TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption



CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

Transparency International is a global movement with one vision: a world in which government, business, civil society and the daily lives of people are free of corruption. With more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, we are leading the fight against corruption to turn this vision into reality.

www.transparency.org

Cover: Caro Curbelo
Design: Sophie Everett and Transparency International

Every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this report. All information is correct up until February 2026. Nevertheless, Transparency International cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of its use for other purposes or in other contexts.

ISBN: 978-3-96076-286-7

2026 Transparency International. Except where otherwise noted, this work is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0 DE. Quotation permitted. Please contact Transparency International – copyright@transparency.org – regarding derivatives requests.

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4-5
Map and Results

6-8
Executive Summary

9-10
Recommendations

11-12
Global Trends

13-15
Changing Corruption Levels

16-22
Key Drivers and Consequences of Corruption

Justice and rule of law

Democracy, political integrity and state capture

Civic space and media freedom

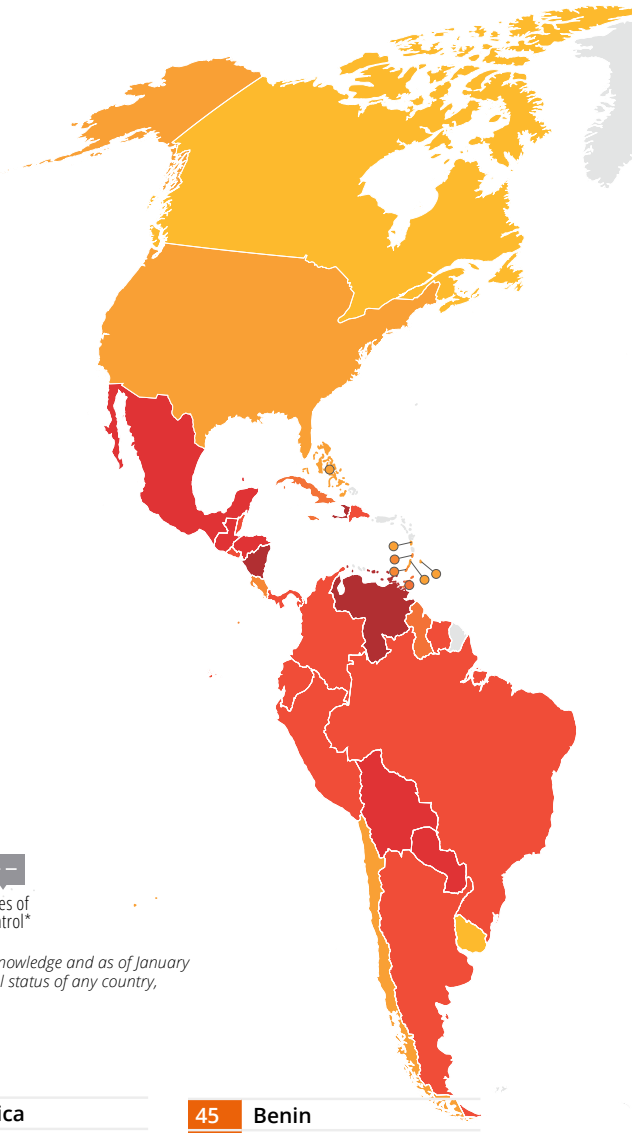
Public services and inequality

23-26
Endnotes

182 COUNTRIES 182 SCORES

HOW DOES YOUR COUNTRY MEASURE UP?

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 182 countries and territories around the world.



SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

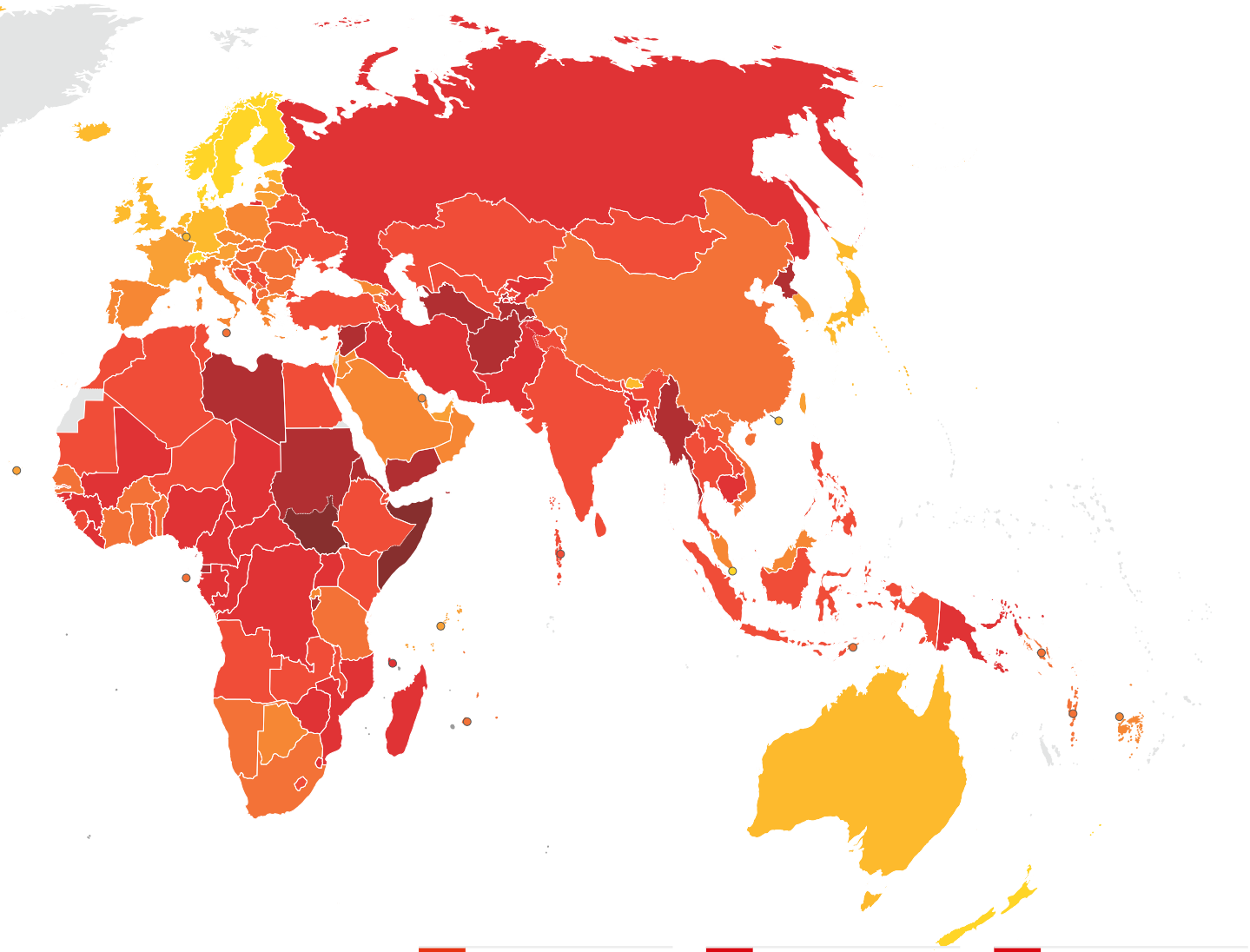
0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

**The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge and as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.*

SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

89	Denmark
88	Finland
84	Singapore
81	New Zealand
81	Norway
80	Sweden
80	Switzerland
78	Luxembourg
78	Netherlands
77	Germany
77	Iceland
76	Australia
76	Estonia
76	Hong Kong
76	Ireland
75	Canada
73	Uruguay
71	Bhutan
71	Japan
70	United Kingdom
69	Austria
69	Belgium
69	United Arab Emirates
68	Barbados
68	Seychelles
68	Taiwan
66	France
65	Lithuania
64	Bahamas
64	United States of America
63	Brunei Darussalam
63	Chile
63	Korea, South
63	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
62	Cape Verde
62	Israel
60	Dominica
60	Latvia
59	Czechia
59	Saint Lucia
58	Botswana
58	Qatar
58	Rwanda
58	Slovenia
57	Saudi Arabia
56	Costa Rica
56	Grenada
56	Portugal
55	Cyprus
55	Fiji
55	Spain
53	Italy
53	Poland
52	Malaysia
52	Oman
50	Bahrain
50	Georgia
50	Greece
50	Jordan
49	Malta
48	Mauritius
48	Slovakia
47	Croatia
47	Vanuatu
46	Armenia
46	Kuwait
46	Montenegro
46	Namibia
46	Senegal
45	Benin
45	Romania
45	Sao Tome and Principe
44	Jamaica
44	Solomon Islands
44	Timor-Leste
43	China
43	Cote d'Ivoire
43	Ghana
43	Kosovo
42	Moldova
41	South Africa
41	Trinidad and Tobago
41	Vietnam
40	Bulgaria
40	Burkina Faso
40	Cuba
40	Guyana
40	Hungary
40	North Macedonia
40	Tanzania
39	Albania
39	India



39	Maldives
39	Morocco
39	Tunisia
38	Ethiopia
38	Kazakhstan
38	Suriname
37	Colombia
37	Dominican Republic
37	Gambia
37	Lesotho
37	Zambia
36	Argentina
36	Belize
36	Ukraine
35	Brazil
35	Sri Lanka
34	Algeria
34	Bosnia and Herzegovina
34	Indonesia
34	Laos
34	Malawi
34	Nepal
34	Sierra Leone

33	Ecuador
33	Panama
33	Serbia
33	Thailand
32	Angola
32	El Salvador
32	Philippines
32	Togo
31	Belarus
31	Djibouti
31	Mongolia
31	Niger
31	Türkiye
31	Uzbekistan
30	Azerbaijan
30	Egypt
30	Kenya
30	Mauritania
30	Peru
29	Gabon
28	Bolivia
28	Iraq
28	Liberia
28	Mali

28	Pakistan
27	Mexico
26	Cameroon
26	Guatemala
26	Guinea
26	Kyrgyzstan
26	Nigeria
26	Papua New Guinea
25	Madagascar
25	Uganda
24	Bangladesh
24	Central African Republic
24	Paraguay
23	Congo
23	Eswatini
23	Iran
23	Lebanon
22	Chad
22	Honduras
22	Russia
22	Zimbabwe
21	Guinea Bissau
21	Mozambique

20	Cambodia
20	Comoros
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
19	Tajikistan
17	Burundi
17	Turkmenistan
16	Afghanistan
16	Haiti
16	Myanmar
15	Equatorial Guinea
15	Korea, North
15	Syria
14	Nicaragua
14	Sudan
13	Eritrea
13	Libya
13	Yemen
10	Venezuela
9	Somalia
9	South Sudan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The global order is under strain from rivalry between major powers, and dangerous disregard for international norms. Armed conflicts and the climate crisis are having a deadly impact. Societies are also becoming more polarised. To meet these challenges, the world needs principled leaders and strong, independent institutions that act with integrity to protect the public interest. Yet, too often, we are seeing a failure of good governance and accountable leadership.

In many places, leaders point to security, economic or geopolitical issues as reasons to centralise power, sideline checks and balances and roll back commitments to internationally agreed standards – including anti-corruption measures. Too often, they treat transparency, independent scrutiny and accountability to the public as optional.

The 2025 *Corruption Perceptions Index* (CPI) measures perceived levels of public-sector corruption in 182 countries and territories, drawing on 13 independent data sources and using a scale from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). This year, the global CPI average has dropped for the first time in more than a decade to just 42 out of 100. The vast majority of countries are failing to keep corruption under control: 122 out of 182 score under 50 in the index. At the same time, the number of countries scoring above 80 has shrunk from 12 a decade ago to just five this year. In particular, there is a worrying trend of democracies seeing worsening perceived corruption – from the United States (64), Canada (75) and New Zealand (81), to various parts of Europe, like the United Kingdom (70), France (66) and Sweden (80).

Our research shows that corruption is not inevitable. Countries with long-term improvements in CPI scores have largely seen sustained effort from political leaders and regulators to implement broad legal and institutional reforms. Persistently low or declining CPI scores usually go hand in hand with limited or eroding democratic checks and balances, the politicisation of justice systems, undue influence over political processes, and a failure to safeguard civic space. It is not a surprise that countries with full democracies tend to score highly on the CPI, while non-democratic regimes largely perform the worst. In most of the world's full autocracies, such as Venezuela (10) and Azerbaijan (30), corruption is systemic and manifests at every level.

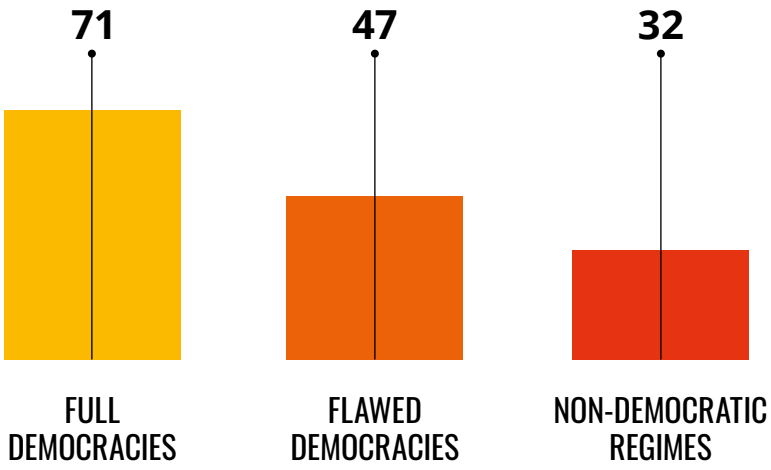
GLOBAL AVERAGE

42/100

In almost two thirds of countries whose CPI scores have significantly declined since 2012, there has been a worrying pattern of restriction on freedoms of expression, association and assembly. In the last decade, politicised interference with the operations of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in countries such as Georgia (50),[1] Indonesia (34),[2] Peru (30)[3] and Tunisia (39)[4] has seen governments take actions such as introducing new laws to limit access to funding, or even disband organisations that scrutinise and criticise them. Such laws are often paired with smear campaigns and intimidation. In these contexts, it is harder for independent journalists, civil society organisations and whistleblowers to speak out against corruption freely. It is also more likely that corrupt officials can continue misusing their power.

AVERAGE CPI 2025 SCORE FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF GOVERNMENT*

Strong democracies control corruption far more effectively than flawed ones and authoritarian regimes.



**Economist Intelligence Unit's Democracy Index and Transparency International's 2025 Corruption Perceptions Index.*

The result is often poor-quality services and fiscal crises, as public funds are mismanaged, contributing to enduring poverty, rising inequality and worsening living standards for millions of people.

In 2025, we saw a surge of Gen-Z-led protests, as young people in countries that score poorly on the CPI – such as Serbia (33) and Peru (30) – took to the streets to demand action and accountability from their governments. In Nepal (34) and Madagascar (25), these popular protest movements brought down the governments of the day. Uniting these diverse groups of protestors was a sense that those in charge were abusing their power for their own interests, while failing to deliver decent public services, a stable economy and opportunity for everyone else.

Some powerful nations have an indirect impact on corruption levels that extends well beyond their borders. The Russian (22) state has been accused of interfering in other countries' elections by spreading disinformation and buying votes with the intention to influence voters and drive instability, democratic backsliding and narrowing of civic space. The US government decision to temporarily freeze and then degrade enforcement of its Foreign Corrupt Practices Act – a key anti-corruption law that prohibits corporate bribery of foreign officials – sends a dangerous signal that bribery and other corrupt practices are acceptable.[5] At the same time, US aid cuts to funding for overseas civil society groups that scrutinise their governments has undermined anti-corruption efforts around the world. Political leaders in various countries have also taken this as a cue to further target and restrict independent voices, such as NGOs and journalists.[6]

From our research and on-the-ground experience as a global movement fighting corruption, we see there is a clear blueprint for how to hold power to account for the common good. Transparency International is calling on governments and leaders across the world to take action to strengthen justice systems, ensure independent oversight of decision making and public spending, guarantee transparency about how political parties and election campaigns are funded, and protect civic space, democracy and media freedom. At the same time, they should collaborate to tackle shared challenges – for example, closing the cross-border channels that enable transnational corruption, such as laundering and hiding stolen funds.

As we saw this year, governments who fail to address their citizens' concerns may find themselves toppled by popular protest movements. What's more, businesses may look elsewhere to invest, costing countries economic opportunities and jobs. By choosing to act for the public interest, not private gain, governments and leaders can live up to their responsibilities to shape and nurture safe, fair and healthy societies where everyone can thrive.

CROSS-BORDER CORRUPTION

This index focuses on perceptions of domestic public-sector corruption, including low-level administrative corruption. However, it is also important to highlight the role of the private sector in large-scale bribery and money laundering schemes, and the cross-border nature of such corruption. A key example is international flows of dirty money that leave large holes in countries' public spending budgets. Corrupt officials are often assisted by professional service providers to launder or safeguard illicit wealth in financial centres in countries that top the CPI, and these countries must do more to stop and ensure accountability for transnational corruption. They must also help remedy harm caused by corruption, including by enabling the return of assets to the societies they were stolen from.

> **At a time of climate crisis, instability and polarisation, the world needs accountable leaders and independent institutions to protect the public interest more than ever – yet, too often, they are falling short. We're calling on governments and leaders to act with integrity and live up to their responsibilities to provide a better future for their citizens.**
>
> **Maíra Martini**
> CEO, Transparency International



Photo: Transparency International

RECOMMENDATIONS



ENSURE INDEPENDENT, TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS

In order to function properly, deter potential offenders and protect people who speak out against corruption, countries' justice systems must be shielded from interference by political or economic interests. This includes protecting appointments and promotions from external pressure. These systems also need to be properly resourced, prosecutorial decisions must be reasoned and reviewable, and courts should publish decisions and data.



TACKLE UNDUE INFLUENCE ON POLITICAL DECISION MAKING

Citizens deserve to know who funds political parties and candidates, or who influences decisions. It's important that political finance, conflicts of interest and lobbying are regulated, documented and subject to public scrutiny to ensure that democracy is protected against potential corruption. Transparency and limits on political donations stop rich and well-connected industry groups from being able to unfairly influence policies, budgets and public institutions to suit their own goals, rather than the public interest. This is vital to ensure that governments live up to their responsibility to design policies that protect societies and ensure healthy climate and ecosystems.



GIVE PEOPLE HARMED BY CORRUPTION ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Individuals and communities – not just states – harmed by corruption should have access to justice, either directly or through civil society organisations representing them. This is necessary to ensure remedy for damage caused by corruption, and it also serves as a backstop if law enforcement is not functioning properly. Marginalised communities, in particular, need tailored support and safeguards to ensure processes are inclusive for all.



FOSTER CIVIC SPACE AND ANTI-CORRUPTION REPORTING

Fundamental freedoms – including a free press and the right to information – enable the active engagement of individuals and groups to promote transparency and integrity in government and business activities. Decision makers must fully protect civil society groups and people reporting corruption, such as whistleblowers. They should also create a regulatory framework that enables, rather than restricts, the work of civil society organisations – including to give them access to both domestic and international funding. This will strengthen the fight against corruption by allowing civic actors to expose abuse, assist victims, foster public participation and build accountability.

ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY AND OVERSIGHT IN PUBLIC SERVICES AND PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Fair and effective public services, such as health care and education, depend on those in charge of delivering them acting with integrity. Not only must everyone have access to these basic services, but there should also be robust checks on how public spending decisions are made, to ensure they truly represent the public interest. For this, it is essential that parliaments and other oversight institutions can scrutinise budgets and government borrowing, audit bodies can monitor how public money is spent, and regulators can uphold standards, including environmental ones. As part of this, institutions should also ensure that diverse groups of people are included in formal oversight mechanisms.

PREVENT, DETECT AND PUNISH LARGE-SCALE CORRUPTION AND ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS

Robust checks and balances at home, together with strong national and international prevention and detection measures, are essential to block and uncover large-scale, high-level corruption and major cross-border money laundering. To deter and punish these serious crimes, more effective enforcement systems are essential. Overcoming pervasive and deep-rooted state corruption will require strong national coalitions to rebuild democracy and rule of law. International enforcement in states with effective justice systems can also play a vital role by prosecuting wrongdoers and seizing stolen assets hidden abroad, to cut off their ability to operate.

In an interconnected world, we need both national action and multilateral cooperation to protect the public interest and tackle shared challenges like corruption. At a time when we're seeing a dangerous disregard for international norms from some states, we need to protect a rules-based global order that is grounded in transparency, accountability to citizens and respect for human rights.

François Valérian
Chair, Transparency International



Photo: IACC

GLOBAL TRENDS

When corruption flourishes, people pay the price. Imagine you're a woman in the final stages of your university course, but your tutor demands sexual acts for passing your exam. Or your home is being destroyed by climate crisis-related flooding after the funds to adapt vital infrastructure were stolen by officials. Or you are a parent with a seriously ill child who isn't being given medical treatment because you don't have money to bribe the doctors.

This year's CPI ranks 182 countries and territories according to the levels of public-sector corruption perceived by experts and businesspeople. It relies on 13 independent data sources and uses a scale of zero to 100, where zero means that the country's public sector is seen as highly corrupt, and 100 as very clean. The results underline how most countries need to do far more to prevent and stop corruption.

This year, the highest ranked nation was Denmark (89), for the eighth time in a row, with a score of 89. Only a small group of 15 countries, mainly in Western Europe and Asia-Pacific, manage to get scores above 75. Of these, just five reach scores above 80. Meanwhile, over two thirds of countries (68 per cent) fall below 50, indicating serious corruption problems in most parts of the planet. At the bottom of the index, the countries scoring below 25 are mostly conflict-affected and highly repressive countries, such as Venezuela (10) and the lowest scorers, Somalia and South Sudan, which both score nine.

SCORE CHANGES SINCE 2012[7]

31 COUNTRIES **IMPROVED**

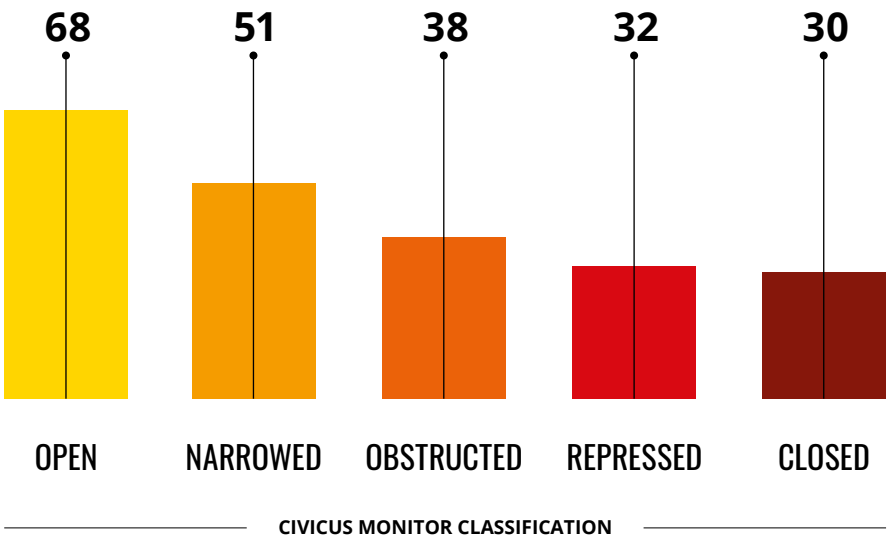
50 COUNTRIES **DECLINED**

100 COUNTRIES **STAYED THE SAME**[8]

The CPI shows the stark contrast in controlling corruption between nations with strong, independent institutions, free and fair elections, and open civic space, and those ruled by repressive authoritarian regimes. Full democracies have a CPI average of 71, while flawed democracies average 47 and authoritarian regimes just 32. Although a very small number of non-democratic countries score relatively well compared to their regional peers, and are perceived as managing a limited range of corruption types successfully, they remain exceptions. In such contexts, anti-corruption efforts are typically centralised and top-down, and tend to be unsustainable. With no independent oversight or civic checks, they can be reversed overnight when political interests shift.[9] The broader picture shows that democracy and strong, independent institutions are crucial for combatting corruption fully, effectively and sustainably.

AVERAGE CPI 2025 SCORE FOR DIFFERENT LEVELS OF CIVIC FREEDOMS*

Countries with more open civic space tend to have lower levels of corruption. As civic space becomes more restricted, average CPI scores steadily decline, suggesting that shrinking freedoms often coincide with weaker anti-corruption environments.



**Civicus Monitor and Transparency International's 2025 Corruption Perceptions Index.*

Similarly, countries where civic space is guaranteed and protected tend to control corruption better. Those where the freedoms of expression, assembly and association are duly safeguarded are generally more resilient against corruption and score better on the CPI. However, countries where these freedoms are lacking are more likely to lose control of corruption: 36 of the 50 countries where the CPI scores have significantly declined have also seen a reduction in civic space.

CHANGING CORRUPTION LEVELS

A closer look at countries with significant changes in their CPI scores reveals clear trends that drive improvement and decline.

Two patterns stand out among countries whose CPI scores have fallen. The first is a set of sustained declines since 2012, where deterioration has been substantial and prolonged. This group includes Venezuela (10), Syria (15), Hungary (40) and South Sudan (9). Despite different contexts, these countries show long-term, structural erosion of integrity systems driven by democratic backsliding, institutional weakening and/or entrenched patronage networks. This has been accelerated by conflict in some cases. Their declines are steep, persistent and hard to reverse because corruption becomes systemic and deeply ingrained in both political and administrative systems.

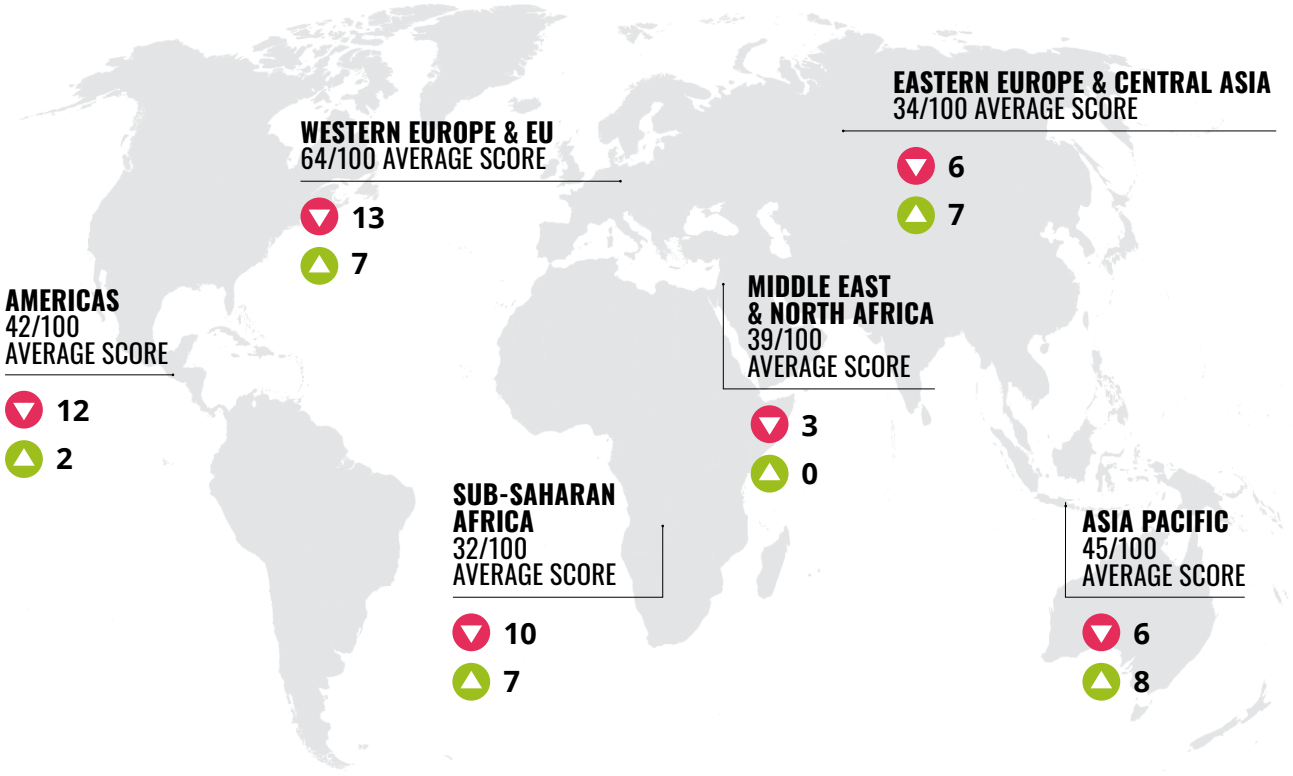
In Venezuela, leaders have stripped oversight institutions of almost all independence. They have also been using state-owned companies for personal profit, including the state-owned oil giant, PDVSA, which has lost over ten billion dollars to a currency exchange scheme and a crypto scheme.[10] In South Sudan, corruption worsened during the civil war of the 2010s, as leaders routinely used state funds to buy loyalty from militias and to enrich themselves.[11] Promised public financial management reforms under a 2018 peace deal failed to materialise and South Sudanese officials have continued to divert resources. Their corruption has also become more sophisticated making use of off-budget schemes and politically connected contracts.[12] The Hungarian government has systemically weakened rule-of-law, civic space and electoral integrity for over 10 years. This has enabled impunity for channelling billions – including from European Union (EU) funds – to groups of cronies through dirty public contracting and other methods.[13, 14]

The second pattern is more recent and concentrated among higher-scoring countries. While many of these nations still rank near the top of the index, they have slipped noticeably from their initial baselines. This group includes countries like the United States (64), Canada (75), the United Kingdom (70), France (66), Sweden (80), New Zealand (81) and Chile (63). In many of these countries, corruption risks have increased because independent checks and balances have been weakened, key gaps in anti-corruption legislation have not been addressed, and enforcement has been scaled back. Several have also experienced strains to their democracies, including political polarisation and the growing influence of private money on decision making. This trend shows that even robust systems can be vulnerable to integrity risks.

At many points in the last decade, the United Kingdom saw codes of conduct repeatedly broken or undermined, alongside persistent problems around revolving doors, lobbying transparency and enforcement of anti-corruption rules.[15] High-profile scandals included COVID-19 procurement for personal protective equipment, where people close to power were able to secure lucrative supplier contracts.[16]

REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF CORRUPTION

Number of countries that improved or declined in each region since 2012 plus average CPI 2025 scores.



Corruption in the political culture of France continues to be a concern. A series of high-profile scandals – from Nicolas Sarkozy's conviction for illegal campaign financing,[17] to the embezzlement of EU funds by Rassemblement National party,[18] to the government facing criticism for its handling of a mineral water scandal involving Nestlé[19] are reinforcing concerns about whether public authorities have both the capacity and the political will to translate ambitious anti-corruption measures, such as those on lobbying and political financing, from paper into effective practice.

On the positive side, two models of progress emerge. One is long-term gains from lower starting scores, where countries have climbed from the bottom toward the middle of the CPI ranking. This group includes Albania (39), Angola (32), Cote d'Ivoire (43), Laos (34), Senegal (46), Ukraine (36) and Uzbekistan (31). Their progress is driven by long-term efforts from political leaders and regulators, whether through broad legal and institutional reforms in more open settings or narrow state-led control campaigns in more restricted ones. However, these narrow, top-down anti-corruption efforts are intrinsically fragile.[20] Strong, free civil society organisations have also maintained and protected the paths to good governance reforms that many of these countries have taken. In Ukraine, for example, civil society mobilisation helped protect strong anti-corruption institutions as they came under pressure in 2025 so that they could continue to work independently.

Ukraine has seen a challenging year marked by major procurement and defence-sector scandals,[21] pointing to continued high-level corruption risks. At the same time, the fact that these and many other scandals are being uncovered and leading to convictions shows that Ukraine's new anti-corruption architecture is making a difference.[22] The challenge now is to move from reactive clean-ups after each scandal to structural reforms that close loopholes and better protect public resources.

The second pattern of improvement is long-term gains in countries that started with mid-to-high CPI scores. A persistent consolidation of anti-corruption efforts has driven progress in countries like Estonia (76), South Korea (63), Bhutan (71) and Seychelles (68). The long-term improvements in the democratic countries reflect sustained momentum with reforms, strengthened oversight institutions and broad political consensus in favour of clean governance. This has often been supported by digitalisation of public services, professionalisation of the civil service, and integration of regional and global governance standards and frameworks.

Bhutan has consistently strengthened its anti-corruption framework for more than 15 years, with an empowered anti-corruption agency that has driven prevention as well as enforcement. The country has complemented this with other independent watchdogs, such as an auditing authority, and more transparent systems, such as its e-procurement platform.

In the last 10 years, South Korea has brought in tougher rules of conduct for public servants and stronger institutional safeguards, such as whistleblower protection and enhanced transparency around procurement.

In short, the improvements and declines on the CPI tell various stories. Some declines come from stress to democratic integrity at high levels, while others reflect deep institutional breakdown. Similarly, some improvements can be linked to broader democratic, rights-based reforms that strengthen civic space, media freedom, transparency and access to information. Other increases in score are the product of authoritarian leaders' control campaigns in environments that have limited freedoms and rights. These might be effective against some types of corruption, such as bribery, but without independent courts, free media or space for critical voices, these gains are fragile and vulnerable to reversal and selective enforcement.

KEY DRIVERS AND CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION

Corruption can manifest in all aspects of public life: in parliaments, courtrooms, polling stations, newsrooms, local authorities, public hospitals and schools. When decision makers act corruptly, it shapes who can get justice, whose voice is considered when designing policies, which stories are told or silenced, and who can access basic public services like health and education. When decisions are influenced by money or personal ties, the state is no longer an upholder of rights, but a system that must be navigated or pleaded with to secure rights that should be guaranteed by law.

The consequences of corruption are widespread across society, and interact with other governance pressures to multiply risks and erode public trust. Corruption's effects are especially visible and damaging in four key areas: justice and the rule of law, democracy and political integrity, civic space and media freedom, and public services and inequality. In each of these domains, corrupt behaviour does more than divert resources or break rules: it reshapes incentives and widens power imbalances.

Justice and rule of law

Corruption undermines justice from within.

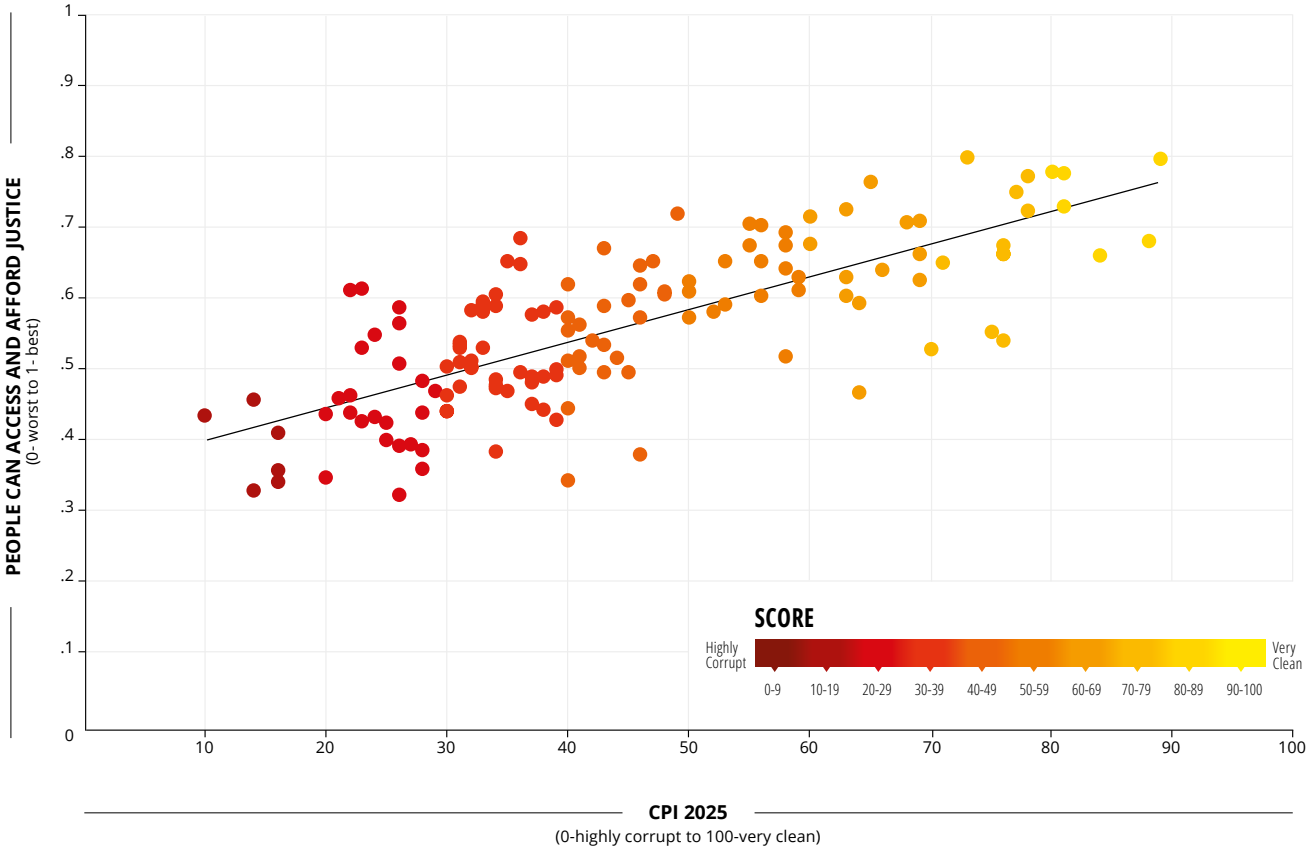
When politicians or businesses interfere with the selection of judges and prosecutors, and the decisions these officials make, the law often protects the well-connected, rather than the public. Justice systems that are independent and adequately resourced are often associated with lower corruption risks.[23] Conversely, politicised or under-resourced institutions are linked with uneven enforcement and greater impunity.[24] In such contexts, case assignment may be manipulated, investigations may stall and charges can be misplaced.[25] Judges and prosecutors can also face pressure in sensitive matters – if they have not lost their independence or autonomy already. When justice is for sale, written laws become meaningless and impunity flourishes.

Corruption is not a victimless crime. When those with power abuse it, they hurt real people as well as states. In corruption cases, individuals and communities in most countries don't have access to justice, either directly or through representation by civil society organisations.[26] They are therefore unable to get remedies for the harm caused by corruption, particularly if public prosecutors or state attorneys have limited resources or are captured.

Barriers to access to justice can also heighten corruption risks. Even where strong legal guarantees exist, high costs, distance, backlogs and limited legal aid make remedies hard to obtain, especially for low-income and vulnerable communities. In these conditions, people may feel pushed toward intermediaries and informal payments, allowing court officials wider discretion over scheduling, filings and access to information.[27] As fair and timely justice becomes harder to secure, confidence in the rule of law is eroded and willingness to report or pursue complaints declines. The perceived costs of wrongdoing also fall, which can further incentivise corruption.

CORRUPTION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE*

In countries with lower levels of corruption, people generally report being better able to access and afford justice. While there are exceptions, the overall pattern suggests that lower levels of corruption go hand-in-hand with justice systems that are more accessible and affordable for people.



Source: World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index 2025 and Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2025.

SEYCHELLES

With a 16-point improvement on the CPI since 2012, Seychelles (68) has shown how a stronger justice system can make a significant difference in the fight against corruption. The country has been prosecuting an increasing number of corruption cases, including high-profile ones, and has improved how law enforcement agencies share information. It has also brought in various legal reforms to enhance enforcement, particularly through the establishment and strengthening of its anti-corruption agency. However, it must further reform various aspects of the public sector. These include justice, as highlighted by ongoing delays with investigating and prosecuting a case involving the alleged laundering of US$50 million.[28]

Democracy, political integrity and state capture

Corruption and democratic decline reinforce one another.

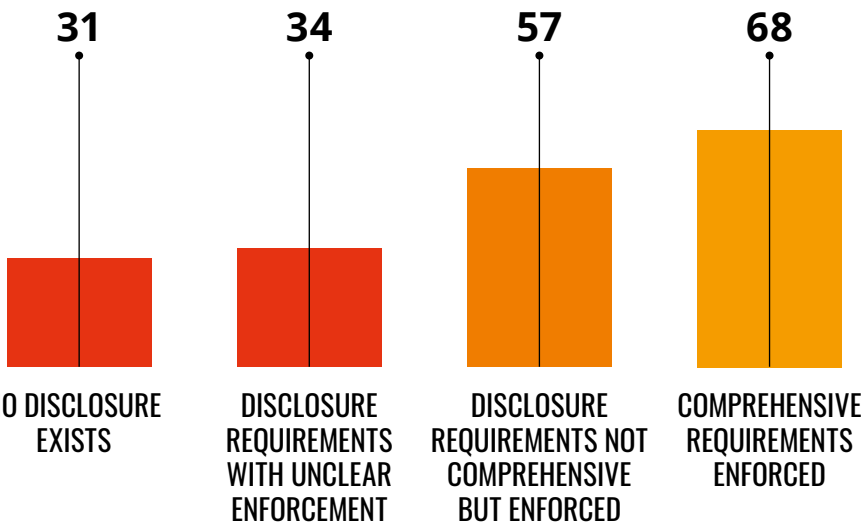
When competition for power is weakened and influence over policy is opaque, public authority can be seized by private interests.[29] Strong checks and balances that hold power accountable are therefore crucial to uphold democracy and prevent corruption. These include parliaments that scrutinise budgets,[30] independent courts that can review government decisions,[31] audit institutions with access to data,[32] and election bodies that enforce fair rules.[33] When these guardrails are constrained, people's voices can be drowned out by moneyed interests and those with better political connections. This provides more opportunities for corrupt acts, and pushes policies away from the common good.

Our research suggests that countries with stronger oversight institutions and free and fair elections tend to show greater resilience against corruption risks. In particular, transparency and caps on who funds political parties and how much is spent on election campaigns are needed to ensure that democracy is protected from undue influence.[34] Alongside this, transparency about who is lobbying politicians is crucial to protect against conflicts of interest holding back policymaking in the public interest.

When leaders and influential cronies can evade checks and balances, as well as disable and weaponise state institutions and policies to serve their interests, it also opens the doors to plundering of state resources. The expansion of high-level abuse of power – known as "grand corruption"[35] – into extensive capture of states may come swiftly. It can also be associated with a period of deterioration of public administration, justice institutions and democratic processes, and increased suppression of human rights.[36] These processes usually have international dimensions, including cross-border laundering of misappropriated assets.[37]

AVERAGE CPI 2025 SCORE FOR DIFFERENT LEVELS OF TRANSPARENCY IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Greater transparency of campaign donations is associated with lower levels of corruption.



**Source: VARIETIES OF DEMOCRACY (V-DEM) 2024 "DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN DONATIONS" and Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2025.*

UNITED STATES

The United States (64) political climate has been deteriorating for more than a decade, and this year the country dropped to its lowest-ever CPI score. While the data has yet to fully reflect developments in 2025, the use of public office to target and restrict independent voices such as NGOs and journalists, the normalisation of conflicted and transactional politics,[38] the politicisation of prosecutorial decision making,[39] and actions that undermine judicial independence,[40] among many others, all send a dangerous signal that corrupt practices are acceptable.

FRANCE

The conviction of former French President Nicolas Sarkozy is a rare but important example of high-level accountability for shortcomings in political integrity in Europe. In September 2025, a Paris court sentenced him to five years in prison for criminal conspiracy related to alleged millions of euros of illicit funds from the late Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. An appeal trial is due to begin in March 2026. In November 2025, another conviction and one-year prison sentence for illegal financing of his 2012 re-election effort were upheld. He was found guilty of spending nearly twice the legal campaign limit.[41, 42, 43]

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

While the United Arab Emirates (UAE) (69) has some effective guards against public sector corruption, like active enforcement and a few strong oversight bodies, issues relating to democracy are creating serious corruption risks. The authoritarian government's top-down approach to anti-corruption is unsustainable. Also, people with political connections can influence both policy and the allocation of contracts, making use of opacity around government decisions. What is more, the UAE's role as a weakly regulated financial hub facilitates abuse of power abroad – grand corruption perpetrators and their accomplices use it to invest their stolen wealth overseas and flee from justice. Numerous controversial people – like Isabel dos Santos, who has long been accused by Angolan authorities of misappropriating state assets while her father was president – have made use of the country.[44]

Civic space and media freedom

Open civic space and an independent media underpin accountability.

Where people can freely meet, organise themselves, speak up to demand change from their leaders and get public authorities to provide information, civil society and journalists can make important contributions to the fight against corruption.[45] For example, they can identify red flags in procurement processes, corruption risks in service delivery and cases of illicit enrichment. Through investigative reporting, freedom of information requests, community monitoring and public-interest litigation, they can contribute to enforcement and accountability.[46] Scrutiny of government action by civil society and the press gives voters the information they need to sanction corruption and reward integrity at the ballot box.

These watchdog functions are weakened when civic space is narrowed through politicised interference in NGO operations; restrictive NGO laws or lawsuits aimed at intimidating or silencing the media and civil society; and surveillance, censorship or partisan allocation of state advertising to pro-government media.[47] Exposure becomes riskier and self-censorship more likely, and opportunities for wrongdoing may expand.

When journalists are attacked or killed for investigating corruption, power cannot be held to account effectively and corruption tends to worsen. Since 2012, in non-conflict zones worldwide, 829 journalists have been murdered. One hundred and fifty were killed while covering corruption-related stories, five of them in 2025. These include Turki al-Jasser, who was executed by the Saudi authorities after seven years in detention,[48] and Gastón Medina, who was shot outside his house in Peru.[49]

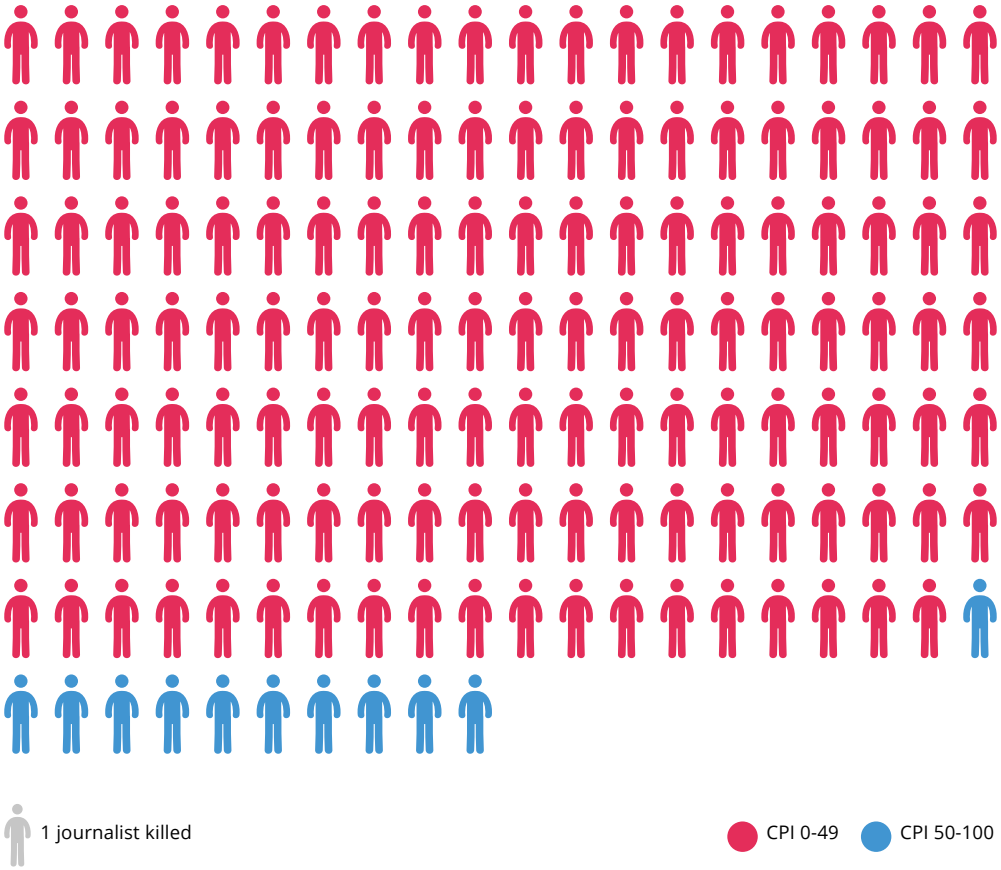
Over 90 per cent of these killings happened in countries with a CPI score lower than 50,[50] including in Brazil, India, Mexico, Pakistan and Iraq, which are particularly dangerous for journalists reporting on corruption.

GEORGIA

Georgia (50) illustrates how democratic backsliding directly fuels corruption risks. The ruling party has introduced a so-called "foreign agents" law and a grants law, both anti-democratic measures that criminalise legitimate NGO activity and brand independent voices as foreign agents. It has also intensified its campaign against dissent through politically motivated prosecutions, media restrictions, freezing NGO bank accounts, and violent crackdowns on protesters and journalists. Following disputed 2024 elections and the suspension of EU integration talks, international observers now describe Georgia as undergoing an authoritarian turn, with proposals to ban opposition parties and deepen political control over the civil service, police and judiciary. This is creating severely increased corruption risks and damaging Georgia's society as a whole.[51]

CORRUPTION AND MURDER OF JOURNALISTS*

Almost all of the 150 murders of journalists covering corruption-related stories in non-conflict zones since 2012 happened in countries with high corruption levels.



**Source: Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) and Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.*

Public services and inequality

Corruption in the management of public funds hinders people's ability to access key services and affects everyday life.

When funds are diverted, contracts inflated or access to services is dependent on unofficial payments, people can be left without essentials such as health care, schooling, water, electricity and housing. Evidence links corruption risks with lower quality and reliability of services.[52]

The impact on poorer households is especially stark. Unofficial fees and favouritism act like a regressive tax, taking a larger share of low incomes, which can deter the poorest from seeking care or keeping children in school.[53] Marginalised groups may be excluded from programmes they are entitled to, and where access seems to depend on connections rather than rights, inequality can widen and perceptions of unfairness deepen.[54]

When the officials and creditors in charge of negotiating and managing sovereign debt act corruptly, they severely increase the risk of fiscal crisis and drive inequalities. Hiding debt from the public, taking bribes to accept unfavourable borrowing terms, and unlawfully appropriating borrowed funds put the welfare of many people at risk. These acts leave governments with extremely difficult choices between servicing their debt or investing in critical sectors like health, education and climate action.[55]

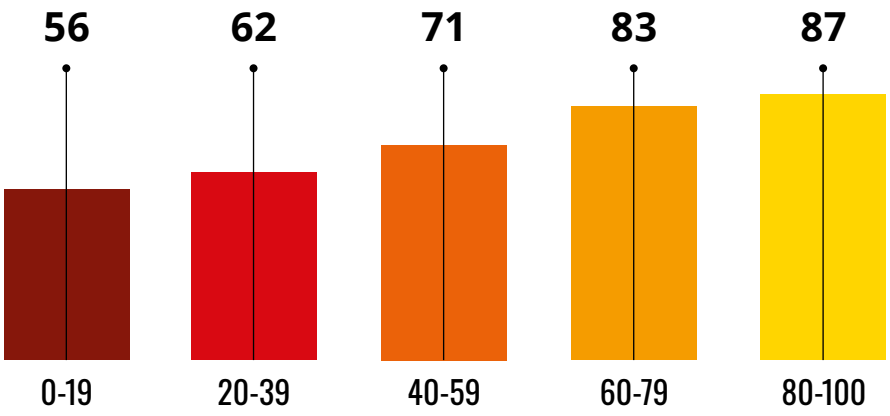
Strengthening integrity in the mobilisation, allocation and expenditure of public funds is vital. It helps make economies stable and ensure services work effectively, on the basis of need and entitlement, not connections or extra payments.

NEPAL

In September 2025, Gen-Z-led protests toppled the Nepalese (34) government. Anger had long been growing about perceived corruption and nepotism by political elites and their families, and the widespread inequality and economic instability it caused. The uprising was sparked by restrictions on freedom of expression, but grew in intensity as authorities suppressed protest with force rather than addressing integrity problems and trying to bring corruption perpetrators to justice. Within eight days, a new government was formed, showing how quickly leaders can go from abusing power to losing it.

AVERAGE CPI 2025 SCORE FOR DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES*

Countries with higher CPI scores tend to provide better quality and coverage of essential health services. In these countries, health care is more accessible and available to the population.



CPI 2025 SCORES BY QUINTILE
(0-highly corrupt to 100-very clean)

**World Health Organization's UHC Service Coverage Index (2021) and Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2025.*

ENDNOTES

1. Goedemens, M., "What Georgia's Foreign Agent Law Means for Its Democracy", August 2024, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/what-georgias-foreign-agent-law-means-its-democracy

2. Amnesty International, "Indonesia: Amendments of the Mass Organizations Law expand threats to the freedom of association", July 2019, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa21/6722/2017/en/

3. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "Peru: Impact of international cooperation law on NGOs", April 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/04/peru-impact-international-cooperation-law-ngos

4. Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, "Tunisia: Suspension of civil society organisations continues efforts to diminish rights and suppress freedoms", November 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://euromedmonitor.org/en/article/6908/Tunisia:-Suspension-of-civil-society-organisations-continues-efforts-to-diminish-rights-and-suppress-freedoms

5. Transparency International U.S., "Pause on Enforcement of Foreign Anti-Bribery Law Threatens a Dangerous Race to the Bottom", 2025, accessed 21 December 2025, https://us.transparency.org/news/pause-on-enforcement-of-foreign-anti-bribery-law-threatens-a-dangerous-race-to-the-bottom/

6. The EU System for an Enabling Environment for Civil Society (EU SEE), "US Funding Freeze on Civil Society: A Comprehensive Analysis by the EU SEE Initiative", March 2025, accessed 16 December 2025, https://eusee.hivos.org/assets/2025/03/Report-The-Impact-of-the-US-Funding-Freeze-on-Civil-Society_def-170325.pdf

7. Transparency International began producing a version of the CPI in 1995. However, in 2012, we updated the methodology used to calculate the scores with a scale of 0-100. Each country score given by the underlying data sources is rescaled using the global mean and standard deviation from the CPI 2012 as the year of reference. This means CPI scores since 2012, but not before, can be compared. For more information, see the CPI 2025 methodology: https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/CPI-2025-Methodology.zip

8. Number of countries that the underlying data sources largely agree improved, stagnated or declined over the period 2012 to 2025, for all 182 countries with data available. For information on particular countries' changes, see: https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2025

9. Kukutschka, R, "Anti-corruption strategies for authoritarian states", U4 Helpdesk, May 2018, accessed 17 December 2025, https://cdn.sanity.io/files/1f1lcoov/production/6e44e87e69c6d3a11a295d2d7989ae3b188df0a6.pdf

10. Saudelli, G, "How millions were laundered out of Venezuela", Deutsche Welle, March 2019, accessed 16 December 2025, https://www.dw.com/en/how-millions-of-dirty-dollars-were-laundered-out-of-venezuela/a-47867313; Transparencia Venezuela, "Trama Pdvsa-Cripto compromete USD 16.600 millones", 2023, accessed 16 December 2025, https://transparenciave.org/trama-pdvsa-cripto-compromete-mas-16-600-millones/; Gil, J. and Irujo, J.M., "The network that looted US$2 billion from Venezuela's state oil company was obsessed with luxury", 2024, *El Pais*, accessed 16 December 2025, https://english.elpais.com/international/2024-02-14/the-network-that-looted-2-billion-from-venezuelas-state-oil-company-was-obsessed-with-luxury.html

11. UN Security Council, Panel of Experts on South Sudan, Final Report, S/2016/70, 22 January 2016, accessed 21 December 2025, https://undocs.org/S/2016/70;

12. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). "South Sudan: UN inquiry's report details how systemic government corruption is fuelling an acute human rights crisis." Press Release, September 2025, accessed 9 January 2026, https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/09/south-sudan-un-inquirys-report-details-how-systemic-government-corruption.

13. Tóth, István János, "EU Taxpayers' Contribution to Building the Orbán Kleptocracy", CRCB Research Notes 2025:2, Corruption Research Center Budapest (CRCB), July 2025, accessed 21 December 2025 https://www.crcb.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025_research_notes_02_010725_03.pdf

14. Tóth I. J. (2022). Corruption Risk and the Crony System in Hungary. A brief analysis of EU-funded contracts in Hungarian public procurement 2005-2021. CRCB, accessed 20 January 2025, https://www.crcb.eu/?p=3095

15. Transparency International UK, "Analysis finds dozens of potential Ministerial Code breaches were not investigated", December 2022, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org.uk/news/analysis-finds-dozens-potential-ministerial-code-breaches-were-not-investigated

16. Transparency International UK, "Court ruling highlights serious risks posed by COVID 'VIP-lane'", October 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org.uk/news/court-ruling-highlights-serious-risks-posed-covid-vip-lane

17. See: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/nov/26/nicolas-sarkozy-convicted-illegal-campaign-financing-2012, accessed 21 December 2025.

18. See: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/apr/01/marine-le-pen-guilty-national-rally-embezzlement-fake-jobs-scam, accessed 21 December 2025.

19. Schofield, Hugh. "Is Perrier as Pure as It Claims? The Bottled Water Scandal Gripping France", BBC News, August 2025, Accessed 19 December 2025, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyvn3qe0jpgo

20. Agence française anticorruption (AFA), "Publication du plan national pluriannuel de lutte contre la corruption 2025-2029", November 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.agence-francaise-anticorruption.gouv.fr/fr/publication-plan-national-pluriannuel-lutte-contre-corruption-2025-2029; Transparency International UK, "UK Anti-Corruption Strategy: Ambitious plan undermined by political integrity gaps", December 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org.uk/news/uk-anti-corruption-strategy-ambitious-plan-undermined-political-integrity-gaps

21. Wilson, T., "Ukraine officials held in military drone corruption probe", BBC, August 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gq3xwr357o

22. National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine, "370 new investigations, 115 suspects, 62 convicted: NABU and SAPO's results in the first half of 2025", August 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://nabu.gov.ua/en/news/370-new-investigations-115-suspects-54-convictions-nabu-and-sapos-results-in-the-first-half-of-2025/

23. García-Sayán, D., "Corruption, Human Rights, and Judicial Independence", United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.unodc.org/dohadeclaration/en/news/2018/04/corruption--human-rights--and-judicial-independence.html

24. Martinez Barranco Kukutschka, R., "CPI 2023: Corruption and (in)justice", Transparency International, 2023, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/news/cpi-2023-corruption-and-injustice

25. Mijatović, D., "Corruption undermines human rights and the rule of law", Council of Europe, 2021, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.coe.int/nl/web/commissioner/-/corruption-undermines-human-rights-and-the-rule-of-law

26. Dang, L. and Greer, M. "Anti-corruption approaches in justice sector assistance", U4 Issue 2023:6, 2023, accessed 17 December 2025, https://cdn.sanity.io/files/1f1lcoov/production/42259edc3fe89ff7e932a777c62a52dbf7425071.pdf

27. Rita Joubert-Lawen, "3 years since Valabhji couple arrested in money laundering and arms cases in Seychelles," Seychelles News Agency, 22 November 2024. Accessed 16 January 2026, http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/21580/+years+since+Valabhji+couple+arrested+in+ money+laundering+and+arms+cases+in+Seychelles.

28. International Bar Association and Basel Institute on Governance, "Judicial Systems and Corruption", The International Bar Association Judicial Integrity Initiative, 2016, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.ibanet.org/MediaHandler?id=F856E657-A4FC-4783-806E-6AAC6895D37F

29. See, for example: Zúñiga, N., "Examining State Capture: Undue Influence on Law-Making and the Judiciary in the Western Balkans and Turkey", Transparency International, 2020, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/2020_Report_ExaminingStateCapture_English.pdf; Zúñiga, N.,"State capture in Asia Pacific", Transparency International Anti-Corruption Helpdesk, 2020, accessed 17 December 2025, https://knowledgehub.transparency.org/helpdesk/state-capture-in-asia-pacific

30. Duri, J., "Strengthening parliamentary oversight, Key findings and recommendations from multi-country assessments",Transparency International, 2023, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/2023_Report_StrengtheningParliamentaryOversight_EN.pdf

31. Torchiaro, L., "CPI 2023 for the Americas: Lack of independent judiciary hinders the fight against corruption", Transparency International, 2023, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/news/cpi-2023-americas-lack-independent-judiciary-hinders-fight-against-corruption

32. INTOSAI Development Initiative and Transparency International, "Safeguarding the Independence of Supreme Audit Institutions: A Resource Kit for Civil Society Organisations", 2022, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/publications/safeguarding-independence-supreme-audit-institutions

33. Bergin, J.and Resimić, M., "The relationship between electoral integrity and corruption",Transparency International Anti-Corruption Helpdesk, 2024, accessed 17 December 2025, https://knowledgehub.transparency.org/helpdesk/the-relationship-between-electoral-integrity-and-corruption

34. Transparency International, "Standards for Integrity in Political Finance: A Global Policy Position", 2024, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/publications/standards-for-integrity-in-political-finance-global-policy-position

35. Dell, G., "Tackling grand corruption impunity, Proposal for a definition and special measures", Transparency International, 2023, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/publications/tackling-grand-corruption-impunity-proposals-for-definition-and-special-measures

36. Saunders, C. and Malone, K., "State capture: How to recognize and react to it", IDEA International Constitutional Insight No. 10, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.idea.int/publications/catalogue/html/state-capture-how-recognize-and-react-it

37. Büchner, I., "Chasing Grand Corruption: Hurdles to detection, investigation and prosecution of complex cases across the EU", Transparency International, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/Report-Chasing-Grand-Corruption-English-2025-Oct.pdf

38. Fint, C., "Hegemonic retreat: Transactionalism as foreign policy", The Geographical Journal Volume 191, Issue 4, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://rgs-ibg.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/geoj.70007

39. Roberts, W., "US presidency: weaponised Department of Justice investigations prompt concerns over independence", International Bar Association U.S., 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.ibanet.org/US-presidency-weaponised-Department-of-Justice-investigations-prompt-concerns-over-independence

40. Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, "How President Trump is dismantling our democracy, one piece at a time", 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.citizensforethics.org/reports-investigations/crew-reports/how-president-trump-is-dismantling-our-democracy-one-piece-at-a-time/

41. Transparency International France. "Affaire du financement libyen: Une condamnation de Nicolas Sarkozy historique et inédite." Transparency France, September 25, 2025, accessed 9 January 2026, https://transparency-france.org/2025/09/25/affaire-du-financement-libyen-une-condamnation-de-nicolas-sarkozy-historique-et-inedite/.

42 France 24, "Top French Court Upholds Former President Sarkozy's Conviction for Illegal Campaign Financing," France 24, 26 November 2025, accessed 13 January 2026. https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20251126-french-ex-president-sarkozy-risks-second-final-conviction

43 Laura Gozzi, "Nicolas Sarkozy Illegal Campaign Financing Conviction Upheld," BBC News, 26 November 2025, accessed January 13, 2026, https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c74x55epn34o.

44 Al Jazeera. "Angola: Isabel dos Santos Faces 'Dirty Money' Probe after UK Sanctions." Al Jazeera, 18 December 2024, accessed 9 January 2026. https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/12/18/angola-isabel-dos-santos-dirty-money-uk-sanctions.

45. Škorić, V., "Civil Society Participation: An essential element in anti-corruption efforts", United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) Coalition, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://uncaccoalition.org/civil-society-participation-an-essential-element-in-anti-corruption-efforts/

46. Jenkins, M. et al., "Strengthening Accountability Networks among Civil Society, Project Handbook 2021-2023", Transparency International, 2024, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/SANCUS-Project-Handbook_2024.pdf

47. See, for example, Transparency International, “Democracy at risk: Georgia moves to silence civil society”, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/press/democracy-at-risk-georgia-moves-to-silence-civil-society

48. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), “Turki al-Jasser”, CPJ, accessed 19 December 2025, https://cpj.org/data/people/turki-al-jasser/

49. Committee to Protect Journalists, “Gastón Medina”, CPJ, accessed 19 December 2025, https://cpj.org/data/people/gaston-medina/

50. Transparency International’s analysis with data from: the Committee to Protect Journalists, CPJ’s dataset of journalists and media workers killed, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://cpj.org/data/killed/2025/?status=Killed&motiveConfirmed%5B%5D=Confirmed&motiveUnconfirmed%5B%5D=Unconfirmed&type%5B%5D=Journalist&type%5B%5D=Media%20Worker&start_year=2025&end_year=2025&group_by=location

51. Transparency International, “Transparency International faces escalating attacks in Georgia”, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/press/transparency-international-faces-escalating-attacks-in-georgia

52. Bergin, J., “Left behind: Corruption in education and health services in Africa”, Transparency International, 2024, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/publications/left-behind-corruption-in-education-health-services-africa-2

53. McDonald, E., Jenkins, M. and Fitzgerald, J., “Defying exclusion stories and insights on the links between discrimination and corruption”, Transparency International and Equal Rights Trust, 2021, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/2021-Defying-exclusion-Report-v2-EN.pdf

54. Barnes, S. and Bergin, J., “Barriers to Basics: Corruption and Discrimination in Education and Health Services”, Transparency International and Equal Rights Trust, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://files.transparencycdn.org/images/2025_Report_BarriersToBasics.pdf

55. Masamba, M., “Public Loans, Private Gains: Addressing corruption across the debt cycle”, Transparency International, 2025, accessed 17 December 2025, https://www.transparency.org/en/publications/public-loans-private-gains-addressing-corruption-across-the-debt-cycle

ENGAGE

Follow us, share your views and discuss corruption with people from around the world on social media.

@anticorruption.bsky.social

/transparencyinternational

@anticorruption

@transparency-international

@Transparency_International

@transparency_international

@TransparencyIntl

LEARN

Visit our website to learn more about our work in more than 100 countries and sign up for the latest news in the fight against corruption.

transparency.org

DONATE

Your donation will help us provide support to thousands of victims of corruption, develop new tools and research, and hold governments and businesses to their promises. We want to build a fairer, more just world. With your help, we can.

transparency.org/donate

Transparency International
International Secretariat
Alt-Moabit 96, 10559 Berlin, Germany

Phone: +49 30 34 38 200

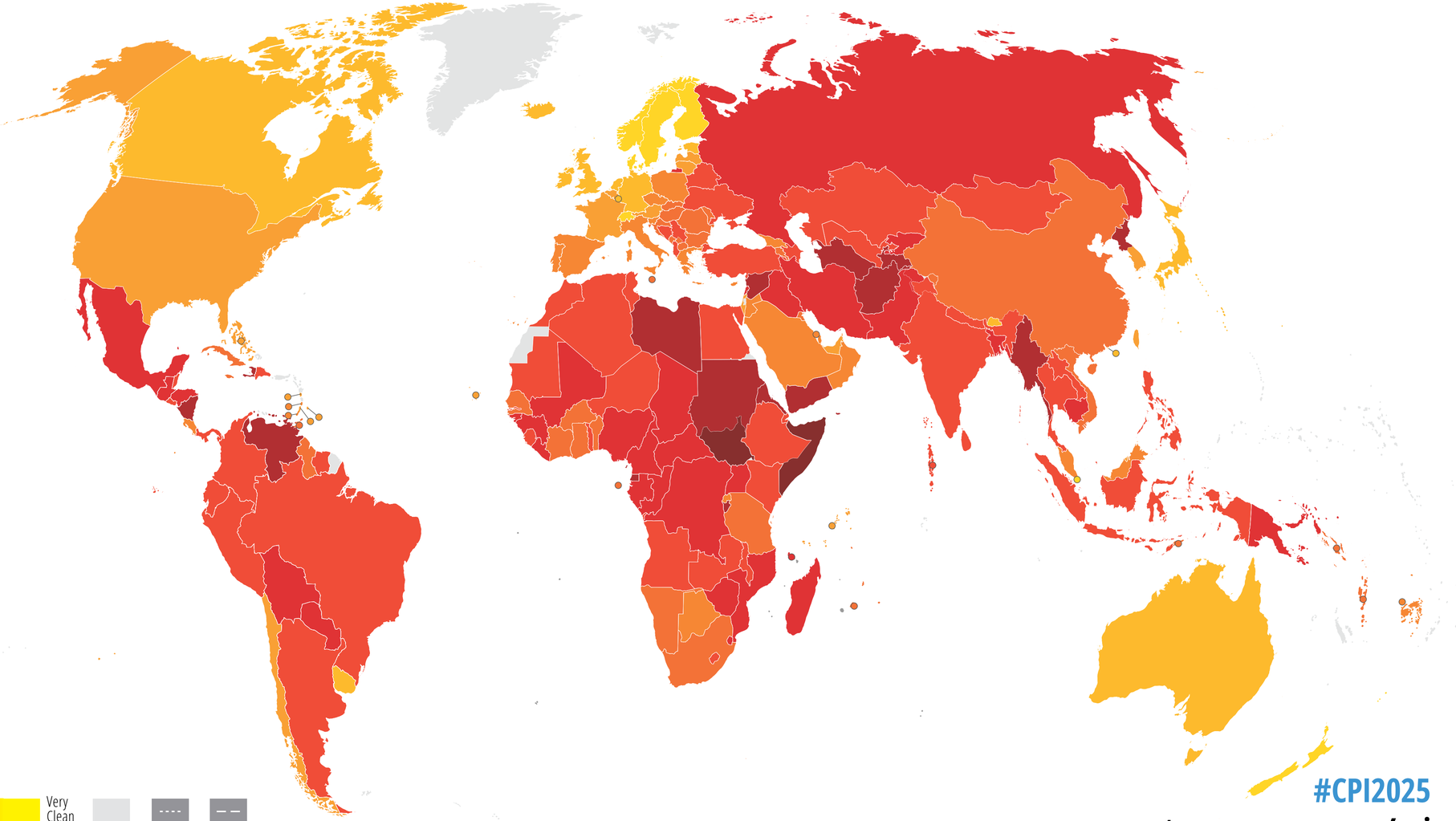
ti@transparency.org
www.transparency.org

Blog: transparency.org/blog
Facebook: /transparencyinternational
Twitter/X: @anticorruption
LinkedIn: @transparency-international
Instagram: @Transparency_International
YouTube: @TransparencyIntl

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 182 countries/territories around the world.



SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

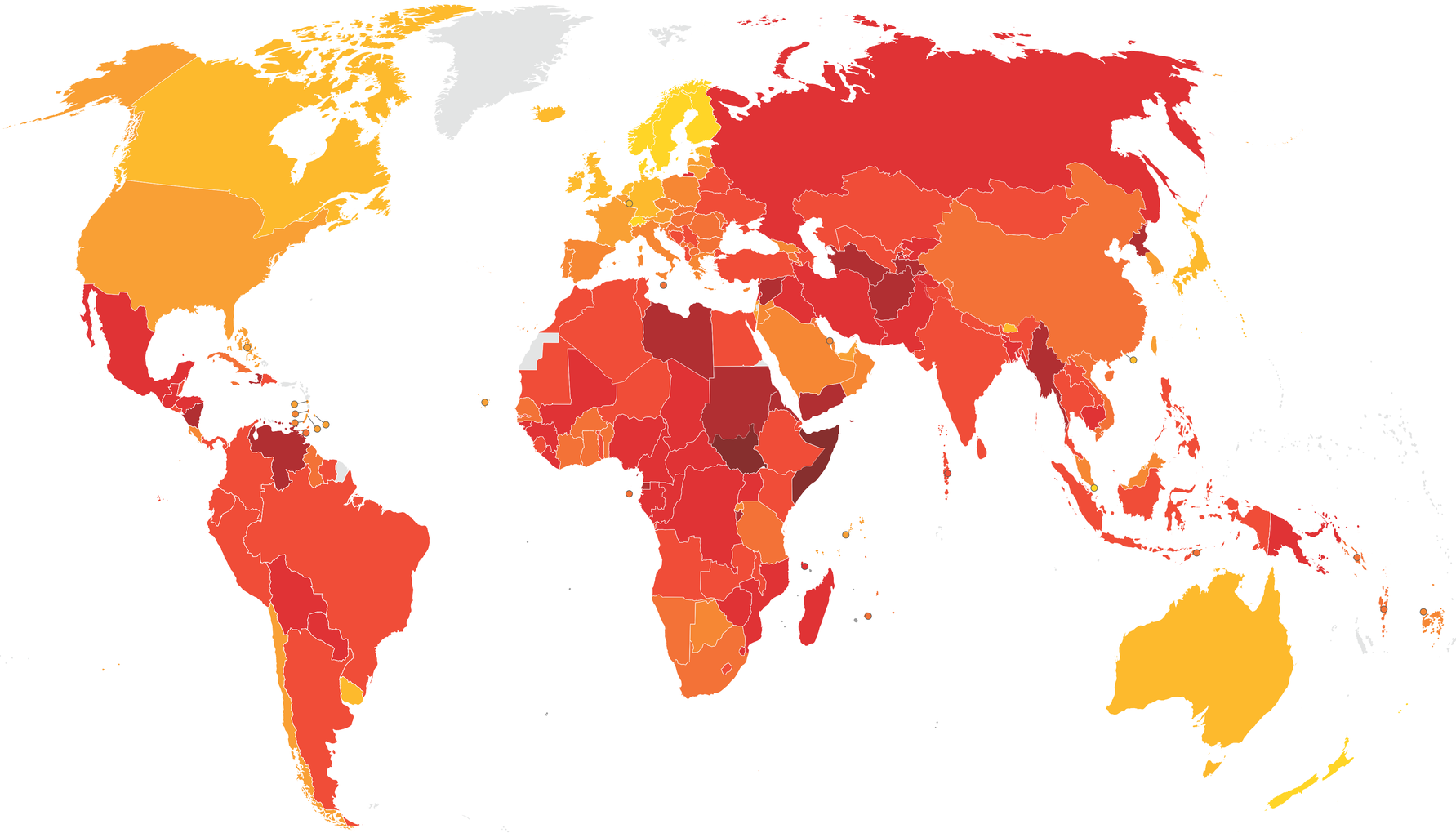
www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 182 countries/territories around the world.



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
89	Denmark
88	Finland
84	Singapore
81	New Zealand
81	Norway
80	Sweden
80	Switzerland
78	Luxembourg
78	Netherlands
77	Germany
77	Iceland
76	Australia
76	Estonia
76	Hong Kong
76	Ireland
75	Canada
73	Uruguay
71	Bhutan
71	Japan
70	United Kingdom
69	Austria
69	Belgium
69	United Arab Emirates
68	Barbados
68	Seychelles
68	Taiwan
66	France
65	Lithuania
64	Bahamas
64	United States of America
63	Brunei Darussalam
63	Chile
63	Korea, South
63	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
62	Cabo Verde
62	Israel
60	Dominica
60	Latvia
59	Czechia
59	Saint Lucia
58	Botswana
58	Qatar
58	Rwanda
58	Slovenia
57	Saudi Arabia
56	Costa Rica
56	Grenada
56	Portugal
55	Cyprus
55	Fiji
55	Spain
53	Italy
53	Poland
52	Malaysia
52	Oman
50	Bahrain
50	Georgia
50	Greece
50	Jordan
49	Malta
48	Mauritius
48	Slovakia
47	Croatia
47	Vanuatu
46	Armenia
46	Kuwait
46	Montenegro
46	Namibia
46	Senegal
45	Benin
45	Romania
45	Sao Tome and Principe
44	Jamaica
44	Solomon Islands
44	Timor-Leste
43	China
43	Cote d'Ivoire
43	Ghana
43	Kosovo
42	Moldova
41	South Africa
41	Trinidad and Tobago
41	Vietnam
40	Bulgaria
40	Burkina Faso
40	Cuba
40	Guyana
40	Hungary
40	North Macedonia
40	Tanzania
39	Albania
39	India
39	Maldives
39	Morocco
39	Tunisia
38	Ethiopia
38	Kazakhstan
38	Suriname
37	Colombia
37	Dominican Republic
37	Gambia
37	Lesotho
37	Zambia
36	Argentina
36	Belize
36	Ukraine
35	Brazil
35	Sri Lanka
34	Algeria
34	Bosnia and Herzegovina
34	Indonesia
34	Laos
34	Malawi
34	Nepal
34	Sierra Leone
33	Ecuador
33	Panama
33	Serbia
33	Thailand
32	Angola
32	El Salvador
32	Philippines
32	Togo
31	Belarus
31	Djibouti
31	Mongolia
31	Niger
31	Turkey
31	Uzbekistan
30	Azerbaijan
30	Egypt
30	Kenya
30	Mauritania
30	Peru
29	Gabon
28	Bolivia
28	Iraq
28	Liberia
28	Mali
28	Pakistan
27	Mexico
26	Cameroon
26	Guatemala
26	Guinea
26	Kyrgyzstan
26	Nigeria
26	Papua New Guinea
25	Madagascar
25	Uganda
24	Bangladesh
24	Central African Republic
24	Paraguay
23	Republic of Congo
23	Eswatini
23	Iran
23	Lebanon
22	Chad
22	Honduras
22	Russia
22	Zimbabwe
21	Guinea Bissau
21	Mozambique
20	Cambodia
20	Comoros
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
19	Tajikistan
17	Burundi
17	Turkmenistan
16	Afghanistan
16	Haiti
16	Myanmar
15	Equatorial Guinea
15	Korea, North
15	Syria
14	Nicaragua
14	Sudan
13	Eritrea
13	Libya
13	Yemen
10	Venezuela
9	Somalia
9	South Sudan

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

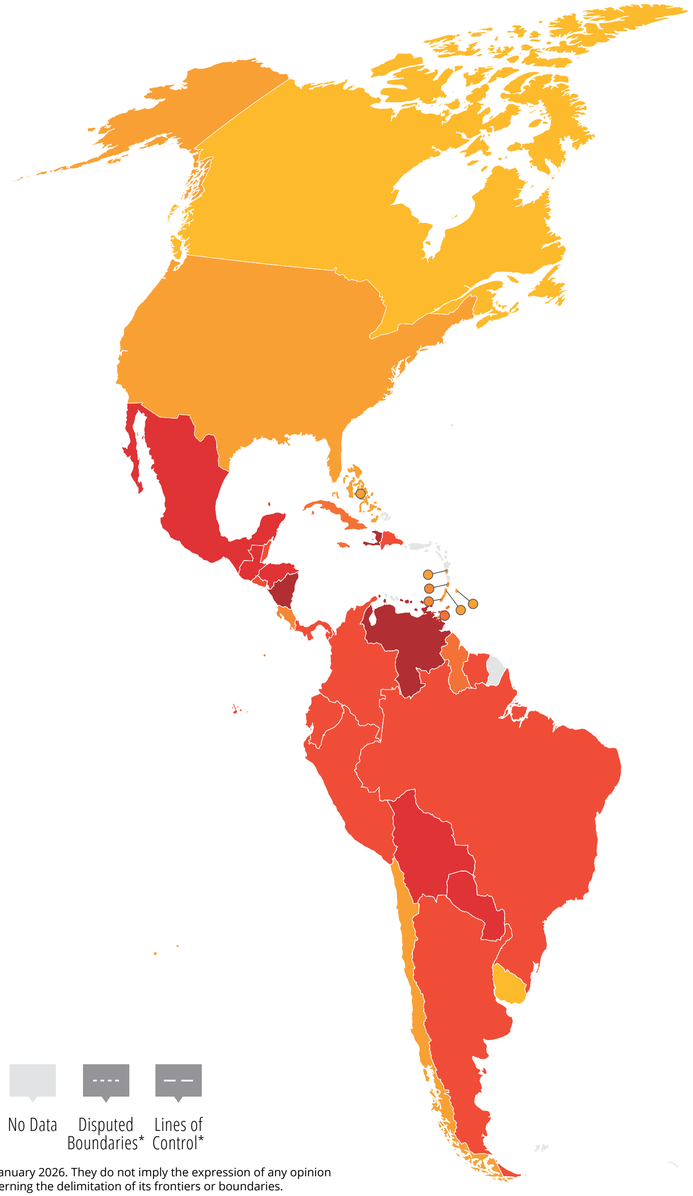
This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

AMERICAS

42/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
75	Canada
73	Uruguay
68	Barbados
64	Bahamas
64	United States of America
63	Chile
63	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
60	Dominica
59	Saint Lucia
56	Costa Rica
56	Grenada
44	Jamaica
41	Trinidad and Tobago
40	Cuba
40	Guyana
38	Suriname
37	Colombia
37	Dominican Republic
36	Argentina
36	Belize
35	Brazil
33	Ecuador
33	Panama
32	El Salvador
30	Peru
28	Bolivia
27	Mexico
26	Guatemala
24	Paraguay
22	Honduras
16	Haiti
14	Nicaragua
10	Venezuela

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

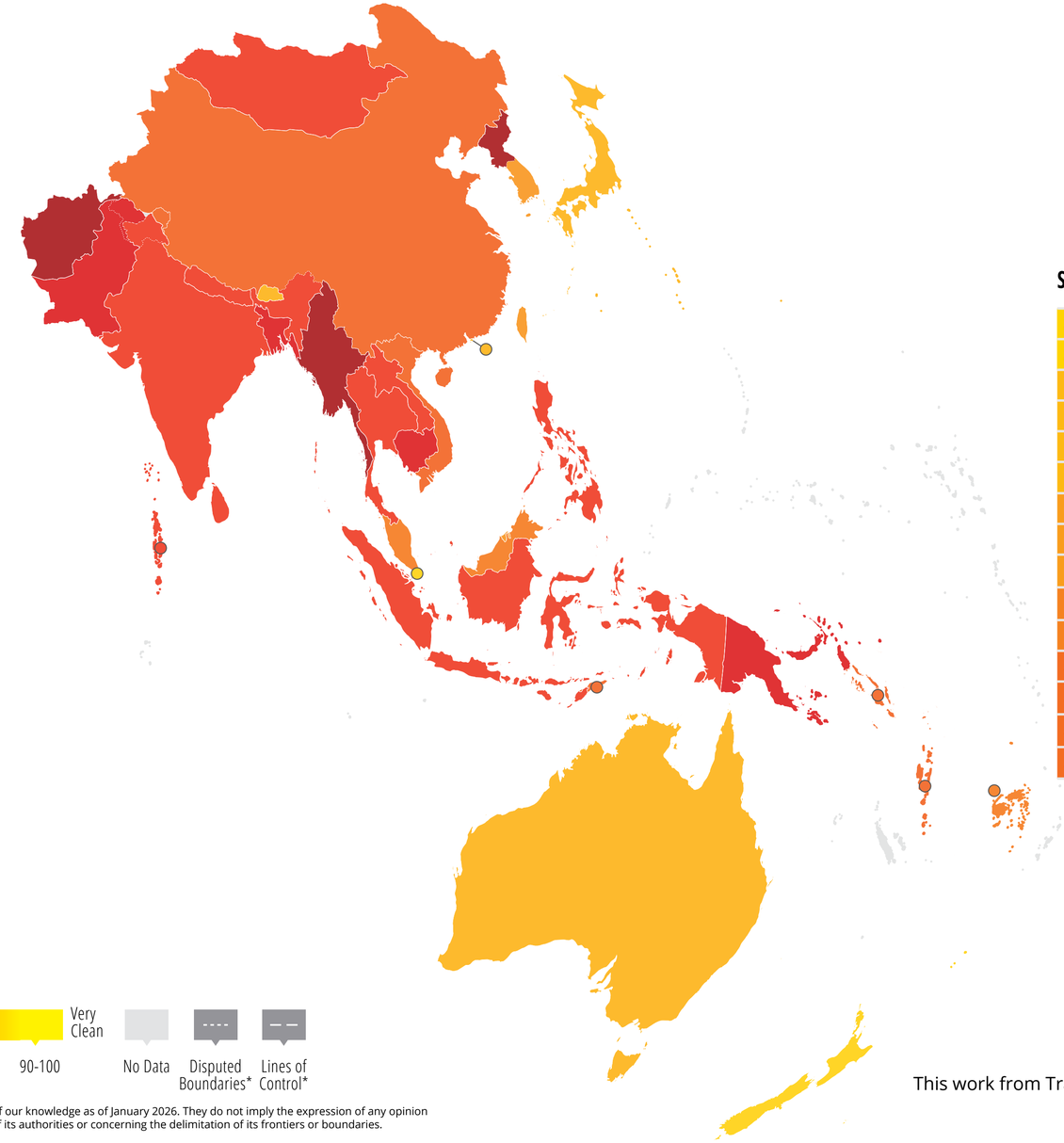
This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

ASIA PACIFIC

45/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
84	Singapore
81	New Zealand
76	Australia
76	Hong Kong
71	Bhutan
71	Japan
68	Taiwan
63	Brunei Darussalam
63	Korea, South
55	Fiji
52	Malaysia
47	Vanuatu
44	Solomon Islands
44	Timor-Leste
43	China
41	Vietnam
39	India
39	Maldives
35	Sri Lanka
34	Indonesia
34	Laos
34	Nepal
33	Thailand
32	Philippines
31	Mongolia
28	Pakistan
26	Papua New Guinea
24	Bangladesh
20	Cambodia
16	Afghanistan
16	Myanmar
15	Korea, North

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

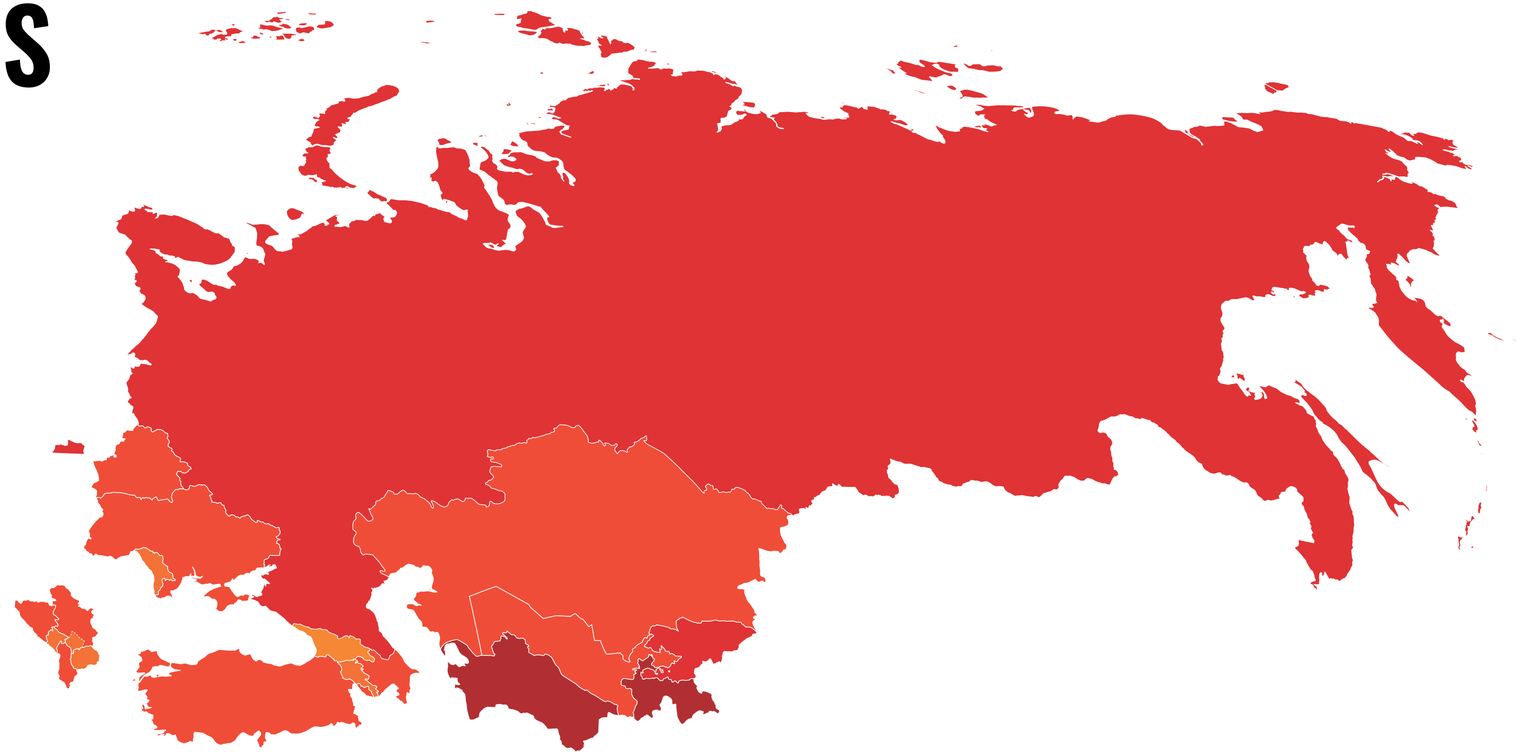
CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

34/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
50	Georgia
46	Armenia
46	Montenegro
43	Kosovo
42	Moldova
40	North Macedonia
39	Albania
38	Kazakhstan
36	Ukraine
34	Bosnia and Herzegovina
33	Serbia
31	Belarus
31	Turkey
31	Uzbekistan
30	Azerbaijan
26	Kyrgyzstan
22	Russia
19	Tajikistan
17	Turkmenistan

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

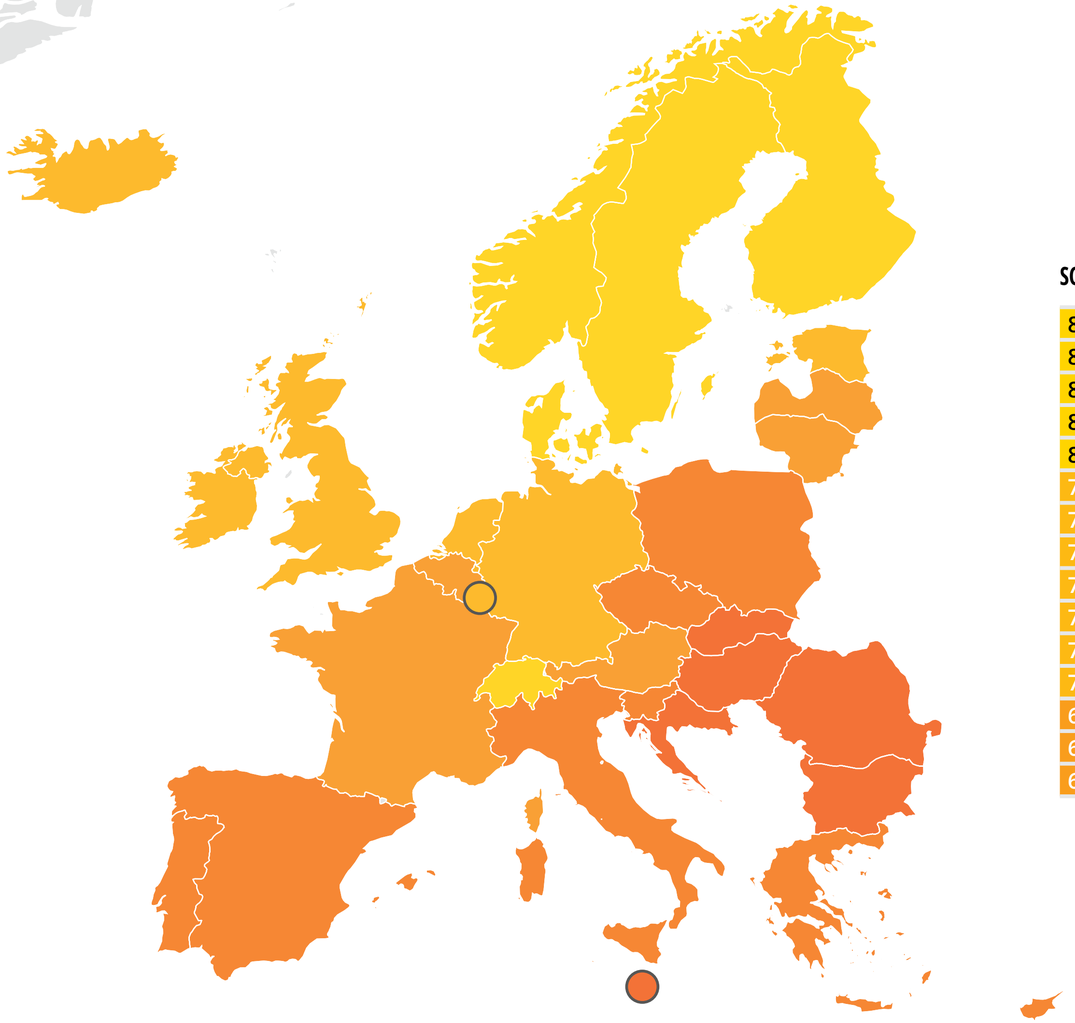
This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

WESTERN EUROPE & EUROPEAN UNION

64/100

AVERAGE SCORE



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
89	Denmark
88	Finland
81	Norway
80	Sweden
80	Switzerland
78	Luxembourg
78	Netherlands
77	Germany
77	Iceland
76	Estonia
76	Ireland
70	United Kingdom
69	Austria
69	Belgium
66	France
65	Lithuania
60	Latvia
59	Czechia
58	Slovenia
56	Portugal
55	Cyprus
55	Spain
53	Italy
53	Poland
50	Greece
49	Malta
48	Slovakia
47	Croatia
45	Romania
40	Bulgaria
40	Hungary

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

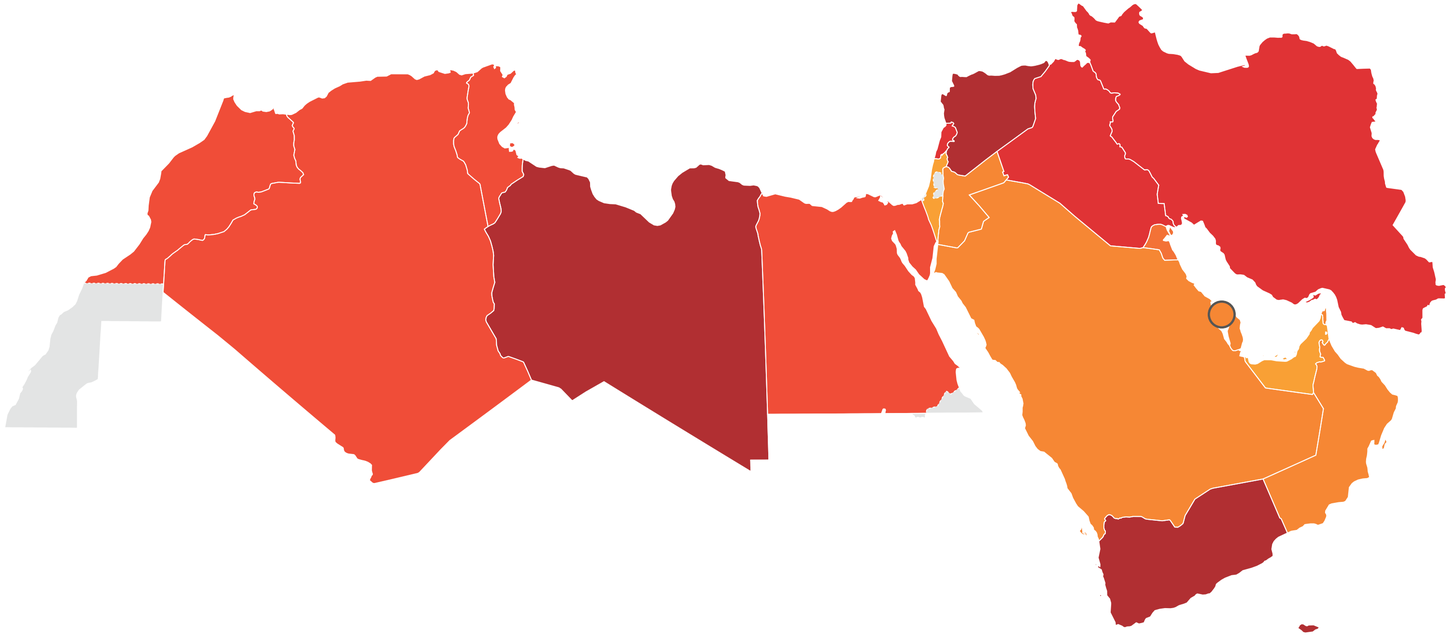
CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

39/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
69	United Arab Emirates
62	Israel
58	Qatar
57	Saudi Arabia
52	Oman
50	Bahrain
50	Jordan
46	Kuwait
39	Morocco
39	Tunisia
34	Algeria
30	Egypt
28	Iraq
23	Iran
23	Lebanon
15	Syria
13	Libya
13	Yemen

Palestine is not included in this year's CPI, as it has not been rated by the minimum three sources required.

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

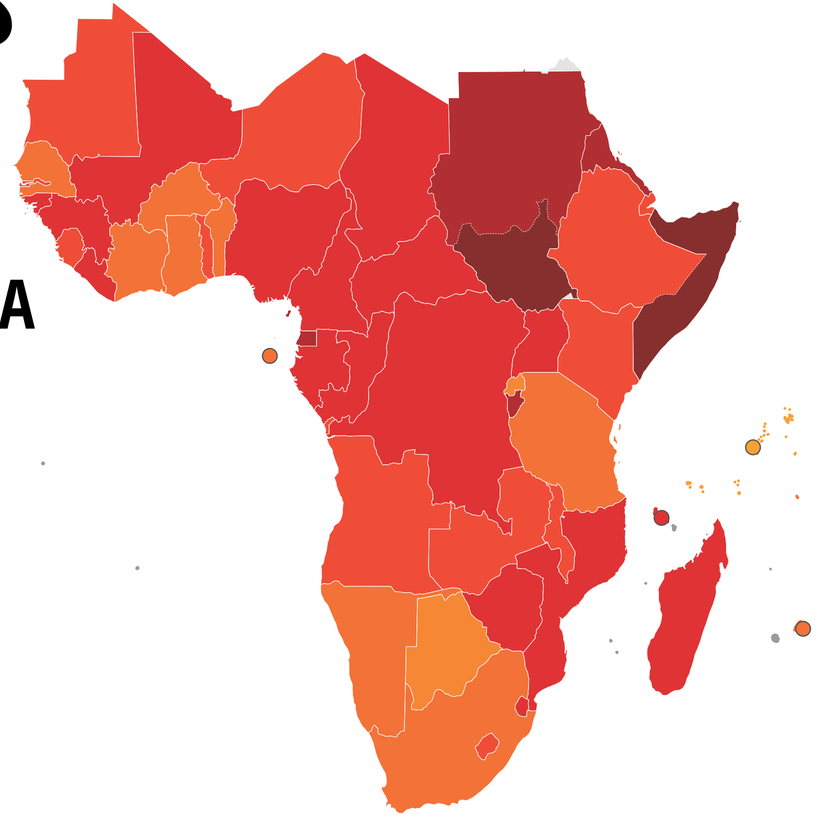
CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

32/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
68	Seychelles
62	Cabo Verde
58	Botswana
58	Rwanda
48	Mauritius
46	Namibia
46	Senegal
45	Benin
45	Sao Tome and Principe
43	Cote d'Ivoire
43	Ghana
41	South Africa
40	Burkina Faso
40	Tanzania
38	Ethiopia
37	Gambia
37	Lesotho
37	Zambia
34	Malawi
34	Sierra Leone
32	Angola
32	Togo
31	Djibouti
31	Niger
30	Kenya
30	Mauritania
29	Gabon
28	Liberia
28	Mali
26	Cameroon
26	Guinea
26	Nigeria
25	Madagascar
25	Uganda
24	Central African Republic
23	Republic of Congo
23	Eswatini
22	Chad
22	Zimbabwe
21	Guinea Bissau
21	Mozambique
20	Comoros
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
17	Burundi
15	Equatorial Guinea
14	Sudan
13	Eritrea
9	Somalia
9	South Sudan

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

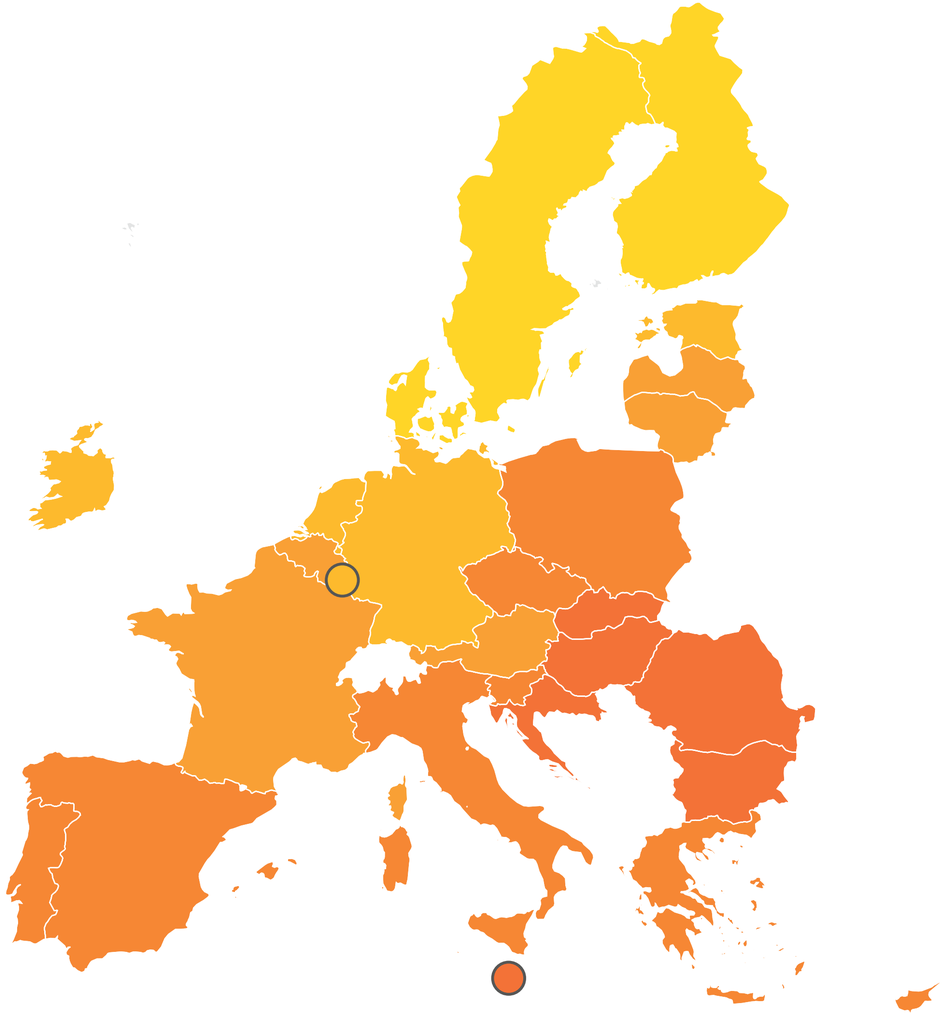
This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

EUROPEAN UNION

62/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
89	Denmark
88	Finland
80	Sweden
78	Luxembourg
78	Netherlands
77	Germany
76	Estonia
76	Ireland
69	Austria
69	Belgium
66	France
65	Lithuania
60	Latvia
59	Czechia
58	Slovenia
56	Portugal
55	Cyprus
55	Spain
53	Italy
53	Poland
50	Greece
49	Malta
48	Slovakia
47	Croatia
45	Romania
40	Bulgaria
40	Hungary

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

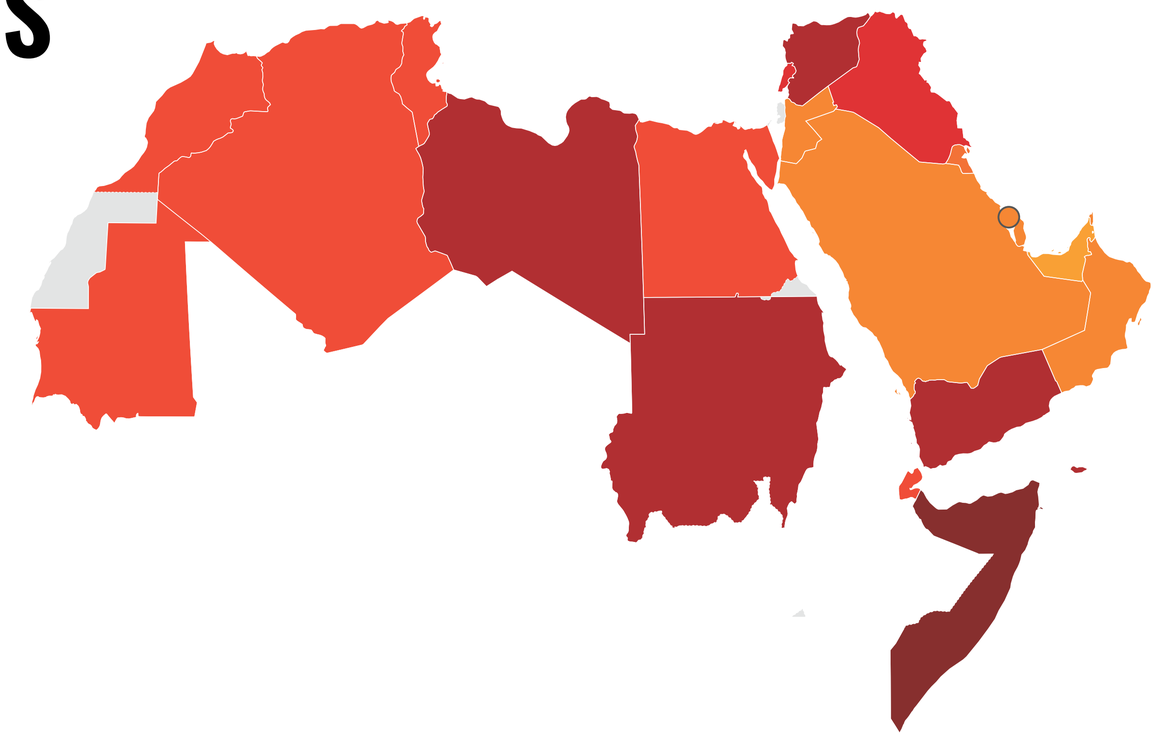
CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

ARAB STATES

34/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
69	United Arab Emirates
58	Qatar
57	Saudi Arabia
52	Oman
50	Bahrain
50	Jordan
46	Kuwait
39	Morocco
39	Tunisia
34	Algeria
31	Djibouti
30	Egypt
30	Mauritania
28	Iraq
23	Lebanon
20	Comoros
15	Syria
14	Sudan
13	Libya
13	Yemen
9	Somalia

Palestine is not included in this year's CPI, as it has not been rated by the minimum three sources required.

SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

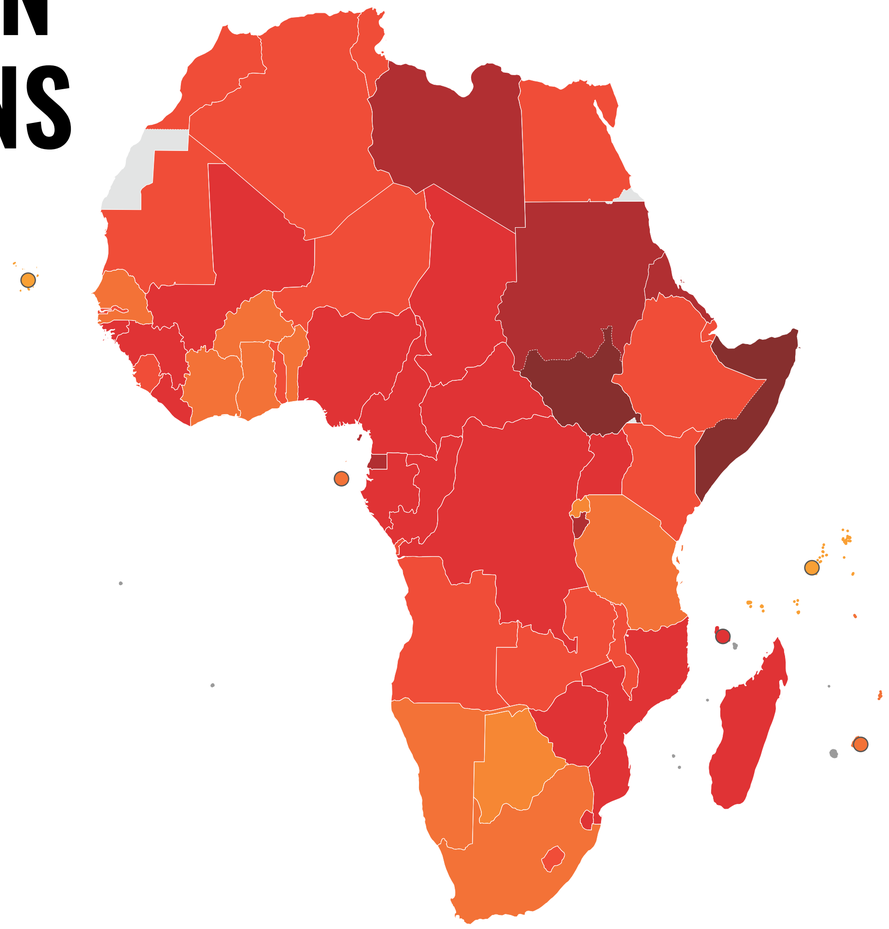
CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

AFRICAN UNION

32/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE
Highly Corrupt — Very Clean
0-9 10-19 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80-89 90-100
No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
68	Seychelles
62	Cabo Verde
58	Botswana
58	Rwanda
48	Mauritius
46	Namibia
46	Senegal
45	Benin
45	Sao Tome and Principe
43	Cote d'Ivoire
43	Ghana
41	South Africa
40	Burkina Faso
40	Tanzania
39	Morocco
39	Tunisia
38	Ethiopia
37	Gambia
37	Lesotho
37	Zambia
34	Algeria
34	Malawi
34	Sierra Leone
32	Angola
32	Togo
31	Djibouti
31	Niger
30	Egypt
30	Kenya
30	Mauritania
29	Gabon
28	Liberia
28	Mali
26	Cameroon
26	Guinea
26	Nigeria
25	Madagascar
25	Uganda
24	Central African Republic
23	Republic of Congo
23	Eswatini
22	Chad
22	Zimbabwe
21	Guinea Bissau
21	Mozambique
20	Comoros
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
17	Burundi
15	Equatorial Guinea
14	Sudan
13	Eritrea
13	Libya
9	Somalia
9	South Sudan

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

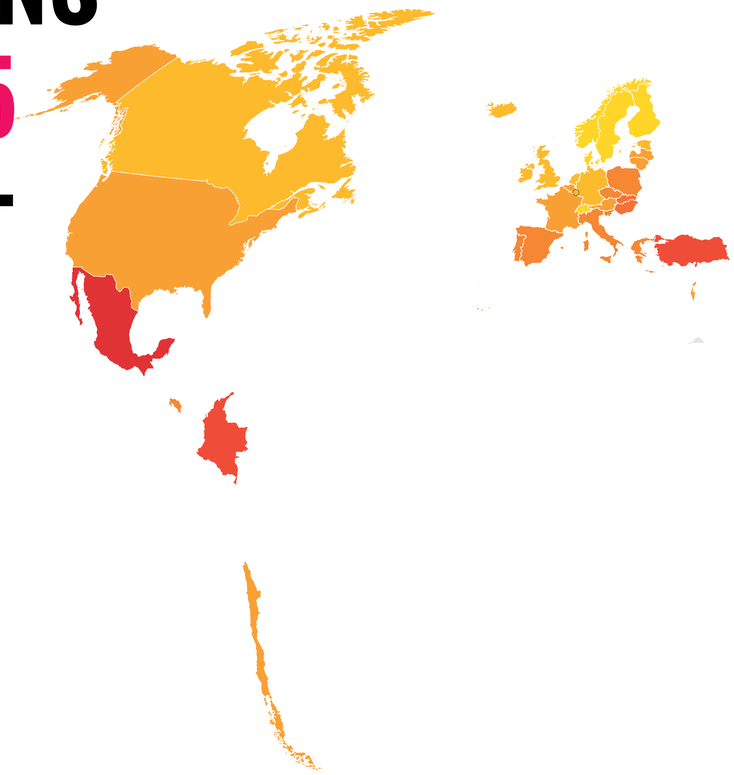
This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

OECD

65/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE

Highly Corrupt — Very Clean

0-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70-79 | 80-89 | 90-100

No Data | Disputed Boundaries* | Lines of Control*

*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2026. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
89	Denmark
88	Finland
81	New Zealand
81	Norway
80	Sweden
80	Switzerland
78	Luxembourg
78	Netherlands
77	Germany
77	Iceland
76	Australia
76	Estonia
76	Ireland
75	Canada
71	Japan
70	United Kingdom
69	Austria
69	Belgium
66	France
65	Lithuania
64	United States of America
63	Chile
63	Korea, South
62	Israel
60	Latvia
59	Czechia
58	Slovenia
56	Costa Rica
56	Portugal
55	Spain
53	Italy
53	Poland
50	Greece
48	Slovakia
40	Hungary
37	Colombia
31	Turkey
27	Mexico

#CPI2025

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2026) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0