

INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

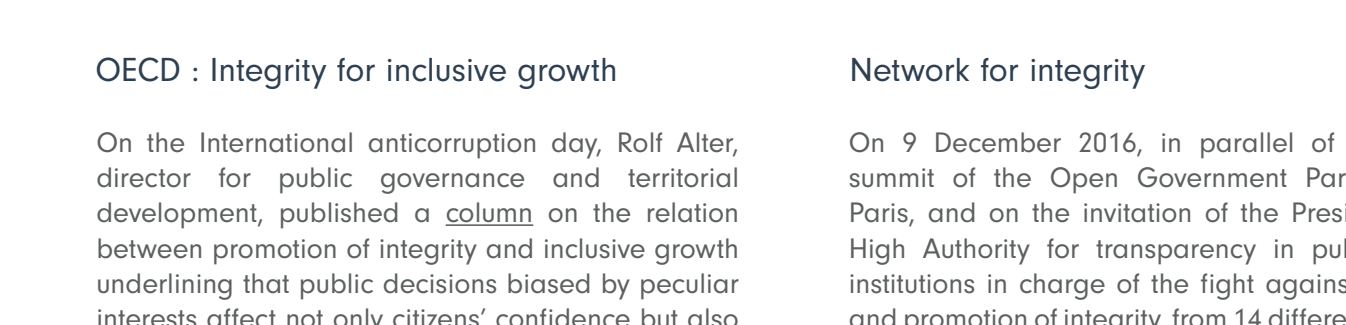
dec 2016 - jan 2017

of High Authority for transparency
in public life



he action of the High Authority is implemented in an international context marked with news and increasing attention to issues such as corruption, promotion of transparency in public life and integrity of public officials. Following to important affairs uncovered in 2016 such as the Panama Papers, the Bahamas Leaks or the Car Wash case in Brazil, news in January 2017 highlight the works, efforts and reforms that are led not only at the international level, within international organizations and civil society, but also at the national level, regardless of the continent considered.

INTERNATIONAL & MULTILATERAL



International Anti-Corruption Day - 9 december 2016

OECD : Integrity for inclusive growth

On the International anticorruption day, Rolf Alter, director for public governance and territorial development, published a [column](#) on the relation between promotion of integrity and inclusive growth underlining that public decisions biased by peculiar interests affect not only citizens' confidence but also economic growth.

World Bank : practical guide on financial disclosure

On 9 December 2016, the World Bank launched its latest publication « [Getting the full picture on public officials: a how-to guide for effective financial disclosure](#) », online and during a presentation to founding members of the Network for integrity in Paris. This study establishes a panorama of financial disclosure schemes in more than 160 countries.

Network for integrity

On 9 December 2016, in parallel of the Global summit of the Open Government Partnership, in Paris, and on the invitation of the President of the High Authority for transparency in public life, 14 institutions in charge of the fight against corruption and promotion of integrity, from 14 different countries, decided to gather to create the [Network for integrity](#).



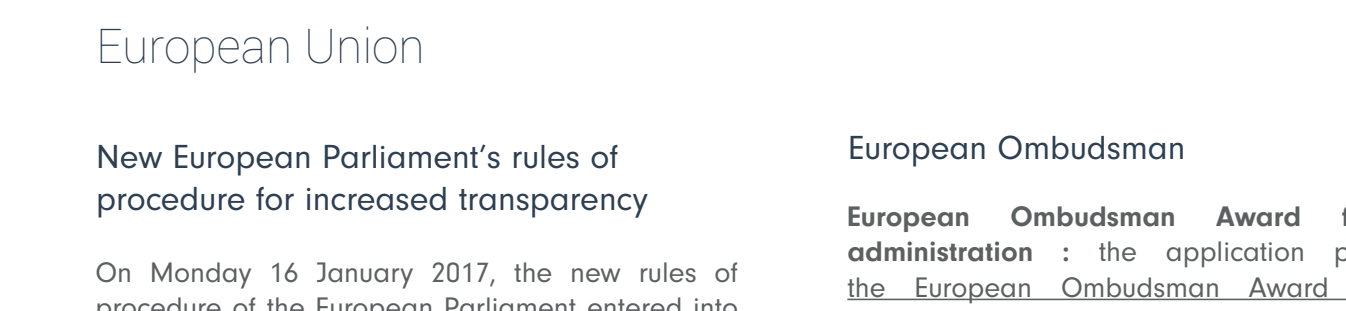
Council of Europe: reports of the GRECO

Reports - December 2016

In its interim compliance report on the Netherlands, the GRECO concluded that the country had progressed in terms of prevention of corruption in respect of members of the parliament, judges and prosecutors with three out of seven recommendations implemented or satisfactorily treated. On transparency on political parties funding (third evaluation cycle), the GRECO published its second compliance report for Greece and Italy in December 2016. In Greece, it concluded that the situation has not changed over the past eighteen months. In Italy, the GRECO noted significant progress. It published its second interim compliance report for Cyprus, highlighting progress, and its fifth compliance report in this field for Denmark, concluding that the situation has not evolved and that actions and implementation of the recommendations were unsatisfactory.

Reports - January 2017

In January 2017, the GRECO recommended that the [United States](#) prevention of conflicts of interest scheme for members of the Congress, judges and prosecutors. It also recommended that [Georgia](#) pursue its reforms and finds unsatisfactory the action of Belgium in corruption prevention in respect of members of the parliament, judges and prosecutors. Last, in its report of 19 January, the GRECO congratulates Italy on the measures adopted in the last few years to fight corruption and highlighted "[the determined leadership and proactive role of the Anticorruption Authority \(ANAC\)](#)".



European Union

New European Parliament's rules of procedure for increased transparency

On Monday 16 January 2017, the new rules of procedure of the European Parliament entered into force. The measures adopted in December 2016 aim at increasing its transparency and efficiency. Two of the [main measures](#) are the interdiction for all members of the European Parliament to work as a lobbyist and the obligation to inform the European Parliament before undertaking any new lobbying activity at the end of their functions. Civil society, notably [the European Union chapter of Transparency International](#) regrets nonetheless progresses that are considered as limited.

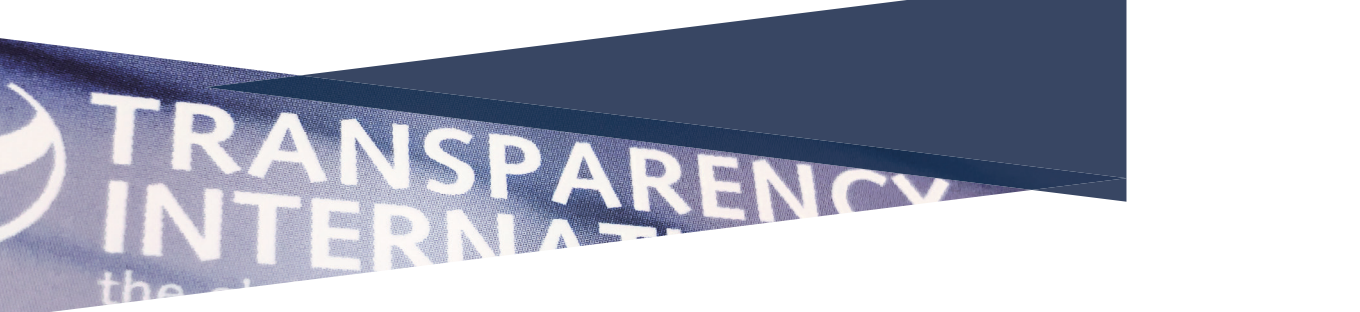
European Ombudsman

European Ombudsman Award for Good administration : the application process for [the European Ombudsman Award for Good administration](#) is open until 31 January 2017. It will recognize the work of an agent, of a team or division with a visible and direct impact for citizens of the EU in terms of good administration.

Practical guidelines on interaction with interest representatives : the European Ombudsman drafted "[Practical guidelines for public officials' interaction with interest representatives](#)" and invited to [comment](#) them until 28 February 2017.

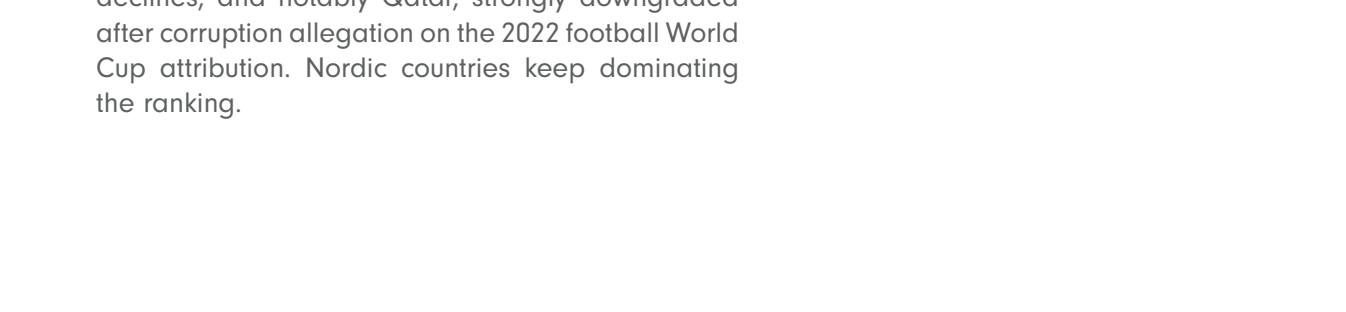
For a European whistleblowers protection

The Budgetary control committee of the European Parliament called for a better protection of whistleblowers at the European level, in a [press release](#) on 9 January 2017.



Open Government Partnership

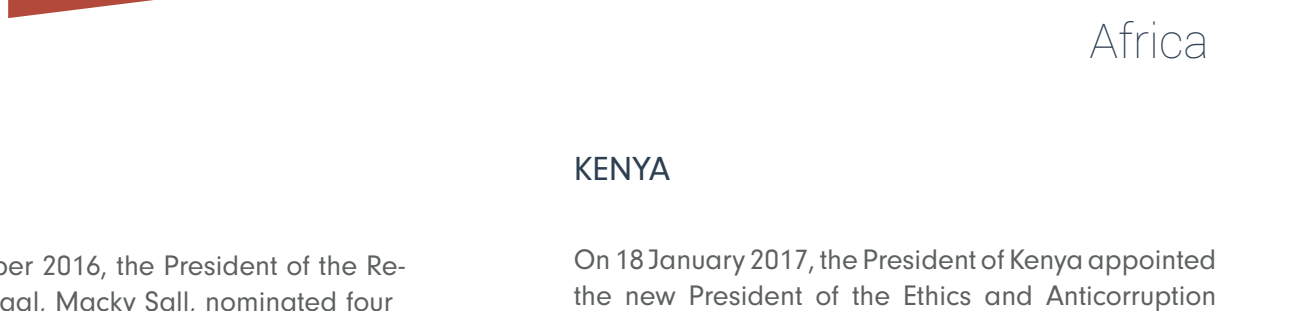
In December 2016, a few days before the OGP global summit in Paris, and a few days after the letter of intent of [Germany](#), the OGP welcomed a new member country: [Luxembourg](#).



Corruption perception index

On 25 January 2017, [Transparency International](#) published its annual report and corruption perceptions index, aggregating results notable from the World Bank, the African development bank, and the Bertelsmann Foundation among others. [France keeps its 23rd position](#). Italy and Romania progress. The ranking is affected by a certain number of declines, and notably Qatar, strongly downgraded after corruption allegation on the 2022 football World Cup attribution. Nordic countries keep dominating the ranking.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS



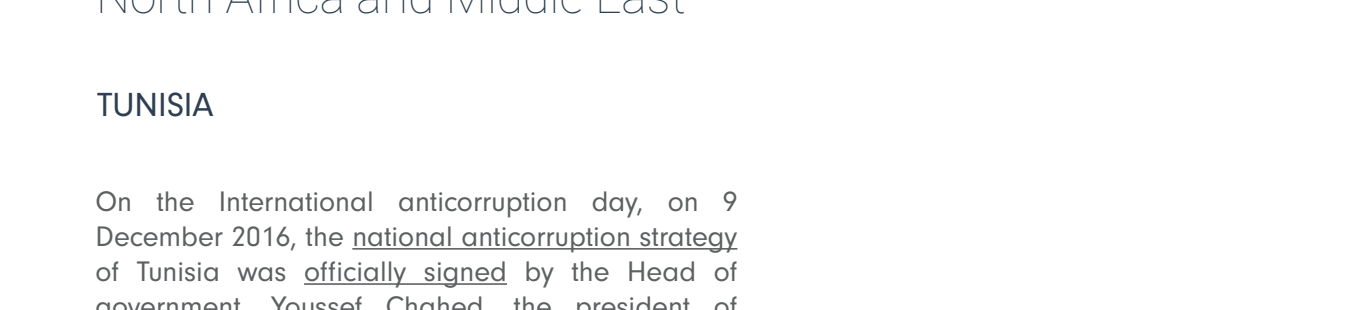
Africa

SENEGAL

On 31 December 2016, the President of the Republic of Senegal, Macky Sall, nominated four members of the OFNAC. Among them, Colonel Sy is [suspected of embezzlement and corruption](#) in his former functions at the Technical center of the national gendarmerie.

KENYA

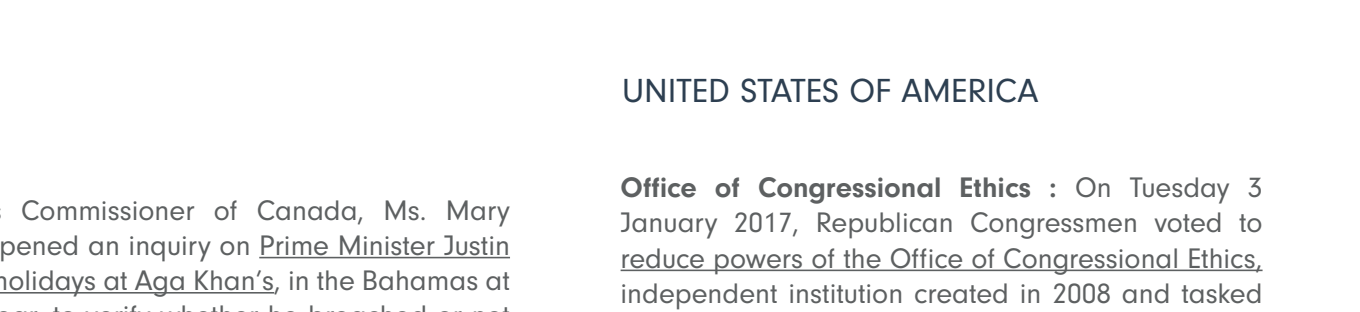
On 18 January 2017, the President of Kenya appointed the new President of the Ethics and Anticorruption Commission (EACC), former archbishop [Elud Wabukala](#), after approval of the members of the parliament. [He replaces M. Kinisu](#) who had been forced to quit in August 2016 after fraud suspicions.



North Africa and Middle East

TUNISIA

On the International anticorruption day, on 9 December 2016, the [national anticorruption strategy](#) of Tunisia was [officially signed](#) by the Head of government, Youssef Chahed, the president of the INLUCC, the president of the national Tunisian journalists union, a representative of the national judiciary order commission and civil society representative.



American continent

CANADA

The ethics Commissioner of Canada, Ms. Mary Dawson, opened an inquiry on [Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's holidays at Aga Khan's](#), in the Bahamas at the New Year, to verify whether he breached or not the federal ethics law.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Office of Congressional Ethics : On Tuesday 3 January 2017, Republican Congressmen voted to [reduce powers of the Office of Congressional Ethics](#), independent institution created in 2008 and tasked with investigations on ethical violations of elected officials, before backing down a few hours later.

ARGENTINA

On 27 December 2016, The Ministry of Justice announced that former President of the Republic (2007-2015) [Cristina Kirchner](#), has been charged. She is suspected of illicit association and fraudulent administration in connection to public works funds.

D. Trump's conflict-of-interest plan is insufficient : During his speech on 11 January 2017, The United States of America president-elect detailed the measures he has undertaken to prevent conflicts of interest. He hands over the management of his society to his sons, a solution that does not satisfy the [Director of the Office of Government Ethics](#) who asked him to sell his shares. A non-governmental organization gathering experts on corruption and ethics filed a [federal lawsuit against the President](#), on Monday 23 January 2017, for violation of the American constitution.



Asia

HONG KONG

On 3 January 2017, former chief of the executive (2005-2012) of the special administrative region ancien [Donald Tsang's trial opened](#). He faces charges notably for accepting gifts from powerful businessmen in the exercise of his functions.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

In the corruption scandal that led to the [impeachment of the President of the Republic of Korea Park Geun-hye](#), designated as colluding with her friend Ms. Choi Soon-sil to pressure important businesses to finance foundations that were managed by the latter and were supporting initiatives of the President, the [vice-president of the Samsung group, Mr. Lee](#), was interrogated for 22 hours on 12 January 2017. On 16 January, prosecutors were trying to obtain an arrest warrant against Mr. Lee. South Korean judiciary started deliberations on 18 January [before opposing his arrest](#), due to lack of evidence. At the same time, and while experts also call for the reinforcement of [the control of revolving doors phenomena](#), a reform of the new anticorruption law (said « Kim Young-ran law », named after the president of the Anticorruption and civil rights commission who proposed it) is [envisioned](#) given its impact on the economy.



Europe

ROMANIA

After the legislative elections of December 2016 and three days only after Sorin Grindeanu's new Government took office, on 7 January 2017, the citizens' [ombudsman challenged the law](#) that prevent already condemned elected officials from occupying functions in a Government. He referred it to the Constitutional court pretending it would be contrary to the constitutional principle of balance of power.

BELGIUM

[Claude Parnetier](#), resigning deputy chief of staff of the Wallonia local administration Minister, Paul Furlan, would have received important revenues as an administrator, in his private capacity, at Nethys, an operating subsidiary of Publifin, a financial holding in Liège (medias and communication, energy production et distribution). This revelation of a potential conflict of interest intervenes in a context when Wallonia had not fully implemented some [schemes entrenched in the law](#) to prevent such situations, and a few days after the publication of a critic GRECO report on federal dispositions. [4 administrators from the Party «Centre démocrate et humaniste»](#) within the intercommunal structure Publifin-Nethys resigned a few days after and a [motion of no confidence](#) against Wallonia Minister Paul Furlan was launched on 23 January. He [resigned](#) on Thursday 26 January 2017.