

INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS & PEACE

2011 METHODOLOGY, RESULTS & FINDINGS



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The results of the Global Peace Index (GPI) for 2011 suggest that the world has become slightly less peaceful in the past year. The deterioration is smaller than that which occurred between the 2009 and 2010 editions of the GPI, when some nations experienced an intensification of conflicts and growing instability linked to rapid rises in food, fuel and commodity prices and the global economic downturn. The 2011 GPI, which gauges ongoing domestic and international conflict, safety and security in society and militarisation in 153 countries, registered overall score increases for several indicators, the largest of which were in the potential for terrorist acts and the likelihood of violent demonstrations. The indicator showing the most substantial year-on-year score decline (improvement) was military expenditure as a percentage of GDP, reflecting the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on defence budgets. While several countries experienced improved levels of peacefulness that appear to be linked with their economic recoveries, others, notably those in North Africa and the Middle East that have been swept up in the political turmoil of the “Arab Spring”, have experienced sharp falls in their peacefulness.

This is the fifth edition of the Global Peace Index (GPI). It has been expanded to rank 153 independent states and updated with the latest-available figures and information. The index is composed of 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from respected sources, which combine internal and external factors ranging from a nation’s level of military expenditure to its relations with neighbouring countries and the level of respect for human rights. These indicators were selected by an international panel of academics, business people, philanthropists and members of peace institutions.

As before, we have explored the possibility of correlations between the GPI and other economic and societal indicators – including measures of democracy and transparency, education and material wellbeing. The GPI brings a snapshot of relative peacefulness among nations while continuing to contribute to an understanding of what factors help create or sustain more peaceful societies.

The GPI was founded by Steve Killelea, an Australian international technology entrepreneur and philanthropist. It forms part of the Institute for Economics and Peace, a global think tank dedicated to the research and education of the relationship between economic development, business and peace. The GPI is collated and calculated by the Economist Intelligence Unit, with whom this report is written in co-operation.

HIGHLIGHTS

In the Global Peace Index 2011 Iceland is ranked as the country most at peace, replacing New Zealand. Iceland topped the GPI in 2008, but dropped to fourth place in 2009 amid the country's unprecedented economic collapse and political crisis. Small, stable and democratic countries are consistently ranked highest; 14 of the top 20 countries are western or central European nations. This is, however, a reduction from 15 last year, and reflects both an improvement in Malaysia's score and a deterioration in Slovakia's, which lifts the South-East Asian nation into the top 20 for the first time. Qatar rises two places to 12th position and remains the highest-ranked Middle-eastern country by some margin (Kuwait is the next highest in 29th place). The recent waves of uprisings and revolutions in the Middle East have been reflected in sharply deteriorating GPI scores across the region, notably in Bahrain, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, which were previously ranked in the top half of the GPI. Island nations generally fare well – most are in the top half of the GPI, with Sri Lanka a notable exception, although its score has improved since the defeat of the Tamil Tigers in May 2009 and it rose by 11 places in the 2011 index. Madagascar and Jamaica are accorded relatively low ranks (105th and 106th respectively), with the former experiencing a sharp deterioration in its score for the second successive year amid an ongoing political and economic crisis.

War-torn Somalia drops one place to replace Iraq as the country ranked least at peace, although its score improved slightly. This is chiefly because of a more substantial improvement in Iraq's GPI score compared with last year, lifting the country from the foot of the index for the first time since 2007. Sudan and Afghanistan follow. The average score for the 153 states surveyed in the 2011 GPI is 2.05 (based on a 1-5 scale), a slight rise (reduction in peacefulness) compared with last year, when the average reached 2.02, up from 1.96 in 2009. The more substantial deterioration between 2009 and 2010 appears to have reflected rising conflict in several countries, triggered by rapidly increasing food and fuel prices in 2008 and the subsequent dramatic global economic downturn.

There is little variance (0.347) between the overall scores of the top 20 countries (from 1.148 for Iceland to 1.495 for Hungary), although slightly more than last year. The 20 lowest-ranked countries exhibit a far greater spread of 0.821 (from 2.558 for Georgia to 3.379 for Somalia), a drop from 0.832 last year.

Changes to the methodology for 2011

The international panel of experts that oversees the compilation of the Global Peace Index chose to include five additional countries in the 2011 edition: Eritrea, Guinea, Kyrgyz Republic, Niger and Tajikistan. Subsequent editions of the GPI will include other nations, but not micro-states: the panel decided that countries in the GPI must either have a population of more than 1 million or a land area greater than 20,000 sq km, which means that Luxembourg is no longer ranked. This brings the total number of countries covered in the 2011 GPI to 153, encompassing around 99% of the world's population and over 87% of the planet's land mass.

The dramatic events unfolding in the Middle East in 2010-11 prompted discussion about whether the eight qualitative indicators scored by Economist Intelligence Unit analysts could be undertaken at a slightly later stage – in previous editions the scoring had been carried out in January, referring to the previous calendar year. The panel decided it was both beneficial and practicable to update the period of analysis, and it will henceforth start and end on March 15th. Thus the eight qualitative indicators for the 2011 GPI relate to the period of 15th March 2010 to 15th March 2011.

BACKGROUND

Defining peace

The concept of peace is notoriously difficult to define. The simplest way of approaching it is in terms of harmony achieved by the absence of war or conflict. Applied to nations, this would suggest that those not involved in violent conflicts with neighbouring states or suffering internal wars would have achieved a state of peace. This is what Johan Galtung¹ defined as a “negative peace” – an absence of violence. The concept of negative peace is immediately intuitive and empirically measurable, and can be used as a starting point to elaborate its counterpart concept, “positive peace”. Having established what constitutes an absence of violence, is it possible to identify which structures and institutions create and maintain peace? The Global Peace Index (GPI) is a first step in this direction; a measurement of peace as the “absence of violence” that seeks to determine what cultural attributes and institutions are associated with states of peace.

In 1999 the UN General Assembly launched a programme of action to build a “culture of peace” for the world’s children, which envisaged working towards a positive peace of justice, tolerance and plenty. The UN defined a culture of peace as involving values, attitudes and behaviours that:

- Reject violence
- Endeavour to prevent conflicts by addressing root causes
- Aim at solving problems through dialogue and negotiation

It proposed that such a culture of peace would be furthered by actions promoting education for peace and sustainable development, which it suggested was based on human rights, gender equality, democratic participation, tolerant solidarity, open communication and international security. However, these links between the concept of peace and the causes of them were presumed rather than systematically measured. For example, while Doyle² and advocates of his liberal peace theory have held that democratic states rarely attack each other, the ongoing war in Iraq demonstrates how some democratic countries can be militant or belligerent—the justification for war often being that peace is ultimately secured through violence or the threat of violence.

Measuring states of peace

The difficulties in defining the concept of peace may partly explain why there have been so few attempts to measure states of peace across nations. This project has approached the task on two fronts—the first aim is to produce a scoring model and Global Peace Index that ranks 153 nations by their relative states of peace using

23 indicators. The indicators have been selected as being the best available datasets that reflect the incidence or absence of peace, and contain both quantitative data and qualitative scores from a range of trusted sources. The second aim is to use the underlying data and results from the Global Peace Index to undertake investigations into the relative importance of a range of potential determinants or “drivers” that may influence the creation and nurturance of peaceful societies, both internally and externally.

The research team

As with all composite indexes of this type, there are issues of bias and arbitrariness in the factors that are chosen to assess peace and, as seriously, in assigning weights to the different indicators (measured on a comparable and meaningful scale) to produce a single synthetic measure. In order to minimise these slants, the choices of indicators and the weights assigned to them were agreed following close and extensive consultation with the following international advisory panel of experts in 2010-11:

Professor Kevin P. Clements, Chairperson
Foundation Chair of Peace and Conflict Studies and Director, National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies
University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

Dr Ian Anthony
Research Coordinator and Leader of the Arms Control and Non-proliferation Programme, Stockholm
International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Sweden

Professor Sultan Barakat
Director, Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit (PRDU), Department of Politics, University of York, United Kingdom

Mr Nick Grono
Deputy President
International Crisis Group (ICG), Brussels, Belgium

Dr Toshiya Hoshino
Professor, Osaka School of International Public Policy
Osaka University, Japan

Dr Ronald J. Horvath
Honorary Associate Professor,
School of Geosciences, University of Sydney, Australia

Dr Manuela Mesa
Director, Centre for Education and Peace Research (CEIPAZ) and President, Spanish Association for Peace Research (AIPAZ), Madrid, Spain

Dr Ekaterina Stepanova
Head, Unit on Peace and Conflict Studies,
Institute of the World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences,
Moscow, Russia

¹ Galtung, Johan. *Peace by Peaceful Means: peace and conflict, development and civilization*. Oslo: International Peace Research Institute, 1996

² Doyle, Michael. *Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs. Philosophy and Public Affairs* (1983) 205, 207-208

METHODOLOGY AND DATA SOURCES

The indicators

Twenty-three indicators of the existence or absence of peace were chosen by the panel, which are divided into three broad categories:

- Ongoing domestic and international conflict;
- Safety and security in society;
- Militarisation

All scores for each indicator are “banded”, either on a scale of 1-5 (for qualitative indicators) or 1-10 (for quantitative data, such as military expenditure or the jailed population, which have then been converted to a 1-5 scale for comparability when compiling the final index). Qualitative indicators in the index have been scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit’s extensive team of country analysts, and gaps in the quantitative data have been filled by estimates by the same team.

Indicators consisting of quantitative data such as military expenditure or jailed population have been measured on the basis of the distribution of values across all countries between the maximum and minimum values (we assume that the 153 countries measured for the Global Peace Index (GPI) are a representative sample of all countries). Since the 2008 GPI the data for each indicator has been divided into ten bands based on the full range of the data set and a country’s corresponding score results in its ranking position.

A detailed explanation of the scoring criteria used for each indicator is supplied in the Annex A to this report.

Measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict

The Global Peace Index is intended as a review of the state of peace in nations over the previous calendar year, although several indicators are based on data covering the previous two years (2009-10 in the case of the 2011 GPI). The advisory panel decided against including data reflecting a country’s longer-term historical experience of domestic and international conflict on the grounds that the GPI uses authoritative statistics on ongoing civil and trans-national wars collated by the Uppsala Conflict Data Program and the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo. These, combined with two indicators scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit’s analysts, comprise five of the 23 indicators:

- Number of external and internal conflicts fought: 2004-09
- Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)
- Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)
- Level of organised conflict (internal)
- Relations with neighbouring countries

Measures of societal safety and security

Ten of the indicators assess the levels of safety and security in a society (country), ranging from the perception of criminality in society, to the level of respect for human rights and the rate of homicides and violent crimes. Crime data is from the UN Office of Drugs and Crime. The difficulties of comparing international crime statistics are discussed in detail in Annex A. Five of these indicators have been scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit’s team of country analysts:

- Perceptions of criminality in society
- Number of refugees and displaced people as a percentage of the population
- Political instability
- Political Terror Scale
- Potential for terrorist acts
- Number of homicides per 100,000 people
- Level of violent crime
- Likelihood of violent demonstrations
- Number of jailed population per 100,000 people
- Number of internal security officers and police per 100,000 people

Measures of militarisation

Eight of the indicators are related to a country’s military build-up—reflecting the assertion that the level of militarisation and access to weapons is directly linked to how at peace a country feels internationally. Comparable data are readily available from sources such as the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS):

- Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP
- Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people
- Volume of transfers (imports) of major conventional weapons per 100,000 people
- Volume of transfers (exports) of major conventional weapons per 100,000 people
- Budgetary support for UN peacekeeping missions: percentage of outstanding payments versus annual assessment to the budget of the current peacekeeping missions
- Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people
- Ease of access to small arms and light weapons
- Military capability/sophistication

Weighting the index

The advisory panel apportioned scores based on the relative importance of each of the indicators on a 1-5 scale. The consensus scores for each indicator are given in Table 1.

Two sub-component weighted indices were then calculated from the GPI group of indicators:

- 1) a measure of how at peace internally a country is;
- 2) a measure of how at peace externally a country is (its state of peace beyond its borders).

The overall composite score and index was then formulated by applying a weight of 60% to the measure of internal peace and 40% for external peace. The heavier weight applied to internal peace was agreed within the advisory panel, following robust debate. The decision was based on the innovative notion that a greater level of internal peace is likely to lead to, or at least correlate with, lower external conflict.

Indicator	Weight (1 to 5)
Internal Peace	60%
External Peace	40%
Perceptions of criminality in society	4
Number of internal security officers and police per 100,000 people	3
Number of homicides per 100,000 people	4
Number of jailed population per 100,000 people	3
Ease of access to weapons of minor destruction	3
Level of organised conflict (internal)	5
Likelihood of violent demonstrations	3
Level of violent crime	4
Political instability	4
Level of disrespect for human rights (Political Terror Scale)	4
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons, as recipient (Imports) per 100,000 people	2
Potential for terrorist acts	1
Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)	5
Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP	2
Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people	2
Funding for UN peacekeeping missions	2
Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people	3
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons as supplier (exports) per 100,000 people	3
Military capability/sophistication	2
Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population	4
Relations with neighbouring countries	5
Number of external and internal conflicts fought: 2003-08	5
Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)	5

Table 1

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Global Peace Index rankings

Table 2 contains the GPI rankings for 153 countries in 2011. Those countries shaded green are in the top 20%; those shaded in red are in the bottom 20%. All comparisons in country ranks with the 2010 GPI have been made on the basis of the 149 countries that were included last year, thus excluding the five countries added in 2011.

Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score
1	Iceland	1.148	41	Oman	1.743
2	New Zealand	1.279	42	Ghana	1.752
3	Japan	1.287	43	Lithuania	1.760
4	Denmark	1.289	44	Tunisia	1.765
5	Czech Republic	1.320	45	Italy	1.775
6	Austria	1.337	46	Latvia	1.793
7	Finland	1.352	47	Estonia	1.798
8	Canada	1.355	48	Mozambique	1.809
9	Norway	1.356	49	Panama	1.812
10	Slovenia	1.358	50	South Korea	1.829
11	Ireland	1.370	51	Burkina Faso	1.832
12	Qatar	1.398	52	Zambia	1.833
13	Sweden	1.401	53	Bulgaria	1.845
14	Belgium	1.413	54	Namibia	1.850
15	Germany	1.416	55	Argentina	1.852
16	Switzerland	1.421	56	Tanzania	1.858
17	Portugal	1.453	57	Mongolia	1.880
18	Australia	1.455	58	Morocco	1.887
19	Malaysia	1.467	59	Moldova	1.892
20	Hungary	1.495	60	Bosnia and Hercegovina	1.893
21	Uruguay	1.521	61	Sierra Leone	1.904
22	Poland	1.545	62	The Gambia	1.910
23	Slovakia	1.576	63	Albania	1.912
24	Singapore	1.585	64	Jordan	1.918
25	Netherlands	1.628	65	Greece	1.947
26	United Kingdom	1.631	66	Paraguay	1.954
27	Taiwan	1.638	67	Cuba	1.964
28	Spain	1.641	68	Indonesia	1.979
29	Kuwait	1.667	69	Ukraine	1.995
30	Vietnam	1.670	69	Swaziland	1.995
31	Costa Rica	1.681	71	Cyprus	2.013
32	Laos	1.687	72	Nicaragua	2.021
33	United Arab Emirates	1.690	73	Egypt	2.023
34	Bhutan	1.693	74	Brazil	2.040
35	Botswana	1.695	75	Equatorial Guinea	2.041
36	France	1.697	76	Bolivia	2.045
37	Croatia	1.699	77	Senegal	2.047
38	Chile	1.710	78	Macedonia	2.048
39	Malawi	1.740	79	Trinidad and Tobago	2.051
40	Romania	1.742	80	China	2.054

Table 2 (continued over page)

Rank	Country	Score
81	Gabon	2.059
82	United States of America	2.063
83	Bangladesh	2.070
84	Serbia	2.071
85	Peru	2.077
86	Cameroon	2.104
87	Angola	2.109
88	Guyana	2.112
89	Montenegro	2.113
90	Ecuador	2.116
91	Dominican Republic	2.125
92	Guinea	2.126
93	Kazakhstan	2.137
94	Papua New Guinea	2.139
95	Nepal	2.152
96	Liberia	2.159
96	Uganda	2.159
98	Congo (Brazzaville)	2.165
99	Rwanda	2.185
100	Mali	2.188
101	Saudi Arabia	2.192
102	El Salvador	2.215
103	Tajikistan	2.225
104	Eritrea	2.227
105	Madagascar	2.239
106	Jamaica	2.244
107	Thailand	2.247
108	Turkmenistan	2.248
109	Armenia	2.260
109	Uzbekistan	2.260
111	Kenya	2.276
112	Belarus	2.283
113	Haiti	2.288
114	Kyrgyz Republic	2.296
115	Cambodia	2.301
116	Syria	2.322
117	Honduras	2.327
119	Iran	2.356
119	Niger	2.356
121	Mexico	2.362
122	Azerbaijan	2.379

Rank	Country	Score
123	Bahrain	2.398
124	Venezuela	2.403
125	Guatemala	2.405
126	Sri Lanka	2.407
127	Turkey	2.411
128	Cote d' Ivoire	2.417
129	Algeria	2.423
130	Mauritania	2.425
131	Ethiopia	2.468
132	Burundi	2.532
133	Myanmar	2.538
134	Georgia	2.558
135	India	2.570
136	Philippines	2.574
137	Lebanon	2.597
138	Yemen	2.670
139	Colombia	2.700
140	Zimbabwe	2.722
141	Chad	2.740
142	Nigeria	2.743
143	Libya	2.816
144	Central African Republic	2.869
145	Israel	2.901
146	Pakistan	2.905
147	Russia	2.966
148	Democratic Republic of Congo	3.016
149	North Korea	3.092
150	Afghanistan	3.212
151	Sudan	3.223
152	Iraq	3.296
153	Somalia	3.379

ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS

A regional overview

Western Europe remains markedly the most peaceful region, with the majority of the countries in this group ranking in the top 20 overall. The average GPI score in 2011 for the region deteriorated for the second successive year, but by a slightly smaller margin than between 2009 and 2010. Taking average GPI scores since the first edition of the index in 2007 and adjusting for the inclusion of additional countries, the region became more peaceful up to 2009, since when it has become less so. Four Nordic nations are ranked in the GPI's top ten, with high levels of safety and security indicating broadly harmonious societies, free from civil conflict. Sweden ranks lower than its Nordic neighbours on account of its thriving arms-manufacturing industry and the volume of exports of conventional weapons. Its score deteriorated owing to a rise in the number of internal security officers and police and a rise in the perception of terrorist acts (from a low base) and it dropped out of the top ten to 13th position. As in previous editions of the GPI, the majority of the Western European nations recorded only small year-on-year changes to their scores. Iceland experienced the largest improvement, as its political scene returned to stability after the turmoil of 2008 and 2009 but also owing to a drop in its level of military capability and sophistication as austerity measures took their toll on an already small military budget. Denmark's score improved by the second-largest margin in the region.

Greece's score deteriorated for the third successive year, and by the largest margin in the region with an increasing risk of demonstrations and rises in the level of violent crime linked to the ongoing financial crisis and high unemployment. Very large numbers of heavy weapons per head in both Greece and Cyprus contribute to their relatively high overall scores and low ranks. The United Kingdom and France have been accorded low positions compared with their neighbouring countries in previous editions of the GPI owing to their sophisticated military spheres, substantial arms exports, involvement in external conflicts and relatively high homicide rates. This year the UK's score was unchanged, but it rose to 26th place as a result of deteriorations in the scores of four countries ranked above it in 2010: Oman, Chile, Costa Rica and Spain.

Western Europe	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Iceland	1	1.15	1
Denmark	4	1.29	2
Austria	6	1.34	3
Finland	7	1.35	4
Norway	9	1.36	5
Ireland	11	1.37	6
Sweden	13	1.40	7
Belgium	14	1.41	8
Germany	15	1.42	9
Switzerland	16	1.42	10
Portugal	17	1.45	11
Netherlands	25	1.63	13
United Kingdom	26	1.63	14
Spain	28	1.64	15
France	36	1.70	16
Italy	45	1.77	17
Greece	65	1.95	18
Cyprus	71	2.01	19
Average	23	1.52	

The second most peaceful region, **North America**, experienced a slight improvement since last year, continuing a trend since 2007. This year it reflects an upturn in Canada's score and ranking (to eighth position). Canada's relations with neighbouring countries improved, having worsened during the previous year as the government sought to defend its sovereign claims in the Arctic. Canada's measure of respect for human rights (the Political Terror Scale) also advanced slightly, to the highest possible level. The US's overall score remained unchanged (a fall in the level of violent crime was offset by a rise in the number of deaths from external conflict) although it rose three places to 82nd position as a result of deteriorations in other countries previously ranked above it. The US's rank reflects much higher levels of militarisation and involvement in external conflicts than its northern neighbour. Several measures of societal safety and security also receive higher scores, including access to light weapons and the proportion of the population in jail (the largest of the 153 countries surveyed).

North America	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Canada	8	1.35	1
United States of America	82	2.06	2
Average	45	1.71	

Central and Eastern Europe remains, on average, the third most peaceful region, after North America. Taking average GPI scores since the first edition of the index in 2007 and adjusting for the inclusion of additional countries, the region became more peaceful to 2009. The level of peace dropped in 2010, in part a reflection of the fallout from the global financial crisis, while there was a very slight year-on-year improvement in 2011. The newest members of the EU are ranked highest, with the Czech Republic moving into the top ten for the first time (5th place) and Slovenia rising to 10th position. Violent demonstrations are considered to have become less likely in the year to March 15th 2011 in the Czech Republic, against a backdrop of political stability for the first time since 1996 the country has a government with both an ideologically clear programme and a comfortable parliamentary majority.

Non-EU countries in the Balkans are ranked between 59th and 89th in the 2011 GPI and nations in the Caucasus and Central Asia occupy the lower reaches of the index, as before. Georgia's score improved most markedly in the region, with upturns in most of its measures of societal safety and security and some indicators of domestic and international conflict in response to the ending of violent conflict with Russia in 2008 and easing relations with neighbouring countries. Ukraine's overall score underwent the second-largest improvement in the region, reflecting the increased political stability that accompanied Viktor Yanukovich's victory in the presidential election in early 2010, and his success in creating a majority coalition in parliament and installing a loyal government. Relations with Russia also thawed in 2010.

Romania's score experienced little change in 2010 and it rose to 40th in the overall ranking following a sharp deterioration the previous year amid considerable political instability and economic uncertainty. Kazakhstan again heads the Caucasian and Central Asian nations, in 93rd position. The country's score deteriorated slightly, continuing the trend since 2007 (when it was ranked 60th). In the 2010 GPI all these countries experienced deteriorations in their scores and ranking positions, with rising political instability frequently a contributing factor.

This year, the picture on overall score changes is mixed, but tallies for the measure of political instability were either unchanged or improved, with only deterioration in Uzbekistan.

Central and Eastern Europe	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Czech Republic	5	1.32	1
Slovenia	10	1.36	2
Hungary	20	1.50	3
Poland	22	1.54	4
Slovakia	23	1.58	5
Croatia	37	1.70	6
Romania	40	1.74	7
Lithuania	43	1.76	8
Latvia	46	1.79	9
Estonia	47	1.80	10
Bulgaria	53	1.85	11
Moldova	59	1.89	12
Bosnia and Hercegovina	60	1.89	13
Albania	63	1.91	14
Ukraine	69	1.99	15
Macedonia	78	2.05	16
Serbia	84	2.07	17
Montenegro	89	2.11	18
Kazakhstan	93	2.14	19
Tajikistan	103	2.22	20
Turkmenistan	108	2.25	21
Uzbekistan	109	2.26	22
Armenia	109	2.26	22
Belarus	112	2.28	24
Kyrgyz Republic	114	2.30	25
Azerbaijan	122	2.38	26
Turkey	127	2.41	27
Georgia	134	2.56	28
Russia	147	2.97	29
Average	73	2.00	

The Asia Pacific region is on average the fourth most peaceful region. The overall average score deteriorated between the 2009 GPI and the 2010 index, in common with the other regions, but there was a slight recovery this year. Asia-Pacific countries exhibit wide variation in the GPI; the OECD nations rank highly, with New Zealand coming second overall and Japan third, a two-pronged impact of very strong scores for overall domestic peace and low levels of militarisation. Malaysia experienced an improvement in its GPI score for the fifth successive year and it rose by three places to 19th – it supplanted Singapore as the highest ranked South-East Asian nation in the 2010 GPI. This year, Malaysia's growing peacefulness reflected a rise in political stability, and improving relations with neighbouring countries (notably Singapore and China).

The divide in south-east Asia has become more marked this year, with Taiwan and Vietnam both rising into the top 30 and Indonesia remaining in the top 70 (68th). Cambodia, Thailand and the Philippines are ranked over 100th. Thailand's score improved solidly from a sharp deterioration the previous year amid a political crisis which erupted into violence. The Philippines'

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tally was unchanged, with most measures of safety and security in society registering high scores to reflect a tense security situation in several parts of the archipelago, notably the southern islands of Mindanao, Basilan and Jolo where several separatist movements remain active. In April 2010 militants from an Islamic terrorist group, Abu Sayyaf, carried out a series of bombings and shootings in Mindanao, killing 14 people.

South Asian nations occupy the lower half of the regional table, headed by Bangladesh, in 83rd place. Nepal has ranked above Bangladesh since it was first included in the 2009 GPI, but rising political instability caused by several failed attempts to elect a new prime minister and a lengthy power vacuum combined with an increased likelihood of violent demonstrations and a higher Political Terror Scale score contributed to the Himalayan republic dropping to 95th position. Ongoing internal conflicts and related security concerns in Afghanistan and Pakistan contribute to their low rankings, although both countries' scores improved in the 2011 GPI, Pakistan experiencing a rise in political stability from a highly volatile situation and a perceived reduction in the level of violent crime and the likelihood of violent demonstrations. The lowly positions of North Korea and Myanmar reflect high scores in the broad categories of conflict and security and very high levels of militarisation.

Asia-Pacific	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
New Zealand	2	1.28	1
Japan	3	1.29	2
Australia	18	1.46	3
Malaysia	19	1.47	4
Singapore	24	1.59	5
Taiwan	27	1.64	6
Vietnam	30	1.67	7
Laos	32	1.69	8
Bhutan	34	1.69	9
South Korea	50	1.83	10
Mongolia	57	1.88	11
Indonesia	68	1.98	12
China	80	2.05	13
Bangladesh	83	2.07	14
Papua New Guinea	94	2.14	15
Nepal	95	2.15	16
Thailand	107	2.25	17
Cambodia	115	2.30	18
Sri Lanka	126	2.41	19
Myanmar	133	2.54	20
India	135	2.57	21
Philippines	136	2.57	22
Pakistan	146	2.91	23
North Korea	149	3.09	24
Afghanistan	150	3.21	25
Average	77	2.07	

Latin America's average GPI score is slightly higher than that of the Asia-Pacific, suggesting it is a marginally less peaceful region. The average score for the region deteriorated slightly compared with the 2010 GPI, by a considerably smaller margin than the decline between 2009 and 2010. Uruguay is ranked highest for the second successive year (21st place) and its score improved amid growing political stability following the election of José Mujica as president to a five-year term starting in March 2010 and better relations with neighbouring countries (notably Argentina). Costa Rica and Chile remain in second and third places respectively in the regional context, although both countries experienced deteriorating scores last year (Chile's in response to a rise in the homicide rate and an increase in the number of internal security officers and police, which contributed to the country's slide to 38th position). Chile ranked first in Latin America in the first three editions of the GPI. Costa Rica's high ranking in the GPI partly reflects very low scores for almost all its measures of militarisation, in step with the abolition of the country's army at the end of the civil war in 1948. The worsening of Costa Rica's score last year was partly the result of deteriorating relations with neighbouring Nicaragua over a territorial dispute along the San Juan river. Perceptions of criminality are considered to have increased from a low level.

Colombia's score improved by the largest margin in the region, amid a rise in political stability following the election of Juan Manuel Santos as president in June 2010 and subsequent warming relations and improving economic links with neighbouring Venezuela, Ecuador and Brazil. Colombia nevertheless remains the lowest-ranked country in the region, with very high scores in the majority of its measures of safety and security and fairly high levels of militarisation. Mexico and Guatemala both experienced the largest deterioration in scores in the 2011 GPI, with Mexico's tally for the number of deaths in internal conflict rising by the largest degree (2 points) of the 153 countries surveyed in response to an escalation in drug-related violence that killed more than 12,000 people in 2010 and an estimated 30,196 since the president, Felipe Calderón, began a crackdown on cartels in December 2006. Guatemala's sharply increased GPI score also reflects a worsening security situation linked to organised crime and the illegal drugs trade in Mexico and compounded by the limitations of a relatively weak government.

Latin America	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Uruguay	21	1.52	1
Costa Rica	31	1.68	2
Chile	38	1.71	3
Panama	49	1.81	4
Argentina	55	1.85	5
Paraguay	66	1.95	6
Cuba	67	1.96	7
Nicaragua	72	2.02	8
Brazil	74	2.04	9
Bolivia	76	2.04	10
Trinidad and Tobago	79	2.05	11
Peru	85	2.08	12
Guyana	88	2.11	13
Ecuador	90	2.12	14
Dominican Republic	91	2.12	15
El Salvador	102	2.22	16
Jamaica	106	2.24	17
Haiti	113	2.29	18
Honduras	117	2.33	19
Mexico	121	2.36	20
Venezuela	124	2.40	21
Guatemala	125	2.40	22
Colombia	139	2.70	23
Average	84	2.09	

The Middle East and North Africa experienced by far the largest deterioration in its average score of the seven regions for the 2011 GPI, which largely reflects the uprising that began in Tunisia in December 2010 and led to the ousting of the long-time president, Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, a month later and spread across the region; the “Arab Spring”. The outbreak of civil war in Libya has caused the largest deterioration in a GPI score, both regionally and across the 153 countries surveyed. The country was previously ranked relatively high in the GPI, peaking at 46th in 2009, with low scores for most measures of societal safety and security apart from respect for human rights (the Political Terror Scale) and the ease of access to light weapons. Most of Libya’s measures of militarisation receive low scores, with the notable exception of the aggregate number of heavy weapons per head.

The uprising in Bahrain and the dramatic escalation of violence by the army against protesters in mid-February is reflected in sharp deteriorations in most of the country’s measures of societal safety and security. Egypt’s GPI score deteriorated by the third-largest margin in the region, followed by those of Oman and Tunisia. Large-scale and ongoing protests in Syria contributed to a sharp deterioration in its GPI score, while recent unrest in Yemen added to the host of disparate and deepening security and socioeconomic challenges for the government. The country’s GPI

tally worsened for the third successive year amid a heightened perception of criminality in society, an increased number of external and internal conflicts fought and rising political instability - the position of the president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, looks less secure than at any time since the 1994 civil war.

Qatar is again the nation ranked most at peace in the region; most indicators of safety and security in society are accorded very low scores and measures of ongoing conflict and militarisation are scored considerably lower than the majority of countries in the region, although the Emirates’ military expenditure as a percentage of GDP (2%) is the highest of the top 20 nations in the GPI. Iraq experienced the largest year-on-year improvement to its overall GPI score and the country rose from the lowest position for the first time amid a broadly improving security situation, although demonstrations against corruption inspired by those in Tunisia and Egypt spread throughout the country, including the relatively peaceful Kurdistan Regional Government-administered north of the country, in early 2011. Warming relations with Kuwait and Syria prompted an improvement in the measure of relations with neighbouring countries.

Middle East and North Africa	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Qatar	12	1.40	1
Kuwait	29	1.67	2
United Arab Emirates	33	1.69	3
Oman	41	1.74	4
Tunisia	44	1.77	5
Morocco	58	1.89	6
Jordan	64	1.92	7
Egypt	73	2.02	8
Saudi Arabia	101	2.19	9
Syria	116	2.32	10
Iran	119	2.36	11
Bahrain	123	2.40	12
Algeria	129	2.42	13
Lebanon	137	2.60	14
Yemen	138	2.67	15
Libya	143	2.82	16
Israel	145	2.90	17
Iraq	152	3.30	18
Average	92	2.23	

ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS

Sub-Saharan Africa remains the region least at peace, with an average GPI score of 2.25, although the gap to the average score for the Middle East and North Africa region narrowed appreciably. The score deteriorated slightly compared with the 2010 GPI, continuing a trend from 2009. Botswana fares best for the third successive year, although the gap between it and the next highest placed nation narrowed in response to a slight deterioration in its score and a substantial rise in Malawi's tally (increased political stability, a reduction in the likelihood of violent demonstrations and an improvement in the human rights situation (Political Terror Scale). Chad's GPI score improved to the largest extent, which, in large part, reflected the rapprochement with Sudan after several years of violent conflict that were linked to the genocide and humanitarian crisis in Darfur. Diplomatic relations with Sudan were restored in late 2008 and the Doha Peace Agreement, signed in May 2009, held throughout 2010.

Somalia remained the lowest-ranked country in the region although its score improved following a reduction in military expenditure and a slightly more stable political scene. It remained volatile, however, under the new prime minister of the transitional federal government (TFG), Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed Farmajo. The more substantial improvement in Iraq's score in 2010 caused Somalia to slip to the lowest position in the 2011 GPI. Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continue to occupy the lowest ten positions and each experienced a deterioration in their score.

Madagascar's score deteriorated by the largest extent. The island's relatively peaceful state (it was ranked 40th in the 2007 GPI) came to an abrupt end in early 2009, when political tensions erupted into violence. Since the overthrow of the president, Marc Ravalomanana in March 2009 the country has been in deep political crisis, which intensified at times in 2010 and was accompanied by an increasingly acute economic crisis, reflected in declines in several of the measures of safety and security in society.

Sub-Saharan Africa	Overall Rank	Overall Score	Regional Rank
Botswana	35	1.69	1
Malawi	39	1.74	2
Ghana	42	1.75	3
Mozambique	48	1.81	4
Burkina Faso	51	1.83	5
Zambia	52	1.83	6
Namibia	54	1.85	7
Tanzania	56	1.86	8
Sierra Leone	61	1.90	9
The Gambia	62	1.91	10
Swaziland	69	2.00	11
Equatorial Guinea	75	2.04	12
Senegal	77	2.05	13
Gabon	81	2.06	14
Cameroon	86	2.10	15
Angola	87	2.11	16
Guinea	92	2.13	17
Uganda	96	2.16	18
Liberia	96	2.16	18
Congo (Brazzaville)	98	2.16	20
Rwanda	99	2.19	21
Mali	100	2.19	22
Eritrea	104	2.23	23
Madagascar	105	2.24	24
Kenya	111	2.28	25
South Africa	118	2.35	26
Niger	119	2.36	27
Cote d' Ivoire	128	2.42	28
Mauritania	130	2.43	29
Ethiopia	131	2.47	30
Burundi	132	2.53	31
Zimbabwe	140	2.72	32
Chad	141	2.74	33
Nigeria	142	2.74	34
Central African Republic	144	2.87	35
Democratic Republic of the Congo	148	3.02	36
Sudan	151	3.22	37
Somalia	153	3.38	38
Average	96	2.25	

Three of the world's major military-diplomatic powers (the European Union could be considered the 4th) continue to register relatively low ranks, with China at 80th, the US at 82nd and Russia at 147th. The scores for the US and China were little changed, while Russia's overall score improved slightly.

THE TEN COUNTRIES MOST AT PEACE

Iceland: 1st place

Score: 1.148

Iceland rises from 2nd position in the 2010 GPI to 1st place, returning to the position it held in the 2008 GPI prior to the unprecedented collapse of the country's financial system and currency that was triggered by the international financial turmoil in September and October 2008. The improvement in Iceland's score this year reflects a drop in the likelihood of violent demonstrations, returning to the lowest possible level under the stable centre-left coalition of the Social Democratic Alliance (SDA) and the Left-Green Movement (LGM), led since April 2009 by the reformist prime minister, Johanna Sigurdardottir. The upturn in this qualitative indicator is also linked to a tentative economic recovery during 2010 and an improvement in the unemployment situation compared with the dire circumstances in 2009. Icelandic society remains essentially harmonious, with measures of safety and security including violent crime, internal conflict and the number of homicides all accorded very low scores. The proportion of citizens who are in jail remains one of the lowest in the world at 55 per 100,000 and it was unchanged in 2010.

A member of NATO since its inception in 1949, Iceland has no standing army and military expenditure as a proportion of GDP is the lowest of any European nation. The GPI score for military capability and sophistication was reduced this year to account for swingeing budget cuts made by the government. The Icelandic Defence Agency (IDA), which was launched in 2008 with a budget of US\$20m, was disbanded in January 2011 and its responsibilities transferred to the small Icelandic Coastguard. The Iceland Crisis Response Unit (ICRU) has participated in peacekeeping missions in co-operation with the United Nations, NATO, OSCE and the EU, as well as projects in partnership with other Nordic countries. As at November 2010, ICRU personnel were serving with NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.

New Zealand: 2nd place

Score: 1.279

New Zealand slips to second place in the 2011 GPI, having been ranked the nation most at peace in the previous two editions. Its overall score deteriorated as a result of changes to three of the 23 indicators. There was a rise in the number of internal security officers, which reflects the Labour-led government's plan in 2006 to increase police resources, committing to recruiting and training 1,000 additional police officers over the following three years. New Zealand's jailed population rose to 203 per 100,000 in 2010, a level notably higher than most other OECD countries (71 per 100,000 in

Norway, 96 in France and 133 in Australia according to the International Centre for Prison Studies). There was also an upturn in the number of external conflicts fought according to the Uppsala Conflict Data Program, which records conflicts that started in 2004 and were extant in the 2004-09 period.

Most aspects of safety and security in New Zealand's society receive the lowest possible scores in the 2011 GPI, including the likelihood of violent demonstrations, the homicide rate and the level of respect for human rights (Political Terror Scale). The political scene remained stable in 2010 and the low tally for this indicator is owing to the strong popular mandate for the centre-right National Party and its robust parliamentary majority. The personal approval rating of the prime minister, John Key, remained strong, and confidence in the government and its handling of the economy rose during the year; New Zealand emerged from recession in the second quarter of 2009. New Zealand maintains harmonious relations with most neighbouring countries, notably Australia, links with which are underpinned by the 1983 Closer Economic Relations (CER) agreement. Relations with Fiji have, however, been strained since the military coup there in 2006. The majority of New Zealand's measures of militarisation continue to be scored very low, including military expenditure as a percentage of GDP and the number of armed services personnel per head. The qualitative score for the country's military capability/sophistication is 3 (moderate) on a par with most OECD countries although higher than that accorded to neutral Ireland (1).

Japan: 3rd place

Score: 1.287

Japan remained in 3rd position in the 2011 GPI although its score deteriorated slightly as a result of a rise in the number of the country's internal security officers and police, according to the UNODC's most recent survey, leading to a rise in its score from 1 to 2. Japan's score for political stability was unchanged at the lowest possible level, a decision that was linked to the effect of the devastating earthquake and tsunami and the ensuing nuclear crisis that struck the country on March 11th. Prior to the disaster, the political future of the prime minister, Naoto Kan of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), looked bleak - his popularity had crashed, his party was feuding and the government had failed to secure the passage of legislation to implement the budget for 2011/12 - but the authorities' initial reaction to the catastrophe was rapid and competent. In contrast with the lethargic response with the 1995 Kobe earthquake, large-scale relief operations were launched immediately and foreign assistance welcomed and Mr Kan has been given a second chance.

THE TEN COUNTRIES MOST AT PEACE

While Japan's Self-Defence Forces (SDF) remain sophisticated and capable (with a tally of 4), the majority of the country's indicators of militarisation are accorded very low scores; military expenditure remains below 1% of GDP as a result of the ban on maintaining war potential that was enshrined in the 1946 constitution. The SDF have increasingly been deployed on international humanitarian and peacekeeping missions, including, controversially within Japan, to Iraq in December 2003. They were withdrawn from Iraq in July 2006 and in January 2010 Japan's defence minister ordered the end of a naval refuelling mission in the Indian Ocean that had supported the US-led war in Afghanistan since 2001. Japan's relations with neighbouring countries remain relatively poor on account of ongoing tensions with North Korea and China, highlighted when Japan arrested a Chinese captain whose fishing boat had rammed a Japanese coastguard vessel (he was later released under pressure from China) in September 2010, giving Japan a higher score for this indicator (3) than the other nations in the top ten. Japan remained free from civil unrest in 2010, while violent crime and homicides are rare and terrorist acts highly unlikely. Respect for human rights is high and stringent laws prohibit the possession of firearms, all of which feed into a high overall position in the GPI.

Denmark: 4th place

Score: 1.289

Denmark's GPI score improved from last year, contributing to a rise to fourth place. This partly reflects the Danish government's raising the penalty for illegal gun possession and a consequent shift in the qualitative assessment of the accessibility of small arms and light weapons. Danish exports of major conventional weapons per head declined to the lowest possible score, alongside Iceland and Norway, below Canada and well beneath Sweden. Improvements in these two indicators were offset by deterioration in the gauge of the potential for terrorist acts, in line with the announcement by the Danish Intelligence Service in December 2010 that it had arrested five men suspected of an "imminent" terror plot against the Danish newspaper that ran controversial cartoons of the prophet Muhammad in 2005.

Although Denmark abandoned its policy of neutrality in 1949 to become a member of NATO, it has maintained a relatively modest level of defence expenditure and refuses to allow nuclear weapons on its soil in peacetime.

Most GPI indicators relating to safety and security in society are accorded very low scores. Denmark is free from internal conflict, politically stable and it enjoys good relations with neighbouring countries. Rates

of violent crime and homicide are very low, violent demonstrations are highly unlikely and the proportion of the population in jail is among the lowest in Europe.

Czech Republic: 5th place

Score: 1.320

The Czech Republic's GPI score improved last year owing to a fall in the likelihood of violent demonstrations amid a steadily recovering economy – GDP grew by 2.3% in 2010. The political scene is stable; since legislative elections in May 2010 a three-party, centre-right coalition government has held a comfortable majority in the lower house of parliament, giving it a strong mandate to reform the public finances. Tensions within the coalition have eased and are unlikely to threaten the government in the short term, given the enormous incentives for coalition members to keep their parliamentary seats and show results on reform. Relations with neighbouring countries are warm and the Czech Republic's strongly Europhile foreign minister, Karel Schwarzenberg, has pursued an active but pragmatic foreign policy, combining liberal economic positions in international and EU affairs with a careful eye to the Czech Republic's national interest. The government's foreign policy priorities are energy security, further EU enlargement – with a focus on south-eastern Europe—and closer regional co-operation.

The level of violent crime is accorded a score of 2 (low), while perceptions of criminality in society, the level of internal conflict and the potential for terrorist acts are "very low". The homicide rate is one of the lowest in the OECD, according to the 11th UNODC survey, unchanged from the previous year. The Czech Republic joined NATO in 1999 and the nation's army has contributed to ISAF in Afghanistan (458 troops were stationed there in 2010) and the US-led Multi-national Force in Iraq between 2003 and December 2008, which is reflected in a relatively high score (2.5) for the measure of internal and external conflicts fought. The indicator of police and internal security officers per head of population is also accorded a relatively high score (3), notably higher than the other countries in the top ten but comparable with other central and eastern European nations.

Austria: 6th place

Score: 1.337

Neutral since the end of Soviet occupation of part of the country in 1955, Austria remains free of civil unrest and it continues to enjoy excellent relations with neighbouring states. Most measures of safety and security in society are accorded low scores in the GPI, notably the level of violent crime and the homicide rate, which remain among the lowest of the 153 nations

surveyed. Austria's overall score in the 2011 GPI deteriorated slightly from last year and it dropped by two places to 6th. There was a rise in the number of internal security officers and police in Austria, according to the most recent UNODC survey, although the number of police officers per head remains one of the lowest in the OECD – only Canada, Denmark and Finland receive a lower score.

Austria's score for the Political Terror Scale, which measures physical integrity rights violations, worsened slightly from 1.5 to 2 in 2009 (the most recent available year) as a result of a year-on-year deterioration in the human rights situation as reported by Amnesty International. A score of 2 refers to "a limited amount of imprisonment for non-violent political activity. However, few persons are affected, torture and beatings are exceptional. Political murder is rare". Austria's score for this indicator is the lowest of the top ten countries. Austria's military is moderately sophisticated and capable; since September 2009 the Austrian Joint Command–Air Force has included 15 Typhoon interceptor aircraft. Controversy surrounded the procurement since it was initiated by a centre-right government in 2003 amid strong opposition from the Social Democrats (SPÖ) and the Greens. Military expenditure remained well below 1% of GDP in 2009, one of the lowest levels of the 153 countries surveyed and most other measures of militarisation receive low scores.

Finland: 7th place

Score: 1.352

Finland's overall score was unchanged last year, but it moved up two places to 7th in the 2011 GPI because of deteriorations in Norway's and Ireland's scores. Finland's political scene is stable and the country remains free of civil unrest. Relations with neighbouring countries are harmonious and violent crime is very rare—the score unchanged from last year—although the homicide rate remains higher than in the other Nordic countries. Most measures of safety and security in society receive very low scores – only 60 per 100,000 of Finland's population was in jail in 2010, the second-lowest proportion of the top-ten nations in the GPI, after Iceland. Terrorist acts are considered to be highly unlikely, a situation comparable to Estonia, Latvia and Norway.

The majority of Finland's measures of militarisation are accorded low scores in a broad international comparison, with military spending at 1.3% of GDP in 2009 (latest available figure), a low proportion of the population that are soldiers, and fairly low volumes of imports and exports of conventional weapons. Since

the end of the cold war, Finland has professed a policy of strategic non-alignment and chosen not to apply for NATO membership, despite the fact that the three Baltic states joined in 2004. The government adopted an essentially neutral approach to the conflict in Iraq. Finland is involved in the NATO Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme and it has supplied 95 troops to the NATO-led force in Afghanistan. The number of heavy weapons per head of population is relatively high in Finland – on a par with Sweden but notably higher than New Zealand, Japan and Ireland.

Canada: 8th place

Score: 1.355

Canada's GPI score improved as a result of gains in two indicators and it rose by six places to 8th position. Relations with neighbouring countries warmed slightly, following a temporary trade agreement with the US, signed in February 2010, on mutual access to local and state/provincial government procurement contracts, which opens the possibility of a more substantial and long-term agreement on the issue. Additionally, 2010 was a quieter year than the previous one on the Canada's arctic front – in 2009 the Harper government had put a greater emphasis on defending its sovereign claims in the region, straining relations with Denmark (Greenland), Norway, Russia and the US. Canada's score for the Political Terror Scale, which measures physical integrity rights violations, returned to the lowest possible level. Offsetting these gains was a slight rise in the likelihood of violent demonstrations, reflecting protests at the G20 economic summit in Toronto in June 2010 and growing discontent in late 2010 and early 2011 with the minority Conservative administration.

Canada's other measures of societal safety and security are accorded very low scores. The proportion of the population in jail is higher than the Scandinavian nations, at 117 per 100,000 people in 2010, but lower than in New Zealand and much lower than the US. Access to small arms and light weapons has been restricted since the 1995 Firearms Act and they are far less readily available than in the US, but more so than in Japan and several Western European countries. Canada has a moderately sophisticated and capable military sphere but the majority of its measures of militarisation receive very low scores. Since Canada's three separate armed forces were reorganised into the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in 1964 the defence budget has broadly declined as a proportion of overall government spending, in line with a diminishing perceived threat from the Warsaw Pact countries.

THE TEN COUNTRIES MOST AT PEACE

The CAF was increasingly associated with international peacekeeping missions. Canada has had a major role in NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. Since 2006 more than 2,500 troops have been stationed near Kandahar, which accounts for higher scores for the number of internal and external conflicts fought and the estimated number of deaths from external conflict (155 members of the Canadian Forces since 2002) than the other countries in the top ten of the GPI. The deployment has been domestically controversial but the Conservative-led administration won parliamentary approval in 2008 to extend the mission in Afghanistan until 2011. In November 2010 the government extended Canada's mission in Afghanistan for at least another three years, although the mission will apparently be smaller and geared towards a training role.

Norway: 9th place

Score: 1.356

Norway's score deteriorated slightly from last year, which contributed to a slide of four places to 9th position, along with improvements in the scores of the Canada and the Czech Republic. Norway's volume of transfers of major conventional weapons (as a recipient) increased substantially for the second successive year, according to SIPRI, which analysed the 2005-09 period. The level is among the highest of the 153 countries surveyed and is linked to the ongoing modernisation of the country's naval and air forces and its coast guard, including the delivery of five new Spanish-built frigates. Norway is investing heavily in building its military capability in its far north to protect its arctic territory, its fisheries and oil and gas installations, which partly accounts for the country's relatively high score for the aggregate number of heavy weapons per head. Norway has reportedly spent around US\$6bn to reinforce its far north defences since 2006 and in 2009 the armed forces moved their operational headquarters from Oslo to Bodo, inside the Arctic Circle.

A founding member of NATO, Norway has been an active participant in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan since 2003, with around 500 troops remaining there in 2011, which contributes to the country's relatively high score (2.5) for the measure of internal and external conflicts fought. Norway also deployed 150 troops to Iraq in 2003 as part of the US-led Multi-National Force. They were withdrawn in August 2006.

Relations between Norway and its neighbouring Scandinavian countries, with which it shares a strong cultural and linguistic heritage, are very good, with

close co-operation remaining a cornerstone of Norway's foreign policy. The majority of GPI indicators relating to safety and security point to a harmonious society: violent crime is rare, the political scene is stable and violent demonstrations and terrorist attacks are highly unlikely. Norway's Political Terror Scale score is the lowest possible, and has been every year since the analysis began in 1976.

Slovenia: 10th place

Score: 1.358

Slovenia's GPI score was unchanged last year but it rose one place to 10th as a result of the deterioration in Ireland's tally amid that country's severe economic and political crises. Slovenia's political scene remained stable in 2010, with the Social Democrat-led coalition gaining credibility in June 2010 when a referendum narrowly approved the border arbitration agreement signed with Croatia at the end of 2009. Slovenia's GPI score for political instability (1) remains the lowest of the Balkan countries by some margin and it is matched only by Slovakia in the Central and Eastern Europe region. Having declared its independence in July 1991, Slovenia avoided most of the turmoil that engulfed the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990s and experienced relative political stability under a 12-year spell of centre-left coalition government led by the Liberal Democracy of Slovenia. Despite the agreement to settle their long-running border dispute, relations with Croatia remained difficult in 2010 and the Slovenian opposition, which was against the agreement, may try to hinder Croatia's accession to the EU. Slovenia's score for relations with neighbouring countries thus remains at 2, higher than most countries in the top ten of the GPI.

Several measures of safety and security in Slovenian society receive the lowest possible scores: namely the level of violent crime, the proportion of the population in jail and the rate of homicides, although violent demonstrations are considered to be more likely than in neighbouring Austria. Low scores characterise most aspects of Slovenia's measures of militarisation – spending on the 7,200-strong army accounts for only 1.6% of GDP. A small contingent of 70 soldiers joined NATO's ISAF operation in Afghanistan in 2004 and 79 remain in Herat in 2011, contributing to a (still low) score of 1.5 for Slovenia's measure of internal and external conflicts fought. Other international military deployments are restricted to various NATO and UN peacekeeping missions, most notably in Kosovo, where 323 troops are stationed. The present government is considering decreasing the Slovenian presence in other international peacekeeping missions.

THE TEN COUNTRIES LEAST AT PEACE

War-torn Somalia is classified the least at peace out of 153 countries, followed by Iraq.

Somalia: 153rd place

Score: 3.379

Somalia's GPI score improved last year, reflecting a slight rise in political stability and in an upturn in the Political Terror Scale, albeit from a very low level. There was also a drop in the country's military expenditure as a proportion of GDP. Despite this, Somalia dropped one place to the lowest position in the 2011 GPI because there was a more substantial improvement in Iraq's score, which lifted that country from the foot of the index for the first time. The upturn in political stability reflects mainly the continued existence of the UN-backed transitional federal government (TFG) in 2010 and early 2011, led by the reputedly moderate Islamist interim president, Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed.

At an international conference in Istanbul in May 2010 on stabilising Somalia, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon called on the international community to support the TFG, although its authority only extends over a small part of the capital, Mogadishu, with the backing of African Union troops. In Somaliland, a much-delayed presidential election was won by Ahmed Mohamed Mohamoud Silanyo in June 2010. The poll took place without major incident and was deemed free and fair by international observers.

Much of Somalia remained mired in conflict in 2010 and early 2011 – the country has not had a nationally functioning state government since its descent into civil war in 1991. The GPI indicator of internal conflict again registered the highest possible score, as the violent confrontation between the TFG and Islamist rebel groups, Hizbul Islam and al-Shabaab continued for the fifth successive year. Outbreaks of fierce fighting frequently engulfed parts of the capital, Mogadishu, and towns across southern Somalia, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of civilians and the displacement of thousands more. Some of the most intense fighting in recent years took place between August and November 2010, including an attack on a hotel by al-Shabab that killed dozens of people including four members of parliament, and the capture by government troops of Bulo Hawo, a strategically important town, from the insurgents. The International Maritime Bureau reported a growing number of violent pirate attacks off the coast of Somalia in 2010, with Somali pirates reportedly active further into the Indian Ocean – the region accounted for 92% of all ship seizures, with 49 vessels hijacked and 1,016 crew members taken hostage.

Figures from the UNHCR and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre suggest that around 1.9m Somalis have been displaced by the ongoing conflicts. This amounts to more than 20% of the population, giving Somalia the highest possible score (5) for this indicator, along with Bhutan, Cyprus, Iraq and Sudan. Almost all of Somalia's measures of societal safety and security are accorded very high scores. The exceptions are police numbers per head and the proportion of the population in jail, on account of the country's lack of civil institutions.

Iraq: 152nd place

Score: 3.296

Iraq's score improved substantially in 2011, with gains in several measures of both ongoing conflict and safety and security in society and for the first time the country is not ranked lowest in the GPI. The indicator for the level of organised conflict within the country drops to 4.5; 4,038 civilians were killed in 2010, according to Iraq Body Count (IBC), down from 4,686 in 2009 and 9,217 in 2008. This is the lowest civilian death toll since 2003, but the year-on-year improvement is also the lowest (15%) since violence levels began to reduce from late 2007. Iraq's score for political stability improved slightly for the third year running, this year reflecting the fact that in early November 2010 Iraq's bickering political factions reached an agreement to form a national unity government, helping to end an eight-month political impasse. Nouri al Maliki retained his position as prime minister in the new government, which includes his State of Law (SoL) coalition, the largely Shia Iraqi National Alliance (INA), the Kurdistan Alliance and the Iraqi National Movement (INM), led by a former prime minister, Ayad Allawi. Despite representing Iraq's main communities, the early signs are that the administration will be a weak and divided one and the political scene remains broadly unstable. The indicator of relations with neighbouring countries also underwent an improvement in response to a rapprochement with Syria (Mr Maliki sent a delegation to Damascus in September) and strengthening economic ties with Turkey. Relations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iran remain tense, however.

Although Iraq's overall security situation can be said to have eased in 2010 and early 2011 and the measure of internal conflict is downgraded, it remains at a very high level (4.5); tension and violence remain widespread with the exception of the relatively peaceful Kurdish-inhabited northern part of the country. The level of trust in other citizens, the homicide rate, the level of violent crime, the perceptions of criminality, the likelihood of violent demonstrations and the potential for terrorist

THE TEN COUNTRIES LEAST AT PEACE

acts all receive the highest possible scores (unchanged from last year). A very high proportion of population is displaced (15.4%, the third-highest in the world, according to data from the UNHCR and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre). Some 1m Iraqis are thought to live in Syria, with another 475,000 in Jordan. “Sectarian cleansing” – most notably in the capital, Baghdad, but also elsewhere – by insurgent and militia groups has led to an estimated 2.8m internally displaced persons (IDPs). Fearful of reprisals, or in the face of explicit threats, most IDPs have withdrawn from mixed areas to those that are more religiously homogenous.

Iraq is a highly militarised country, the legacy of Saddam Hussein’s steady build-up of forces from his time as head of security in the ruling Ba’ath Party in the 1970s. Small arms and light weapons remain very easily accessed. Military expenditure rose sharply to 4.5% of GDP in 2009-10, in line with the Iraqi army’s purchase of sophisticated US weaponry, including General Dynamics Abrams tanks, Stryker armoured vehicles and Bell armed transport helicopters. In February 2011 Iraq announced it had delayed the purchase of Lockheed Martin F-16 fighter jets and diverted US\$900m of allocated funds into the country’s food ration programme.

Sudan: 151st place

Score: 3.223

An escalation of the conflict over secession and resources in Sudan’s western region of Darfur, as well as heightened tensions in the south ahead of a referendum in January 2011 concerning the possible independence of South Sudan and the future affiliation of the oil-rich Abyei province contributed to a deterioration of the country’s already high score. Two of the five GPI indicators of ongoing domestic and international conflict deteriorated: the number of conflicts fought (as measured by UCDP) and the number of deaths from internal conflict. The latter reflects violent clashes between Abdel-Wahid al-Nur’s Sudan Liberation Movement and government forces in Jebel Marra, North Darfur, reportedly killing 440 people in May alone and displacing thousands. Fighting erupted again in the region in early 2011.

Clashes also broke out between the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), the most powerful rebel group, and government forces in western Darfur in May, shortly after JEM had suspended peace negotiations. In July the UN extended the mandate of the UN-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) for another year and increased the number of peacekeepers to 17,200.

Sudan’s GPI scores for the Political Terror Scale remain at the highest possible level, unchanged since 2002, and the homicide rate is also accorded a score of 5. Perceptions of criminality and the level of violent crime are considered to be lower in Sudan than most countries in the lowest positions in the GPI, notably Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan, which reflects Sudan’s size and the fact that while parts of the country are in turmoil, other areas, including the capital, Khartoum, are stable. The UN estimates that up to 300,000 people have died from the combined effects of war, famine and disease since the conflict in Darfur began in 2003. Sudan’s government put the death toll at 10,000. Almost 2.7m people are estimated to have fled their homes in Darfur alone, while refugees and internally displaced people across the country as a whole are estimated to number almost 5.3m, 12.8% of the population – the fourth highest proportion in the 2011 GPI. Small arms and light weapons remain highly accessible, while most other measures of militarisation receive low scores – military expenditure dropped to just 1.1% of GDP in 2009, very low compared with elsewhere in the Middle East and North Africa. The indicator of political stability improved slightly in 2010, which reflects the first comprehensive and (partly) contested elections in a quarter of a century, held in April, which consolidated the status quo, and the successful staging of the referendum, which 98.8% of southerners voted for “separation”.

Afghanistan: 150th place

Score: 3.212

Embroided in conflict and instability for much of the past two decades, Afghanistan remained far from peaceful during 2010. It was a year of intensified armed conflict, with a surge of activity by pro-government forces and increased use of improvised explosive devices and assassinations by anti-government elements. The UN estimates that 2,777 civilians were killed during the year (up from 2,400 in 2009) amid continued confrontation between the NATO-supported Afghan National Army (ANA) and a Taliban-backed insurgency that has spread well beyond its stronghold in the south and east of the country. Casualties among the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) rose to 711 in 2010, up from 520 the previous year and 295 in 2008 – the measure of deaths in organised conflict had already risen to the highest level (5) in the 2010 GPI. The winter of 2010-11 was particularly violent, with 785 insurgent attacks in December. An attack on government employees in Jalalabad in February by the Haqqani network killed at least 38 people. Most of Afghanistan’s measures of safety and security are,

not surprisingly, scored “very high” and the likelihood of violent demonstrations increased to 4.5 to reflect incidents such as a 1,000-strong rally in Mazar-i-Sharif in July that was sparked by a NATO raid on a market in which two local security guards were killed. The GPI measure of the number of displaced people (including refugees) increased to 2.2m in 2009, a rise of 3.5% year on year, which amounts to 7.8% of the population, one of the highest proportions of the 153 countries surveyed.

Afghanistan’s political scene remained unstable in 2010 (the GPI score for this indicator unchanged) in spite of numerous moves by the president, Hamid Karzai, to strengthen his political authority as the controversy surrounding the 2009 presidential election lingered and combined with allegations of electoral frauds in the September 2010 parliamentary election. The indicator of Afghanistan’s relations with neighbouring countries retained a moderate score (3), having improved slightly in the 2010 GPI amid strengthening economic ties with India and Iran.

North Korea: 149th place

Score: 3.092

North Korea’s score deteriorated sharply last year, with declines in eight indicators spanning security in society and the military sphere. The sharp increases in the number of homicides and rises in violent crime and the likelihood of violent demonstrations from relatively low levels reflect unconfirmed reports of a dramatic escalation in violence and brutality at the hands of the regime, with public executions tripling last year, to at least 60. Capital offences were said to include robbery, people-trafficking, the illicit use of Chinese mobile phones and unauthorised possession of US dollars. Whereas in the past many North Koreans have slipped into China, to find work or escape the Northern regime, there is now by some accounts a new shoot-to-kill policy on illegal border crossings. The reports of a defector source were published in a conservative South Korean daily newspaper in January 2011, which accused the North of instituting a new reign of terror to enforce the succession of Kim Jong-eun, Kim Jong-il’s third son who was officially presented as his father’s heir-apparent in September. North Korea’s tense relations with its neighbours became even more strained in 2010 (prompting a rise to 5 for the GPI indicator) following the administration’s decision in March 2010 to sink a South Korean naval vessel, the Cheonan, and to fire missiles at Yeonpyeong in November one of five South Korean islands in the West (Yellow) Sea, close to North Korea. Two marines and two civilians were killed, 18 people were injured, and fire damage to property and land was substantial. North Korea’s

annual military expenditure was estimated in 2002 to amount to around US\$5bn and it is thought to have increased to around 20% of GDP in 2009, by far the largest proportion of the 153 countries surveyed and more than twice the level of Saudi Arabia, the next largest at 9.4%. North Korea’s scores for its military capability and sophistication and stock of heavy weapons both increased - a South Korean defence review reported that the country had increased its investment in tanks and special forces, which now number 200,000.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: 148th place

Score: 3.016

The Democratic Republic of Congo’s score deteriorated in 2010 and the country remains among the ten lowest-ranked nations in the 2011 GPI (148th of 153 countries, compared with 140th of 149 nations in the 2010 GPI). The decline is primarily the result of a rise in the number of external and internal conflicts fought, as measured by the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP), to 4. There was also a rise in the GPI gauge of the potential for terrorist attacks to a “high likelihood” amid growing evidence of a new partnership between the ADF-NALU (Allied Democratic Forces-National Army for the Liberation of Uganda) - a Ugandan rebel group based in the Ruwenzori mountains in Eastern Congo - and al-Shabaab, the Somali fundamentalist group connected to al-Qaeda. The allegations are based on material found by the Congolese army in ADF-NALU bases after bombings in the Ugandan capital, Kampala in July 2010, which killed 70 people as they watched the World Cup final. Fighting continued in several regions during 2010, although the conflict over regional predominance and resources between the rebels of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and the government in the east of the country de-escalated and there were slight improvements to the gauges of the levels of violent crime and the likelihood of violent demonstrations. However, armed clashes between the Congrès national pour la défense du peuple (CNDP) led by Laurent Nkunda, a renegade Tutsi general, and the national army, Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo (FARDC), continued in North and South Kivu during 2010 with an appalling humanitarian impact and most GPI indicators of safety and security in society remained at very high levels.

In 2010 there were reports of the increasing involvement of “criminal networks” within the FARDC in economic activities, notably mining, contributing significantly to insecurity and conflict. In September the

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President, Laurent Kabila announced a ban on mining activity in North Kivu, South Kivu and Maniema, to facilitate the removal of illegal armed groups from mines by the Congolese army; end the involvement in mining of criminal networks within its ranks; and enable the registration of all those participating in the sector. DRC's score for the number of displaced people as a proportion of the population is relatively low (2) although the UNHCR estimates that in 2010 the total of refugees and internally displaced people amounted to 2.1m, the disastrous consequence of decades of misrule and violent conflict, including a civil war between 1998 and 2003 that caused as many as 3m deaths. DRC's relations with neighbouring countries are again accorded a moderate score (3), which reflects warm relations with Rwanda, cemented by a bilateral summit in Goma in August 2010, and Zambia. Relations with Angola remained tense, however, with an ongoing dispute over the two countries' maritime border and offshore oil. In terms of the military sphere, small arms and light weapons are very readily accessible, but other GPI measures are accorded low scores, unchanged from last year.

Russia: 147th place

Score: 2.966

Russia's score improved in the 2011 GPI. The country is ranked 147th of 153 nations (only six other countries are less peaceful), which was also the case in the 2010 GPI. The improved score reflects changes in two indicators: a drop in the estimated number of deaths from external conflict and a rise in political stability. The former refers to the ending of the conflict between Russia and Georgia over South Ossetia (specifically no recorded conflict-related deaths in 2009-10; in 2008-09 there were 67). The latter reflects Dmitry Medvedev's increasingly strong position as president, illustrated by the dismissal in September 2010 of the powerful mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov. One of Russia's indicators deteriorated in the 2011 GPI: the measure of the potential for terrorist acts – the score for this indicator rose to 4 (a "high likelihood") following a year when the country was hit by several deadly attacks. Two suicide bombings on the Moscow metro in March 2010 killed 40 people and injured over 100 and a suicide bombing at Domodedovo, Moscow's busiest airport, in January 2011, killed 36 people and injured 180. The airport attack targeted foreigners as well as Russians, presumably to increase pressure on the Russian government in the run-up to the parliamentary and presidential elections in late 2011 and early 2012, as well as the 2014 Winter Olympics and the 2018 football World Cup. Other fatal terrorist attacks occurred in Kizlyar, Dagestan, Stavropol, Vladikavkaz, Grozny and Makhachkala.

The secession conflict between Islamic militants and Russia's central and regional government in Dagestan escalated in 2010, while conflict in Ingushetia continued at a highly violent level. Chechnya, which has been relatively peaceful by the standards of the North Caucasus, experienced rising violence; its parliament building in Grozny was stormed in an audacious attack by militant gunmen in October, less than 18 months after Russia formally ended its ten year "counter-terrorism" operation there. Russia's score for the GPI indicator of internal conflict remained "moderate" in 2010-11, in spite of events in the North Caucasus, reflecting the fact that large areas of the country are free of conflict.

The homicide rate, number of internal security officers, and the perception of criminality are all accorded scores of 4 "high", unchanged from last year. The International Centre for Prison Studies records that the proportion of the Russian population in jail fell for the third successive year in 2010, but it is still the second-highest of the 153 countries surveyed, behind the US. While Russia's military capability has shrunk greatly since the Soviet era, it remains powerful and sophisticated, with more heavy weapons per head of population than most other nations. Russia is a leading manufacturer of arms and the indicator for the country's exports of major conventional weapons per head receives a high score (4).

Pakistan: 146th place

Score: 2.905

Pakistan's overall GPI score improved markedly in 2010, causing a modest rise in the rankings to 146th place (out of 152 countries, compared with 145th of 149 nations last year). There was a reduction in the likelihood of violent demonstrations from a very high level and a drop in the level of violent crime to "moderate", in line with an easing of the widespread violence verging on civil war that embroiled much of the country in 2009. According to the India-based Institute for Conflict Management, terrorism-related violence caused 7,435 deaths in Pakistan in 2010 (1,796 which were civilians), compared with 11,585 in 2009 and 6,715 a year earlier).

In early 2010 the president, Asif Ali Zardari, claimed that the army had achieved considerable success in its offensive against Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP, an alliance of around a dozen militant Islamist groups based in the country) in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). However, the medium-term success of the offensive remains far from assured and heavy clashes between the army and Taliban continued throughout 2010, particularly in the Kurram and Orakzai districts – according to UN reports more

than 200,000 people fled the combat zone in June. Conflict between various Baloch insurgent groups and the government over the status of Balochistan also continued in 2010. Sindh province was also afflicted by violent clashes during the year - around 50 people were killed in targeted attacks in Karachi during a two-week period in March 2011. Large parts of the city were shut down because of the violence.

Pakistan's score for political stability also improved slightly as tensions among the two main political parties – the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) eased and the ruling coalition led by Mr Zardari survived the year. Nevertheless, the political scene remained highly unstable in 2010 amid the severe domestic security problems, the floods that devastated large swathes of the country in August-September and fraught foreign relations. Small arms and light weapons are readily available, although most of Pakistan's GPI measures of militarisation receive relatively low scores (military expenditure dropped to 2.2% of GDP in 2009-10), with the exception of military capability and sophistication, which remained at level 4, in line with Pakistan's status as a nuclear-armed state.

Israel: 145th place

Score: 2.901

Israel's score improved for the second successive year, taking it to 145th place in the 2011 GPI. The upturn reflects a drop in the level of internal conflict to "moderate", with a tense truce holding between the Islamist group, Hamas, (which has controlled Gaza since June 2007) and Israeli forces. For this reason there was also a fall in the GPI score for perceptions of criminality in society to 3. Nevertheless, Palestinian rocket attacks from Gaza continued in 2010 - the Israeli military claim that 165 rockets and mortar bombs were fired on Israeli towns and villages during the year. In June Israel's cabinet voted to considerably ease its blockade of Gaza. The move came in the wake of international condemnation of Israel's forcible interception of an aid convoy bound for Gaza. Nine activists aboard one of the Turkish-owned vessels were killed in a confrontation with Israeli troops, which caused a further deterioration in what were previously warm relations with Turkey. For this reason and the fact that Israel remains in a formal "state of war" with its northern neighbours, Syria and Lebanon, and relations remain tense with much of the Arab world and Iran, the GPI measure of relations with neighbouring countries remained at 4 ("aggressive: open conflicts with violence and protests").

Israel's indicators of societal safety and security present a mixed picture, as before. The level of violent crime and homicide rate are low, violent demonstrations are unlikely to occur and the political scene is relatively stable. However, the risk of terrorist attacks is high. Military expenditure in Israel as a percentage of GDP fell considerably in 2009-10, but at 6.2% it remains among the highest in the world. Imports of major conventional weapons also dropped, but they remain at the third-highest level of the 153 countries surveyed, behind the UAE and Singapore.

Central African Republic: 144th place

Score: 2.869

The Central African Republic's score deteriorated sharply last year and it dropped to 144th place, having been ranked above the bottom-ten nations for the past two years. The risk of terrorist attacks and violent demonstrations increased ahead of the presidential election in January 2011, with fresh violence flaring in the country's remote north-east. In late November, less than ten days after the withdrawal of the UN mission in the CAR (MINURCAT), a rebel group that has not signed up to the peace process – Convention des patriotes pour la justice et la paix (CPJP) – attacked and occupied Birao. After two days of clashes that resulted in a reported 71 deaths, comprising 65 rebels and six soldiers, the national army, the Forces armées centrafricaines (FACA), regained control of the town. During these clashes the FACA was assisted by Chadian troops that had crossed the border in pursuit of Chadian rebel forces, which have been accused of providing support to the CPJP.

Further fighting between the FACA and the CPJP that took place in early February around the eastern town of Bria and attacks by the Lord's Resistance Army in the far south underline the violence and instability that continues to permeate several parts of the country and explain the high scores that are accorded to most of the CAR's measures of societal safety and security. The CAR's indicator of the number of internal and external conflicts fought also increased. Small arms and light weapons are easy to access in the CAR, but other measures of militarisation, such as the number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people, military expenditure as a percentage of GDP and military capability and sophistication receive low scores.

RISERS AND FALLERS

In order to ensure that the Global Peace Index is as accurate a measure as possible, the team compiling it are open to periodic refinements, subject to the agreement of the international panel of experts. For the 2008 GPI, for example, it was decided to place all the scores across the 23 indicators in bands, using either a scale of 1-5 or 1-10, to counter the volatility observed in the “raw” quantitative scores that had previously been “normalized”. In the same spirit, the team has decided to focus its analysis of variations in the index on year-on-year changes in countries’ scores, rather than their rankings, initially for the 2010 GPI and this year for the 2011 GPI. We feel that this provides a more accurate, and more easily justifiable, reflection of changes in peacefulness “on the ground”.

Georgia’s GPI score experienced the largest year-on-year improvement (rise in peacefulness) of the 153 nations surveyed and it climbed 12 places to a still- low 134th position. Chad’s score improved by the second-largest margin and Mongolia’s the third-largest.

Libya’s score deteriorated to the largest extent from the 2010 GPI, amid its rapid and unprecedented descent into civil war in February and March 2011. Bahrain’s score deteriorated by the second-largest margin and Egypt’s by the third-greatest extent.

Changes in rank are based on a comparison with the 149 countries in the 2010 GPI; they compare countries on a like-for like basis and exclude the ranking changes caused by the inclusion of new countries to the GPI.

Countries with the greatest change in Global Peace Index scores, 2010-11

Country	Score 2011	Change in score 2010-11	Rank 2011	Change in rank 2010-11
Top 5 risers				
Georgia	2.558	-0.412	134	+12
Chad	2.740	-0.224	141	+4
Mongolia	1.880	-0.221	57	+36
Sri Lanka	2.407	-0.215	126	+11
Thailand	2.247	-0.147	107	+19
Top 5 fallers				
Libya	2.816	0.977	143	-83
Bahrain	2.398	0.429	123	-47
Egypt	2.023	0.239	73	-25
North Korea	3.092	0.236	149	-6
Madagascar	2.239	0.220	105	-26

THE TOP FIVE RISERS IN THE 2011 GPI

Georgia Rank: 134

Change in score 2010-2011: -0.412

Change in rank 2010-2011: +12

The surge in Georgia's score in the 2011 GPI reflects the country's return to stability following the brief but intense war with Russia that erupted in August 2008, killing some 450 people and displacing tens of thousands. Ten of the 23 indicators registered improvements, two of which referred directly to the easing of the conflict with Georgia's northern neighbour. The majority (6) of the improving indicators were those gauging safety and security in society, including the homicide rate and perceptions of criminality. Political stability improved amid the waning threat to the leadership of the president, Mikheil Saakashvili, who survived strident calls for his dismissal in 2009. Despite the breadth of the gains, many of Georgia's GPI tallies for societal safety and militarisation remain elevated, in many cases higher than neighbouring Azerbaijan and Armenia, and Georgia remained in the ten lowest-ranked nations.

Chad Rank: 141

Change in score 2010-2011: -0.224

Change in rank 2010-2011: +4

Chad's score climbed strongly as a result of improvements to four of its GPI indicators. The largest advance was in relations with neighbouring countries: a two-point gain from a war footing to "moderate", following the rapprochement with Sudan after the signing of the Doha Agreement in May 2009. Sudan's withdrawal of support for rebel groups operating in Chad played a significant role in preventing further conflict in 2010 – an improvement that led to a drop in the GPI measure of internal conflict to a still-high score of 4. Political stability improved ahead of legislative and presidential elections in early 2011, mainly because the opposition is weak and divided, and no clear rival to Idris Déby has emerged. There was also a year-on-year drop in Chad's tally for the Political Terror Scale.

Mongolia Rank: 57

Change in score 2010-11: -0.221

Change in rank 2010-11: +36

Mongolia's score improved robustly in 2010 and it leapt 36 places to 57th. The large rise in ranking places compared with Georgia and Chad is owing to a much narrower spread of scores among mid-ranking nations (such as Mongolia) than the lowest-ranked ones. Most of Mongolia's scores that advanced relate to societal safety and security during 2010, including the homicide rate, the potential for terrorist acts and the Political Terror Scale. It was a year of relative calm after a politically turbulent 2008/09, which was accompanied by an economic crisis. The political instability dates back to the June 2008 parliamentary elections, which yielded no clear winner

and allegations of electoral fraud sparked heavy rioting that killed five and injured 300. The capital, Ulaanbaatar, was hit by further street protests in March and April 2010 although they were largely peaceful compared with the previous year and the GPI measure of the risk of violent demonstrations dropped accordingly.

Sri Lanka Rank: 126

Change in score 2010-11: -0.215

Change in rank 2010-11: +11

A strong improvement in Sri Lanka's GPI score comes amid gains in the internal conflict indicator and two of the island's measures of societal safety and security in the aftermath of the defeat of the Tamil Tigers and the ending of hostilities in May 2009. The risk of terrorist attacks fell furthest, followed by levels of internal conflict. Military expenditure also dropped to 3.1% of GDP in 2009-10 – still higher than India (2.4%) and Bangladesh (1%). Many of Sri Lanka's GPI scores remained high almost two years on from the end of hostilities and although the country rises six places (eleven places without the five new countries in the GPI), it remains in the lower reaches of the index. The level of internal conflict remains at 3 to reflect the continuing state of emergency, the imposition of a "high security" zone in the north and signs of intermittent violence, including an assassination attempt on a Tamil Member of Parliament in the north in March 2011.

Thailand Rank: 107

Change in score 2010-11: -0.147

Change in rank 2010-11: +19

The robust rise in Thailand's score and ranking (from a lowly position) in the 2011 GPI stem from improvements to three indicators: the homicide rate, the number of deaths from internal conflict and the Political Terror Scale. All were previously at high levels, reflecting the wave of anti-government protests, violence and unrest that ignited in Bangkok in September 2008 and escalated in April 2009, leading the prime minister, Abhisit Vejjajiva, to declare a state of emergency in the capital, Bangkok. At least two people were killed and more than 100 others were injured as soldiers dispersed protestors. Thailand's GPI scores for three measures of societal safety and security – the likelihood of violent demonstrations the potential for terrorist acts and the level of violent crime remain high (at 4) in the 2011 GPI, reflecting the fact that instability and widespread unrest continued during 2010. Between March and May tens of thousands of pro-Thaksin opposition protesters - in trademark red shirts - paralysed parts of central Bangkok for two months to demand Mr Abhisit's resignation and early elections. However, the protests and their dispersal by the army were not considered to have been more violent than those in 2009 and the GPI scores did not deteriorate.

THE TOP FIVE FALLERS IN THE 2011 GPI

Libya Rank: 143

Change in score 2010-11: 0.977

Change in rank 2010-11: -83

The dramatic rise in Libya's score and the country's plunge in the GPI rankings mirror the nation's extraordinarily rapid descent into civil war in early 2011. The first signs of a popular uprising emerged in mid-February when a small group of demonstrators marched through Benghazi, inspired by the revolutions in neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt. As the unrest spread rapidly across the country, the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, responded with extreme force. By late February, much of the east of Libya had fallen to the opposition forces. Several senior members of the Qadhafi regime defected and some army units have joined the ranks of the opposition. However, Colonel Qadhafi clearly remains determined to hold on to power at any cost and in early March forces loyal to him had attacked opposition positions in the east of the country and begun to reclaim lost territory. Not surprisingly, all the qualitative indicators of conflict and societal safety and security deteriorated sharply from generally low scores – violent demonstrations were, for example, considered highly unlikely to occur under Colonel Qadhafi's repressive regime as recently as January 2011. The majority of Libya's measures of militarisation are accorded low tallies by the standards of the region, with the notable exception of the aggregate number of heavy weapons per head, a figure that in 2009 was far higher than any other country surveyed, including North Korea and Russia according to SIPRI.

Bahrain Rank: 123

Change in score 2010-11: 0.429

Change in rank 2010-11: -47

Protests in Bahrain calling for economic and political reform began on February 14th 2011 and gathered momentum after two protesters were shot in the first two days. In an extraordinary escalation, on February 18th, the army was deployed on the streets of central Manama, the capital. Troops fired live ammunition at protesters who gathered there - a sudden escalation of violence in a small, peaceful country with a low crime rate that was reflected in its position around the mid-point of the GPI in previous years. The dramatic events of February and March, inspired by the unprecedented "Arab Spring", led to sharp increases to most of the qualitative indicators of conflict and safety and security in society, precipitating a slide in the rankings to 123rd position. The drop would have been even more pronounced but for improvements to three of Bahrain's GPI indicators from last year: a reduction in military capability and sophistication, a fall number of armed service personnel and a slight improvement in the Political Terror Scale tally (to 1.5).

Egypt Rank: 73

Change in score 2010-11: 0.239

Change in rank 2010-11: -25

The dramatic resignation of the long-serving president, Hosni Mubarak, on February 11th after 18 days of popular protests calling for an end to his regime was an event unparalleled in the modern history of Egypt. Mr Mubarak remained defiant until the very end and was finally forced to resign by the military, which had maintained its neutrality throughout the demonstrations. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, which has assumed the president's responsibilities, vowed to oversee a transition process leading to new elections and the installation of a civilian administration. The extraordinary events in Cairo's Tahrir Square have been reflected in upward shifts in three qualitative GPI measures of internal conflict, violent crime and political instability, all from low levels. A slight rise in the measure of military capability and sophistication also contributed to the Egypt's overall score rise and slide to 73rd position.

North Korea Rank: 149

Change in score 2010-11: 0.236

Change in rank 2010-11: -6

Unconfirmed reports of dramatic escalation in violence and brutality at the hands of the North Korea's autocratic regime may be linked to Kim Jong-il's failing health and a desire to enforce the succession of his third son, Kim Jong-un, who was officially presented as his father's heir-apparent in September. The reports prompted sharp increases to most of North Korea's GPI indicators of safety and security in society, many of which were already at high levels. Pyonyang's relations with neighbouring countries became even more strained in 2010 (prompting a rise to 5 for the GPI indicator) following the administration's decision in March 2010 to sink a South Korean naval vessel, the *Cheonan*, and to fire missiles at Yeonpyeong in November, one of five South Korean islands in the West (Yellow) Sea, close to North Korea. North Korea's annual military expenditure was estimated in 2002 to amount to around US\$5bn and it is thought to have increased to around 20% of GDP in 2009, by far the largest proportion of the 153 countries surveyed. North Korea's score for its military capability and sophistication increased, adding to the country's very high overall GPI score and contributing to its drop to 149th position.

Madagascar *Rank: 105*

Change in score 2010-11: 0.220

Change in rank 2010-11: -26

Madagascar's relatively peaceful state (it was ranked 40th in the GPI in 2007) came to an abrupt end in early 2009 when political tensions erupted into violence. Since the overthrow of the President, Marc Ravalomanana in March 2009 the country has been in deep political crisis, which intensified at times in 2010 and was accompanied by an increasingly acute economic crisis, exacerbated by international sanctions. The cumulative effect of the political instability of the past two years and growing economic difficulties and unemployment in 2010 led to a rise in several qualitative indicators, including perceptions of criminality, violent crime and the likelihood of violent demonstrations. The political scene was highly unstable throughout 2010, amid continued disagreement over dates for fresh presidential and parliamentary elections. The attempted coup by rebel military personnel on 17th November 2010, which was quelled within three days, prompted the slight rise in the score for this indicator. Both the Amnesty International Country Report (2009) and the US State Department Report on Human Rights in 2009 reported rises in human rights violations from a relatively low level that warranted a sharp increase in the Political Terror Scale to a score of 4.

GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

The Global Peace Index (GPI) is a numerical measure of how at peace a country is with itself and other countries. It provides a foundation from which one can further investigate the absence or incidence of peace, by, for example, examining whether other economic or societal indicators show a statistical correlation. In addition to the collation of data and scores for the GPI's 23 indicators, the Economist Intelligence Unit has updated for the fifth year its secondary dataset of 33 indicators including those that attempt to gauge democracy, government competence and efficacy; the strength of institutions and the political process; international openness; demographics; regional integration; religion and culture; education and material well-being. Definitions of all 33 indicators are provided in Annex B on page 45.

The 33 indicators were selected on the basis of the credibility of their sources and the consistency and international breadth of their data. The table opposite lists each of the indicators in the two groups: the GPI and the pool of potential drivers. Correlation coefficients of the GPI scores and ranks, as well as scores for the internal and external measures of peace are given against each indicator. The correlation coefficients are calculated across the entire sample (153 countries). Values shaded in green are those where $r > 0.5$ or $r < -0.5$, which we have taken to be a statistically significant correlation.

Correlation Coefficients

	OVERALL SCORE	OVERALL RANK	Internal Peace	External Peace
OVERALL SCORE	1.00	0.97	0.95	0.56
OVERALL RANK	0.97	1.00	0.94	0.49
Internal Peace	0.95	0.94	1.00	0.28
External Peace	0.56	0.49	0.28	1.00
Perceptions of criminality in society	0.71	0.70	0.77	0.13
Number of internal security officers and police 100,000 people	0.11	0.07	0.08	0.11
Number of homicides per 100,000 people	0.59	0.58	0.70	-0.06
Number of jailed population per 100,000 people	0.11	0.12	0.04	0.25
Ease of access to weapons of minor destruction	0.73	0.71	0.78	0.15
Level of organised conflict (internal)	0.83	0.82	0.82	0.38
Likelihood of violent demonstrations	0.66	0.67	0.72	0.12
Level of violent crime	0.63	0.65	0.77	-0.11
Political instability	0.70	0.73	0.73	0.23
Respect for human rights	0.80	0.79	0.80	0.34
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons, as recipient (Imports) per 100,000 people	-0.12	-0.15	-0.19	0.16
Potential for terrorist acts	0.64	0.63	0.59	0.41
Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)	0.64	0.56	0.60	0.38
Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP	0.32	0.30	0.19	0.51
Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people	0.26	0.23	0.11	0.54
UN funding	0.29	0.30	0.28	0.13
Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people	0.03	0.00	-0.14	0.50
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons as supplier (exports) per 100,000 people	-0.08	-0.11	-0.20	0.29
Military capability/sophistication	-0.02	-0.02	-0.20	0.49
Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population	0.44	0.33	0.35	0.44
Relations with neighbouring countries	0.64	0.63	0.49	0.67
Number of external and internal conflicts fought	0.24	0.22	0.08	0.53
Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)	0.00	-0.01	-0.10	0.26
Political Democracy Index	-0.62	-0.61	-0.62	-0.25
Electoral process	-0.47	-0.47	-0.47	-0.22
Functioning of government	-0.63	-0.63	-0.65	-0.24
Political participation	-0.50	-0.50	-0.52	-0.15
Political culture	-0.66	-0.64	-0.68	-0.23
Civil liberties	-0.56	-0.55	-0.55	-0.28
Corruption perceptions	-0.71	-0.74	-0.79	-0.09
Women in parliament (as a percentage of the total number of representatives in the lower house)	-0.28	-0.29	-0.26	-0.17
Freedom of the press	0.56	0.56	0.53	0.32
Exports + imports % of GDP	-0.12	-0.13	-0.10	-0.08
Foreign Direct Investment (flow) % of GDP	-0.03	-0.04	-0.02	-0.05
Number of visitors as % of domestic population	-0.40	-0.40	-0.44	-0.04
Net migration (% of total population)	-0.28	-0.32	-0.33	0.02
15-34 year old males as a % of adult population	0.48	0.50	0.59	-0.09
Gender ratio of population: women/men	-0.10	-0.12	-0.11	-0.04
Gender inequality	-0.51	-0.49	-0.49	-0.23
The extent of regional integration	0.63	0.62	0.62	0.31
Current education spending (% of GDP)	-0.35	-0.35	-0.33	-0.20
Primary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	-0.44	-0.38	-0.47	-0.11
Secondary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	-0.48	-0.47	-0.59	0.11
Higher education enrolment (% Gross)	-0.47	-0.48	-0.56	0.07
Mean years of schooling	-0.53	-0.52	-0.59	-0.06
Adult literacy rate (% of pop over 15)	-0.43	-0.41	-0.49	0.00
Hostility to foreigners/private property	0.64	0.62	0.66	0.20
Importance of religion in national life	0.50	0.50	0.53	0.12
Willingness to fight	0.41	0.42	0.30	0.48
Nominal GDP (US\$PPP bn)	-0.05	-0.05	-0.13	0.18
Nominal GDP (US\$bn)	-0.11	-0.11	-0.19	0.16
GDP per capita	-0.58	-0.61	-0.67	0.00
Gini-coefficient	0.29	0.30	0.42	-0.26
Unemployment %	0.22	0.19	0.22	0.09
Life expectancy	-0.51	-0.50	-0.60	0.05
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	0.51	0.49	0.59	-0.01

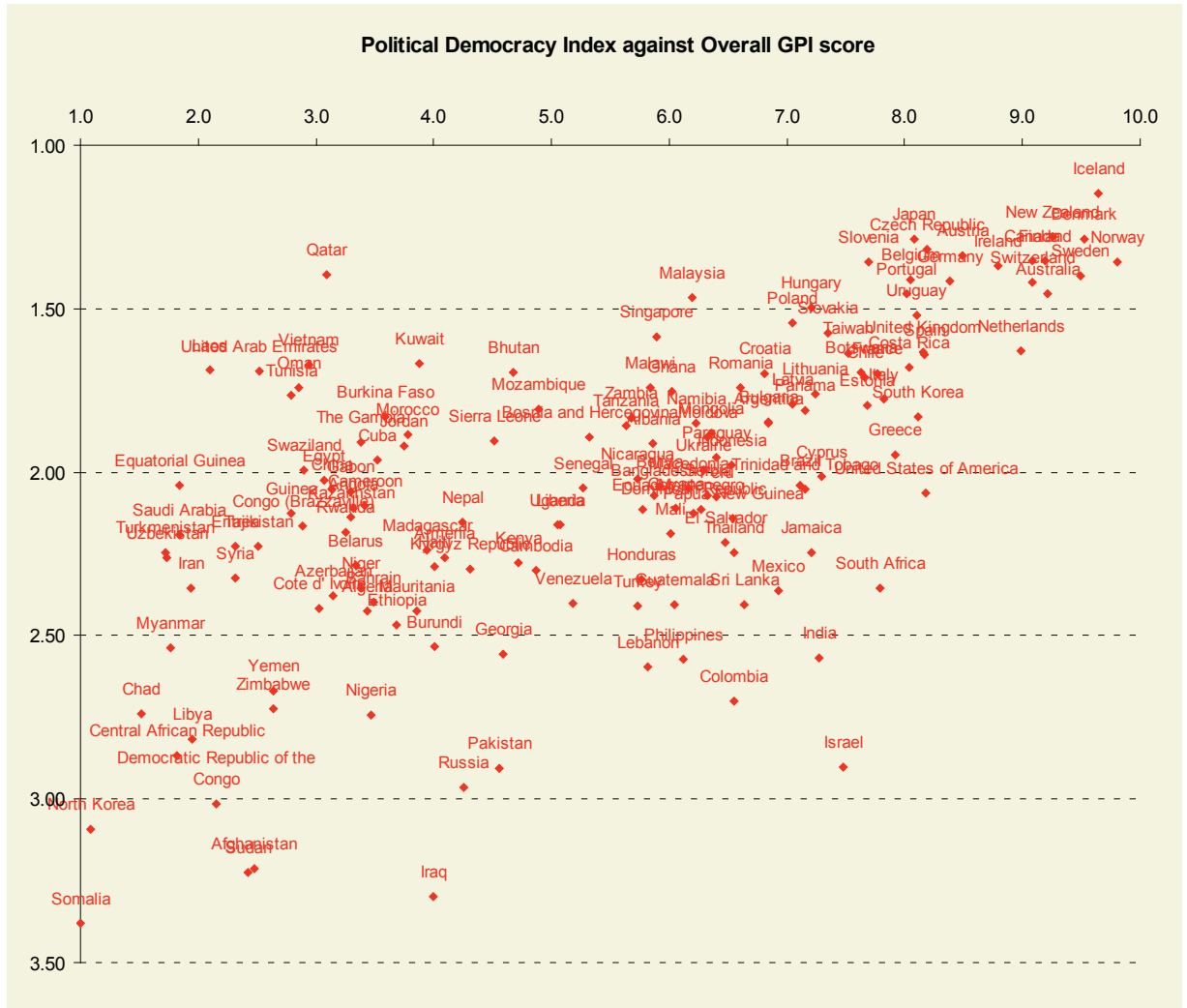
The extension of the GPI to 153 countries in 2011 has reinforced findings from previous years. All of the data series exhibiting correlation coefficients with the GPI overall score where $r > 0.5$ in 2010 have maintained their significance threshold this year. In 2011 13 of the 33 economic and societal indicators show correlation coefficients with the overall GPI score greater than $r = 0.5$, compared with 11 in 2010.

The GPI continues to be strongly determined by the internal measure of peace ($r = 0.95$); the correlation between it and the external measure of peace is weaker ($r = 0.56$).

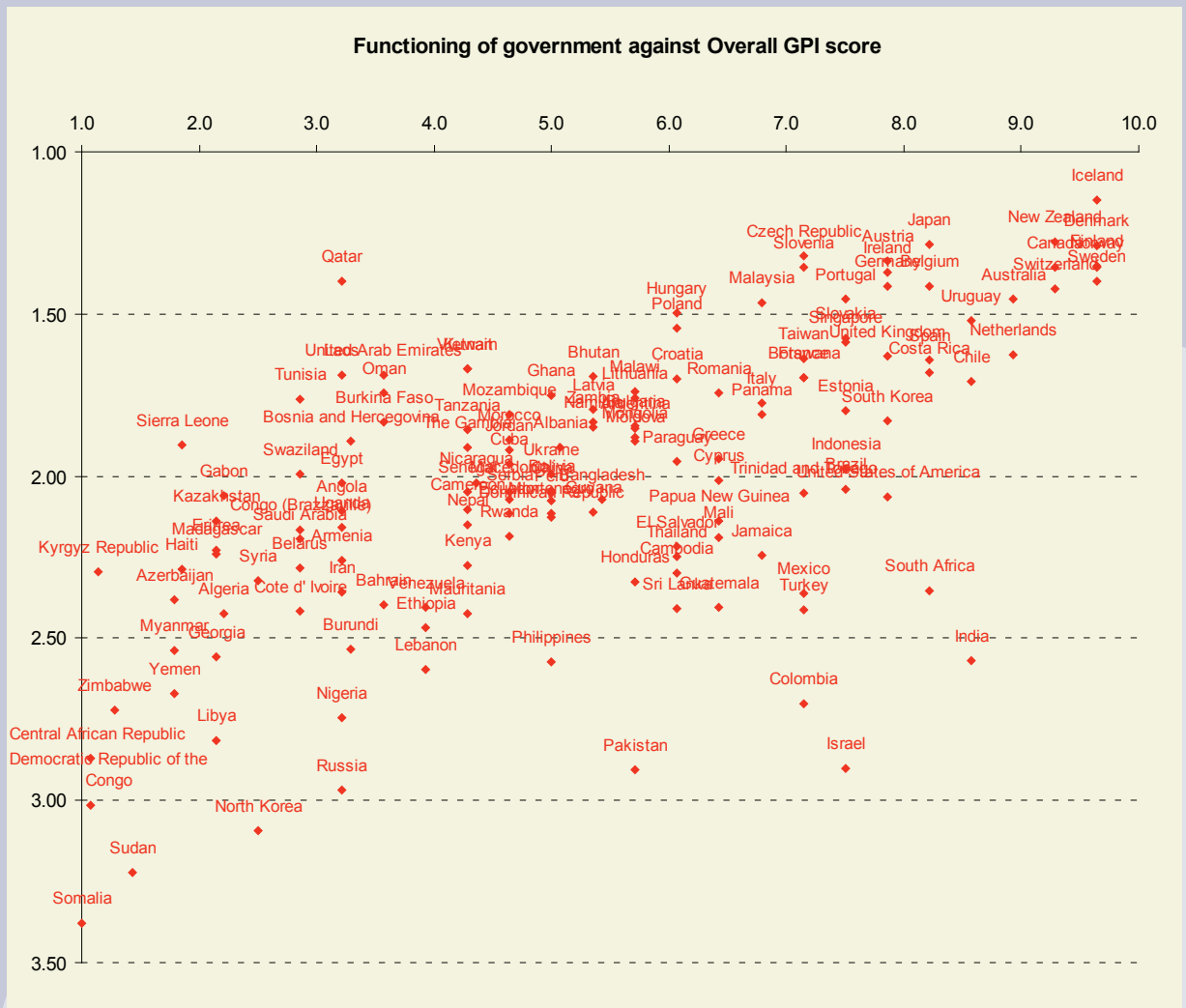
GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

Measures of governance and democracy

The Economist Intelligence Unit has recently updated its biennial Political Democracy Index to 2010. The refreshed measure of political democracy has resulted in a large increase in the correlation coefficient to the GPI of $r = -0.62$ (previously $r = -0.56$). A number of that index's sub-components calculate as having a reasonable correlation with the overall scores and rankings too.



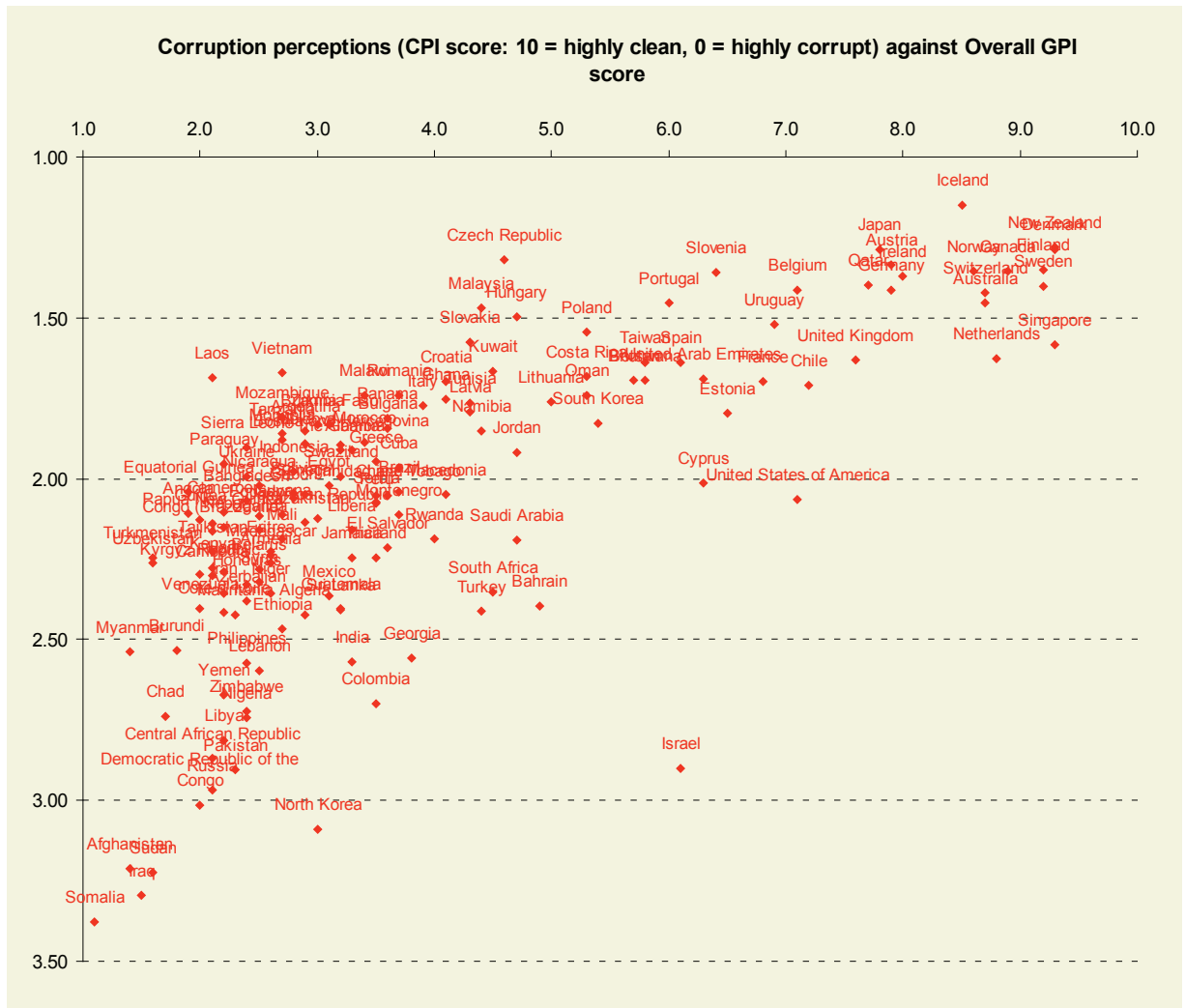
An index measuring the functioning of government (a qualitative assessment of whether freely elected representatives determine government policy and whether there is an effective system of checks and balances on the exercise of government authority) exhibits a correlation coefficient with the GPI of $r = -0.64$, the same as last year. By contrast, the index measuring electoral process again gives a correlation coefficient with the GPI below the threshold, at $r = -0.38$. The index gauging freedom of the press, compiled by Reporters Without Borders, shows a correlation coefficient of $r = 0.56$, a rise from 2010. Interestingly, the external peace measure is not significantly correlated to any indexes relating to our measures of democracy.



GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

Corruption

An index gauging perceptions of corruption in countries, compiled by Transparency International, continues to show the strongest correlation with the overall GPI score and the internal peace index scores ($r = -0.71$ and $r = -0.79$ respectively), as it has done for every year of the GPI's publication.



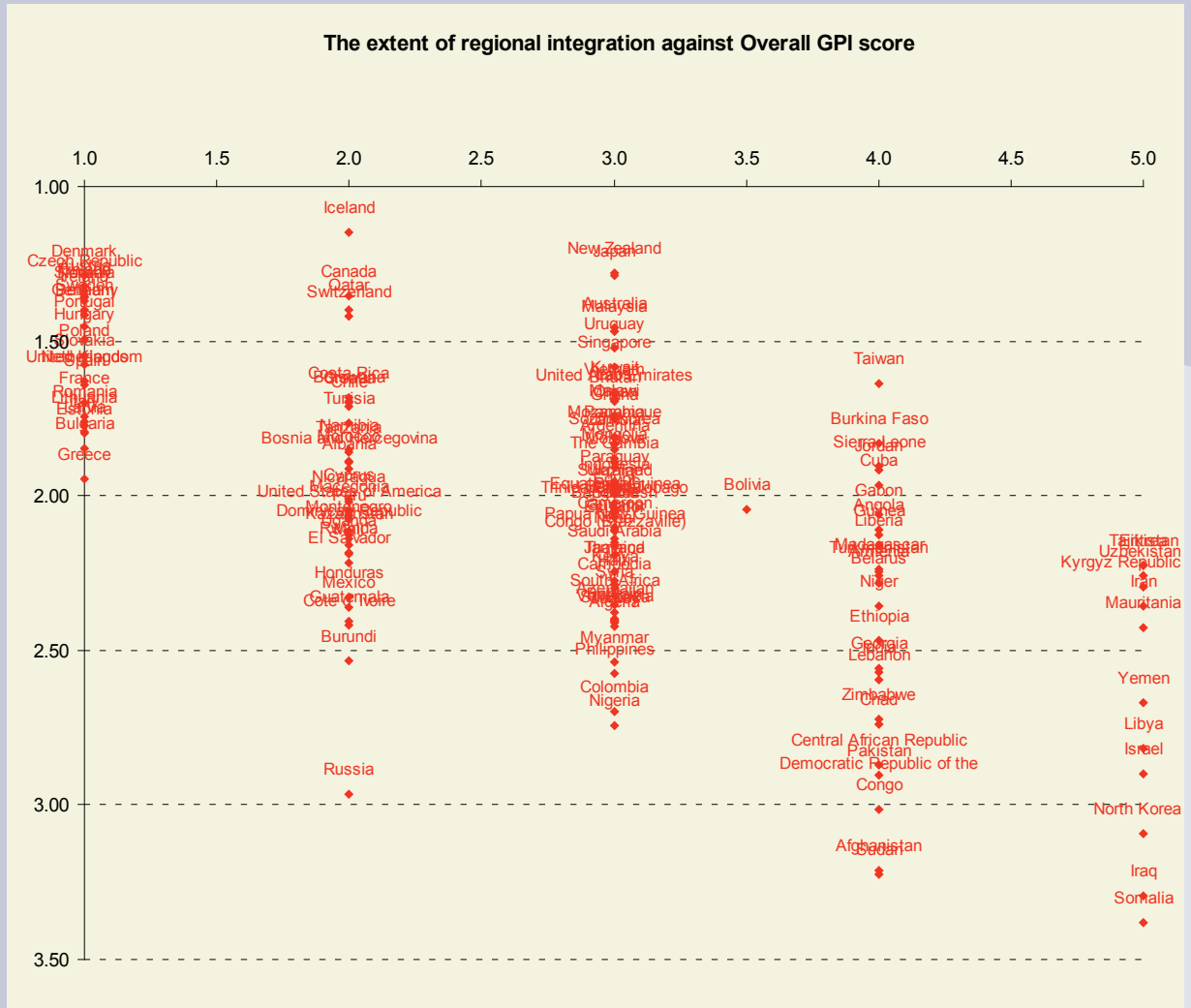
Indicators of international openness, demographics and gender

The four indicators measuring international openness: exports and imports as a percentage of GDP; foreign direct investment as a percentage of GDP; the number of visitors; and net migration as a proportion of the population still exhibit no significant correlation with the GPI. The same is true of the three demographic indicators: gender inequality; the gender ratio of the population; and 15-34 year-old males as a proportion of the population; However the latter metric exhibits a correlation coefficient of $r = 0.59$ ($r = 0.53$ last year) with the measure of internal peace, which represents a fairly significant increase from last year. Additionally, the percentage of 15-34 year-old males as a proportion of the population just breaches the $r = 0.5$ level for the overall GPI rank for the first time. The increase in correlation may be attributable to the inclusion of more up-to-date data for this metric this year.

Our measure of gender equality has a correlation coefficient this year of $r = -0.51$ ($r = -0.41$), another significant increase in comparison to previous years. Our metric for gender equality is derived from the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Index which benchmarks national gender gaps based on economic, political, education and health based criteria.

Regional integration

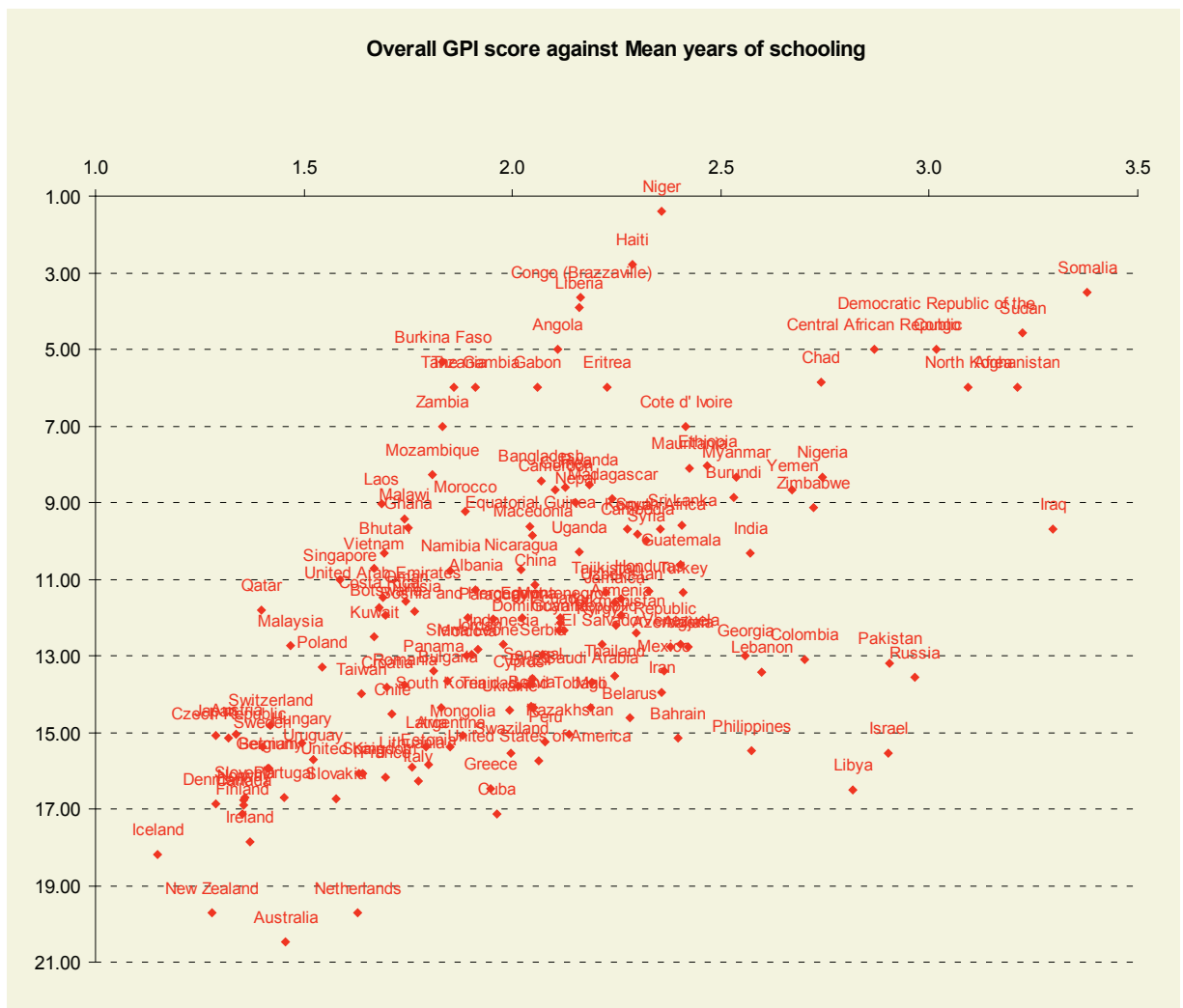
An index measuring the extent to which countries are regionally integrated calculates a correlation coefficient of $r = 0.63$, up from $r = 0.62$ in 2010. As before, there is also a correlation ($r = 0.62$) with the internal measure of peace. This is surprising, as the regional integration score is a qualitative assessment of a country's relations with its neighbours, and therefore an external metric. It is perhaps explained by the high levels of regional integration among countries in Western and Central Europe and their relatively high ranks in the GPI.



GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

Education

Our metrics relating to education: current educational spending; primary and secondary school enrolment ratios; enrolment in higher education; and adult literacy generally exhibit declines in their correlation coefficients with the overall GPI last year. The measure of mean years of schooling continued to exhibit a correlation with the overall GPI, however, with a coefficient of $r = -0.53$ ($r = -0.58$ last year). Against the measure of internal peace, the correlation coefficients declined less steeply and remained above $r = 0.5$, with the strongest correlation again shown by the measure of mean years of schooling ($r = -0.59$) but a weakened correlation with secondary school enrolment.

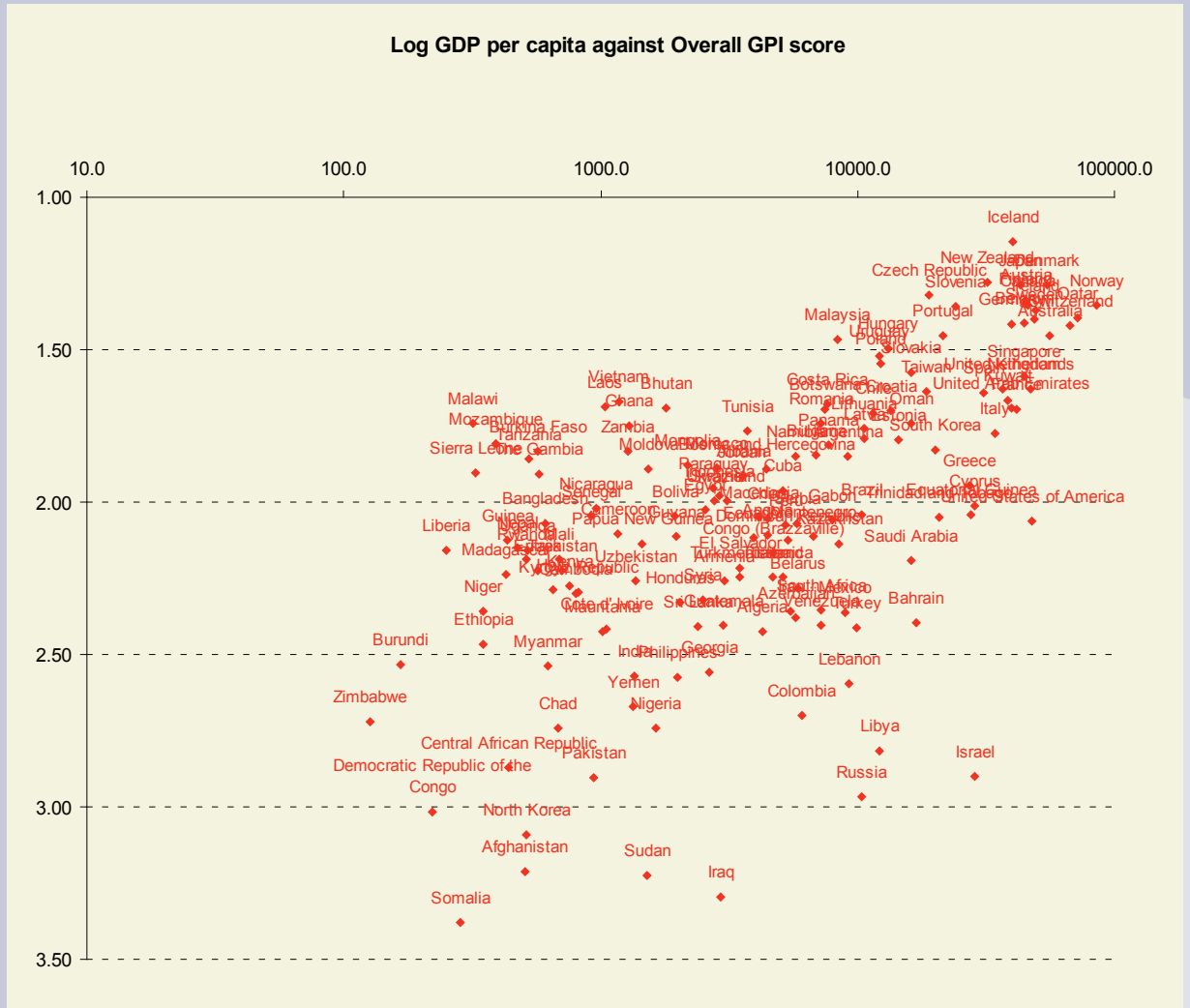


Society

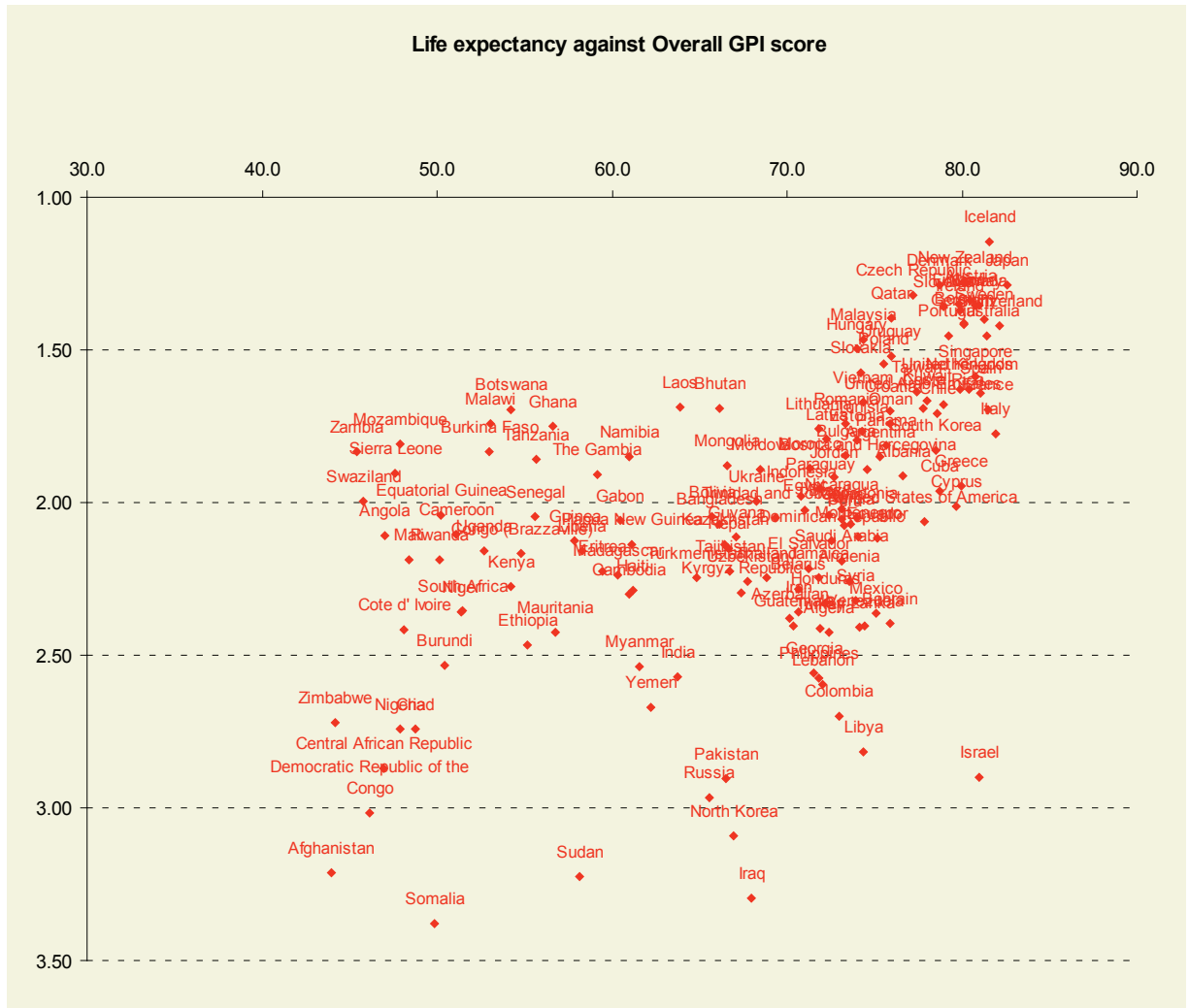
Two societal, qualitative assessments scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit's team of analysts also appear to have a reasonable correlation to the overall score. "Hostility to foreigners and private property" attempts to measure societies' and governments' attitude to foreigners and their investments in any given country. There is a correlation coefficient of $r = 0.64$ with the GPI, up from $r = 0.59$ last year. The measure of the importance of religion in national life, both for households and its influence on government policy showed a strengthening correlation with the GPI compared with last year, and the coefficient breaches our $r > 0.5$ threshold this year.

Health and wellbeing

The measure of GDP per head continued to show a correlation with the GPI (for the fifth successive year), and its correlation coefficient has increased to $r = 0.58$ from $r = 0.57$ in 2010. The relationship is more pronounced against the measure of internal peace ($r = -0.67$). There continues to be no relationship, however, to the measure of external peace.

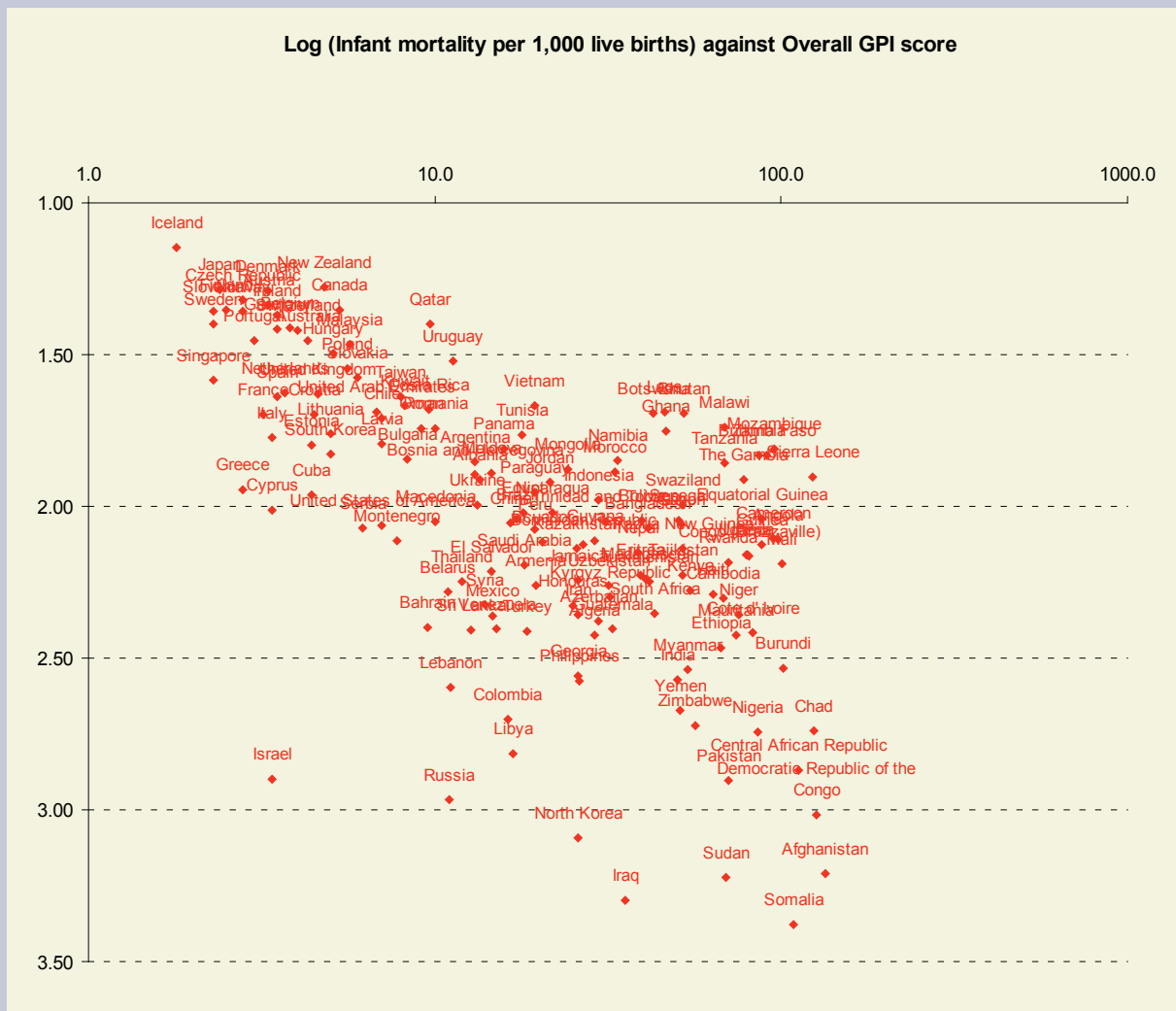


GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS



The correlation coefficient exhibited by the measure of life expectancy and the GPI is $r = 0.51$, down from $r = 0.52$ last year. It is much higher ($r = 0.60$) when calculated against the internal measure of peace.

Infant mortality (shown as a log scale) also shows a correlation with the overall GPI score ($r = 0.51$), which is stronger against the measure internal peace ($r = 0.59$), as last year. Both correlations are slightly lower than last year.



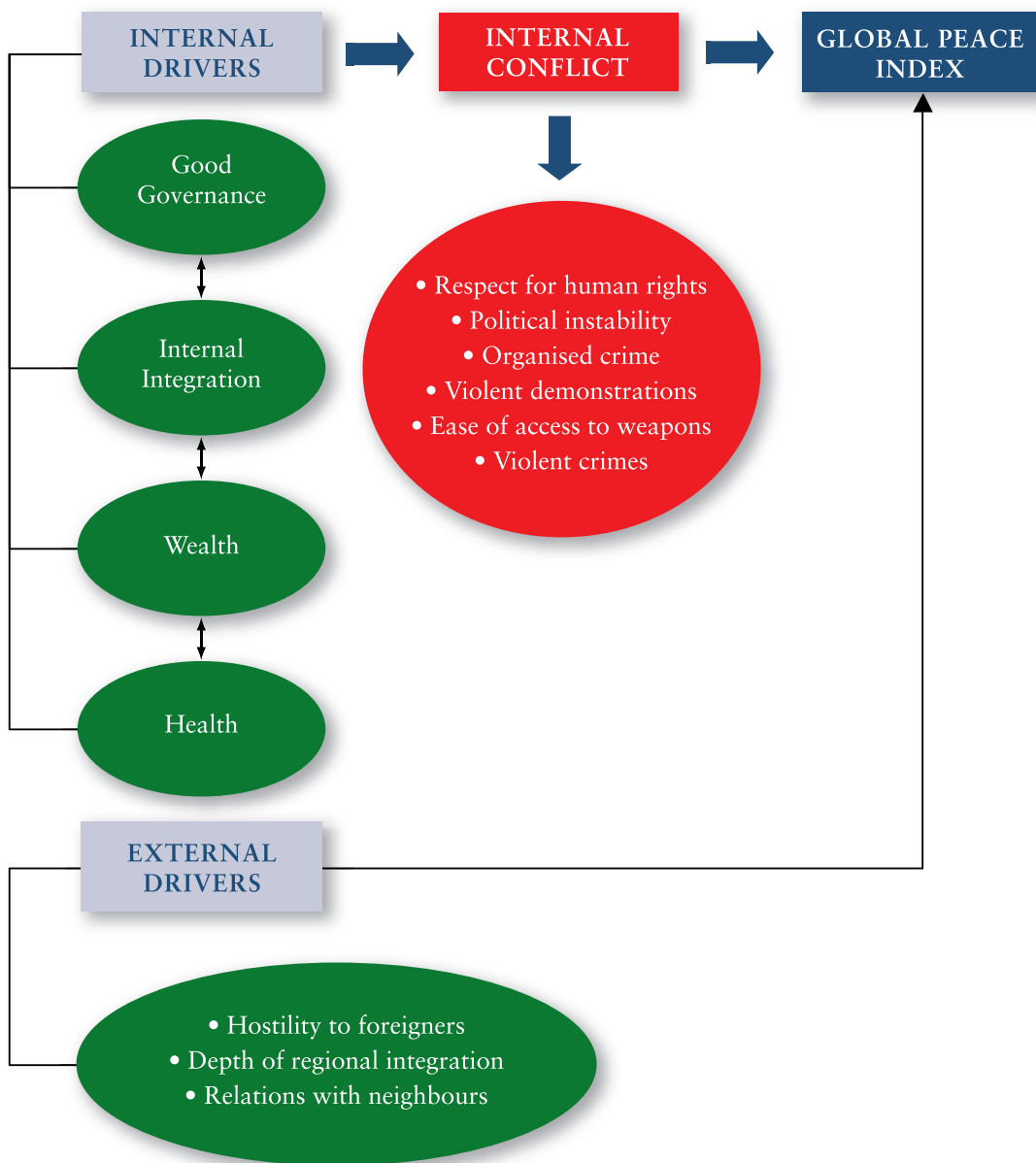
None of the other metrics on material wellbeing and health show correlation coefficients greater or less than $r = +/-0.5$. The Gini-coefficient, a measure of income distribution, comes close against the internal measure of peace ($r = 0.42$). Once again, despite the inclusion of 153 countries, it cannot be described as a significant correlation based on our threshold. There are, nevertheless, some problems with the Gini-coefficient; there is a considerable lag in the publication of statistics for many countries suffers, forcing the Economist Intelligence Unit to estimate the coefficient for a sizeable proportion of the 153 countries in the GPI. These problems of measurement look likely to persist for the foreseeable future, and the use of other measures of income inequality may be more effective.

For each of the calculations carried out there are some notable outliers, some consistent with each measure. These can be seen on the scatter plots, as those countries frequently deviating from the general trend. Commonly listed countries include on the peaceful side, Qatar and, less peacefully, Iraq, Sudan, Israel, Colombia, Lebanon, Russia, Libya and the US. As outliers they weaken the overall results, but also appear not always to be following the general trends established for other countries. There are clearly other factors relating to these countries that are not being captured by the chosen set of determinants.

It should be noted that we continue to establish little in the way of significant correlations to the measure of external peace. This is probably attributable to the previously noted observation that there have been very few interstate conflicts within this group of 153 countries during the period under review.

Based on these preliminary investigations, an ordering of influences and drivers would look like the following, similar to those established in previous years.

GPI ANALYSIS: INVESTIGATING CORRELATIONS WITH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS



Based on the last five years of research carried out on the GPI against 33 societal and economic indicators, peaceful societies can be described as those exhibiting very low levels of internal conflict with efficient, accountable governments, strong economies, cohesive/integrated populations and good relations within the international community.

ANNEX A

Where there are gaps in data, the Economist Intelligence Unit's analysts have estimated scores.

Measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict

	Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition / coding
1	Number of external and internal conflicts fought	Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP), University of Uppsala, Sweden / International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO) Armed Conflict Dataset	2004-09	This indicator measures conflicts, as defined by UCDP, which began in 2004 and were extant in 2004-09, irrespective of whether or not they ended during that period. UCDP defines conflict as: "a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year"
2	Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)	Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP), International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Armed Conflict Database, Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia (IIFFMCG), South Asia Terrorism Portal	2010	This indicator uses the UCDP's definition of conflict (see above). It excludes fatalities that took place during UN-mandated peacekeeping missions during 2009-10. Calculating each country's external-conflict-related deaths during 2009-10 involved consulting several sources. For countries involved in the conflict in Afghanistan as part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (which UCDP describe as "providing secondary warring support to the government of Afghanistan in the intra-state conflict with the Taleban that began in 2003"), we referred to statistics of fatalities provided by icasualties.org. This was also the source for the number of fatalities recorded among US and UK troops serving in the conflict in Iraq. For fatalities relating to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Ngorno Karabakh we referred to the Armed Conflict Database compiled by the International Institute of Strategic Studies www.acd.iiss.org/ . For fatalities relating to the conflict between Russia and Georgia over control of South Ossetia we referred to the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia (IIFFMCG) www.ceiig.ch/pdf/IIFFMCG_Volume_I.pdf For fatalities relating to the conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir we referred to statistics published by the South Asia Terrorism Portal: www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/
3	Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)	International Institute for Strategic Studies, Armed Conflict Database (IISS, ACD)	2010	Statistics are compiled from the most recent edition of the IISS ACD, which has the following definition of armed conflict-related fatalities: Fatality statistics relate to military and civilian lives lost as a direct result of an armed conflict. The figures relate to the country which is the main area of conflict. For some conflicts no reliable statistics are available. Estimates of war fatalities vary according to source, sometimes by a wide margin. In compiling data on fatalities, the IISS has used its best estimates and takes full responsibility for these figures. Some overall fatality figures have been revised in light of new information. Changes in fatality figures may therefore occur as a result of such revisions as well as because of increased fatalities. Fatality figures for terrorism may include deaths inflicted by the government forces in counter-terrorism operations.
4	Level of organised conflict (internal)	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the intensity of conflicts within the country. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts
5	Relations with neighbouring countries	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of relations with neighbouring countries. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts

ANNEX A

Measures of safety and security in countries

	Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition / coding
6	Level of perceived criminality in society	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of perceived criminality. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts. See additional notes on scoring criteria.
7	Number of refugees and displaced people as a percentage of the population	UNHCR Statistical Yearbook 2009 and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre	2009-10	Refugee population by country or territory of origin, plus the number of a country's internally displaced people (IDPs) as a percentage of the country's total population.
8	Political instability	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	<p>This indicator addresses the degree to which political institutions are sufficiently stable to support the needs of its citizens, businesses and overseas investors. It is a composite indicator based on the scores, 1 to 5 for each of the following issues:</p> <p>What is the risk of significant social unrest during the next two years? How clear, established, and accepted are constitutional mechanisms for the orderly transfer of power from one government to another?</p> <p>How likely is it that an opposition party or group will come to power and cause a significant deterioration in business operating conditions? Is excessive power concentrated or likely to be concentrated, in the executive so that executive authority lacks accountability and possesses excessive discretion?</p> <p>Is there a risk that international disputes/tensions will negatively affect the economy and/or polity?</p>
9	Level of disrespect for human rights (Political Terror Scale)	Gibney, M., Cornett, L., & Wood, R., Political Terror Scale 1976-2009. Data retrieved, from the Political Terror Scale Web site: http://www.politicalterror scale.org	2009	Countries are coded on a scale of 1-5 according to their level of respect for human rights the previous year, according to the description provided in the Amnesty International and US Department County Reports. The average of the two scores is taken for our assessment.
10	Potential for Terrorist Acts	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the potential for terrorist acts. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts.
11	Number of homicides per 100,000 people	11th UNODC Survey	2004-08	<p>Intentional homicide refers to death deliberately inflicted on a person by another person, including infanticide</p> <p>For additional information on this indicator see note on page 42.</p>
12	Level of violent crime	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the level of violent crime. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts.
13	Likelihood of violent demonstrations	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the level of violent demonstrations. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts.
14	Number of jailed population per 100,000 people	International Centre for Prison Studies, King's College London: World Prison Brief	2010	For additional information on this indicator see note on page 43.
15	Number of internal security officers and police per 100,000 people	11th UNODC Survey	2004-08	Refers to the civil police force as distinct from national guards or local militia.

Measures of militarisation

	Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition / coding
16	Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP	The International Institute for Strategic Studies, The Military Balance 2011; National Public Expenditure Accounts; SIPRI; EIU analysts	2009-10 (dependent on availability)	Cash outlays of central or federal government to meet the costs of national armed forces—including strategic, land, naval, air, command, administration and support forces as well as paramilitary forces, customs forces and border guards if these are trained and equipped as a military force. We use our own published data on nominal GDP to arrive at the value of military expenditure as a percentage of GDP.
17	Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people	The International Institute for Strategic Studies, The Military Balance 2011	2009-10 (dependent on availability)	Active armed services personnel comprise all servicemen and women on full-time duty in the army, navy, air force and joint forces (including conscripts and long-term assignments from the Reserves).
18	Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons (imports) per 100,000 people	SIPRI Arms Transfers Project database	2005-09	The SIPRI Arms Transfers Database covers all international sales and gifts of major conventional weapons and the technology necessary for the production of them. The transfer equipment or technology is from one country, rebel force or international organisation to another country, rebel force or international organisation. Major conventional weapons include: aircraft, armoured vehicles, artillery, radar systems, missiles, ships, engines.
19	Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons (exports) per 100,000 people	SIPRI Arms Transfers Project database	2005-09	The SIPRI Arms Transfers Database As above.
20	Financial contribution to UN peacekeeping missions	Institute for Economics and Peace	2008-10	Calculation of percentage of countries' outstanding contributions versus their annual assessment to the budget of the current peacekeeping missions over an average of three years. This ratio is derived from the United Nations Committee on Contributions Status reports. For additional information on this indicator see note on page 56.
21	Aggregate weighted number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people	Institute for Economics and Peace	2009	The Institute for Economics and Peace, in conjunction with SIPRI, developed a categorized system for rating the destructive capability of heavy weapons. The five weapons categories are weighted as follows: each armoured vehicle and artillery piece - 1 point; each tank - 5 points; each combat aircraft and combat helicopter - 20 points; each warship - 100 points; and each aircraft carrier and nuclear submarine - 1000 points. Holdings are those of government forces and do not include holdings of armed opposition groups. Heavy weapons numbers were determined using a combination of: The International Institute for Strategic Studies, The Military Balance 2009 and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, 2009
22	Ease of access to small arms and light weapons	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the ease of access to small arms and light weapons. Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts
23	Military capability / sophistication	Economist Intelligence Unit	2010-11	Qualitative assessment of the grade of sophistication and the extent of military research and development (R&D) Ranked 1-5 (very low-very high) by EIU analysts

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE INDICATORS USED IN THE GLOBAL PEACE INDEX

3. Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)

UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset records the number of battle deaths per conflict, defined as: “a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year”. EIU analysts, then, have scored the figures available for 2008 and 2009 according to the following bands.

1	2	3	4	5
0 - 24	25 - 999	1,000 - 4,999	5,000 - 9,999	> 10,000

6. Level of perceived criminality in society

A qualitative assessment ranked from 1-5 (very low to very high) by the Economist Intelligence Unit’s Country Analysis team.

Very low (1): The majority of other citizens can be trusted. Very low levels of domestic security.

Low (2): an overall positive climate of trust with other citizens.

Moderate (3): reasonable degree of trust in other citizens.

High (4): High levels of distrust in other citizens. High levels of domestic security.

Very high (5): Very high levels of distrust in other citizens - people are extremely cautious in their dealings with others. Large number of gated communities, high prevalence of security guards.

9. Level of Disrespect for Human Rights (Political Terror Scale)

A yearly report measuring physical integrity rights violations world-wide. The PTS measures levels of political violence and terror that a country experiences in a particular year based on a 5-level “terror scale.” The data used in compiling this index comes from two different sources: the yearly country reports of Amnesty International and the U.S. State Department Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.

- Level 1: Countries under a secure rule of law. People are not imprisoned for their views and torture is rare or exceptional.
- Level 2: There is a limited amount of imprisonment for non-violent political activity. However, few persons are affected and torture and beatings are exceptional. Politically-motivated murder is rare.
- Level 3: There is extensive political imprisonment, or a recent history of such imprisonment. Execution or other political murders and brutality may be common. Unlimited detention, with or without a trial, for political views is accepted.
- Level 4: Civil and political rights violations have expanded to large numbers of the population. Murders, disappearances, and torture are a common part of life. In spite of its generality, on this level political terror affects those who interest themselves in politics or ideas.
- Level 5: Terror has expanded to the whole population. The leaders of these societies place no limits on the means or thoroughness with which they pursue personal or ideological goals.

11. Number of homicides per 100,000 people

This indicator has been compiled using the 11th United Nations Survey of Criminal Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UNCTS) rather than Interpol data. The figures refer to the total number of penal code offences or their equivalent, but excluding minor road traffic and other petty offences, brought to the attention of the police or other law enforcement agencies and recorded by one of those agencies. The original Interpol figures reviewed for the first iteration of the Global Peace Index were for 1998/99 and the consensus among experts on the analysis of criminal justice is that the UNODC figures are more reliable—they are compiled from a standard questionnaire sent to national officials via the UN statistical office. However, the UN acknowledges that international comparisons of crime statistics are beset by methodological difficulties:

- Different definitions for specific crime types: The category in which any incident of victimization is recorded relies on the legal definition of crime in any country. Should that definition be different, which is often the case, comparisons will not be made of exactly the same crime type. This is particularly the case in crimes that require some discretion from a police officer or relevant authority when they are identified. For example, the definitional difference between serious or common assault in different legal jurisdictions may be different, and this will be reflected in the total number of incidents recorded.

- Different levels of reporting and traditions of policing: This relates closely to levels of development in a society, most clearly reflected in accessibility to the police. Factors such as the number of police stations or telephones impact upon reporting levels. The level of insurance coverage in a community is also a key indicator of the likelihood of citizens approaching the police as their claim for compensation may require such notification. In addition, in societies where the police are or have been mistrusted by the population, most specifically during periods of authoritarian rule, reporting levels are likely to be lower than in cases where the police are regarded as important members of the community.
- Different social, economic and political contexts: Comparing crime data from societies that are fundamentally different may ignore key issues present in the society that impact upon levels of reporting. For example, different social norms in some countries may make it difficult for women to report cases of rape or sexual abuse, while in others, women are encouraged to come forward.

The International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS) is perhaps a more sensitive and accurate measure of crime—and arguably offers a picture of how the public views the criminal justice system—but is currently limited to a few, mainly industrialised, countries so these data are not included.

Where data are not present, The Economist Intelligence Unit’s analysts have estimated figures based on their deep knowledge of each country. All the figures for homicides per 100,000 people have been banded as:

1	2	3	4	5
0 - 1.9	2 - 5.9	6 - 9.9	10 - 19.9	> 20

14. Number of jailed population per 100,000 people

Figures are from the International Centre for Prison Studies, King’s College, University of London and are compiled from a variety of sources. In almost all cases the original source is the national prison administration of the country concerned, or else the Ministry responsible for the prison administration. The International Centre for Prison Studies warns that because prison population rates (per 100,000 of the national population) are based on estimates of the national population they should not be regarded as precise. Comparability is compromised by different practice in different countries, for example with regard to whether all pre-trial detainees and juveniles are held under the authority of the prison administration, and also whether the prison administration is responsible for psychiatrically ill offenders and offenders being detained for treatment for alcoholism and drug addiction. People held in custody are usually omitted from national totals if they are not under the authority of the prison administration.

The data have been banded for scoring accordingly:

1	2	3	4	5
0-69	70-139	140-209	210-279	> 280

15. Number of internal security officers and police per 100,000 people

The figures have been taken from the 11th United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS) and refer to the civil police force as distinct from national guards or local militia. Where there are gaps, then, EIU analysts have filled them based on likely scores from our set bands of the actual data.

1	2	3	4	5
0-199	200-399	400-599	600-799	> 800

20. Financial contribution to UN peacekeeping missions

The indicator calculates the percentage of countries’ “outstanding payments versus their annual assessment to the budget of the current peacekeeping missions”.

All United Nations Member States share the costs of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The General Assembly apportions these expenses based on a special scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping. This scale takes into account the relative economic wealth of Member States, with the permanent members of the Security Council required to pay a larger share because of their special responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE INDICATORS USED IN THE GLOBAL PEACE INDEX

22. Ease of access to small arms and light weapons

A qualitative assessment of the accessibility of small arms and light weapons (SALW), ranked 1-5 (very low–very high) by EIU analysts. Very limited access is scored if the country has developed policy instruments and best practices, such as firearm licences, strengthening of export controls, codes of conduct, firearms or ammunition marking. Very easy access, on the contrary, is characterized by the lack of regulation of civilian possession, ownership, storage, carriage and use of firearms.

Scoring criteria for the Global Peace Index

The team has continued to employ a banding system for several indicators based on the range of the data sets used for the index in 2009. The scoring criteria for each of the affected series are given below:

Number of jailed population per 100,000 people

1	2	3	4	5
0-199.5	199.6 - 379.0	379.1 - 558.5	558.6 - 738.0	>738.0

Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons, as recipient (Imports) per 100,000 people

1	2	3	4	5
0-15.2	15.3-30.4	30.5-38.0	38.1-60.8	>60.8

Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP

1	2	3	4	5
0-3.3	3.4-6.6	6.7-9.8	9.9-13.1	>13.1

Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people

1	2	3	4	5
0-1,311.9	1,312-2,613.8	2,613.9-3,915.7	3,915.8-5,217.6	>5,217.6

Funding for UN Peacekeeping Missions

1	2	3	4	5
0-3.4	3.5-6.9	7.0-10.3	10.4-13.8	>13.8

Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people

1	2	3	4	5
0-62.9	63.0-125.7	125.8-188.5	188.5-251.3	>251.3

Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons as supplier (exports) per 100,000 people

1	2	3	4	5
0-5.9	5.9-11.9	12.0-17.8	17.9-23.8	>23.8

Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population

1	2	3	4	5
0.0-3.0	3.1-6.1	6.2-9.1	9.2-12.2	>12.2

Number of external and internal conflicts fought

1	2	3	4	5
0-1.1	1.2-2.1	2.2-3.0	3.1-4.0	>4.0

ANNEX B OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

Democracy and transparency

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Electoral process	EIU Democracy Index	2010	Qualitative assessment of whether elections are competitive in that electors are free to vote and are offered a range of choices. Ranked 1- 10 (very low to very high).
Functioning of government	EIU Democracy Index	2010	Qualitative assessment of whether freely elected representatives determine government policy? Is there an effective system of checks and balances on the exercise of government authority? Ranked 1- 10 (very low to very high).
Political participation	EIU Democracy Index	2010	Qualitative assessment of voter participation/turn-out for national elections, citizens' engagement with politics. Ranked 1- 10 (very low to very high).
Political culture	EIU Democracy Index	2010	Qualitative assessment of the degree of societal consensus and cohesion to underpin a stable, functioning democracy; score the level of separation of church and state. Ranked 1- 10 (very low to very high).
Civil liberties	EIU Democracy Index	2010	Qualitative assessment of the prevalence of civil liberties. Is there a free electronic media? Is there a free print media? Is there freedom of expression and protest? Are citizens free to form professional organisations and trade unions? Ranked 1- 10 (very low to very high).
Corruption perceptions	Transparency International, Corruption Perception Index	2010	The Index draws on multiple expert opinion surveys that poll perceptions of public sector corruption scoring countries on a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating high levels of perceived corruption and 10 indicating low levels of perceived corruption.
Women in parliament (as a percentage of the total number of representatives in the lower house)	Inter-parliamentary Union	2010	Figures are based on information provided by national parliaments by 31st December 2010.
Gender inequality	Gender Gap Index, World Economic Forum	2010	A composite index that assesses countries on how well they are dividing their resources and opportunities among their male and female populations, regardless of the overall levels of these resources and opportunities.
Freedom of the press	Reporters Without Borders	1/9/2009 - 1/9/2010	The index measures the state of press freedom in the world, reflecting the degree of freedom journalists and news organisations enjoy in each country, and the efforts made by the state to respect and ensure respect for this freedom.

International openness

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Exports + Imports as a % of GDP	EIU	2010	Measure of merchandise goods exports free on board and merchandise goods imports free on board.
Foreign Direct Investment (flow) as a % of GDP	EIU	2010	Net flows of direct investment capital by non-residents into the country, as a percentage of GDP.
Number of visitors as a % of domestic population	UNWTO Compendium of Tourism Statistics, Data	2008, 2007 dependent on availability	Arrivals data correspond to international visitors to the economic territory of the country and include both tourists and same-day non-resident visitors.
Net migration as a % of total population	World Bank, World Development Indicators. Data refer to 2001-2006	2001-06	Net migration is the net average annual number of migrants during the period 2001-06 that is the number of immigrants less the number of emigrants, including both citizen and non citizens.

ANNEX B OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL INDICATORS

Demographics

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
15-34 year-old males as a % of adult population	UN World Population Prospects	2009	Male population 15-34 year olds as a proportion of the adult population.
Gender ratio of population: women/men	UN World Population Prospects	2009	Male population divided by the female population

Regional & international framework/conditions

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Extent of regional integration	EIU	2010	Qualitative assessment of the level of membership of trade alliances, as NAFTA, ANSEAN, etc. Ranked 1-5 (Very low-very high) by EIU analysts

Education

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Current education spending (as a % of GDP)	UNESCO, data refer to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics estimate, when no value is available	2008-09 (depending on availability)	Public spending on education, total (% of GDP)
Primary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	World Bank, World Development Indicators	2008-09 (depending on availability)	Net enrolment ratio is the ratio of the number of children of official school age (as defined by the national education system) who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age
Secondary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	World Bank, World Development Indicators	2008-09 (depending on availability)	Net enrolment ratio is the ratio of the number of children of official school age (as defined by the national education system) who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age
Higher education enrolment (% Gross)	World Bank, World Development Indicators	2008-09 (depending on availability)	Gross enrolment ratio is the ratio of total enrolment, regardless of age, to the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the level of education shown
Mean years of schooling	UNESCO, data refer to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics estimate, when no estimate is available	2010 and earlier years (depending on availability)	School life expectancy (years), Primary to tertiary
Adult literacy rate (% of population over the age of 15)	UNESCO, data refer to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics	2008-09	Data refer to national literacy estimates from censuses or surveys.



Culture

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Hostility to foreigners/ private property	EIU	2010	Scored 1-5 by EIU analysts
Importance of religion in national life	EIU	2010	Qualitative assessment of the level of importance of religion in politics and social life. Ranked 1-5 (very low to very high) by EIU analysts
Willingness to fight	EIU	2010	Qualitative assessment of the willingness of citizens to fight in wars. Ranked 1- 5 (very low to very high) by EIU analysts

Material well being

Indicator	Central Source	Year	Definition
Nominal GDP (US\$PPP bn)	EIU	2010	Nominal gross domestic product at 2005 US\$ purchasing power parities
Nominal GDP (US\$ bn)	EIU	2010	Nominal gross domestic product US\$ market prices
GDP per capita	EIU	2010	Nominal gross domestic product (US\$) per capita
Gini coefficient	UN Human Development Index 2010; World Bank, World Development Indicators; EIU estimates	Latest available year	The Gini index measures the extent to which the distribution of income among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution
Unemployment %	EIU	2010	ILO defines the unemployed as members of the economically active population who are without work but available for and seeking work, including people who have lost their jobs and those who have voluntary left work
Life expectancy	World Bank, World Development Indicators	2009	Life expectancy at birth is the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	World Bank, World Development Indicators	2007	Infant mortality rate is the number of infants dying before reaching one year of age, per 1,000 live births in a given year

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