



For Immediate Release

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News Release

New Anti-Corruption Campaign Advocates for International Tool to Fight Grand Corruption

Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption

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GOPAC is a worldwide alliance of parliamentarians working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law.

Ottawa, Canada – The Global Organizations of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) is launching [#PreventProsecuteParalyze](#), a global campaign to mobilise citizens across the world to support the creation of an international tool for the prosecution of perpetrators of grand corruption. The launch will occur on International Anti-Corruption Day, 9 December.

“As current laws and mechanisms stand, perpetrators committing crimes of grand corruption are often those least likely to face prosecution despite having robbed citizens of basic human rights,” said Ricardo Garcia Cervantes, Chair of GOPAC. “With our campaign, we aim to ensure these corrupt political leaders are prosecuted, paralysed, and prevented from committing future crimes.”

The global campaign includes a [website](#) where citizens can make their voices heard through a letter writing campaign, calling for the creation of universal jurisdiction legislation at the national level to help prosecute perpetrators of grand corruption. The site also includes a petition that will be forwarded to the United Nations and other international institutions to advocate for the development of an international mechanism to prosecute and sentence those who have committed crimes of grand corruption.

Prosecuting perpetrators of grand corruption was a key conclusion of GOPAC’s fifth Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption, held in January 2013. The issue was further explored in a [discussion paper](#) released by GOPAC in mid-November 2013, and again at the Forum of Parliamentarians, an event parallel to the Fifth Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption held at the end of November 2013. A [Plan of Action](#) was released in 2014.

“Our members are leaders in the fight against corruption in their countries and around the world and we will do all in our power to rally citizens, legislators, organizations and governments to prevent, prosecute and paralyze grand corruption and its perpetrators.”

GOPAC is a worldwide alliance of parliamentarians working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law. Based in Ottawa, Canada, GOPAC has 52 national chapters on 5 continents. GOPAC supports its members’ efforts through original research, global anti-corruption capacity building, and international peer support. Visit GOPAC on the web at gopacnetwork.org, on Twitter at twitter.com/GOPAC_Eng, and on Facebook at facebook.com/gopacnetwork

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