

CORRUPTION AND POLITICAL PARTIES IN KINGDOM OF SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES

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Summary: If declarations in party programs and declarations of politicians are exempted, there was no real will of the state – the Kingdom of SCS/Yugoslavia to confront the corruption. On the contrary, it stimulated the corruption. The state itself, as the institution and the power it represents, was using corruptive means in order to provide certain political decisions. On the other hand, the circle of prominent state officials and political individuals involved in corruption deals was wide: from the King Alexander as the chief of the state, through prime ministers, ministers, generals, high officers to the lowest clerks. When the corruption affairs would appear, these were regularly managed by the king himself and the ruling clique, with the goal to eliminate unwanted political opponent from the political match. However, regardless the solemn declarations on the need of confronting the corruption, regardless the general attitudes in party programs judging it, a high political official has never been convicted for corruption during the history of existence of the first Yugoslav state. The parties were aware that each of them participated in corruption deals and were not willing to allow such a judgement, even when they were attacking corruptionists in words. All that created the system corruption and made the phenomenon of “captured state” – the Kingdom of SCS/Yugoslavia.