

# Unfork Nepal: Anti-Corruption Manifesto

Kathmandu, Nepal - Sept 2025

## Executive Summary

Unfork Nepal demands and commits to fight for immediate anti-corruption reforms backed by global precedents. Drawing from Singapore's CPIB, US False Claims Act, and Estonia's e-governance model, we will fight for:

### Core Reforms:

- Independent CIAA with full prosecutorial powers
- Civil service accountability and merit-based governance
- Whistleblower protections with financial incentives
- Permanent disqualification for corrupt politicians
- Two-term PM limit to prevent power concentration
- Complete digitization with real-time spending transparency
- Hybrid youth representation with real decision-making power
- Pre/post-election accountability frameworks

**Timeline:** 180-day implementation with Supreme Court oversight, ordinances and constitutional amendments.

**Success Target:** Singapore-level transparency within 2 years, NPR 100-200 billion asset recovery (based on successful international anti-corruption recoveries).

Unfork Nepal commits to sustained peaceful pressure until genuine governance is established.

## Affirmation of Parliamentary System

We affirm the parliamentary system as the most accountable and corruption-resistant model for Nepal's governance. We aren't interested in a directly elected Prime Minister because:

- **It does not solve corruption** - Direct election fails to prevent bribery, nepotism, and embezzlement, as seen in countries that have tried this model
- **It creates pseudo-stability that masks dictatorship** - A directly elected PM with unchecked power becomes an elected dictator, undermining democratic checks
- **It makes Nepal vulnerable to foreign influence** - As a small nation, direct PM elections become targets for external interference and manipulation
- **It ignores systemic reforms** - Focuses on personality rather than institutional change, leaving corruption networks intact

**Agreement Required:** Government commits to maintaining parliamentary system with no direct PM elections, following successful models like the UK and Canada.

## Independent Anti-Corruption Commission (CIAA)

**CIAA must be fully independent: free from political influence, with real power to prosecute anyone.**

We commit to fight for a truly independent CIAA modeled after Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB) - the world's most effective anti-corruption agency. It transformed Singapore from Asia's most corrupt nation (CPI score: 3.18 in 1988) to Asia's least corrupt (83/100 in 2023), achieving a 50+ point improvement in one generation through systematic institutional reforms and zero-tolerance enforcement (Harvard Kennedy School Singapore Corruption Case Study):

- **Complete independence from political interference** - Commissioners appointed by independent panels of judges, academics, and civil society leaders, not politicians
- **Full prosecutorial powers** - Authority to investigate and convict ALL officials including politicians, bureaucrats, and business elites
- **No immunity for anyone** - Government officials, ministers, and civil servants have zero protection from investigation
- **Immediate establishment with full operational capacity** - No waiting periods or phased implementation
- **Dedicated divisions** for political corruption, bureaucratic corruption, and corporate corruption
- **Constitutional firewall** - No commissioner may have held political office within 10 years prior to appointment
- **Public oversight board** - Youth and civil society monitors alongside CIAA operations

#### **Penalty Structure for Non-Compliance:**

- **Interference with CIAA investigations:** 10-15 year imprisonment for government officials
- **Failure to cooperate with CIAA:** Automatic dismissal and 5-year ban from public service
- **Obstruction of justice:** Confiscation of assets and lifetime political bans
- **False testimony to CIAA:** 3-7 year imprisonment and fines up to NPR 5 million

**Agreement Required:** PM ordinance establishing independent CIAA within 15 days, with constitutional amendment commitment upon parliament reconvening.

### **Civil Service Accountability and Reform**

**End political interference. Merit-based governance with zero tolerance for corruption.**

We demand transformation of Nepal's civil service into a professional, accountable bureaucracy:

#### **Core Reforms**

- **Merit-based appointments and promotions** - End political interference in hiring and advancement
- **Mandatory asset declarations and lifestyle audits** - Annual public verification of all civil servants' assets
- **Performance-based accountability** - Measurable KPIs with automatic penalties for delays (>30 days: 10% salary deduction)
- **Team complicity rule** - Entire departments held accountable for individual corruption failures
- **Anti-corruption training** - Mandatory programs for all civil servants with ethical standards code

### **Transparency Measures**

- **Procurement oversight** - All contracts >NPR 1 million publicly tendered and monitored
- **Travel monitoring** - Strict oversight of official foreign trips and expenditures
- **Citizen feedback systems** - Real-time public rating dashboards for service delivery
- **Internal reporting obligations** - Mandatory corruption reporting with severe penalties for non-compliance

**Agreement Required:** Civil Service Accountability Commission established within 30 days, reforms implemented within 90 days.

### **Whistleblower Protection and Incentives**

**Whistleblowers are heroes, not traitors. Protect them, reward them, empower them.**

Inspired by the US False Claims Act - which has recovered over \$70 billion since 1986 through successful prosecutions and settlements, including \$2.2 billion in healthcare fraud alone in FY 2023 (US Department of Justice False Claims Act Report) - we demand:

#### **Core Framework**

- **Ironclad legal protection** from retaliation, harassment, job loss, transfers, or demotions
- **Financial rewards** (5-15% of recovered corrupt funds) with tax exemptions
- **Secure anonymous reporting** channels with 24/7 hotlines and online portals
- **Complete identity protection** throughout investigation and prosecution
- **Witness protection and psychological support** for high-risk cases

#### **Penalty Structure**

- **Retaliation against whistleblowers:** 5-10 year imprisonment
- **Failure to protect whistleblowers:** Fines up to NPR 10 million
- **False accusations:** Civil penalties and defamation charges

**Agreement Required:** Protection Act enacted within 45 days, anonymous channels operational within 30 days.

### **Immediate Investigations into Politicians**

We demand accountability for past corruption through:

- Comprehensive, independent investigations of all politicians with corruption allegations
- Lifetime bans from public office for those proven guilty of corruption
- Mandatory asset declarations and verification for all politicians
- No statute of limitations on corruption cases
- Immediate commencement of investigations

**Agreement Required:** Independent investigation commission established within 15 days, with investigations beginning immediately.

### **Two-Term Limit for Prime Minister**

We demand structural limits on executive power:

- Maximum two terms for any Prime Minister regardless of party or coalition
- Immediate implementation through PM ordinance with constitutional backing upon parliament reconvening
- Clear succession planning mechanisms
- Prevention of power concentration in executive office

**Agreement Required:** PM ordinance implementing two-term limit within 30 days, with constitutional amendment commitment upon parliament reconvening.

## **Complete Digitization and Public Disclosure (NON-NEGOTIABLE)**

**No more hidden budgets, no more secret spending. Every rupee tracked in real-time.**

We demand absolute transparency in public funds, following Estonia's e-governance model. This digitally advanced government has eliminated corruption through complete digitization (World Bank Estonia Country Program Evaluation 2007-2017), made 99% of public services available online (Estonia e-Governance Solutions), and improved from CPI score 57.9 in 2003 to 76 in 2023 (Transparency International CPI) by reducing bureaucratic corruption by 30% through digital transparency (OECD Estonia Digital Government Review 2023):

- **Real-time tracking and public display** of all government spending
- **No exceptions** - all allocations, contracts, and expenditures made immediately public
- **Complete digital audit trail** from allocation to utilization
- **Free, searchable public databases** accessible to all citizens
- **Initial operational dashboards within 30 days** - full coverage of all ministries within 60-90 days
- **Blockchain-verified transactions** to prevent tampering
- **Mobile apps and APIs** for citizen access to spending data

**Agreement Required:** Full digitization completed within 60 days with public dashboards operational within 30 days. This is non-negotiable.

## **Youth Reservation and Representation**

**Youth voices must shape Nepal's future. Merit-based youth representation with real power and accountability.**

We demand a hybrid youth representation model combining demographic proportionality with merit-based selection. It follows successful models from Finland, New Zealand, and Canada where youth parliaments have driven innovative policymaking and reduced corruption through fresh perspectives:

### **Selection and Representation Framework**

- **Hybrid quota-merit system:** 50% selected by proportional demographic representation, 50% through competitive merit-based process
- **Age bracket expansion:** Youth defined as 18-40 to include more experienced young leaders
- **Guaranteed executive positions:** Youth ministers in key portfolios (Education, Youth & Sports, ICT, Environment)

- **Parliamentary representation:** Reserved seats in House of Representatives (minimum 45% of total seats, can be shared across different categories)
- **Local government inclusion:** Mandatory youth ward chairs in all municipalities

### **Selection Process**

- **Independent Youth Selection Commission:** Composed of retired judges, academics, and civil society leaders
- **Transparent application process:** Open applications with public vetting of candidates
- **Diverse representation criteria:** Geographic, gender, socioeconomic, and ethnic diversity requirements
- **Competency assessment:** Standardized testing for governance knowledge, leadership skills, and policy understanding
- **Public interviews:** Live-streamed selection interviews with citizen voting component

### **Power and Accountability Mechanisms**

- **Real decision-making authority:** Youth representatives have full voting rights and committee memberships
- **Veto power on youth policies:** Ability to block legislation negatively impacting youth (education, employment, digital rights)
- **Annual performance reviews:** Public evaluation of youth representatives' effectiveness
- **Recall elections:** Citizens can petition for removal of underperforming representatives
- **Succession planning:** Mentorship programs pairing youth representatives with experienced parliamentarians

### **Capacity Building and Support**

- **Comprehensive training programs:** 6-month governance academy before taking office
- **Dedicated research staff:** Professional policy advisors for each youth representative
- **Technology support:** Digital tools for constituency communication and policy analysis
- **International exposure:** Study visits to successful youth governance models abroad

### **Legal Safeguards**

- **Constitutional protections:** Same legal status and protections as other elected representatives
- **Anti-discrimination measures:** Penalties for marginalizing or ignoring youth representatives
- **Resource allocation:** Dedicated budget for youth representative offices and operations
- **Judicial oversight:** Supreme Court monitoring of youth representation implementation

**Agreement Required:** Government commits to constitutional amendments through available legal mechanisms, with youth representatives seated within 90 days of parliament reconvening.

### **Pre/Post-Election Safeguards**

**Corruption-proof elections with permanent accountability frameworks.**

### **Pre-Election Reforms**

- **Candidate qualification standards:** Criminal background checks and asset declarations mandatory
- **Campaign finance transparency:** Real-time disclosure of all donations and expenditures
- **Independent election commission:** Reforms ensuring no political interference
- **Voter education campaigns:** Government-funded awareness on corruption and accountability
- **Youth election observers:** 15,000 trained monitors deployed in phases

### **Post-Election Lock-Ins**

- **Constitutional amendments:** Entrench all anti-corruption reforms permanently
- **Independent oversight bodies:** Permanent commissions for CIAA, elections, and fiscal transparency
- **Judicial independence safeguards:** Constitutional protections against political interference
- **Power transition monitoring:** Independent oversight during government changes
- **Asset recovery continuation:** Uninterrupted investigations and recovery processes

## **Resource Allocation & Legal Safeguards**

**Dedicated funding and constitutional protections for sustainable reforms.**

### **Resource Framework**

- **Infrastructure:** Secure data centers, digital platforms, training academies, global connectivity

### **Legal Safeguards**

- **Supreme Court Oversight:** Constitutional review, quarterly monitoring, dispute resolution
- **Constitutional Amendments:** Entrench all reforms, judicial independence, institutional protections
- **Legal Standards:** UNCAC alignment, pre-implementation review, annual audits

**Agreement Required:** Resources allocated within 15 days, legal framework established within 30 days.

## **Economic Impact & International Cooperation**

**Reforms that strengthen economy while building global partnerships.**

### **Economic Framework**

- **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** 15:1 ROI (World Bank Governance Brief on Corruption Controversies) through reduced corruption costs (NPR 200-300B annually) (based on IMF Working Paper WP/16/37: “The Impact of Corruption on Foreign Investment”)
- **Business Protections:** Transition support funds, regulatory sandboxes, SME assistance
- **Long-term Benefits:** Improved FDI (\$500M increase (World Bank Corruption Impact Studies)), efficiency gains, institutional strengthening (following successful models like Chile’s anti-corruption reforms that increased FDI by 40% (Brookings Institution Chile Anti-Corruption Reforms))

### **International Partnerships**

- **UN System:** UNDP capacity building, UNODC expertise, UNCAC compliance
- **Development Partners:** World Bank grants, knowledge transfer, investment guarantees
- **Regional Networks:** SAARC cooperation, bilateral treaties, Interpol coordination
- **Global Standards:** International reporting, peer reviews, asset recovery networks

**Agreement Required:** Economic assessment within 30 days, international framework within 45 days.

### **Implementation Roadmap**

**180-day transformation with measurable milestones.**

#### **Phase 1 (Days 1-30): Foundation**

- Establish Supreme Court oversight and legal panels
- Issue PM ordinances for CIAA, civil service reform, PM term limits
- Launch whistleblower system and begin politician investigations
- Deploy youth election observers and transparency dashboards

#### **Phase 2 (Days 31-90): Development**

- Complete digitization infrastructure and databases
- Enact whistleblower protection laws
- Complete initial politician investigations and implement bans
- Seat youth representatives and scale monitoring systems

#### **Phase 3 (Days 91-180): Full Operation**

- Achieve operational capacity of all anti-corruption institutions
- Complete asset recovery and establish international partnerships
- Implement permanent monitoring and evaluation frameworks

#### **Phase 4 (Days 181-365): Consolidation**

- Constitutional amendments and permanent institutional reforms
- Nationwide training and international compliance

### **Risk Mitigation & Success Metrics**

**Contingency planning and measurable outcomes.**

#### **Key Risks & Contingencies**

- **Political Resistance:** Supreme Court intervention triggers, international monitoring
- **Capacity Shortage:** Pre-deployed international experts, accelerated training
- **Economic Disruption:** Phased implementation, business support funds
- **Security Threats:** 24/7 protection protocols, international safe houses
- **Legal Challenges:** Pre-emptive Supreme Court approval, fast-track appeals

### **Success Targets (2 Years)**

- **CPI Improvement:** 20-30 point increase in global corruption rankings (Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index), following Singapore's steady improvement model (Harvard Kennedy School Singapore Corruption Case Study)
- **Asset Recovery:** NPR 100-200 billion recovered from corrupt officials, based on successful international recoveries like Georgia's \$4.8 billion under Saakashvili (Carnegie Endowment Georgia Anti-Corruption Drive)
- **Conviction Rate:** 70% success rate in high-level corruption prosecutions (Singapore CPIB Annual Report 2023), matching Singapore CPIB's effectiveness (Independent Commission Against Corruption History)
- **Transparency:** 100% government spending publicly tracked in real-time
- **Youth Participation:** 15-20% representation in decision-making bodies (International IDEA Youth Participation in Politics), following successful Nordic youth governance models (World Bank Youth Engagement in Governance)
- **Economic Impact:** \$300-500 million increase in annual FDI (World Bank Corruption Impact Analysis), based on IMF Working Paper WP/16/37 showing corruption reduction increases FDI by 2-3% annually, plus 15-20 point business ranking improvement

### **Monitoring Framework**

- **Supreme Court quarterly reviews** with international auditor participation
- **Real-time public dashboards** with automated alerts for implementation delays
- **Annual comprehensive audits** by World Bank and UN experts
- **Citizen feedback integration** and predictive analytics for bottlenecks

## **COMMITMENT AND MONITORING**

Unfork Nepal commits to:

- Peaceful, sustained pressure until all agreement points are implemented
- Independent monitoring of implementation progress
- Public reporting on government compliance
- Mobilization of youth across Nepal if commitments are not honored

## **SIGNATURE AND ENDORSEMENT**

This document serves as the foundation for agreement between Unfork Nepal and the Government of Nepal. Implementation of these points will demonstrate genuine commitment to ending corruption and establishing transparent governance.

**The time for empty promises is over. The time for action is now.**

#UnforkNepal #EndCorruption #TransparencyNow #GenZNepal #YouthPower

**Contact:** Unfork Nepal Coordination Committee