Key insights at-a-glance

Drawing on the opinions of 201 senior decision-makers from more than 30 countries, White & Case LLP and KPMG LLP’s “2023 Global compliance risk benchmarking survey” offers insights into compliance practices across industries worldwide and strategies employed by companies to manage their compliance risks—from anti-corruption risk assessments, third-party management and employee risk awareness to ESG practices and cybersecurity.

Use of third parties cited as the biggest corruption risk companies face

What do you view as the greatest anti-corruption risk facing your company?

- Use of third parties: 59%
- Pressure to meet sales targets: 35%
- Gifts and entertainment: 29%
- Lack of employee awareness about anti-corruption risks: 28%
- Interactions with government customers/investors: 24%
- Import/export of goods: 19%
- Securing government permits or other approvals: 18%
- Responding to government inquiries, inspections, audits: 17%
- Lobbying and advocacy activities: 16%
- Charity and political contributions: 12%
- Don’t know: 3%

In today’s fast-paced and interconnected world of global business, a robust and comprehensive compliance program is not merely a choice, but a critical imperative for any organization.

Use of data analytics is becoming more commonplace, but most companies are still developing their approach

Compliance teams under pressure to approve heightened risk third parties

Has your organization’s Compliance and Ethics function ever been pressured to approve the engagement of a third party you believe presented an unacceptable corruption risk profile?

- Yes, on more than one occasion: 16%
- Yes, once: 10%
- No: 8%
- Yes, none: 8%

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Use of data analytics is becoming more commonplace, but most companies are still developing their approach

How developed is your organization’s use of data analytics for compliance risks?

- Yes, on more than one occasion: 16%
- Yes, once: 10%
- No: 8%
- Yes, none: 8%

Three in ten respondents state their anti-corruption programs are not regularly tested for effectiveness

How often does your organization…

- Test the effectiveness of its anti-corruption compliance programs?
  - Annually: 28%
  - Periodically, but less frequent than annually: 27%
  - As and when a specific risk is identified: 22%
  - Never: 9%
  - Don’t know: 15%

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