



# Measuring the Rule of Law: The WJP Rule of Law Index

Alejandro Ponce  
October 23, 2017

## Motivation

- Consensus about the importance of the rule of law
- What is the rule of law? Is it possible to strengthen it?
- Principles: (1) comprehensive; (2) people-centered; (3) outcome oriented; (4) actionable

## Development of the Index

- Limited data available / various data models
- Three years of consultations, development, and pilot testing of the methodology
- Joint Research Center

## Rule of Law Factors



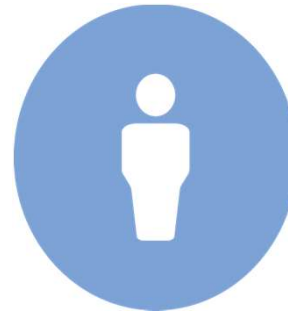
Constraints on  
Government Powers



Absence of  
Corruption



Open  
Government



Fundamental  
Rights



Order and  
Security



Regulatory  
Enforcement



Civil Justice



Criminal Justice



Informal Justice



# World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index

## Factor 1

### Constraints on Government Powers

- 1.1 Gov't powers are effectively limited by the legislature
- 1.2 Gov't powers are effectively limited by the judiciary
- 1.3 Gov't powers are effectively limited by independent auditing & review
- 1.4 Gov't officials are sanctioned for misconduct
- 1.5 Gov't powers are subject to non-governmental checks
- 1.6 Transition of power is subject to the law

## Factor 2

### Absence of Corruption

- 2.1 Gov't officials in the executive branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.2 Gov't officials in the judicial branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.3 Gov't officials in the police and military do not use public office for private gain
- 2.4 Gov't officials in the legislative branch do not use public office for private gain

## Factor 3

### Open Government

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

## Factor 4

### 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 the 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 5

### Order & 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 6

### 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 7

### 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 8

### 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 influence
- 8.4 Criminal system is impartial
- 8.5 Criminal system is free of corruption
- 8.6 Criminal system is free of improper government influence
- 8.7 Due process of law and the rights of the accused

## Factor 9

### Informal Justice

- 9.1 Informal justice is timely and effective
- 9.2 Informal justice is impartial and free of improper influence
- 9.3 Informal justice respects and protects fundamental rights

# World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index

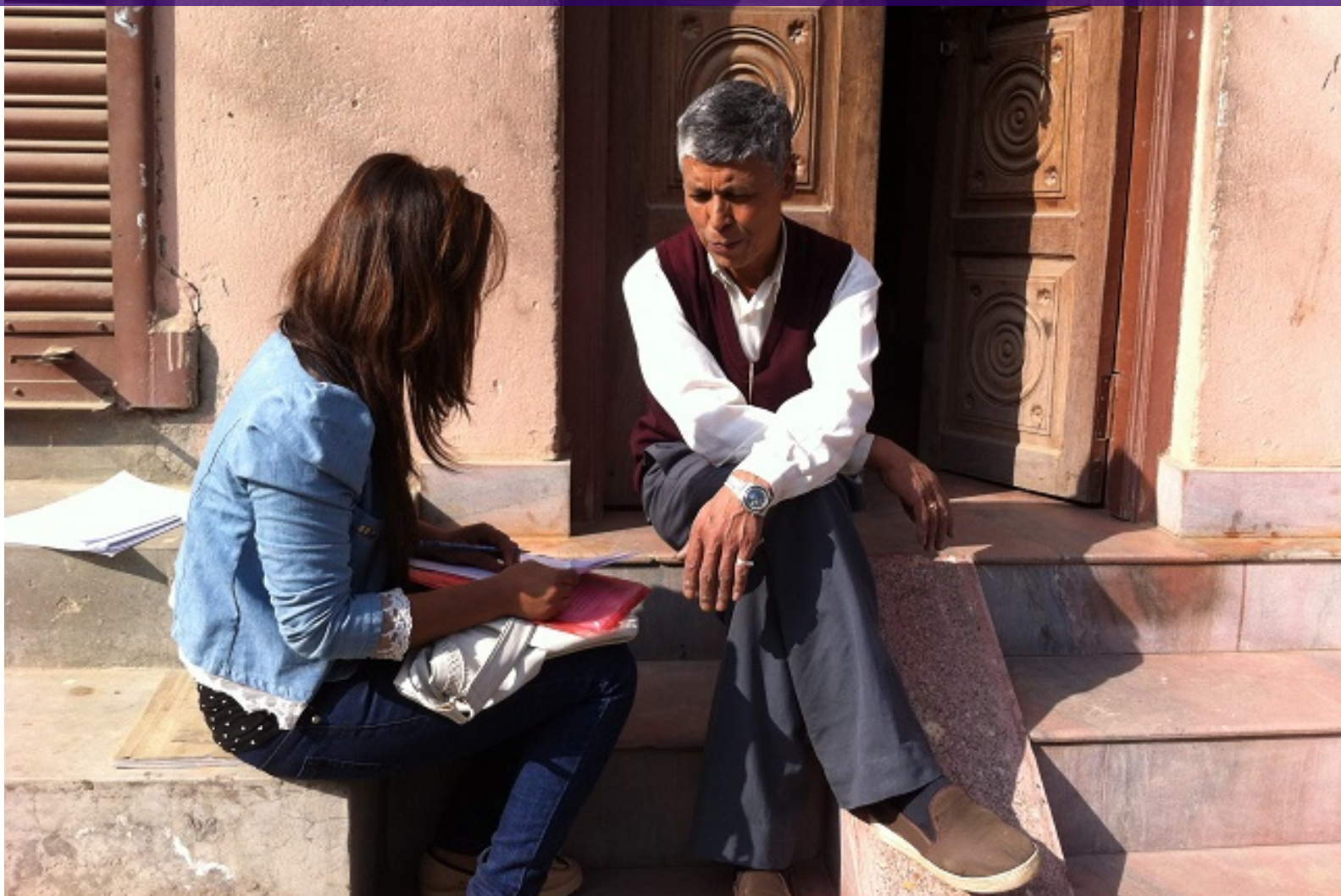
WJP Rule of Law Index



## Measurement approach

1. Perspective of the ordinary person
2. Two sources of new data:
  - **A general population poll (GPP):** Probability sample - 1,000 respondents per country (three largest cities).
  - **Qualified respondent's questionnaires (QRQ):**  
Completed by in-country experts in CC, CJ, LB, PH
3. Validation, sensitivity analysis

## Administration of the household survey in Nepal





## Administration of the household survey in El Salvador





## Administration of the household survey in Bulgaria



## Administration of the household survey in South Africa





## Administration of the household survey in Afghanistan





## Administration of the General Population Poll in Mexico



## GPP Questions

**READ:** Now let me ask you about personal experiences with corruption and bribe solicitation. Let me remind you that your answers to all questions in this survey will remain completely confidential.



	q20. In the last <u>three years</u> , did you:	q21. Did you have to pay a <u>bribe</u> to receive the service or expedite the process?
a. Request a government permit, or process any kind of document (like a license, building permit, etc.) in a local government office?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21a No.....2 GO TO q20b DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20b	Yes.....1 GO TO q20b No.....2 GO TO q20b DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20b
b. (Did you) Request public benefits or government assistance, such as cash transfers, pensions, or disability benefits?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21b No.....2 GO TO q20c DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20c	Yes.....1 GO TO q20c No.....2 GO TO q20c DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20c
c. (Did you) Request a birth certificate for you or your children or a government issued ID card?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21c No.....2 GO TO q20d DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20d	Yes.....1 GO TO q20d No.....2 GO TO q20d DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20d
d. (Did you) Request a place at a public school?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21d No.....2 GO TO q20e DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20e	Yes.....1 GO TO q20e No.....2 GO TO q20e DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20e
e. (Did you) Use any PUBLIC health services?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21e No.....2 GO TO q20f DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20f	Yes.....1 GO TO q20f No.....2 GO TO q20f DK/NA.....99 GO TO q20f
f. (Did you) Take a motor vehicle (car, motorcycle or truck) through an emissions inspection?	Yes.....1 GO TO q21f No.....2 GO TO q22 DK/NA.....99 GO TO q22	Yes.....1 GO TO q22 No.....2 GO TO q22 DK/NA.....99 GO TO q22









550+

Questions

110,000

Households Surveyed

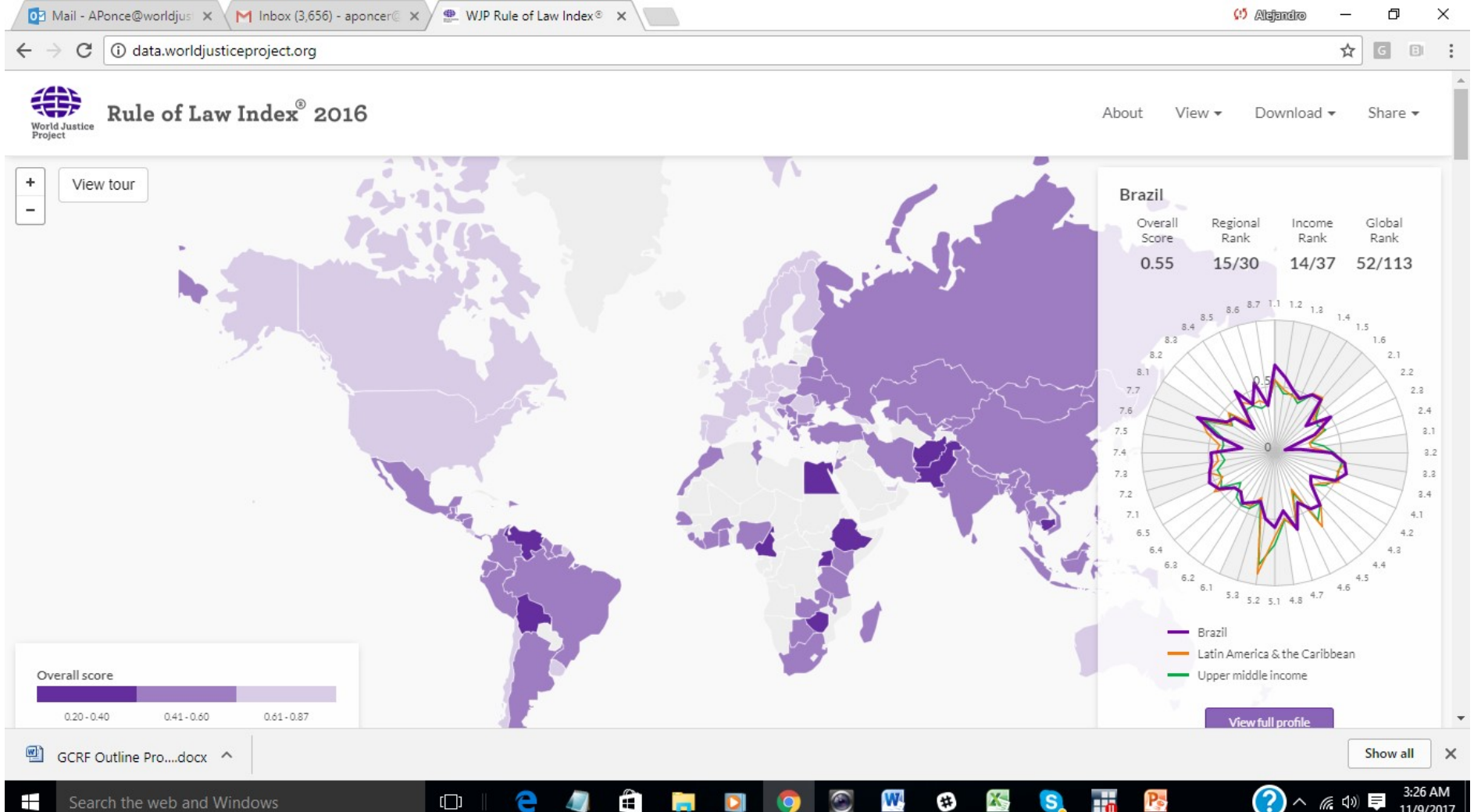
2,800

Experts Interviewed

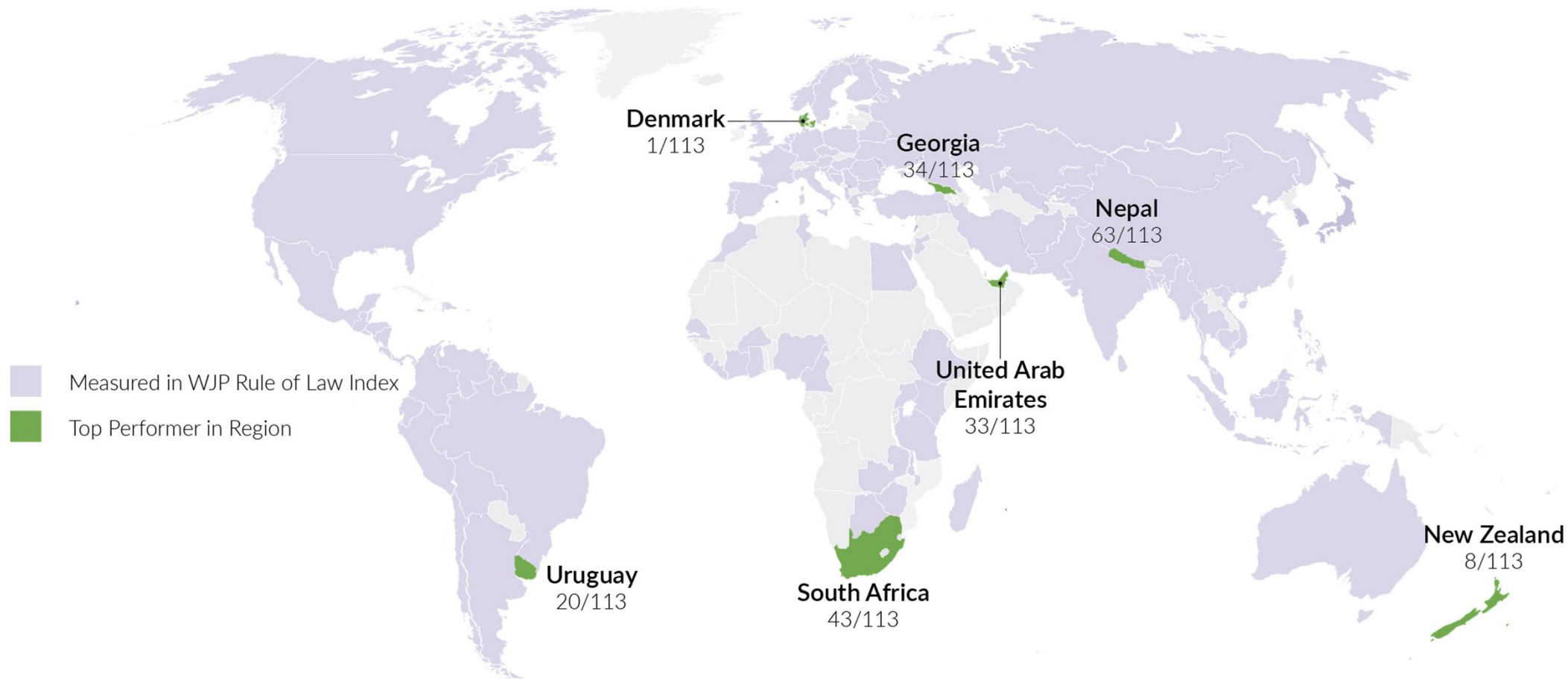
113

Countries

# http://data.worldjusticeproject.org/

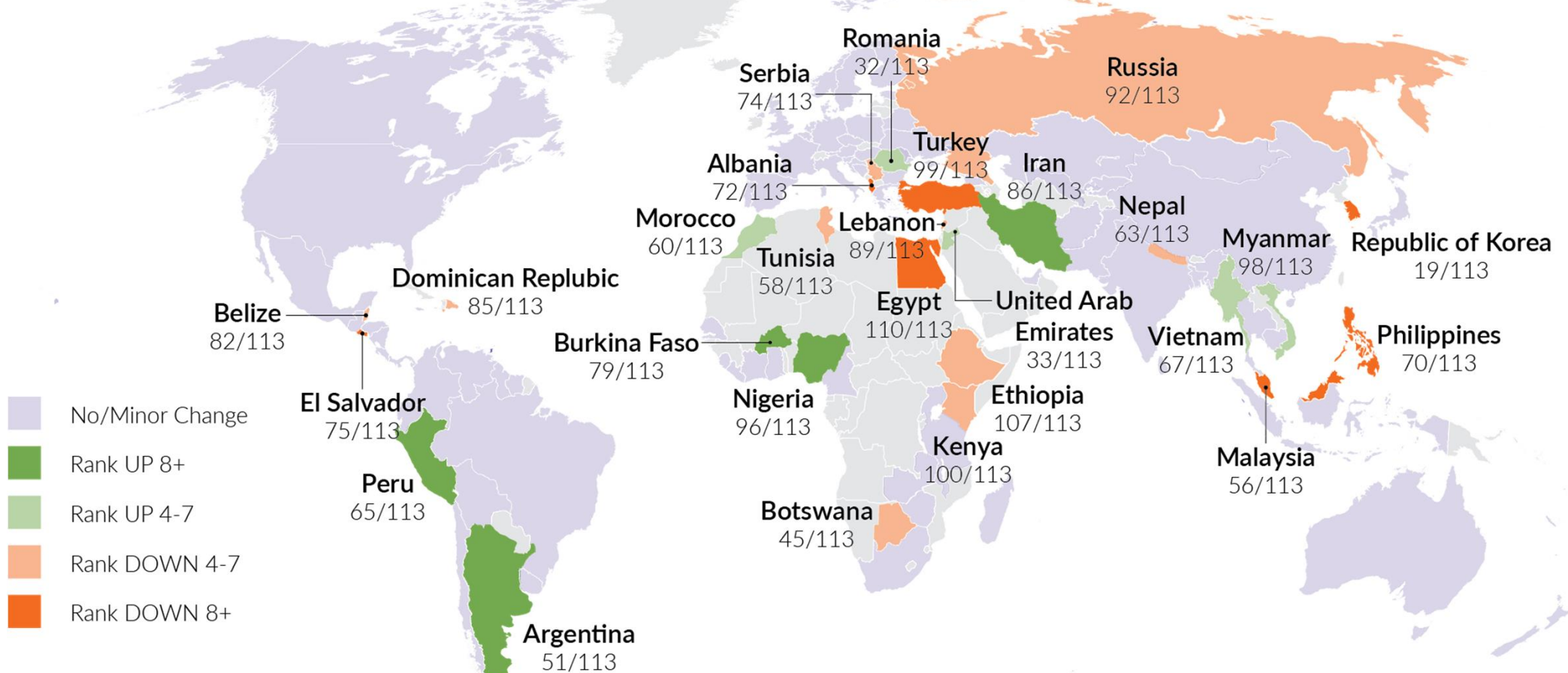


# Top Performers by Region





# Rule of Law Movers



See page 5 for rank changes by country

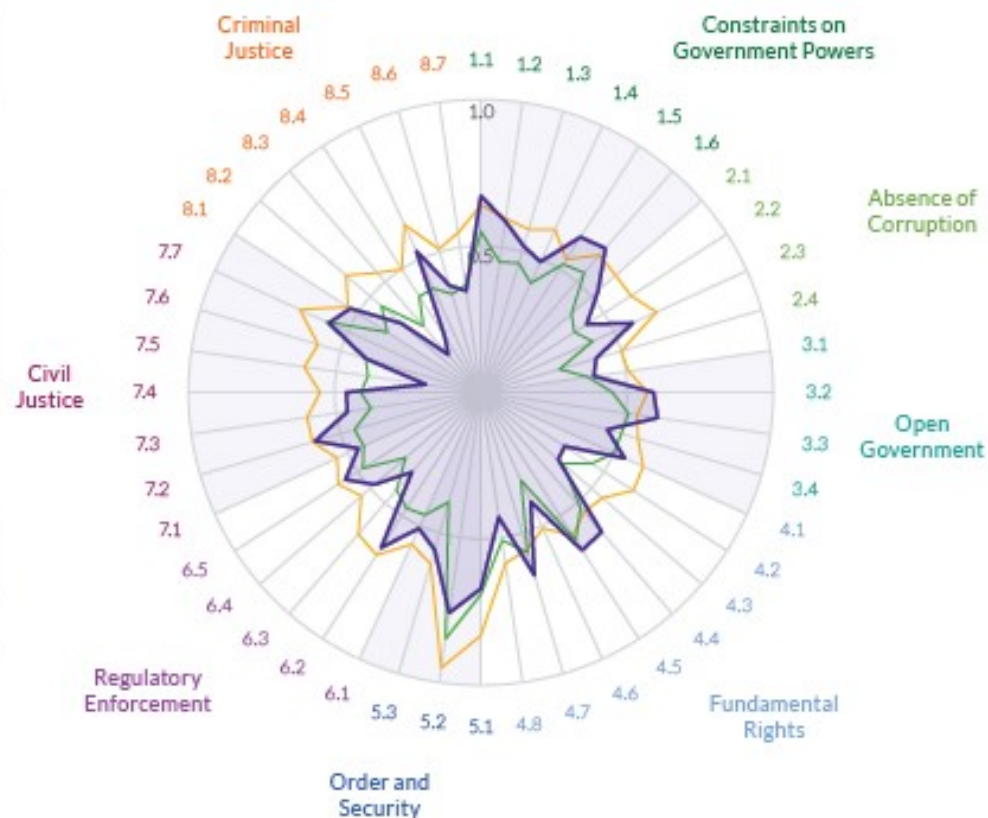
# Philippines

Region: East Asia & Pacific  
Income Group: Lower Middle Income

Overall Score Regional Rank Income Rank Global Rank

0.51 12/15 9/28 70/113

		Factor Trend	Factor Score	Regional Rank	Income Rank	Global Rank
	Constraints on Government Powers	▼	0.59	8/15	5/28	51/113
	Absence of Corruption	—	0.48	9/15	2/28	56/113
	Open Government	—	0.51	9/15	9/28	63/113
	Fundamental Rights	—	0.5	10/15	14/28	83/113
	Order & Security	—	0.67	14/15	13/28	77/113
	Regulatory Enforcement	—	0.51	8/15	4/28	55/113
	Civil Justice	—	0.45	12/15	13/28	87/113
	Criminal Justice	—	0.36	13/15	17/28	84/113



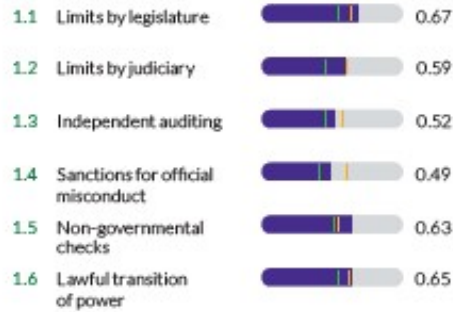
High Low ▼ Trending down ▲ Trending up

Philippines East Asia & Pacific Lower Middle Income

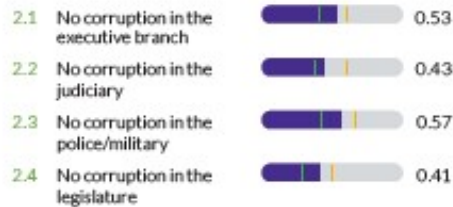




### Constraints on Government Powers



### Absence of Corruption



### Open Government



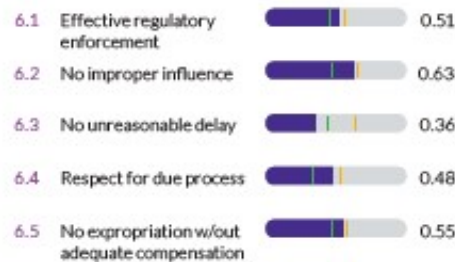
### Fundamental Rights



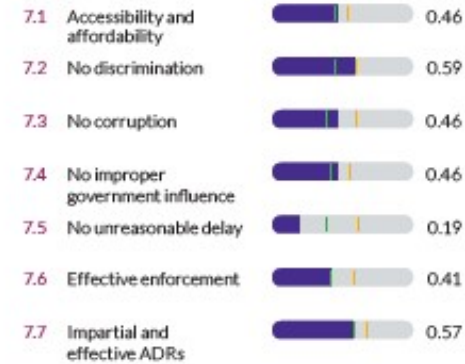
### Order & Security



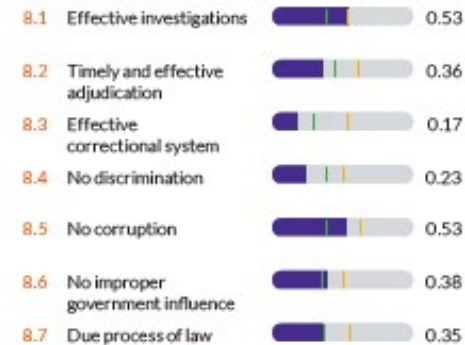
### Regulatory Enforcement



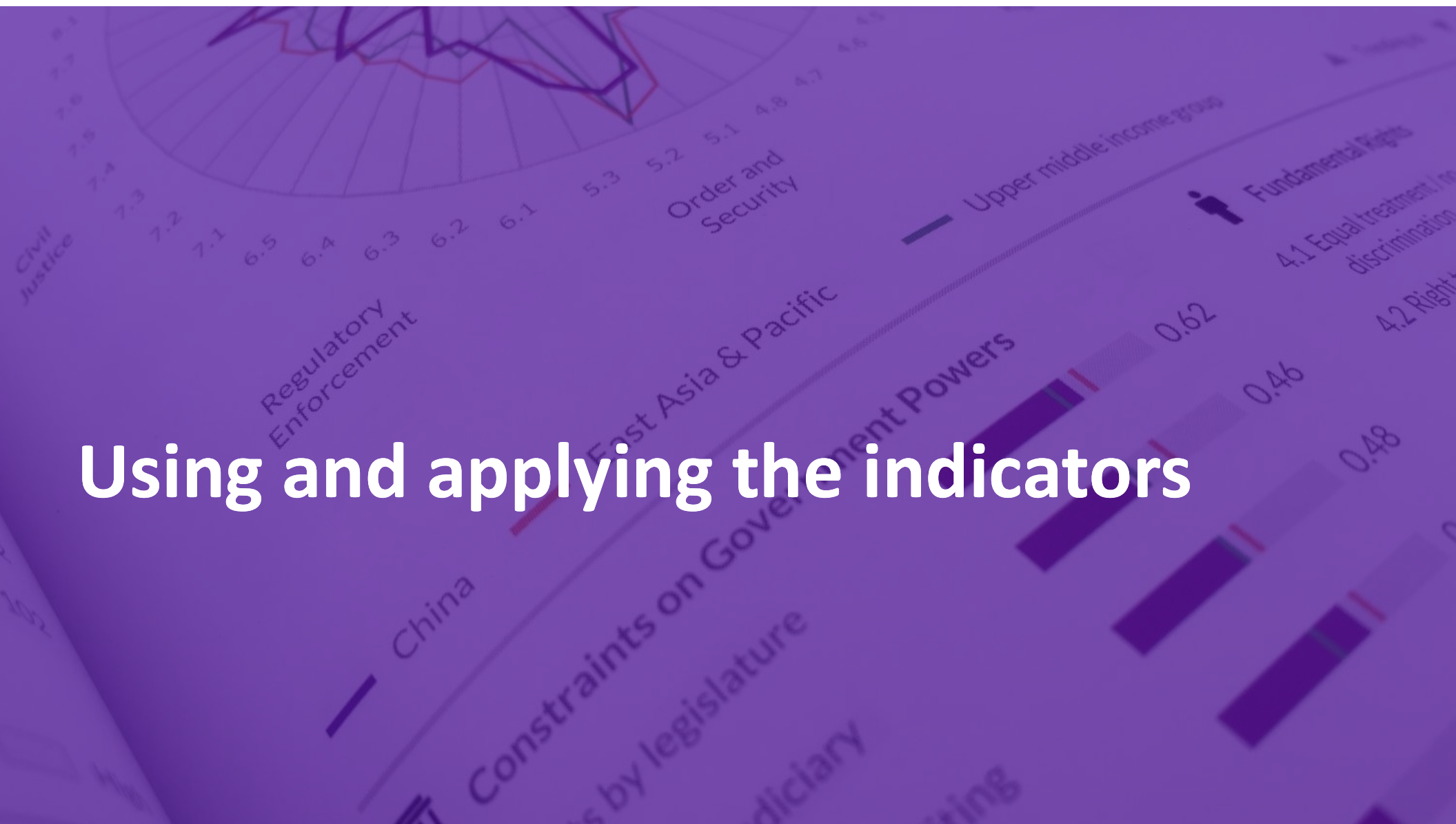
### Civil Justice



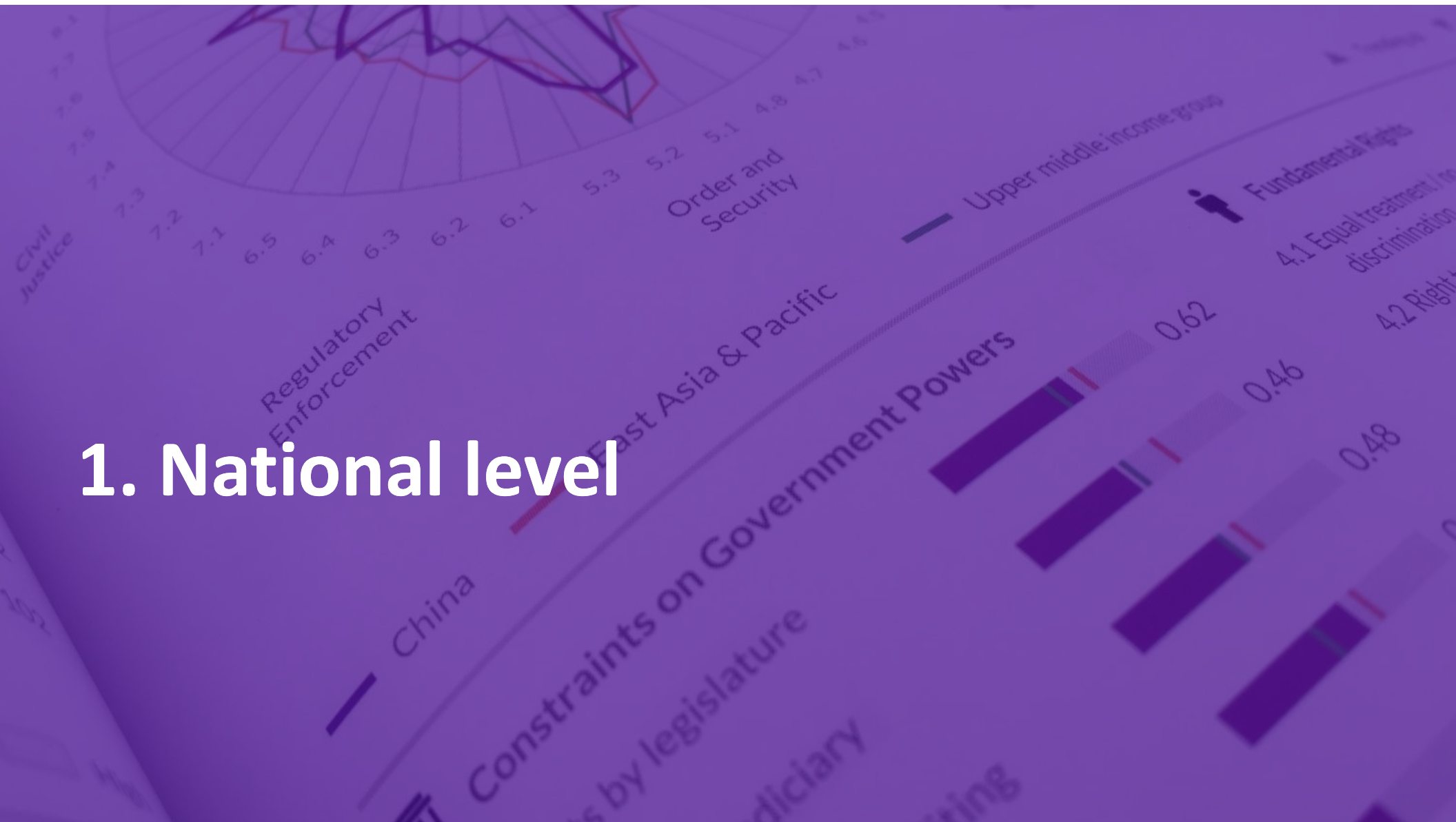
### Criminal Justice



# Using and applying the indicators



# 1. National level



Jueves, 7/4/2011

EL PAÍS edición impresa

SECCIONES DE LA EDICIÓN IMPRESA:

Primera Internacional España Economía Opinión Viñetas Sociedad Cultura Tendencias Gente Obituarios Deportes Pantalla Último

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TRIBUNA: ÁNGEL VIÑAS

## El Estado de derecho en España

En cuanto a los derechos fundamentales, España figura en quinto lugar mundial, según un informe. Por Japón, Francia y Estados Unidos. Le superan solo Austria, Suecia, Holanda y Canadá

ÁNGEL VIÑAS 05/11/2010

NewsTime  
It's a matter of opinion.

Business Entertainment Sport Science & Technology

Vigilantism: The last resort of the unprotected

THE STRAITS TIMES.

January 7, 2011 Friday Updated 11:44 pm

Singapore gets top marks in global law survey

By K. C. Vijayan

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THE JORDAN TIMES

Kingdom scores high in integrity, low in transparency

By Taylor Luck

AMMAN - Jordan does well in tackling corruption and crime but has room for improvement in government transparency, a report issued on Thursday said.

The Rule of Law Index, an international index based on 35,000 questionnaires and interviews, gave Jordan a moderate ranking in several areas and high scores relative to the group.

The index, carried out by the World Justice Project, a multinational initiative to enhance





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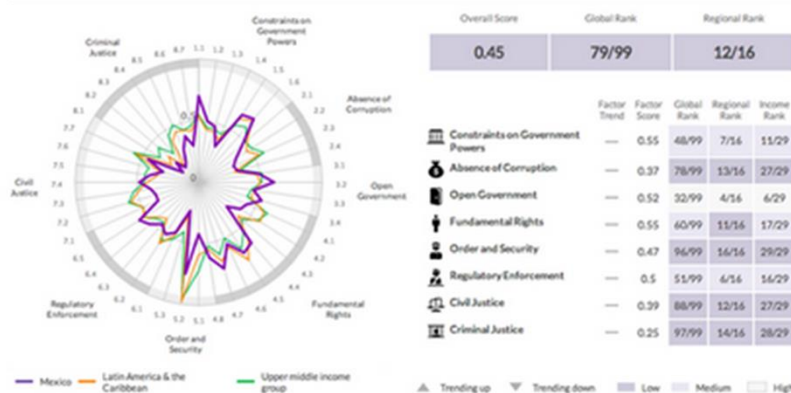
#México ocupa el lugar 79 de 99 países  
medidos por el Índice de Estado de Derecho  
de @TheWJP [ow.ly/umjeJ](http://ow.ly/umjeJ)  
[pic.twitter.com/zma3a4Xrll](http://pic.twitter.com/zma3a4Xrll)

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## Mexico

Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey  
Region: Latin America & the Caribbean | Income group: Upper middle income



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FAVORITES 6



2:38 PM - 7 Mar 2014

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**Irakli Garibashvili**

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Official twitter account of Irakli Garibashvili

Joined October 2011



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First place in Eastern Europe&Central Asia

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»TORONTO STAR«

THE VANCOUVER SUN

Millions of middle-class Canadians unable to afford

THE GLOBE AND MAIL



## Top judge sounds alarm over Canada's poor access-to-courts ranking

KIRK MAKIN

HALIFAX— Globe and Mail Update

An international finding that Canada ranks poorly when it comes to access to the courts should serve as a wake up call to the entire justice system, says Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin.

Speaking to the annual Canadian Bar Association conference today, Chief Justice McLachlin said that Canada placed ninth in a recent ranking of 12 European and North America countries.

"There is legal profession needs to ask why. Are its services overpriced? Are its members unwilling to sacrifice any of their billable hours?"

12:00 AM, March 08, 2014 / LAST MODIFIED: 12:00 AM, March 08, 2014

BANGLADESH RANKS 92ND IN RULE OF LAW INDEX

# Bangladesh ranks 92nd in rule of law index

Staff Correspondent

The Washington-based organisation identified human rights violations and police abuses as significant problems in Bangladesh.

However, Law Minister Anisul Huq has rejected the allegation of political interference in the country's justice system.

"I think their [WJP's] finding is not correct. I can give examples of many cases where results would have been otherwise if there was a political interference," he told BBC Bangla Service.

He, however, admitted a backlog of cases is causing some problems in lower tiers of judiciary.

It also found, "Protection of property rights is stronger than in other lower-middle income countries."

The WJP report, prepared considering nine aspects including law and order and human rights, observed corruption is prevalent particularly among police and military.

According to the index, Bangladesh holds 92nd position in civil justice, 94th in criminal justice, 95th in absence of corruption, 80th in constraints on government powers, 85th in open government, 87th in fundamental rights, 76th in order and security, 91st in regulatory enforcement.

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# THE ASTANA TIMES

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## Kazakhstan: on the way to unprecedented changes in justice

BY MIRA BEISENOVA *in OPINIONS* on 17 OCTOBER 2017

Kazakhstan has become the first country among the post-Soviet countries to open a Justice Services Centre free to the public one stop. The Centre in Astana represents a real breakthrough in the relationship between prosecutors and the public moving the General Prosecutor's Office (GPO) from being primarily a post-Soviet law supervisory state body to a modern public service-oriented organisation. The prosecutors can be proud of this quick victory since it took just seven months between considering the innovative idea at one of the GPO Change Programme Board brainstorming sessions to its opening to the public in July 2017.

The main task of the centre is the prompt resolution of complaints, raising the level of citizens' trust in law enforcement and government bodies, whilst eliminating the administrative burdens and bureaucracy.

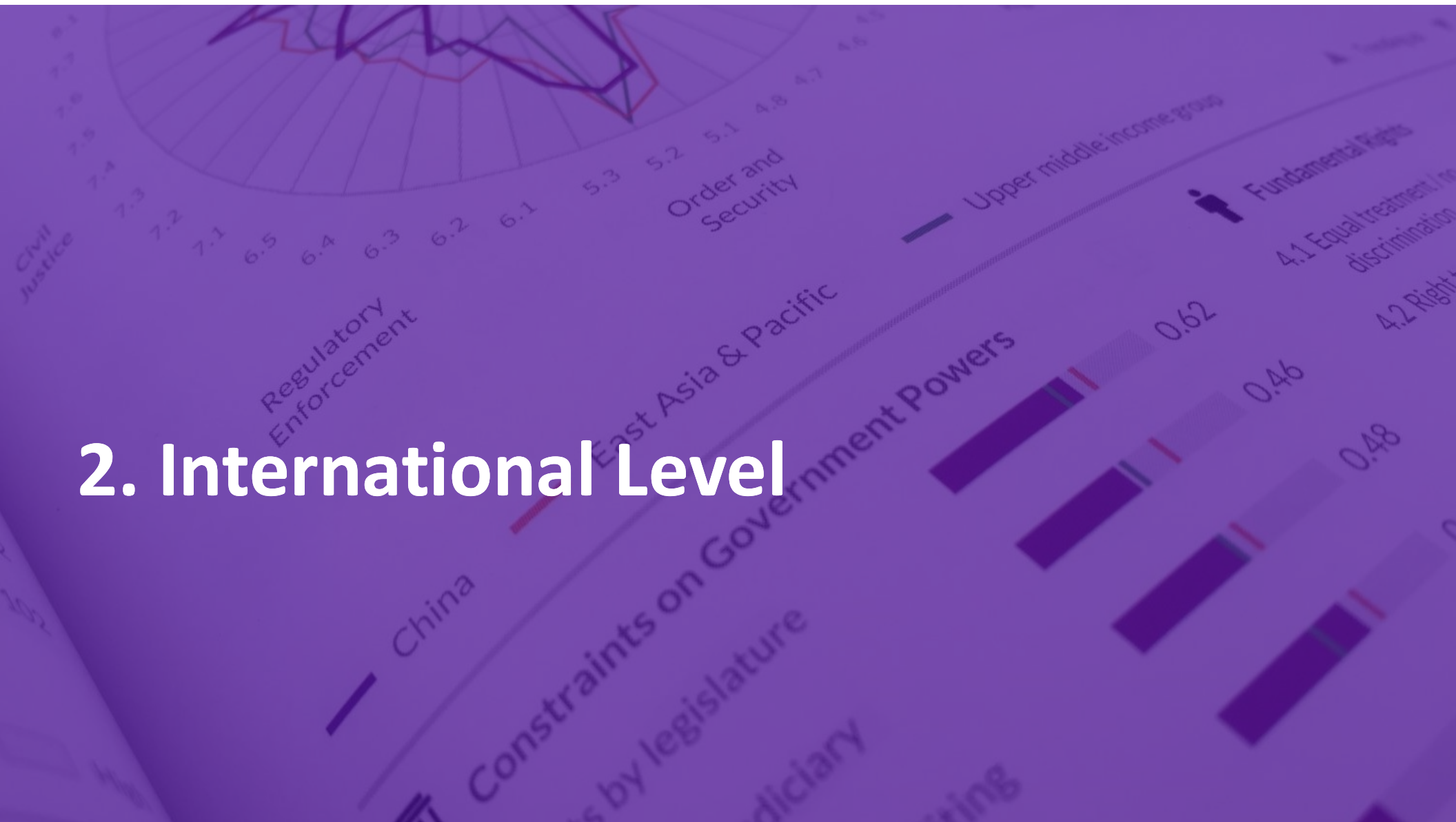
This centre operates on the principle of a "single window" that breaks with all traditions with use of glass walls



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Rule of Law in Kazakhstan

## 2. International Level



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## Rule of law - Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule\\_of\\_law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule_of_law)

The rule of law is the legal principle that law should govern a nation, as opposed to being governed by decisions of individual government officials. ... Rule of law implies that every person is subject to the law, including people who are lawmakers, law enforcement officials, and judges.

Rule of law in the United ... Rule of law doctrine in ... AV Dicey

### People also ask

- What are the principles of the rule of law?
- What is the rule of law in layman's terms?
- What is the essence of the rule of law?
- What are the principles of the law?

Feedback

## What is the Rule of Law? | World Justice Project

<https://worldjusticeproject.org/about-us/overview/what-rule-law>

The World Justice Project's definition of the rule of law is comprised of the following four universal principles: 1. Accountability. The government as well as private actors are accountable under the law. 2.

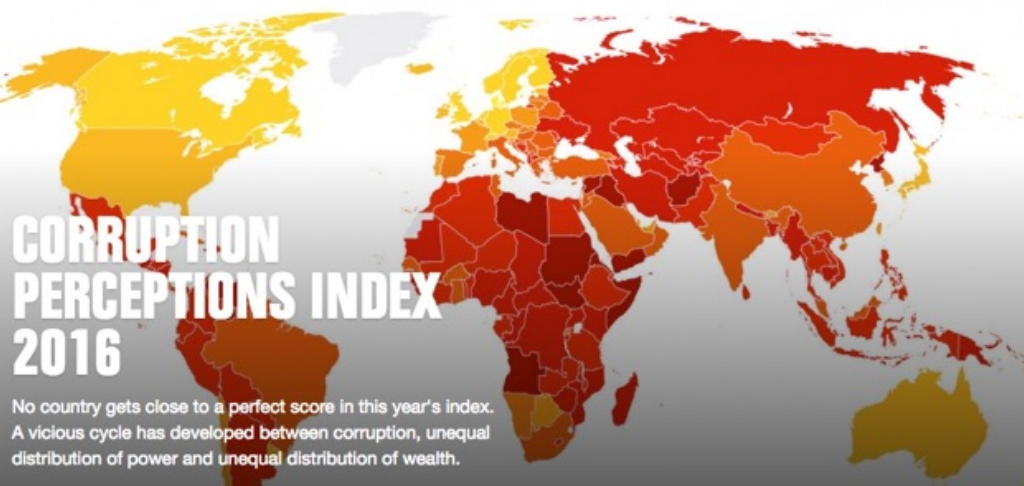
## Rule of law



The rule of law is the legal principle that law should govern a nation, as opposed to being governed by decisions of individual government officials. [Wikipedia](#)

Feedback





WGI 2017 Interactive > X

info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/#home

## Worldwide Governance Indicators

HOME INTERACTIVE DATA ACCESS DOCUMENTATION FAQ

**The Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) project** reports aggregate and individual governance indicators for over 200 countries and territories over the period 1996–2016, for six dimensions of governance:

- Voice and Accountability
- Political Stability and Absence of Violence
- Government Effectiveness
- Regulatory Quality
- Rule of Law
- Control of Corruption

These aggregate indicators combine the views of a large number of enterprise, citizen and expert survey respondents in industrial and developing countries. They are based on over 30 individual data sources produced by a variety of survey institutes, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and private sector firms.

**Interactive data access**

- Description of methodology
- Download full dataset (Excel)
- Download full dataset (Stata)

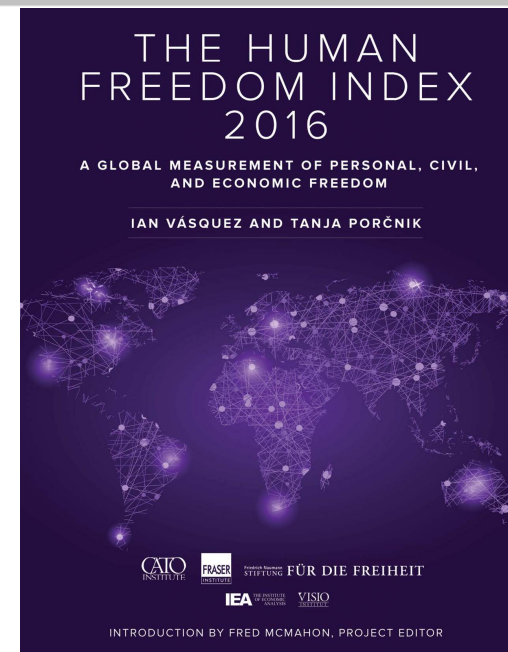
**The WGI are produced by:**

Daniel Kaufmann: Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) and Brookings Institution  
Aart Kraay: World Bank Development Research Group

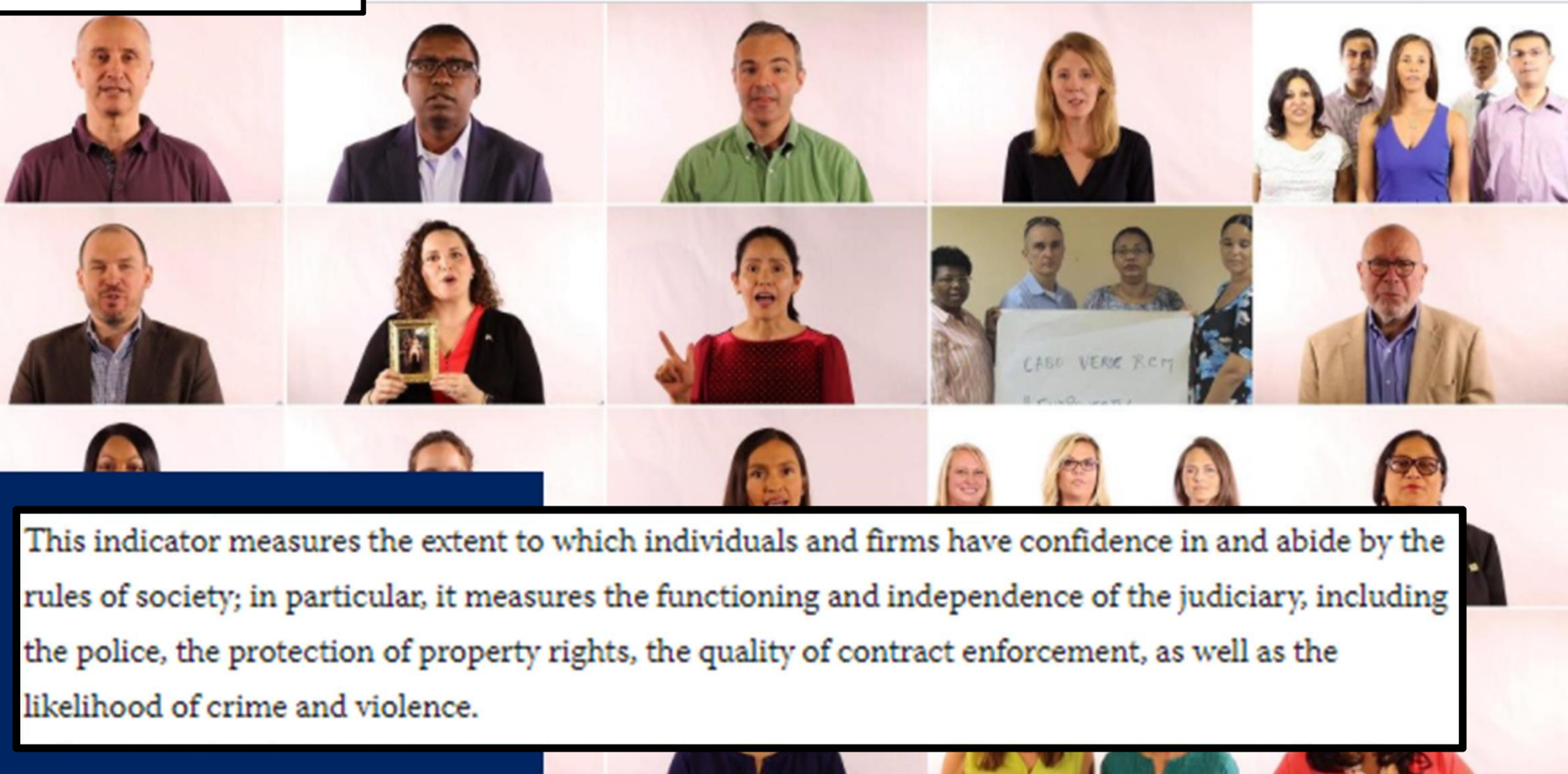
**What is Governance?**

Governance consists of the traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised. This includes the process by which governments are selected, monitored and replaced; the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies; and the respect of citizens and the state for the institutions that govern economic and social interactions among them.

Financial support from the Knowledge for Change Program of the World Bank is gratefully acknowledged. The Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) are a research dataset summarizing the views on the quality of governance provided by a large number of enterprise, citizen and expert survey respondents in industrial and developing countries. These data are gathered from a number of survey institutes, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and private sector firms. The WGI do not reflect the official views of the Natural Resource Governance Institute, the Brookings Institution, the World Bank, its Executive



# Rule of Law Indicator



This indicator measures the extent to which individuals and firms have confidence in and abide by the rules of society; in particular, it measures the functioning and independence of the judiciary, including the police, the protection of property rights, the quality of contract enforcement, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence.



## Rating Methodologies

Our rating methodologies describe the analytical framework rating committees use to assign ratings. As set forth in the methodologies, our methodologies are not intended to present an exhaustive treatment of all factors reflected in our ratings. Rather, they describe the key qualitative and quantitative considerations that are usually most important for assessing credit risk in a given sector. Each rating committee applies its own judgment in determining whether or how to emphasize rating factors it considers to be of particular significance.

Although most of our methodologies apply to a particular industry, sector or class of issuers or transactions, some describe our approach to analytical considerations that aren't specific to any single sector. Typically these cross-sector methodologies cover general credit-related topics and can be used in conjunction with sector-specific methodologies to assign ratings.

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	19 Oct 2017	Rating Methodology	<a href="#">Publicly Managed Airports and Related Issuers</a>	

# DATA REVOLUTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD





# Open Government Partnership



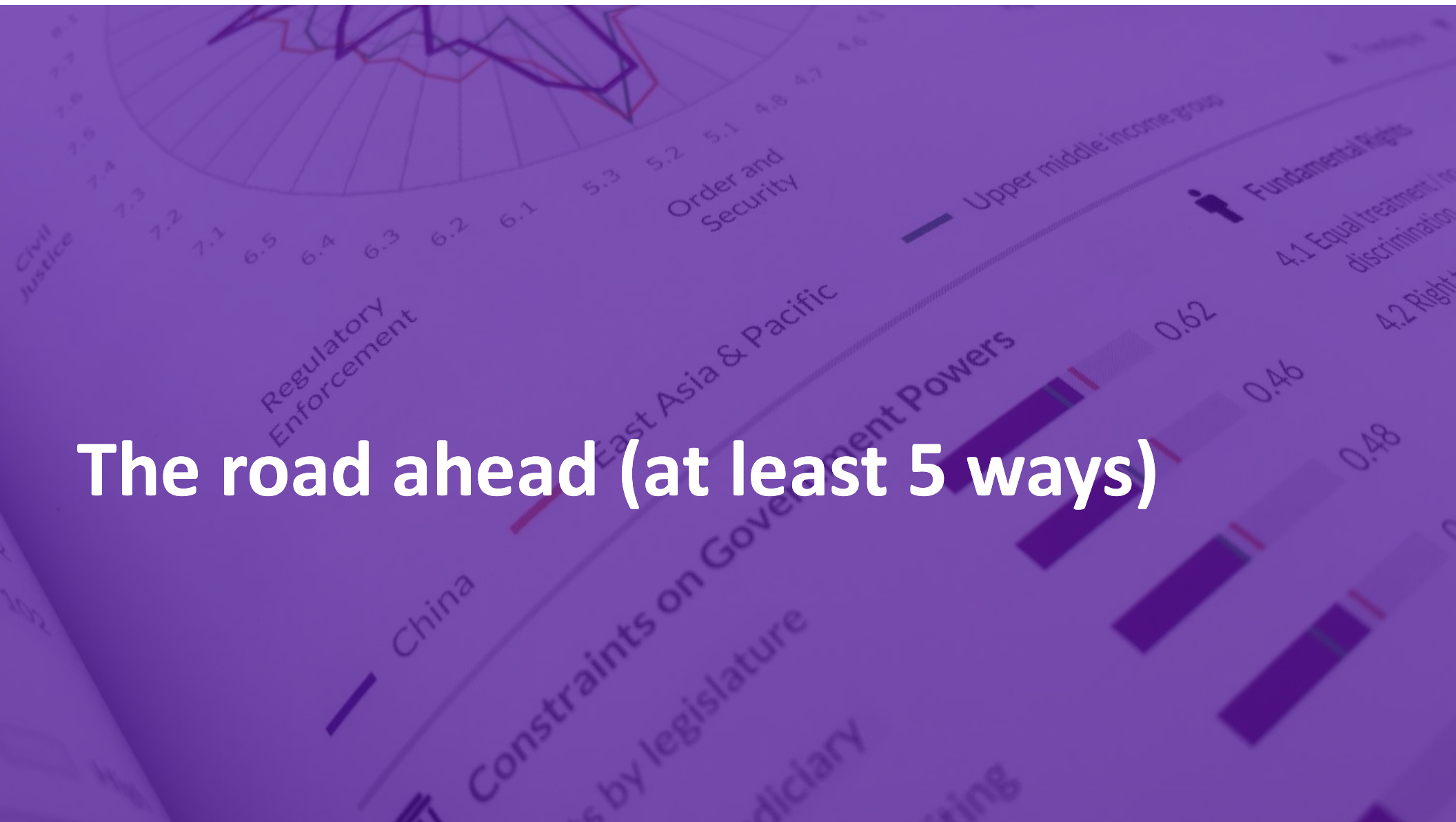
OPEN  
GOVERNMENT  
PARTNERSHIP



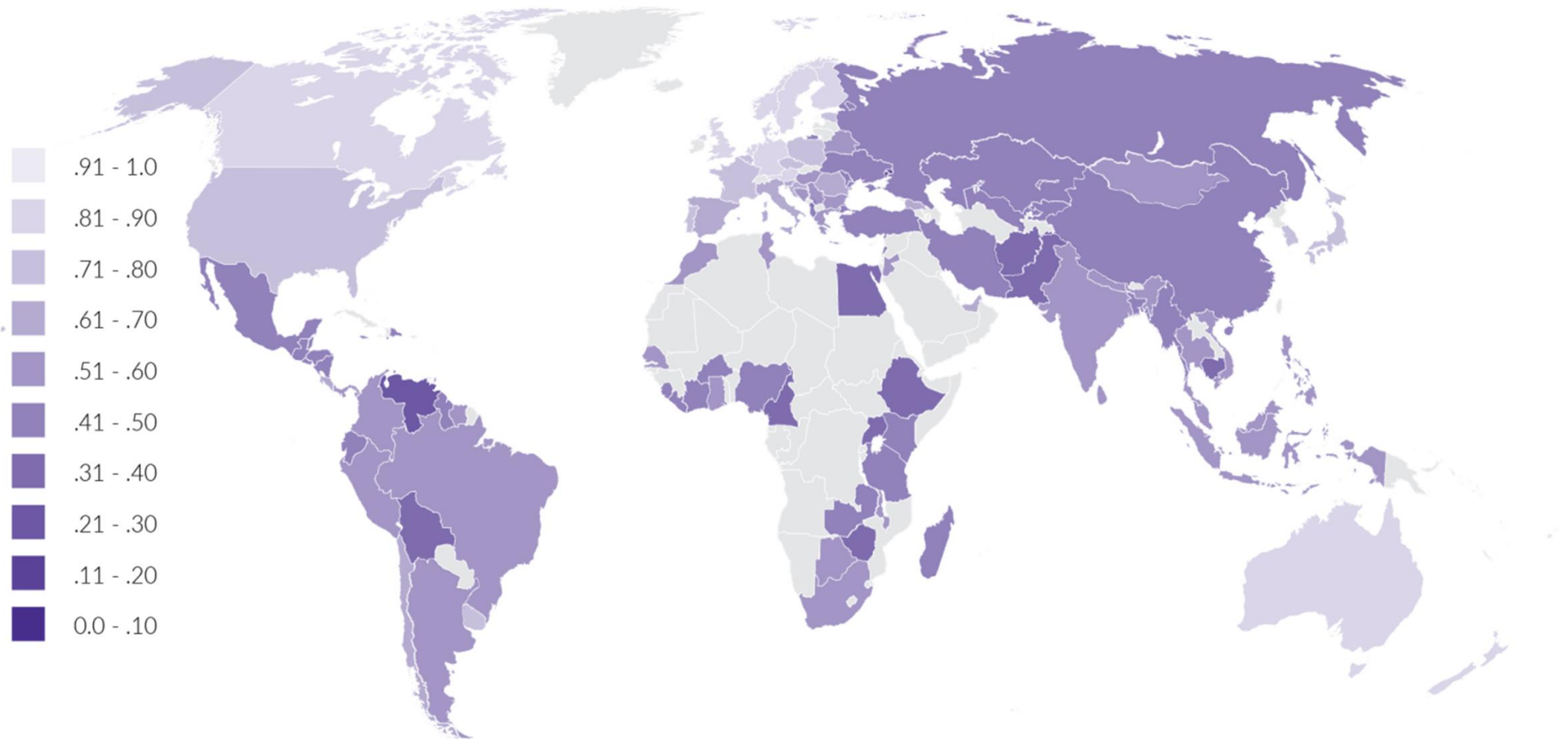
OPEN BY DEFAULT  
POLICY BY THE PEOPLE  
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR RESULTS



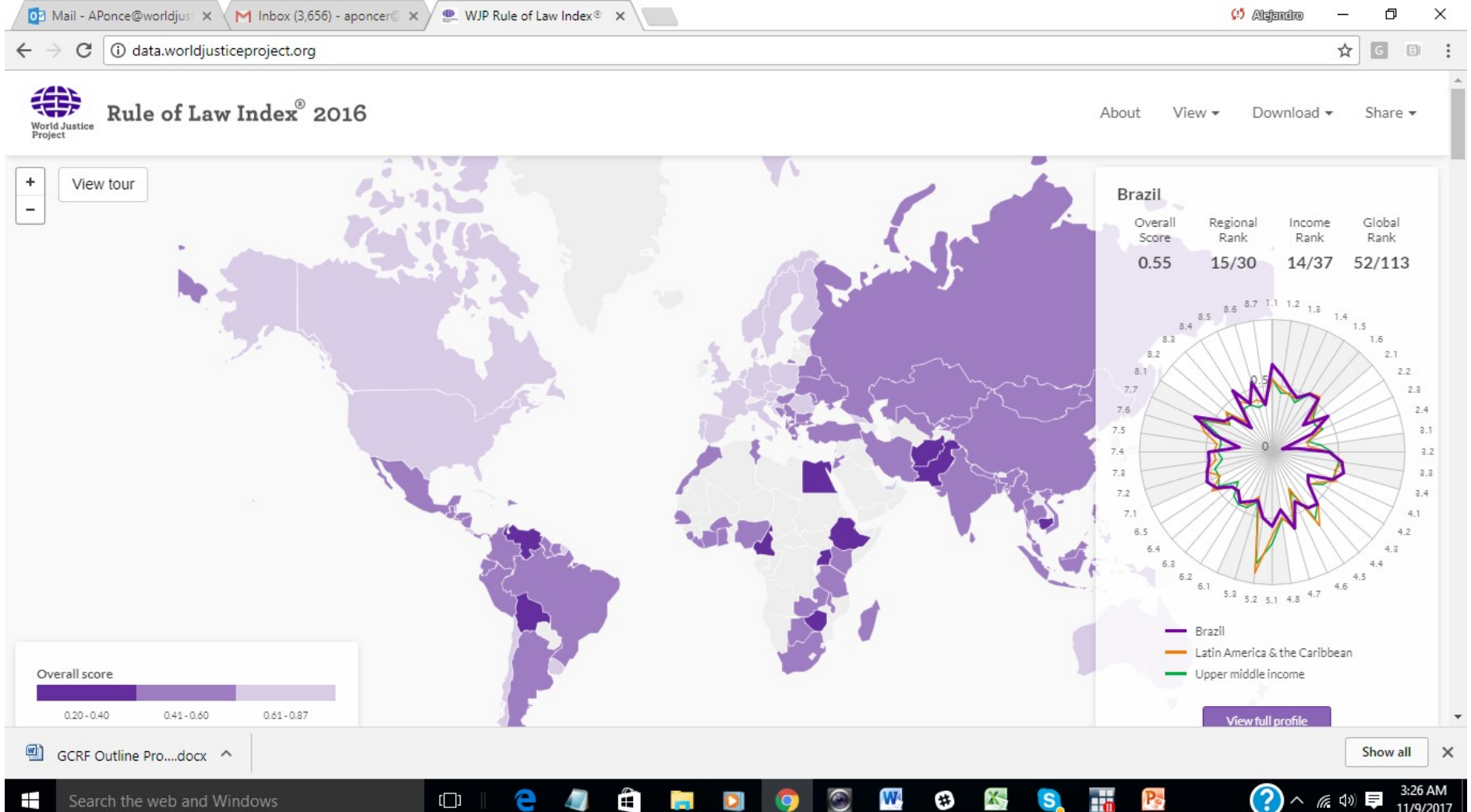
# The road ahead (at least 5 ways)



# 1. More countries

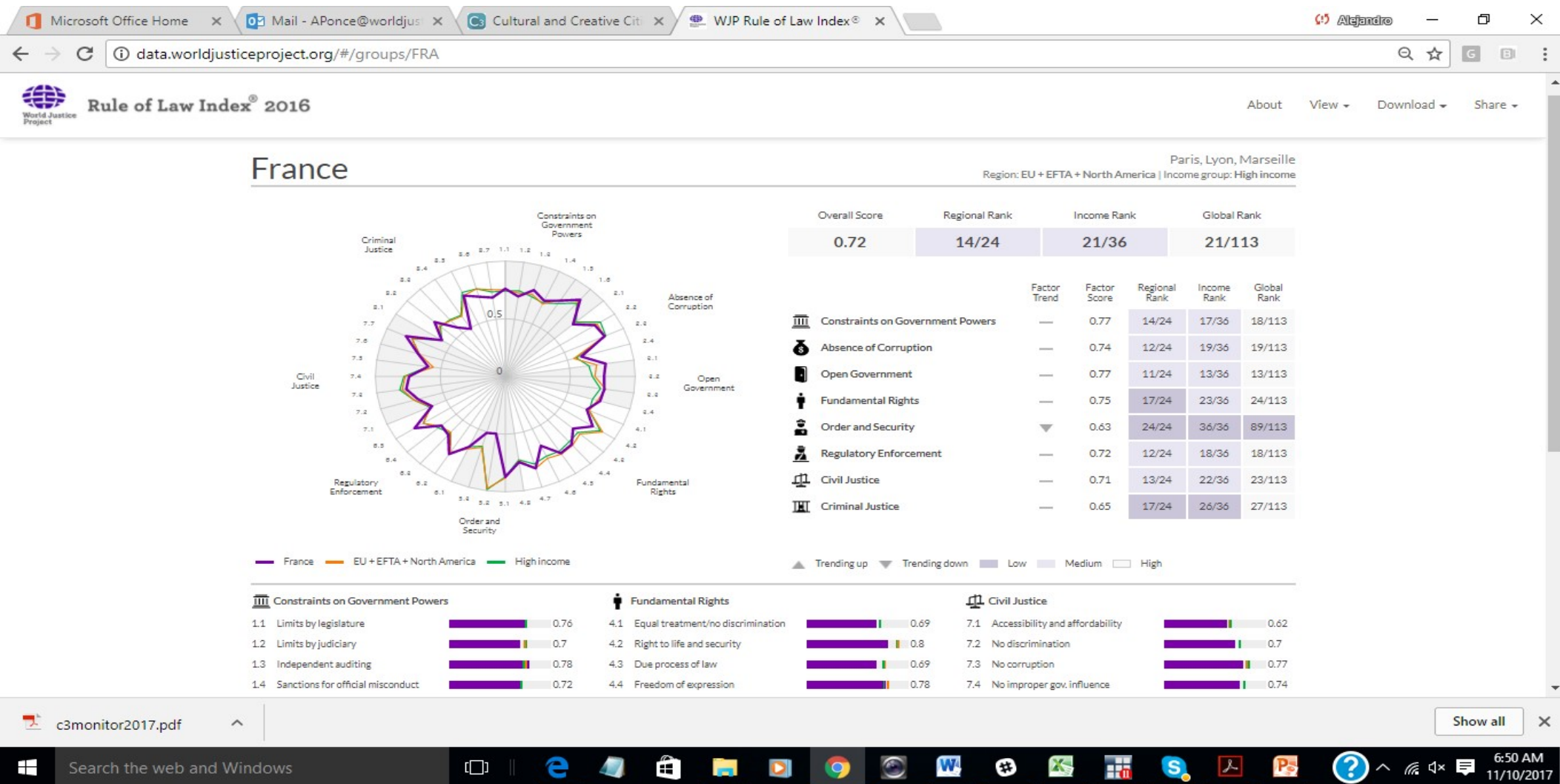


## 2. Data visualization





## 2. Data visualization



### 3. Data stories (underlying data)



## 4. Sub-national Indices





## 5. Human aspect / engagement tools



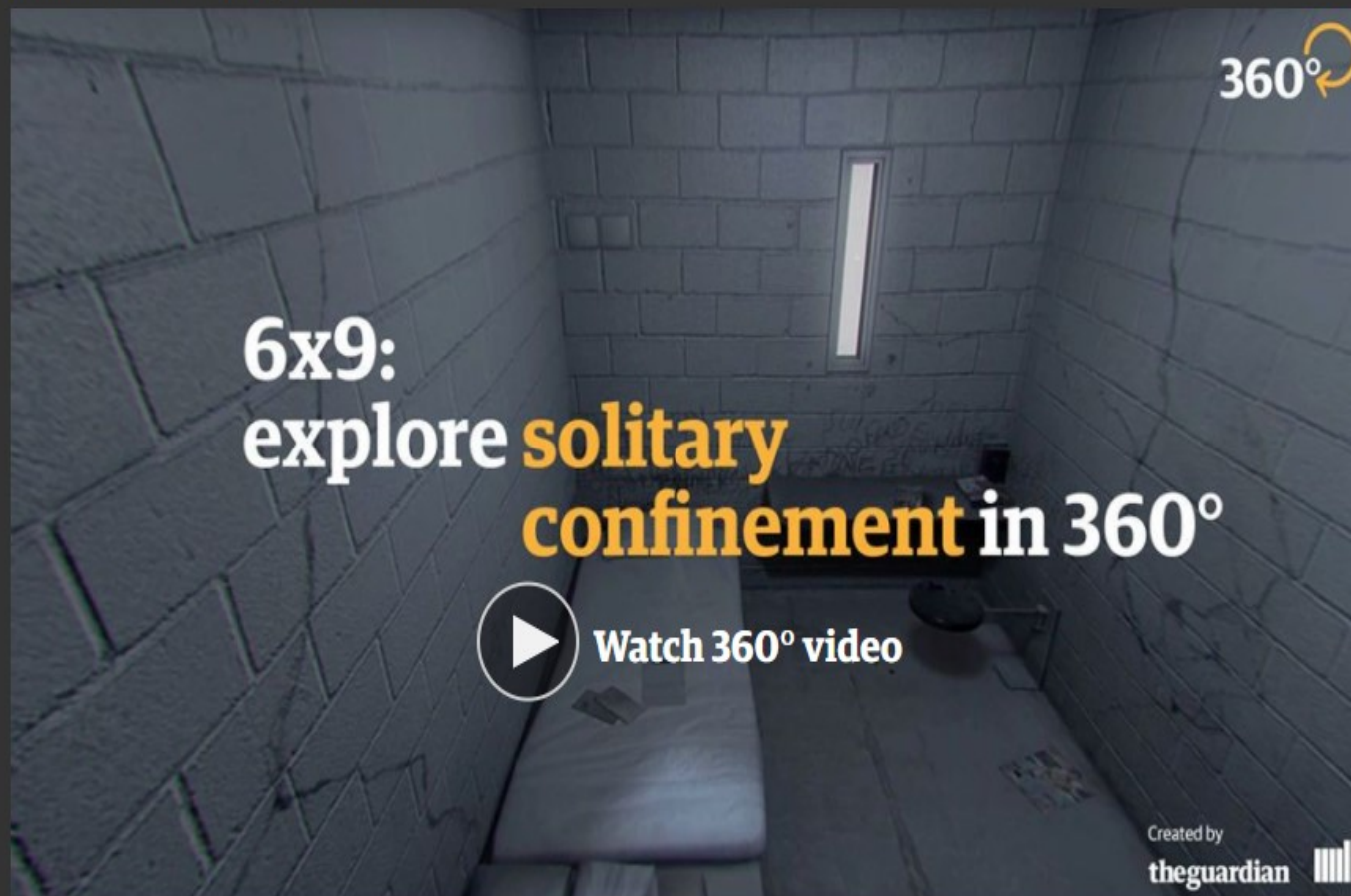


LLAMA  
RADA



## Watch as a 360° video

Plug in your headphones and scroll around the cell to hear the stories of those previously incarcerated in solitary confinement.





Thank you

