

IACC – “Laws are not enough: Access to information on corruption files”

- Corruption impunity in developing countries: rule and few exceptions.
- Logic of this impunity: why judges are functional to this context
- Which parties exist on the investigations and why civil society does not have a voice

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- Bringing light to these procedures in Argentina: accessing the obscure files.
- Obstacles: Criminal procedure norm / Right to intimacy / Perceived risk by system actors
- United Nations Convention Against Corruption:
“(e)ach State Party shall take appropriate measures, within its means and in accordance with fundamental principles of its domestic law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption”.

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- Two different decisions by two judicial courts. Supreme Court of Argentina to decide
- Use of information obtained: always the most difficult part of the story
- System gets used to the new circumstance and can live with it? Is the story of David and Goliath true?
- What are possible next steps?

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- Communication strategy:
 - traditional media: op-eds, information for regular articles
 - Use of new technologies for advocacy upon these investigations: blog, Facebook, twitter
- Lobby strategy for law reform: can we move the clock?