

ABSTRACT

The comprehensiveness of tobacco policy is not unified across countries. The possible reason could lie in weaker civil institutes and lower transparency of policy adoption in the countries with lower income. Tobacco economics literature links corruption and smoking prevalence through uncontrolled smuggling. We examine whether corruption level influences the comprehensiveness of tobacco control policy. For this purpose we use the data for 36 countries in 2000-2004. Testing for appropriate using of fixed effects model versus random effects model provided evidence in favor of the latter. Separating tobacco control measures to according to their enforceability we came to conclusion that corruption lowers the comprehensiveness of easily enforceable controls, but is not statistically significant for adoption of controls with low enforceability. Bootstrap procedure was applied to increase the precision of estimation, but the findings remained robust to such checking.