



CHP'S ANTI-CORRUPTION MANIFESTO

"The CHP government will:

- ▶ *transpose the EU acquis on the Public Procurement Law to the Turkish law.*
- ▶ *take the highest EU standards as benchmark in the modernization of the Turkish public administration."*

Our clear and concrete action plans will result in accountability of our government and public officials, encouraging transparent governance. Crimes such as bribery and misuse of powers will thus be eliminated, ensuring a proficient and orderly government. We believe in justice and fairness to everyone, and that each voice will be heard, each concern will be handled appropriately. In order to create an efficiently running democracy, we will re-establish checks and balances system in the different branches of the government.

As CHP, as progressive social democrats, our goal is to cultivate Turkey to the European Union standards and procedures; we will put all of our efforts in creating the necessary changes

It is our promise that the changes we would like to make highlighted in this document will be realized under the CHP government.

Why are we talking about anti-corruption in Turkey? Unfortunately, acts of misconduct by public officials, such as bribery, misuse of powers and embezzlement are serious problems in Turkey. According to the latest progress report of the European Commission of Turkey (published in October 2014) some examples of these corruption allegations are as follows:

- *"the response of the government following allegations of corruption in December 2013 has given rise to serious concerns regarding the independence of the judiciary and separation of powers" p.2*
- *"the campaign period raised concerns over the misuse of state resources to the benefit of the Prime Minister and over insufficient impartiality in media coverage" p.7*

CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS WILL BE INVESTIGATED

We will enquire into the following:

- ▶ The enterprises deemed suspicious that they had been privatized under-valued and through which unlawful profits have been made after privatization;
- ▶ The public contracts awarded regularly to specific companies through restricted negotiating procedures that are held closed to competition;



- ▶ The housing constructions works done by TOKI (Housing Development Administration of Turkey) in return for land and with no legal basis;
- ▶ The energy contracts signed through the international agreement methods to avoid tender proceedings;
- ▶ The overnight customs arrangements made with the intent of transferring funds to specific companies;
- ▶ The tender processes taking place for coal and food aid projects;
- ▶ The tender processes by the greater city municipalities with the aim of transferring funds to specific media groups;
- ▶ The gold and fuel smuggling allegations.

REFORM IN THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

- The Public Procurement Law will be revised based on EU standards.
- The public tender proceedings and purchases will be made transparent and be held open to fair competition.
- In public procurement tenders, all companies will be treated as equals, without discrimination against -or in favor of- any person or entity.
- All public agencies and organizations, including energy, telecommunication and transport, will be incorporated under the capacity of the public procurement law.
- We will ensure that the exceptional procurement methods (that are closed to competition and that have reached 30% of the overall public purchases and become a source of corruption) are used accordingly with their intended purposes.
- The electronic tendering system will be launched promptly in public procurements.
- With changes made in the public procurement system, at least 10% (approximately 12 billion TL) savings will be ensured every year in public procurements.
- In privatization tenders, all privatization transactions will be made transparent with an approach that evaluates pre-tender and post-tender practices in tandem.

HONEST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- It will be mandatory for the local governments to disclose their acts and decision processes that will result in changes in the zoning plans or in rent earnings, and to suggest the option of referendum if necessary.
- The activities of municipal economic enterprises will be made transparent to ensure effective inspection and supervision of these entities.



- The public organizations and municipalities in particular, will be prohibited from accepting donations from private or legal entities with whom they have direct or indirect interests.

FAIR MARKETS

- The Competition Authority will be warranted to function more effectively.
- The abuse of the dominant positions in markets will be prevented.
- The law on Capital Markets Board will be revised for the safety and the benefit of the small investors.
- Any manipulation in the GMKB (The Stock Market) or in the capital markets will not be allowed under any circumstances.

MODERN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- The EU acquis will be taken as a road map in the modernization of our public administration.
- The supervision of public administration by non-governmental, professional and particularly by media organizations will be encouraged and public supervision will be created to be independent and compliant to international standards.
- The e-Government infrastructure will be improved to warrant efficient connection and harmony between all public organizations, and effective utilization of this service will be assured.
- Unless unavoidable, the internet and mobile technologies will bring the public service to citizens' personal space.
- Partisanship and arbitrariness in public administration will be eliminated.
- Merit will be placed to the fore in bureaucracy; the appointment system that is based on personal relations and religious, ethnic or political connections will be abolished.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Transparency will be established in the government to effectively combat against corruption.
- It will be ensured that the citizens are well-informed and can hold public officials accountable at all levels of the decision-making processes.
- The opportunities offered by the advancing technology will be taken advantage of in order to ensure effective information exchange and participation.
- The Information Act will be revised, eliminating arbitrary exceptions and the differentiation between the authority disclosing the information and the authority giving the non-disclosure decision.



- In the information and the ethics boards, public officials will be the minority and civil society representatives will be the majority.
- The security of the information created in electronic media by public agencies will be ensured promptly.
- The immunities of the bureaucrats and the politicians will be removed, which constitute the most important obstacle to accountability in the government, and the scope of the concept of 'trade secrets' in public affairs will be narrowed.
- It will be mandatory for all the public administrators, particularly the ministers and the local governors, to publicly declare the current state of their personal wealth online.
- We will take the declaration of the citizen on their various status and acts as a basis of in public administration.
- The regulatory legislation will be simplified; particularly the tax legislation, and the powers and the responsibilities of all the public employees of all positions will be clearly defined.

EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION

- The obstacles in combating effectively corruption and irregularities in the judiciary, the executive and the legislature branches will be removed.
- In the parliament, a Final Account Committee will be set up, chaired by a member of the main opposition party.
- The supervision system will be ensured to be preventive, corrective and guiding.
- In the public administration, those who are in office committing the offense of bribery or misconduct will be swiftly tried and punished.
- The effectiveness of civilian supervision, in particular by the media and the NGO's will be increased.
- All acts and actions of the public authorities will be subject to judicial supervision.
- All privileges and exceptions covering the public administration's actions will be removed and full implementation of the decisions ruled by judicial organs will be ensured.
- The penalty for bribery and corruption offenses will be increased, and the statute of limitations for these crimes will be lifted.
- The Court of Auditors (Sayıştay) will be restructured and its powers will be broadened, ensuring that it gains more effectiveness.
- It will be made certain that the foundations and the associations that use public resources, and have donation collection authorizations will be audited.



- Legal arrangements will be made to prevent certain international instruments preventing an efficient supervision.

CLEAN AND REPUTABLE POLITICS

- The protection of the democracy will be regarded as an important duty, to prevent corruption and irregularities that injure the reputation of politics and hence democracy, also damaging the social legitimacy of politicians.
- Judiciary immunity of elected public officials will be stopped from being a protective shield against petty offences.
- Parliamentary immunity will be limited to freedom of expression under the Parliament's roof.
- All existing files pending, due to parliamentary immunities, will be immediately referred to appropriate courts.
- The funding of political activities will be rendered and transparent.
- The mentality of 'merchant politics' will be eliminated; a law on Political Morals will be submitted.
- The declarations of property of the elected members of the parliament (MPs) and the executives will be publicly published online.
- It will be made mandatory for the prime ministers and the ministers to transfer the portfolio management of their assets to a trustee for the duration of their office terms.
- The scope of the restrictions to accepting goods and services intended as gifts will be revised, establishing the same standards applied in Western countries.
- Legal arrangements will be made to ensure that an MP who directly or indirectly profit financially from transferring from one political party to another, has his/her TGNA (The Grand National Assembly of Turkey) membership automatically revoked.
- Political parties' income data and expenditures will be publicly announced thoroughly and accurately.
- The election spending of the political parties and the electoral candidates will be limited and audited in accordance with the Western democratic norms.