

Who is really a **WHISTLE-BLOWER** ?

Special event in the margins of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties, Sharm El Sheikh, 13-17 December 2021

14 December, 6-7 PM (UTC+2), Conference Room El Fayrouz

In most international and regional instruments against corruption, the protection of persons who report acts of corruption is considered one of the key elements to better detect, investigate, prosecute, and ultimately combat corruption.

Over the years and with the adoption of more and more laws and international instruments, including the EU Directive and the G20 High-Level Principles on whistle-blower protection, the notion of reporting persons has been gradually refined and the notion of "whistle-blowers" has become predominant on the international scene.

To date, most of the countries that are party to regional or international instrument against corruption have adopted or are in the process of adopting whistle-blower protection legal frameworks.

However, the concept is not always understood in the same way by all countries and stakeholders. This lack of harmony in the definitions adopted can thus lead to an increase in risk and vulnerability of persons mistakenly believing that they can benefit from whistle-blower protection when this may not be the case.

The goal of the event is to discuss the concept of whistle-blowing and exchange experiences on the definitions that are being applied. The event will also allow principal anti-corruption regional and international organizations to compare the definitions they have on whistle-blowing, in line with the provisions included in their respective instruments, and explore the possible synergies that can be found on the question "who is a whistle-blower", especially in the light of the latest progress made in the international community.

PROGRAMME

Opening Remarks

- **Mr. John Brandolino**, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Speakers

- **Ms. Laura Sanz-Levia**, Senior Legal Advisor, Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)
Towards common minimum standards for whistleblower protection in the European continent and beyond
- **Mr. Rodrigo Silva**, Senior Legal Officer, Organization of American States
Protection of Whistleblowers in the Framework of the MESICIC
- **Ms. France Chain**, Senior Legal Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Detection of transnational bribery by whistleblowers: how the 2021 OECD Anti-Bribery Recommendation is effectively ensuring the protection of reporting persons
- **Ms. Louise Portas**, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
The definition of whistle-blower and whistle-blower protection at the international level

Moderator

- **Ms. Louise Portas**, UNODC

FOR FURTHER READING



Group of States against Corruption
Groupe d'États contre la corruption

- [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)7 on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Explanatory Memorandum](#)
- [Protection of Whistleblowers: A Brief Guide for Implementing a National Framework](#)
- [Group of States against Corruption \(GRECO\): Lessons learnt from the three evaluation rounds \(2000-2010\)](#)



Organization of American States

- Model Law to Facilitate and Encourage the Reporting of Acts of Corruption and to Protect and Witness [English](#) [Spanish](#)



- [2021 Anti-Bribery Recommendation](#)
- [The Detection of Foreign Bribery, Chapter 2. The Role of Whistleblowers and Whistleblower Protection](#)
- [Committing to Effective Whistleblower Protection](#)



- Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons - Whistleblower Protection [English](#) - [French](#) - [Spanish](#) - [Arabic](#)
- Speak up for Health - Guidelines to Enable Whistle-Blower Protection in the Health-Care Sector [English](#) [French](#) [Spanish](#) [Portuguese](#)