



World Justice  
Project

# World Justice Project Rule of Law Index<sup>®</sup>

## 2020 Insights

*Highlights and data trends from the  
WJP Rule of Law Index<sup>®</sup> 2020*

The *World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index*® 2020 is the latest report in an annual series measuring the rule of law based on global surveys of more than 130,000 households and 4,000 legal practitioners and experts. It is the world's leading source for original, independent data on the rule of law.

The Index presents a portrait of the rule of law in 128 countries and jurisdictions by providing scores and rankings based on eight factors: Constraints on Government Powers, Absence of Corruption, Open Government, Fundamental Rights, Order and Security, Regulatory Enforcement, Civil Justice, and Criminal Justice.

The Index is intended for a broad audience that includes policy makers, civil society organizations, academics, citizens, and legal professionals, among others. It is our hope that this diagnostic tool will help identify strengths and weaknesses and encourage policy choices, guide program development, and inform research to strengthen the rule of law.

The following pages contain a selection of key insights and data trends from the *WJP Rule of Law Index*® 2020. The complete 2020 report—including country profiles, interactive data visualizations, methodology, and questionnaires—is available at our website: [worldjusticeproject.org](http://worldjusticeproject.org)

---

© Copyright 2020 by the World Justice Project. The *WJP Rule of Law Index* and the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index* are trademarks of the World Justice Project. All Rights Reserved. Requests to reproduce this document should be sent to:

WJP Rule of Law Index Permissions  
World Justice Project  
1025 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20005 USA

E-mail: [wjp@worldjusticeproject.org](mailto:wjp@worldjusticeproject.org)  
Subject line: WJP Rule of Law Index Permissions

ISBN (print version): 978-1-951330-36-1

ISBN (online version): 978-1-951330-37-8

## ***Table of Contents***

<b>05</b>	2020 Highlights: Global Trends in the Rule of Law
<b>06</b>	Overall Rule of Law Scores and Rankings
<b>08</b>	Rule of Law Around the World
<b>10</b>	Rule of Law Around the World by Region
<b>13</b>	Overall Rule of Law Score Changes
<b>14</b>	Improving and Declining Rule of Law
<b>15</b>	Factors of the Rule of Law Over Time
<b>16</b>	Biggest Improvements in Overall Rule of Law Score
<b>17</b>	Year to Year Rule of Law Score Changes
<b>18</b>	One-Year and Five-Year Trends in Rule of Law
<b>19</b>	Biggest Declines in Constraints on Government Powers 2019-2020
<b>20</b>	Biggest Declines in Constraints on Government Powers Since 2015
<b>21</b>	Rule of Law Changes in Europe
<b>22</b>	Rule of Law Changes in East Asia and the Pacific
<hr/>	
<b>23</b>	Conceptual Framework of the <i>WJP Rule of Law Index</i>
<b>24</b>	About the <i>WJP Rule of Law Index</i>
<b>25</b>	Defining the Rule of Law
<b>27</b>	About the World Justice Project



## 2020 Highlights: Global Trends in the Rule of Law

- The *WJP Rule of Law Index 2020* shows that more countries declined than improved in overall rule of law performance for a third year in a row, continuing a negative slide toward weakening and stagnating rule of law around the world.
- The declines were widespread and seen in all corners of the world. In every region, a majority of countries slipped backward or remained unchanged in their overall rule of law performance since the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2019*.
- At a global level, the highest levels of decline over the past year were seen in the areas of Fundamental Rights (54 declined, 29 improved), Constraints on Government Powers (52 declined, 28 improved), and Absence of Corruption (51 declined, 26 improved). This is not a new pattern; *WJP* data shows the same three factors were the largest decliners over a five-year time frame as well. Fundamental Rights showed the most backsliding with 67 countries declining in score since 2015.
- Civil Justice showed the most positive movement over the previous year, with 47 countries improving versus 41 declining. Since 2015, Regulatory Enforcement has improved the most, with 65 countries improving versus 29 declining.
- Denmark, Norway, and Finland topped the *WJP Rule of Law Index* rankings in 2020. Venezuela, RB, Cambodia, and Democratic Republic of Congo had the lowest overall rule of law scores—the same as in 2019. Countries with the strongest improvement in rule of law were Ethiopia (5.6% increase in score) and Malaysia (5.1%). The largest decline in the rule of law was seen in Cameroon (-4.4% score change) and Iran (-4.2%).

# Overall Rule of Law Scores and Rankings

This table presents the scores and rankings of the 128 countries and jurisdictions included in the WJP Rule of Law Index 2020. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to rule of law).

Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Global Rank Change <sup>†</sup>	Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Global Rank Change <sup>†</sup>	Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Global Rank Change <sup>†</sup>
 Afghanistan	0.36	0.02	4.3%	122	3▲	 Colombia	0.50	0.00	0.8%	77	5▲	 Honduras	0.40	0.00	0.2%	116	1▲
 Albania	0.50	-0.01	-1.2%	78	4▼	 Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.34	0.01	2.6%	126	0	 Hong Kong SAR, China	0.76	0.00	-0.4%	16	0
 Algeria	0.49	-0.01	-2.3%	83	8▼	 Costa Rica	0.68	0.00	-0.5%	25	1▼	 Hungary	0.53	-0.01	-1.1%	60	2▼
 Angola	0.43	0.01	3.1%	110	4▲	 Cote d'Ivoire	0.46	0.00	-0.4%	95	0	 India	0.51	0.00	-0.5%	69	0
 Antigua and Barbuda	0.63	0.00	0.5%	34	1▼	 Croatia	0.61	0.01	1.1%	39	3▲	 Indonesia	0.53	0.01	1.3%	59	4▲
 Argentina	0.58	0.00	-0.5%	48	2▼	 Czech Republic	0.73	0.00	0.6%	18	1▲	 Iran	0.43	-0.02	-4.2%	109	3▼
 Australia	0.80	0.00	-0.3%	11	0	 Denmark	0.90	0.00	0.0%	1	0	 Italy	0.66	0.00	0.5%	27	1▲
 Austria	0.82	-0.01	-0.6%	8	1▼	 Dominica	0.58	0.00	-0.6%	46	1▼	 Jamaica	0.57	0.00	0.8%	49	1▲
 The Bahamas	0.61	-0.01	-0.9%	41	2▼	 Dominican Republic	0.48	0.01	3.1%	90	7▲	 Japan	0.78	0.00	0.0%	15	0
 Bangladesh	0.41	-0.01	-1.6%	115	2▼	 Ecuador	0.49	0.01	2.0%	86	3▲	 Jordan	0.57	0.00	-0.1%	50	1▼
 Barbados	0.65	0.00	-0.7%	29	0	 Egypt	0.36	0.00	0.1%	125	2▼	 Kazakhstan	0.52	0.00	0.9%	62	4▲
 Belarus	0.51	0.00	-0.5%	68	1▼	 El Salvador	0.49	0.02	3.2%	84	2▲	 Kenya	0.45	0.00	-0.2%	102	3▲
 Belgium	0.79	0.00	-0.5%	14	0	 Estonia	0.81	0.00	0.0%	10	0	 Kosovo	0.54	-	-	54	-
 Belize	0.48	0.00	0.1%	89	1▼	 Ethiopia	0.41	0.02	5.6%	114	6▲	 Kyrgyz Republic	0.48	0.01	1.4%	87	0
 Benin	0.50	0.00	-0.4%	81	0	 Finland	0.87	0.00	-0.1%	3	0	 Lebanon	0.45	-0.02	-3.3%	96	4▼
 Bolivia	0.38	0.00	0.3%	121	0	 France	0.73	-0.01	-1.3%	20	3▼	 Liberia	0.45	-0.01	-1.3%	98	1▲
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.52	-0.01	-1.4%	64	2▼	 The Gambia	0.50	-	-	74	-	 Madagascar	0.44	0.01	2.4%	105	4▲
 Botswana	0.60	0.01	1.7%	43	1▲	 Georgia	0.60	-0.01	-1.1%	42	1▼	 Malawi	0.52	0.00	0.7%	65	3▲
 Brazil	0.52	-0.02	-2.9%	67	7▼	 Germany	0.84	0.00	0.1%	6	0	 Malaysia	0.58	0.03	5.1%	47	4▲
 Bulgaria	0.55	0.00	0.5%	53	1▲	 Ghana	0.57	-0.01	-1.9%	51	3▼	 Mali	0.44	-0.01	-2.8%	106	2▼
 Burkina Faso	0.51	0.00	-0.1%	70	1▲	 Greece	0.61	-0.01	-0.9%	40	4▼	 Mauritania	0.36	0.01	4.0%	123	1▲
 Cambodia	0.33	0.00	0.7%	127	0	 Grenada	0.59	-0.01	-1.8%	44	1▼	 Mauritius	0.61	0.00	-0.1%	38	1▼
 Cameroon	0.36	-0.02	-4.4%	124	2▼	 Guatemala	0.45	-0.01	-2.3%	101	3▼	 Mexico	0.44	-0.01	-2.8%	104	3▼
 Canada	0.81	0.00	-0.2%	9	0	 Guinea	0.42	-0.02	-3.9%	111	4▼	 Moldova	0.50	0.01	2.2%	82	3▲
 Chile	0.67	-0.01	-0.9%	26	1▼	 Guyana	0.50	0.00	0.2%	73	3▲	 Mongolia	0.53	-0.01	-2.2%	57	3▼
 China	0.48	-0.01	-1.5%	88	4▼							 Morocco	0.50	0.00	-0.5%	79	3▼

\*Scores and change in scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

†The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 126 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2019 Index with the rankings of the same 126 countries and jurisdictions in 2020, exclusive of the two new additions to the 2020 Index. The two new countries and jurisdictions added to the Index are: Kosovo and The Gambia.

Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change*	Global Rank	Global Rank Change†
 Mozambique	0.41	-0.01	-3.4%	113	2 ▼
 Myanmar	0.42	0.00	0.0%	112	0
 Namibia	0.63	0.00	0.6%	35	1 ▼
 Nepal	0.53	0.00	-0.7%	61	0
 Netherlands	0.84	0.00	-0.5%	5	0
 New Zealand	0.83	0.00	0.3%	7	1 ▲
 Nicaragua	0.39	-0.01	-2.6%	118	2 ▼
 Niger	0.45	0.00	-1.0%	103	0
 Nigeria	0.43	0.00	-0.9%	108	0
 North Macedonia	0.53	-0.01	-0.9%	58	1 ▼
 Norway	0.89	0.00	0.1%	2	0
 Pakistan	0.39	0.00	-0.7%	120	1 ▼
 Panama	0.52	0.00	0.5%	63	2 ▲
 Peru	0.50	-0.01	-1.5%	80	7 ▼
 Philippines	0.47	0.00	0.8%	91	0
 Poland	0.66	-0.01	-1.1%	28	1 ▼
 Portugal	0.70	-0.01	-1.1%	23	1 ▼
 Republic of Korea	0.73	0.00	0.0%	17	1 ▲
 Romania	0.63	-0.01	-1.5%	32	1 ▼
 Russian Federation	0.47	-0.01	-1.4%	94	4 ▼
 Rwanda	0.62	0.01	1.3%	37	3 ▲
 Senegal	0.55	0.00	-0.1%	52	0
 Serbia	0.50	0.00	0.6%	75	5 ▲
 Sierra Leone	0.45	0.00	-0.9%	100	0
 Singapore	0.79	-0.01	-0.9%	12	1 ▲

Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change*	Global Rank	Global Rank Change†
 Slovenia	0.69	0.01	1.7%	24	2 ▲
 South Africa	0.59	0.01	1.4%	45	2 ▲
 Spain	0.73	0.01	1.3%	19	2 ▲
 Sri Lanka	0.52	0.00	-0.2%	66	2 ▼
 St. Kitts and Nevis	0.63	-0.01	-2.1%	33	3 ▼
 St. Lucia	0.62	0.00	0.7%	36	2 ▲
 St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0.64	0.02	2.8%	31	4 ▲
 Suriname	0.50	-0.01	-1.8%	76	5 ▼
 Sweden	0.86	0.00	0.2%	4	0
 Tanzania	0.47	0.00	0.5%	93	0
 Thailand	0.51	0.00	0.9%	71	6 ▲
 Togo	0.45	0.00	-0.8%	99	3 ▲
 Trinidad and Tobago	0.54	0.00	-0.7%	55	1 ▲
 Tunisia	0.54	0.00	0.7%	56	3 ▲
 Turkey	0.43	0.00	0.3%	107	3 ▲
 Uganda	0.40	-0.01	-1.8%	117	2 ▼
 Ukraine	0.51	0.00	0.8%	72	6 ▲
 United Arab Emirates	0.65	0.00	0.6%	30	2 ▲
 United Kingdom	0.79	-0.01	-1.7%	13	1 ▼
 United States	0.72	0.00	-0.6%	21	1 ▼
 Uruguay	0.71	0.00	0.7%	22	1 ▲
 Uzbekistan	0.47	0.01	1.7%	92	4 ▲

Country/ Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Score Change*	% Score Change*	Global Rank	Global Rank Change†
 Venezuela, RB	0.27	-0.01	-2.6%	128	0
 Vietnam	0.49	0.00	0.6%	85	2 ▼
 Zambia	0.45	-0.01	-2.6%	97	3 ▼
 Zimbabwe	0.39	-0.01	-1.5%	119	1 ▼

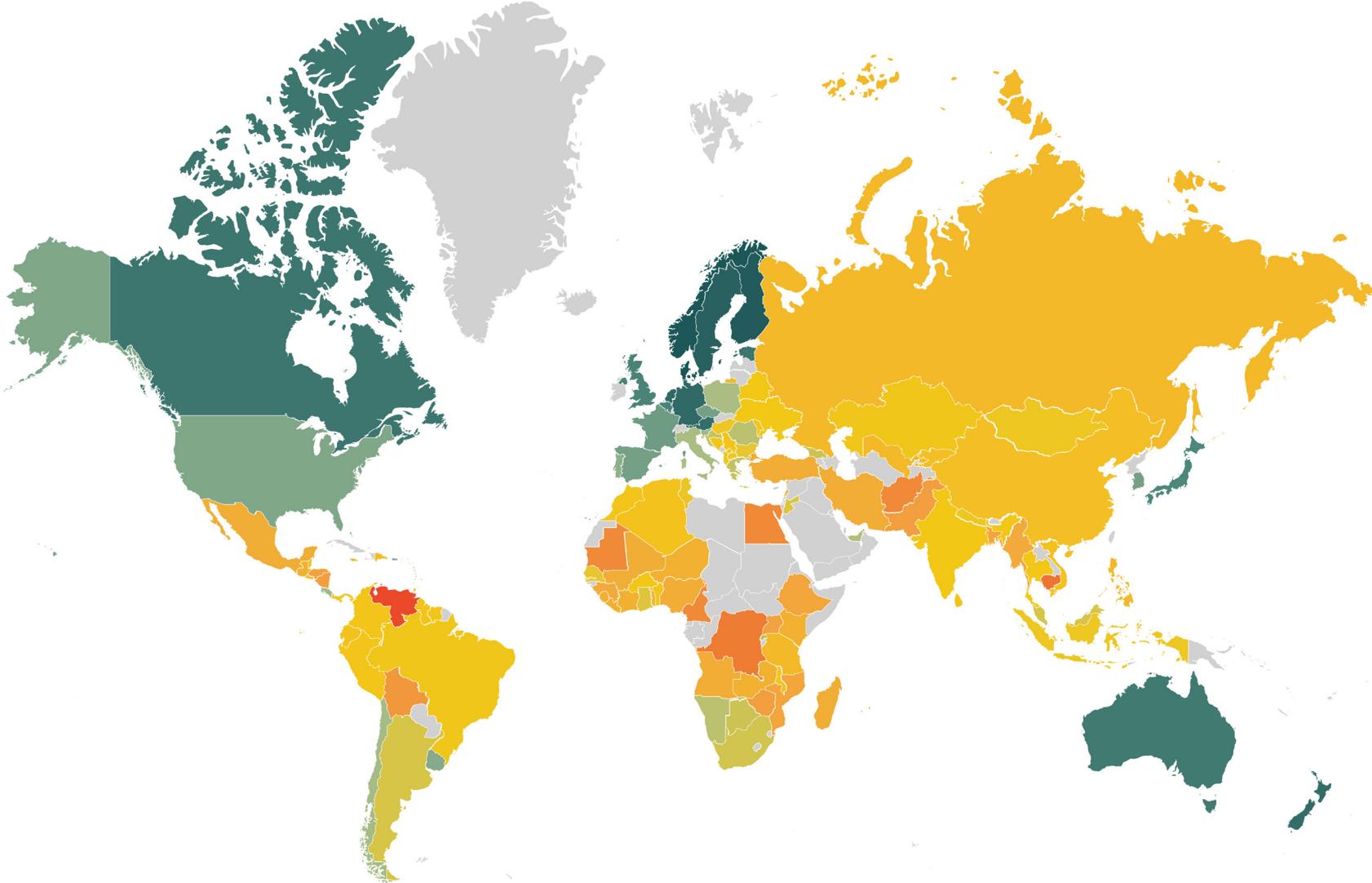
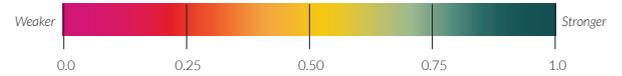
\*Scores and change in scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

†The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 126 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2019 Index with the rankings of the same 126 countries and jurisdictions in 2020, exclusive of the two new additions to the 2020 Index. The two new countries and jurisdictions added to the Index are: Kosovo and The Gambia.

# Rule of Law Around the World

Scores and rankings of the 128 countries and jurisdictions included in the WJP Rule of Law Index 2020.

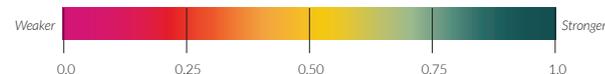
Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to the rule of law).



Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank
Denmark	0.90	1	Barbados	0.65	29	Trinidad and Tobago	0.54	55	Moldova	0.50	82	Iran	0.43	109
Norway	0.89	2	United Arab Emirates	0.65	30	Tunisia	0.54	56	Algeria	0.49	83	Angola	0.43	110
Finland	0.87	3	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0.64	31	Mongolia	0.53	57	El Salvador	0.49	84	Guinea	0.42	111
Sweden	0.86	4	Romania	0.63	32	North Macedonia	0.53	58	Vietnam	0.49	85	Myanmar	0.42	112
Netherlands	0.84	5	St. Kitts and Nevis	0.63	33	Indonesia	0.53	59	Ecuador	0.49	86	Mozambique	0.41	113
Germany	0.84	6	Antigua and Barbuda	0.63	34	Hungary	0.53	60	Kyrgyz Republic	0.48	87	Ethiopia	0.41	114
New Zealand	0.83	7	Namibia	0.63	35	Nepal	0.53	61	China	0.48	88	Bangladesh	0.41	115
Austria	0.82	8	St. Lucia	0.62	36	Kazakhstan	0.52	62	Belize	0.48	89	Honduras	0.40	116
Canada	0.81	9	Rwanda	0.62	37	Panama	0.52	63	Dominican Republic	0.48	90	Uganda	0.40	117
Estonia	0.81	10	Mauritius	0.61	38	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.52	64	Philippines	0.47	91	Nicaragua	0.39	118
Australia	0.80	11	Croatia	0.61	39	Malawi	0.52	65	Uzbekistan	0.47	92	Zimbabwe	0.39	119
Singapore	0.79	12	Greece	0.61	40	Sri Lanka	0.52	66	Tanzania	0.47	93	Pakistan	0.39	120
United Kingdom	0.79	13	The Bahamas	0.61	41	Brazil	0.52	67	Russian Federation	0.47	94	Bolivia	0.38	121
Belgium	0.79	14	Georgia	0.60	42	Belarus	0.51	68	Cote d'Ivoire	0.46	95	Afghanistan	0.36	122
Japan	0.78	15	Botswana	0.60	43	India	0.51	69	Lebanon	0.45	96	Mauritania	0.36	123
Hong Kong SAR, China	0.76	16	Grenada	0.59	44	Burkina Faso	0.51	70	Zambia	0.45	97	Cameroon	0.36	124
Republic of Korea	0.73	17	South Africa	0.59	45	Thailand	0.51	71	Liberia	0.45	98	Egypt	0.36	125
Czech Republic	0.73	18	Dominica	0.58	46	Ukraine	0.51	72	Togo	0.45	99	Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.34	126
Spain	0.73	19	Malaysia	0.58	47	Guyana	0.50	73	Sierra Leone	0.45	100	Cambodia	0.33	127
France	0.73	20	Argentina	0.58	48	The Gambia	0.50	74	Guatemala	0.45	101	Venezuela, RB	0.27	128
United States	0.72	21	Jamaica	0.57	49	Serbia	0.50	75	Kenya	0.45	102			
Uruguay	0.71	22	Jordan	0.57	50	Suriname	0.50	76	Niger	0.45	103			
Portugal	0.70	23	Ghana	0.57	51	Colombia	0.50	77	Mexico	0.44	104			
Slovenia	0.69	24	Senegal	0.55	52	Albania	0.50	78	Madagascar	0.44	105			
Costa Rica	0.68	25	Bulgaria	0.55	53	Morocco	0.50	79	Mali	0.44	106			
Chile	0.67	26	Kosovo	0.54	54	Peru	0.50	80	Turkey	0.43	107			
Italy	0.66	27				Benin	0.50	81	Nigeria	0.43	108			
Poland	0.66	28												

\*Scores are rounded to two decimal places.

# Rule of Law Around the World by Region



## East Asia & Pacific

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank†
New Zealand	1/15	0.83	0.00	0.3%	7	1 ▲
Australia	2/15	0.80	0.00	-0.3%	11	0
Singapore	3/15	0.79	-0.01	-0.9%	12	1 ▲
Japan	4/15	0.78	0.00	0.0%	15	0
Hong Kong SAR, China	5/15	0.76	0.00	-0.4%	16	0
Republic of Korea	6/15	0.73	0.00	0.0%	17	1 ▲
Malaysia	7/15	0.58	0.03	5.1%	47	4 ▲
Mongolia	8/15	0.53	-0.01	-2.2%	57	3 ▼

Indonesia	9/15	0.53	0.01	1.3%	59	4 ▲
Thailand	10/15	0.51	0.00	0.9%	71	6 ▲
Vietnam	11/15	0.49	0.00	0.6%	85	2 ▼
China	12/15	0.48	-0.01	-1.5%	88	4 ▼
Philippines	13/15	0.47	0.00	0.8%	91	0
Myanmar	14/15	0.42	0.00	0.0%	112	0
Cambodia	15/15	0.33	0.00	0.7%	127	0

## Eastern Europe & Central Asia

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank†
Georgia	1/14	0.60	-0.01	-1.1%	42	1 ▼
Kosovo	2/14	0.54	-	-	54	-
North Macedonia	3/14	0.53	-0.01	-0.9%	58	1 ▼
Kazakhstan	4/14	0.52	0.00	0.9%	62	4 ▲
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5/14	0.52	-0.01	-1.4%	64	2 ▼
Belarus	6/14	0.51	0.00	-0.5%	68	1 ▼
Ukraine	7/14	0.51	0.00	0.8%	72	6 ▲

Serbia	8/14	0.50	0.00	0.6%	75	5 ▲
Albania	9/14	0.50	-0.01	-1.2%	78	4 ▼
Moldova	10/14	0.50	0.01	2.2%	82	3 ▲
Kyrgyz Republic	11/14	0.48	0.01	1.4%	87	0
Uzbekistan	12/14	0.47	0.01	1.7%	92	4 ▲
Russian Federation	13/14	0.47	-0.01	-1.4%	94	4 ▼
Turkey	14/14	0.43	0.00	0.3%	107	3 ▲

## South Asia

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank†
Nepal	1/6	0.53	0.00	-0.7%	61	0
Sri Lanka	2/6	0.52	0.00	-0.2%	66	2 ▼
India	3/6	0.51	0.00	-0.5%	69	0

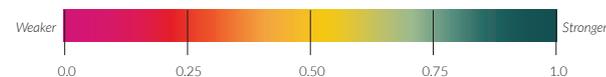
Bangladesh	4/6	0.41	-0.01	-1.6%	115	2 ▼
Pakistan	5/6	0.39	0.00	-0.7%	120	1 ▼
Afghanistan	6/6	0.36	0.02	4.3%	122	3 ▲

\*Scores and change in scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

†The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 126 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2019 Index with the rankings of the same 126 countries and jurisdictions in 2020, exclusive of the two new additions to the 2020 Index. The two new countries and jurisdictions added to the Index are: Kosovo and The Gambia.

## Latin America & Caribbean

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank <sup>†</sup>
Uruguay	1/30	0.71	0.00	0.7%	22	1 ▲
Costa Rica	2/30	0.68	0.00	-0.5%	25	1 ▼
Chile	3/30	0.67	-0.01	-0.9%	26	1 ▼
Barbados	4/30	0.65	0.00	-0.7%	29	0
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	5/30	0.64	0.02	2.8%	31	4 ▲
St. Kitts and Nevis	6/30	0.63	-0.01	-2.1%	33	3 ▼
Antigua and Barbuda	7/30	0.63	0.00	0.5%	34	1 ▼
St. Lucia	8/30	0.62	0.00	0.7%	36	2 ▲
The Bahamas	9/30	0.61	-0.01	-0.9%	41	2 ▼
Grenada	10/30	0.59	-0.01	-1.8%	44	1 ▼
Dominica	11/30	0.58	0.00	-0.6%	46	1 ▼
Argentina	12/30	0.58	0.00	-0.5%	48	2 ▼
Jamaica	13/30	0.57	0.00	0.8%	49	1 ▲
Trinidad and Tobago	14/30	0.54	0.00	-0.7%	55	1 ▲
Panama	15/30	0.52	0.00	0.5%	63	2 ▲



Brazil	16/30	0.52	-0.02	-2.9%	67	7 ▼
Guyana	17/30	0.50	0.00	0.2%	73	3 ▲
Suriname	18/30	0.50	-0.01	-1.8%	76	5 ▼
Colombia	19/30	0.50	0.00	0.8%	77	5 ▲
Peru	20/30	0.50	-0.01	-1.5%	80	7 ▼
El Salvador	21/30	0.49	0.02	3.2%	84	2 ▲
Ecuador	22/30	0.49	0.01	2.0%	86	3 ▲
Belize	23/30	0.48	0.00	0.1%	89	1 ▼
Dominican Republic	24/30	0.48	0.01	3.1%	90	7 ▲
Guatemala	25/30	0.45	-0.01	-2.3%	101	3 ▼
Mexico	26/30	0.44	-0.01	-2.8%	104	3 ▼
Honduras	27/30	0.40	0.00	0.2%	116	1 ▲
Nicaragua	28/30	0.39	-0.01	-2.6%	118	2 ▼
Bolivia	29/30	0.38	0.00	0.3%	121	0
Venezuela, RB	30/30	0.27	-0.01	-2.6%	128	0

## EU, EFTA, & NA

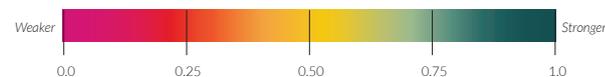
Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank <sup>†</sup>
Denmark	1/24	0.90	0.00	0.0%	1	0
Norway	2/24	0.89	0.00	0.1%	2	0
Finland	3/24	0.87	0.00	-0.1%	3	0
Sweden	4/24	0.86	0.00	0.2%	4	0
Netherlands	5/24	0.84	0.00	-0.5%	5	0
Germany	6/24	0.84	0.00	0.1%	6	0
Austria	7/24	0.82	-0.01	-0.6%	8	1 ▼
Canada	8/24	0.81	0.00	-0.2%	9	0
Estonia	9/24	0.81	0.00	0.0%	10	0
United Kingdom	10/24	0.79	-0.01	-1.7%	13	1 ▼
Belgium	11/24	0.79	0.00	-0.5%	14	0
Czech Republic	12/24	0.73	0.00	0.6%	18	1 ▲

Spain	13/24	0.73	0.01	1.3%	19	2 ▲
France	14/24	0.73	-0.01	-1.3%	20	3 ▼
United States	15/24	0.72	0.00	-0.6%	21	1 ▼
Portugal	16/24	0.70	-0.01	-1.1%	23	1 ▼
Slovenia	17/24	0.69	0.01	1.7%	24	2 ▲
Italy	18/24	0.66	0.00	0.5%	27	1 ▲
Poland	19/24	0.66	-0.01	-1.1%	28	1 ▼
Romania	20/24	0.63	-0.01	-1.5%	32	1 ▼
Croatia	21/24	0.61	0.01	1.1%	39	3 ▲
Greece	22/24	0.61	-0.01	-0.9%	40	4 ▼
Bulgaria	23/24	0.55	0.00	0.5%	53	1 ▲
Hungary	24/24	0.53	-0.01	-1.1%	60	2 ▼

\*Scores and change in scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

†The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 126 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2019 Index with the rankings of the same 126 countries and jurisdictions in 2020, exclusive of the two new additions to the 2020 Index. The two new countries and jurisdictions added to the Index are: Kosovo and The Gambia.

# Rule of Law Around the World by Region



## Middle East & North Africa

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank†
United Arab Emirates	1/8	0.65	0.00	0.6%	30	2 ▲
Jordan	2/8	0.57	0.00	-0.1%	50	1 ▼
Tunisia	3/8	0.54	0.00	0.7%	56	3 ▲
Morocco	4/8	0.50	0.00	-0.5%	79	3 ▼

Algeria	5/8	0.49	-0.01	-2.3%	83	8 ▼
Lebanon	6/8	0.45	-0.02	-3.3%	96	4 ▼
Iran	7/8	0.43	-0.02	-4.2%	109	3 ▼
Egypt	8/8	0.36	0.00	0.1%	125	2 ▼

## Sub-Saharan Africa

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Change in Overall Score*	% Score Change	Global Rank	Change in Global Rank†
Namibia	1/31	0.63	0.00	0.6%	35	1 ▼
Rwanda	2/31	0.62	0.01	1.3%	37	3 ▲
Mauritius	3/31	0.61	0.00	-0.1%	38	1 ▼
Botswana	4/31	0.60	0.01	1.7%	43	1 ▲
South Africa	5/31	0.59	0.01	1.4%	45	2 ▲
Ghana	6/31	0.57	-0.01	-1.9%	51	3 ▼
Senegal	7/31	0.55	0.00	-0.1%	52	0
Malawi	8/31	0.52	0.00	0.7%	65	3 ▲
Burkina Faso	9/31	0.51	0.00	-0.1%	70	1 ▲
The Gambia	10/31	0.50	-	-	74	-
Benin	11/31	0.50	0.00	-0.4%	81	0
Tanzania	12/31	0.47	0.00	0.5%	93	0
Cote d'Ivoire	13/31	0.46	0.00	-0.4%	95	0
Zambia	14/31	0.45	-0.01	-2.6%	97	3 ▼
Liberia	15/31	0.45	-0.01	-1.3%	98	1 ▲
Togo	16/31	0.45	0.00	-0.8%	99	3 ▲

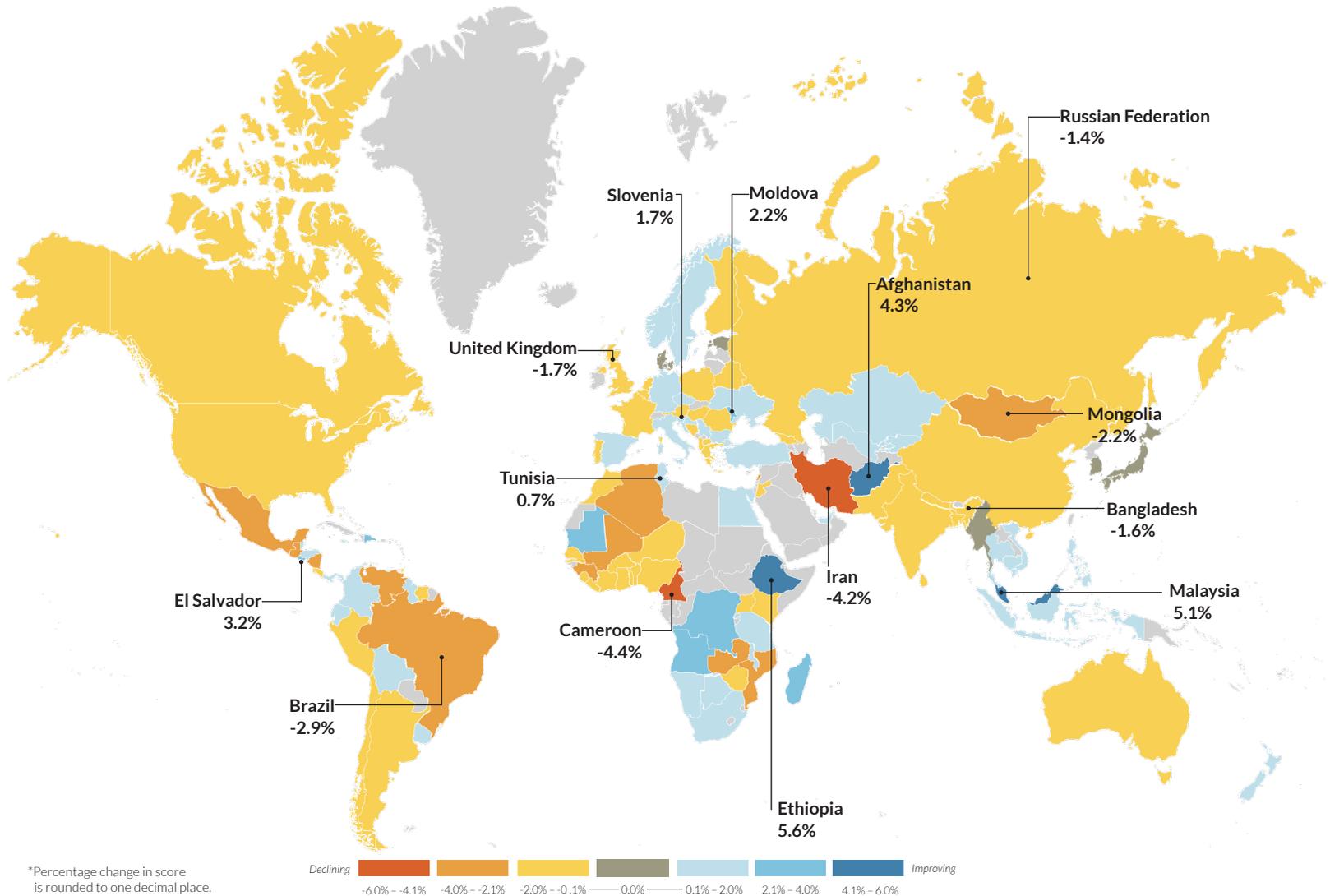
Sierra Leone	17/31	0.45	0.00	-0.9%	100	0
Kenya	18/31	0.45	0.00	-0.2%	102	3 ▲
Niger	19/31	0.45	0.00	-1.0%	103	0
Madagascar	20/31	0.44	0.01	2.4%	105	4 ▲
Mali	21/31	0.44	-0.01	-2.8%	106	2 ▼
Nigeria	22/31	0.43	0.00	-0.9%	108	0
Angola	23/31	0.43	0.01	3.1%	110	4 ▲
Guinea	24/31	0.42	-0.02	-3.9%	111	4 ▼
Mozambique	25/31	0.41	-0.01	-3.4%	113	2 ▼
Ethiopia	26/31	0.41	0.02	5.6%	114	6 ▲
Uganda	27/31	0.40	-0.01	-1.8%	117	2 ▼
Zimbabwe	28/31	0.39	-0.01	-1.5%	119	1 ▼
Mauritania	29/31	0.36	0.01	4.0%	123	1 ▲
Cameroon	30/31	0.36	-0.02	-4.4%	124	2 ▼
Congo, Dem. Rep.	31/31	0.34	0.01	2.6%	126	0

\*Scores and change in scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

†The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 126 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2019 Index with the rankings of the same 126 countries and jurisdictions in 2020, exclusive of the two new additions to the 2020 Index. The two new countries and jurisdictions added to the Index are: Kosovo and The Gambia.

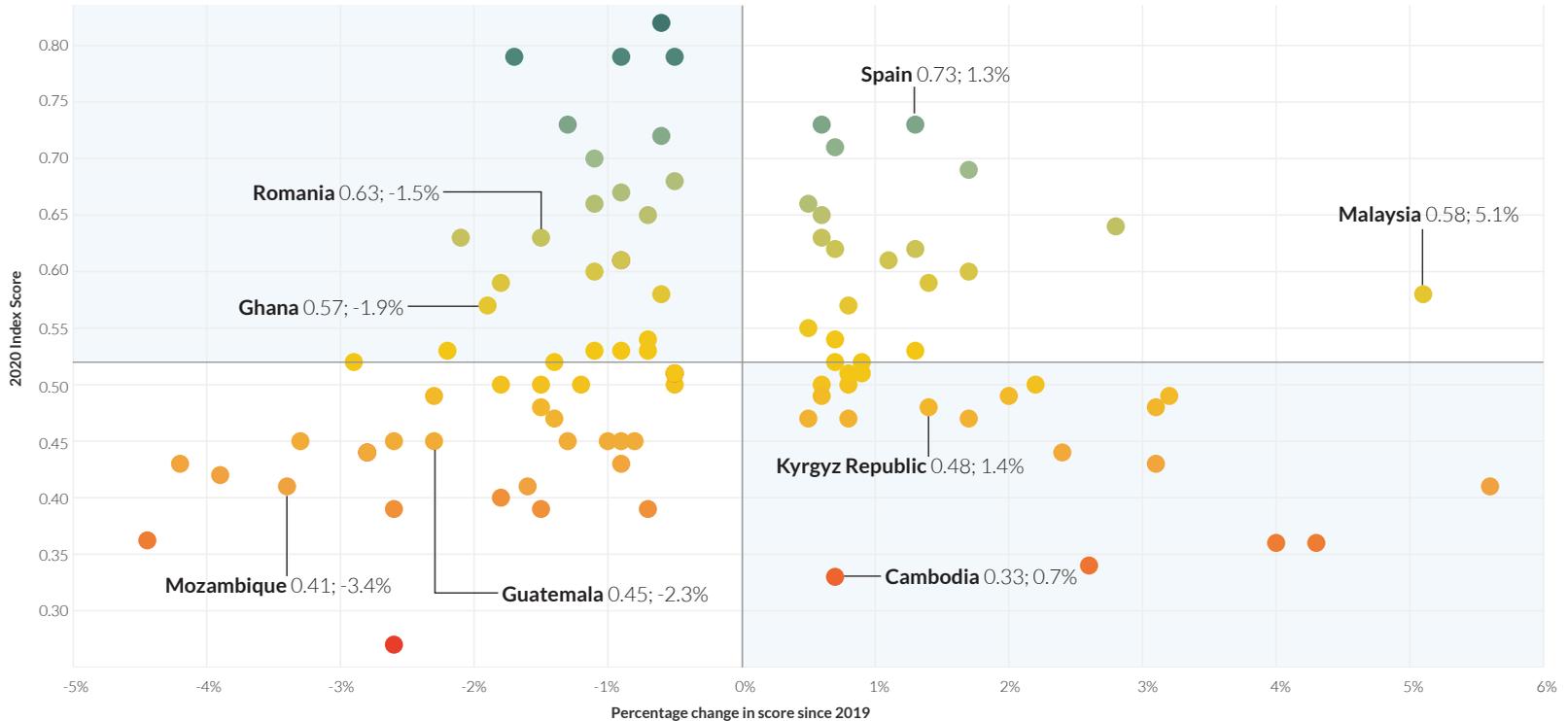
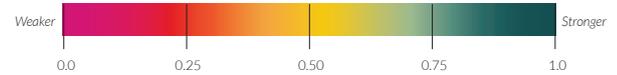
# Overall Rule of Law Score Changes

Biggest improvement and decline in overall rule of law score by region over the last year. Figures reflect percentage change in overall rule of law score.



# Improving and Declining Rule of Law

Categorization of countries according to whether their overall WJP Rule of Law Index score is above or below the median, and whether it has improved or declined in the last year. Stable countries – those with a percentage score change between -0.5% and 0.5% – are not shown.



## Declining Rule of Law Above the Median (25)

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Austria                | Hungary             |
| The Bahamas            | Mongolia            |
| Barbados               | Nepal               |
| Belgium                | North Macedonia     |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Poland              |
| Chile                  | Portugal            |
| Costa Rica             | Romania             |
| Dominica               | Singapore           |
| France                 | St. Kitts and Nevis |
| Georgia                | Trinidad and Tobago |
| Ghana                  | United Kingdom      |
| Greece                 | United States       |
| Grenada                |                     |

## Declining Rule of Law Below the Median (30)

- |            |            |                    |
|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Albania    | Lebanon    | Russian Federation |
| Algeria    | Liberia    | Sierra Leone       |
| Bangladesh | Mali       | Suriname           |
| Belarus    | Mexico     | Togo               |
| Brazil     | Morocco    | Uganda             |
| Cameroon   | Mozambique | Nicaragua, RB      |
| China      | Nicaragua  | Venezuela          |
| Guatemala  | Niger      | Zambia             |
| Guinea     | Nigeria    | Zimbabwe           |
| India      | Pakistan   |                    |
| Iran       | Peru       |                    |

## Improving Rule of Law Below the Median (21)

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Afghanistan        | Malawi      |
| Angola             | Mauritania  |
| Cambodia           | Moldova     |
| Colombia           | Philippines |
| Congo, Dem. Rep.   | Serbia      |
| Dominican Republic | Tanzania    |
| Ecuador            | Thailand    |
| El Salvador        | Ukraine     |
| Ethiopia           | Uzbekistan  |
| Kyrgyz Republic    | Vietnam     |
| Madagascar         |             |

## Improving Rule of Law Above the Median (19)

- |                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Botswana       | Rwanda                         |
| Bulgaria       | Slovenia                       |
| Croatia        | South Africa                   |
| Czech Republic | Spain                          |
| Indonesia      | St. Lucia                      |
| Italy          | St. Vincent and the Grenadines |
| Jamaica        | Tunisia                        |
| Kazakhstan     | United Arab Emirates           |
| Malaysia       | Uruguay                        |
| Namibia        |                                |

# Factors of the Rule of Law Over Time

Percentage of countries whose score has improved or declined for each of the eight factors of the WJP Rule of Law Index. Percentage of countries that declined in the past year is based on the 126 countries and jurisdictions that were covered in 2019.

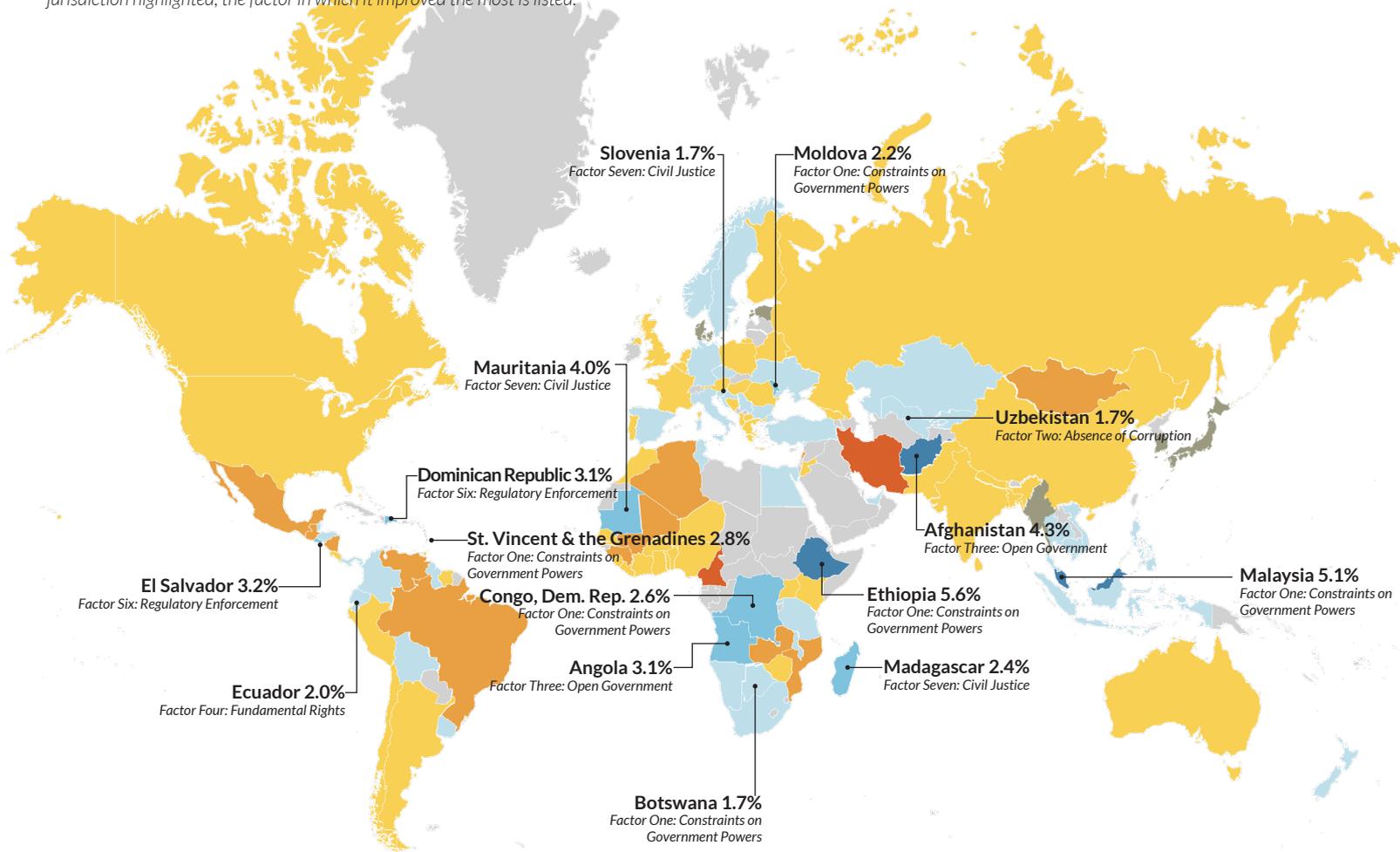


\*Percentage of countries that declined in the past five years is based on the 102 countries and jurisdictions that were covered in 2015.

\*Percentages may not add to 100%\*

# Biggest Improvements in Overall Rule of Law Score

Biggest improvements in overall rule of law score over the last year. Figures reflect change in overall rule of law score in annual percentage terms. For each country or jurisdiction highlighted, the factor in which it improved the most is listed.



\*Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.



# Year to Year Rule of Law Score Changes

■ Negative Change ■ Positive Change

Percentage change in score between each edition of the WJP Rule of Law Index since 2015. Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2020 are not included.

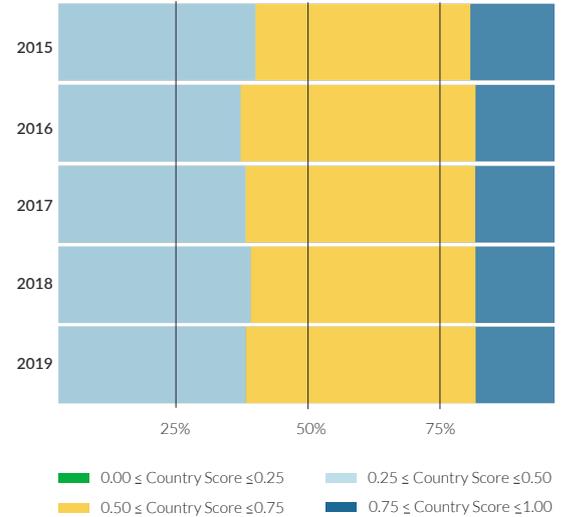
	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	Overall Score 2020		2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	Overall Score 2020		2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	Overall Score 2020
Afghanistan	-2.2%	-0.3%	0.9%	4.3%	0.36	Georgia	-0.2%	-6.7%	-0.2%	-1.1%	0.60	North Macedonia	-1.7%	-2.3%	1.8%	-0.9%	0.53
Albania	-3.2%	0.8%	-0.9%	-1.2%	0.50	Germany	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.84	Norway	1.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.1%	0.89
Algeria	-	-	-	-2.3%	0.49	Ghana	-3.7%	2.4%	-2.5%	-1.9%	0.57	Pakistan	1.1%	1.9%	-0.2%	-0.7%	0.39
Angola	-	-	-	3.1%	0.43	Greece	-0.2%	0.5%	2.3%	-0.9%	0.61	Panama	-1.9%	-0.3%	-0.2%	0.5%	0.52
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-5.8%	0.1%	0.5%	0.63	Grenada	-	-7.8%	-1.4%	-1.8%	0.59	Peru	3.1%	1.7%	-2.9%	-0.5%	0.50
Argentina	6.7%	5.0%	0.1%	-0.5%	0.58	Guatemala	-0.1%	0.1%	4.6%	-2.3%	0.45	Philippines	-3.6%	-7.7%	0.4%	0.8%	0.47
Australia	0.5%	0.2%	-0.4%	-0.3%	0.80	Guinea	-	-	-	-3.9%	0.42	Poland	-0.2%	-5.8%	-0.9%	-1.1%	0.66
Austria	1.3%	-2.4%	1.0%	-0.6%	0.82	Guyana	-	1.9%	0.0%	0.2%	0.50	Portugal	1.7%	0.9%	-0.8%	-1.1%	0.70
The Bahamas	-	-0.9%	1.5%	-0.9%	0.61	Honduras	-0.5%	-3.9%	-0.3%	0.2%	0.40	Republic of Korea	-7.7%	-1.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.73
Bangladesh	-2.1%	0.2%	1.4%	-1.6%	0.41	Hong Kong SAR, China	1.3%	-0.4%	-0.2%	-0.4%	0.76	Romania	6.6%	-0.7%	-1.9%	-1.5%	0.63
Barbados	-	-2.8%	0.2%	-0.7%	0.65	Hungary	-1.3%	-3.9%	-2.2%	-1.1%	0.53	Russian Federation	-4.1%	3.2%	1.0%	-1.4%	0.47
Belarus	1.4%	-4.6%	0.8%	-0.5%	0.51	India	1.4%	0.9%	-1.2%	-0.5%	0.51	Rwanda	-	-	-	1.3%	0.62
Belgium	2.8%	-2.0%	2.4%	-0.5%	0.79	Indonesia	-0.1%	-0.9%	0.9%	1.3%	0.53	Senegal	0.8%	-4.0%	0.3%	-0.1%	0.55
Belize	-2.8%	-0.2%	0.8%	0.1%	0.48	Iran	7.5%	1.8%	-6.2%	-4.2%	0.43	Serbia	-0.7%	-0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.50
Benin	-	-	-	-0.4%	0.50	Italy	0.1%	0.6%	0.9%	0.5%	0.66	Sierra Leone	1.8%	2.0%	0.1%	-0.9%	0.45
Bolivia	-2.7%	-5.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.38	Jamaica	1.5%	0.7%	-2.0%	0.8%	0.57	Singapore	1.0%	-2.6%	0.0%	-0.9%	0.79
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-1.7%	-4.9%	-0.2%	-1.4%	0.52	Japan	-0.8%	1.1%	-0.8%	0.0%	0.78	Slovenia	1.9%	-0.3%	0.5%	1.7%	0.69
Botswana	-9.9%	1.3%	1.3%	1.7%	0.60	Jordan	4.1%	1.5%	-4.8%	-0.1%	0.57	South Africa	1.7%	0.3%	-1.6%	1.4%	0.59
Brazil	2.9%	-3.1%	-1.2%	-2.9%	0.52	Kazakhstan	1.3%	2.2%	0.9%	0.9%	0.52	Spain	2.0%	0.9%	2.4%	1.3%	0.73
Bulgaria	-0.8%	-2.4%	2.4%	0.5%	0.55	Kenya	-3.5%	4.0%	0.5%	-0.2%	0.45	Sri Lanka	0.6%	2.8%	-0.9%	-0.2%	0.52
Burkina Faso	3.1%	4.8%	0.5%	-0.1%	0.51	Kyrgyz Republic	-0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	1.4%	0.48	St. Kitts and Nevis	-	-0.5%	-2.2%	-2.1%	0.63
Cambodia	-12.2%	-1.1%	0.5%	0.7%	0.33	Lebanon	-5.4%	2.7%	0.2%	-3.3%	0.45	St. Lucia	-	-2.1%	-2.1%	0.7%	0.62
Cameroon	-8.0%	-0.1%	2.8%	-4.4%	0.36	Liberia	0.1%	1.2%	1.4%	-1.3%	0.45	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-0.4%	1.6%	2.8%	0.64
Canada	3.8%	0.3%	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.81	Madagascar	0.6%	-3.9%	-1.4%	2.4%	0.44	Suriname	-	-3.9%	0.4%	-1.8%	0.50
Chile	0.8%	-2.4%	1.5%	-0.9%	0.67	Malawi	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.52	Sweden	1.3%	0.2%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.86
China	0.3%	3.8%	-2.7%	-1.5%	0.48	Malaysia	-5.2%	-0.5%	3.6%	5.1%	0.58	Tanzania	-1.4%	0.2%	-0.3%	0.5%	0.47
Colombia	1.2%	-0.4%	-1.4%	0.8%	0.50	Mali	-	-	-	-2.8%	0.44	Thailand	-0.3%	-1.8%	-0.4%	0.9%	0.51
Congo, Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	2.6%	0.34	Mauritania	-	-	-	4.0%	0.36	Togo	-	-	-	-0.8%	0.45
Costa Rica	0.4%	-0.1%	0.3%	-0.5%	0.68	Mauritius	-	-	-	-0.1%	0.61	Trinidad and Tobago	-	-2.1%	-3.0%	-0.7%	0.54
Cote d'Ivoire	-1.4%	1.4%	-1.3%	-0.4%	0.46	Mexico	-1.7%	-0.7%	-0.2%	-2.8%	0.44	Tunisia	-4.6%	0.3%	-0.2%	0.7%	0.54
Croatia	1.0%	1.0%	-0.6%	1.1%	0.61	Moldova	2.4%	-0.5%	-1.0%	2.2%	0.50	Turkey	-7.2%	-3.1%	2.7%	0.3%	0.43
Czech Republic	4.1%	-1.2%	-1.4%	0.6%	0.73	Mongolia	1.1%	0.8%	0.3%	-2.2%	0.53	Uganda	-4.1%	2.6%	0.6%	-1.8%	0.40
Denmark	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	0.90	Morocco	1.4%	-3.4%	-1.2%	-0.5%	0.50	Ukraine	1.9%	1.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.51
Dominica	-	-0.8%	-1.8%	-0.6%	0.58	Mozambique	-	-	-	-3.4%	0.41	United Arab Emirates	-2.1%	-1.5%	-0.7%	0.6%	0.65
Dominican Republic	-3.4%	-0.4%	-0.4%	3.1%	0.48	Myanmar	4.0%	-3.2%	-0.5%	0.0%	0.42	United Kingdom	3.0%	-0.1%	-0.7%	-1.7%	0.79
Ecuador	-3.4%	3.7%	1.2%	2.0%	0.49	Namibia	-	-	-	0.6%	0.63	United States	1.4%	-1.1%	-1.5%	-0.6%	0.72
Egypt	-16.7%	-1.0%	-1.1%	0.1%	0.36	Nepal	-2.2%	1.1%	0.8%	-0.7%	0.53	Uruguay	1.9%	-1.9%	-0.6%	0.7%	0.71
El Salvador	-3.2%	-2.8%	-0.4%	3.2%	0.49	Netherlands	3.4%	-0.7%	-1.5%	-0.5%	0.84	Uzbekistan	-1.4%	1.9%	1.0%	1.7%	0.47
Estonia	1.8%	1.2%	1.3%	0.0%	0.81	New Zealand	0.0%	-0.3%	-0.5%	0.3%	0.83	Venezuela, RB	-13.7%	4.0%	-3.5%	-2.6%	0.27
Ethiopia	-9.4%	-0.8%	3.3%	5.6%	0.41	Nicaragua	-1.1%	3.2%	-6.9%	-2.6%	0.39	Vietnam	2.9%	-2.1%	-2.4%	0.6%	0.49
Finland	3.0%	-0.3%	0.6%	-0.1%	0.87	Niger	-	-	-	-1.0%	0.45	Zambia	0.5%	-0.8%	-1.2%	-2.6%	0.45
France	-2.9%	2.8%	0.0%	-1.3%	0.73	Nigeria	9.0%	-1.2%	-1.0%	-0.9%	0.43	Zimbabwe	0.8%	0.6%	7.1%	-1.5%	0.39

\*Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places.

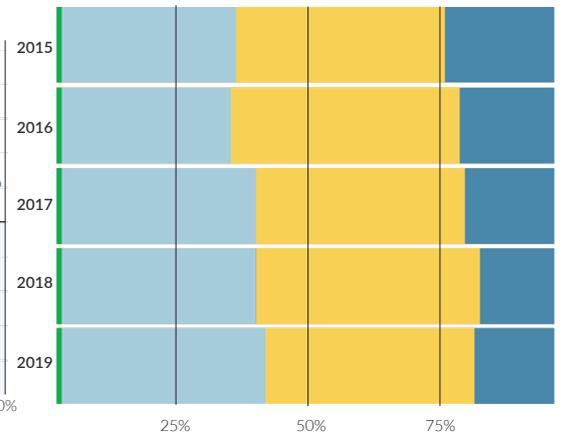
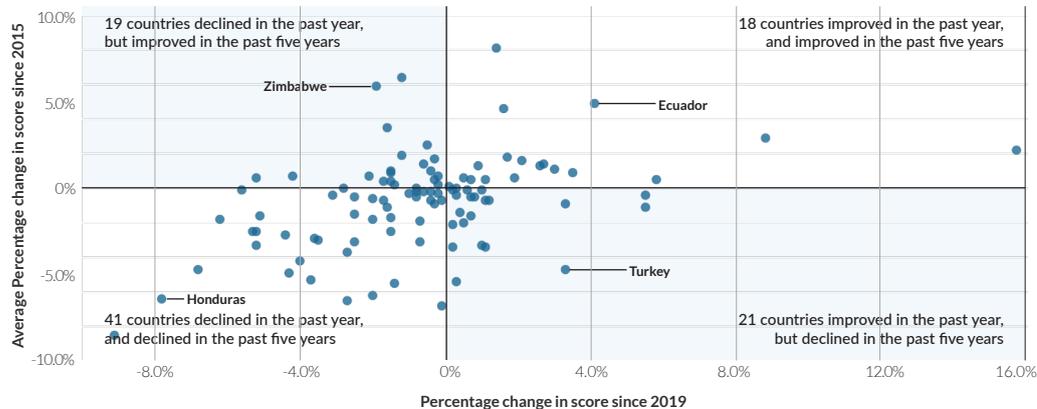
# One-Year and Five-Year Trends in Rule of Law

The scatter plots below show the annual percentage change in score for each country and jurisdiction over the last year (x-axis) and the average annual percentage change in score for each country and jurisdiction over the last five years (y-axis). The charts to the right show the change in distribution of overall rule of law scores (top) and Factor One scores (bottom) since 2015. The colored bars represent the percentages of countries and jurisdictions that fall within the corresponding score ranges.

## Overall Rule of Law Index Score

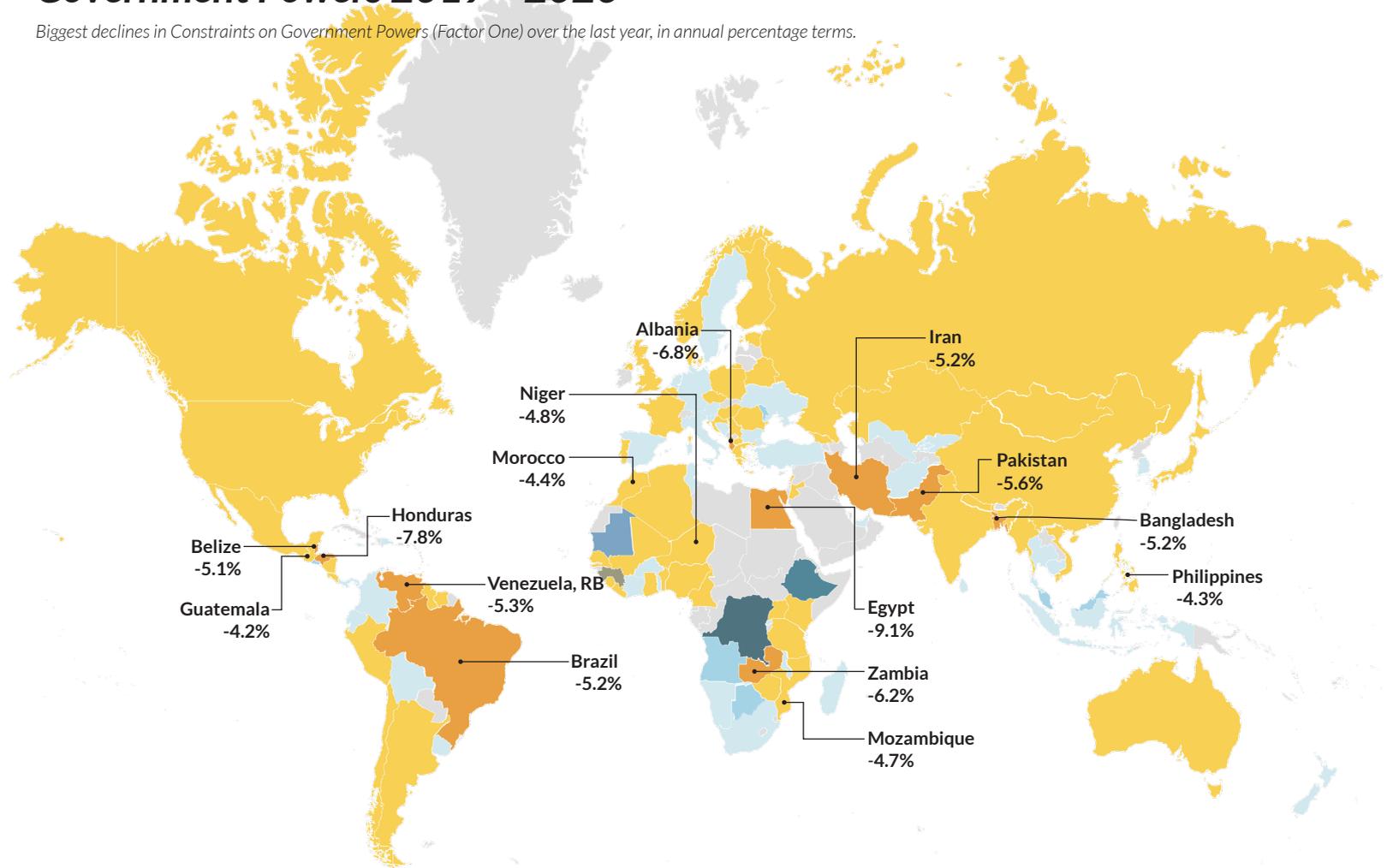


## Factor One: Constraints on Government Powers

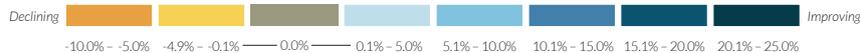


# Biggest Declines in Constraints on Government Powers 2019 – 2020

Biggest declines in Constraints on Government Powers (Factor One) over the last year, in annual percentage terms.

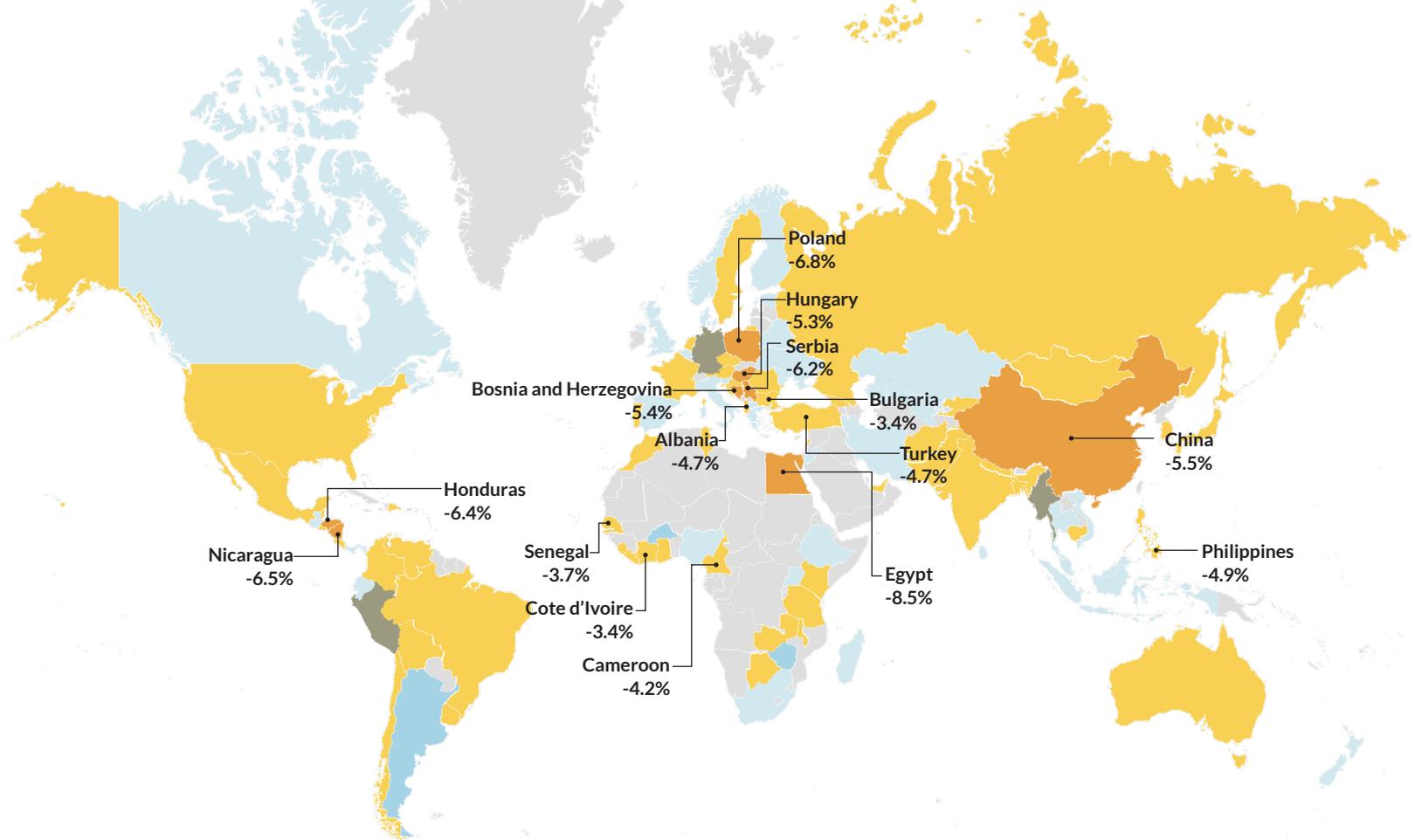


\*Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

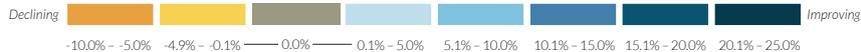


# Biggest Declines in Constraints on Government Powers Since 2015

Biggest declines in Constraints on Government Powers (Factor One) over the last five years, in average annual percentage terms.



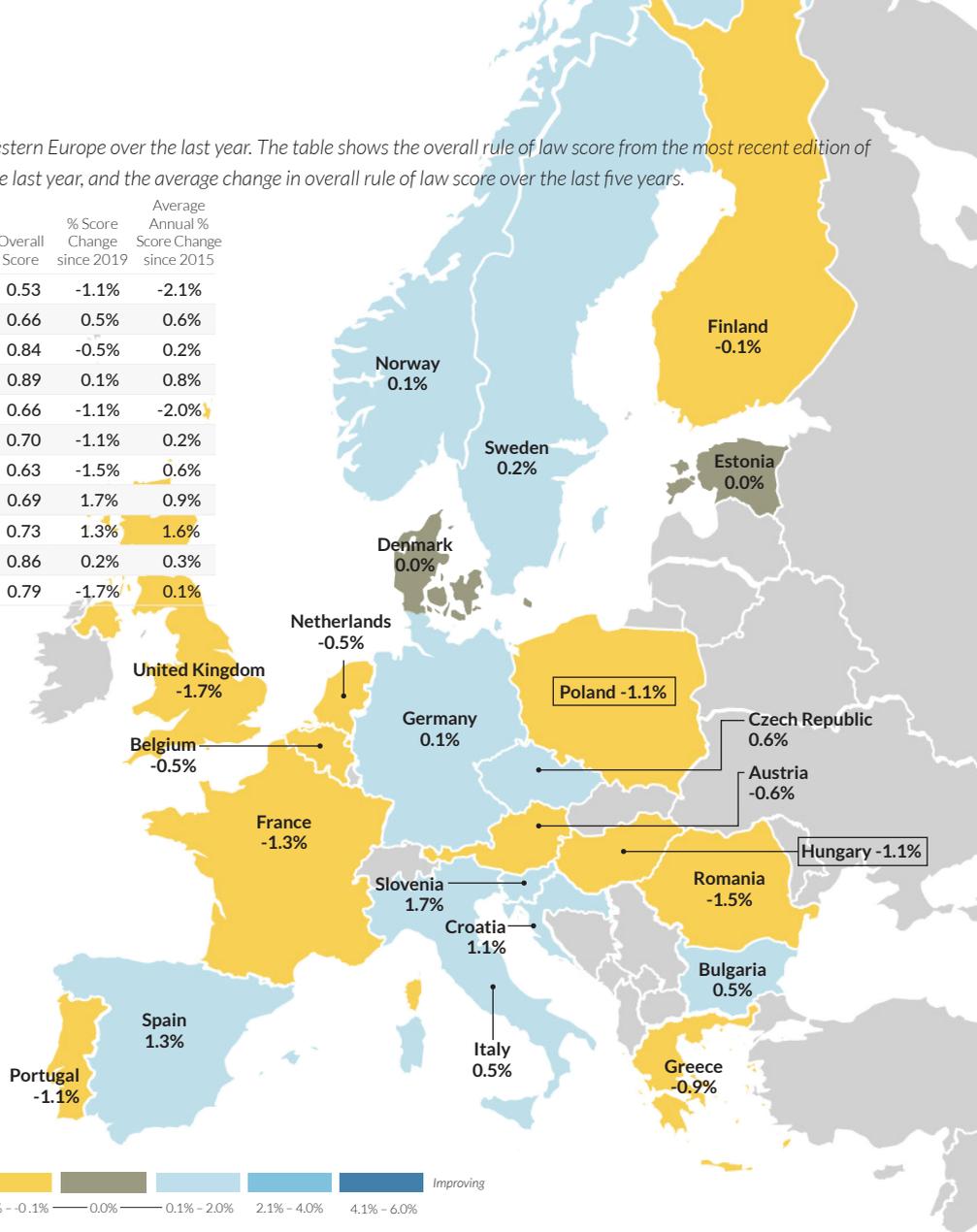
\*Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.



# Rule of Law Changes in Europe

The heat map depicts percentage change in overall rule of law scores in Western Europe over the last year. The table shows the overall rule of law score from the most recent edition of the WJP Rule of Law Index, the change in overall rule of law score over the last year, and the average change in overall rule of law score over the last five years.

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score	% Score Change since 2019	Average Annual % Score Change since 2015	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score	% Score Change since 2019	Average Annual % Score Change since 2015
Austria	0.82	-0.6%	-0.2%	Hungary	0.53	-1.1%	-2.1%
Belgium	0.79	-0.5%	0.7%	Italy	0.66	0.5%	0.6%
Bulgaria	0.55	0.5%	-0.1%	Netherlands	0.84	-0.5%	0.2%
Croatia	0.61	1.1%	0.6%	Norway	0.89	0.1%	0.8%
Czech Republic	0.73	0.6%	0.5%	Poland	0.66	-1.1%	-2.0%
Denmark	0.90	0.0%	0.8%	Portugal	0.70	-1.1%	0.2%
Estonia	0.81	0.0%	1.1%	Romania	0.63	-1.5%	0.6%
Finland	0.87	-0.1%	0.8%	Slovenia	0.69	1.7%	0.9%
France	0.73	-1.3%	-0.3%	Spain	0.73	1.3%	1.6%
Germany	0.84	0.1%	0.7%	Sweden	0.86	0.2%	0.3%
Greece	0.61	-0.9%	0.4%	United Kingdom	0.79	-1.7%	0.1%



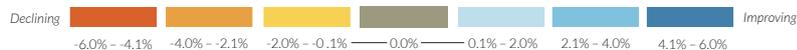
## Poland

	Factor Score	% Score Change since 2015	
Constraints on Government Powers	0.58	-25.0%	
Absence of Corruption	0.73	12.0%	
Open Government	0.60	-11.0%	
Fundamental Rights	0.64	-17.0%	
Order and Security	0.86	1.0%	
Regulatory Enforcement	0.62	4.0%	
Civil Justice	0.63	-4.0%	
Criminal Justice	0.60	-19.0%	

## Hungary

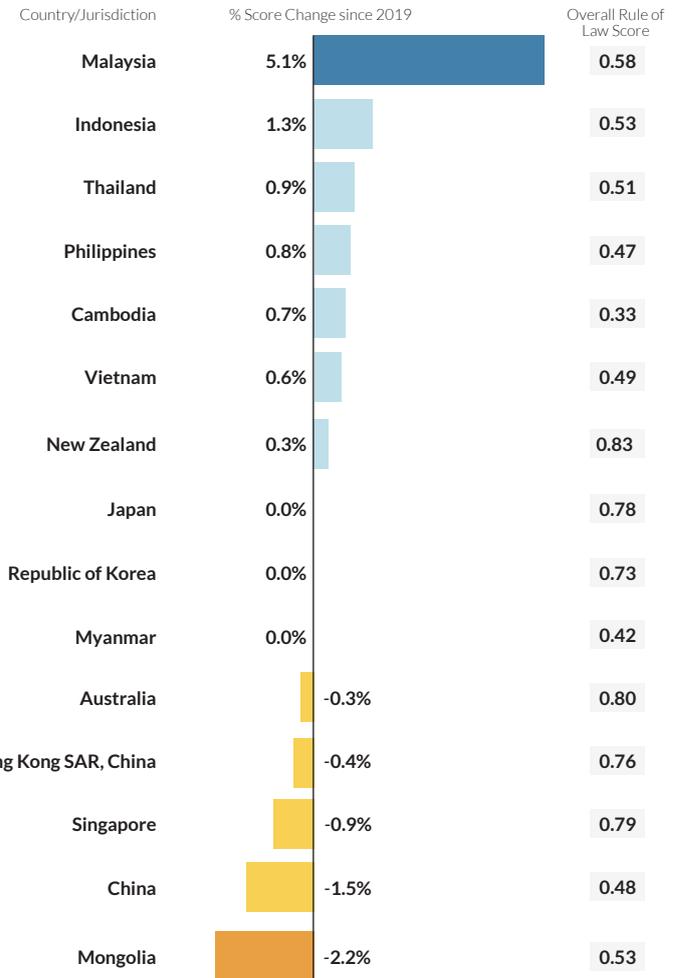
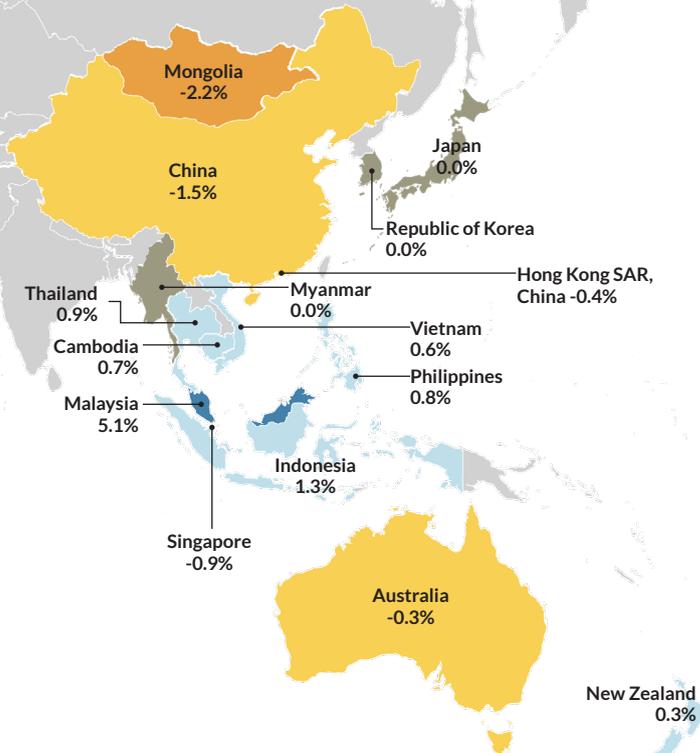
	Factor Score	% Score Change since 2015
	0.40	-20.0%
	0.51	2.0%
	0.46	-11.0%
	0.58	-11.0%
	0.89	4.0%
	0.47	-8.0%
	0.45	-15.0%
	0.47	-15.0%

\*Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

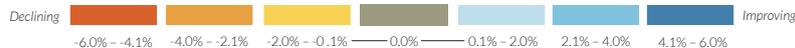


# Rule of Law Changes in East Asia and the Pacific

Percentage change in overall rule of law scores in East Asia and the Pacific over the last year.



\*Scores are rounded to two decimal places.  
Percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.



# Conceptual Framework of the WJP Rule of Law Index

The conceptual framework of the WJP Rule of Law Index is comprised of eight factors further disaggregated into 44 sub-factors. These factors and sub-factors are presented below and described in detail in the section that follows.

## Factor One Constraints on Government Powers



- 1.1 Government powers are effectively limited by the legislature
- 1.2 Government powers are effectively limited by the judiciary
- 1.3 Government powers are effectively limited by independent auditing and review
- 1.4 Government officials are sanctioned for misconduct
- 1.5 Government powers are subject to non-governmental checks
- 1.6 Transition of power is subject to the law

## Factor Two Absence of Corruption



- 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 legislative branch do not use public office for private gain

## Factor Three Open Government



- 3.1 Publicized laws and government data
- 3.2 Right to information
- 3.3 Civic participation
- 3.4 Complaint mechanisms

## Factor Four Fundamental Rights



- 4.1 Equal treatment and absence of discrimination
- 4.2 The right to life and security of the person is effectively guaranteed
- 4.3 Due process of the law and rights of the accused
- 4.4 Freedom of opinion and expression is effectively guaranteed
- 4.5 Freedom of belief and religion is effectively guaranteed
- 4.6 Freedom from arbitrary interference with privacy is effectively guaranteed
- 4.7 Freedom of assembly and association is effectively guaranteed
- 4.8 Fundamental labor rights are effectively guaranteed

## Factor Five Order and Security



- 5.1 Crime is effectively controlled
- 5.2 Civil conflict is effectively limited
- 5.3 People do not resort to violence to redress personal grievances

## Factor Six Regulatory Enforcement



- 6.1 Government regulations are effectively enforced
- 6.2 Government regulations are applied and enforced without improper influence
- 6.3 Administrative proceedings are conducted without unreasonable delay
- 6.4 Due process is respected in administrative proceedings
- 6.5 The government does not expropriate without lawful process and adequate compensation

## Factor Seven Civil Justice



- 7.1 People can access and afford civil justice
- 7.2 Civil justice is free of discrimination
- 7.3 Civil justice is free of corruption
- 7.4 Civil justice is free of improper government influence
- 7.5 Civil justice is not subject to unreasonable delay
- 7.6 Civil justice is effectively enforced
- 7.7 Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are accessible, impartial, and effective

## Factor Eight Criminal Justice



- 8.1 Criminal investigation system is effective
- 8.2 Criminal adjudication system is timely and effective
- 8.3 Correctional system is effective in reducing criminal behavior
- 8.4 Criminal justice system is impartial
- 8.5 Criminal justice system is free of corruption
- 8.6 Criminal justice system is free of improper government influence
- 8.7 Due process of the law and rights of the accused

## About the WJP Rule of Law Index

The *WJP Rule of Law Index*<sup>®</sup> is a quantitative assessment tool designed to measure how the rule of law is experienced and perceived in practical, everyday situations by the general public worldwide. Performance is measured across the eight primary rule of law factors and 44 sub-factors outlined on the previous page.

To present an accurate portrait of the rule of law as experienced by ordinary people, each score of the Index is calculated using a large number of questions drawn from two original data sources collected by the WJP in each country:

**A General Population Poll** (GPP) conducted by leading local polling companies, using a representative sample of 1,000 respondents in each country;

**Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires** (QRQs) consisting of closed-ended questions completed by in-country practitioners and academics with expertise in civil and commercial law, criminal justice, labor law, and public health.

For the full methodology of the Index and more detailed country-level information, please refer to the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index*<sup>®</sup> 2020 report, available for download at [worldjusticeproject.org](https://worldjusticeproject.org).

# Defining the Rule of Law

The World Justice Project defines the rule of law as a durable system of laws, institutions, norms, and community commitment that delivers:



## Universal Principle One **Accountability**

*The government as well as private actors are accountable under the law.*



## Universal Principle Three **Open Government**

*The processes by which the laws are enacted, administered, and enforced are accessible, fair, and efficient.*



## Universal Principle Two **Just Laws**

*The laws are clear, publicized, and stable; are applied evenly; and protect fundamental rights, including the security of persons and contract, property, and human rights.*



## Universal Principle Four **Accessible and Impartial Dispute Resolution**

*Justice is delivered timely by competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who are accessible, have adequate resources, and reflect the makeup of the communities they serve.*

*Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small.*

## ***About the World Justice Project***

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights. Learn more at: [worldjusticeproject.org](https://worldjusticeproject.org).



**World Justice  
Project**



**WASHINGTON, DC**

**SEATTLE**

**SINGAPORE**

**MEXICO CITY**



[worldjusticeproject.org](http://worldjusticeproject.org)



[facebook.com/thewjp](https://facebook.com/thewjp)



[twitter.com/theWJP](https://twitter.com/theWJP)