**Short Session Report**

**Session Title:** Using International Human Rights to Address Corruption: Proposals for a Mutually Beneficial Approach  
**Date & Time:** 24 October / 12.00  
**Report prepared by:** Isis Sartori Reis, Programme Associate, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI)

**Experts:**
- Ayuush Bat-Erdene: chief of the Right to Development Division, OHCHR
- Ilze Brands Kheris: UN Human Rights Committee
- Fatima Kanji: International State Crime Initiative
- Gillian Dell: Transparency International and secretariat of the UNCAC Coalition
- Elaine Ryan: senior analyst on human rights and anti-corruption, RWI

**Moderated by:** Morten Kjaerum, Director, RWI  
**Session coordinated by:** Elaine Ryan: senior analyst on human rights and anti-corruption, RWI

**Main issues raised in kick off remarks. What’s the focus of the session?**

The session was dedicated to discussing how to strengthen the linkage between the work conducted by the anti-corruption and the human rights communities. The presentations had as starting point the recently published report “The Nexus Between Corruption and Human Rights: A Review by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law”, a study commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.
What initiatives have been showcased? Briefly describe the Game Changing strategies/ ideas (if applicable)

Engaging the human based approach in the fight against corruption adding the victim dimension contributes to a wider awareness about the profound impact corruption has on the realisation of human rights and democracy. This will stimulate a stronger bottom up engagement in addressing this crime.

Briefly describe the highlights including the thematically interesting questions and ideas that were generated from the discussion or from the floor, and session quotes.

The discussions held over the session brought to light the following action points:

- Increase and expand the cooperation between the anti-corruption and human rights communities to ensure that the United Nations human rights mechanisms get concrete information on cases of corruption that have direct or indirect human rights violations;
- Develop strategic litigation on anti-corruption and human rights at national, regional and international levels;
- Consider the creation the mandate of a Special Rapporteur on the link between human rights and anti-corruption;
- Include anti-corruption in the discussions over business and human rights, including in the design of the international treaty on the topic;
- Have a plenary discussion on the nexus between corruption and human rights at the next IACC;
- Develop education and training on the linkage between anti-corruption and human rights, by including it in curricula of master programmes and other training programmes;
- Expand the funding opportunities for further studies and development of tool kits and guidelines;
- Consider the creation of an international convention on the right to be free from corruption as a pre-requisite for human rights.

**What are the key recommendations, follow-up Actions (200 words narrative form)**

- Develop strategic litigation on anti-corruption and human rights at national, regional and international levels;
- Consider the creation the mandate of a Special Rapporteur on the link between human rights and anti-corruption;
- Have a plenary discussion on the nexus between corruption and human rights at the next IACC
- Increase research into the nexus between human rights and corruption

**Key Insights that could be included in the IACC Declaration**

*Corruption is a human rights issue.*
*International human rights frameworks and institutions have a role to play in anti-corruption work.*
*Engaging the human based approach in the fight against corruption adding the victim dimension contributes to a wider awareness about the profound impact corruption has on the realisation of human rights and democracy. This will stimulate a stronger bottom up engagement in addressing this crime.*

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**Rapporteur’s name and date submitted**

Isis Sartori Reis, Programme Associate, RWI

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This Short Report needs to be submitted within 2 hours after the session.