Drawing from theories in economics, sociology, and psychology, Peculiar Dynamics of Corruption examines how gender, religion, culture, and history affect corruption. It asks and answers questions such as, does employing more women than men reduce corruption in public sector organizations? How does a country’s religious landscape a hundred years ago affect corruption today? Is corruption higher in recessions or times of economic growth? The answers to these questions are surprising: group dynamics may matter more than gender, a history of Protestantism has lasting effects, and corruption is cyclical, but not in a way, most would assume. By offering simple explanations of these unexpected causes, Peculiar Dynamics of Corruption broadens our understanding of this global issue.

“Omer Gokcekus is a pioneer in research on the dynamics of corruption, in particular, on linking bad governance to the business cycle. After the 2007–2008 financial crisis, his work has provided a cornerstone to an improved understanding of how governance fluctuates with booms and busts. In this book, Omer, along with Kevin, expands his work to make a more comprehensive assessment of how corruption is related to luxury spending, poor oversight, religion, group behavior and the quality of openness, alerting us to the role of governance for a broader understanding of societal development and improved ways to contain corruption.”

Johann Graf Lambsdorff
University of Passau, Germany

“Omer Gokcekus, in collaboration with colleagues and students at the World Bank and various universities, has published 35 insightful and imaginative articles on corruption. Based on these investigations, Omer and Kevin clearly demonstrate how corruption smothers the efficient and equitable function of societies world-wide.”

Edward Tower
Duke University, USA