

Recovery of the Proceeds of Grand Corruption in Ukraine

GOPAC Ukraine

Kyiv

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About GOPAC

- Worldwide alliance of parliamentarians
- 50 national chapters
- Regional offices
 - Africa: Accra, Ghana
 - Arab: Beirut, Lebanon
 - SE Asia: Jakarta, Indonesia
 - S Asia: Kathmandu, Nepal
 - Latin America: Mexico City
 - Oceania: Perth, Australia







Asset Recovery Successes

- Rapid freezing of regime assets
- Political as well as legal support for repatriation
- Confidence in the new government
- Mediated efforts by supportive states
- Settlements





Failures in Recovery

- Assets frozen late
- Lack of institutional co-ordination
- Lack of international law capacity
- Fear of victimisation
- Inability to demonstrate that laws were broken
- Lack of confidence in new government





What the Future Holds

- More flexible laws to allow for recovery
- Formalisation of political decisions in countries holding assets
- Concept of inherently criminal regimes
- More aggressive posture by victim states towards states holding their assets
- Civil proceedings





Considerations for Ukraine

- Co-ordination of government departments
- Legal Training (StART)
- Restrain unindicted co-conspirators
- Take a political and diplomatic approach, not just legal
- Declare "Odious Laws" as invalid
- Build partnerships with mediating governments
- Be credible in use, management, legitimacy
- Be aggressive





Long Term Context

- Manage public expectations; invite public participation
- Establish quick wins
- Prosecute members of the former regimes
- Begin long-term institutional reform
- See asset recovery as a long-term project





Contact

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