

Greece

2015 Country Summary

Recommendations

Greece's GI ranking in Band C places it in the moderate risk category for corruption in the defence and security sector. Greece scored higher for Personnel and Operations Risk, which score in Band B (low risk of corruption). The highest risk area is Finance, which fell in Band D (high risk of corruption).

Transparency in Acquisition Planning

Various reports indicate the deficient application of laws and point to a concerning lack of transparency in the sector. Although Greece has used EU defence and security procurement directives to underpin its defence procurement process and oversight mechanisms, these rules have not been widely practically enforced since their introduction.

There is no significant evidence to show that corrupt suppliers have been punished using existing administrative or criminal provisions, such as for fines or debarment. The General Inspector of Public Administration has also called for even further sanctions and law enforcement with regard to corruption.

Research also found various critiques that external political leverage has influenced the decision-making on weapon acquisitions. Although the Greek Government can determine its military needs according to preset criteria and procedures under new defence procurement rules, no evidence was found that this law has yet been implemented in practice. Further, given the financial situation in Greece, the budget allocated to weapons acquisition has declined disproportionately compared to the overall budget cuts. It is reasonable to assess that the political pressure linked to Greece's external financial support has influenced the decision making process in weapons acquisition to some extent.

Civilian Oversight

There is no evidence of a routine process to scrutinise spending on items relating to national security and military intelligence, and there appears to be a relative reluctance to exercise oversight over secret spending by oversight bodies. Members of the Parliament have to request details on a case by case basis, and although the State Audit Council submits an annual report on defence and security expenditure to Parliament, this report does not include secret items. Recent allegations have also been raised that money allocated to NGOs was re-routed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to fund secret items.

Audit Process

It is difficult to assess the efficiency of risk assessments and internal audits. Whilst there is likely to be some awareness regarding some risk areas and a partial assessment of risk may

have been carried out, it is unclear what mitigation measures have been put in place and there is no regular schedule for risk assessment. There is little public information available regarding the results of the internal audit process conducted by the Army Inspector General. Parliament has rarely actively challenged information provided by the Ministry of Defence. For example, although audit disposals are announced and the process is overseen by the Finance Directorate of the Army General Staff, no detailed data appears to be published on these disposals or the proceeds of their sale.

There has been evidence of improvement in anti-corruption efforts over the past years; however the secretive structure of the army services continues to discourage in-depth scrutiny of internal practices. Allegations have been raised that oversight mechanisms are highly inactive. For example, although legislation exists regarding collusion there is little evidence of companies being punished. Audits are carried out by legal and technical personnel however there appear to be significant challenges in training and supporting staff to function effectively.

Scorecard

Political	Defence & Security Policy	Legislative Scrutiny	3
		Defence Committee	3
		Defence Policy Debated	2
		CSO Engagement	2
		International AC Instruments	3
		Public Debate	3
		AC Policy	2
		AC Institutions	2
		Public Trust	2
		Risk Assessments	1
		Defence budgets	Acquisition Planning
	Budget Transparency & Detail		3
	Budget Scrutiny		2
	Budget Publicly Available		3
	Defence Income		2
	Internal Audit		2
	External Audit		2
	Other Political Areas	Natural Resources	4
		Organised Crime Links	2
		Organised Crime Policing	3
Intelligence Services Oversight		3	
Intelligence Services Recruitment		2	
Export Controls		2	
Finance	Asset Disposals	Asset Disposal Controls	2
		Asset Disposal Scrutiny	1
	Secret Budgets	Percentage Secret Spending	0
		Legislative Access to Information	1
		Secret Program Auditing	0

		Off-budget Spending in Law	3
		Off-budget Spending in Practice	2
		Information Classification	2
	Links to Business	Mil. Owned Businesses Exist	2
		Mil. Owned Business Scrutiny	2
		Unauthorised Private Enterprise	4
Personnel	Leadership	Public Commitment	3
		Measures for Corrupt Personnel	3
		Whistleblowing	2
		Special Attention to Sensitive Personnel	2
	Payroll and Recruitment	Numbers of Personnel Known	4
		Pay Rates Openly Published	4
		Well-established Payment System	4
		Objective Appointments	3
		Objective Promotions	2
	Conscription	Bribery to Avoid Compulsory Conscription	2
		Bribery for Preferred Postings	2
	Salary Chain	Ghost Soldiers	4
		Chains of Command and Payment	3
	Values, Standards, Other	Code of Conduct Coverage	3
		Code of Conduct Breaches Addressed	2
		AC Training	2
		Prosecution Outcomes Transparent	2
Facilitation Payments		2	
Operations	Controls in the Field	Military Doctrine	4
		Operational Training	3
		AC Monitoring	3
		Controls on Contracting	2
		Private Military Contractors	2
Procurement	Government Policy	Legislation	2
		Transparent Procurement Cycle	2
		Oversight Mechanisms	1
		Purchases Disclosed	3
		Standards Expected of Companies	3
	Capability Gap	Strategy Drives Requirements	2
		Requirements Quantified	2
	Tendering	Open Competition v. Single-Sourcing	2
		Tender Board Controls	3
		Anti-Collusion Controls	2
	Contract Delivery / Support	Procurement Staff Training	2
		Complaint Mechanisms for Firms	2
		Sanctions for Corruption	2
	Offsets	Due Diligence	
		Transparency	
		Competition Regulation	
	Other	Controls of Agents	3
		Transparency of Financing Packages	3
		Subsidiaries / Sub-Contractors	2
Political Influence		2	