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Anti-Corruption: International Norms and Practical Advice for both Governments and Business

February 15, 2023 Warsaw, Poland Michael Huneke, Partner

Why is Anti-Corruption Important?

Strategic Corruption used by Russia and China



The Rise of Strategic Corruption

How States Weaponize Graft

BY PHILIP ZELIKOW, ERIC EDELMAN, KRISTOFER HARRISON, AND CELESTE WARD GVENTER July/August 2020

The fate of the Moskva



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Another round of missile upgrade work issued in 2014, worth 1 billion Roubles, also saw Electropribor emerge as a significant winner. Captain Supranovich allegedly received 16 million Roubles for his role in awarding the contracts.

Now Russian media claims some 692 million Roubles have gone missing – leaving much of the upgrade work undone. Old components have been discovered not to have been replaced. New elements are not up to specification. Propellants may have been unstable.

Anti-Corruption: Basic Elements

U.S. FCPA Standard:

- 1. Payment, offer or promise of
- 2. Anything of value
- 3. To a "public official"
- 4. With "corrupt intent"
- 5. For the purpose of
- 6. Assisting in obtaining or retaining business

OECD Standard:

- 1. Intentionally to
- 2. Offer, promise, or give
- 3. Any undue or other pecuniary advantage
- 4. To a foreign public official
- 5. In order to
- Obtain or retain business or other improper advantage

Practical Impact on Business

- **Due diligence** on third-party relationships
 - What are we doing? Why are we doing it?
 - Is there a "high probability" of corruption?
 - Then a mere payment to third party is a separate crime, <u>unless</u>
 - You perform due diligence sufficient to know there is not corruption
- KYC (and sanctions) screening on second-party relationships
- Designing and implementing internal controls protects employees and the company
- Potential counterparties—including municipalities—can anticipate expectations to facilitate contracts and business responsibly

Key Principles

- Substance over form
 - Western (particularly U.S.) prosecutors are not impressed by formalities
- Always focus on the underlying economic realities
- You cannot do indirectly what you do not want to do directly

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