

## **CONCLUSION**

***Ognyan Minchev***

The multiple forms of corruption in contemporary Bulgarian society find the reason for their existence in the no-man's land between the officially shared principles and norms of public behaviour and the established – by tradition or unspoken public agreement – practices of unregimented political, administrative or economic control over the resources of the society and the rights of the citizens. This no man's land is the sphere of illegitimate redistribution of power and wealth, which harms the interests of the common people and their rights to control, in harmony with the others, the conditions of their own lives.

Due to its multiple origins and forms of existence, corruption cannot be entirely uprooted, but there is a chance to limit it through the mechanisms of civil control over the activities of political institutions, the state administration and the public aspects of the economy.

Limiting corruption in modern Bulgaria is not only a civil obligation due to the shared norms of democratic social conduct. The crippling of shadowy interests is the most important precondition for the country's return to its modern European heritage and development.

The political responsibility of the people in power towards the citizens, as well as the rulers' effectiveness in the state administrative system, are directly dependent on the conformity between the officially established rules of public and institutional conduct and the actual practices of executing state power. Corruption is a definite indicator for incompatibility between the rules set and the everyday practices. This incompatibility is the main reason for the ineffectiveness of the state government and the inadequacy of the state administration in Bulgaria today.

The state and the civil society are mutually responsible for the development of just and realistic rules of public-personal and institutional behaviour. Any public norm or law, imposed on the citizens without a clear and realistic account of the consequences, breeds hidden resistance and generates a culture of civil irresponsibility. Among the best examples of such a threat are the procedures and the range of taxes. The state has no right to corrupt the citizens and their civil attitudes through burdening them with huge and unrealistic responsibilities.

Public opinion and its institutions play a key corrective role in discovering and dealing with corruptive practices. However, before public opinion can be effective, the state institutions must react adequately in sanctioning the crimes uncovered.

## *Conclusion*

---

Limiting corruption is the major precondition for:

- Restoring the integrity of values of the society;
- Defining clear and realistic goals and strategies for the prosperity of the Bulgarian people;
- Rewarding entrepreneurship and civil responsibility after years of crisis, social automation, misery and despair.

Integrity is the best policy. Integrity is the best strategy for achieving prosperity and protecting the welfare of the citizens, the community, and the country.