



GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES PARLEMENTAIRES CONTRE LA CORRUPTION
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DE PARLAMENTARIOS CONTRA LA CORRUPCIÓN
المنظمة العالمية للبرلمانيين ضد الفساد

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News Release

GOPAC launches a handbook to Improve Oversight in Congressional Systems

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.

Panama City, Panama – To support elected officials in congressional systems, the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) and the World Bank Institute (WBI) launched the handbook *Improving Democratic Accountability Globally*. The handbook is the result of an international study group that was hosted by the Office for the Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy.

Oversight capacity increases political stability and control of corruption. By improving the oversight capacity of elected officials we can reduce corruption. This handbook provides ability to assess the current oversight capacity and identify strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement.

“Improving parliamentarians’ oversight capacity enables legislators to hold the executive to account and improve accountability to our citizens,” said GOPAC Chair Ricardo Garcia Cervantes.

The handbook demonstrates how legislative oversight leads to reduced corruption, how oversight can be evaluated and what steps can be taken in presidential systems to improve oversight.

“At the end of the day, more oversight leads to less corruption. Corruption is a luxury that developing countries cannot afford,” said Dr. Riccardo Pelizzo, co-author and Senior Consultant with the WBI.

The handbook is a user friendly tool that parliamentarians’ and those who work closely with parliamentarians can use to reduce corruption.

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 49 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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