A SNAPSHOT
ABOUT THE COUNCIL

- The Council of Ethics for Public Service (CEPS) was established within the Prime Ministry in 2004 with Law No. 5176 referred as the “Establishment of Council of Ethics for Public Service and Making Amendments on Some Laws” to fight against corruption and embed ethical culture among public officials.

- The Council is located in Ankara and does not have any offices in other provinces.

- There are a total of 11 Council members including the Chair and 20 personnel.

- The budget of the Council allocated for the year 2011 is 100 thousand TL (approximately 50 K €). The Council’s budget which used to be included within the General Directorate of Personnel and Principles of the Prime Ministry until 2010, now is separate; yet it is still bounded to the Prime Ministry. The allocated budget items for the Council include honorarium paid to Council members and chair, stationeries, office equipments, and publicity campaigns.
What Does the Council Do?

In general, the Council’s main functions can be grouped into three:

1. **Determine public officials’ ethical behavioral codes** and gives consent to or provide technical assistance to institutions drafted ethical codes regulations.

2. **Investigate and Inquiries**: The Council conducts the necessary investigation and inquiries on public officials specified by the Law for violation of ethical codes after personal claims or by the Council’s own initiative. RESEN İNCELEME

3. **Embed Ethical Culture**: Activities include conducting academic quality studies, EU funded projects, seminars on the issue of ethics; running public ethics training program; preparing training materials on ethics for trainers; supporting studies and trainings relevant to ethics not only with public bodies but also with private sector and NGOs.
ABOUT THE COUNCIL MEMBERS

- The Council consists of 11 members including the Chairman who all are appointed by the Council of Ministers to serve for 4 years and can be reappointed again after their terms are completed. The Council members meet 4 times in a month and receive honorarium for their services.

- The Council members review investigation claims on ethical violations, reaches verdicts on cases, support and evaluate researches and projects that contribute to strengthening ethical culture within the public sector and the society in general.
About the Council Staff

- Currently, the secretariat of the Council functions with 22 personnel who sustain the work of the Council members by contributing to the goals and mission of the Council.
- The General Directorate of the Personnel and Principles within the Prime Ministry posts the Council’s staff based on the needs and requirements of the Council.
- Among the personnel are:
  - 1 Head of the Department; provides coordination for the Council among Ministries; responsible for budget, personnel, and administrative work
  - 5 Prime Ministry Experts
  - 5 Prime Ministry Experts Assistants
  - 2 Press and Public Councilors
  - 2 temporarily commissioned inspector and auditors from the Court of Accounts
  - 1 Chief Clerk
  - 2 Clerks
  - 1 Secretary
  - 1 Office-boy
  - 1 Driver
Investigations and Inquiries

- As specified by the Law, the Council conducts investigations and researches on public officials who serve **at least as general managers or an equivalent senior position level**. The Council does not deal with public bodies but with public officials whose titles are defined above.

- The application claims can be made by mail or e-mail by any citizen or foreigners residing in Turkey, or by the Council’s own initiative.
Table 1
Titles and Numbers of Applications the Council received between the years 2005-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Titles of the Application Claims</th>
<th>Applications in 2005</th>
<th>Applications in 2006</th>
<th>Applications in 2007</th>
<th>Applications in 2008</th>
<th>Applications in 2009</th>
<th>Applications in 2010</th>
<th>Applications in 2011</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobbing of the Personnel</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incompliance with general ethical standards</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negligence/Breach of Duty</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of public domain and source for personal purposes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plagiarism</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favoritism, nepotism, discrimination</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatments against equality and impartiality</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breach of right to information</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims on corruption/unlawfulness</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>806</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Distribution of the Application Claims by their Titles 2005-2010

- Incompliance with ethical standard: 213
- Claims on corruption: 164
- Negligence/Breach of Duty: 155
- Mobbing: 45
- Conflict of Interest: 18
- Use of public domain for personal gain: 51
Figure 1
Numbers of Applications Received By The Council Between The Years 2005-2010
About Investigations and Decisions

- Council reviews cases solely on the existence of violation of ethical principles.
- The Council gives an “ethical violation” decision about the related public official.
- Council accepts applications—including the anonymous ones—with adequate and concrete information or documents.
- No review if being revert to or examined by the judiciary.
- The Council has the right to request information and documents from Ministries and other public institutions; has the right to obtain declaration of property.
- The Council must conclude investigations within 3 months
- Until February 2010, the Ethics Council had the right to publish the ascertained decisions in the Official Gazette (8 decisions were already published) including the names of public officials who violated ethical codes with summaries of their indictment.
Table 2
Type and Distribution of the Council’s Decisions based on Application Titles between the years 2005-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethical Principles are violated</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not reviewed due to being examined by adjudication bodies</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Ethical violation has been found</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objected due to procedural reasons</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td><strong>63</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>47</strong></td>
<td><strong>59</strong></td>
<td><strong>53</strong></td>
<td><strong>117</strong></td>
<td><strong>384</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Council has also been involved with the European Council and European Union assisted projects to reduce corruption and embed ethical culture including European Union Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) Projects, and Support Activities to Strengthen the European Accession Process (SEI) projects.

- IPA project
- Lasted 24 months and conducted on 1 December 2007 and completed on 30 November 2009.
- The Project was funded by European Commission (90%) and Council of Europe (10%) with a budget of 1.5 million Euros.
- The Council of Europe was responsible for implementing it.
- The overall objective of the Project was to contribute to the prevention of corruption in Turkey in accordance with European and other international standards through the implementation and extension of the Code of Conduct, and the development of anti-corruption measures.
In sum the project has delivered the following:

- The staff of the Council of Ethics for Public Service were trained to promote ethical codes and ways to prevent corruption.
- A training package was completed to support ethics training of public officials.
- At least 110 trainers were trained and were able to deliver ethics training.
- Governors, deputy governors, district governors, mayors, deputy mayors, members of ethics commissions of all in 81 provinces were trained in the application of the code of ethics for public officials (With 10 training events held, a total of 388 participants were trained).
- 10 academic quality studies in ethically sensitive areas of Turkey were completed. Titles were
  - 1. Conflict of Interest in Public Administration
  - 2. Public Bidding and Ethics
  - 3. Planning at Local Level
  - 4. Ethical Conduct in Law Enforcement
  - 5. Ethical Conduct in the Health Services
  - 6. Ethical Standards and the Title/Land Registry
  - 7. The Shadow Economy
  - 8. Professional Associations and Ethics
  - 9. Ethics and the Customs Services
  - 10. Ethics, Culture, and Society
“Consolidating Ethics in the Public Sector” Project (2011-2013)

- The financial agreement was signed in December 2010 with a budget of 1.5 million Euros, expected to be started soon.

- The continuation of the previous TYEC 1 project; will also last for 2 years.

- The Council of Europe is the responsible body to implement.
The objectives are

1. Embed and consolidate the work from the first project:
   - Support for the consolidation of code of conduct for selected professional associations and the chambers of commerce and industry
   - About 200 trainers from central and local government will be trained to deliver ethics training;

2. Create Awareness:
   - Develop prevention of corruption awareness campaigns in ministries, schools, universities, and the public in general
   - Extend ethics training and prevention of corruption awareness:

3. Focus on key ministries and areas to develop prevention strategies on corruption and unethical behaviors.
3rd Project: “Technical Assistance for Need Assessment for Ethics Commissions Project

- 4 months length project was finalized lately; Results were discussed in two separate workshops conducted with stakeholders.
- It had a budget of 140 K Euros.
- Its objective was to find out the needs of the public ethics commissions of both central and local government bodies as well as in professional organization unions to increase their effectiveness in public sector.
A Tentative project

A Draft Proposal for the IPA project for 2012 referred as “Fostering Cooperation among the NGOs, Public and Private Sector for Ethics” has been accepted by the European Commission with a proposed budget of 2.5 million Euros.

The implementation period is planned for 24 months.
As to this date, **21,305 public officials** received training. Among those, **371 public officials are referred as ethics trainers** that have the adequate training to train others on issues of corruption and ethics.
I. Regulation on the Principles of Ethical Behavior of the Public Sector’s Auditing Officials

- In the scope of our efforts to determine ethical principles for each profession within the public administration, the Council enacted the “Ethical Principal Regulation for Public Auditing Officials” on 14 September 2010.
II. Implementation Guide

- The Council published “An Ethics Reminder” booklet in 2009. It provides key facts and practical tips on the ethical values and principles of the Turkish public service as well as everyday activities a public official may face. In 2010, the Council published the revised version of the Guide with edited samples and pics.
II. Implementation Guide

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III. Strategy of Increasing Transparency and Strengthening Anti-Corruption Efforts

- National strategy accepted by the Council of Ministers in February 22, 2010 to fight corruption.

- With the Strategy, coordination among public institutions, effectiveness of inspection, legal proceedings and punishment will be raised, while social awareness will be increased.

- The Council has given 2 specific roles within the Strategy
The Strategy requires that under the guidance of Council of Ethics:

1. Ethical codes for each profession within the public administration will be developed by forming study groups/committees with the relevant stakeholders.

So far, ethical codes of:
- Personnel within the health sector
- Personnel within the education sector
- Personnel within the law enforcement

are being studied
2. The Council of Ethics will lay out a roadmap and support relevant institutions to determine a list of ethical codes for the elected officials within the local government.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BODY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Independent and Enough Budget. The perception of the public is so important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Exposing ethical violations ad violaters by effective tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Trainings raise public awareness and awareess of public servants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Cooperation between NGO’s, public and private sector is a must to consolidate ethical culture in the country.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Support of international organizations is helpful.

Setting future objectives. Improving road maps. (national programs)

Public awareness.

Sustainable and strong political will.
Thanks...

Alptuğ ÇALIK

Prime Ministry Expert
Ethics