

Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index Scoring Model

I Electoral process and pluralism

1. Are elections for the national legislature and head of government free? Consider whether elections are competitive in that electors are free to vote and are offered a range of choices.
 - 1: Essentially unrestricted conditions for the presentation of candidates (for example, no bans on major parties).
 - 0.5: There are some restrictions on the electoral process.
 - 0: A single-party system or major impediments exist (for example, bans on a major party or candidate).
2. Are elections for the national legislature and head of government fair?
 - 1: No major irregularities in the voting process.
 - 0.5: Significant irregularities occur (intimidation, fraud), but do not significantly affect the overall outcome.
 - 0: Major irregularities occur and affect the outcome. Score 0 if score for question 1 is 0.
3. Are municipal elections both free and fair?
 - 1: Are free and fair.
 - 0.5: Are free, but not fair.
 - 0: Are neither free nor fair.
4. Is there universal suffrage for all adults? Bar generally accepted exclusions (for example, non-nationals; criminals; members of armed forces in some countries).
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0: No.
5. Can citizens cast their vote free of significant threats to their security from state or non-state bodies?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0: No.
6. Do laws provide for broadly equal campaigning opportunities?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: Formally, yes, but, in practice, opportunities are limited for some candidates.
 - 0: No.
7. Is the process of financing political parties transparent and generally accepted?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: Not fully transparent.
 - 0: No.
8. Following elections, are the constitutional mechanisms for the orderly transfer of power from one government to another clear, established and accepted?
 - 1: All three criteria are satisfied.
 - 0.5: Two of the three criteria are satisfied.
 - 0: Only one or none of the criteria is satisfied.
9. Are citizens free to form political parties that are independent of the government?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: There are some restrictions.
 - 0: No.
10. Do opposition parties have a realistic prospect of achieving government?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: There is a dominant two-party system, in which other political forces never have any effective chance of taking part in national government.
 - 0: No.
11. Is potential access to public office open to all citizens?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: Formally unrestricted, but, in practice, restricted for some groups, or for citizens from some parts of the country.
 - 0: No.
12. Are citizens allowed to form political and civic organizations, free of state interference and surveillance?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: Officially free, but subject to some unofficial restrictions or interference.
 - 0: No.

II Functioning of government

13. Do freely elected representatives determine government policy?
 - 1: Yes.
 - 0.5: Exercise some meaningful influence.
 - 0: No.
14. Is the legislature the supreme political body, with a clear supremacy over other branches of government? 1: Yes.
 - 0: No.
15. Is there an effective system of checks and balances on the exercise of government authority?
 - 1: Yes.

- 0.5: Yes, but there are some serious flaws.
0: No.
16. Government is free of undue influence by the military or the security services.
1: Yes. 0.5: Influence is low, but the defense minister is not a civilian. If the current risk of a military coup is extremely low, but the country has a recent history of military rule or coups.
0: No.
17. Foreign powers and organizations do not determine important government functions or policies.
1: Yes.
0.5: Some features of a protectorate.
0: No (significant presence of foreign troops; important decisions taken by foreign power; country is a protectorate).
18. Do special economic, religious or other powerful domestic groups exercise significant political power, parallel to democratic institutions?
1: Yes. 0.5: Exercise some meaningful influence.
0: No.
19. Are sufficient mechanisms and institutions in place for ensuring government accountability to the electorate in between elections?
1: Yes.
0.5: Yes, but serious flaws exist.
0: No.
20. Does the government's authority extend over the full territory of the country?
1: Yes.
0: No.
21. Is the functioning of government open and transparent, with sufficient public access to information?
1: Yes.
0.5: Yes, but serious flaws exist.
0: No.
22. How pervasive is corruption?
1: Corruption is not a major problem.
0.5: Corruption is a significant issue.
0: Pervasive corruption exists.
23. Is the civil service willing to and capable of implementing government policy?
1: Yes. 0.5: Yes, but serious flaws exist.
0: No.
24. Popular perceptions of the extent to which citizens have free choice and control over their lives.
1: High. 0.5: Moderate.
0: Low. If available, from World Values Survey