

# Corruption Perceptions Index 2023: Full Source Description

**13 data sources were used to construct the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2023:**

1. [African Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment 2022](#)
2. [Bertelsmann Stiftung Sustainable Governance Indicators 2022](#)
3. [Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index 2024](#)
4. [Economist Intelligence Unit Country Risk Service 2023](#)
5. [Freedom House Nations in Transit 2022](#)
6. [Global Insight Country Risk Ratings 2022](#)
7. [IMD World Competitiveness Center World Competitiveness Yearbook Executive Opinion Survey 2023](#)
8. [Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Asian Intelligence 2023](#)
9. [The PRS Group International Country Risk Guide 2023](#)
10. [World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment 2022](#)
11. [World Economic Forum Executive Opinion Survey 2023](#)
12. [World Justice Project Rule of Law Index Expert Survey 2023](#)
13. [Varieties of Democracy \(V-Dem v. 13\) 2023](#)

## 1. African Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment 2021

**Code: AFDB**

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Expert evaluations

**Data provider:** African Development Bank

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is a regional multilateral development bank promoting the economic development and social progress of countries on the continent.

The AfDB's 2022 Governance Ratings are part of the Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA), which assesses the quality of a country's institutional framework in terms of how conducive it is to foster the effective use of development assistance. The current CPIA strives to achieve maximum uniformity and consistency across all regional member countries surveyed. Also, to comply with the Paris and Rome declarations on Aid Effectiveness, Harmonization and Alignment, the AfDB has modified the questionnaire and guidelines for its CPIA to be in line with those of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, thus increasing the comparability and synergy among systems.

The CPIA is carried out by a group of country economists with vast experience in policy analysis. The knowledge of these experts is complemented by that of local contacts that provide quantitative and qualitative insights. Peer discussions are also used to monitor the quality of the findings.

### **Corruption question(s)**

Experts are asked to assess:

Transparency, accountability and corruption in the public sector.

"This criterion assesses the extent to which the executive can be held accountable for its use of funds and the results of its actions by the electorate and by the legislature and judiciary, and the extent to which public employees within the executive are required to account for the use of resources, administrative decisions, and results obtained. Both levels of accountability are enhanced by transparency in decision-making, public audit institutions, access to relevant and timely information, and public and media scrutiny. National and sub-national governments should be appropriately weighted."

Each of the three dimensions is rated separately:

- (a) the accountability of the executive to oversight institutions and of public employees for their performance
- (b) access of civil society to information on public affairs
- (c) state capture by narrow vested interests

For the overall rating, these three dimensions receive equal weighting.

The questionnaire can be accessed here: <https://cpia.afdb.org/documents/public/cpia2018-questionnaire-en.pdf> and further information on the methodology is available at: <https://cpia.afdb.org/documents/public/cpia-methodology-en.pdf>.

### **Scores**

The rating scale ranges from 1 (very weak) to 6 (very strong).

### **Country coverage**

37 African countries are covered.

Countries are scored in terms of their performance during the rating year vis-à-vis the criteria, which are included in the CPIA Manual for Drafters and updated yearly. The CPIA is a three-phase process involving i) the rating of countries by country teams, ii) the review of all ratings by sector experts, and iii) the endorsement of final ratings at open discussions between country teams and reviewers.

The data was published annually between 2004 and 2016 and every two years after that. The database containing the latest update was published in July 2023 and was compiled between September and November 2021.

### **Data availability**

The data is publicly available online at <https://cpia.afdb.org/?page=data&subpage=database>.

## **2. Bertelsmann Stiftung Sustainable Governance Indicators 2022**

**Code: BF (SGI)**

**Year of publication:** 2022

**Type of assessment:** Combination of quantitative data and qualitative expert assessments

**Data provider:** Bertelsmann Stiftung

The Bertelsmann Stiftung (BF) was founded 1977 as a private foundation. As a think tank, they work toward improved education, a just and efficient economic system, a preventative healthcare system, a vibrant civil society and greater international understanding. The BF is independent and nonpartisan. It designs, launches and runs its projects.

The Sustainable Governance Indicators (SGI) examine governance and policymaking in all OECD and EU member states to evaluate each country's need for and ability to carry out reform.

The indicators are calculated using quantitative data from international organisations and supplemented by qualitative assessments from recognised country experts. For each SGI survey, individual countries are evaluated by two (or more) leading experts. For more information on the methodology, please see <https://www.sgi-network.org/2022/Methodology>.

### **Corruption question(s)**

Experts are asked to assess:

Corruption prevention

“D4.4 To what extent are public officeholders prevented from abusing their position for private interests?”

This question addresses how the state and society prevent public servants and politicians from accepting bribes by applying mechanisms to guarantee the integrity of officeholders: auditing of state spending; regulation of party financing; citizen and media access to information; accountability of officeholders (asset declarations, conflict of interest rules, codes of conduct); transparent public procurement systems; effective prosecution of corruption.”

### **Scores**

Scores are given from:

- a low of 1, where “Public officeholders can exploit their offices for private gain as they see fit without fear of legal consequences or adverse publicity.”
- to a high of 10, where “Legal, political and public integrity mechanisms effectively prevent public officeholders from abusing their positions.”

The questionnaire can be accessed here: <https://www.sgi-network.org/2022/Questionnaire>

### **Country coverage**

41 EU and OECD countries.

For each SGI survey, individual countries are evaluated by two (or more) leading experts. Eight coordinators support the experts' questionnaire work. The SGI Advisory Board discusses and approves the findings. The SGI Codebook, a detailed questionnaire, provides a clear explanation for each of the questions so that all experts share a common understanding of the questions ([https://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2022/basics/SGI2022\\_Codebook.pdf](https://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2022/basics/SGI2022_Codebook.pdf)).

The SGI project team compiles the quantitative data centrally from official, publicly accessible statistics (primarily from OECD sources).

The SGI's Expert Network assessments undergo a six-stage peer review within a concise framework. This thorough process is designed to ensure the validity and reliability of expert evaluations.

First published in 2009, this is now an annual publication. The most recent Sustainable Governance Indicators assess the period beginning in November 2019 and ending in January 2022.

### **Data availability**

The Sustainable Governance Indicators 2022 data is publicly available online at [https://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2022/basics/SGI2022\\_Scores.xlsx](https://www.sgi-network.org/docs/2022/basics/SGI2022_Scores.xlsx)

### 3. Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index 2024

**Code: BF (TI)**

**Year of publication:** 2024 (upcoming)

**Type of assessment:** Qualitative expert survey

**Data provider:** Bertelsmann Stiftung

The Bertelsmann Stiftung (BF) was founded 1977 as a private foundation. As a think tank, they work toward improved education, a just and efficient economic system, a preventative healthcare system, a vibrant civil society and greater international understanding. The Bertelsmann Stiftung is independent and nonpartisan. It designs, launches and runs its projects.

The Transformation Index provides the framework for an exchange of good practice among agents of reform. Within this framework, the Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index (BTI) publishes two rankings, the Status Index and the Management Index, based on in-depth assessments of 137 countries. The scores are based on detailed country reports, which assess 52 questions divided into 17 criteria.

Two experts per country provide assessments. Country assessments consist of two sections: the written evaluation of the state of transformation and management performance in a country (country report) and the numerical evaluation of the state of transformation and management performance (country ratings). Scores are given by a country expert, who then reviews them blindly by a second country expert, who also provides a second independent rating of the country. These expert scores are then verified and discussed by regional coordinators to ensure intra and inter-regional comparability in ratings. In addition, BF has also instituted an extra layer of verification to ensure the scores provided match the qualitative descriptions for each country.

#### Corruption question(s)

Experts are asked to assess:

“Q3.3 To what extent are public officeholders who abuse their positions prosecuted or penalised?”

Assessments range from:

- A low of 1, where “Officeholders who break the law and engage in corruption can do so without fear of legal consequences or adverse publicity.”
- To a high of 10, “Officeholders who break the law and engage in corruption are prosecuted rigorously under established laws and always attract adverse publicity.”

“Q15.3 To what extent does the government successfully contain corruption?” Assessments range from:

- From a low of 1, “The government fails to contain corruption, and there are no integrity mechanisms in place.”
- To a high of 10, “The government is successful in containing corruption, and all integrity mechanisms are in place and effective.”

#### Scores

Scores are assigned on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the lowest level of corruption and one being the highest. The score for each country is an average of the two questions. The BTI codebook for the previous edition is accessible here: [https://bti-project.org/fileadmin/api/content/en/downloads/codebooks/BTI2022\\_Codebook.pdf](https://bti-project.org/fileadmin/api/content/en/downloads/codebooks/BTI2022_Codebook.pdf).

The BTI is based on a qualitative expert survey in which written assessments are translated into numerical ratings and examined in a multi-stage review process to make them comparable within and across regions. The country assessment process has both a qualitative and quantitative component, in each case performed by two country experts. As a rule, one foreign and one local expert are involved in the evaluation process; this ensures that both external and internal perspectives are considered in the course of assessment and helps counteract subjective influence. In total, 280 experts from leading research institutions worldwide contribute to producing the country reports.

To ensure the validity, reliability, and comparability of the assessment, each score undergoes a multi-step review process by the country experts, the regional coordinators, the project team, and the BTI board. The scores and responses provided by the experts for each of the 49 indicators are initially reviewed by regional coordinators, who examine the content to ensure it is complete and consistent.

Country scores pass through an intra-regional review stage followed by an inter-regional review and ratings aggregation.

#### Country coverage

The BTI covers 137 countries and territories. The data collection period for the index extended from February 2021 to January 2023.

**Data availability**

The BTI was first published in 2003 and has been published every two years since then.

The data for the CPI 2023 was kindly provided by the Bertelsmann Stiftung ahead of the publication of the BTI 2024 report, which will be launched in February 2024.

#### **4. Economist Intelligence Unit Country Risk Service 2023**

**Code: EIU**

**Year of publication:** 2022

**Type of assessment:** Risk evaluations based on qualitative and quantitative indicators

**Data provider:** Economist Intelligence Unit

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) was established in 1946 as the research body for The Economist newspaper. Since then, it has grown into a global research and advisory firm that produces business intelligence for policymakers worldwide. 650 full-time and contributing analysts work in and on over 200 countries/territories.

Country Risk Ratings are designed to provide an in-depth and timely analysis of the risks of financial exposure in more than 140 countries.

The EIU relies on teams of experts based primarily in London (but also in New York, Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai) who are supported by a global network of in-country specialists. Each country analyst covers a maximum of two or three countries/territories. The economic and political reports EIU analysts produce are subjected to a rigorous review process before publication.

#### **Corruption question(s)**

Specific guiding questions include:

- Are there clear procedures and accountability governing the allocation and use of public funds?
- Are public funds misappropriated by ministers/public officials for private or party political purposes?
- Are there special funds for which there is no accountability?
- Are there general abuses of public resources?
- Is there a professional civil service, or are large numbers of officials directly appointed by the government?
- Is there an independent body auditing the management of public finances?
- Is there an independent judiciary with the power to try ministers/public officials for abuses?
- Is there a tradition of payment of bribes to secure contracts and gain favours?

#### **Scores**

Scores are given as integers on a scale from 0 (very low incidence of corruption) to 4 (very high incidence of corruption).

The score is a generalised composite measure of corruption that includes an assessment of all areas covered by the indicative questions.

#### **Country coverage**

131 countries/territories were scored in 2023.

The CPI draws on risk rating data available as of September 2023.

#### **Data availability**

The EIU has produced country risk assessments since the early 1980s. Updated summaries are provided monthly for 100 countries and quarterly for the rest.

Data is available to subscribers of EIU Country Risk Service at <http://www.eiu.com>

## 5. Freedom House Nations in Transit 2023

**Code:** FH

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Qualitative expert assessment

**Data provider:** Freedom House

Founded in 1941, Freedom House is an independent watchdog organisation that supports the expansion of freedom around the world. Freedom House supports democratic change, monitors freedom and advocates for democracy and human rights.

The Nations in Transit (NIT) measures democratisation in 29 nations and administrative areas throughout Central Europe and the Newly Independent States (NIS). The reports focus on democratic progress and setbacks. Each report focuses on the following thematic areas: national democratic governance, electoral process, civil society, independent media, local democratic governance, judicial framework and independence, and corruption.

The NIT surveys were produced by Freedom House staff and consultants. Relevant authorities recommended the latter and are regional or country specialists. Various sources were used in compiling the report, including multilateral lending institutions, non-governmental organisations, other international organisations, local newspapers and magazines, and select government data.

### Corruption question(s)

The Freedom House experts are asked to explore a range of indicative questions, including:

- Has the government implemented effective anti-corruption initiatives?
- Is the country's economy free of excessive state involvement?
- Is the government free from excessive bureaucratic regulations, registration requirements, and other controls that increase opportunities for corruption?
- Are there significant limitations on the participation of government officials in economic life?
- Are there adequate laws requiring financial disclosure and disallowing conflict of interest?
- Does the government advertise jobs and contracts?
- Does the state enforce an effective legislative or administrative process—particularly one that is free of prejudice against one's political opponents—to prevent, investigate, and prosecute the corruption of government officials and civil servants?
- Do whistle-blowers, anti-corruption activists, investigators, and journalists enjoy legal protections that make them feel secure about reporting cases of bribery and corruption?
- Are allegations of corruption given a wide and extensive airing in the media?
- Does the public display a high intolerance for official corruption?

### Scores

Ratings run from 1 (lowest level of corruption) to 7 (highest level of corruption) and allow for half-point and quarter-point intermediate scores (e.g. 3.25). In 2020, Freedom House reversed the scale of the indicator and countries are now rated on a scale of 1 (lowest level of corruption) to 7 (highest level of corruption). To make the numbers comparable when incorporated into the CPI, they are first transformed into the old scale. This is done simply by subtracting each country's score from a base value of 8.

The score is a generalised composite measure of corruption that includes an assessment of all areas covered by the indicative questions.

For all 29 countries in NIT, Freedom House—in consultation with the report authors, a panel of academic advisers, and a group of regional expert reviewers—has provided numerical ratings in the seven categories listed above. The ratings are based on a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 representing the lowest and 7 the highest level of democratic progress.

Authors of individual country reports suggest preliminary ratings in all seven categories covered by the study, ensuring that substantial evidence is provided where a score change is proposed. Each draft report is then sent to several regional expert reviewers, who provide comments on both the score change and the quality of its justification in the report's text. Over the course of a two-day meeting, Freedom House's academic advisory board discusses and evaluates all ratings. Report authors are given the opportunity to dispute any revised rating that differs from the original by more than 0.50 points.

More information can be found here: <https://freedomhouse.org/reports/nations-transit/nations-transit-methodology>

### Country coverage

29 countries/territories were ranked in 2023.

The 2023 NIT data covers the events from 1 January through 31 December 2022.

**Data availability**

The report has been published annually since 2003. The latest edition can be found at [https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/NIT\\_2023\\_Digital.pdf](https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/NIT_2023_Digital.pdf)



## **6. Global Insights Business Conditions and Risk Indicators 2022**

**Code: GI**

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Commercial business expert assessment

**Data provider:** IHS Global Insight Global Risk Service

Founded in 1959, IHS Global Insight is a global information company employing more than 5,100 people in more than 30 countries around the world. It provides a wide range of online services covering macroeconomics, country risk and individual sector analysis.

The Global Insight Country Risk Rating System has been in operation since 1999 and provides a six-factor analysis of the risk environment in over 200 countries/territories. The six factors are political, economic, legal, tax operational and security risk. The corruption risk score used in the CPI is drawn from Global Insight Business Conditions and Risk Indicators.

The assessments are made by over 100 in-house country specialists, who also draw on the expert opinions of in-country freelancers, clients and other contacts. The ratings reflect IHS Global Insights expert perceptions of the comparative level of the problem in each country/territory. The ratings assess the broad range of corruption, from petty bribe-paying to higher-level political corruption and the scores assigned to each country are based on a qualitative assessment of corruption in each country/territory.

### **Corruption question(s)**

Experts are asked to assess:

The risk is that individuals/companies will face bribery or other corrupt practices to carry out business, from securing major contracts to being allowed to import/export a small product or obtain everyday paperwork. This threatens a company's ability to operate in a country or opens it up to legal or regulatory penalties and reputational damage.

### **Scores**

The ratings range from a minimum of 1.0 (maximum corruption) to 5.0 (minimum corruption) and allow for half-point intermediate scores (e.g. 3.5).

### **Country coverage**

209 countries/territories worldwide are scored.

Scores provided by country analysts are reviewed and benchmarked by IHS Global Insight's risk specialists at both the regional and global levels.

### **Data availability**

The Country Risk Rating System has been available since 1999 and is continuously maintained.

IHS Global Insight's data was accessed through the World Bank World Governance Indicators portal, as IHS Global Insight stopped providing data to Transparency International in 2015. The data used for the CPI can be accessed through:

<https://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/sites/govindicators/doc/WMO.xlsx>

The latest data covers the year 2022.

Detailed data is also available to customers of IHS' Country Intelligence at <http://www.ihs.com/products/global-insight/country-analysis/>

## 7. IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2023

**Code: IMD**

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Executive opinion survey

**Data provider:** IMD World Competitiveness Center

IMD is a top-ranked business school with expertise in developing global leaders through high-impact executive education. 100 per cent focused on real-world executive development, offering Swiss excellence with a global perspective, IMD has a flexible, customised and effective approach.

IMD ([www.imd.org](http://www.imd.org)) is ranked first in open programs worldwide (Financial Times 2012 & 2013) and first in executive education outside the US (Financial Times 2008-2013).

The World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY) measures the competitiveness of nations and, in doing so, both rank and examine how a nation's socio-political and economic climate affects corporate competitiveness. The study uses 334 criteria in order to obtain a multifaceted image of the competitiveness of nations, which IMD defines as: "a field of economic knowledge, which analyses the facts and policies that shape the ability of a nation to create and maintain an environment that sustains more value creation for its enterprises and more prosperity for its people."

The WCY largely includes hard data but also a survey of senior business leaders who, together, reflect a cross-section of a nation's corporate community. IMD calls upon local and foreign enterprises operating in a given economy and surveys both nationals and expatriates so as to add an international perspective on local environments. In 2023, more than 6,400 business executives responded. The IMD World Competitiveness Centre works in collaboration with 57 partner institutes worldwide to ensure the validity and relevance of data.

Additional information on the methodology is available at: <https://www.imd.org/centers/world-competitiveness-center/rankings/world-competitiveness/>

### **Corruption question(s)**

Survey respondents were asked:

"Bribery and corruption: Exist or do not exist".

### **Scores**

Answers are given on a 1 to 6 scale, which is then converted to a 0 to 10 scale where 0 is the highest level of perceived corruption and 10 is the lowest.

### **Country coverage**

64 countries/territories around the world were scored in 2023. Russia and Ukraine were not assessed in the latest edition, but Kuwait was added this year.

The IMD WCY has been published annually since 1989. The data was collected from February to May 2023.

### **Data availability**

Data is available to customers of IMD WCY at <https://worldcompetitiveness.imd.org/>

## **8. Political and Economic Risk Consultancy 2023**

**Code: PERC**

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Executive opinion survey

**Data provider:** Political and Economic Risk Consultancy

The Political and Economic Risk Consultancy (PERC) is a consulting firm specialising in strategic business information and analysis for companies doing business in East and Southeast Asia. As part of its services, PERC produces a range of risk reports on Asian countries, paying special attention to critical socio-political variables like corruption, intellectual property rights and risks, labour quality, and other systemic strengths and weaknesses of individual Asian countries/territories.

PERC publishes fortnightly newsletters, which are available to subscribers, on a number of issues. The data is collected via an executive opinion survey of local and expatriate businesspeople.

All responses were either collected in face-to-face interviews or in response to emails directed to specific people obtained from different national business chambers, conferences and personal name lists. All respondents provided scores and comments only for the country in which they are currently residing. Respondents for each country include local business executives who are nationals of the countries, academics and expatriate executives.

### **Corruption question(s)**

“How do you grade the problem of corruption in the country in which you are working?”

### **Scores**

Answers were scaled from 0 (not a problem) to 10 (a serious problem).

### **Country coverage**

16 Asia Pacific countries/territories, plus the United States, were surveyed between January and March 2023.

The same questions and survey methodology were employed in each country. The results are based on 1,873 responses to the survey, with at least 100 per country except for Cambodia (93). All respondents are middle or senior-level executives of companies or professionals in the countries they evaluated.

### **Data availability**

The survey dates back over 20 years and is conducted annually and can be purchased at <http://www.asiarisk.com/index.html>

## **9. The PRS Group International Country Risk Guide 2023**

**Code: PRS**

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Risk assessment

**Data provider:** PRS Group

Based in the vicinity of Syracuse, New York, since its founding in 1979, the PRS Group has consistently focused on political risk analysis.

On a monthly basis since 1980, their International Country Risk Guide (ICRG) has produced political, economic and financial risk ratings for countries/territories important to international business. The ICRG now monitors 140 countries/territories. ICRG ratings form the basis of an early warning system for opportunities and pitfalls, country-by-country.

ICRG staff collect political information and convert it to risk points on the basis of a consistent pattern of evaluation. Political risk assessments and other political information form the basis of ICRG risk ratings. It is, therefore, possible for the user to check through the information and data so as to assess the ratings against their own assessments or against some other risk ratings system.

### **Corruption question(s)**

This is an assessment of corruption within the political system. The most common form of corruption met directly by businesses is financial corruption in the form of demands for special payments and bribes connected with import and export licenses, exchange controls, tax assessments, police protection or loans. The measure is most concerned with actual or potential corruption in the form of excessive patronage, nepotism, job reservations, exchange of favours, secret party funding and suspiciously close ties between politics and business.

### **Scores**

The corruption scores are given on a scale of 0 (highest potential risk) to 6 (lowest potential risk) on a monthly basis. Half points are given. The monthly ratings are then aggregated using a simple average to create a single country score.

### **Country coverage**

The ICRG provides ratings for 140 countries on a monthly basis.

To ensure consistency both between countries/territories and over time, points are assigned by ICRG editors on the basis of a series of pre-set questions for each risk component.

The CPI uses an aggregate of monthly assessments covering the period of September 2022 to August 2023.

### **Data availability**

The ICRG model was created in 1980, and the data is made available on a monthly basis.

Data is available to customers of the PRS International Country Risk Guide at [www.prsgroup.com](http://www.prsgroup.com)

## 10. World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment 2022

Code: WB

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Expert assessment

**Data provider:** World Bank

The World Bank was established in 1944, is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has more than 10,000 employees in more than 100 offices worldwide. The World Bank is made up of two development institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA). The IBRD aims to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries, while IDA focuses on the world's poorest countries.

The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) rates all IDA-eligible countries against a set of 16 criteria grouped in four clusters: (a) economic management, (b) structural policies, (c) policies for social inclusion and equity, and (d) public sector management and institutions. The criteria are focused on balancing the capture of those factors critical to fostering growth and poverty reduction against avoiding undue burden on the assessment process.

The ratings are the product of staff judgment and do not necessarily reflect the views of the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors or the governments they represent. The Bank has prepared guidance to help staff assess country performance by providing a definition of each criterion and a detailed description of each rating level. Bank staff assess the countries' actual performance on each of the criteria and assign a rating. The ratings reflect a variety of indicators, observations and judgments based on country knowledge, originating with the Bank or elsewhere, and on relevant publicly available indicators.

### Corruption question(s)

Experts are asked to assess:

Transparency, accountability and corruption in the public sector.

"This criterion assesses the extent to which the executive can be held accountable for its use of funds and the results of its actions by the electorate and by the legislature and judiciary, and the extent to which public employees within the executive are required to account for the use of resources, administrative decisions, and results obtained. Both levels of accountability are enhanced by transparency in decision making, public audit institutions, access to relevant and timely information, and public and media scrutiny. A high degree of accountability and transparency discourages corruption, or the abuse of public office for private gain. National and sub-national governments should be appropriately weighted.

Each of three dimensions should be rated separately:

- (a) accountability of the executive to oversight institutions and of public employees for their performance;
- (b) access of civil society to information on public affairs; and
- (c) state capture by narrow vested interests."

For the overall rating, these three dimensions receive equal weighting. More information on the methodology can be found at:

<https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/69484a2e6ae5ecc94321f63179bfb837-0290032022/original/CPIA-Criteria-2021.pdf>

### Scores

The rating scale ranges from 1 (low levels of transparency) to 6 (high levels of transparency) and allows for half-point intermediate scores (e.g. 3.5). The score is an aggregate of the three dimensions of corruption across national and sub-national government institutions in the country/territory.

### Country coverage

74 countries were scored in the CPIA 2022. The process of preparing the ratings involves two phases: (a) the benchmarking phase, in which a small, representative sample of countries is rated in an intensive Bank-wide process; and (b) a second phase, in which the remaining countries are rated using the derived benchmark ratings as guideposts. The process is managed by the Bank's Operations Policy and Country Services Vice-Presidency.

### Data availability

First released in 2005 in its current form, the CPIA is now an annual exercise.  
The rating process typically starts in the autumn and is concluded in the spring of the following year.  
The scores disclosed in July 2023 cover 2022 country performance.

The data is publicly available online at: <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/country-policy-and-institutional-assessment#>

## 11. World Economic Forum Executive Opinion Survey 2023

Code: WEF

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Business executive survey

**Data provider:** World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum is an independent international organisation committed to improving the state of the world by engaging business, political, academic and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas. Incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation in 1971 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the Forum is not tied to political, partisan or national interests.

The Executive Opinion Survey (EOS) is the World Economic Forum's annual survey of business executives. The survey has evolved over time to capture new data points essential to the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) and other Forum indexes.

The Forum's Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network works closely with over 160 partner institutes that administer the survey in their respective countries/territories. They are selected because of their capacity to reach out to leading business executives, as well as their understanding of the national business environment and their commitment to the Forum's research on competitiveness. The partner institutes are, for the most part, well-respected economics departments of national universities, independent research institutes or business organisations. The surveys are conducted according to detailed guidelines aiming at collecting a sample stratified by sector of activity and company size. The EOS administration process is reviewed on a yearly basis and underwent an external review in 2008 and 2012 by a renowned survey expert consultancy. See Chapter 1.3 of the Global Competitiveness Report 2013-2014 for further details: [www.weforum.org/gcr](http://www.weforum.org/gcr).

### Corruption question(s)

Survey respondents were asked:

(On a scale of 1-7, where 1 means very common and 7 means never)

"In your country, how common is it for firms to make undocumented extra payments or bribes connected with the following:

- a) Imports and exports
- b) Public Utilities
- c) Annual tax payments
- d) Awarding of public contracts and licenses
- e) Obtaining favourable judicial decisions."

(On a scale of 1-7, where 1 means very common and 7 means never)

"In your country, how common is diversion of public funds to companies, individuals or groups due to corruption?"

### Scores

Each question is scored by respondents on a scale of 1-7.

The results of parts a) to e) of the first question were averaged to create a single score. The results of the first and second questions were then averaged together to give a score per country/territory.

### Country coverage

The 2023 edition of the survey was conducted between April and August 2023. However, only 91 countries had valid data for the corruption-related questions required for the CPI calculation.

There were important changes in this source's coverage in 2023 vis-à-vis the previous edition: 28 countries that from the previous edition are not present in the latest iteration. This includes: Albania, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Barbados, Botswana, Cambodia, China, Cape Verde, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Latvia, Moldova, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Mongolia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Russia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zimbabwe. The latest data, however, adds 9 countries not included last year: Argentina, Bolivia, Algeria, Egypt, Jamaica, Pakistan, Singapore, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

The survey is conducted in each country/territory according to the sampling guidelines and therefore in a consistent manner across the globe during the same time of year.

### Data availability

The disaggregated micro-level data from the EOS is provided to Transparency International by the Forum. It can be obtained directly with the WEF through the following channel: [https://wefglobal.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0NDuzSIGYfz0mH4](https://wefglobal.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0NDuzSIGYfz0mH4)

## 12. World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2023

Code: WJP

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Expert survey

**Data provider:** World Justice Project

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to advance the rule of law for the development of communities of opportunity and equity. The WJP's multi-national, multi-disciplinary efforts are dedicated to developing practical programmes in support of the rule of law around the world. The work of the WJP is based on two complementary premises: the rule of law is the foundation for communities of opportunity and equity, and multi-disciplinary collaboration is the most effective way to advance the rule of law.

The WJP Rule of Law Index is an assessment tool designed by The WJP to offer a detailed and comprehensive picture of the extent to which countries/territories adhere to the rule of law in practice. The Index provides detailed information and original data regarding a variety of dimensions of the rule of law, which enables stakeholders to assess a nation's adherence to the rule of law in practice, identify a nation's strengths and weaknesses in comparison to similarly situated countries, and track changes over time.

The Index's rankings and scores are the product of a rigorous data collection and aggregation process. Data comes from a global poll of the general public and detailed questionnaires administered to local experts (in-country practitioners and academics with expertise in civil and commercial law, criminal justice, labour law, and public health).

### Corruption question(s)

Index 2: Absence of corruption

A total of 53 questions are asked of experts on the extent to which government officials use public office for private gain. These questions touch on a variety of sectors within government including the public health system, regulatory agencies, the police, and the courts.

Individual questions are aggregated into four sub-indices:

- 2.1 Government officials in the executive branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.2 Government officials in the judicial branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.3 Government officials in the police and the military do not use public office for private gain
- 2.4 Government officials in the legislature do not use public office for private gain

Only the scores provided by the experts were considered for the CPI calculations. The four sub-indicators are then averaged to create a single score.

### Scores

Scores are given on a continuous scale from a low of 0 to a high of 1.

For more information see the latest WJP report at <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/downloads/Index-2022.pdf>

### Country coverage

142 countries were scored in the 2023 Rule of Law Index.

The Index is deliberately intended to be applied in countries with vastly differing social, cultural, economic and political systems. The expert questionnaires were conducted between February and June 2023 and were answered by more than 3,400 experts with around 24 responses per country.

### Data availability

The data for the index is publicly available online at [https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/downloads/2023\\_wjp\\_rule\\_of\\_law\\_index\\_HISTORICAL\\_DATA.xlsx](https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/downloads/2023_wjp_rule_of_law_index_HISTORICAL_DATA.xlsx). Please note, however, that the CPI only considers the expert responses from the WJP survey, Transparency International is given access to the disaggregated expert responses which are not publicly available.



### 13. Varieties of Democracy Project 2023

**Code:** VDEM

**Year of publication:** 2023

**Type of assessment:** Expert survey

**Data provider:** University of Gothenburg, V-Dem Institute and University of Notre Dame

Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) is a new approach to conceptualising and measuring democracy. V-Dem provides a multidimensional and disaggregated dataset that reflects the complexity of the concept of democracy as a system of rule that goes beyond the simple presence of elections. The V-Dem project distinguishes between seven high-level principles of democracy: electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, egalitarian, majoritarian and consensual, and collects data to measure these principles.

It is a collaboration among more than 3,000 scholars worldwide which is co-hosted by the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden and the Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame, USA. With five principal investigators, 23 project managers with special responsibility for issue areas, more than 33 regional managers, 134 country coordinators, research assistants, and 4,000 country experts, the V-Dem project is one of the largest social science data collection projects focusing on research.

#### Corruption question(s)

Question: How pervasive is political corruption? (v2x\_corr)

The directionality of the V-Dem corruption index runs from less corrupt to more corrupt (unlike the other V-Dem variables that generally run from less democratic to more democratic situation). The corruption index includes measures of six distinct types of corruption that cover both different areas and levels of the political realm, distinguishing between executive, legislative and judicial corruption. Within the executive realm, the measures also distinguish between corruption mostly pertaining to bribery, and corruption due to embezzlement. Finally, they differentiate between corruption in the highest echelons of the executive (at the level of the rulers/cabinet) and in the public sector at large. The measures thus tap into several distinguishable types of corruption: both petty and grand; both bribery and theft; both corruption aimed at influencing law making and that affects implementation.

Aggregation: The index is arrived at by taking the average of (a) public sector corruption index (b) executive corruption index (c) the indicator for legislative corruption and (d) the indicator for judicial corruption. In other words, these four different government spheres are weighted equally in the resulting index.

#### Scores

Scores are given on a continuous scale from 0 (lowest level of corruption) to 1 (highest level of corruption).

Note: Each new version of VDEM dataset allows for retroactive changes in the scores, which affects comparability between versions. The CPI takes only the last available value.

#### Country coverage

179 countries were scored in the 2023 update used for the CPI calculation. The data covers the period of January to December 2022.

V-Dem draws on theoretical and methodological expertise from its worldwide team to produce data in the most objective and reliable way possible. Approximately half of the indicators in the V-Dem dataset are based on factual information obtainable from official documents such as constitutions and government records. The remainder consists of more subjective assessments on topics like democratic and governing practices and compliance with de jure rules. On such issues, typically five experts provide ratings for the country, thematic area and time period for which they have information.

To address variation in coder ratings, V-Dem works closely with leading social science research methodologists and has developed a state-of-the-art Bayesian measurement model that, to the extent possible, addresses coder error and issues of comparability across countries and over time. V-Dem also provides upper- and lower-point estimates, which represent a range of probable values for a given observation. When the ranges of two observations do not overlap, there is relative confidence that difference between them is significant. V-Dem is continually experimenting with new techniques and soliciting feedback from experts throughout the field. In this sense, V-Dem is at the cutting edge of developing new and improved methods to increase both the reliability and comparability of expert survey data. V-Dem also draws on the team's academic expertise to develop theoretically informed techniques for aggregating indicators into mid and high-level indices.

**Data availability**

V-Dem data can be publicly accessed at <https://v-dem.net/data/the-v-dem-dataset/country-year-v-dem-fullothers-v13/>

The codebook is available at [https://v-dem.net/documents/24/codebook\\_v13.pdf](https://v-dem.net/documents/24/codebook_v13.pdf)