

Algeria

2015 Country Summary

Country Recommendations

Algeria's GI-ranking in Band F places it in the highest, most critical risk category for corruption in the defence and security sector. To reduce corruption risk and build integrity, security sector reforms are urgently needed across the following areas:

Institutional oversight and accountability

- Accurate figures are not known, but since the liberalization of the economy in 1994, Algerian elites, including large parts of the senior military hierarchy, have been able to monopolise sectors of the Algerian economy including pharmaceuticals, food and building materials, with no public or parliamentary scrutiny of these activities. The profit received from these revenue streams is also not subject to any review. We recommend that the government explicitly outlaw private enterprise by defence and security institutions and personnel, overseen by a robust and independent enforcement agency, with strong sanctions in place for offenders. An Anti-Corruption Law was passed in 2006, which outlaws bribery, gifts, conflicts of interests, illicit enrichment and applies to all civilian and military personnel, but there is no evidence that it has ever been applied to defence officials.

Transparency and openness towards civil society

- Since 1998, Algeria's government has pursued a communications policy referred to by the Algerian media as "the Great Mute". Referring to the prevalent attitude of secrecy in politics and lack of communication and transparency by the authorities.
- Algeria has a variety of legal measures to inhibit the activities of civil societies including a 1991 law, which mandates that organisers of any public meeting must inform the governor three days before. The meeting may be banned if it creates "a real risk of disturbing public order". In 2013 a law enacted which allows the authorities to suspend CSOs if they "interfere with the internal affairs of the country". A ban on demonstrations in Tangiers has been in place since 2001.
- These laws should be repealed and the Algerian government should allow a space in which civil society can operate freely and assist in formulating policies to enhance transparency and build integrity in the defence sector. This would send a strong signal that the defence sector is there to defend the state and serve the needs of the general population.

Transparency and scrutiny in budgeting

- Algeria's entire defence budget is classified and no details on defence spending are available. According to external sources the Army budget was USD 20 billion in 2014. There is no defence-specific committee in Parliament and according to Freedom House, the Algerian parliament has a 65% absentee rate. In the absence of effective parliamentary

oversight, to allow for civilian scrutiny of defence spending, the government should publish an annual defence budget that includes detailed information on expenditure across functions including research & design, training, salaries, acquisitions, disposal of assets, maintenance and personnel expenditures.

Personnel promotions and nepotism

- There are no indications that formal legal provisions for promotions exist, and our assessment found evidence that personnel are often selected and promoted based on their loyalty and obedience to those in power rather than for their professional merits. Evidence indicates that the appointment system for the selection of officers at the middle and senior levels is often subverted by favouritism and loyalty. We recommend that legislation be enacted with formal written procedures establishing an independent, transparent, and objective appointment system for the selection of military personnel at middle and top management level. This system should be published and mandate the use of objective job descriptions and assessment processes for appointments, with oversight of this process by independent personnel.

Scorecard

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

		Off-budget Spending in Law	0	
		Off-budget Spending in Practice	0	
		Information Classification	0	
	Links to Business	Mil. Owned Businesses Exist	0	
		Mil. Owned Business Scrutiny	0	
		Unauthorised Private Enterprise	1	
	Personnel	Leadership	Public Commitment	0
			Measures for Corrupt Personnel	2
			Whistleblowing	1
			Special Attention to Sensitive Personnel	0
Payroll and Recruitment		Numbers of Personnel Known	0	
		Pay Rates Openly Published	0	
		Well-established Payment System	2	
		Objective Appointments	1	
		Objective Promotions	0	
Conscription		Bribery to Avoid Compulsory Conscription	1	
		Bribery for Preferred Postings	1	
Salary Chain		Ghost Soldiers	3	
		Chains of Command and Payment	0	
Values, Standards, Other		Code of Conduct Coverage	1	
		Code of Conduct Breaches Addressed	0	
		AC Training	0	
		Prosecution Outcomes Transparent	0	
		Facilitation Payments	1	
Operations		Controls in the Field	Military Doctrine	0
			Operational Training	0
	AC Monitoring		1	
	Controls on Contracting		0	
	Private Military Contractors		1	
Procurement	Government Policy	Legislation	1	
		Transparent Procurement Cycle	0	
		Oversight Mechanisms	0	
		Purchases Disclosed	1	
		Standards Expected of Companies	1	
	Capability Gap	Strategy Drives Requirements	0	
		Requirements Quantified	0	
	Tendering	Open Competition v. Single-Sourcing	1	
		Tender Board Controls	0	
		Anti-Collusion Controls	1	
	Contract Delivery / Support	Procurement Staff Training	0	
		Complaint Mechanisms for Firms	0	
		Sanctions for Corruption	1	
	Offsets	Due Diligence	0	
		Transparency	0	
		Competition Regulation	0	
	Other	Controls of Agents	1	
		Transparency of Financing Packages	1	
		Subsidiaries / Sub-Contractors	0	
		Political Influence	0	