

INTRODUCTORY NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNAM LEGAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The convening capacity of Diego Valadés and Antonio María Hernández, once again, has been evident in this collective work coordinated by them and edited by the UNAM Institute of Legal Research and the Institute of Constitutional Studies of the State of Querétaro. It is a work that brings together a deck of texts written by experts on one of the most sensitive and problematic issues worldwide, but, above all, in our American continent: corruption. The approach to this issue that outrages and worries the public is outlined from the constitutional perspective and, with this, the collected texts warn the legal dimension of the problem. But they also reconstruct recent moments and events that casuistically and eloquently illustrate the magnitude of the phenomenon. In fact, one of the core virtues of the volume is the comparative perspective with which the topic of corruption is studied. The authors are reconstructing national cases from Latin America, South America, but also from Europe and even Asia. With this, while offering a global overview of the phenomenon, they allow gauging its magnitude and weighing the different constitutional and public policy responses used to combat it. In doing so, they also pay tribute to an academic tradition in which the coordinators are true experts: the comparative method. For all the above, the work we present is timely, rigorous, and necessary. Timely because it comes at a time when corruption threatens to erode the social and institutional foundations of democracies in many countries; rigorous because the subject is analyzed by experts who know the constitutional discipline and the phenomenon studied, and necessary because studies that constitute, at the same time, a complaint and a contribution are needed, and this work achieves both. As the director of one of the two publishing institutions, I welcome the publication and invite, with conviction, its reading and analysis.

Pedro SALAZAR UGARTE