
| RESEARCH ARTICLE

Role of Civil Community Institutions in Fighting Corruption

Hamzeh Ismaeil Ibrahim Abu Shari'ah

Professor/ Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Head of the Department of Human Sciences, The World Islamic Sciences and Education University, Jordan

Corresponding Author: Hamzeh Ismaeil Ibrahim Abu Shari'ah, **E-mail:** hamzh73@gmail.com

| ABSTRACT

The study aimed at showing the role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption; meanwhile, the problem of the study centred on an axial question, meaning: how can the organizations of the civil community share in fighting corruption? To answer the question of the study and achieve its objectives, the descriptive analytical method was employed, and the study certifies that civil community institutions have a great role in fighting corruption. Also, the study deduced numerous deductions, the most important of which are the institutions of the civil community, which are considered the most significant in formal sectors of the state that work to consolidate security and stability in democratic communities and in fighting corruption. The study resulted in numerous recommendations, the most significant of which are participating in the institutions of the civil community in drawing the public policies considered the effective partner of the governments in fighting corruption and empowering the institutions of the civil community in having different media means to fight corruption.

| KEYWORDS

Role, Civil Community Institutions, Corruption, Transparency.

| ARTICLE INFORMATION

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1. Introduction

Corruption is considered one of the basic issues that concern many states, communities, international organizations, and local and regional ones concerned with confronting corruption and facing it in all ways and means for sustainable development, with its integrated concept, cannot be achieved in addition to achieving comprehensive security at any State in which corruption is spread; for all formal and informal efforts, of the institutions of the civil community, to confront crimes of corruption.

The development of the civil community institutions had become a worldly approach, and from the most significant indicators considered guiding to the development of political and democratic life at any State by allowing it to form and practice its activities in fighting corruption, and the institutions of the civil community play a vital and effective and preventive role aiming at reinforcing the immunity of the State institutions at all public and private sectors to confront corruption by reforming the political, social, economic, and legal life with its integrated concept and different dimensions by the participation of the civil community institutions with the different types, and its political, economic, social, and cultural domains.

1.1 Significance of Study:

The significance of the study springs from seeking to disclose the role that institutions of the civil community perform in fighting corruption.

1.2 Problem of Study and its Questions:

The duality of the relationship between the institutions of the civil community and their role in fighting corruption requires searching for the preventive machinery in fighting corruption and the obstacles that confront them; from here, the main problem

is represented in: "How can the organizations of the civil community Share in fighting corruption"? And branches from the main problem many subsidiary questions, they are:

1. What is corruption, and what is the civil community?
2. What are the preventive machinery of the civil community institutions for fighting corruption?
3. What are the obstacles of the civil community institutions that work to fight corruption?

1.3 Objectives of Study:

This study seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Showing the concept of corruption and the civil community.
- Disclosing the preventive machinery that the institutions of the civil community perform in fighting corruption.
- Recognizing the obstacles that confront the institutions of the civil community in fighting corruption.
- Deduction of results and recommendations about the extent of the civil community organizations' effectiveness in fighting corruption.

2. Methodology of Study:

This study depended on the descriptive analytical method, for the descriptive method will be employed in describing the corruption case and the civil community, then it has to analyze what lays under our hands of information concerning the role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption.

2.1 Previous Studies:

There were many previous studies that tackled the subject of corruption and the community, the most important of them:

The study by Abdel Fadeel Study (2004), entitled "The Concept of Corruption and its Standards", deduced that there is no specific concept of corruption, and the study assured that corruption has its machinery and its spreading effects and its complications that affect the fabric of communities and behavior of individuals and the way of economy performance, and it reshapes the "systems of values".

Another study by Al-Nawaish's study (2010), "Role of Institutions of the Civil Community in the Process of the Democratic Transformation in Jordan (1989-2009)", aimed at showing the role of civil community institutions in the process of the democratic transformation in the period (1989-2009). The study submitted the hypothesis saying that organizations of the civil community had failed in performing their message on pushing the process of democratic transformation, and the prevailing political culture in the Jordanian Society is still forming an obstacle in the track of democratic transformation.

Additionally, a study by Al-Husani study (2013), entitled "The Controlling Role of the Civil Community Institutions and its Effect in Developing the Community in the State of the United Arab Emirates", aimed at recognizing the role of institutions of the civil community in developing the local community in the State of the United Arab Emirates, and its role in performing its message, and depended on the descriptive analytical method. The study deduced that the concept of the civil community in the State of the United Arab Emirates came as a result of historical and social developments witnessed by the society of the Emirates.

Hasan's study (2014), entitled "Administrative Corruption and the Economic Effects", aimed to shed light on the dangerous phenomena that threaten the international community, which represents the product of administrative corruption and, in turn, affects the economic performance of the States. The study found that administrative corruption is one of the most significant effective factors in the backwardness of developing States, and the study concentrates on tackling a prevailing phenomenon in the international communities of the corruption phenomenon and the phenomenon of money laundering and touches on Egypt's site of corruption and money laundering.

Finally, Akhu Irshede's study (2018), entitled "Members of the Civil Community Organizations Trends Towards the Effective of its Role in the Process of the Political Reformation in Jordan", aimed at showing the role of civil community organizations in light of its relationship with the consecutive Jordanian Governments.

This study is distinguished from other studies; it concentrates on the role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption and reinforces the role of the society in protecting the security and stability of the whole State through achieving principles of transparency and fairness that can, achieve the required benefit through its ability in fighting political, economic and social corruption in behalf of preventive machinery, and it represents one of the modern and significant studies in the contemporary study about the preventive machinery to fight corruption through institutions of the civil community as a link between the State

and the community, and their effective role in confronting corruption. Meanwhile, the concentration of previous studies disappeared.

3. Concepts and Terminology of Study, Corruption and the Civil Community:

Concept of Corruption: There are many definitions of the concept of corruption, for the many of variables, ideas and cultures that the world witnesses, for every study look at corruption from a different perspective in tackling it (politically, socially, economically, culturally, legally and else), and inspite of the many definitions and its differences, yet they all agreed on the significance of fighting corruption and confronting it (Abdel Fadeel, 2004), of them who defines corruption as: "getting off law and system or exploit their absence for the sake of achieving political interests, or economic or social interests for an individual or a certain group" (Amerawi, 2022), and the World Bank and International Transparency Organization define corruption as: "Miss exploiting the Public Authority for the Sake of Getting Private Gains" (I'liemat, 2014), and the International Transparency organization defined as "Every deed includes misusing the public post to achieve self-private interest for himself or his group" (Hasan, 2014), and we may define it as: "Miss-exploiting the post, occupation and the public authority to achieve private interests and benefit, that is on the expense of the public interest".

Forms of Corruption: Corruption takes different forms, for Wasta and favoritism (it is executing deeds for the interest of the individual or to a party to which a person belongs), favoritism (that is preferring a party from another in service without the right to gain certain interests), wasting public money, looting and embezzlement of public money, blackmailing, threats, violence, bribery, and exploitation of public occupation (the employee exploitation of the functional powers granted to him in accordance with the post and the public occupation to gain personal material profits), money launching from illegal sources, and other forms all of them come under the mis-exploiting the public post and considered corruption (Krowzi, 2022).

Causes of Corruption: There are many reasons leading to corruption as a result of their affection by the political, administrative, economic, social, and cultural circumstances and else, and from the causes of corruption he added economic causes play economic and living conditions and low wages play a big role and from them, political causes and absence of the effective political institutions, un-applying law, absence of the civil community role, weakness of democracy practice and freedom of political participation, that performed lack of integrity and transparency and inability to fight corruption (Mansour, 2009).

However, the social causes refer to the political upbringing, family disintegration, and narrow loyalties, whether they were ethnic, religious or tribal, and the selfish tendency of man built on self-love, vacant from morals, ideals and values. However, the administrative causes issued by the public official in performing his duty and occupational tasks are for achieving profits and private interests or referring to certain categories, and that takes many forms like bribery, stealing, deception and blackmailing (Hasan, 2014).

Effects of Corruption: Effects of corruption are many sides, as it affects and hinder the developmental operation and sustainable development, and affects the political, social and economic stability, and also affects the public and private sector, tax evasion and tourism and investment, weakness the economic development, the thing that leads to political instability and the peaceful transition of political authority, spreads chaos and un-achieving the national unity inside categories of society, and non-participation of political participation leads to absence of sovereignty of law and spread of crime with its different forms, leads to intolerance and extremism, and sluggish of the middle class in the society, spread of chill penury in the society, the thing that affects rights and freedoms and affects the institutions of the civil community, and leads to imbalance between state powers, and affects the developments at all domains, and affects the role of the judicial system and its lack of independence, and leads to absence of integrity and transparency inside the political authority and weakens the role of control systems and inability to achieve accountability at all sectors of the State (Mohammad, 2009).

Concept of the Civil Community: The concept of the civil community institutions appeared with the specified meaning, currently tackled in the seventeenth century and the eighteenth century and it is "the group optional organized in the public domains between the state and individuals (Muhafazah et al., 2020), Al-Jemri defined it (1998) that it is "that community that enjoys free qualitative self-formations that care for economic, social, cultural and political affairs", and Hweidi (1993) defined as: "the community with the many electual organizations: Parties, unions and clubs and else of governmental institutions that represent the community in authority" (Al-Hweidi, 1993), others defined it as: "Institutions performed on integrating interests and benefits, contracting, consensus and understanding, the difference, rights, duties and responsibilities and accounting the State at all times when it necessary to account it". Akhulrsheideh (2018), and the civil community consists of elements or organizations non-governmental as political factions, vocational unions and social development corporations, environmental organizations, organizations of human rights, charitable societies, cultural forums, sports and youth clubs and women's rights organizations and women's rights protection (Al-Jawarneh et al., 2010).

Through what preceded, we can define institutions of the civil community as: "a group of political, cultural, social, economic, health and environmental institutions and else, and the participation of individuals is being optional and electual in the public domain, and works to support the formal institutions in the state at all sectors and activities inside the society, subdued to evident rules within their consistency inside the society.

Objectives of the Civil Community Institutions: Institutions of the civil community seek to achieve the objectives of being a link between the state and individuals by introducing services and care to the interests of the society and keeping the rights of the society within laws and legislations guaranteed by the state constitution, and limit the state domination on those interests, train, qualify and develop skills and abilities inside the society from the most important objectives of the civil community institutions (Kroozhi & et al., 2022).

In addition to developing comprehensive sustainable development at all sectors of the state, political, economic, social and cultural, working to reinforce the system of integrity and transparency at all agencies of the state, and becomes a partner of the government in laying suggestions and recommendations of laws and legislations submitted to specific and specialized entities (Mansour, 2009). The institutions of the civil community always seek to achieve equal citizenship among categories of society, from rights and duties and encourage initiatives and volunteer activities.

4. Machineries of the Civil Community Institutions in Confronting Corruption:

Corruption leads to obstructing the development of sustainable development and the political reform and achieving security with its comprehensive concept and politically, economically, socially, culturally, security and military integrated, so it has to confront crimes of corruption and its dispread within the society, and it is a mutual responsibility among all formal and informal sectors of the State (Al-Nawaisheh, 2011), and from here the role of the civil community institutions has to be activated to perform an effective role in the process of political, economic, social, and cultural reform, and it is considered an indicator guiding to developing the democratic and political life, and the institutions of the civil community represent the authority of society in confronting any monopoly and tyranny may be issued from agencies and sectors of the state, and be aware of the role performed by institutions of the civil community in confronting crimes of corruption, and it has to recognize the most important machineries of the civil community institutions work facing corruption represented in the following:

4.1 Role of the Civil Community Institutions in Social Awareness:

Social awareness forms the basic focus of achieving political participation and reinforcing the democratic life through fair elections and through giving the civil community institutions an effective role in social awareness for the sake of making the appropriate decision and bearing the responsibility and defence his native land and his society and qualifying it to perform its role in institutions of the civil community at its best, and through performing the volunteer deeds and charitable ones with all its types; the political, social, economic and cultural, to refer on the society with benefit and profit; also the increase of society awareness reinforces activation of institutions of the civil community role in fighting corruption (Abu Shariah, 2014), and from here institutions of the civil community seek to reinforce values of integrity and transparency among all categories of the society, and fighting corruption. To achieve the role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption, it has to reinforce the role of different media means (audible, read and visual electronic, social media, and else, by employing easy and simple language able to link information with faithfulness and methodology of the civil community (Mohammad, 2009).

Developing institutions of the civil community represents a preventive procedure aiming at reinforcing the immunity of public institutions against corruption through issuing awarding bulletins about causes of corruption, that is, by way of different educational institutions, and reinforcing the transparency in the work of these institutions, and preparing educational programmes and seminars, and building a mitigated societal culture against all forms of corruption, and protecting the public money and public property considered a group property for citizens (Amerawi, 2022).

4.2 Role of the civil community institutions in preparing research and scientific studies:

Preparing research and scientific studies is one of the most important means and effective tools in fighting and confronting crimes of corruption, and to achieve integrity and transparency, it has to save information and easiness of getting it to prepare studies, reports, and research about the phenomenon of corruption and shedding light on causes and drives leading to corruption and laying solutions and recommendations to the concerned authorities in the states to face and confront them, for institutions of the civil community in the democratic states play an effective role in preparing reports, researches and scientific studies and methodological and field studies and do studies for legislations and developing them to adapt to variables springing from the internal and external environment to become able to confront corruption (Al-Shatti, 2004). This reinforces the role of the civil community institutions in monitoring the causes and drives of corruption.

4.3 Role of the civil community in enacting legislations and laws:

The tasks of the legislative authority are enacting legislations and laws, but with the development of the civil community institutions and the variety of its domains and its political, economic, social, cultural, and sports, and else, and pressure and impact on the political authority, it worked on submitting suggestions and recommendations about legislations and laws that consist with the needs, priorities and interests of its communities organizing the life of individuals in the society (Al-A'maireh & et al, 2014).

Institutions of the civil community became an important and effective role in participation in public policies of the state, being effective powers and a link between the society and the state, and a partner in directing the society towards participation in creating a general opinion and pressing the political decision-makers in adopting certain stands to achieve the public interest, and lay corrective measures, that is by pressing the official government agencies before enacting laws and legislations, for the sake of reinforcing the integration and transparency, and activating the role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption (Kroozi & et al. 2022).

4.4 Role of the civil community institutions in coordinating and building alliances with international organizations:

The corruption phenomenon universally threatens all states because of its worldly spread, and it has its developmental, economic, social, cultural and political factors and else, and fighting corruption became the responsibility of all the local, regional and international organizations that participate in it, and most of the specific international agreements stipulated on fighting corruption (Huweidi, 1993).

To reinforce the role of the civil community institutions, they have to coordinate and build alliances with international, regional, and local organizations to fight the crimes of corruption, that is, by laying preventive machineries to confront corruption through getting benefits from the experiences and expertise of the states that reinforce integrity and transparency at their institutions, and work to organize plans and programs and exchange information and data to benefit from them in the civil community institutions and achieve successes in fighting corruption (Al-Housni, 2013).

4.5 Role of the civil community institutions in accountability and accounting:

Organizations of the civil community strive hard to achieve political, economic, and social reforms else in agencies of the state and different sectors and subdue the persons who hold senior positions in the two legal and administrative accountability about results of their deeds, and there is partnership and coordination between institutions of the civil community and the legislative authority to achieve that and those who are responsible in front of the legislative authority that holds control on deeds of the executive authority, and also works on developing role of the control and accountability of the legislative corporations through the different parliamentary tools in this domain, such as questions directed to the ministers and laying subjects to open discussion (Mohammad, 2009).

The civil community demands accountability from the government because it is one of the basic priorities in fighting the phenomenon to become more transparent by way of making participation easy and the large supervision from part of the civil organizations and media means. Here, it has to pin-point the fact of a task that organizations of the civil community are not asked to be investigative agencies or concerned with investigation but work as reinforcing agencies to judicature and the controlling agencies and the parliament in fighting corruption and pressing for the sake of clearing transparent transaction inside institutions and disclosing any corruption state they reach (Abdel Fadeel, 2004).

5. Obstacles facing institutions of the civil community in fighting corruption:

In spite of the effective role of the civil community institutions in fighting corruption, yet there are obstacles obstruct work of institutions in achieving their objectives in fighting corruption, perhaps the power enjoyed by the executive authority represents one of the obstacles of the growing of the civil community institutions and fighting corruption, because of the government domination over the activity of the civil community institutions through the administrative guardianship, laws, legislations, conditions of license and electing the board of administration that gives the government administrative and financial powers in interviewing in terms and affairs of the civil community institutions work and grant it the license to practice its work, controlling elections of the board of administration, and the right of solving it or hanging their activities for security and safety reasons, and its power in attending and delivering copies of minutes of meetings and annual reports, either what concerns the financial matters or administrative (Muhafezah & et al, 2020), this may affect and narrow its role, activity and independence fighting corruption.

The most significant obstacle that faces institutions of the civil community in confronting corruption is the availability of laws and texts that allow forming institutions of the civil community, but there is no applying and practicing their role and activity in confronting corruption in reality and achieving its objectives if got necessary financing and support and supervision of the government on the administrative and financial matters of the civil community institutions, the thing that leads to the intervention of the authority in its deeds and activities, and narrowing on practicing its role in confronting corruption.

Qualification, training and experience of members of the administrative corporation is the successful ability in dealing with files of corruption, as the members of the administrative body and the general one in charge of civil community institutions lack experience, competence and training, and inability to deal with many of the files of corruption (Hasan, 2014).

The means of media sharing reinforces and activates the role of civil community institutions in confronting corruption by saving information and making it a basic demand to achieve the objectives of civil community institutions (Al-Hazaimeh, 2018). The political authority represented in the government has the right to provide institutions of the civil community with the necessary and demanded information to confront corruption, and concealing any facts and information, documents and administrative transactions will affect and obstacle the work of the civil community institutions in facing corruption and confronting it.

6. Conclusion

Various opinions came together on the significance of the civil community intuitions in fighting corruption, for any state of the world cannot face corruption without cooperation and coordination with institutions of the civil community, and the study recommended the following:

Firstly, Deductions of the study, the most important of which are:

- i. Institutions of the civil community are considered the most important informal sectors of the state that work to establish security and stability in democratic societies and in fighting corruption.
- ii. The weakness of the role of civil community institutions in the non-existence of material and artistic possibilities leads to the failure to achieve its objectives in fighting corruption, so governments have to provide materialistic and moralistic support to civil community institutions.
- iii. There are many reasons leading to corruption as a result of being affected by political, administrative, economic, social and cultural circumstances, which refers to non-publishing the corrupt people and weakness of accountability, lowness of income level, high cost of living, the spread of wasta and favoritism, discrimination, selfishness, narrow loyalties, socialization, family disintegration and spread of crime and its variety and else.
- iv. The study showed the importance of the civil community institutions in achieving their objectives by laying preventive machinery to fight corruption through social awareness, preparing research and studies and submitting recommendations and suggestions before enacting laws, systems and legislations.

Secondly: Recommendations:

- i. Independence of civil community institutions, administrative and financial independence, and its dimensions are possible from every subordination that limits the practice of its tasks neutrally.
- ii. Sharing the civil community institutions in drawing the general policies is considered an effective partner to governments in fighting corruption.
- iii. Reinforcing the principle of integrity and transparency in the right of civil community institutions to obtain information and documents to fight corruption.
- iv. Spreading a culture supporting the role of the civil community, where the formal speech plays a supporting role in spreading a culture assuring the importance of the role played by the civil community as a basic partner in development.
- v. Empower institutions of the civil community by having different media means to fight corruption, for what they have of a role in linking the information and affecting the general opinion, and spreading awareness and recognizing the effects of corruption.

Reinforcing the judicial authority and keeping its independence.

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