



10th CoSP, December 2023

**Speech delivered by the Interim Governor of the
National Transparency Authority of Greece**

Your Excellencies,

Mr. President-designate,

Distinguished delegates,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hosts and the organizers for this wonderful event and wish to Mr. President a fruitful term.

It is an honor to participate in the 10th Conference of States Parties to UNCAC, celebrating its 20th anniversary, as the Head of the Greek delegation.

Allow me to start by highlighting that the Greek delegation is in full alignment with the statement of the EU delegation.

Four years ago, in Abu Dhabi, Greece presented an ambitious reform in the fight against corruption. The establishment of the National Transparency Authority of Greece. Today in Atlanta, I would like to share with you the significant progress that Greece has achieved, our priorities, as well as some thoughts for the future.

Greece has adopted at the highest political level, the Council of Ministers, for the first time in 2022, a National Anti-Corruption Strategy

that includes a comprehensive set of actions across government, designed after extensive consultation with stakeholders from the public and private sector and the civil society. A concrete but integral part of this strategy is the National Integrity System which includes the implementation of a series of preventive anti-corruption measures in the fields of internal audit and risk management, lobbying, gift policy for politicians, whistleblowers' protection, disciplinary procedures, to name a few.

Furthermore, Greece the last four years has taken solid steps to further improve the legal framework in the area of anti-corruption in line with UNCAC, OECD and EU recommendations.

In the field of raising awareness, a zero-tolerance culture against corruption has been promoted systematically. Integrity Fora and initiatives in the field of empowering women and youth are organized regularly, marking our tireless efforts to address transparency and public integrity challenges and restore citizens' trust in institutions.

During this period, we have been working closely with our partners in the UNODC, EU, the OECD, the Council of Europe, as well as countries around the globe, both in the context of evaluation rounds but also as part of technical assistance projects, trying to identify what works and why and make evidence-based policy choices to strengthen integrity, transparency and accountability.

We have learned the hard way that tackling corruption is a cornerstone for achieving growth, new and better-paid jobs, as well as social well-being. We also know that we cannot win this fight alone.

We actively seek all peer-learning opportunities to work together with international experts and practitioners from anti-corruption authorities and agencies across the world.

This whole of society approach to tackle corruption, which sometimes seems like a herculean task, has given at last concrete results. Greece during the last four years has improved its position by 16 places in the ranking of the Corruption Perception Index of Transparency International, its best performance in the last decade, and is now amongst the 30% of the countries with the highest scores.

We are committed to continue to work with and benefit from international groups and the anti-corruption community, and therefore we are counting on your valuable support.

In light of the above, it is in our future aspirations to be given the opportunity to host a COSP in Greece, allowing our country not only to present its great ancient legacy to the participants in the ground from around the globe but also the work that is currently taking place in the field of tackling corruption.

Thank you very much for your attention. I wish you all a very fruitful and successful conference.

National Transparency Authority

Interim Governor

Ms. Alexandra Rogkakou