#### AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN UKRAINE

# RESULTS of CHAMBER CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SURVEY 2016

Igor Svitlyk, Head of the Chamber Anti-Corruption Working Group, Dentons Law Firm



# About the initiative



- 1<sup>st</sup> Survey March 2014
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Survey October 2015
- Mid-year Survey in April 2016
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Survey October 2016

# About the initiative



REPORT CHAMBER CORRUPTION PERCEPTION SURVEY 2015



#### CORRUPTION IN FIGURES



#### Contents



- Information about respondents
- General assessment of corruption in Ukraine
- Company's anti-corruption practices
- Opinions and recommendations



# Who participated in the Survey?

## Respondents in figures



# 122

respondents

**103** work in the international companies

**45%** hold position in the top management

70%

from companies with more than 100 employees

# Sectors of business







# What businesses think about corruption in Ukraine?

# General assessment of corruption



#### ∅ 2014 ∅ 2015 ∅ 2016



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".

### Most widespread forms of corruption



Demanding a bribe	
Misuse of official position	
Request to partner with affiliated company	14
Request for donation	
Request for sponsorship	8% 5%
Request for a kickback to win the tender	
Request for a bribe to stop illegal pressure	n/a
Other	5% 5%





- Government turns a blind eye on the corruption in the state owned enterprises
- Petty corruption (healthcare, education, etc.)
- Request for a bribe for adopting illegal court decision against competitors or to assist with corporate raiding
- Court corruption
- Money washing, use of fake owners of business, "killing" small and medium businesses by using force, etc., etc., etc.

# Corruption and competition



≥ 2014 ≥ 2015 ≥ 2016

Do you think that companies in Ukraine have to engage in corruption activities in order to have higher chances of success?



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".

# Most corrupt institutions



≥2015 ≥2016





- Security Service of Ukraine
- DABI
- State controlling authorities (Pozhnaglyad, Energonaglyad, Derzhgirpromnaglyad)
- Just many regular Ukrainian citizens

# Quality of anti-corruption (AC) laws



∅ 2014 ∅ 2015 ∅ 2016

Is Ukrainian anti-corruption legislation compliant with international standards?



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".





- Hardly any of such laws are properly enforced
- The procedure of self-disclosure for legal entities should be established
- Absence of political will
- We need an independent anti-corruption court and more powers for NABU and SAPO
- We lack the mechanism for enforcement of adopted AC laws
- Strengthen the liability for corruption offences
- No real protection for whistleblowers and rewards like under U.S. Dodd-Frank Act, no private prosecution
- Inevitability of liability needs improvement

## Most effective AC authorities







- Business Ombudsman Counsel
- Cannot make a choice
- Cannot assess as the nature of their work and scope of powers are known only to specialists
- It is not clear how they differ
- Cannot apply the word "effective" to either of them. There are some progress from NABU's side, but it is selective and unsystematic
- Neither authority is ready to fight high-level corruption (President, Parliament, General Prosecutor)



# How businesses contribute to the fighting corruption?

# Key anti-corruption mechanisms

∅ 2014 ∅ 2015 ∅ 2016



Do you have an anti-corruption program in your company?

Do your company currently have compliance officer?

\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".

# Procedures for reporting corruption







# In your opinion, what should be done to encourage businesses to report corruption offences?

70%	8% 7	7% 13% 3%

- Ensure proper investigation and punishment of the offender
- Introduce the possibility to report corruption anonymously
  - Improve protection of whistleblowers

Ensure that reporting does not negatively affect the company Other

# Cooperation with authorities



∅ 2014 ∅ 2015 ∅ 2016

Does your company have an example of successful cooperation with law enforcement agency on alerted corruption case?

Does your company have an example of successful punishment of corrupted person by the court?



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".

# How corruption impacts business?



40%

Partners from other jurisdictions 13% refuse to cooperate Corporate management is unwilling to 19% expand business in Ukraine Risk for closure of business increases Expenses on audit increase 3% Expenses on legal support and compliance increase No impact 7% Other 8%





- Almost no international investors present in Ukraine
- I don't know
- Affects expectation from legal services lawyers are expected to be "middlemen" and illegally "resolve issues"
- Harder to attract investors
- Affects the provision of quality legal services
- Officials are not interested to deal with clean companies; hence, they refuse to cooperate
- Clients are unwilling to expand in Ukraine, which affects the legal services market. Unethical businesses also negatively impacts the competition, which leads to the decrease of business and, respectively, legal fees



# **Opinions and recommendations**

# Is fighting corruption a No.1 priority?



∅ 2014 ∅ 2015 ∅ 2016

Do you consider fighting corruption as the number one priority to improve business climate in Ukraine?



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".

# Biggest obstacles in eliminating corruption



ACC THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



- All these factors
- Low salaries
- Lost trust in that justice and equal possibilities will become a norm of everyday life for ALL citizens
- Existing system

#### Most effective ways to fight corruption



#### ≥2015 ≥2016

Proper compensation Stricter punishment Establishing new bodies and procedures **Establishing Anti-Corruption Court** Replacing staff in problematic bodies Proper enforcement of existing laws Improving existing laws and procedures Other





- Real prison sentences
- Strengthening the control, establishing transparent procedures which will make corruption not economically viable
- ENFORCEMENT
- Departure from the manual control, increasing automatization and transparency
- Improving decision making processes to eliminate possibilities for corruption
- Irreversibility of the punishment
- Complete change of bureaucratic procedures



#### Do you think that the introduction of a monetary reward for whistleblowers would be beneficial in anti-corruption fight?

55%	4	2% <mark>3%</mark>

Yes, it will be helpful in detecting and investigating corruption
No, it will lead to increasing of dishonest and false reports
Other



- I don't know
- Hard to predict
- Will be beneficial in case of a real enforcement
- Reporting does not mean punishment

## Biggest success in anti-corruption fight







- First two answers, but its not sufficient to lower corruption to socially insignificant level
- No successes
- Cannot make a choice
- E-declarations
- Criminal liability for failure to declare the assets or false declaration

## Who is an AC champion in Ukraine?



\* The results are based on answers of 63 respondents.



- Lee Kuan Yew
- Business Ombudsman Council
- Singapore
- NGOs/Society
- Not enough data to provide an answer
- Many promising people sold themselves out, hard to find a trustworthy person
- Yegor Sobolyev
- Vitalii Shabunin
- Mikheil Saakashvili



- Independent journalists
- Karl Volokh
- Yuriy Lutsenko
- Sergiy Leshchenko
- Petro Poroshenko
- People of Ukraine
- Luxemburg
- Active part in society
- Some People's Deputies who bring the cases to the public
- Young reformers in the ministries



- Government itself. If the Parliament and especially city authorities is only businessmen who else can be?
- International bodies
- Police
- U.S. Government
- International donors
- Foreign organizations
- Hard to define only one person
- No obvious leader

### Predictions for the upcoming year



X 2014 X 2015 X 2016

Are you optimistic about prospects of anti-corruption fight in Ukraine in the upcoming year?



\* Percentages of respondents who answered "Yes".





- Political elite is deeply corrupt. These guys appoint government who then protects the corrupt interests
- Hope so
- Would like to observe better & faster progress
- The process is slow but things are improving
- Otherwise Ukraine has no future. Hope the leaders of coalition's political parties understand this
- Conditional on continued pressure from external parties (creditors) on the one hand, and bottom-up pressure from the civic activists
- I don't believe in the existence of President's political will
- Maybe
- Complete rebooting of central government is required





- President covers his corrupted friends
- More and more citizens are self-organized in groups and societies to reveal and fight corruption. New generation who "are born" computer-literate' use online means of purchases, registration, learning
- Mentality and manners are slow to change
- Small progress is visible, hope it will improve in the future
- No, because of absence of the political will
- Not with this government
- Yes, provided there will be a political will
- Society should strongly support anti-corruption champions and initiatives this is the only way to overcome corruption in the absence of political will and resistance of corrupted officials to reforms

# Thank you!

