
SEXUAL CORRUPTION LEGISLATION DATASET CODEBOOK

Version 1.2

Uppsala University Research Environment on Sexual Corruption – UU-RESC

Department of Government

Uppsala University

When using this dataset, please cite:

Bjarnegård, Elin; Calvo, Dolores; and Jayasundara, Janithrika. 2026. Sexual Corruption Legal Mapping Dataset, Uppsala University Research Environment on Sexual Corruption (UU-RESC), International Lawyers Project, Hogan Lovells Cadwalader, and Global Civil Society Coalition for the UNCAC, https://uncaccoalition.org/participate/campaigns/sexual-corruption-database/

When appropriate, also cite this codebook:

Bjarnegård, Elin; Calvo, Dolores; and Jayasundara, Janithrika. 2026. Sexual Corruption Legislation Codebook, v.1.2, Department of Government, Uppsala University.

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Always include the version number in analyses using the dataset.

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Introduction

This codebook provides guidance for understanding the variables included in the Sexual Corruption Legislation Dataset. The dataset was developed through a collaboration for data collection between the Uppsala University Research Environment on Sexual Corruption (UU-RESC), the Sexual Corruption Legal Taskforce under the Gender, Inclusion & Corruption Working Group of the Global Civil Society Coalition for the UNCAC, and the International Lawyers Project, in partnership with the global law firm Hogan Lovells for most jurisdictions. All the data, including determinations of applicability, are provided by lawyers in each respective country or jurisdiction. These experts evaluate whether the legislation is relevant and applicable in practice, meaning the dataset reflects both legal text and contextual legal interpretation.

The unit of analysis is the jurisdiction. Variables are organized into two main sections: (1) legislative provisions explicitly addressing sexual corruption (SexCorr_), and (2) other legislative provisions that are potentially applicable in cases of sexual corruption (Other1_, Other2_, Other3_, etc.).

Explanatory notes

Legislative provisions that specifically address sexual corruption are identified using the following operational definition of sexual corruption:
Sexual corruption occurs when a person abuses their entrusted authority to condition a service or benefit connected to that authority on a sexual act.[1]
This definition has three components.

i. Abuse of authority: Power is abused by someone with entrusted authority for personal gain.
ii. Quid pro quo (this for that): a service or benefit connected to that authority is conditioned on a sexual act.
iii. Sex as currency: the currency of the transaction is a sexual act.

[1] Adapted from the definition suggested by Bjarnegård et al. (2024).

This definition guided the evaluation of each legal provision during the data collection and coding process. If the legal experts confirmed that a jurisdiction has a legal provision that explicitly includes all three components, that jurisdiction is coded as SpecificLegislation = 1.
If a jurisdiction has a legal provision that covers any of the three components, whether individually or in combination with other provisions, it is coded as OtherApplicableLegislation = 1 (i.e., sexual corruption may be prosecuted under such provision(s), even if not explicitly named).

"Other applicable legislation" refers to provisions that can potentially be used to prosecute cases of sexual corruption, even if sexual corruption is not mentioned explicitly in the law. Applicability does not depend on whether specific legislation exists; both categories may coexist. Applicability is determined by legal experts in each country. This evaluation is based on the legal wording, case law (where available), and the lawyers' professional judgment of legal practice in their jurisdiction.

Section A: Provides information about any ongoing legal reform efforts regarding sexual corruption.
Section B: Specific sexual corruption legislative provisions are coded as SexCorr_
Section C: Other applicable legislative provisions are coded as Other1_, Other2_, Other3_, … (You can add as many OtherX blocks as needed.)
Missing values or no information available are coded as -99.
Variables that are not applicable (N/A) are coded as –88.
Unclear values are coded as –77.

Identifier variables in the dataset

Jurisdiction name (Jurisdiction)
Name of the jurisdiction. A jurisdiction in this dataset is a legally defined territory that has the authority to make and enforce laws over persons, property, or activities within its boundaries. 'Jurisdiction' mostly refers to a country, but may also mean a state, province, or municipality within a country that has its own legislative or regulatory powers.
Response: String

Jurisdiction ID (Jur_ID)
Unique jurisdiction ID assigned for each jurisdiction. A list of jurisdictions and their corresponding IDs used in the dataset can be found in the jurisdiction table as Appendix A.
Response: Numeric

Country (Country)
Name of the country which the coded jurisdiction belongs to.
Response: String

Note: Following the logic adopted by the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) project, countries are identified in two ways. All the formal sovereign states (according to international law) are considered countries in this dataset. In addition to that, the definition of countries in this dataset extends. Accordingly, entities that exercise meaningful domestic self-rule, possess distinct governing institutions, and demonstrate governance patterns that differ from surrounding territories are treated as separate entities. This approach allows for the inclusion of territories such as Hong Kong, whose political and institutional structures operate differently from those of the People's Republic of China. Following V-Dem, the following criteria are considered when defining an entity as a country in this dataset.

- Formal (legal) sovereignty, or at least claims to sovereignty
- Continuity with a contemporary nation-state
- Defined borders (even if imprecise or under dispute)
- A capital

- A person or body that exercised executive powers
- Self-rule, at least with respect to domestic affairs

Decisions to consider some territories as countries are based on the above criteria, for the purposes of this dataset. The decisions made for this dataset do not support any position about sovereignty claims of any territory.

Country Code (GW_code)
This dataset follows the country classification developed by Gleditsch and Ward (1999).
Response: Numeric

Date data was collected (DataCollectionDate)
Indicates the month and year in which the jurisdiction was coded. All variables reflect information about legal provisions available in each jurisdiction at the time of coding.
Response: Date (YYYY-MM)

Overview variables

To ensure consistency and transparency, two binary variables are coded for each jurisdiction.

Specific Legislation (SpecificLegislation)
Indicates whether the jurisdiction has legislative provisions that explicitly address sexual corruption.
Response: Numeric (1 – yes and 0 – no)

Other Applicable Legislation (OtherApplicableLegislation)
Indicates whether the jurisdiction has other legislative provisions that are potentially applicable to sexual corruption cases.
Response: Numeric (1 – yes and 0 – no)

Section A: Ongoing legal reform efforts

OngoingReform	Numeric	Indicates whether there have been any legal reform efforts, like draft legislation, parliamentary debates or studies conducted by law reform entities regarding sexual corruption. 1 – Yes: Legal reform efforts that explicitly deal with provisions on sexual corruption. 2 – No: No legal reform efforts. 3– Other: Other legal reform efforts that do not explicitly deal with provisions on sexual corruption but may still affect the prosecution of sexual corruption cases.
OngoingReform_ex	String	Details about ongoing reform efforts.

Section B: Specific legislative provisions on sexual corruption

This section includes variables prefixed with: SexCorr_. These variables are coded only for jurisdictions with legislative provisions that **specifically address** sexual corruption.

Variable name	Type	Variable label and value
SexCorr_LegID	Numeric	**Specific legal provisions (code 01)** A unique ID is created by combining the country's GW code and the jurisdiction ID, together with the code **01.** Code 01 is reserved for provisions that explicitly address sexual corruption. *Example:* If there is a specific legislative provision on sexual corruption in Argentina, the SexCorrLegID will be **16010001**, where 160 is the GW code, 100 is the jurisdiction ID for Argentina, and 01 is the specific code reserved for specific legislative provisions on sexual corruption.
SexCorr_TypeOff	Numeric	Identifies how the offence is classified in the legislation. **1 - Corruption offence:** It is explicitly defined as a corruption-related offence in the legislation. **2 - Sexual offence:** It is classified under sexual harassment, or gender-based violence provisions (e.g., rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation). **3 - Breach of code of conduct:** It is treated as a violation of a code of conduct or professional ethics. **4 - Other offence:** It is classified under any other type of offence not covered above.
SexCorr_TypeOff_Other_ex	String	Comment about the type of offence when SexCorr_TypeOff=4.
SexCorr_TitleLegEng	String	The full name of the legislation, administrative regulation, common law offence or ethical code in English. Coded with a link.
SexCorr_ProvRef	String	Indicates the legal provision reference. E.g., Section or Article number.
SexCorr_DateEnact	Date	The date the legislation was enacted. (YYYY-MM-DD)
SexCorr_DateAmend	Date	The date the legislation was amended. (YYYY-MM-DD) If multiple dates are listed, this is comma separated.
SexCorr_LawType	Numeric	Identifies the type of law under which the legislative provision is enacted. Coded in dummy variables as follows: SexCorrLawType_Criminal 1/0 SexCorrLawType_Civil 1/0 SexCorrLawType_Administrative 1/0 1 - Yes: The legislation is enacted under this type of law. 0 - No: The legislation is not enacted under this type of law.
SexCorr_Offence	String	The name for the offence.
SexCorr_Liablility	Numeric	Identifies which party is held liable as defined in the legislative provision. Coded in dummy variables as follows: SexCorr_Liability_Abuser: 1/0 SexCorr_Liability_ServiceSeeker: 1/0

		1 - Yes: This party is held liable under this legislative provision. 0 - No: This party is not held liable under this legislative provision.
SexCorr_Liability_ex	String	Comment about liability. The comment may include the relevant text of the provision.
SexCorr_DistDemOff	Numeric	Indicates whether the legislation makes a legal distinction between situations where sex is demanded by the person in power versus offered by the service seeker. Coded in dummy variables as follows: SexCorr_DistDemOff: 1/0 1 - Yes: The legislation explicitly differentiates between cases where sex is *demanded* and cases where sex is *offered*. 0 - No: The legislation does not differentiate between demanded and offered sex.
SexCorr_DistDemOff_ex	String	Comment about demand vs offer distinction.
SexCorr_Evidence	String	Identifies the evidentiary burden required to prosecute a case of sexual corruption under the relevant legislative provision.
SexCorr_ImplAgency	String	Identifies the agency or institution responsible for implementing or enforcing the relevant legislative provision.
SexCorr_Pentalty	String	Indicates the penalty or available remedies for cases of sexual corruption under the relevant legislative provision.
SexCorr_ProvText	String	Provides the verbatim text of the legislative provision.
SexCorr_LegHistory	Numeric	Indicates whether the law has undergone any amendments, revisions, or changes since its original enactment. Coded in dummy variables as follows: SexCorr_LegHistory 1/0 1 - Yes: There have been changes to the law (e.g., amendments, repeals). 0 - No: The law has not been changed since it was originally enacted.
SexCorr_LegHistory_ex	String	Comment about the legislative history.
SexCorr_Cases	Numeric	Provides the number of cases where the relevant legislative provision has been applied, including prosecutions, judgments, or convictions related to sexual corruption.

Section C: Other applicable legislative provisions

This section includes variables prefixed with OtherX. These variables are coded for jurisdictions with legislative provisions that might be applicable to sexual corruption. This section is duplicated in full for Other2_, Other3_, Other4_… as needed.

OtherX_LegID	Numeric	**Other applicable legal provisions (codes 02, 03, etc.)** A unique ID is created by combining the country's GW code and the jurisdiction ID, together with the codes starting with **02.** Code 01 is excluded here because it is reserved for specific legal provisions on sexual corruption. *Example:* If there is a legislative provision that might be applicable to sexual corruption in Argentina, the Other1LegID will be **16010002**, where 160 is the GW code, 100 is the jurisdiction ID for Argentina, and 02 is the specific code reserved for specific legislative provisions on sexual corruption. If there is more than one other legislative provision, it will continue as **16010003, 16010004, etc.**
OtherX_TypeOff	Numeric	Identifies how the offence is classified in the legislation. **1 - Corruption offence:** It is explicitly defined as a corruption-related offence in the legislation. **2 - Sexual offence:** It is classified under sexual harassment, or gender-based violence provisions (e.g., rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation). **3 - Breach of code of conduct:** It is treated as a violation of a code of conduct or professional ethics. **4 - Other offence:** It is classified under any other type of offence not covered above.
OtherX_TypeOff_ex	String	Comment about the type of offence when OtherX_TypeOff=4.
OtherX_ TitleLegEng	String	The full original name of the legislation administrative regulation, common law offence or ethical code in English. Coded with a link.
OtherX_ProvRef	String	Indicates the legal provision reference. E.g., Section or Article number.
OtherX_ DateEnact	Date	The date the legislation was enacted. (YYYY-MM-DD)
OtherX_DateAmend	Date	The date the legislation was amended. (YYYY-MM-DD) If multiple dates are listed, this is comma-separated.
OtherX_LawType	Numeric	Identifies the type(s) of jurisdiction under which the relevant legislation or provision is enacted. Coded in dummy variables as follows: OtherX_LawType_Criminal 1/0 OtherX_LawType_Civil 1/0

		OtherX_LawType_Administrative 1/0 1 - Yes: The legislation is enacted under this type of law. 0 - No: The legislation is not enacted under this type of law.
OtherX_Offence	String	The name for the offence.
OtherX_Liability	Numeric	Identifies which party is held legally liable for the offence as defined in the relevant legislative provision. Coded in dummy variables as follows: OtherX_Liability_Abuser: 1/0 OtherX_Liability_ServiceSeeker: 1/0 1 - Yes: This party is held liable under this legislative provision. 0 - No: This party is not held liable under this legislative provision.
OtherX_Liability_ex	String	Comment about liability. The comment may include the relevant text of the provision.
OtherX_DistDemOff	Numeric	Indicates whether the legislation makes a legal distinction between situations where sex is demanded by the person in power versus offered by the service seeker. Coded in dummy variables as follows: OtherX_DistDemOff 1/0 1 - Yes: The legislation explicitly differentiates between cases where sex is *demanded* and cases where sex is *offered*. 0 - No: The legislation does not differentiate between demanded and offered sex.
OtherX_ DistDemOff_ex	String	Comment about demand vs offer distinction.
OtherX_Evidence	String	Identifies the evidentiary burden required to prosecute a case of sexual corruption under the relevant legislative provision.
OtherX_ImplAgency	String	Identifies the agency or institution responsible for implementing or enforcing the relevant legislative provision.
OtherX_Penalty	String	Indicates the penalty or available remedies under the relevant legislative provision.
OtherX_ProvText	String	Provides the verbatim text of the legislative provision.
OtherX_LegHistory	Numeric	Indicates whether the law has undergone any amendments, revisions, or changes since its original enactment. Coded in dummy variables as follows: OtherX_LegHistory 1/0 1 - Yes: There have been changes to the law (e.g., amendments, repeals). 0 - No: The law has not been changed since it was originally enacted.
OtherX_LegHistory_ex	String	Comment about the legislative history.
OtherX_Cases	Numeric	Provides the number of cases where the relevant legislative provision has been applied to sexual corruption cases, including prosecutions, judgments, or convictions.

Bibliography

Bjarnegård, Elin; Calvo, Dolores; Eldén, Åsa; Lundgren, Silje. 2024. "Sexual Corruption Is Abuse of Power – and There's More to It than 'Sextortion' Alone.", *U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre Blog*, 11 June 2024, https://www.u4.no/blog/sexual-corruption-is-abuse-of-power-and-theres-more-to-it-than-sextortion-alone

Gleditsch, Kristian S. and Ward, Michael D. 1999. "Interstate System Membership: A Revised List of Independent States since the Congress of Vienna." International Interactions, vol. 25, no. 4, pp. 393–413. https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629908434958

Appendix A: Jurisdiction ID table

Jurisdiction	**Jur_ID**
Argentina	100
Belgium	101
Benin	102
Brazil	103
Cambodia	104
Chile	105
China	106
Democratic Republic of the Congo	107
Czech Republic	108
Ecuador	110
Ekiti State, Nigeria	109
England and Wales	111
France	112
Germany	113
Hong Kong	114
Indonesia	115
Ireland	116
Italy	117
Japan	118

Kaduna State, Nigeria	119
Lagos State, Nigeria	120
Lithuania	121
Luxembourg	122
Madagascar	123
Mexico	124
Nigeria	125
Northern States, Nigeria	126
Norway	127
Pennsylvania, USA	128
Peru	129
Quito Metropolitan District, Ecuador	130
Rwanda	131
Singapore	132
South Africa	133
Spain	134
Sri Lanka	135
Sweden	136
Tanzania	137
Turkey	138
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	139
United Kingdom	140
Venezuela	141
Vietnam	142
Zimbabwe	143