**CORRUPTION IN HAITI**

Haití, November 9th, 2021. Within the framework of the Citizen Corruption (CCO), the Integrated Forum for Education and Economic Stability, FINESTE as Focal Point and member of the coalition of the Citizen Corruption Observatory, the *Groupe de Recherche en Appui à la Justice et aux Droits Humains*- GRAJUDH (Human Rights and Justice support Research Group) and the National Observatory for Democracy and the Environment (ONADE) make a call to the press for the presentation of the results of the Report of Follow-up on the respect of the Lima Commitment "Democratic Governance against Corruption", signed at the VIII Summit of the Americas in 2018, which aims to maintain a frontal fight against corruption in the Americas.

Among the conclusions of the report, it is noted that corruption is linked in the first place to poor working conditions in the civil service, the non-recognition of merit and the recurrent practice of nepotism. Secondly, there is the excessive centralisation of the Public Administration and the slowness recorded in the provision of public services to be provided to users. The third point is related to the problem of transparency in the affairs of the state, the lack of accountability on the part of the managers of public funds and the non-regulation of access to public information. The fourth point concerns the weakness and dependence of the judicial system, the non-application of legal provisions to combat corruption and impunity.

The report was produced by identifying normative and practical developments for the achievement of the Lima Commitment in 19 countries in the region. Issues related to the strengthening of democratic governance were discussed; transparency, access to information, whistleblower protection and human rights, including freedom of expression; financing of political organizations and electoral campaigns; prevention of corruption in public works, contracts and public procurement; and international legal cooperation, the fight against corruption, international corruption, organized crime and money laundering; and asset recovery.

The Lima Commitment is seen as a tool for governments to better structure their fight against corruption and, at the same time, it is also a tool for civil society to put pressure on governments. For example, by urging them to adopt measures to protect whistleblowers or with measures directed at free access to public information.

Nevertheless, since the adoption of the Lima Commitment in April 2018, signed by President Jovenel Moise, no effort has been made by the Haitian government to promote the implementation of the agreements or to enforce their clauses. To the point that the Lima Commitment has never been part of a political figure's speech or has been heard in the media.

The CCO is a joint effort between the Citizen Forum of the Americas (CFA), the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad), the national chapters of Transparency International (TI) in Latin America and more than 150 civil society organizations from the continent of America, to promote citizen participation and monitor the progress of government actions and the challenges they face, and systematically investigate, document and analyse evidence of the effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts in the region.

