



# GOVERN

ECONOMIC AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CENTER

## CORPORATE PROFILE

GOVERNANCE INTEGRITY CONFIDENCE

2024

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



S  
H  
I  
N  
E  
C  
O

01.

ABOUT US

02.

SENIOR EXPERTISE

03.

OUR FOUNDER

04.

OUR SERVICES

05.

OUR TRACK RECORD

06.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

07.

EVENTS

08.

CONTACT US

# 01 ABOUT US

GOVERN WAS BORN AS AN ANSWER TO THE CONFIDENCE CRISIS IN THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEM.

01

Our mission is to challenge the status quo and explore new governance, financial and strategy frontiers to address emerging global challenges, from artificial intelligence to technology governance.

02

We closely collaborate with decision-makers to shape legal and regulatory policies, as well as support firms in their quest to have robust governance, integrity, risk and compliance tools and strategies.

03

We offer specialised counsel on corporate and economic governance, risk and compliance challenges to governments, sovereign funds, state-owned enterprises, regulators, investors and corporate clients.

04

By providing insights and thought leadership, we support decision-makers in policymaking, facilitating sustainable growth in both private and public sectors.

05

Leveraging our regulatory expertise and experience, we provide support to a range of corporate clients as they navigate their GRC and ESG priorities.

# 01 ABOUT US

FOR EACH PROJECT, GOVERN GATHERS A SET OF EXPERTS FROM THE RELEVANT COUNTRIES AND DISCIPLINES TO PERFECTLY FIT THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF EACH OF OUR CLIENTS.

COLLECTIVELY, OUR TEAM BOASTS OVER 250 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE DEDICATED TO ADVANCING SOUND STRATEGY, GOOD GOVERNANCE, PRUDENT RISK MANAGEMENT AND ROBUST COMPLIANCE IN GLOBAL MARKETS.

OUR EXPERTS HAVE ENGAGED WITH CLIENTS ACROSS EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA AND NORTH AMERICA AND ARE ABLE TO SERVE CLIENTS IN ARABIC, FRENCH, RUSSIAN, ITALIAN AND OTHER LANGUAGES, ENSURING A TRULY GLOBAL FOOTPRINT.



# 01 ABOUT US

GOVERN'S STRATEGIC EXPANSION IS PILOTTED BY ITS FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR ALISSA KOLE, SUPPORTED BY A TEAM OF SENIOR PROFESSIONALS WITH TARGETED EXPERTISE.

WE PROUDLY STAND AS A LEADING THINK TANK AND ADVISORY CENTER SUPPORTING POLICYMAKERS AND CORPORATE LEADERS AS THEY NAVIGATE THROUGH COMPLEX GOVERNANCE, RISK, SUSTAINABILITY, COMPLIANCE AND STRATEGY PRIORITIES.

WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN GENERALIST ADVICE AND REJECT ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL SOLUTIONS: OUR MODUS OPERANDI IS ROOTED IN CRAFTING BESPOKE SOLUTIONS SUITED TO THE CULTURAL, LEGAL AND ORGANIZATION-SPECIFIC LANDSCAPES OF OUR CLIENTS.

OUR TEAM COMPRISES SPECIALISED EXPERTS, POOLING TOGETHER DISTINCT EXPERTISE IN THEMATIC, REGIONAL, AND INDUSTRIAL DOMAINS FOR EVERY PROJECT. LEVERAGING DECADES OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH REGULATORS, COMPANIES AND INVESTORS, OUR CORE SERVICE PORTFOLIO INCLUDES:



RESEARCH



TRAINING



ADVISORY

**TOGETHER, WE STRIVE TO DRIVE POSITIVE CHANGE AND FACILITATE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS.**



# 02 OUR EXPERTS

OUR SENIOR EXPERTS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONALS:



**STEPHEN DAVIS**  
SENIOR GOVERNANCE  
ADVISOR



**LAMEES AL BAHARNA**  
SENIOR RISK  
ADVISOR



**DAVID BEATTY**  
SENIOR GOVERNANCE  
ADVISOR



**ERIK VERMEULEN**  
SENIOR LAW AND  
GOVERNANCE ADVISOR



**AYESHA SULTAN**  
SENIOR STRATEGY AND  
GOVERNANCE ADVISOR



**VEDAT AKGIRAY**  
SENIOR FINANCIAL MARKETS  
ADVISOR



**MOHAMMAD AL ZUHAIR**  
SENIOR GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE  
ADVISOR



**EKATERINA ZGULADZE**  
SENIOR INTEGRITY  
ADVISOR



**STEFFEN HERTOOG**  
SENIOR ECONOMIC  
ADVISOR

## 03 OUR FOUNDER



### ALISSA KOLE

ALISSA KOLE IS A SENIOR ADVISOR TO GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS, LEVERAGING HER EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE AS AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED EXPERT IN ECONOMIC AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.

SHE IS THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF GOVERN CENTER, AWARDED FOR ITS WORK ON THE DESIGN OF CUSTOM GOVERNANCE, RISK AND COMPLIANCE REGULATIONS AND FRAMEWORKS.

FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS, MS. KOLE HAS BEEN SUPPORTING POLICYMAKERS, BOARDS, AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES ADDRESS CHALLENGES RELATED TO PRIVATE AND STATE-OWNED GOVERNANCE, FINANCIAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION, INSTITUTION BUILDING, AND REGULATORY REFORM.

PRIOR TO FOUNDING GOVERN, MS. KOLE LAUNCHED AND LED THE OECD REGIONAL PROJECT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA FOR A DECADE, IN PARTICULAR DEVELOPING A UNIQUE PROGRAM ON GOVERNANCE IN THE REGION. SHE HAS BEEN CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, CAPITAL MARKET, AND STATE OWNERSHIP LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

SHE CURRENTLY COUNSELS GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS IN EUROPE, AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST ON REGULATORY REFORM ISSUES, INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE RANKINGS AND INSTITUTION BUILDING INITIATIVES, SUPPORTING MAJOR CLIENTS SUCH AS THE PUBLIC INVESTMENT FUND, AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPMENT, THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE G20.

## 03 OUR FOUNDER



MS. KOLE IS A PROLIFIC AUTHOR, INCLUDING BOOKS AND ARTICLES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, CAPITAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT, SOVEREIGN GOVERNANCE, AND RELATED TOPICS. SHE IS A SOUGHT-AFTER COMMENTATOR WITH PUBLIC APPEARANCES AS A TED SPEAKER AND ARTICLES IN THE FINANCIAL TIMES, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, THE HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW, BLOOMBERG, AND OTHER RECOGNIZED MEDIA. SHE HOSTS GOVERNANCE DIALOGUES, A UNIQUE ONLINE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CHANNEL.

SHE HOLDS A BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREE FROM YORK UNIVERSITY, A MASTERS DEGREE IN POLITICAL ECONOMY FROM THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, AND PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES FROM YALE. MS. KOLE HAS SERVED AS A FELLOW AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS MIDDLE EAST CENTER AND ACTS AS A MEMBER OF SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

SHE WAS NAMED ONE OF THE TOP 100 LEADERS IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST BY THE CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND EXCELLENCE AND WAS RECOGNIZED BY COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL AS THE RISING STAR OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE. MS. KOLE IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, RUSSIAN, ITALIAN AND HAS NOTIONS OF ARABIC, UKRAINIAN AND PORTUGUESE.



## 04 OUR SERVICES

**WE DEPLOY DEEP, COUNTRY SPECIFIC GOVERNANCE, ECONOMIC, AND STRATEGY EXPERTISE TO SERVE A DIVERSITY OF GLOBAL CLIENTS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.**

**PUBLIC SECTOR ENTITIES** TRUST US WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS, FROM CRAFTING NATIONAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODES TO FORMULATING GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS FOR STATE-INVESTED FIRMS.

**PRIVATE CLIENTS** SOLICIT US TO CREATE BESPOKE GOVERNANCE AND INTEGRITY FRAMEWORKS IN THE TRANSACTION CONTEXT TRANSACTIONS OR NORMAL COURSE OF BUSINESS.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FIRMS** INCLUDING LAW, AUDIT, AND INVESTMENT FIRMS CALL UPON US FOR OUR GUIDANCE TRANSACTIONAL AND RESTRUCTURING OPERATIONS NECESSITATING SPECIALISED INSIGHT.

WE ARE SECTOR-AGNOSTIC AND **HAVE ADVISED CLIENTS ACROSS INDUSTRIES** INCLUDING FINANCIAL SERVICES, HEALTHCARE, PETROCHEMICAL, MANUFACTURING, SERVICES AND BEYOND.

# 04 OUR SERVICES

## CORPORATE CLIENTS

**FOR OUR CORPORATE CLIENTS, WE ARE CALLED TO DEVELOP AND ASSESS GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS, INCLUDING:**

- Design of environmental, social and governance strategies;
- Bespoke governance, risk, compliance and strategy evaluations;
- Conduct of governance audits and support with regulatory actions;
- Re-design of corporate governance frameworks and procedures;
- Review and optimisation of risk management processes and tools;
- Design corporate disclosure and investor communication;
- Facilitation training and retreats for board members and executives;
- Structuring governance for group companies and joint ventures.

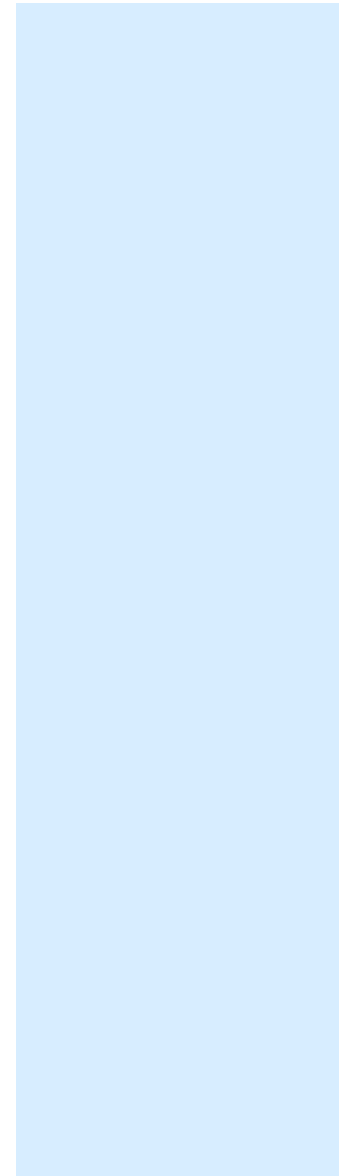


# 04 OUR SERVICES

## STATE & SOVEREIGNS

**WE SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS, SOVEREIGN FUNDS AND STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TAILORED STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS THROUGH:**

- Design of custom legal governance frameworks for SWFs and SOEs;
- Development of regulatory frameworks for sectoral regulators;
- Advisory to governments on improvement of their integrity ratings;
- Development of SOE legislation, ownership policies, disclosure policies, etc.
- Restructuring boards of state-owned firms to ensure greater effectiveness;
- Provision of training to directors and executives of SWFs and SOEs;
- Support in restructuring and privatisation of state-invested companies;
- Structuring and establishment of governance regimes for SWFs.



# 04 OUR SERVICES

## REGULATORY ENTITIES

**WE SUPPORT STOCK EXCHANGES, SECURITIES REGULATORS AND CENTRAL BANKS IN DEVELOPING REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS, INCLUDING:**

- Development of rules and regulations for listed companies;
- Establishment of disclosure platforms and systems for listed companies;
- Development of concepts for attracting listings and portfolio investment;
- Support to research on critical capital market development issues;
- Development training for market participants and listed firms;
- Revision/development of corporate governance codes and regulations;
- Review and development of regulations on market integrity rules;
- Training on the above issues based on international practices.



# 04 OUR SERVICES

## NON-FOR-PROFIT SECTOR

**WE ACTIVELY ENGAGE WITH FOUNDATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER NGOS TO SUPPORT THEIR INITIATIVES AND ADVANCE THEIR PRIORITIES BY:**

- Supporting the development of governance practices in NGOs;
- Developing of governance and economic research for and on the NGO sector;
- Providing support to donor organisations in executing their national projects;
- Creation of partnerships between national and international stakeholders;
- Training senior executives on governance practices in the NGO sector;
- Coordinating governance and execution of complex multi-donor projects;
- Executing GRC-centered donor projects in lower income countries.



# 05 OUR TRACK RECORD



GOVERN IS PROUD TO HAVE COLLABORATED WITH LEADING INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, GOVERNMENT CLIENTS AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS.



OUR PROVEN TRACK RECORD SHOWCASES AN ARRAY OF PROJECTS SPANNING INSTITUTION-BUILDING INITIATIVES, COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS, AND CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH ENDEAVOURS:



WE HAVE LED OR BEEN INVOLVED IN DRAFTING OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES GUIDELINES, INCLUDING IN COUNTRIES AS DIVERSE AS SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, SENEGAL, ANGOLA, FRANCE, MOROCCO, KOSOVO AND EGYPT.



OUR EXPERTS HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DOZENS LEADING GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES AMONG WHICH THE SAUDI CENTER FOR GOVERNANCE, THE EMIRATI HAWKAMAH INSTITUTE AND MANY OTHERS.



WE HAVE PROVIDED TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO HUNDREDS OF BOARDS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES AS THEY HAVE SOUGHT TO TRANSFORM THEIR COMPANIES.



نيوم NEOM



WE HAVE SUPPORTED AND CONTINUE TO SUPPORT MINISTERS IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT ROBUST GRC LEGAL FRAMEWORKS, LEADING TO THE IMPROVEMENT IN NATIONAL RANKINGS AND PERCEPTION INTERNATIONALLY.



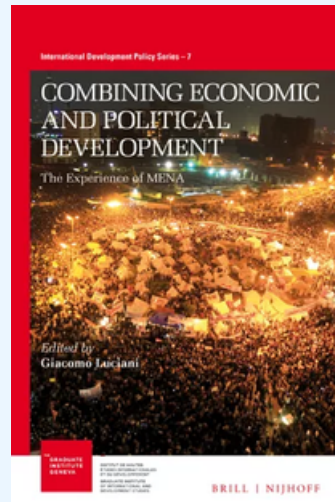
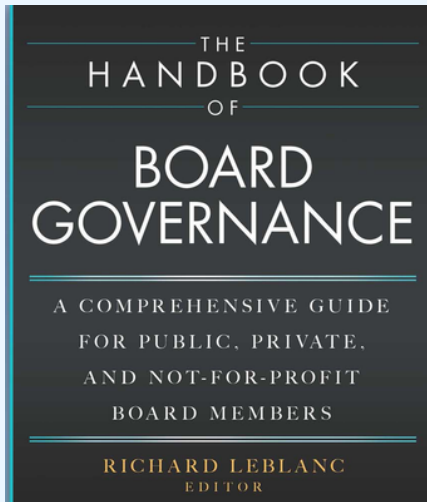
اتحاد هيئات الأوراق المالية العربية  
UNION OF ARAB SECURITIES AUTHORITIES



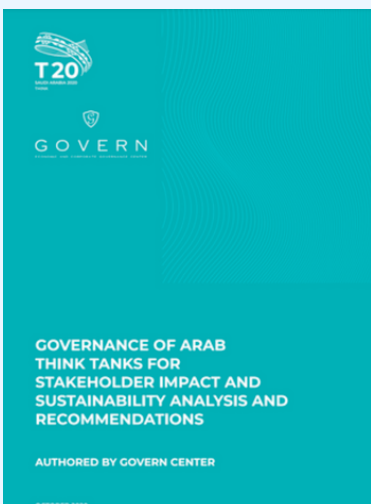
شركة السعودية الاستثمارية لإعادة التدوير  
Saudi Investment Recycling Company

# 06 THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

GOVERN'S PROJECTS AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP HAVE BEEN FEATURED ON THE FRONT PAGES OF GLOBAL MEDIA, GATHERING WIDESPREAD RECOGNITION.



WE HAVE CONDUCTED MORE RESEARCH ON GOVERNANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAN ANY OTHER ENTITY – FOR THIS REASON, OUR RESEARCH HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY THE WEF, THE G20 AND THE OECD.

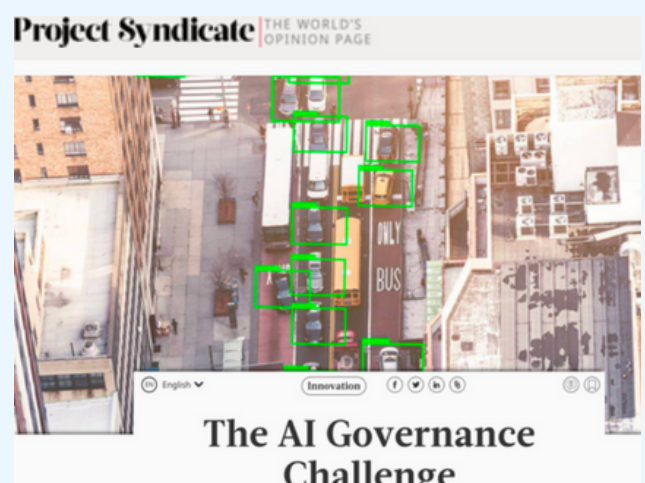


# 06 THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

OUR RESEARCH HAS BEEN FEATURED IN INTERNATIONAL MEDIA SUCH AS THE FINANCIAL TIMES, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, PROJECT SYNDICATE, HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW, THE FORBES MAGAZINE AS WELL AS MANY OTHERS.



OUR THINKING HAS ALSO BEEN PROFILED IN NATIONAL MEDIA INCLUDING THE WASHINGTON POST, THE JAPAN TIMES, THE GLOBE AND MAIL, AND THE BUSINESS TIMES, SPANNING VARIOUS LANGUAGES SUCH AS ENGLISH, ARABIC, RUSSIAN, AND FRENCH.



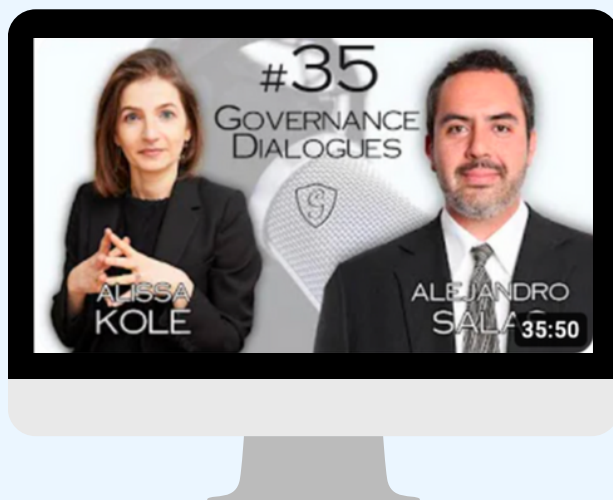


# 07 EVENTS

OUR EXPERTS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO INTERVENE IN PRESTIGIOUS FORA FROM TED TALKS TO G20 MEETINGS AND FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS' MEETINGS TO KEY ACADEMIC GATHERINGS.



IN AN ERA OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, WE ARE AT THE FOREFRONT OF EXPLORING NEW GOVERNANCE PARADIGMS, IN AREAS LIKE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GOVERNANCE AND TAX GOVERNANCE.



# 08 CONTACT US

**G**OVERNANCE  
**O**VERSIGHT  
**V**ERACITY  
**E**XPERTISE  
**R**ESEARCH  
**N**EUTRALITY



<https://govern.center>



[@GOVERNCENTER](#)



+33 667 18 4024



[inquiries@govern.center](mailto:inquiries@govern.center)



[@alissakoleofficial](#)

