



## Impact: Unveiling Truths, Driving Change

2026 First Quarter

*From Washington to Xinjiang, ICIJ's reporting spurred action in the first three months of the year. Governments introduced legislation, regulators revoked licences and authorities launched new investigations. In multiple cases, authorities cited or responded directly to findings uncovered in our investigations. New research also points to the lasting influence of our reporting, including the 2019 China Cables investigation, which exposed the inner workings of China's "re-education campaign."*

### In China

- ICIJ's **China Cables** investigation contributed to a shift in Beijing's response to mass detention in Xinjiang, according to [new academic research](#). Political scientist Jan Švec of the Institute of International Relations in Prague found that sustained exposure, including ICIJ's reporting, pushed Chinese authorities toward partially dismantling the detention camp system.

### In the United Kingdom

- The Premier League fined Chelsea F.C. a [record 10.75 million pounds](#) (\$14 million) and imposed an academy transfer ban after an investigation into undisclosed payments tied to play transfers. The case stemmed from secret financial arrangements uncovered by ICIJ's **Cyprus Confidential** involving former football club owner Roman Abramovich.
- Former Nigerian oil minister [Diezani Alison-Madueka is standing trial](#) in London on bribery charges. Alison-Madueka, who once chaired the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, is accused of accepting bribes to steer oil contracts. Her lawyer has said the payments were reimbursed and that she was a "rubber stamp" for contracts she did not control. ICIJ's **Panama Papers** investigation previously identified offshore entities connected to her associates, illuminating financial structures tied to the alleged scheme.

## In Mexico

- [ICIJ's investigation](#) into how military-grade ammunition reached Mexican cartels [prompted the government](#) to disclose that nearly half of the .50-caliber rifle rounds seized originated from a U.S. Army plant. Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said she would press Washington for answers.

## In the United States

- Lawmakers introduced [legislation](#) to ban the sale of military-grade ammunition and weapons produced at government-owned plants. U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., introduced the bill after an investigation by ICIJ and The New York Times found that rounds had been trafficked to Mexican cartels.

## In Malawi

- The government [launched a probe](#) into ownership and mining compliance following an investigation by ICIJ partners PIJ Malawi, Finance Uncovered and The Continent. The investigation revealed entities linked to China assumed control of a rare-earth mineral project without required government approval.

## In Canada

- The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre [revoked the registrations](#) of dozens of cryptocurrency businesses after ICIJ and The Toronto Star found many were operating without proper authorization. The reporting was part of **The Coin Laundry** investigation.
- The Canadian government appointed [Anton Boegman](#) to be the country's first foreign interference watchdog as scrutiny of transnational repression intensified following ICIJ's **China Targets** investigation. Boegman was formerly British Columbia's chief electoral officer.

## In Portugal

- Following revelations in ICIJ's **Coin Laundry** investigation, prosecutors [escalated a probe](#) into Elvira Gavrilova Paterson, who promoted ventures linked to alleged crypto fraudster Vladimir Okhotnikov. ICIJ reporting showed that Paterson's company helped finance and promote a Kevin Spacey movie co-produced, co-written and starring Okhotnikov. Portugal's elite Central Department of Investigation and Penal Action, which handles complex financial crimes, took over the investigation.

## In the European Union

- A [new report](#) commissioned by the European Parliament cited findings from **China Targets** in outlining policy recommendations to address transnational repression. The report calls for stronger coordination among member states and new measures to close accountability gaps.

## Right Here at ICIJ

- **The Coin Laundry** investigation [won top honors](#) in the The Society for Advancing Business Editing and Writing Best in Business Awards.

*This kind of impact demonstrates the power of our work to inspire real policy change, prompt regulatory scrutiny, empower the marginalized and disrupt illicit financial networks. **We can't do it without you.** Your support fuels our ability to keep shining a light wherever corruption and conspiracy reign.*

**Let's keep rocking the world. Together.**