

## **Dark Friendliness in Austria and Slovenia**

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The phenomenon ‘corruption’ is not new and differs from region to region. Corruption is considered as a strong constraint on growth and development of the countries. Firstly, corruption destabilizes business environment not only for domestic business decisions but perhaps even more for foreign investors who are not in the position to evaluate business environment. Secondly, corruption represents the most harming income redistribution. Finally, corruption means the worst possible learning process for new companies and professionals trying to start their economic activity in the country.

Since the volume or level of corruption is difficult to capture, several indices to measure at least the perception of corruption have been developed. However, these indices are heavily criticized in their methodology. Critiques are focusing mainly on the so called expert opinions which reflect their personal opinion, the expert opinions vary from country to country as well as the indirect measurement of the indices. We show in our research that a) a different sample leads to a different perception of corruption in the given country compared to the results of the Global Corruption Barometer, and b) the level of corruption differs significantly between Austria and Slovenia. The study proves higher awareness on harms of corruption in Austria, while in the other fields of corruption fighting (corruption as a problem, effectiveness of national governments when fighting against corruption) do not differ much between the two countries.

With the help of the adoption of the questionnaire of the Global Corruption Barometer of Transparency International, the authors are analysing and discussing corruption perception in Austria and Slovenia. The research results are based on survey sample of 459 respondents in Austria and 417 respondents in Slovenia. The study proves that with entering Slovenian and Austrian business environment the investors will be faced better anticorruption environment in Austria than in Slovenia but we still have to be careful when corruption risks appears in each of the country.

*Keywords:* perception of corruption, global corruption barometer of transparency international, Austria, Slovenia