

**UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL:**

20 October 2016 (6:00 AM EDT)

RUSSIA RANKED 92 OUT OF 113 COUNTRIES ON RULE OF LAW

*Russia Falls Six Positions in 2016 World Justice Project Rule of Law Index*

WASHINGTON, DC (20 October 2016) – The World Justice Project (WJP) today released the *WJP Rule of Law Index*® 2016, the annual report measuring how the rule of law is experienced by the general public worldwide. According to the Index, Russia’s overall rule of law performance places it at 11 out of 13 countries in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region\*, 35 out of 37 among upper-middle income countries, and 92 out of 113 countries and jurisdictions worldwide.

Russia’s decline from its previous position in the 2015 *WJP Rule of Law Index* was primarily driven by a downturn in performance in the area of Order and Security. Detailed information about the factors used in the *WJP Rule of Law Index* can be found at <http://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index> (note that ranking changes were calculated by comparing countries against the original 2015 *WJP Rule of Law Index* country set, excluding the 11 new countries added to the Index this year).

The *WJP Rule of Law Index* is the world’s leading source for original data on the rule of law. The 2016 edition expands coverage to 113 countries and jurisdictions (from 102 in 2015), relying on more than 100,000 household and expert surveys to measure how the rule of law is experienced in practical, everyday situations by the general public worldwide. Performance is measured using 44 indicators across eight primary rule of law factors, each of which is scored and ranked globally and against regional and income peers: **Constraints on Government Powers, Absence of Corruption, Open Government, Fundamental Rights, Order and Security, Regulatory Enforcement, Civil Justice, and Criminal Justice.**

The top three overall performers in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2016* were Denmark (1), Norway (2), and Finland (3); the bottom three were Afghanistan (111), Cambodia (112), and Venezuela (113). In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, the top performer was Georgia; the bottom performer was Turkey.

The complete 2016 report—including online data visualizations and download options— is available on October 20 at: [www.worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index](http://www.worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index)

“Effective rule of law is the foundation for communities of peace, equity, and opportunity,” said William H. Neukom, WJP Founder and CEO. “No country has ever attained—let alone sustained—a perfect realization of the rule of law. The *WJP Rule of Law Index* is intended to be a first step in setting benchmarks, informing and guiding reforms, and deepening appreciation and understanding for the foundational importance of the rule of law.”

## RUSSIA RANKINGS

WJP Rule of Law Index 2016 performance (1 is best)

RUSSIA OVERALL GLOBAL RANK: 92/113

RUSSIA OVERALL REGIONAL RANK\*: 11/13

FACTOR	REGIONAL RANK*	INCOME RANK**	GLOBAL RANK
Constraints on Government Powers	10/13	32/37	100/113
Absence of Corruption	8/13	30/37	78/113
Open Government	8/13	21/37	67/113
Fundamental Rights	11/13	32/37	97/113
Order and Security	13/13	35/37	102/113
Regulatory Enforcement	6/13	25/37	71/113
Civil Justice	5/13	22/37	63/113
Criminal Justice	13/13	32/37	98/113

\*Countries measured in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, FYR, Moldova, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

\*\*Upper-middle income countries: Albania, Argentina, Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Georgia, Grenada, Guyana, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Macedonia, FYR, Malaysia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Romania, Russia, Serbia, South Africa, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela

### ABOUT THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT:

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law around the world. 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 peace, opportunity, and equity—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights. Learn more at: [www.worldjusticeproject.org](http://www.worldjusticeproject.org)

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