



G20 Common Principles for Action: Denial of Safe Haven

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1. G20 Leaders have committed to action in the area of preventing corrupt officials and those who corrupt them from being able to travel abroad with impunity. National policies, legal frameworks, and enforcement measures will vary, but should be sufficient to comply with our Leaders' mandate. The common principles detailed below are meant to support that process and foster cooperation.

- Each G20 country should have sufficient authorities (that is, policies, legal frameworks, and enforcement measures) and should actively apply them when the circumstances present themselves. Where there exist formal common approaches to the crossing of external borders, such as provided in the Schengen Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, participating countries will need to coordinate closely and act individually where appropriate towards the goals outlined below.
- Our objective is to send a strong signal to corrupt individuals that corruption and impunity are unacceptable and that G20 members are, therefore, committed to denying safe haven to those who engage in such behavior. The target is corrupt behavior and the individuals who engage in it, not specific countries or regions.
- Countries have the sovereign right to control their borders so that ultimately all decisions to deny entry reside with the relevant national authorities and are taken at their discretion.
- The definition of conduct that will trigger denial of entry, should, as a starting point, be determined in reference to the corruption offences that are criminalized in the member country in question, drawing on the offences listed in the UN Convention against Corruption and other corruption instruments as appropriate.
- Countries are encouraged to adopt denial of entry authorities (policies, legal frameworks, and enforcement measures) that apply, specifically and by explicit reference, to corrupt conduct.
- To have greatest impact, particularly given the stated aim of tackling impunity, countries should seek to deny entry even absent a prior conviction where there is sufficient other information to make a determination.
- Countries should consider extending their authorities to deny entry to family members or close associates who are considered to have derived personal benefit from corrupt behavior of the principal target (for example, by broadening the definition of corrupt persons to capture such individuals), with similar requirements for substantiation as is required for the principal.

- Cooperation is useful to ensure the greatest effectiveness of our actions in this area. G-20 countries can usefully share points of contact for their respective relevant authorities for the purposes of cooperation, as a starting point. Our respective relevant authorities are encouraged to cooperate for purposes of meeting the Leaders commitment in this area.