



# International cooperation against corruption in Uzbekistan and Turkey

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**Abstract:** This article explores the issues of international cooperation in combating corruption in Uzbekistan and Turkey. It analyzes the national anti-corruption policies of these countries, their collaboration with international organizations, and the key challenges they face in this regard. As a result of the study, recommendations are proposed to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. International experiences and best practices in combating corruption are examined, and strategies relevant to Uzbekistan and Turkey are suggested.

**Keywords:** Corruption, international cooperation, legal reforms, anti-corruption measures, Uzbekistan, Turkey, legal system, international organizations.

**Introduction:** Corruption is one of the major issues that negatively impact the economic and social development of any country. Uzbekistan and Turkey aim to improve their legal systems by leveraging international experiences in fighting corruption. In recent years, international cooperation in combating corruption has intensified, and both countries have implemented legal and institutional reforms to address this issue. This article analyzes the international cooperation between Uzbekistan and Turkey in the fight against corruption.

Corruption has a broad impact on society, posing a serious threat to governance, economic development, and social stability. It not only leads to the misallocation of state resources but also reduces public trust in government institutions. Therefore, international cooperation plays a crucial role in the fight against corruption. Uzbekistan and Turkey seek to enhance efficiency by addressing corruption not only through domestic policies but also within the framework of international collaboration. In recent years, international organizations have developed recommendations to prevent and combat corruption, leading many countries to align their legal frameworks

with these standards. The United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), the Council of Europe, and other international organizations have played a key role in shaping the anti-corruption policies of Uzbekistan and Turkey.

According to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2023, published by Transparency International, Uzbekistan ranked 126th out of 180 countries, while Turkey ranked 115th. These figures indicate that significant efforts are still required in the fight against corruption. Although Uzbekistan has introduced significant legal reforms in recent years, systemic issues persist. Turkey, on the other hand, aims to increase transparency through international cooperation.

Furthermore, the negative impact of corruption on economic and social development affects the business environment and foreign investment attraction in both Uzbekistan and Turkey. Therefore, these countries strive to intensify their fight against corruption through international cooperation and ensure transparency. The main objective of this study is to analyze the anti-corruption strategies of Uzbekistan and Turkey and to identify priority areas for cooperation to improve effectiveness.

### Literature Review

International legal norms and national legislation play a crucial role in combating corruption. One of the main legal documents in Uzbekistan in this area is the "Law on Combating Corruption," adopted on January 3, 2017. This law sets out provisions for preventing corruption, countering it, and establishing liability measures for corrupt activities. Additionally, the relevant articles of the Criminal Code of Uzbekistan prescribe penalties for bribery and official misconduct.

In Turkey, the "Criminal Code" serves as the primary legal document addressing corruption-related offenses and their prevention mechanisms. Furthermore, Turkey is working to enhance its legal framework in accordance with the recommendations of the Council of Europe's Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO).

Uzbekistan and Turkey have ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and seek to develop international cooperation within its framework. Their priorities include increasing financial transparency, ensuring accountability of public institutions, and improving investigative procedures for corruption-related crimes. Academic literature has analyzed effective methods of combating corruption, including the implementation of anti-corruption technologies, transparency initiatives, and international best practices. In this context, the

reforms undertaken in Uzbekistan and Turkey are observed to align with international standards.

### METHODOLOGY

This study employs comparative, legal analysis, and statistical research methods. The activities of Uzbekistan and Turkey within the framework of international legal agreements on anti-corruption measures are examined, and their effectiveness is assessed. Additionally, national and international reports, academic articles, and successful practical experiences are analyzed.

### RESULTS

The cooperation between Uzbekistan and Turkey in combating corruption is primarily conducted within the framework of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and other international organizations. Since 2017, Uzbekistan has designated the fight against corruption as a priority state policy, while Turkey continues its efforts based on national strategies and international commitments.

In Uzbekistan, the "Anti-Corruption Agency" has been established, and a legal framework aligned with international standards has been developed. In Turkey, the prosecution and specialized institutions play a key role in anti-corruption efforts, enhancing the effectiveness of measures through international cooperation. Both countries have implemented measures such as income declaration for public officials, digitalization, and transparency initiatives. The study findings indicate that additional measures are needed to further strengthen cooperation between the two countries. The recommendations and best practices of international organizations should be utilized in the fight against corruption. Furthermore, harmonizing national strategies for corruption prevention and elimination can lead to more effective outcomes.

### CONCLUSION

Uzbekistan and Turkey recognize the need to further develop international cooperation in combating corruption. To achieve this, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Develop and implement joint anti-corruption programs.
2. Expand cooperation with international organizations and integrate global best practices into national legislation.
3. Conduct joint investigations of corruption offenses and strengthen collaboration between state institutions and law enforcement agencies.
4. Launch joint projects for experience exchange and training of specialists.

5. Promote digitalization and transparency principles to prevent corruption.

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