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## Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

### Corruption as governance regime: a barrier to institutional efficiency and progress

Rapporteur: Mr Michele Nicoletti, Italy, Socialist Group

#### Outline for report

Notwithstanding the long history and continuous spread of the phenomenon of corruption in today's society, it remains difficult to apply a unique 'recipe' which is guaranteed to produce positive results in diminishing its effects. Possible paths to be taken, their efficiency and their application in different social, economic and cultural environments bring new challenges for the international community in seeking effective solutions. For instance, the problem of corruption in some Eastern and Central European countries cannot be solved simply by applying anti-corruption structures that work in Western, and especially Nordic countries, which traditionally come in at the top of various anti-corruption ratings. The experience the latter countries have acquired in terms of legislation, public procurement codes and control procedures, for example, is valuable, but it is just a technical element in a much more complex process of change.

The report will attempt to identify precisely the various challenges in fighting corruption in different social, economic and cultural environments mainly from a political point of view and beyond technical tools and procedures that can be easily misused. The Rapporteur also intends to gather up-to-date information on the anti-corruption authorities in the member States of the Council of Europe.

#### 1. Introduction

- Historical background
- The impact of the building of the modern State on corruption
- A heterogeneous Europe and forms of corruption
- The notion of "State capture"

#### 2. Case studies

#### 3. Strategies to fight corruption

- Action by international institutions (GRECO, OECD, etc.)
- Creating transparency and openness in governance
- Educational measures
- The leading role of anti-corruption authorities (powers, mandates, etc.)

#### 4. Preliminary conclusions and recommendations

<sup>1</sup> Document declassified by the Committee at its meeting in Paris, on 8 March 2016.