



For Immediate Release

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# News Release

## GOPAC Prevails with Grand Corruption Project at 16<sup>th</sup> IACC

### 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 Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) drove home the importance of fighting perpetrators of grand corruption and welcomed support for the cause from international civil society in the *Putrajaya Declaration: Zero Tolerance for Impunity* from the 16th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), in Putrajaya, Malaysia, 2-4 September 2015.

“For the past two years, GOPAC has been promoting the fight against grand corruption, and most importantly, working on international mechanisms to bring the perpetrators to justice,” said GOPAC CEO Akaash Maharaj. “We are very pleased that civil society has embraced this important issue, and we look forward to working together to realise our vision of a world where the power of kleptocrats has been broken.”

The Declaration included the recommendation that grand corruption should become a crime at international law. This would enable international institutions and alliances to apprehend, prosecute, judge, and sentence perpetrators.

During the IACC, GOPAC hosted a public session on international prosecution of grand corruption. It was moderated by John Hyde, GOPAC Oceania Chair, who welcomed panellists Patrick Alley, Co-Founder of Global Witness, José Ugaz, Global Chair of Transparency International, and Akaash Maharaj, CEO of GOPAC. The session also resulted in new partners for GOPAC’s efforts, from members of the European Parliament, the US Department of Justice, and the UN Development Programme.

GOPAC’s membership first mandated the organization to find solutions to fighting grand corruption at the fifth Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption, held in Philippines in 2013. [#PreventProsecuteParalyze](#), an online campaign to mobilise support from citizens across the world, was launch one year later.

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 57 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](http://gopacnetwork.org), on Twitter at [twitter.com/GOPAC\\_Eng](https://twitter.com/GOPAC_Eng), and on Facebook at [facebook.com/gopacnetwork](https://facebook.com/gopacnetwork).

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