

March 2022

Call for Corruption & Financial Crime Investigation Case Studies

Background: The Centre for Global Advancement (“C4GA”)¹ is a non-profit organisation headquartered in the United Kingdom with a commercial company presence in Nairobi, Kenya. C4GA focuses on combatting financial crime with a focus on Africa, Asia and Latin America and leverages financial crime tools and techniques to combat various crimes with a focus on the natural resource sector. We also support law enforcement authorities through training, research and investigative support across Africa, Asia and Latin America to conduct financial investigations.

The application process: C4GA is looking for suitably qualified applicants from around the world from students to seasoned anti-corruption and financial crime professionals to document case studies across different sectors illuminating how fraud, corruption and money laundering manifests in different settings and sectors. (I.e.: construction, mining, procurement, education etc) We are seeking to collate and highlight how financial investigations have been conducted, the evidence collected, the legal charges and the associated legislation used along with the outcome of the case. Case submissions can include both successful and /or cases that have not been successful however the reliance on court documents is encouraged as part of the development progress. For those cases that have not secured a result, the case will focus on leveraging key learning points for future cases. The objective of these cases is to publish the final selection (winning applications) in a case book in late 2022, early 2023.

For those that are interested in participating in the competition, please send a 500-word abstract of the case to: info@globaladvancement.org, subject: “*Case Study Competition*” including:

- The legal name of the case (i.e.: United States of America v Kang Juntao)
- Sector of interest (i.e.: Mining, Construction, Procurement, Forestry, Wildlife etc)
- Primary country of investigation and any secondary countries
- A short summary of the financial investigation including payment methods used
- The legal charges and
- The current status of the case or outcome

Cases with *multiple financial crimes* are encouraged. i.e.: Within the mining sector, bribes may be given by MNEs² for mining permits. The company may also be involved in shifting profits offshore to minimise the global tax liability.

Case example: In the case **United States of America v Kang Juntao**, a Chinese national was smuggling turtles from US markets into Hong Kong and China. Juntao has been indicted on money laundering charges. A case example is shown in Appendix 1 for further guidance.

¹ www.globaladvancement.org

² MNEs – Multi-national enterprises.

Competition due date: Abstracts are due by **May 31, 2022**. Those participants that are selected to continue in the competition will sign a contract to develop a final case study and be eligible for the prize money along with having their case published in a final case book along with guaranteed mentoring and support to develop their final case. The prize money will be awarded on **November 15, 2022**.

Important Dates:

Abstracts are due by **May 31, 2022**

Participants notified of acceptance to Phase 2: **June 30, 2022**

Final case studies due: **31 October 2022**

Prize money awarded: **15 November 2022**

Early applications to submit abstracts are encouraged and multiple submissions are allowed. If your abstract is approved, further information and mentoring will be provided to finalise the case study which will be up to 5 pages long. For those that submit a final case, the competition will include prize money of:

- 1st place: USD \$500
- 2nd place USD \$200 and
- 3rd place: USD \$100.

Those selected to develop final case studies will submit prior to **October 31, 2022**. C4GA reserves the right to select additional case studies as “highly recommended” for inclusion in the final case publication and/or other benefits including mentoring as part of the competition.

Selection Criteria

The selected winning submissions will be determined by C4GA representatives and their decisions are final and not subject to appeal. The cases will be judged upon a number of factors including:

Criteria to assess abstracts	Weighting
1. Clarity of the case highlighting the corruption and financial crime issues clearly and succinctly	30%
2. Completeness of the data - ensuring all of the criteria are fulfilled	30%
3. Convergence with other crimes – detail highlighting multiple crimes (i.e.: illegal logging combined with tax crimes and corruption)	10%
4. Uniqueness of the country, region or sector identified. (Submissions from sectors where corruption is not well highlighted (i.e.: mining of precious stones) are extremely welcome)	10%
5. Supporting documentation – the submission is properly referenced with footnotes and court documents attached	20%

Legal Rights:

Participants will be notified by **June 30, 2022** via email by of the acceptance into Phase 2 of the programme. Successful submissions will sign a contract that enables the final publishing of the case study and will transfer all intellectual property rights to C4GA to enable the final publishing of the case study. The author will be acknowledged in the final case book publication and may continue to use the case study acknowledging that the case was created in conjunction with C4GA.

Contact details: For any questions in relation to the competition, you may contact Amanda Gore, Founder and Director C4GA on agore@globaladvancement.org

Appendix 1: Case Study Example

Stand-alone money laundering case for turtle smuggling network.

In 2019, the US authorities revealed an indictment for a Chinese national, “Kang Juntao” involved in trafficking five species of turtles from the US to Hong Kong for onward sale in the black market in China, Hong Kong and Japan. None of the turtles had the necessary CITES or Customs permits for the CITES Appendix II Species. The turtles were smuggled with false documentation, bound and taped and hidden in socks to avoid detection by authorities. The investigation revealed that Kang Juntao recruited and trained at least six middlemen in the US which he located from social media platforms and reptile sales websites. The middle men were often Chinese nationals entering the United States on student visas. In total, Kang Juntao arranged for about 1,500 turtles to be smuggled from the United States valued at approximately \$2 225 000 USD.

Legal Charge	Money Laundering
Payment Method	Payments were made via Paypal from Chinese Banks.
Payment Amounts	Payments were made for the purchase and shipping of wildlife products totaling \$78 382 over a period of 18 months (June 2017 to December 2018) (40 payments)
Source of Payment	Twenty-nine of the payments are associated with China Union Pay Bank.

Kang Juntao was arrested in Malaysia and has been charged with Money Laundering. The charge alleges that Kang Juntao sent funds to the United States to promote the smuggling of goods from the United States. Juntao used a series of online payments via Paypal to purchase the turtles exceeding the \$10 000 money laundering threshold. The US has extraterritorial jurisdiction with the use of the Laundering of Monetary Instruments charge by a non-United States citizen if the government proves that the conduct occurs in part in the United States and the series of transactions exceeds \$10 000 USD. The maximum penalty for this offense is 20 years of imprisonment. Juntao has been extradited to the US and is awaiting trial.