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## **Council of Europe anti-corruption body urges Spain to recast public trust in political and judicial institutions**

Strasbourg, 15.01.2014 - In a [report](#) published today, the Council of Europe anti-corruption group (GRECO) expresses concern about the proliferation of corruption scandals tainting the credibility of political institutions in Spain. It advises that the central Parliament lead by example by putting in place a comprehensive integrity package with clear ethical standards, matched with greater transparency of MPs' financial interests and a robust enforcement mechanism to sanction wrongdoing.

GRECO also identifies some structural flaws in the justice system and calls for additional guarantees to avoid politicisation of Spain's overburdened courts. GRECO acknowledges the vital role played by individual prosecutors and judges in the fight against corruption and encourages them to remain alert regarding risks to their integrity and impartiality, as well as to step up their endeavours to ensure professional and public accountability.

The implementation of the 11 recommendations addressed to Spain will be assessed by GRECO in the second half of 2015 through its compliance procedure.

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The Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) is a Council of Europe body that aims to improve the capacity of its members to fight corruption by monitoring their compliance with anti-corruption standards. It helps states to identify deficiencies in national anti-corruption policies, prompting the necessary legislative, institutional and practical reforms. Currently it comprises 48 European states and the United States of America.

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