

# **Beneficial Ownership Information and Public Registries as Tools Against Corruption and Tax Fraud**

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Anonymous companies allow people to hide their identity. Like Russian dolls, you can have one company hidden inside another company.

# MEET MR. TEODORIN OBIANG





# MR. OBIANG'S \$30 MILLION MANSION – SEIZED BY US GOVERNMENT



# MR. OBIANG'S \$38 MILLION PRIVATE JET (NOT SEIZED BY US GOVERNMENT ☹️)



But the United States of America is the  
**most popular choice** of the corrupt.





A villa compound  
purchased via an anonymous company...



A villa compound  
purchased via an anonymous company...



Yanukovich's Mezhyhirya private palace compound,  
held via an Austrian company





**Tax  
Evasion**



**Mafia**



**Foreclosure**



**Diverted Government  
Resources**



**Drug  
Trafficking**



**Illegal Logging**



**Blood Diamonds**

# Anonymous companies facilitate tax evasion



FILTERS:

ALL

NATIONAL SECURITY

TAXPAYERS

THE VULNERABLE

BUSINESS

POOR COUNTRIES

DEMOCRACY

OTHER

Focus on  
Choose

STORIES ABOUT VICTIMS

FIND: COMPANIES



VICTIMS

HOW TO USE THE MAP



<http://bit.ly/ripoffmap>



# Where do we stand?

**FATF** standards (rev 2012)

**G8** action plan principles to prevent the misuse of companies & legal arrangements (June 2013)

**G20** High-Level Principles on BOT (Nov 2014)

**OECD** tax information exchange system

**Ukraine** (2014)

**Business** support, eg B team (2015)

**EU** 4<sup>th</sup> AMLD

# Roles for academics

## **Advocacy**

ex: Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP) campaigns on issues related to the problem of IFFs (incl. this one)

**Research:** civil society needs expert help addressing questions of economics, law and philosophy

ex: privacy



**END  
ANONYMOUS  
COMPANIES**

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