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Project Title: Re-designing the Integrity Management Framework in the British, Chinese and Hong Kong Public Services

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Over the past two decades, significant changes have taken place in Britain, China, and Hong Kong in the way government integrity is perceived and managed. In all three jurisdictions, the changing forms and characteristics of corruption have led the governments to re-assess the effectiveness of the existing rules and regulations with regard to integrity management. The Civil Service Code has been amended and expanded to capturing new forms of conflict of interest and other integrity issues and to providing public servants with more specific guidance on what is appropriate behaviour and conduct. There has also been great interest in institutional changes and in encouraging more collaboration and co-operation among the "ethical watchdogs."

This research project will conduct a comparative analysis of re-designing integrity management framework in Britain, China and Hong Kong. It will focus on why reforms have come about, how they have been implemented, what difficulties they have encounter or given rise to, and to what extent they can provide an effective approach to ensuring integrity in the public sector. This research will also look at the mutual dependence between regulators and the regulated, the relationship among integrity management agencies, and the interplay between global drivers and national-level initiatives in the three cases under consideration.

This research is timely and important because Integrity management is a key issue of major global concern. The findings of this project will not only help us better understand the dynamics underpinning reforms to integrity management systems in the three cases under review but also, by extension, facilitate the analysis of similar changes in other jurisdictions.