

## **Corruption – a threat to the rule of law in Slovenia**

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The purpose of this study was to explore the forms and fundamental elements of corruption, as well as how corrupt practices affect the rule of law in Slovenia, its environment and its citizens. After a literature review, the study adopted a qualitative and quantitative approach based on textual analysis methods, case studies and the general opinions of the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption.

Research shows that corruption has negative effects on the rule of law because public officials who violate due process reduce citizens' trust in formal institutions, causing adverse economic effects and environmental destruction. A study of the cases of corruption detected also reveals that most of these breaches of duty violate the constitutional principles of legality, where public authorities should be bound to the law and the Constitution. This is mostly shown in public procurement procedures; in managing state property and resources; in employment; and in the work of functionaries. The study is limited to corrupt practices in Slovenia, the results of which will be especially useful in identifying the main causes and reasons behind the emergence of corruption. In this work, we have identified the key characteristics, problems and areas of corruption and their impact on different entities; in doing so, the risks of corrupt practices become evident, making it easier to develop better standards of prevention.

**Key words:** corruption, rule of law, opinion of principle, prevention, Commission for the Prevention of Corruption

**UDC:** 343.352:343.85 (497.4)