



# MONTHLY TRANSPARENCY WATCH

FEBRUARY EDITION

FRIDAY

MARCH, 6TH

2026

## A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER FOR FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY



### TOP NEWS

The Center provides Technical Support to the Kaduna State Fiscal Responsibility Commission to Strengthen Fiscal Responsibility and Public Financial Management practices across the 23 LGAs of Kaduna State.

Presentation of Aletheia Procurement Integrity: Pioneering the future of transparent and accountable procurement.



The Center provides Technical Support to the Kaduna State Fiscal Responsibility Commission to Strengthen Fiscal Responsibility and Public Financial Management practices across the 23 LGAs of Kaduna State. (KADSFREC 1.0 Workshop)



Advocating for transparent and accountable mechanism in the Recovery and Management of Proceed of Crime.



### Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Monthly Transparency Watch, where we highlight ongoing efforts to promote accountability, transparency and good governance through out Nigeria. Enhanced transparency boosts public trust, contributes to economic growth and development, and empowers citizens to engage in decision making processes and hold their leaders accountable.

As we remain committed to promoting transparency and accountability in governance, here's something you should know: your unwavering support is our driving force. Thank you for your continued support. We invite you to explore the stories, insights and observations we've shared and remember to stay the course.

## THE CENTER PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE KADUNA STATE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COMMISSION TO STRENGTHEN FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ACROSS THE 23 LGAS OF KADUNA STATE.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) is proud to have provided technical support to the Kaduna State Government through the Kaduna State Fiscal Responsibility Commission. This collaboration reinforces CeFTPI's commitment to strengthening fiscal governance, promoting transparency, and accountability across Nigeria's public sector.

We particularly commend the leadership of the KD State Fiscal Responsibility Commission on the strategic planning and professional engagement with a variety of critical stakeholders.

We were also pleased to see high-level commitment, with all heads of agencies, parastatals, and the 23 Local Government Chairmen in attendance to engage with the expert team. Collaborative transparency is the foundation of good governance. We hope other state emulate this foundational example towards deepening fiscal governance in Nigeria.

## TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY INDEX (2025)



The 5th Edition of the Transparency and Integrity Index 2025 (TII) highlights the Top 5 Performing Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) that have demonstrated compliance with national laws, policies, and standards of accountability.

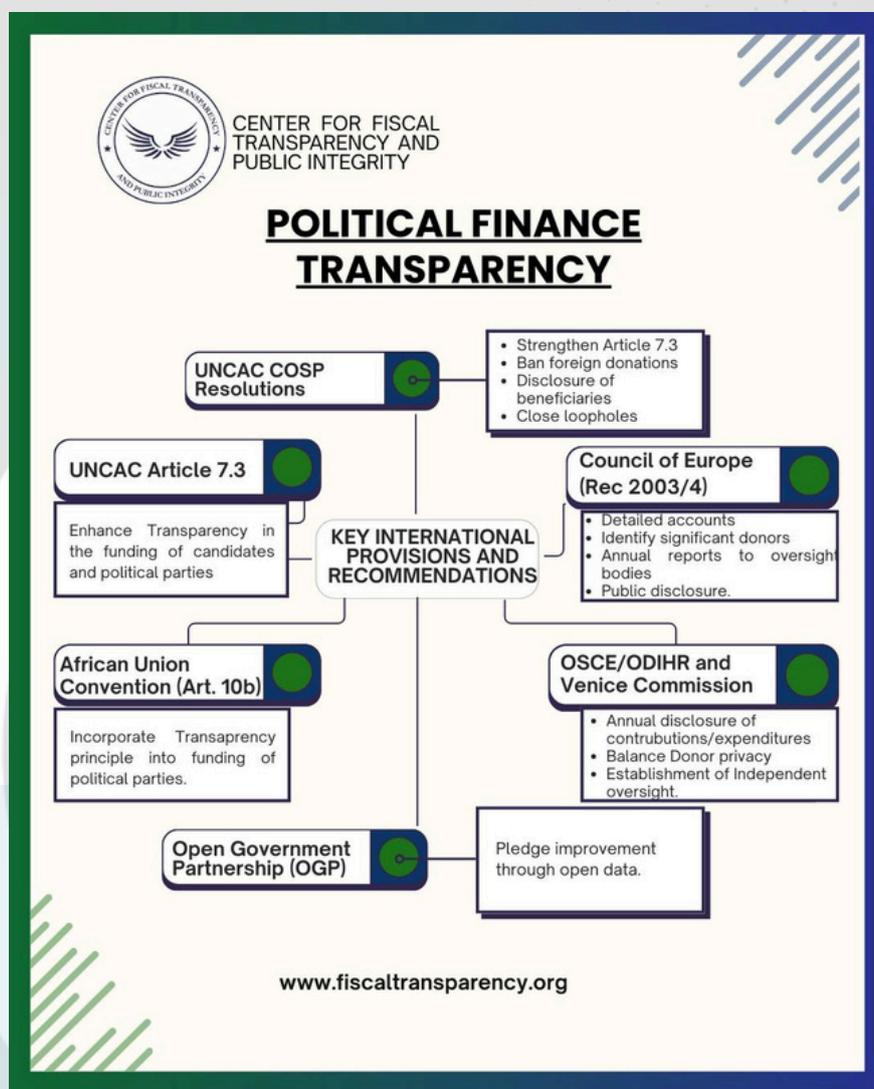
**They include:**

1. National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) - 78.8%
2. National Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) - 78.2%
3. Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offences Commission (ICPC) - 78.1%
4. Development Bank of Nigeria (DBN) - 62.6%
5. Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) - 54.1%.

Their performance reflects institutional commitment to good governance, setting a benchmark for integrity driven administration across the public sector.

Access the TII 2025 on our website: [www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

## POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY



Political Finance Transparency is a well-established principle within the international legal and governance framework. Global and regional anti-corruption instruments require measures that regulate how money enters and influences political processes, in order to limit undue influence and reduce the risk of state capture.

The primary global framework is the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), supported by regional legal instruments and best-practice guidelines from international organizations.

This infographic highlights the key international provisions and recommendations.

## PRESENTATION OF ALETHEIA PROCUREMENT INTEGRITY: PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE PROCUREMENT.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) recently presented ALETHEIA Procurement Integrity, an advanced AI-powered tool designed to revolutionize public procurement oversight. ALETHEIA leverages artificial intelligence to provide enhanced fraud detection, comprehensive risk assessment, and continuous monitoring of public procurement contracts, ensuring that public resources are managed with the highest levels of accountability and efficiency.

The development of ALETHEIA has been guided by the principles of AI ethical governance, recognizing the importance of fairness, transparency, and due process in all procurement activities. By embedding these ethical standards into its algorithms, ALETHEIA ensures that oversight processes respect legal frameworks, maintain impartiality, and uphold public trust.

ALETHEIA Procurement Integrity is more than a tool; it is a vision for the future of public procurement in Nigeria and beyond. By fostering transparent processes, accountable governance, and smarter allocation of public resources, ALETHEIA sets a new standard for integrity in procurement systems. It exemplifies CeFTPI's commitment to combining technological innovation with ethical oversight to strengthen governance and ensure that public funds serve the intended purpose.



# SCENES FROM FEBRUARY



# POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY

**DOES THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION EXECUTE ITS FUNCTIONS REGARDING POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY?**

**ELECTORAL ACT 2026: KEY SECTIONS ON POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY**

- Offences in Relation to Finances of a Political Party (Section 89)**
  - Prohibits political parties from possessing funds outside Nigeria.
  - Requires forfeiture of remitted foreign funds on conviction.
- Period to be covered by Annual Statement (Section 90)**
  - Parties must submit detailed annual assets, liabilities, and funding source reports; violations attract ₦1,000,000 fine, 6 months imprisonment, or both.
  - Political parties must allow authorized Commission officers to inspect records and audited accounts.
  - Commission must review and publish the reports within 30 days.
- Power to Limit Contribution to a Political Party (Section 91)**
  - Empowers the Commission to set limits on individual contributions to parties/candidates.
  - Establishes penalties for exceeding limits to ₦10 million and forfeiture of amount for parties and five times the excess amount for individuals.
- Limitation on Election Expenses (Section 92)**
  - Spending limit: Presidential - ₦10bn, Governorship - ₦3bn, Senatorial - ₦500m, House of Representatives - ₦250m, State Assembly/Chairman LGA - ₦100m, Councilorship - ₦10m; Violation: 1% fine.
  - Limits individual donations to a single candidate to ₦500m, penalty: 5 times the amount donated, fines accountants who falsifies ₦5m, imprisonment or both.
- Election Expenses of Political Parties (Section 93)**
  - Parties must submit audited election expense returns within 6 months (signed by auditor and chairman) - ₦10m fine; court may add ₦1m/day for delay.
  - Returns must be published and available for public inspection at Commission offices.
  - Spending above limits: up to ₦10m fine + forfeiture of excess.
- Disclosure by Political Parties (Section 94)**
  - Anonymous or excess donations prohibited - penalty: ₦5m fine and forfeiture.
  - Record donations above ₦100m with donor name/address; parties must report contributions within 3 months after results.
- Bribery and Conspiracy (Section 125)**
  - Criminalizes the act of receiving money to influence a vote or to induce a candidate to refrain from canvassing and fines ₦2m, 12 months imprisonment or both.
  - Lawful election expenses excluded. Bribery and Conspiracy: ₦500,000 fine, 12 months imprisonment or both.

[www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

**KEY POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Digital Reporting & Disclosure**  
Mandatory, real time, and machine-readable financial data.
- Independent Oversight**  
Well resourced independent bodies to monitor, investigate, and enforce compliance.
- Closing Loopholes**  
Ban anonymous/foreign donations, and enforce 'know your donor' due diligence.
- Beneficial Ownership**  
Disclosure true beneficial owners to prevent secret influence.
- Reducing Political Costs**  
Limit campaign spending and regulate third-party expenditure.
- Preventing State Resource Abuse**  
Safeguarding against the misuse of public funds, infrastructure, and officials for campaigns.

[www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

## DOES THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION EXECUTE ITS FUNCTIONS REGARDING POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY?

The BIG question! Political Finance Transparency is essential to preserving the Integrity of Nigeria's electoral process. The Electoral Act 2022 provides a framework to curb the influence of illicit funds and ensure a fair, accountable political system.

The Act prohibits political parties from holding assets outside Nigeria, mandates full financial disclosure and set strict spending limits for electoral campaigns/donations.

The Center calls for the following actions to strengthen the system:

1. Digital reporting
2. Independent oversight
3. Closing loopholes
4. Disclose true beneficial owners
5. Limit campaign spending and
6. Preventing State resource abuse

As the body responsible for enforcing these regulations, INEC's role is critical in ensuring compliance and promoting transparency in political finance. It's effectiveness in implementation will be key to creating a political system that is fair and accountable to the people.



CENTER FOR FISCAL  
TRANSPARENCY AND  
PUBLIC INTEGRITY



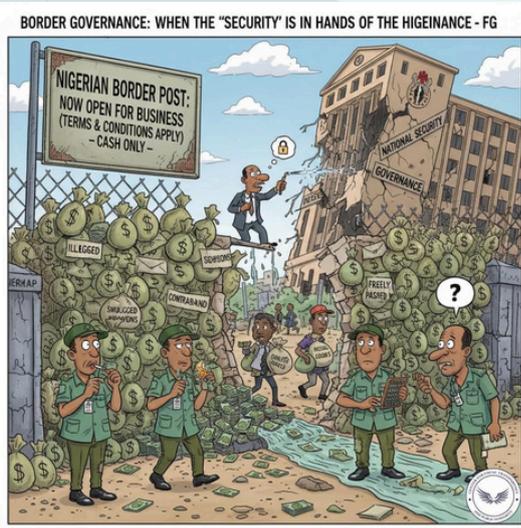
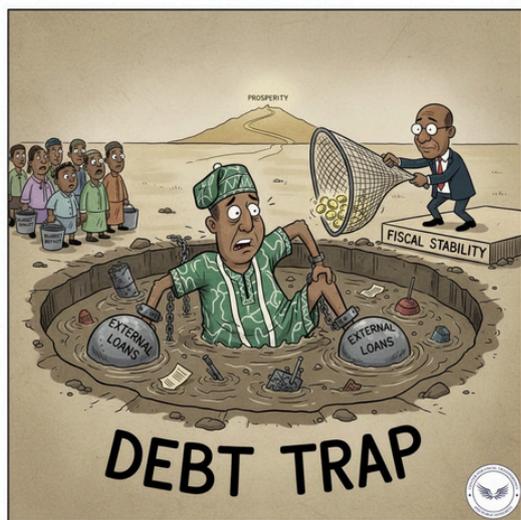
**“**  
**THE PROBLEM  
WITH THE CURRENT  
SYSTEM OF  
GOVERNANCE IS  
THAT IT IS BUILT  
ON INEFFICIENCIES.**  
**”**

Executive Director,  
Center for Fiscal Transparency and  
Public Integrity (CeFTPI).

[www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

Keep up with our opinion articles for the month:

1. INEC as the enabler of grand corruption in Nigeria. - [www.premiumtimesng.com](http://www.premiumtimesng.com)
2. The soul of Nigeria Police: Addressing soft issues for modern challenges - [www.premiumtimesng.com](http://www.premiumtimesng.com)
3. Why dual citizenshipship should be restricted for public office holders - [www.premiumtimesng.com](http://www.premiumtimesng.com)
4. 2025 Budget Capital without cash - [www.dailytrust.com](http://www.dailytrust.com)



The borders are officially tight, provided your luggage doesn't have a 'handling fee' attached.

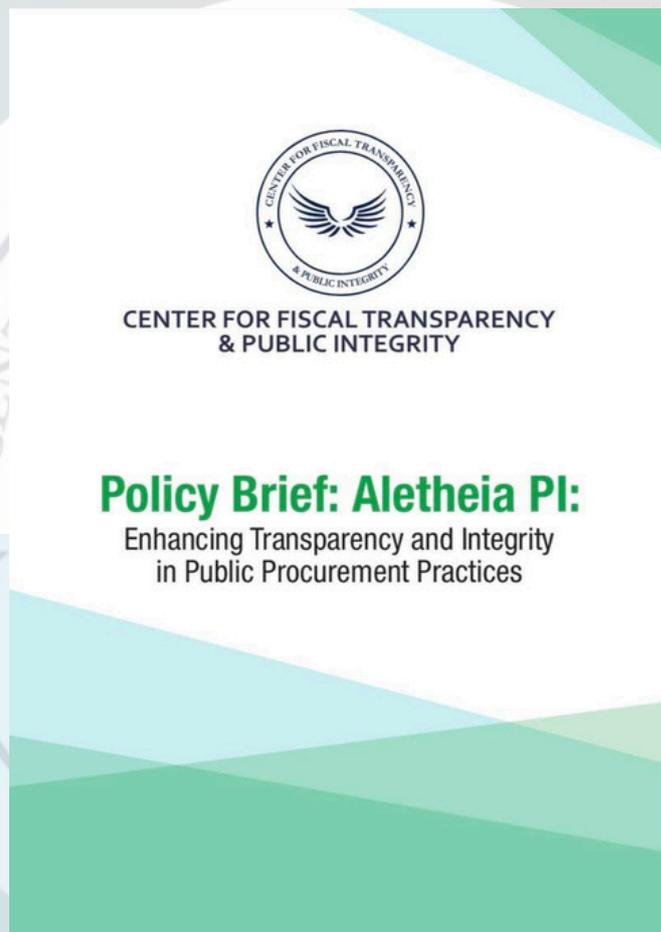
## ADVOCATING FOR TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE MECHANISM IN THE RECOVERY AND MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS OF CRIME.



On Thursday, 26th of February, the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity participates in the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters' Public Hearing on the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025, advocating for robust, transparent, and accountable mechanisms in the recovery and management of proceeds of crime.



**POLICY BRIEF: ALETHEIA PROCURMENT INTEGRITY**  
**ENHANCING TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC**  
**PROCUREMENT PRACTICES**



Proud to share our latest Policy Brief on Aletheia Procurement Integrity. This initiative is setting a new standard for how governments and public institutions should procure; openly, fairly and accountably.

Public funds deserve public trust.

Access our latest policy brief on our website: [www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

## CONNECT WITH US

13



: [mail@fiscaltransparency.org](mailto:mail@fiscaltransparency.org)



: [FiscalTransparency](https://www.facebook.com/FiscalTransparency)



: [fiscaltransparencynigeria](https://www.instagram.com/fiscaltransparencynigeria)



: +2348033278895  
+23492921659



: [www.fiscaltransparency.org](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)



: [Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/center-for-fiscal-transparency-and-public-integrity)



: [FTransparencyNG](https://twitter.com/FTransparencyNG)

For Additional Information, kindly visit us @



No 11 Ado Ekiti Close, Area 11, Abuja.