

Trump opts for corruption

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The following was issued by friends of mine in [Global Witness](#) in the USA today. I reproduce it because I share their concerns. In fact, it feels very personal: this was the first form of country-by-country reporting to be legislated and now it's gone

In an extraordinary gift to Big Oil, the Republican-led U.S. Congress has voted to overturn an historic transparency law designed to stop oil companies striking corrupt deals with foreign governments.

In overturning the law, Congress has immediately sanctioned corruption by green lighting secret deals between oil companies and despots. These deals deprive some of the world's poorest people of oil wealth that is rightfully theirs.

We can't let this go unnoticed: please help by [sharing our statement](#), and [our Facebook post](#) and [tweet now](#)

Given the President's massive conflicts of interest and his administration's broad attacks on regulation, it appears U.S. institutions are increasingly being abused to further the business interests of a powerful few. This is how corrupt dictatorships start.

The vote by the Senate early this morning comes just two days after Rex Tillerson, a longstanding opponent of the law while CEO of ExxonMobil, was confirmed as Secretary of State, and the day after the U.S. eased sanctions on Russia.

Today the U.S. Congress voted for corruption and threw away its global leadership on the matter. **[Read our response in full: U.S. Congress votes for corruption](#)**

Sincerely,

Corinna Gilfillan
Head of U.S. Office of Global Witness