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## INVITATION

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### Reflecting on the Zondo Commission of Inquiry: Lessons for the Private Sector

The National Business Initiative's (NBI) work on Building Trust and Accountability aims to reimagine South Africa as a society and economy built on trust. We do this by strengthening ethics and governance in the Private Sector, enhancing the capacity for responsible business practices and accountability. In turn, this strengthens the relationship between Business and broader society.

The Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of State Capture, better known as the Zondo Commission, was set up by former South African President, Jacob Zuma, to investigate allegations of state capture, corruption, and fraud in the public sector in South Africa.

While focussing primarily on the public sector, the findings indicated widespread corruption in both the public and private sectors in South Africa. The Zondo Commission findings “bust the abiding myths that the private sector is more ethical than the public sector and is less susceptible to corrupt practices given the many anti-corruption regulations.<sup>[1]</sup>”

The Commission's final report comprises four key chapters:

**Volume I – Chapter 1:** *South African Airways and its associated companies*

**Volume II – Chapter 2:** *The New Age and its dealings with government departments and state-owned entities*

**Volume III – Chapter 3:** *South African Revenue Services (SARS) and public procurement in South Africa*

**Chapter 4:** *Public procurement in South Africa*

Corruption in South Africa is rife and has devastating effects that exacerbate the mounting economic and social challenges we face. The private sector has a critical role in supporting anti-corruption efforts and strengthening the public sector infrastructure because “*corruption discourages donors and destroys investor confidence, strangling development, progress, and prosperity*”<sup>[2]</sup>.

Join us for this important event unpacking what the findings of the Zondo Commission mean for business in South Africa, as well as the role business can and must play in fighting corruption while strengthening social contracts. Business can

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[1] By Ray Mahlaka, **Financial journalist**

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2022-01-18-the-private-sectors-big-ethics-problem-unravels-after-state-capture-report/>

[2] Anton du Plessis, **Executive Director, ISS**

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/sep/16/corruption-africa-violates-human-rights-fuels-radicalism-why-do-we-tolerate-it>

only prosper when society prospers, which presents a unique opportunity for strategic collective action initiatives, aiming to deepen the dialogue on ethics and counter corruption practices.

**We invite you to engage with us and our panel of esteemed speakers as we unpack insights, recommendations, and lessons learned following the Zondo Commission process of inquiry.**

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 29 June 2022
<b>Time:</b>	11:00 to 12:30
<b>RSVP:</b>	Please click <a href="#">here</a> to register for this Zoom event, and then add the link to your calendar. Kindly respond by <b>Friday, 24 June 2022</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> By [Ray Mahlaka](#), Financial journalist, Daily Maverick. **Article available: [here](#)**

<sup>[2]</sup> [Anton du Plessis](#), Executive Director, ISS. **Article available: [here](#)**

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