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Frank Vogl

Co-Founder of Transparency International (TI) and Co-Founder of Partnership for Transparency Fund

Mr. Frank Vogl was born in the U.K. and is a graduate of the University of Leeds, the U.K. He began his professional career as a journalist: first for the Reuters news agency in London and in Brussels, then as the European Business Correspondent of The Times of London, based in Frankfurt, Germany and thereupon from 1974-1981 as the United States Economics Correspondent of The Times of London.

Vogl is best known for his extensive lecturing and writing and leadership in the area of anti-corruption and business ethics. In these roles, he travels extensively to work with anti-corruption organizations and to lecture.

Subject Area/Topic: Fighting Worldwide Corruption

Highlights: Thousands of citizens in Ukraine demanded the ouster of Viktor Yanukovich's government because they saw him and his cronies as thieves. According to the *Kyiv Post* newspaper, the new prime minister of Ukraine, Arseniy Yatseniuk, stated that the previous regime stole \$70 billion. He said the country was virtually bankrupt.

These issues raise fundamental issues about corruption today, about the greed of government leaders, the injustices were done to their peoples and to the willingness of Western institutions to assist the kleptocrats to park their ill-gotten gains outside their home countries.

The world is changing. This is the age of transparency. This is an era where the public is becoming far better informed. We have seen its early stage manifestations in the Arab Spring, in the streets and the ballot boxes in India, in vast public demonstrations in Brazil and, most recently, in Ukraine. This is the beginning.

The biggest change of all is due to the universal availability of the Internet and cell phones. These tools have powered extraordinary growth of civil society in scores of countries at the local, regional and national levels. They have created channels of social media connectivity that has not just brought millions of people together, but informed them, educated them and is now mobilizing them for justice and against corruption.