



Bribery Act 2010

2010 CHAPTER 23

Bribery of foreign public officials

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- (1) A person (“P”) who bribes a foreign public official (“F”) is guilty of an offence if P’s intention is to influence F in F’s capacity as a foreign public official.
- (2) P must also intend to obtain or retain—
 - (a) business, or
 - (b) an advantage in the conduct of business.
- (3) P bribes F if, and only if—
 - (a) directly or through a third party, P offers, promises or gives any financial or other advantage—
 - (i) to F, or
 - (ii) to another person at F’s request or with F’s assent or acquiescence, and
 - (b) F is neither permitted nor required by the written law applicable to F to be influenced in F’s capacity as a foreign public official by the offer, promise or gift.
- (4) References in this section to influencing F in F’s capacity as a foreign public official mean influencing F in the performance of F’s functions as such an official, which includes—
 - (a) any omission to exercise those functions, and
 - (b) any use of F’s position as such an official, even if not within F’s authority.
- (5) “Foreign public official” means an individual who—
 - (a) holds a legislative, administrative or judicial position of any kind, whether appointed or elected, of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom (or any subdivision of such a country or territory),
 - (b) exercises a public function—
 - (i) for or on behalf of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom (or any subdivision of such a country or territory), or

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (ii) for any public agency or public enterprise of that country or territory (or subdivision), or
 - (c) is an official or agent of a public international organisation.
- (6) “Public international organisation” means an organisation whose members are any of the following—
 - (a) countries or territories,
 - (b) governments of countries or territories,
 - (c) other public international organisations,
 - (d) a mixture of any of the above.
- (7) For the purposes of subsection (3)(b), the written law applicable to F is—
 - (a) where the performance of the functions of F which P intends to influence would be subject to the law of any part of the United Kingdom, the law of that part of the United Kingdom,
 - (b) where paragraph (a) does not apply and F is an official or agent of a public international organisation, the applicable written rules of that organisation,
 - (c) where paragraphs (a) and (b) do not apply, the law of the country or territory in relation to which F is a foreign public official so far as that law is contained in—
 - (i) any written constitution, or provision made by or under legislation, applicable to the country or territory concerned, or
 - (ii) any judicial decision which is so applicable and is evidenced in published written sources.
- (8) For the purposes of this section, a trade or profession is a business.