Appeals, Director of  
the International Cooperation and Human  
Rights Departments - Public Prosecution

The world has witnessed a tremendous revolution in the realm of communications and information technology, accompanied by the evolution of criminal methods. Crime has transcended national borders, with suspects and convicts seeking to internationalize their actions by fleeing or transferring the proceeds of their crimes abroad to obscure their origins and disguise their nature. Consequently, activating mechanisms for international judicial cooperation has become a practical and realistic necessity for combating transnational criminal phenomena and internationalizing judicial pursuits. These mechanisms include extradition of criminals, transfer of convicts, mutual judicial assistance, and recovery of funds from abroad.

The mechanism for recovering proceeds from corruption or organized crime—funds derived from corruption or organized crimes—serves as a cornerstone of international judicial cooperation in combating corruption and organized crime and prosecuting perpetrators for three key reasons:

Depriving perpetrators of the fruits of their criminal projects and stripping them of acquired properties is the most deterrent and painful punishment.

Recovering these proceeds or funds from the country to which they have been transferred or invested back to the country from which they were looted is the real test of the existence of practical international judicial cooperation.

Recovering proceeds or funds from corruption crimes also combats the phenomenon of illicit money laundering, a highly dangerous criminal activity in itself.

The importance of the issue of recovering criminal assets or proceeds and confiscation prompted the United Nations to establish model agreements aimed at providing countries with guidelines for bilateral or collective cooperation in the recovery or sharing of criminal proceeds, as well as encouraging bilateral and collective cooperation. The United Nations has developed two model agreements:

The model bilateral agreement on the sharing of confiscated criminal proceeds or properties.

The model treaty for mutual assistance in criminal matters.

**Definition of Criminal Proceeds and Confiscation:**

The first model agreement outlines the definitions of criminal proceeds, confiscation, and properties as per the definition in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which implies that “the term ‘property’ means assets of any kind, whether tangible or intangible, movable or immovable, corporeal or incorporeal, and legal documents or instruments evidencing title to or interest in such assets.”

Criminal proceeds are defined as any property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of a crime.

The agreement explains how international cooperation can be achieved for purposes such as freezing, seizure, investigation, or confiscation and describes the ways to handle criminal proceeds or confiscated properties, which are:

The state party confiscating criminal proceeds or properties must dispose of these proceeds or properties according to its domestic law and administrative procedures.

When a State Party takes action based on a request from another State Party, it should, to the extent permitted by its domestic law, give priority consideration to returning the confiscated criminal proceeds or properties to the requesting State Party.

A State Party, when taking action based on a request from another State Party, may give special consideration to concluding agreements or arrangements regarding: a.

Donating the value of such criminal proceeds or properties, or the funds derived from the sale of such criminal proceeds or properties, or a portion thereof, to international governmental bodies specializing in combating organized crime. b. Sharing such criminal proceeds or properties, or the funds derived from the sale of such criminal proceeds or properties, in accordance with its domestic law or administrative procedures, with other State Parties on a regular or case-by-case basis.

Asset Recovery and Confiscation in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption:

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption is based on fundamental measures:

Prevention: Implementing strict measures to prevent corruption in both the public and private sectors.

Criminalization: Enacting legislation to criminalize bribery of national or international public officials, and the embezzlement of public funds. Other acts such as obstructing justice and money laundering should also be criminalized.

International Cooperation: Member states are obligated to assist each other with transnational crimes. According to the convention, focus can be placed on the existence of criminalization or the validity of procedures in the state where the seizure or search actions are conducted to ensure the legality of these actions.

Asset Recovery: One of the core principles introduced by the convention is the possibility of recovering embezzled public funds. The principle of asset recovery is mentioned in several parts of the convention, with Chapter V dedicated to asset recovery, making it one of the most attractive aspects of the convention.

**The experience of the Egyptian Public Prosecution in recovering funds from abroad reflects the efforts made and the challenges faced in international cooperation in this field. Following the January 2011 revolution, the International Cooperation Department studied Law No. 28 of 2015 regarding the establishment of the National Committee for the Recovery of Funds, Assets, and Properties Abroad, as well as other legislative amendments to the Criminal Procedure Law and the Illicit Gains Law, with the aim of unifying efforts to recover embezzled funds.**



Judge: Mohamed Shawky - The Public Prosecutor

**Recovery Mechanisms:**

The United Nations Convention Against Corruption addresses the scenario of having assets or properties in a state derived from corruption crimes committed in another state. The importance of asset and property recovery mechanisms lies in their role as a key element of international judicial cooperation and the most effective deterrent measure against criminals by depriving them of the proceeds of their criminal activities.

The convention includes three mechanisms for the recovery of assets derived from corruption through international cooperation in confiscation:

Authorities in the state where the corruption-derived assets and properties are located implement confiscation decisions issued by the courts of another state.

Authorities in the state itself confiscate foreign-origin assets or properties based on a judicial decision regarding money laundering or any other crime within its jurisdiction.

Authorities in the state conduct administrative confiscation of these assets or properties without a criminal conviction in cases where prosecuting the offender is not possible due to death, escape, or absence.

It should be noted that the aforementioned recovery mechanisms are not limited to corruption crimes stipulated in the convention but also apply to any other crime related to these offenses.

**Adopting Precautionary Measures Regarding Corruption Proceeds:**

The process of recovering proceeds from corruption crimes can sometimes take a long time due to the complexity of these procedures, especially given their transnational nature

**The National Committee for the Recovery of Funds succeeded in recovering approximately nine billion Egyptian pounds and the equivalent of 650 million US dollars through settlement procedures with the accused. These procedures included the payment of cash and in-kind assets, as well as the recovery of their assets located in a foreign country through negotiations with those countries.**

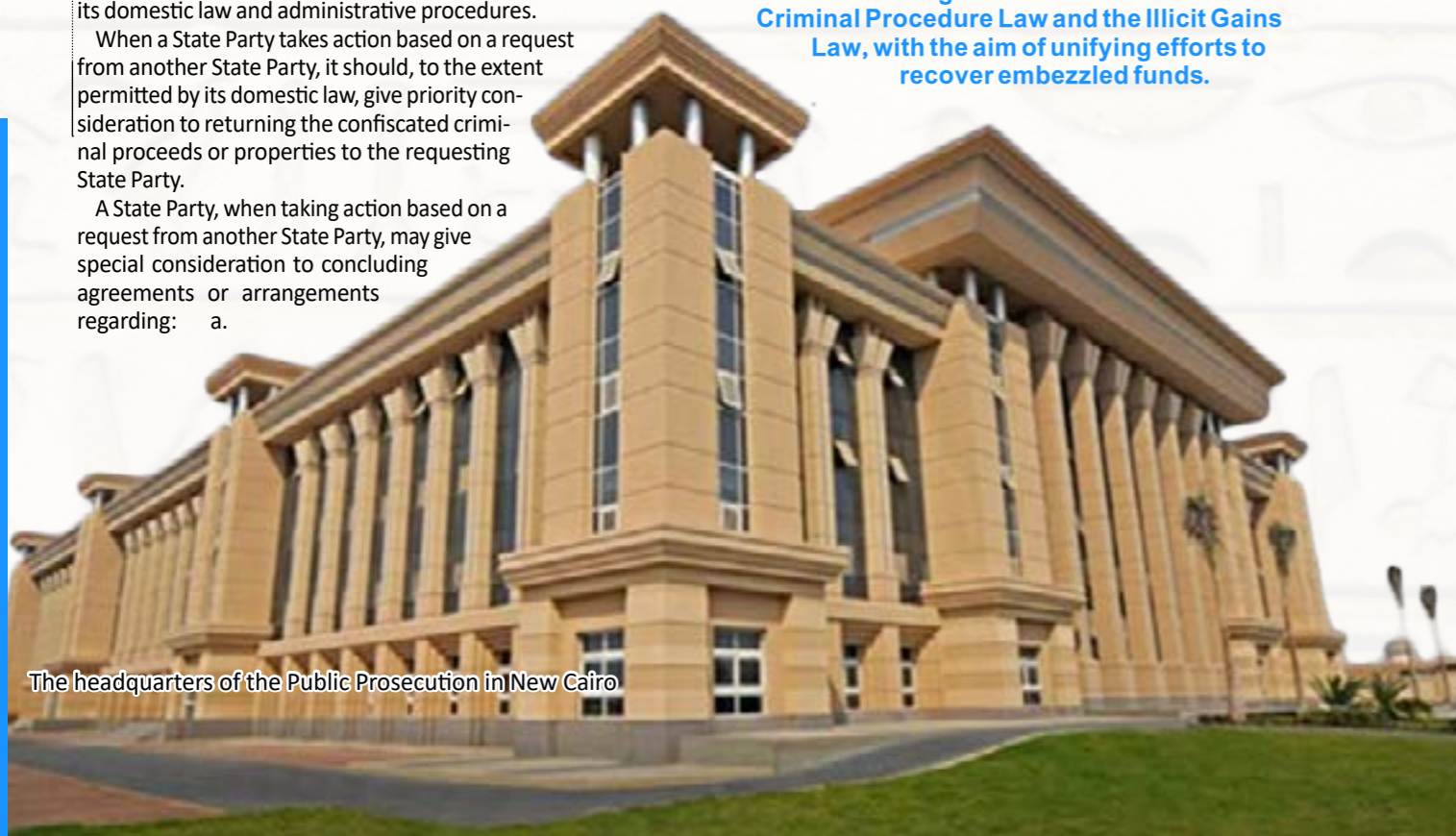
and the involvement of authorities from different countries. Therefore, in order to seize proceeds of corruption with the aim of recovering them, it is necessary to allow for some precautionary or temporary measures while awaiting the conclusion of confiscation procedures. This is to prevent the transfer, conversion, concealment, or disposal of these funds.

**Mechanism for Confiscation:**

These procedures begin when a state receives a request from another state with jurisdiction over one of the corruption crimes covered by the convention to confiscate the proceeds or properties derived from these crimes. The requested state then takes measures to identify, trace, freeze, or seize the criminal proceeds, properties, equipment, or other tools with the aim of eventually confiscating them by an order issued either by the requesting state or the requested state. The confiscation order must be finalized by the courts of the requesting state.

**Legal Procedures in Egypt for Asset Recovery:**

First: The National Committee for Asset Recovery  
The National Committee for Asset Recovery was established



The headquarters of the Public Prosecution in New Cairo



by Presidential Decree No. 28 of 2015 on June 23, 2015, following previous national committees. The most notable of these was the National Coordinating Working Group for the recovery of smuggled Egyptian assets and properties abroad, established by Prime Minister's Decree No. 620 of 2012 on June 7, 2012. This group was chaired by the Prime Minister or his delegate and included members from the Anti-Money Laundering Unit, Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs, Interior, the Central Bank of Egypt, the National Security Authority, and the Judicial Committee for Asset Recovery, along with the Public Prosecution. This group was restructured in 2014, culminating in the issuance of Presidential Decree No. 28 of 2015, which transferred the functions and responsibilities of the previous committees to the National Committee for Asset Recovery.

Composition of the National Committee for Asset Recovery: The National Committee for Asset Recovery is chaired by the Attorney General and includes the following members: Assistant Minister of Justice for the Illicit Gains Authority and

**The procedures for recovering the proceeds of corruption crimes can sometimes require a long time due to the complexity of these procedures, especially given their transnational nature and the involvement of authorities from different countries. Therefore, it has been necessary in the field of seizing the proceeds of corruption, with the aim of recovering them, to allow the implementation of some precautionary or temporary measures until the confiscation procedures are completed. This is to prevent the transfer, conversion, concealment, or disposal of these funds.**

Anti-Money Laundering (Vice Chairman of the Committee)  
Assistant Minister of Justice for International and Cultural Cooperation

Head of the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Combating Unit

A Deputy of the State Litigation Authority chosen by the Supreme Council of the State Litigation Authority

A representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

A representative from the Central Bank of Egypt

A representative from the Ministry of Finance

A representative from the General Intelligence Service

Deputy Head of the Administrative Control Authority

A representative from the National Security Sector of the Ministry of Interior

A representative from the General Administration of Public Funds Investigations of the Ministry of Interior

Director of the International and Arab Criminal Police Department (Interpol)

Duties of the Committee as per its Establishment Law:

Representing the state before relevant authorities in other countries and international organizations regarding the recovery of assets and funds abroad, as well as before foreign courts and international arbitration bodies.

Developing a national strategy for the recovery of assets and funds smuggled abroad, implementing mechanisms for this strategy, and monitoring its execution.

Taking necessary legal and administrative actions and submitting requests on behalf of the Egyptian state to relevant authorities in foreign countries and international and regional organizations, to uncover, trace, freeze, and establish the state's entitlement to recover assets, and to monitor progress in these matters.

Exchanging criminal and financial investigations and judicial information with relevant authorities in the countries from which recovery is sought.

Requesting information and clarifications from all relevant authorities regarding the suspects and crimes for which recovery requests are made.

Receiving settlement requests from suspects listed on the external freeze lists or their authorized representatives at any stage of the criminal proceedings.

Receiving requests to remove names from external freeze lists and terminate judicial assistance for suspects or their authorized representatives who have been acquitted by final court rulings or decisions of no grounds for criminal proceedings, or decisions or rulings that the criminal case is terminated by settlement or suspension of the sentence for this reason, as specified in Article 18 (b) bis of the Criminal Procedure Code. In such cases, the committee must, after verifying the validity of the request, take necessary actions to communicate with foreign countries to remove these names and terminate the judicial assistance requests related to them.

Taking action with foreign countries regarding the recovery of assets and funds in accordance with the laws and rules applicable in those countries.

The committee may form specialized sub-committees or assign one of its members to study any of the topics within its jurisdiction.

The committee's jurisdiction extends to all offenses punishable under the Penal Code or any penal provisions in other laws, limiting the role of any other entity in performing any of these functions that are legally transferred to the committee. Bottom of Form

**How to Receive Settlement Requests:**

Regarding the role of the committee in receiving settlement requests in these cases, the aforementioned law states that one of the committee's competencies is to receive settlement requests from defendants listed on external freeze lists or their authorized representatives at any stage of the criminal proceedings. Accepting the settlement request results in the termination of the criminal case or the suspension of the enforcement of imposed penalties, depending on the circumstances, for the crimes subject to the request.

It is worth noting that there is no conflict between the work of this committee and the work of the committee formed by the Prime Minister's decision based on the amendment of Article 18 (b) bis of the Criminal Procedure Code. The latter committee is responsible for considering settlement requests from all defendants in crimes stipulated in Chapter Four of the Penal Code, except those listed on external freeze lists, which are under the jurisdiction of the National Committee for Asset Recovery abroad.

The committee has a technical secretariat formed by a decision of its chair, consisting of the executive director of the technical secretariat and representatives from the Illicit Gains Authority, the International and Cultural Cooperation Sector of the Ministry of Justice, the Administrative Control Authority, and members of the International Cooperation Office in the Attorney General's Office.

Second: International Cooperation and Enforcement of Judgments Department in the Attorney General's Office

The International Cooperation and Enforcement of Judgments and Prisoners' Welfare Department in the Attorney General's Office was established on October 19, 1999, by

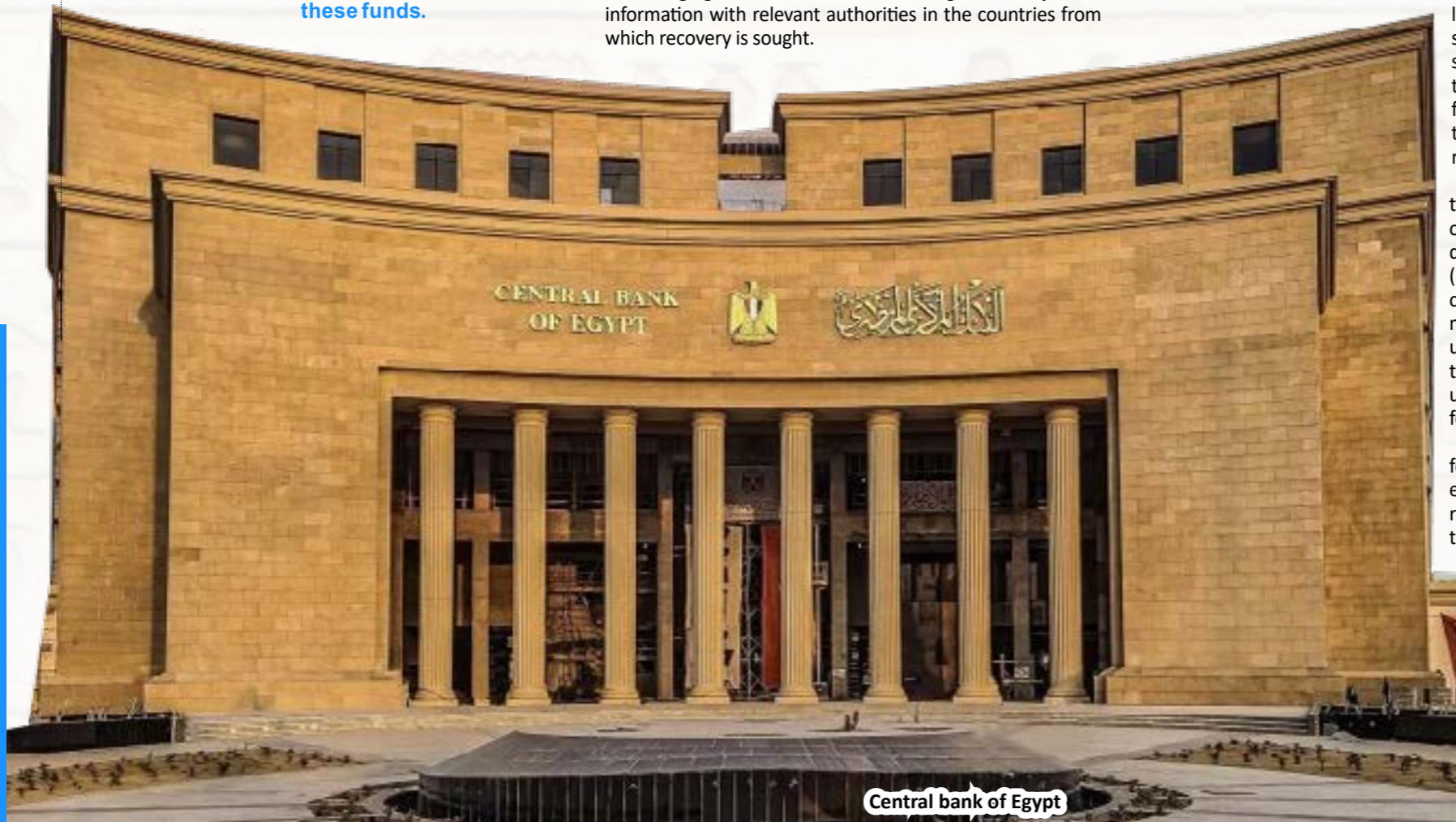
**The United Nations Convention against Corruption addresses the situation where funds or properties obtained from corruption crimes in one country are located in another country, highlighting the importance of mechanisms for recovering these assets. The convention includes three mechanisms for recovering assets obtained from corruption through international cooperation.**

Attorney General's Decision No. 1848 of 1999. On May 30, 2020, Attorney General's Decision No. 975 of 2020 was issued, defining the competencies of the International Cooperation and Enforcement of Judgments and Prisoners' Welfare Department in the Attorney General's Office. This included refining these competencies to keep pace with the developments in legal and judicial thought and practical reality in matters of international cooperation, prisoners' welfare, and enforcement of criminal judgments. This was in light of the importance of preparing requests related to international judicial cooperation for asset recovery from abroad and exchanging information with foreign entities concerned with this matter, including following up on investigations conducted by the Public Prosecution in this regard.

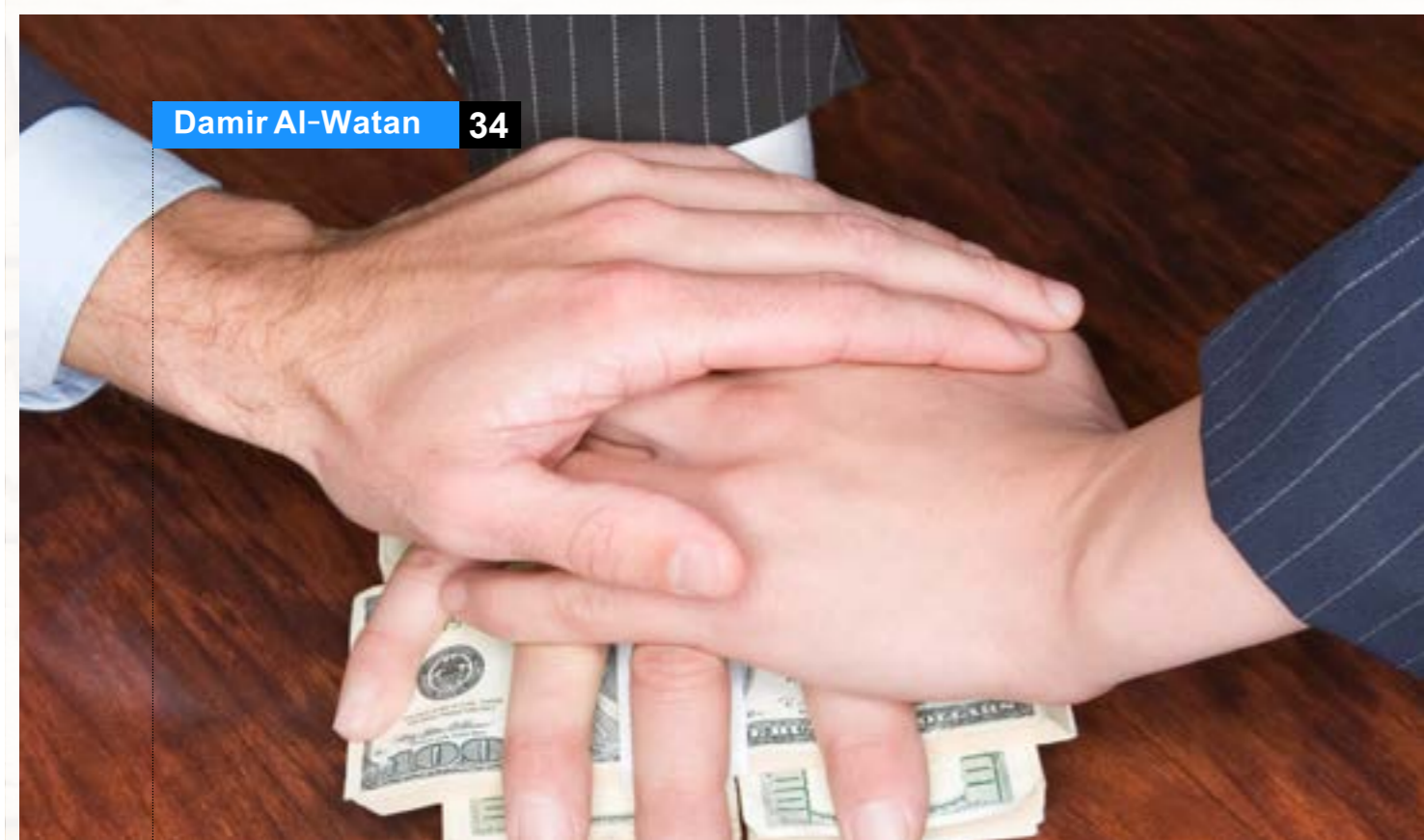
The experience of the Egyptian Public Prosecution in recovering funds from abroad reflects the efforts and challenges of international cooperation in this field. Following the January 2011 revolution, the International Cooperation Department studied Law No. 28 of 2015 regarding the establishment of the National Committee for Asset Recovery abroad and other legislative amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code and the Illicit Gains Law, aiming to unify efforts to recover embezzled funds. The technical secretariat of the National Committee for Asset Recovery abroad was formed from members of the International Cooperation Department, which played a significant role in preparing for its meetings, implementing its decisions, examining settlement requests from defendants, negotiating with them as per the committee's decisions, and drafting settlement agreements for reconciliation. In this role, the International Cooperation Department, as the technical secretariat of the committee, handled communication and coordination with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), financial intelligence units, and Europol to trace, investigate, seize, freeze, and prevent the disposal of funds, ultimately leading to their recovery.

The National Committee for Asset Recovery abroad, chaired by the Public Prosecution and with the participation of the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit, succeeded in recovering all funds involved in criminal cases under its jurisdiction. It recovered approximately nine billion Egyptian pounds and the equivalent of 650 million US dollars through settlement procedures with defendants, which included cash and in-kind payments as well as the recovery of their assets located in a foreign country through negotiations with those countries.

Moreover, the department represents the Public Prosecution in the National Committee for Recovered Antiquities, chaired by the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities. It cooperates and coordinates with relevant national authorities to take all necessary measures to trace, investigate, seize, freeze, and prevent the disposal or public display of Egyptian antiquities abroad in violation of the law. This includes recovering these antiquities and coordinating with relevant authorities in this regard, as well as following up on investigations conducted by the Public Prosecution concerning these matters. Through persistent efforts, the department succeeded in recovering numerous antiquities from several foreign countries.



Central bank of Egypt



## Criminalizing Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of International Institutions

“A Realistic and Analytical Vision”

**Brigadier-General Dr/ Ahmed Adly**  
 Head of a Group in the Legal Affairs Sector  
 Administrative Control Authority

**Corruption has been known since ancient times, its roots deeply entrenched, its forms and methods varied, and its devastating effects exacerbated in many societies. The consequences of corruption vary depending on its forms and fields and differ in magnitude. In our era, corruption has become a global phenomenon, spreading like a cancerous network to encompass all countries, whether rich or poor, strong or weak, developed or developing. This phenomenon has raised concerns and fears among governments and people around the world.**

**Bribery is considered a form of administrative corruption, if not the most important and widespread. It is one of the most dangerous ailments afflicting public functions, tarnishing their honor and reputation, and leading to a loss of public trust in the state. For this reason, religions have prohibited bribery, and secular laws have long agreed on punishing it.**

Bribery is an act committed by a public official or a person in a public position when they exploit their position for personal gain. This misuse of power is the gravest betrayal a bribed person can commit. By exploiting the authority entrusted to them, they not only betray their professional duties but also the society that relied on their integrity and honesty.

In recent decades, the international community has recognized that bribery is no longer confined to national public officials. It is also committed by foreign public officials and officials of international institutions. This form of corruption has become one of the most detrimental to the values of justice, development, and progress in contemporary societies. Consequently, this form of bribery has been criminalized in various international agreements such as the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Regional agreements include the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and the Arab Convention against Corruption. These agreements have influenced the national legislation of many countries across different continents and legal systems, reflecting the imminent threat bribery poses to nations worldwide.

The Egyptian criminal legislator has been keen on protecting all

elements that ensure the proper performance of public duties by criminalizing various behaviors—whether actions or mere omissions—that harm or endanger these elements. The state has ensured that public employees are criminally liable if they perform their duties for a reward. Public employees should carry out their duties without expecting personal gain and without receiving any undue benefits.

Therefore, the Egyptian legislator has emphasized the integrity of public office by criminalizing the behavior of employees who seek or obtain undeserved benefits through their position. This is reflected in Chapter Three of Book Two of the Penal Code No. 58 of 1937 (Articles 103 to 111), which details various forms of bribery and prescribes severe penalties.

Being aware of the seriousness of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international institutions, and the importance of combating it, and in compliance with international and regional conventions that Egypt has joined, which require the inclusion of such bribery in national legislation, the Egyptian legislator has issued Law No. 5 of 2018. This law amended certain provisions of the Penal Code, adding a new article (Article 106 repeated “B”) to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials or officials of international public institutions, as well as adding a second paragraph to Article 111 to define these officials. The texts are as follows:

Article (106 repeated “B”): “Any foreign public official or official of an international public institution who requests for themselves or others, or accepts, or takes a promise or gift, to perform or refrain from performing their international duties, or to violate their duties, is considered a bribe-taker and shall be punished with life imprisonment and a fine of not less than one thousand pounds and not more than twice the amount given or promised. The same punishment applies to anyone who offers a bribe to a foreign public official or an official of an international public institution and the offer is not accepted.”

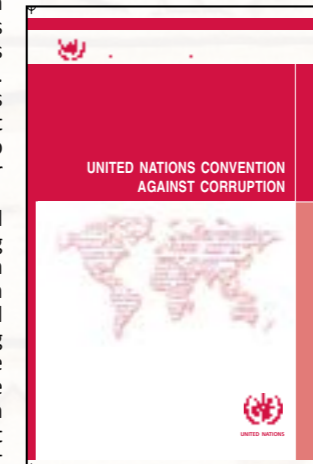
Article (111) Second Paragraph: “For the purposes of this chapter, a ‘foreign public official’ means anyone who holds a legislative, executive, administrative, or judicial position in a foreign country, whether appointed or elected, and any person who performs a public function for a foreign country. An ‘official of an international public institution’ refers to any international civil servant or any person authorized by such an institution to act on its behalf.”

The definitions of a foreign public official and an official of an international public institution in Egyptian legislation align with their definitions in the United Nations Convention against Corruption and most international, regional, and comparative national laws. The elements and pillars of this crime in Egyptian legislation are consistent with many international and regional conventions and comparative national laws. However, some international conventions, such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption, regional conventions like the Arab Convention against Corruption, and comparative national laws such as the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, limit this crime to international commercial transactions only. In contrast, the scope of the crime in Egyptian legislation includes all acts of foreign public officials and officials of international public institutions within the official functions of their positions. Therefore, the crime of bribery applies regardless of the nature of the act, omission, or breach that was exchanged for the bribe, whether related to international commercial transactions or any other official function.

It is worth noting that the elements and components of the crime of bribery involving a foreign public official and an official of an international public institution do not differ from those of the crime of bribery involving a national public official, except for the element concerning the identity of the bribe-taker in the first instance (the employee exploiting their position) and the identity of the official being offered a bribe in the second instance (offering a bribe without acceptance). In both cases, the individual must be a foreign public official or an official of an international public institution who is functionally competent in relation to the work involved in the crime, regardless of their specific role. Apart from this, it is the same crime of bribery involving a national public official, with both its material and moral elements, and all the provisions of the bribery crime detailed in Chapter Three of Book Two of the Penal Code apply.

Egypt’s recognition of the seriousness of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international public institutions, and the inclusion of provisions in its national legislation—the Penal Code—criminalizing this form of bribery, is an important step in combating this crime. This is in line with the international and regional conventions Egypt has joined, and with the international efforts and practices of many countries around the world in this regard. It strengthens Egypt’s efforts to prevent and combat corruption, enhances the outcomes of these efforts both nationally and internationally, and contributes to improving its ranking in corruption indices. However, since the law’s enactment in 2018 without its provisions being applied in practice, it does not mean that this crime is not being committed; rather, it indicates the presence of obstacles preventing its application. This

**Training and preparing judicial officers specialized in enhancing the understanding and awareness of the importance of combating the crime of bribery of foreign public officials and officials of international public institutions, and its legal elements and components, with an explanation of the key rules to be observed during crime fighting. The aim is to link legal provisions with their practical application**



undermines the purpose of the law, which is to protect the interests of the Egyptian state, foreign states, or international institutions to which the official belongs from exploitation, causing significant harm to their interests.

As a result, there is no benefit in international consensus on combating this crime, as expressed in ratified and effective international and regional treaties, and in national laws enacted to achieve this goal unless efforts are made to apply these treaties and laws with a full understanding of their objectives, a deep comprehension of their provisions, and the necessary means for effective practical combat to achieve the intended purpose of criminalization. Some proposals to achieve this are as follows:

**Training and Preparing Judicial Officers:**

This is done through:

Enhancing their understanding and awareness of the importance of combating the crime of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international public institutions, its elements, and legal components.

Highlighting the key rules to be observed during the fight against this crime, linking the law’s texts to their practical application.

Developing the skills of Judicial Officers in foreign languages and modern technology—using trusted translators and experts when necessary—to uncover the crime and obtain evidence of its commission, especially if any of the perpetrators use foreign languages or modern technology, ensuring the most efficient and effective combat of this crime.

**Understanding the Work Nature of Foreign Public Officials and International Institution Officials:** It is important for judicial officers to comprehend the job functions of the entities where the foreign public official or international institution official works. This will help identify the loopholes that corrupt employees may exploit and analyze the language and terms used by the crime’s parties accurately.

**Conducting Parallel Financial Investigations:** Carry out financial investigations immediately upon learning of the bribery crime to determine if the perpetrator has committed money laundering from the bribery proceeds. Quickly take the necessary legal measures to seize illegal funds to prevent their disposal, smuggling, or use for harmful purposes to society.

**4. Raising Public Awareness**

Raising public awareness about the seriousness of the crime of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international institutions, as well as related crimes such as money laundering, is crucial. It is important to encourage citizens to contribute to combating these crimes by reporting any information

they have about these crimes and their perpetrators to the relevant authorities.

**Anti-Corruption Academies:** These institutions, in their training, awareness, and monitoring roles, should conduct courses for employees in organizations that interact with foreign public officials or officials of international institutions. These courses should highlight the importance of combating this crime, its elements, and the crucial role of employees in reporting any information they have about incidents related to this crime and assisting in identifying perpetrators.

**Local Cooperation:** Enhance local cooperation among various relevant entities and agencies involved in combating corruption crimes. This cooperation should focus on improving methods for detecting the crime of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international institutions and tracking down perpetrators.

**International Cooperation:** Strengthen international cooperation between law enforcement agencies and their regional and international counterparts to combat the crime of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international institutions. This should include the exchange of information as regulated by international agreements, as well as establishing bilateral protocols and memorandums of understanding on this matter and activating existing ones.

**Collaboration Among Anti-Corruption Academies:** Develop collaborative efforts among anti-corruption academies in different countries to organize joint training courses, workshops, and conferences for law enforcement officers and members of investigative agencies on combating the crime of bribery involving foreign public officials and officials of international institutions. This should involve linking legal texts to practical reality, sharing experiences and expertise from countries that have effectively combated this crime, discussing the latest developments, and identifying the best ways to address the crime and apprehend perpetrators. Given that most countries are parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and have similar legislative provisions regarding this crime, such collaboration is especially beneficial.

# Its global market will reach 740 billion dollars by 2030 Will Arab countries succeed in investing in artificial intelligence?



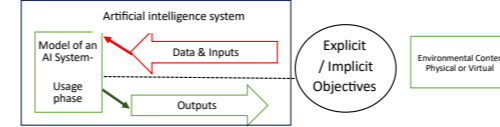
## Prof. Dr. Nagwa Samak

Dean of the Faculty of Administrative Sciences, Galala University and Former Vice Dean for Postgraduate Studies and Research at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University



Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to computing technologies inspired by the ways humans use their neural systems to think and make decisions, although they typically operate in quite different ways. AI is a machine-based system that, through a set of explicit or implicit objectives determined by humans, can infer outputs from inputs, such as predictions, recommendations, or decisions that can affect real or virtual environments. Various AI systems are designed to operate at different levels of autonomy and adaptability. The following figure presents a simplified model of how AI operates.

Figure 1: Model of an AI System



Source: <https://oecd.ai/en/work/aisystem-definition-update>

Below is a simplified explanation of the AI model illustrated.

Below is a simplified explanation of the AI model illustrated.

**Objectives**  
The objectives of an AI system can be explicit, for example, when they are directly programmed into the system by a human developer, or implicit, for example, through a set of rules specified by humans, allowing the system to learn new objectives. Examples of systems with implicit objectives include self-driving car systems programmed to comply with traffic rules (but not explicitly aware of their implicit goal of saving lives) or a large language model like ChatGPT, where the system's objectives are not explicitly programmed but are partly acquired through the process of imitation learning from human-created texts and reinforcement learning from human feedback.

\* Dean of the Faculty of Administrative Sciences, Galala University and Former Vice Dean for Postgraduate Studies and Research at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University

**Inputs**  
An AI system deduces how to generate outputs when it receives inputs from the environment and processes these inputs through one or more underlying algorithms necessary for this purpose.

**Outputs**  
Outputs refer to any content generated, which technically consists of a subset of predictions, recommendations, or decisions such as text, video, or images. The environmental content of AI includes machine learning, robotics, and artificial neural networks.

Machine Learning: Programs learn from existing data and apply this knowledge to new data or use it to make

**Artificial intelligence will lead to new challenges and transformations in the labor market. A number of routine, low-skilled, and low-wage jobs can be easily performed by robots or AI applications. AI, in particular, will take over 30% of work hours. However, at the same time, artificial intelligence will create new job opportunities for countries and the world.**

predictions about the data.

**Robotics:** Focuses on the development and training of robots, ensuring that the robots' ability to interact with individuals is precise, follows general rules, and is predictable.

**Artificial Neural Networks:** Built to mimic the workings of the human brain, with natural language processing (NLP) dealing with the interpretation and processing of data by computers.

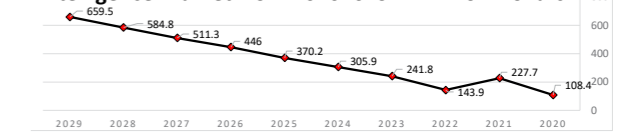
**Adaptability**

Some AI systems can continue to evolve after being designed and deployed (e.g., recommendation systems that adapt to individual preferences or voice recognition systems that adapt to a user's voice).

**Evolution of the AI Market Size**

The AI market is experiencing significant growth. According to Statista, the AI market size is expected to increase from USD 241.8 billion in 2023 to nearly USD 740 billion by 2030, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 17.3%. The following figure illustrates the growth of the market size.

Figure 2: Development of the Total Size of the Artificial Intelligence Market from 2020-2029 - in Billion Dollars



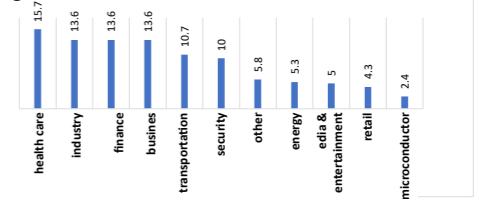
Artificial Intelligence - Global | Statista Market Forecast  
Source: Statista Market Insight

The previous figure illustrates the current and expected growth of the AI market size.

### Sectoral Distribution of the AI Market

The AI market covers a wide range of industries, including healthcare, education, finance, media, and marketing. The following figure shows the market distribution by sector.

Figure 3: Sectoral Distribution of the AI uses



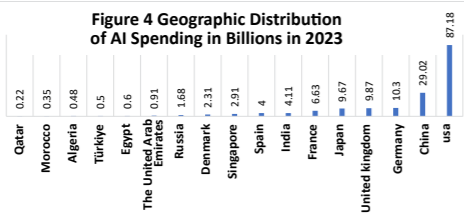
Source: Statista Market Insight

The figure shows that the healthcare sector receives the largest share of the AI market, followed by finance, industry, business and legal services, and transportation, collectively accounting for approximately 70% of the market. The United States and China are among the leading countries in terms of AI spending across various fields. However,



there is a significant gap between the spending levels in the United States and China, reflecting the United States' dominance in this market.

The following figure illustrates this distribution.



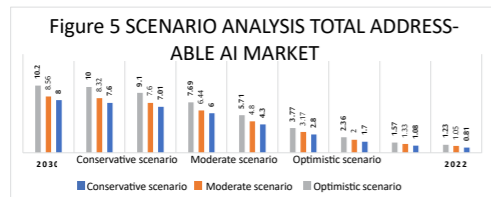
Source: Statista Market Insight

### 1. The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Enhancing National Competitiveness

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is expected to lead to gains in efficiency and productivity, creating new job opportunities and thus achieving greater prosperity. According to a study by PWC, AI increases productivity and the potential GDP of the global economy. Therefore, there is an urgent need for strategic investment in various types of AI technologies to achieve this goal. Companies are seeking to “augment” workforce productivity using AI technologies. The study indicated that 45% of total economic gains by 2030 will come from product enhancements and stimulating consumer demand. This is because AI enhances product diversity, increases customization, attractiveness, and affordability over time.

Most of the economic gains from AI are concentrated in China, where AI is expected to account for approximately 26% of GDP by 2030, and in North America at 14.5%, which together equate to a total of \$10.7 trillion, representing nearly 70% of the global economic impact. The United Arab Emirates follows with around 13%, and Saudi Arabia with approximately 12%.

The following figure illustrates the scenarios of AI's contribution to GDP.



Source: Statista Market Insight

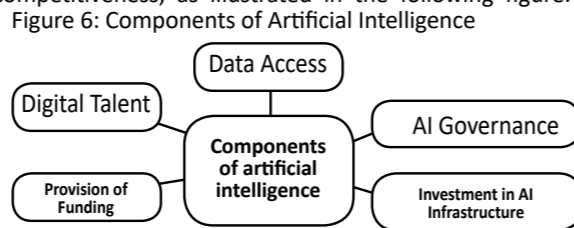
The figure, regardless of the anticipated scenario, indicates that AI plays a role in enhancing the competitiveness of nations. This places various options before governments and policymakers to maximize benefits

**Most of the economic gains from artificial intelligence will be concentrated in China, where AI will account for about 26% of GDP in 2030, and in North America at 14.5%, totaling \$10.7 trillion, which represents nearly 70% of the global economic impact. The United Arab Emirates will follow with around 13%, and Saudi Arabia with about 12%.**

and increase competitiveness, such as encouraging types of AI that complement human work rather than mimic or replace it, promoting the development of AI that enables companies of all sizes to benefit from AI, and identifying the appropriate open-source ecosystem required for this.

### Components of Artificial Intelligence

There are essential components of AI that countries must follow to excel in the use of AI and enhance their competitiveness, as illustrated in the following figure.



Source: World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2022

**Data Access and Governance:** Access to and sharing of data are essential for accelerating the adoption of AI. However, data access presents a dilemma due to the complexities involved in managing data and its flow within the country and across borders in secure ways that facilitate access to on-site data while respecting privacy. In a data-driven digital economy, the concept of sovereignty has widely changed; it was once associated with national territories and physical borders. But in the data-driven digital economy, borders have become open and blurred, necessitating a governing framework at both local and international levels to protect data.

### Digital Talent

AI will lead to new challenges and transformations in the labor market. Several routine, low-skill, and low-wage jobs can be easily performed by robots or AI applications. AI is expected to take over 30% of working hours. However, AI will also create new job opportunities for countries and the world. Thus, there is an urgent need to provide the necessary digital skills. There is ample evidence that national competitiveness results from investment in education and the provision of skills required by the local and international labor markets.

### AI Governance

Replacing humans with algorithms in AI requires regulating and controlling the extent to which personal data, personal images, voice, and output are used to prevent misuse. This regulation has started to take shape at the national and regional levels, but it needs to continue in the coming years to unify practices and rules internationally.

### Investment in AI Infrastructure

The development and use of AI require access to AI technologies and infrastructure, which assumes the availability of high-speed, affordable broadband networks and services, high computing power, and data storage capabilities, as well as support for data generation. Many countries are establishing high-quality connections and deploying 5G technology and beyond.

### Provision of Funding

Funding is a fundamental pillar for accelerating AI and maximizing its benefits. This can be achieved by increasing spending on research and development by the state and the private sector, creating more financial incentives, and facilitating the necessary credit conditions for innovative AI companies and small and medium enterprises, enabling them to contribute to and benefit from the development and use of AI.

### Readiness of Arab Governments for AI

The readiness of Arab governments to implement and govern AI and their focus on delivering it in public services depends on several pillars. We will base our analysis on the Government AI Readiness Index, which includes 193 countries in 2023, up from 183 in the 2022 edition. The index encompasses 39 indicators across several key pillars:

**Government:** The government should have a strategic vision for developing and managing AI, supported by appropriate governance, regulation, and attention to ethical risks.

**Technology Sector:** The government relies on a robust supply of AI tools from the technology sector, which should be mature and highly innovative enough to provide the government with modern tools.

**Capacity:** This pillar is supported by an investment environment that promotes entrepreneurship, good

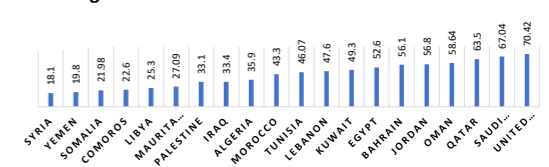
**The development and use of artificial intelligence require access to AI technologies and its infrastructure. This entails the availability of high-speed, affordable broadband networks and services, high computational capabilities, and data storage, as well as support for data generation. Many countries are establishing high-quality connections and deploying 5G technology.**

research and development spending, and high levels of skilled human capital.

**Data and Infrastructure:** AI tools require a large amount of high-quality data, and their potential cannot be realized without the necessary infrastructure.

The following figure illustrates the readiness of Arab governments to use AI tools.

Figure 7: Readiness of Arab Governments for AI



Source: Oxford Insights Government AI Readiness2023

The figure shows a clear disparity among the countries in the region, with an average score gap of 52.3 between the best-performing country, the United Arab Emirates, and the lowest-performing country. There is also a gap between the Gulf countries and the rest of the countries. In 2023, the region saw developments in AI governance and ethical principles. It is noteworthy that Egypt is a well-performing country, ranking among the top ten in the region by introducing the Egyptian Charter for AI Responsibility. This initiative combines insights and actionable measures to facilitate the responsible development, deployment, management, and use of AI systems in alignment with guidelines set by international organizations (OECD, UNESCO, WHO, IEEE, EU).

Similarly, Saudi Arabia published AI ethics principles aimed at mitigating the potential negative impacts of AI systems and protecting and enhancing their benefits. Bahrain released its sixth national telecommunications plan, outlining the government's strategic vision and public policy for the telecommunications sector. Additionally, three countries—Iraq, Tunisia, and Bahrain—announced initiatives to develop AI strategies in the region, which is a crucial step in enhancing these countries' positions in the AI governmental landscape. The region also witnessed a surge in data center investments recently, with Huawei opening a cloud region in Riyadh and Oman partnering with SAP to provide a private cloud data center. Furthermore, Egypt is set to host a hyperscale data center with significant investments totaling \$250 million.

This development has led well-performing countries in the region to join Western Europe, Eastern Europe, East Asia, and North America as regions where more than half of the countries have introduced AI strategies.

# The Internet of Bodies: Enhancement Technologies and Governance Challenges



**Prof. Dr. Heba Gamal El-Din,**  
Head of the Department of Future Studies, National Institute of Planning

The Internet of Bodies (IoB) has emerged as a part of enhancement technologies designed to create bodies more capable of surviving and adapting to new changes, according to Darwin's theory of evolution. This is achieved by augmenting the human body with artificial intelligence technologies to break human limitations, expand human capacities, and overcome diseases, aging, and disabilities. Some proponents of transhumanism even entertain the notion of overcoming death, categorizing it as a disease that can be conquered to achieve immortality. Although this idea (overcoming death) may seem naive and unrealistic, it is a subject of research at major US and EU universities, such as Harvard University; this subject is also an area of interest for biotechnology companies like Stemcentrx and Breakout Labs. To start with, enhancement technology has become one of the modern tools of life application; it embodies Darwin's concept of natural selection, which means adapting to the local environment for survival and reproduction. Through this process, humans gradually acquire beneficial and healthy traits passed down from generation to generation. However, does every evolution solely include beneficial and healthy traits? Moreover, are there inherent challenges that require careful consideration and study on how to ensure good governance of these modern technologies while respecting the ethics of science, religion and national security requirements?

In essence, the Internet of Bodies (IoB) integrates machine technology with humans through a network of internet-connected devices and technologies that interact with the human body. This concept is an extension of the Internet of Things (IoT) but it focuses on the human body, targeting its health condition. IoB partly means that human bodies rely on the internet and related technologies, such as artificial intelligence, for their safety and functionality. This technology emerged in 2016 and was considered a core part of the Internet of Things, through which users monitor their bodily movements, heart rates, and exertion levels, obtaining detailed health information. The term's

origin is attributed to Professor Andrea M. Matwyshyn, an expert in law and engineering, who applied it to develop public policies and regulatory laws. The Internet of Bodies is defined as a collection of internet-connected smart devices that monitor the human body, gather health and other personal data, and transmit this data over the internet. These devices collect vast amounts of personal biometric data through physical measurements such as height, weight, hair color, and skull measurements, as well as individual behavioral data about a person's body functions and how they enhance cognitive abilities, memory, and record anything the user sees through a lens implanted in the eye or equipped with a camera.

An IoB device includes software or computational capabilities and communicates with an internet-connected device to gather generated health or biometric data, altering human body functions. Generally, IoB devices require physical contact with the body, worn, ingested, implanted, or otherwise attached to or embedded in the body, either permanently or temporarily. Some IoB devices are medical devices regulated by the Food and Drug Administration.

**Generations of the Internet of Bodies**

The Internet of Bodies (IoB) has evolved through several generations. The first generation includes external devices connected to the human body and the internet, such as earbuds, smart clothing, and fitness tracking devices like smartwatches, rings, and glasses that use sensors to monitor steps and heart rate. The second generation involves the implantation of artificial devices within the human body, such as pacemakers, blood pressure monitors, insulin pumps, and smart prosthetics integrated into patients' nerves and muscles, or even digital pills that transmit medical data after ingestion. The third generation comprises devices that fully integrate into the human body, maintaining immediate connectivity with external devices and the internet. A notable company in this field is Neuralink, an Elon Musk enterprise developing an implantable chip that connects the brain to a computer, capable of reading brain signals from a paralyzed person to help control an external device.

For instance, a pacemaker can provide continuous real-time information about a patient's heart fluctuations, regulate the heart rate in cases of extreme speed or slowness, and aid in treating heart failure, thereby improving the patient's quality of life and, in many cases, preserving it.

Digital or smart pills first emerged in 2017 when the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first digital pill with embedded sensors to record medication intake. These pills, used for treating schizophrenia, certain forms of bipolar disorder, and depression, are redesigned to include a sensor that sends messages to a mobile app to monitor medication adherence via smartphones. This allows doctors to legitimately intervene if patients miss their medication, preventing relapses. This development signifies that the human body has become legitimately

**And how can healthcare provider networks be protected and secured from cyber attacks. Additionally, there is the potential for recurring risks that plague Internet of Things (IoT) devices with the Internet of Bodies, as the same security flaws found in IoT devices or any other technology that stores information in the cloud could be present. Security vulnerabilities can allow unauthorized parties to leak private information.**



and comfortably penetrable.

The implantation of chips in the human body, either directly or via vaccines and aluminum microchips accumulating in the body post-vaccination, is another example. In May 2022, the FDA granted Neuralink a license to begin human trials of their chip, despite previous refusals to ensure human physical safety. In 2024, Neuralink successfully implanted a brain chip in a human, with ongoing studies to enable people to control computers with their minds and assist those with cerebral palsy, visual, or auditory impairments to interact with society. Additionally, in the same year, doctors at the Max Planck Institute in Germany developed a chip-sized robot capable of performing precise operations in the human intestines without surgical intervention.

By 2021, we witnessed the existence of a human cyborg who transitioned from complete paralysis to mobility and interaction through internally implanted artificial devices controlling all vital functions, in the unique experiment of "Morgan Peter Scott."

With all these advancements, questions arise regarding the governance of such technologies and the ability of governments to regulate them, protecting citizens from the risk of body hacking, which has become legitimate through a series of scientific conferences since 2018, legalizing and regulating it (Legal Bio Hacking), or the emergence of health tracking technology. There is also concern about countries controlling others through imported drugs and vaccines.

Internet of Bodies Technology: Governance Challenges  
This technology presents several risks, particularly concerning the governance challenges of protecting the human body from hacking and intrusion, which could

**The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) collaborates with public and private sector partners to develop best practices for managing cyber risks. They work with the Medical Device Innovation Consortium to disclose medical device vulnerabilities without fear of civil liability or criminal prosecution**

threaten overall safety and life. One key issue is the equitable distribution within a country, where only the wealthy can afford these advanced technologies and enhance their bodies, leaving the poor behind. Additionally, there are disparities between developed and developing countries, where some nations produce the technology, and others consume it, leading to control by the producing countries. There are also religious concerns, as this technology alters human nature and may pose a threat to human safety. Moreover, issues of autonomy, decision-making, and the validity of decisions

**Egypt faces the challenge of studying these issues, addressing them, and empowering relevant authorities to govern IoB-based devices. This includes developing purchasing and import regulations for modern medical devices and encouraging private and civil sectors to collaborate with the government on policies related to security, health, and safety issues, and scrutinizing imported drugs and vaccines to ensure their safety. Encouraging scientific research is also essential as a starting point for technology localization in Egypt**

made by individuals enhanced with IoB technology arise. Establishing optimal standards for the security of implanted medical devices and protecting healthcare providers' networks from cyberattacks is also crucial.

IoB technology could replicate the risks associated with the Internet of Things (IoT), including the same security flaws. These vulnerabilities could allow unauthorized parties to leak private information, manipulate data, or deny users access to their accounts. In the case of some implanted medical devices, hackers could potentially manipulate the devices to cause physical harm or even death. There is also the possibility of controlling the decisions of states through non-state actors by manipulating the vital data and devices of leaders.

Addressing these issues is a significant focus for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), legislative committees in Congress, medical research centers, and security agencies. This creates a challenge for the Egyptian Drug Authority and legislative and security bodies to scrutinize these issues and examine their legality.

Notable efforts in IoB governance include the "Hippocratic Oath for Connected Medical Devices" by the organization I am the Cavalry, which outlines five voluntary principles for healthcare providers and device manufacturers to adopt for better patient safety and security. These principles emphasize the importance of ensuring the resilience of devices and the data they contain against hacking, interception, manipulation, and unauthorized disclosure while ensuring their effectiveness and timely repair and improvement.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) collaborates with public and private sector partners to develop best practices for managing cyber risks. They work with the Medical Device Innovation Consortium to disclose medical device vulnerabilities without fear of civil liability or criminal prosecution. The FDA collaborates with MITRE Corporation to develop a scoring system to rank the severity of software vulnerabilities in medical devices as a tool for tracking potential health and safety impacts on patients whose medical devices are hacked. These efforts aim to assess and prioritize risk points and vulnerabilities. However, issues of coercion and jurisdiction remain unresolved.

In response, some regions have enacted laws to protect citizens and their privacy, such as California's biometric data privacy law, which took effect in 2020. This law grants individuals the right to know what information is collected about them, the purposes of collection, and the entities with which this information is shared. It also allows individuals to opt out of having their personal data sold and requires businesses to delete records upon consumer request. However, this law is specific to California and needs further development to become a binding international law.

In conclusion, there remains the challenge of readiness, access, and enforcement in the absence of scientific ethics and defined practice boundaries. Egypt faces the challenge of studying these issues, addressing them, and empowering relevant authorities to govern IoB-based devices. This includes developing purchasing and import regulations for modern medical devices and encouraging private and civil sectors to collaborate with the government on policies related to security, health, and safety issues, and scrutinizing imported drugs and vaccines to ensure their safety. Encouraging scientific research is also essential as a starting point for technology localization in Egypt.

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# included training courses and receiving high-level delegations Efforts of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy in Months



## Editorial Board

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy remains at the forefront of efforts to raise community awareness and train future generations in the fight against corruption. Employing modern training methods, the academy has been active in various initiatives, including conducting training courses, organizing workshops, and hosting visits from senior officials of regulatory bodies from numerous friendly and allied countries. These visits aim to showcase the academy's successful strategies and explore avenues for international cooperation in training and capacity-building to combat corruption effectively.

# Training Programs and Courses for National and Local Entities



## Workshop on Enhancing Labor Inspectors' Capacity to Identify and Refer Human Trafficking Victims Held with Ambassador Naela Gabr in Attendance

The National Anti-Corruption Academy held a training program on governance and anti-corruption for new diplomats joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event was attended by Ambassador Walid Haggag, Director of the Diplomatic Studies Institute at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



## Training Program for New Diplomats Joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The National Anti-Corruption Academy held a training program on governance and anti-corruption for new diplomats joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event was attended by Ambassador Walid Haggag, Director of the Diplomatic Studies Institute at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## In coordination with the Administrative Prosecution Authority, a training program was conducted for several esteemed advisors of the Administrative Prosecution Authority.

As part of implementing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2023/2030, particularly the third strategic goal, "Capable Institutions to Combat Corruption and Enforce the Law," the National Anti-Corruption Academy conducted a training program on governance and anti-corruption for several esteemed advisors of the Administrative Prosecution Authority.





## In the Field of International Cooperation



### Expanding Outreach Beyond Cairo: Training Courses on Governance and Anti-Corruption Held in Alexandria

The Academy conducted two training courses on governance and anti-corruption for participants in Alexandria. These sessions covered various topics, including the definition of corruption, its causes and effects on society, Egypt's anti-corruption frameworks, and the country's Vision 2030. Additionally, the courses addressed management and work ethics.



### Training Courses for Financial and Administrative Control Authority Personnel in Oman In the Fields of Administrative Investigation Procedures and Skills" and "Methods and Tools for Detecting Corruption in Project Planning and Execution"

The program "Procedures and Skills for Administrative Investigation" included fundamental principles of administrative investigation, proper preparation of reports, essential components of sound administrative investigation, and practical applications to enhance investigators' skills. Meanwhile, the program "Methods and Tools for Detecting Corruption in Project Planning and Execution" covered principles and indicators of governance and anti-corruption, the legal and institutional framework for government contracts, and the concept of project management and monitoring methods.



### Seminar with the Resident Representative of the UNDP in Egypt

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy welcomed Mr. Alessandro Fracassetti, the Resident Representative of the UNDP in Egypt, along with his accompanying delegation. The meeting included a review of the academy's role in raising community awareness and its offerings of training programs and postgraduate studies in governance and anti-corruption. Additionally, a seminar was held to exchange experiences and explore future cooperation in various fields related to capacity building, governance, anti-corruption, and related areas.



### A part of the ongoing cooperation with the Military Intelligence Authority, represented by the Military Attach s Office

A training day was held for foreign officers enrolled in the military diplomacy course and their spouses, representing 24 different countries from Africa, Asia, and Europe.



### Training Day on Governance and Anti-Corruption for Ministry of Youth and Sports Personnel, as part of the Senate Simulation Model, attended by Dr. Ashraf Sobhy, Minister of Youth and Sports.



### Head of the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Authority Visits the Academy

On the sidelines of the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Arab Convention against Corruption, held at the General Secretariat of the Arab League from May 5 to 7, 2024, the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy welcomed Dr. Raed Radwan, the Head of the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Authority, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting included an exchange of expertise and knowledge in the field of preventing and combating corruption.



### World Bank Vice Presidency for Integrity (INT) Delegation Visits the Academy

In an effort to enhance cooperation with international entities to maximize efforts in preventing and combating corruption, the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy received a delegation from the World Bank Vice Presidency for Integrity (INT), represented by Mr. Taylor Hodgson, Senior Investigator and Regional Team Leader for the Middle East and North Africa, and Mr. Wolfgang Koelling, Senior Operations Manager, along with a representative from the Ministry of International Cooperation.

The meeting included an exchange of expertise in various fields related to capacity building, governance, and anti-corruption, as well as discussions on future cooperation. Additionally, the role of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy in raising community awareness and its offerings of training programs and postgraduate studies in governance and anti-corruption were highlighted.



Additionally, it provided publications of various scientific theses and research related to the field of the Authority's work. The pavilion attracted several prominent visitors, including Public Prosecutor Counselor Mohamed Shoukry, UAE Ambassador Ms. Mariam Al Kaabi, the Venezuelan Minister of Culture accompanied by the Egyptian Minister of Culture, USAID Mission Director in Egypt Mr. Sean Jones, and Director of the Regional Office of the Library of Congress in Cairo, Mr. Rastin Zarkar.

The pavilion saw visits from numerous young people and students from various Egyptian universities. It also welcomed groups of children and youth in collaboration with officials and specialists from the General Authority for Cultural Palaces, where key concepts related to ideals, ethics, and public decorum were introduced and explained.

Using Social Marketing to Combat Corruption: A Seminar by the Administrative Control Authority at the Book Fair"

The Administrative Control Authority held its second seminar at the 55th Cairo International Book Fair, titled "Using Social Marketing to Combat Corruption." The seminar featured Dr. Sami Abdel Aziz, former Dean of the Faculty of Mass Communication at Cairo University, and Mr. Khaled El-Barmawy, an expert in information technology and social media campaign management. The seminar was moderated by Major General Dr. Mohamed Salama, Director of the National Anti-Corruption Academy.

The seminar included a presentation of the media campaigns produced by the Administrative Control Authority from 2014 to the present, in line with the objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. "Partners in Protecting the Nation's Interests"

This is the slogan of the media campaigns by the Administrative Control Authority, emphasizing that combating corruption is the responsibility of every member of society.

The seminar witnessed a large turnout and interaction from all segments of society, especially university students.

As part of the Administrative Control Authority's efforts to promote a societal culture that encourages the prevention and combating of corruption, raises awareness of integrity and transparency concepts, and enhances the value, excellence, and quality of work across various fields, the academy held two cultural seminars at the Cairo International Book Fair

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy held a seminar titled "Excellence in Action," featuring Dr. Marwa El-Hefnawy, an expert in 5G communications and artificial intelligence, Mr. Abanoub Gamal, an entrepreneur and founder of a company specializing in extracting oils and active ingredients from aromatic and food plants, and Mr. Ahmed El-Gendy, an Olympic champion in modern pentathlon. They shared their success stories and achievements in technology, business, and sports with the attendees of the book fair.

The session was moderated by journalist Osama Kamal, who engaged the guests in discussions about the key milestones in their paths to excellence and success, the challenges they faced, and how they overcame them.

## For the third consecutive year, the Administrative Control Authority participates in the Cairo International Book Fair

### Editorial Board

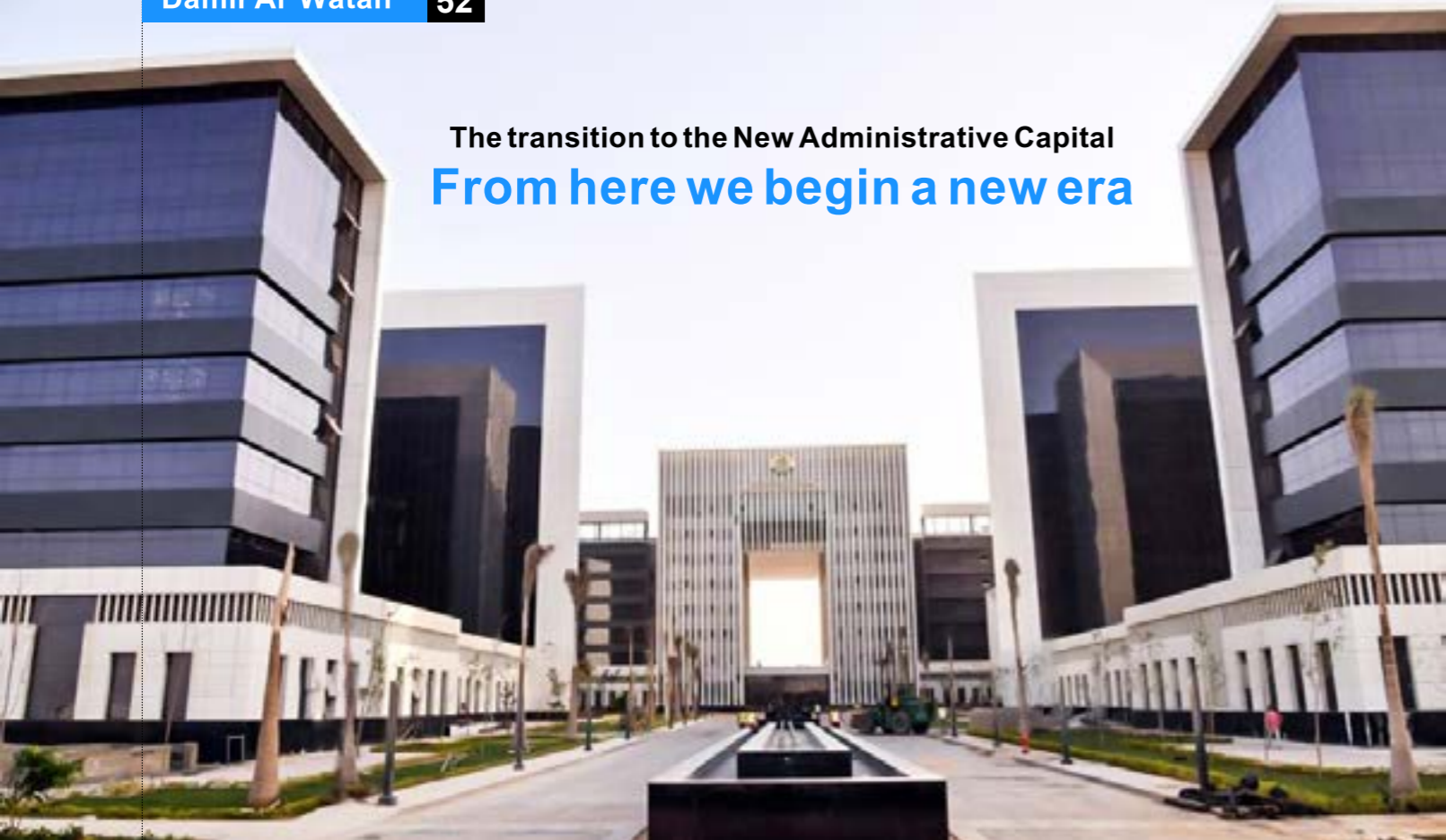
As part of its awareness-raising role to educate the public about the dangers of corruption and to encourage citizens to participate in efforts to prevent and combat it, while promoting values of integrity and transparency, the Administrative Control Authority participated in the 55th edition of the Cairo International Book Fair 2024, held under the slogan "We Create Knowledge... We Preserve the Word."

During the opening of the fair by Prime Minister Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, he visited the Administrative Control Authority's pavilion and listened to an explanation about the pavilion's sections, available publications for visitors, and the events organized by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, which is affiliated with the Administrative Control Authority, on the occasion of their participation in the fair.

The pavilion featured a display of the activities of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy and its training programs, including an explanation of the registration process.



The transition to the New Administrative Capital  
From here we begin a new era



## Contact: Administrative Control Authority

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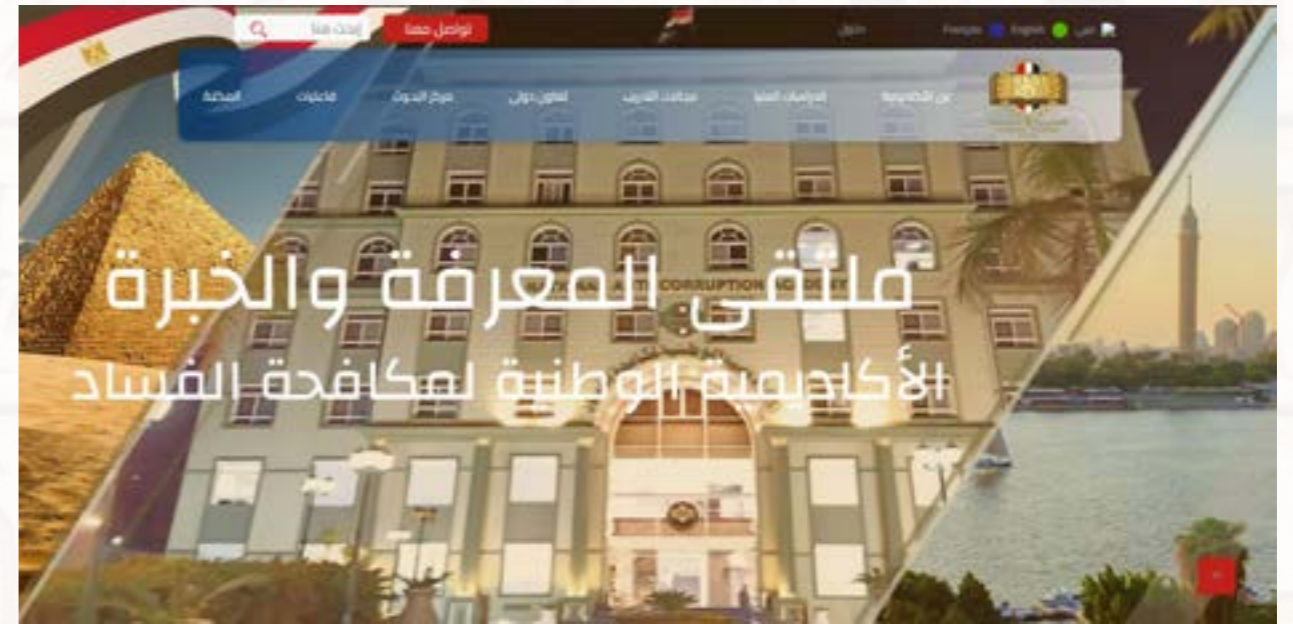
Direct contact with the Authority's officials at the headquarters:  
Please visit the Authority's website

hotline:  
**16100**

Egypt Post/ Telegraph  
Facebook Official Page:  
[facebook.com/ACAEGYPT](https://facebook.com/ACAEGYPT)

Headquarters Fax:  
**0222915403**

Faxes of the Authority's regional offices in the governorates:  
Please visit the Authority's website



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Contact:  
Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA):

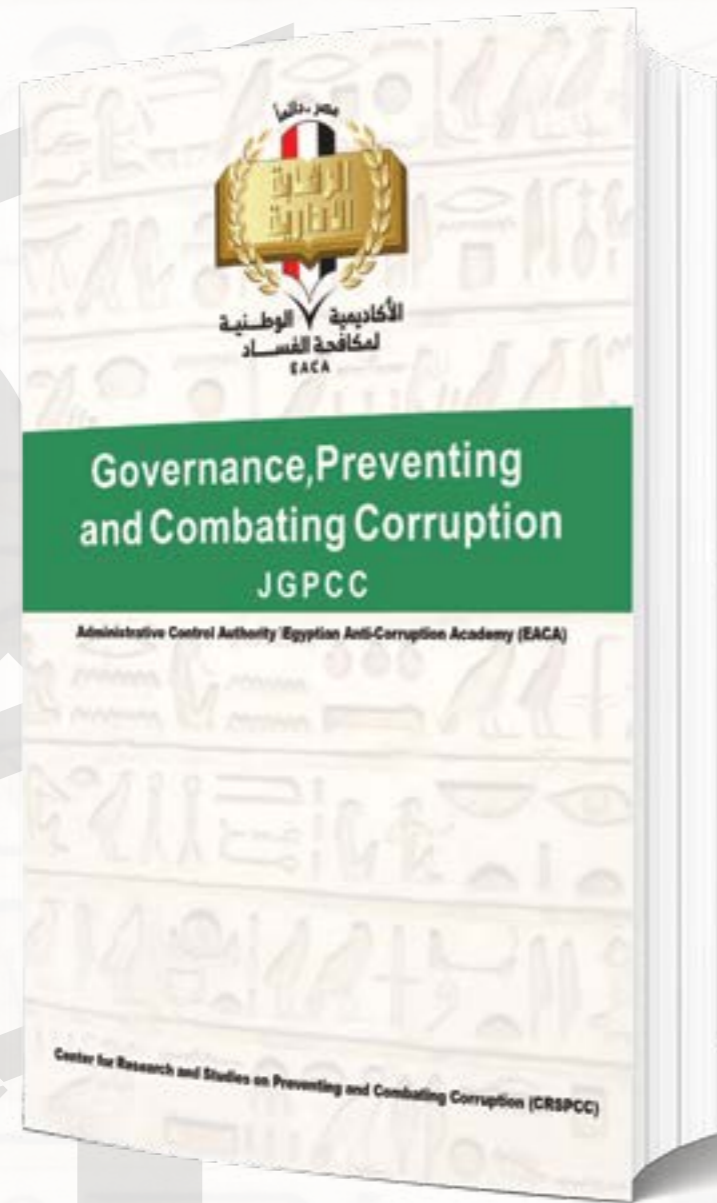
Website:  
[academy.aca.gov.eg](http://academy.aca.gov.eg)

Academy's e-mail:  
[eaca@aca.gov.eg](mailto:eaca@aca.gov.eg)

Magazine's e-mail:  
[Damir\\_alwatan@aca.gov.eg](mailto:Damir_alwatan@aca.gov.eg)



Soon!



## The Journal of Governance, Preventing and Combating Corruption (JGPCC)

The Journal of Governance, Preventing and Combating Corruption (JGPCC) is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy for Combating Corruption. It aims to disseminate specialized research papers in the fields of corruption prevention, combating corruption, administration, law, economics, and interdisciplinary sciences related to governance and countering corruption.

### Mission of the Journal

To contribute to the enlightenment and knowledge by serving as a platform for objective scientific publishing and as a beacon for realistic and innovative academic research for researchers at the national, regional, continental, and international levels. The journal covers issues related to governance, prevention, and combating corruption as well as other relevant sciences, utilizing research methodologies that support the development of thinking and analysis methods to achieve clear and implementable results.



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