Public Anti-Corruption Strategies and Policies in Post-2003 Iraq

الاستراتيجيات والسياسات العامة لمكافحة الفساد في عراق ما بعد ٢٠٠٣

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الملخص

سعى البحث الى تقديم تحليل موسع لظاهرة الفساد في العراق التي نشأت بعد عام ٢٠٠٣ بسبب ظروف غير طبيعية مرَّ بها العراق سواء الحروب أو الحصار او التخريب المؤسسي او الانفلات الامني، فضلاً عن عوامل خارجية اخرى لها أهداف مقصودة في تشتيت برامج التنمية وهدر الموارد الوطنية ومنع العراق من الارتقاء وتبوء الموقع الحضاري المناسب وبالتالي ضرورة وجود سياسات عامة واستراتيجيات، لمواجهة ظاهرة الفساد التي تحكمها مجموعة عوامل متداخلة ومتفاعلة فيما بينها وهذه العوامل تمثل بطبيعتها المباشرة وغير المباشرة الجذور الاساسية التي تتبت اوجه ومظاهر الفساد، لذلك تناول البحث الموضوع اعلاه من خلال هيكلية علمية قائمة على دراسة لأهم اسباب واثار وتداعيات لظاهرة الفساد في العراق بعد التغيير السياسي ٩/ ٤/ ٣٠٠٣ وما تلاها من تغيرات واحداث اضرت بالعراق وعلى كافة المستويات، فهناك عدد من الاسباب السياسية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية التي يمر بها العراق، والتي انتجت هذه الظاهرة وما سواها من الظواهر التي ارهقت الشعب العراقي كالإرهاب والانقسام الطائفي والعرقي وغيره.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الفساد، السياسات العامة، الاستقرار، التحول السياسي.

Abstract

The research aimed to provide an expanded analysis of the phenomenon of corruption in Iraq after 2003 due to abnormal circumstances that Iraq went through, whether wars, siege, institutional sabotage, or security chaos, as well as other external factors that have the intended goals of dispersing development programs, wasting national resources, and preventing Iraq. To advance and occupy the appropriate cultural position, and therefore the necessity of having public policies and strategies, to confront the phenomenon of corruption, which is governed by a group of overlapping and interacting factors among them. These factors, by their direct and indirect nature, represent the basic roots that



sprout the aspects and manifestations of corruption. Therefore, the research dealt with the above topic through a scientific structure based on A study of the most important causes, effects and repercussions of the phenomenon of corruption in Iraq after the political change of 4/9/2003 and the subsequent changes and events that harmed Iraq at all levels. There are a number of political, economic, social, cultural and administrative reasons that led to its aggravation. Therefore, it is necessary to develop programs that take into account the political and economic conditions. And the social situation that Iraq is going through, which produced this phenomenon and other phenomena that have exhausted the Iraqi people, such as terrorism, sectarian and ethnic division, and others.

Keywords: corruption, public policies, stability, political transformation

Introduction

Corruption is one of the societal phenomena that can be monitored in all societies, regardless of their geographical location or the historical age in which they live and whatever degree of their social, economic or cultural growth, and corruption, regardless of the degree of its spread, is rejected, because it represents in reality a flagrant violation of the moral and social values of the individual and society. When corruption becomes common in the body of a country to reach its public and private institutions, as well as its judicial, educational and economic sectors ... etc, due to the lack of deterrent laws and legislations and their fragility, it weakens the country's stability, deepens the class differentiation between groups of society and its segments, fuels the conflict and dismantles the social fabric.

The study of the topic of public policies and corruption should be directed mainly to the summit of power for reform to begin from there and then to be reflected strictly downwards according to objective criteria that apply to everyone without exception. Also, a note should be done to the patterns of other political structures prevailing in political practice in Iraq such as (sectarian, doctrinal, tribal, and racial intolerance), which must be addressed through political reform, as they are in general the most important incubators of corruption in Iraq that were produced during the practice of political action by The ruling political elite.

The privacy of the Iraqi society after 2003 in light of the political transition from the totalitarian system to the democratic system and the rapid change of all joints of the Iraqi state towards building a modern democratic state based on' justice for all', requires the adoption of a wide range of diverse strategies to confront the legacy of the past to create a more fair and stable future. However,



the increase in the phenomenon of corruption in all its forms after 2003 has become an existing problem that could be found in almost all government institutions and it is almost the stable characteristic for every process of political change and transition from one stage to another. The high level of corruption in any society is a reflection of the absence of good governance in it, including the number of constituents that, if available or present in any political system, could make corruption a limited practice. Such constituents include rationality in decision-making at its higher levels in particular and the availability of transparency, accountability and liability.

Research Problem: Corruption plays a major role in the erosion and the fallout of the entire political system, whether in terms of its legitimacy, stability, or reputation, as it limits the transparency and openness of the system and leads to major conflicts especially in terms of interests between different groups and leads to the creation of an atmosphere of political hypocrisy as a result of the lack of It creates an atmosphere of political hypocrisy as a result of a lack of confidence in public institutions and oversight and accountability agencies. Corruption also harms the reputation of the political system and its external relations, especially with countries that can provide material support to it and in such a way that these countries set conditions that may affect the sovereignty of the state to prevent its assistance.

Research Value: The phenomenon of corruption has spread in Iraq since the American occupation, because the occupation helped directly or indirectly in spreading this phenomenon, as the domination of the United States of America resulted in taking over the capabilities and wealth of the Iraqi people, in addition to the fact that the majority of Iraqi money was approved and spent on the military side. Moreover, this stage was witnessed an increasing cases of corruption expressed by repeated cases of deviation in moral values that are not accustomed to Iraqi society, such as murder, rape and kidnapping. The occupation of Iraq and the sabotage of its infrastructure are helped in spreading the problem of corruption more quickly than was the situation in the early nineties of the last century after the imposition of an economic blockade on Iraq that led to the appearance of early corruption facets in the country.

Research Aim: The research aims to answer several questions, the most important of which are:

- **1.** What is corruption and what are corruption forms?
- 2. What are public policies?



- **3.** What is the nature of corruption in Iraq post-2003?
- **4.** What are the causes and effects of corruption in Iraq after 2003?
- **5.** What are the most important institutions involved in countering corruption in Iraq after 2003?
- **6.** What are the most important reform policies and strategies in Iraq after 2003?

Research Hypothesis: The research stems from ((the phenomenon of corruption in Iraq having general and specific factors that arose out of abnormal circumstances that Iraq went through, whether wars, blockades, institutional sabotage or security lawlessness, as well as other external factors that have intended goals in dispersing development programs, wasting national resources, and preventing Iraq From upgrading and occupying the appropriate cultural site)).

Research methodology: This research relies on the descriptive and analytical approach to describe the phenomenon of corruption, which has become one of the manifestations that have serious repercussions on Iraqi society after the year 2003. When corruption becomes normal behavior and society begins to accept it, and even encourage it, the problem of corruption turns into a double obstacle, which requires putting General plans and policies to confront this phenomenon.

Research Plan: The research is divided into several sections, in addition to the introduction and conclusion, which are: The first section: What are public policies and corruption? The second section includes: Corruption in Iraq: causes, appearances and repercussions. As for the third section, it includes: the institutions concerned in fighting corruption. While the fourth section includes: public anti-corruption policies.

Section One: What are public policies and corruption?

A. What are public Policies?

The Public policy is ((what the government chooses to do or not to do, as the government does many things, including controlling the processes of conflict and competition within the community, organizing the society in order to manage the conflict and cooperating with other societies, and distributing symbolic rewards and material services to members of the community, meaning that it is These public policies are controlling, organizational, distributive, extractive or all at the same time, and these public policies are similar to the capabilities of the political system))⁽¹⁾. The public policy has been defined as ((the direction of work for the government for a future period, so that this policy has its justifications, and this means that the general policy is an expression of



the authoritarian or compulsive trend of the state's resources and the tool of that orientation is the government))⁽²⁾. Moreover, (Thanaa Fouad Abdullah defined it as ((plans, programs, general goals, or all of these together which show the direction of government work for a future period so that it has political support, and this means that public policy is the effectiveness of the state's resource management, and the government is in control of this))⁽³⁾. Some see it as a "work program for one public or government authority or several authorities"⁽⁴⁾. Public policy is defined as ((the goals that the political authority decides to implement in the various activities in which the state interferes, and whatever the image of the government that represents the political authority in the state, it identifies the points it deems essential in the state's activity, leaving the administration to carry out the work within the framework of this activity))⁽⁵⁾.

B. What is corruption (the nature of corruption)

All countries today face a disease called corruption and this disease spreads very quickly, so that people are accustomed to it in daily transactions, rather, it has become recognized in the performance of duties and the achievement of goals, and when the people in power have left their real duty and have been satisfied with the existence of corruption. There have been many definitions that were given to corruption in general, and their perception and philosophy differed, including some that link it to values and traditions, while others link it to systems and the absence and chaos therein, and some create links and connections due to political, economic or social reasons.⁽⁶⁾

Corruption is defined as ((a group of actions that violate the laws and aims to influence the functioning of public administration, its decisions or activities with the aim of direct material benefit or indirect use))⁽⁷⁾. Corruption is the basis for crimes of abuse of functional authority, as it creates another level of authority parallel to its official level together, which negatively affects the power of the official authority. Misuse of authority has two forms ⁽⁸⁾:

The first image / abuse with the intention of a private benefit for the employee or one of his relatives or acquaintances and takes a physical or spontaneous form.

The second image / Abuse with intent to harm, so the public employee harms the public interest with the aim of revenge.

Corruption is ((a behavior based on deviation from official duties associated with the public office, whether this position is occupied by election or appointment in order to achieve a private interest, whether this interest is directly related to the position holder, sectarian or tribal, and whether this interest relates to material or



non-material gains, through the use of procedures or resort to transactions of the legal legitimacy Alliance))⁽⁹⁾. Corruption in the Encyclopedia of Social Sciences is defined as ((the use of public influence to achieve private profits or benefits, and that includes all kinds of bribes to local officials or politicians, but excludes bribes that occur within the private sector))⁽¹⁰⁾.

Corruption includes the following actions⁽¹¹⁾:

- **1.** The actions performed by individuals outside the government apparatus, such that the leader is used to allowing the employee to:
- Evading applicable laws and policies.
- Changing laws and policies, whether by introducing new laws or canceling existing laws to achieve immediate gains.
- **2.** The works carried out by workers in the government apparatus with a view to obtaining benefits for themselves and their friends through the following:
- Requesting or accepting benefits for them from individuals in exchange for providing direct and immediate services.
- Creating or abolishing laws or policies to achieve direct benefits for them. Corruption has many characteristics, including⁽¹²⁾:
- 1. Corrupt behavior usually includes more than one person involved.
- 2. Corrupt actions are generally classified as secret.
- **3.** Corruption includes the factor of mutual commitment and mutual benefit.
- **4.** The perpetrators of corruption obscure their activities.
- **5.** Corruption includes those who need specific decisions and those who can slow down these decisions.

The phenomenon of corruption is governed by a set of interrelated and interacting factors and these factors represent, by their direct and indirect nature, the basic roots that sprout aspects and manifestations of corruption. Among the most prominent of these factors are the following ⁽¹³⁾:

- **1.** Political factors, such factors lead to the creation of the phenomenon of corruption, based on the corruption of the political system and a substance of such factors is observed through the interference of elites and parties in the work of state agencies.
- **2.** Economic factors, which mean poor planning of the economic development process according to scientific foundations, the absence of a feasibility study for most projects, poor distribution of wealth and low per capita income level.
- **3.** Social and cultural factors, there are many values and social construction that collectively constitute obstacles in building an advanced administrative system or apparatus such as loyalty to the clan or sect or doctrine and the failure of



loyalty to the homeland, all of which cause unjust and immoral practices such as favoritism in the completion of work and discrimination in providing the service For community members.

4. Administrative factors, a summary of these factors can be presented by diagnosing the diseases of the central and excessive bureaucracy, the weakness of the monitoring and corruption agencies, the failure of administrative procedures and their failure to keep pace with the spirit of the current age and the needs of society, as well as reducing employment and corruption policies and not adopting the theory of placing the right person in the right place.

The spread of corruption has different effects in work environments, and the most important of these effects are⁽¹⁴⁾:

- **1.** Corruption of the administrative apparatus in the state leads to a loss of confidence and trust in this organ and the state in general.
- **2.** The delay in dealing with corruption will lead to its spread to other administrative bodies.
- **3.** The sense of social justice will diminish among citizens and among workers, if public administration agencies cover up the corrupt.
- **4.** The spread of corruption results in the appearance of indifference and disregard for public interests and state symbols.
- **5.** If corruption prevails in most of the public administration apparatus, it may pass to the classes of society, which leads to moral decay, indifference and an increase in social problems.
- **6.** If corruption spreads and becomes common in society, most administrative decisions will become irrational, in addition to misusing available resources and the inability to set priorities.
- **7.** Worsening the efficiency of public investment and weakening the level of quality in public infrastructure.
- **8.** The decline in human development indicators, especially with regard to education and health indicators.
- **9.** The deterioration of the income and wealth situation.
- **10.** Smuggling money out of the country and the consequent lack of employment opportunities, increased unemployment and poverty.
- 11. Loss of state funds that should have been invested in projects that serve citizens.
- **12.** Corruption leads to the substitution of private interests instead of public interests and the increase in conflicts and disputes in the state apparatus between different parties in order to achieve the private interest over the public interest.
- 13. The impact of corruption on various media outlets, their adaptation within



the special requirements of beneficiaries and turning the media outlets away from their role in raising awareness and fighting corruption.

Section Two: Corruption in Iraq: causes, manifestations, and repercussions

The manifestations of corruption in all its forms and patterns are seen as human action that carries in its various forms social connotations that differ in one society through different times, and differ between multiple societies at the same time and the manifestations of corruption increase with weak moral and religious values, the absence of manifestations of social control and its weak effectiveness. However, the manifestations of corruption contradict With the spread of moral and religious values and the power of social control⁽¹⁵⁾. The culture of corruption has taken root in the Iraqi society, as it has become a manifestation of the repercussions of corruption on society, because when corruption becomes a normal behavior that society accepts, but rather encourages, the problem of corruption turns into a double obstacle, this idea can be witnessed in the image of the employee who is accustomed to the behavior of corruption, as corruption has become part and parcel of social practice in society, which has become a common phenomenon and has even been practiced even by members of religious parties (16). The manifestations of corruption in Iraq produced a flaw in multiple formats, the most important of which are (17):

- **1.** An imbalance in the political system.
- **2.** An imbalance in the economic system.
- **3.** An imbalance in the cultural pattern

There are a variety of reasons behind the prevalence of corruption in Iraq, the most important of which are ⁽¹⁸⁾:

- 1. The prevalence of complex and unclear laws that are subject to change continuously, as corruption grows in light of the regulations that are covered with inadequate, unclear and exaggerated laws that are always subject to change and amendment. As for the weak application of laws and regulations, it constitutes a major aspect of corruption because it creates dual systems.
- **2.** Low rates of wages in the public sector. Often times, public sector employees in developing countries are not paid enough to meet their daily needs, thus making bribery the main source of their pensions.
- **3.** Weak penalties to deter violators, as corruption grows and intensifies in environments where violators know that they are immune from punishment and when the punishment is not appropriate to deter corruption.
- **4.** Lack of transparency and liability. The absence of transparency and liability is among the important reasons for the high levels of corruption, and when



citizens find themselves without mechanisms that enable them to hold government officials accountable, they will end up submitting to their demands and corrupt behaviors.

- **5.** Reasons related to the lack of independence of the judiciary. The lack of independence of the judiciary leads to the spread of the phenomenon of corruption at a high level, where it is observed in most developed countries the independence of the judiciary from the work and performance of the system, which gives sound dimensions represented by good governance.
- **6.** Reasons for weak oversight role over business, as corruption appears in the case of weak oversight role and the inability to exercise it, and the lack of application of the law, in addition to the lack of activation of the powers of the oversight bodies on the work of the executives and the liability of the negligent and weak administrative responsibility for the tasks entrusted to it.

As for the most important manifestations of corruption in Iraq, they include⁽¹⁹⁾:

- **1.** Disrupting laws and regulations, and spreading chaos and indiscriminate work in public jobs by assigning them to people with limited competence.
- **2.** Forming committees (tenders, procurement, import, setting of quantities and pricing) of people who are not specialists.
- **3.** The prevalence of the phenomenon of super and sudden richness in society.
- **4.** The prevalence of bribery, even as it has become an essential part of the (requirements) required in any transaction.
- **5.** Patronage, favoritism, and loyalty in occupying positions instead of merit, competence, professional skill, and integrity.
- **6.** The absence of the principle of equal opportunities in filling jobs.
- 7. Weakness of oversight in terms of management and performance, as it is nothing but a type of regular formalities and its results are neglected.
- **8.** Mediation, as individuals use it as a tool and means to reach a person who has the decision-making power to achieve the interest of one or more persons and it is outside the official regulations .Moreover, it is one of the manifestations of corruption that are prevalent in Iraq today.
- **9.** Exploitation of the public office, represented in the exploitation of the position for the purpose of obtaining special privileges, or disposing of public property in an illegal manner, and the public position is also used to achieve political or other personal interests such as election fraud.
- 10. Embezzlement and theft. Embezzlement can be seen in the employee stealing cash or in-kind funds from those under their responsibility or manipulating



documents or records. As for theft, the employee takes money in cash or in kind that is not under his own responsibility or control but rather under the responsibility or control of another person.

11. Fraud and scam, another form of corruption, which is one of the crimes according to the legal concept, and the crime of fraud is used here to obtain personal benefits for the perpetrators of this crime, so the fraud person performs his corrupt reserve action after it is found that he can penetrate his action with tricks and manipulation, and after he compares the gains and losses of the action before its commission.

The Integrity Commission in Iraq submitted a report to the Council of Representatives, in which it stated that the phenomenon of corruption is a threat to the entire political system of the country and foreshadows a real catastrophe if it is not addressed properly, explaining that terrorism and administrative corruption are two sides of the same coin, if corruption is not more dangerous because it represents the true incubator of terrorism. The Commission diagnosed in its report Corruption cases as follows⁽²⁰⁾:

- **1.** Contracts: There are violations in the conduct of contracts that led to the wasting of public funds in a very large way and by reviewing the reports of the Financial Supervision Bureau, which is a specialized and technical body to diagnose the following violations:
- **a**. Many bids are transmitted by the minister directly to the companies he desires without adopting the method of tenders and contrary to the opinion of the bidding committee, although some of them did not participate in the tender process and did not make any offers and this act led to a great waste of public funds.
- **b**. Some companies acquired most of the contracts for some ministries, so we see, for example, (Al Ain Commercial Company), which acquired most of the contracts of the Ministry of Defense until the contracts concluded with them amounted to (949,184,739) Iraqi dinars.
- **c.** The amount of most contracts for some ministries are paid in advance and in cash, which is another disagreement with all legal and financial conditions and controls in conducting contracts without any implicit instrument.
- **d**. Many contracts were organized and signed by personnel outside their jurisdiction specified in the law, so we see, for example, an official whose allowances are (100,000,000) dinars, signing contracts worth up to (170,000,000) dollars.
- e. The ministries did not withhold income tax or even collect the stamp fee on most contracts that were concluded in 2004 and beyond with companies,



entities, and parties contracted to import and supply goods, services, and devices, contrary to paragraph (b) of Article (2) of the Stamp Law No. (16) For the year 1974.

- **f**. There is no evidence of the arrival of the goods, the entry of warehouses, and the exit of the goods as per the rules in many contracts.
- 1. The phenomenon of fake names spreading in many ministries, especially the ministries of interior, defense, and facilities protection in most ministries, and their salaries are taken by those in charge of them.
- **2.** The spread of bribery and appointment in exchange for a specified amount, and this phenomenon, in addition to being administrative corruption, is considered one of the main ways to maintain the influence of the remnants of the previous regime and the terrorists to the security services.
- **3.** The spread of smuggling, such as smuggling all the goods of Iraq out mainly petroleum products and livestock, and smuggling death, car bombs, suicide bombers and narcotics into Iraq.
- **4.** Contracts of donor countries where administrative corruption manifests itself in the highest form. These sums were legally removed from their countries and stolen in Iraq by them under various headings and pseudo projects from which Iraq did not get any benefit.

As for the repercussions and risks of corruption, they are countless and clearly seen on more than one level, as they affect various aspects of economic, political and social life to the extent that the problem of corruption goes beyond the issue of financial numbers, in addition to the public money that was looted or bribery that was taken, there is a greater danger, which is the destruction of the society's values, which is the basis of the system of government, but rather the basis of (human society), as infamous behaviors such as bribery and negligence in the duty of professionalism and selfishness have become alternative values for moderation, administrative discipline, good career and sacrifice for the benefit of society, it is inconceivable to imagine. It is inconceivable that a coherent state with institutions governed by the process of becoming a public attachment remains inconceivable with the spread of administrative corruption which resembles a disease that is gnawing the body of the living organism, killing it over time, as conviction has become firmly established today in all countries of the world that corruption is more dangerous to the state than AIDS, because it eliminates the state and society simultaneously and turns the public and prosperous countries into ruin⁽²¹⁾ and that The phenomenon of corruption, with its various dimensions and forms, leaves a number of complex and interrelated effects, as shown by the following⁽²²⁾:



- 1. The seriousness of corruption embodied in the wide problems it crates in terms of the stability of the country in the near and distant future, the most prominent of which is corruption in all other forms of organized crime.
- **2.** Corruption affects the nature of the political process, the noble goals for which it came, and the search for a society in which justice and correct principles and values prevail.
- **3.** Corruption deepens political struggles over power in light of the sharp divisions of the participants in the political process on the core issues, which creates a state of political failure and stalled in the stability and development of the country, and the situation may reach to the disruption of the law and failure to observe the organizational decisions of state departments and institutions, which exposed the current political system to many crises and the problems of political instability, and the loss of the ability to confront the phenomena of corruption, which complicated the political scene and the attempts of finding a solution to all crises. Rather, the contradictions were established instead of being solved, especially since the political process has entrenched sectarian and ethnic quotas in administration of the country and financing of the parties participating in the election campaigns. This case produced a culture of corruption that takes into consideration the reality, privacy and awareness of the Iraqi society and the consequent cultural, religious and civilizational perceptions.
- **4.** Corruption results in turning the elections into a means or a ladder for the corrupt people to reach advanced positions in the authority, meaning the rise of a group of rulers and corrupt people as if they are the good example and the elite on which they depend in running the country while its presence is considered a corruption of the country's capabilities, and the aim of these is to ensure the protection of their corrupt actions and increase their illicit income.
- **5.** Corruption is linked to the depletion of the possibilities mobilized to cause any progress in sustainable development programs and aborting attempts at economic and administrative reform. The percentage of waste from the state's public resources due to corruption exceeded the desired rates in most of the world's countries.
- **6.** Obstructing growth, increasing poverty, ignorance, the unfair distribution and inability to provide services and the deterioration of their quality and difficulty in obtaining them without paying a bribe, or through a mediation and favoritism method.
- 7. Corruption results in a direct impact on the quality and size of foreign investment. At a time when countries, including Iraq, are seeking to attract



foreign expertise and investments for their skills and quality, corruption here has weakened and disrupted investment flows and has also contributed to low tax collection and the decline in human development indicators, as well as the flight of Iraqi investors abroad due to the security and political instability of the country and the rise in investment projects as a result of paying bribes to power brokers.

- **8.** One of the effects of corruption is the increase in costs, as its burden is transferred to a third party, the consumer (individuals) or the national economy (public money) may be. The sums paid by businessmen or companies to the government employee in default in exchange for facilitating their business are transferred by raising the prices to compensate the bribes paid and the state budget may incur them, if the government is the one who buys this commodity, and sometimes the import of this commodity may increase the demand for foreign currency and reduce the value of the local currency. As a result, the national economy will bear the costs of the burden of this corruption in the sense that the phenomenon of corruption has become a tax imposed on the consumer and the national economy as a whole.
- **9.** The widely spread corruption in Iraq has led to a reduction in public treasury revenues, as it has been deprived of resources the state needs to spend on development, public services and its development.
- 10. Corruption affects distributive justice for income and wealth for the benefit of the monopolists of power and those close to them, which resulted in the deprivation of the Iraqis from the most basic elements of life. As a result, class differences in income and wealth increased, which widened the gap between the rich and the poor, such difference produced negative effects on the social fabric and political stability. This has resulted in a clear violation of the Iraqi human rights, depriving them of their minimum rights to public services and preventing them from exercising their political rights due to inequality based on sectarian, tribal, national discrimination and the special treatment of one group without another, which made international organizations concerned with detecting and controlling corruption rank Iraq in the global corruption scale as one of the advanced centers of corruption cases.
- 11. Corruption affects national constants and general economic interests, disrupts its role in society and encourages states and external companies to extort and use funds illegally to achieve illicit goals. This situation will result in a lack of trust between the people and the authority, which raises discontent, public dissatisfaction and frequent and stinging criticism of the ruling authorities. Over



time, this results in undermining the legitimacy of the state and its institutions, as well as eliminating moral values, including honesty, tolerance and amalgamation and this is what threatens the sovereignty and security of the country.

- **12.** Corruption spreads illicit goods and services, which include illegal drugs and medicines and counterfeit money required by money-laundering operations and dealing with the black market, which often leads to the flourishing of prostitution and organized crime.
- **13.** Donor countries' reluctance to provide humanitarian and development services and assistance, due to the widespread corruption phenomenon in Iraq.

Section Three: the institutions concerned in fighting corruption

The strategy adopted by the Iraqi government to combat corruption is directed to create independent institutions that take upon themselves the task of following up cases of corruption of various kinds and to arrest the people who are corrupt and refer them to the competent judicial authorities. In this context, several institutions have emerged, namely:

First: Iraqi Commission on Public Integrity

This Commission was established by virtue of Coalition Authority Order No. (55) for the year 2004. It is an agency to implement anti-corruption laws and performs its work in cooperation with the Office of Financial Supervision and with inspectors in Iraqi ministries, and the Commission is the only body authorized to use criminal procedures to decide and adjudicate cases related to misconduct. It is a body that implements its specific competence in the application of the powers vested in it, which is the investigation of corruption cases. Upon referring to the delegation of authority to the Integrity Commission issued by the Governing Council on 27/1/2004⁽²³⁾ it was stated in Section (3) that ((according to this statutory law in the establishment of the Commission on Public Integrity, the commission is a separate and independent governmental body that carries out the implementation and application of this law. The Commission does this by investigating cases and referring them to the court for criminal action in relation to them), as it is an executive organ with a judicial authority ("the authority of an investigative judge only, and in some cases the authority of a court investigator)"(24). It is a governmental body, meaning that it is not part of the legislative or revealing monitoring bodies, so the purpose of creating this body or agency is⁽²⁵⁾:

- **1.** Investigate corruption cases
- **2.** Requiring Iraqi leaders to demonstrate their commitment to ethical behavior in performing public service and disclosing their financial interests.



- **3.** Establish general education and awareness programs to develop a culture of integrity for the Iraqi people.
- **4.** Establishing codes of conduct for state and public sector employees.

As for the most important terms of reference and duties of the Integrity Commission⁽²⁶⁾:

- **1.** Investigate corruption cases, and refer information related to a possible violation of the code of conduct to the head of the government department that appointed the offending employee or to the general inspector attached to that department.
- 2. Establish procedures for receiving allegations of corruption.
- **3.** The Commission may at any time hold the responsibility for undertaking the investigation.
- **4.** Issue binding regulations for officials to disclose their financial interests.
- **5.** Issuing codes of conduct for state and public sector employees.

The Commission works to contribute in preventing and combating corruption and adopting transparency in the management of governance at all levels, by⁽²⁷⁾:

- **1.** Investigating corruption cases referred to it by investigators under the supervision of the competent investigating judge and in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- **2.** Follow up on corruption cases that the commission's investigators do not investigate through a legal representative of the commission with an official agency issued by its president.
- **3.** Development of culture in the public and private sectors that values personal integrity and respect for public service ethics, adoption of transparency, accountability, and undergoing interrogation through public awareness and education programs.
- **4.** Preparing draft laws or proposals regarding what contributes to preventing or combating corruption and submitting them to the competent legislative authority through the President of the Republic or the Council of Ministers, or through the parliamentary committee concerned with the subject of the proposed legislation.
- **5.** Enhancing the Iraqi people's confidence in the government by requiring its officials to disclose their financial receivables and their external activities, investments, assets, or major benefits that may lead to conflicts of interest by issuing regulations that have the force of law in a manner that does not conflict with it, and other programs.
- **6.** Issuing a code of conduct that includes rules and standards of ethical behavior



to ensure the correct, honorable and proper performance of public job duties.

7. Carry out any action that contributes to fighting or preventing corruption.

Second: Office of the Inspector General

The offices of general inspectors were established in all ministries according to the Coalition Authority order No. (57) for the year 2004, to subject them to the procedures of review, scrutiny and investigation in order to raise the levels of responsibility, integrity and supervision of the ministries, as well as preventing the occurrence of extravagance and abuse of power, and preventing it from occurring, identifying actions that violate the law and cooperating with the Integrity Commission by submitting reports on corruption cases in the relevant ministries⁽²⁸⁾.

The Office of the Inspector General functions to implement the tasks and powers assigned to it under Article (14) of the Council of Ministers Resolution of 2008, the most important of which are⁽²⁹⁾:

- **1.** Set the strategic plan and work policies for the Office of the Inspector General and its formations in accordance with the strategic directions of the Ministry, follow up on their approval and work to implement them.
- **2.** Inspection of all central and regional Ministry units to investigate the extent to which their activities conform to laws, regulations and codes of various types, Cabinet decisions, Minister's decisions, instructions, their designs, directives and orders issued thereon, and the detection of errors and irregularities.
- **3.** Investigate the safety and legality of managing public funds for ministries, preserve their assets of all kinds and make good use of them with economic efficiency in the prescribed aspects.

The most prominent competences(responsibilities) of the Inspector General can be identified as⁽³⁰⁾:

- **1.** Examining and reviewing all the records of the Ministry and all its activities in order to ensure integrity, transparency and efficiency in its operations, in order to provide information for decision-making and then to provide appropriate recommendations related to improving the Ministry's programs, policies and procedures.
- **2.** Carry out the administrative investigation in a manner consistent with the authorities stipulated by this order and which the Inspector General is authorized to undertake..
- **3.** Reviewing and auditing the Ministry's operations and tasks from the perspective of good expenses management, efficiency and effectiveness of performance and reviewing any of the Ministry's systems in order to measure performance.



- **4.** Receive complaints related to fraud, waste, abuse and misuse of authority that affect the interests of the ministry, evaluate their content, take the usual procedures in this regard, refer complaints to the appropriate investigation authorities and provide means of quality control, including taking into account non-delay when responding to complaints and seek Independence in responding to it and not neglecting any of the details contained therein.
- **5.** Follow up the performance to ensure that the corrective actions taken in response to the observations and recommendations of the Inspector General and his recommendations to be achieved are fulfilled.
- **6.** Providing information and evidence related to acts that may be criminal and submitting them to the appropriate officials involved in the application of the law.
- 7. Receive complaints from any source, investigate them, or initiate investigations into actions that allegedly involve fraud, waste, misbehavior or inefficiency and initiate investigations regarding aspects of deficiency in the operation and maintenance of facilities.
- **8.** Carrying out an activity for the purpose of preventing fraud, waste, misbehavior, and incompetence. This activity includes, but is not limited to, reviewing legislations, rules, regulations, policies, procedures and transactions as well as providing training and education programs.
- **9.** Refer matters to the appropriate administrative and representative bodies to take additional civil, criminal, and administrative measures.
- **10.** Provide non-binding recommendations for the purpose of the Ministry carrying out work aimed at correcting and overcoming deficiencies in operating, maintenance or performance efficiency identified by the Office of the Inspector General.
- **11.** Issue public reports.
- **12.** Follow-up and monitoring of the recommendations implemented by the Office of the Inspector General and other audit and auditing bodies.
- **13.** Issue written policies and procedures in order to provide instructions related to the tasks performed by the Office of the Inspector General.
- **14.** Training workers in the ministry on ways to identify waste, fraud, and misconduct, and develop programs in the ministry that create an environment and traditions that nurture and promote responsibility and integrity.
- **15.** Maintaining information on the costs of investigations and cooperation with administrative authorities in order to recover these costs from non-governmental organizations who are proven to have intentionally practiced misconduct.
- 16. To cooperate fully with the law enforcement agencies and bodies, as well as



with investigators, courts and the Iraqi Commission on Public Integrity to help them perform their duties.

- **17.** Take whatever measures may be required at every level of the Ministry's operations to ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Inspector General.
- **18.** Perform any other duties that are within the limits of their powers. The Office of the Inspector General has, in several key powers and authorities, including:
- **1.** Unrestricted access to all Ministry offices and to its affiliated sites, whose entry is subject to limited restrictions and those whose entry is prohibited.
- **2.** Viewing records, information data, reports, plans, forecasts, contracts, notes and correspondence, and any other materials, including electronic data.
- **3.** The authority to issue requests to call witnesses.
- **4.** The ability to reach, when necessary and to a reasonable extent, the head of any government agency for purposes related to the work of the Inspector General.
- **5.** Monitor the commitment of workers in the ministries to inform the Inspector General of any information related to fraud, waste, misuse of resources and corruption, and any acts that violate the law, regulations and instructions.

Third / Financial Supervision Bureau

The Financial Supervision Bureau is one of the three pillars that work to combat corruption, in addition to the Integrity Commission and the offices of general inspectors. Under the Supreme Council for Financial Supervision Law No. (6) of 1990, the Bureau is considered the highest authority for financial audit in Iraq, and the custodian of public money by detecting exploitation, waste, and misuse of public money, which leads to fighting corruption and the practice of integrity, and to ensure the effectiveness and independence of the Bureau, the order was issued (77) for the year 2004, which restructured the entity of the Bureau as an independent public institution that helps to enhance the economy, effectiveness, credibility of the Iraqi government and its ability to manage its resources⁽³¹⁾. It is a body whose mission is to provide the public and the government with accurate information on government operations and financial conditions for the purpose of boosting the economy through the task of financial audit and performance evaluation for the purpose of fighting corruption⁽³²⁾.

The mission of the Financial Supervision Bureau can be seen as⁽³³⁾:

1. Disclosure through auditing and performance evaluation of evidence of corruption, fraud, waste, abuse, and inefficiency in matters related to receiving, spending, and using public funds.



- **2.** Investigation and reporting on matters related to the efficiency of spending and the use of public funds as officially required, they are referred to the general inspector of the relevant ministry, or directly to the Public Integrity Commission where appropriate, all allegations or evidence of corruption, fraud, waste, misuse or non-use Efficiency in spending and the use of public funds.
- **3.** Contributing to the preservation of public money from waste, or misconduct, and ensuring its efficient use.
- **4.** Contribute to developing the performance efficiency of the bodies subject to financial control.
- **5.** Contribute to the independence of the economy and support its growth and stability.
- **6.** Deploying accounting and auditing systems based on local and international standards and constantly improving the rules and standards applicable to management and accountability.
- **7.** Developing the accounting and auditing professions and accounting systems, spreading financial and accounting awareness, and raising the level of accountability and supervisory performance in the entities subject to control.
- **8.** Approving the final accounts of all state institutions.

Section Four: Public Anti-corruption Strategies and Policies

After the corruption has spread in the institutions of the Iraqi state and the indicators have become clear and threatening to the future of the state, as the awareness of the Iraqi government has been strengthened regarding the fact that the fight against corruption must begin at the initiative of the political authority, and this was achieved through the ratification by Iraq of the United Nations Convention against Corruption of 2003 by Law No. (35) for the year 2007⁽³⁴⁾ In 2010, the Iraqi government adopted a policy and strategy to combat corruption in state institutions by implementing a national plan to address potential corruption phenomena, as this strategy included many foundations and criteria that enhance and support the issue of effective implementation of it, including⁽³⁵⁾:

- **1.** Accountability (legal prosecution): It is the subjection of those who hold public positions to legal, administrative, and moral accountability for their decisions and their actions, and this is represented by the responsibility of those holding public office in front of their direct officials, and so on until the top of the pyramid in the institution, i.e. ministers and those in their ranks who are in turn responsible to the various oversight bodies that exist in the political system, particularly the parliaments that control the actions of the executive authority
- 2. Liability: It is the duty of public officials, whether they are elected or



appointed, to submit periodic reports on the results of their actions and the extent of their success in implementing them to make sure that their work is consistent with democratic values and the provisions of the law.

- **3.** Integrity: It is the system of values related to honesty and sincerity in work. It is the duty of those who hold high public positions to disclose their properties before taking office and to announce any kind of conflict of interests that may arise between their private and public interests that fall within the framework of their positions.
- **4.** Transparency: Transparency relates to the clarity of the regulations and procedures within the institution and in the relationship between them and the citizens who benefit from its services, and the publicity of procedures, goals and objectives in the work of the institution.
- **5.** Disclosure of information: working to enhance the citizen's right to obtain the necessary information about the work of public administrations and the procedures and mechanisms for providing service to the citizen, so that this information does not remain a means of exploitation for these citizens, related to strengthening the concept of citizenship, which should be the basis of the relationship between public institutions and the public and between the authority and the citizen, which is based on mutual rights and obligations between them.
- **6.** Adopting codes of conduct, honor codes and ethics at work within the framework of public institutions, determining for its employees a set of behaviors and values that should be observed in the performance of their tasks and in their relationship with the public, and linking these charters with a clear system, as well as applying the principle of reward and punishment, by giving rewards and incentives for committed people and imposing punishment on violators, which reinforces the values of integrity in public work and also promotes a culture of fighting corruption.
- 7. Awareness and education: The issue of awareness and raising awareness of the dangers of corruption, highlighting the serious negative effects of the phenomena of corruption, and education in ways and mechanisms to prevent and combat it, are among the most important means adopted by countries in facing this dangerous scourge, which threatens the body of society and the state together.
- **8.** Qualification and training: The task of qualification and training is entrusted to a committee consisting of representatives from the Financial Supervision Bureau, the Integrity Commission, and the Office of the Prime Minister's Coordinator for Control Affairs. This committee works to follow up the rehabilitation and training plan approved in the national training program.

Anti-corruption policies include several axes and strategies⁽³⁶⁾:



First / political and legal policies and strategies:

- 1. Establish a political system based on the principle of political pluralism based on public and fair general elections and that this system be based on the separation of the three powers, and this requires an expansion of the liability and accountability by the legislative councils, oversight bodies, and civil society organizations to achieve a greater degree of transparency in dealing so that corruption does not live for long periods of time and is inherited and covered up.
- **2.** Strengthening the state's ability to prevent and combat corruption effectively, uncovering it and deterring various cases of corruption and benefiting from international projects plans and measures aimed at preventing corruption, by setting effective policies and programs, embodying the principles of the rule of law and good management of affairs and public property with integrity and transparency.
- **3.** Political reform, which can be achieved by building a democratic political system characterized by competitive freedom and accountability and that it is committed and convinced to fight corruption and work to find an independent and impartial judicial system that implements its provisions on all members of society regardless of their affiliations and sects, and that high-ranking corrupt people in state institutions are held accountable as well as low-ranking ones.
- **4.** Adopting and consolidating the principle of nomination upon appointment in addition to setting criteria and rules for nomination and testing for appointment to senior positions based on the principles of competence and transparency and the necessary standards and controls such as merit, fairness, eligibility and specialization and adopting appropriate procedures for selecting and training individuals to assume public positions and educational and training programs for citizens to enable them to give the requirements for the correct performance and honor of public positions and provide specialized and appropriate training for them while developing and consolidating religious and moral concepts for senior administrative leaders.
- **5.** Undermining self-centeredness and dedication of the institutional culture in managing institutions by creating institutional affiliation, which can be achieved by changing the methods of decision-making and following the consultative and democratic methods in decision-making, especially when the decision is public and is related to the interests of everyone and not in technical and specialist matters.
- **6.** Create a legal system capable of dealing with the developments and requirements of life and its complexities that accommodate theories of modern education and provide advice, awareness and guidance that can have meaningful results in achieving and devoting public and private frameworks for social and governmental interaction.



- **7.** Emphasizing the independence of the judiciary due to its crucial role and importance in fighting and combating corruption, so that it can play the role assigned to it to achieve the rule of law and ward off the risks of corruption without compromising the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, which can be achieved by strengthening the punitive policy on corruption crimes, especially the major corruption crimes that harm the public funds of the state, and by paying attention to the legal principles related to criminalizing and punishing corruption, as well as activating the system of prosecuting corruption crimes.
- **8.** Issuing special legislation related to the Integrity Commission that defines its legal status and its precise terms of reference, and is it an accusation authority? Any statement if it has the right to initiate accusations against government employees in certain areas, and is it a form of public prosecution? In addition to its proximity to the authority and jurisdiction of the investigating judge, is it an independent body not subject to any of the three authorities? Or affiliation to the House of Representatives? The foundations it adopts in disclosing the personal property and resources of the members of its authority.
- **9.** Repeal paragraph (b) of Article (136) of the Criminal Procedure Law in force, which includes that it is not permissible to refer the accused to trial for a crime committed while performing or due to his official position, except with the permission of the minister affiliated with him, as the investigating judge cannot refer the employee accused of committing a crime to the competent court if the minister affiliated with him does not allow so, and what is the fate of the criminal case in case of refusal? Is it considered expired or done? What is the legal basis for determining the decision to be expire? Is it the minister's decision to refuse? It is a legislative contradiction that requires intervention by the legislator to resolve it.
- 10. Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation between states in the fight against corruption to guide initiatives, experiences and cooperation between local, regional and international institutions, and the exchange of information by developing and strengthening cooperation between countries and between the judicial authorities, law enforcement agencies and financial oversight bodies in order to establish rules and principles of integrity, an action that contributes to fighting and combating corruption and agreeing on a global code of conduct to which all countries are bound.
- 11. Enact clear and explicit laws and advanced administrative organizations, as well as establish high-efficiency executive and monitoring institutions and bodies backed by a firm political will to follow up on cases of corruption.
- **12.** Encouraging democracy at work, developing regulations and laws and modernizing incentive systems.
- 13. Legal deterrence and improvement of the employee's financial position.



Second / Administrative Policies and Strategies:

- **1.** Administrative reform by eliminating corrupt administrative behavior and improving public administration, by setting a fair system for appointment and evaluating the performance and promotion of employees and officials, increasing employee salaries, improving the standard of living and working to reform the civil service system by addressing the underlying causes of corruption.
- **2.** Active planning with scientific and practical elements to build detailed plans to confront corruption and combat it and to create mental and moral grounds for its eradication.
- **3.** The independence of the administrative apparatus from political and social pressures and the necessity to describe and characterize all administrative operations in the organization, as well as strengthening administrative oversight and its provisions to address deviations and irregularities.
- **4.** Giving wide powers to one monitoring body, which has independence in monitoring the three authorities, and for this body to prepare periodic reports that are accessible to citizens of all political and partisan affiliations and to members of legislative councils, party leaders and all civil society institutions.
- **5.** Activating the role of supervisory institutions that have the right to supervise and monitor cases of administrative and financial corruption, and to enhance accountability and liability for people in public office through an independent and impartial judicial system that strengthens the rule of law.
- **6.** Follow-up, accountability and interrogation of government officials before their chiefs on the results of their actions and that these chiefs in turn be accountable to the higher authority of them in accordance with the administrative hierarchy.
- **7.** Restructuring the administrative apparatus in accordance with a comprehensive law for all state institutions on a unified philosophical basis, based on a unified administrative doctrine.
- **8.** Adoption of the periodic elections mechanism for selecting administrative leaders according to certain criteria, the most important of which are integrity, efficiency, sincerity and experience, and under the supervision of committees formed in a transparent and impartial manner to monitor and guarantee the integrity of the election results.
- **9.** Follow a very precise mechanism when selecting employees for the purpose of appointment and subjecting them to a series of ethical tests to verify their morals and their ability to resist various temptations before settling them in the public office.



- **10.** Focus on the standard of transparency in performance, while simplifying the means of work and streamlining its files, and determining the deadlines for completing transactions, while adopting the criteria of integrity and competence when appointing, promoting, and performing.
- 11. Forming special committees to develop an integrated system for employee performance that will conduct periodic inspections between departments and ministries and prepare reports on that.
- **12.** Establish independent oversight institutions that take the responsibility to oversight in both government and private bodies.
- **13.** Strict control over the efficient use of resources and considering their loss, damage or waste a crime that requires the punishment of the perpetrator.
- **14.** Adopting a method of self-censorship, and this is done by teaching the individual the feasibility of laws and knowing the general principles of dealing ethics, which contributes to immunizing the individual from falling into the quagmire of corruption and keep them away from the practice of deviant behaviors.
- **15.** Developing workers' abilities to analyze and diagnose problems and obstacles facing the organization.
- **16.** Update and develop organizational structures, job descriptions and classification.
- **17.** Reducing routine procedures and curbing obstructions in front of people's interests, as this leads the citizen to consider devious ways such as bribery in order to complete his transactions and facilitate his matter.
- **18.** Adoption and effective implementation of all that increases the possibility of exposing corruption operations and creating a firm conviction among employees of the results of corruption and its punishment in a fair and deterrent manner at the same time.
- **19.** Expose errors and job deviations, and exercise constructive criticism in a neutral way.
- **20.** Developing applied regulations and adopting modern systems that provide better protection.
- **21.** Paying attention to the ethics of the public office and making the public employee feel the responsibility placed on him.
- **22.** Intensifying administrative awareness-raising efforts and activating the role of practical training in order to do its role in directing the employee to methods for gaining good morals and adhere to them behaviorally and professionally.
- 23. Determining salaries in a way that prevents the employee from the thought



of committing the crime of corruption.

- **24.** Adopting the principle of punishment and reward by stimulating the duty to be done accurately and carefully and not to commit corruption in its various ways.
- **25.** Expose the activities, events and work of the advanced ranks in the career ladder and make them open, subject to control and accountability at any time.
- **26.** Attention to the degree of honesty and integrity as well as efficiency when selecting employees or when evaluating their performance for promotion or upon receiving a higher job position.
- **27.** Eliminate the incentives for corruption in every institution and ministry by following up and investigating every corrupt behavior.
- **28.** Paying attention to secret and electronic monitoring methods and trying to complete the e-government project.
- **29.** Establishing strict controls to evaluate the performance of the public job.
- **30.** The proper and firm application of laws related to administrative and financial inspection.

Third / Economic and Social Policies and Strategies:

- 1. Activating the authority specialized in combating graft and taking the necessary measures to prevent money laundering by establishing a comprehensive internal system of control and supervision of banks and unknown financial institutions, in order to deter and expose all forms of money laundering through the firm and resolute national political administration in establishing rules And methods of fighting corruption and fighting it.
- **2.** Reforming and controlling the banking system to prevent public money thieves from manipulating the system and using it as a cover for their corruption.
- **3.** Develop strategic plans to combat unemployment and inflation that generate corruption in all its forms.
- **4.** The use of various media in exposing spoilers since the media is considered as one of the most important monitoring bodies for the performance of the authority and its administrative apparatus and an indispensable means, as the mass written, audio and visual media can contribute a sharp and effective contribution to fighting corruption and denouncing it, and of course, the mass media cannot do this, unless it is committed to the line of social progress, and it works within the ethics of the media profession and that itself is free from corruption.
- 5. Social reform by working to increase people's awareness of the dangers of corruption and emphasizing the role of the family and the school in instilling



religious and moral values such as honesty, honesty, loyalty and professionalism in work and building a role model in practicing the profession and exposing the corrupt.

- **6.** The necessity of working to increase the awareness of citizens, strengthening their faith in the public interest, rejecting social pressures, and trying to advance and urbanize by using scientific standards in all administrative processes.
- **7.** Working to regulate the priorities of values, behavior and integrity, provided that educational and media institutions take over this task, inculcate the spirit of citizenship and honesty, reject bad practices, seize public money, theft, bribery, and all rejected phenomena from divine and statutory laws.
- **8.** Educating the community and gradually shifting loyalty from the family and clan to the nation and the homeland by creating a general culture that rejects corruption that has moral and social consequences, promoting religious and moral values, and promoting and perpetuating the national culture in managing institutions.

Conclusion

The research sought to provide an expanded analysis of the most important causes, effects and repercussions of the phenomenon of corruption in Iraq after the political change in 9/4/2003 and the subsequent changes and events that affected Iraq and at all levels. There are a number of political, economic, social, cultural and administrative reasons that led to their aggravation, in addition to the weakness of laws, the absence of real democracy and the impartiality of the leaders in power and other reasons. The fight against corruption requires several steps that start from the moment of recognizing the existence of manifestations of corruption and ending with the presence of a real and effective will to remedy these dangerous scourges. Also, there is a conscious awareness to remove the risks of corruption and put in place programs that take into consideration the political, economic and social conditions that Iraq is going through, which produced this phenomenon and other phenomena that have exhausted the Iraqi people, such as terrorism, sectarian and ethnic division, and others.

The research reached several results, the most important of which are:

1. Corruption is a social, economic, administrative and political phenomenon that occurs in various countries of the world, as there is no country free from corruption, and it often occurs in the formal sector, and its essence is to take advantage of the official position to achieve private gains, because corruption is as old as the beginning of human activity, there is always a degree of corruption In every country, however, this does not mean not fighting and limiting it.



- 2. The types and forms of corruption differ. Among its types are what is large and small and what is individual and institutional, as well as its forms vary from bribery to the exploitation of influence and looting of public money and profiting from government jobs, tax evasion and facilitating money laundering and other operations.
- **3.** There are many causes behind corruption, some of which are economic, such as poverty and economic transformations, such as privatization and openness, and some are social, such as the desire to get rich quickly, in addition to political reasons.
- **4.** The most important effects of corruption are the spread of poverty, the devaluation of the currency, the obstruction of privatization processes, the transfer of investment to the unproductive sectors and finally the damage to the economic development process.

The research reached the most important recommendations to address the phenomenon of corruption, which are as follows:

- 1. The need for political reform to be presented in terms of other types of reform in the face of corruption, because any attempt to eliminate corruption without taking serious and effective measures at the level of political reform is doomed to prior failure in light of the protection that the political umbrella will provide to the corrupt in all administrative and institutional sectors.
- **2.** The consolidation of democracy and the associated values and practices reflected in the provisions of the rule of law, the spread of a spirit of equality and justice, and effective separation between the authorities as well as the work of the principle of the peaceful transfer of power in all its branches as a way to prevent monopoly and the exploitation of the influence of power to develop corruption networks in state institutions.
- **3.** Adopting the principle of transparency in all internal and external governmental financial transactions, following up their implementation, not giving way to those who intend to make illegal deals, giving way to researchers and the media, and not withholding information related to financial issues from them.
- **4.** Activating the role of the legislature in performing its duties in the best way.
- **5.** The integrity of the executive authority and its role in achieving security and stability and consolidating its fair role in distributing powers and institutional roles in a transparent and justice manner among all segments and components of the people without discrimination.
- **6.** The independence of the judiciary and the clarity of its procedures.
- 7. The necessity of cooperation and coordination between the various official local and community institutions in addition to coordination with relevant



international organizations and institutions to uncover corruption cases.

- **8.** Activating the role of civil society organizations and the media in monitoring corruption cases.
- **9.** Implement strict laws, encourage the system of accountability, and at the same time provide encouraging incentives to institutions and individuals that do not show instances of corruption and other measures.
- **10.** Reforming the gaps in the administrative apparatus and updating them in a manner consistent with the spirit of the age, adapting the current technical and information progress to serve integrity, adopting the principle of governance and good governance and activating the principles of fair management in a way that leaves no room for corruption to permeate within the government institution.

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