

Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index Scoring Model

<https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/democracy-index-2020/>

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.
2. Are elections for the national legislature and head of government fair?
3. Are municipal elections both free and 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).
5. Can citizens cast their vote free of significant threats to their security from state or non-state bodies?
6. Do laws provide for broadly equal campaigning opportunities?
7. Is the process of financing political parties transparent and generally accepted?
8. Following elections, are the constitutional mechanisms for the orderly transfer of power from one government to another clear, established and accepted?
9. Are citizens free to form political parties that are independent of the government?
10. Do opposition parties have a realistic prospect of achieving government?
11. Is potential access to public office open to all citizens?
12. Are citizens allowed to form political and civic organisations, free of state interference and surveillance?

Functioning of government

13. Do freely elected representatives determine government policy?
14. Is the legislature the supreme political body, with a clear supremacy over other branches of government?
15. Is there an effective system of checks and balances on the exercise of government authority?
16. Government is free of undue influence by the military or the security services.
17. Foreign powers and organisations do not determine important government functions or policies.
18. Do special economic, religious or other powerful domestic groups exercise significant political power, parallel to democratic institutions?
19. Are sufficient mechanisms and institutions in place for ensuring government accountability to the electorate in between elections?
20. Does the government's authority extend over the full territory of the country?
21. Is the functioning of government open and transparent, with sufficient public access to information? 1: Yes.
22. How pervasive is corruption?
23. Is the civil service willing to and capable of implementing government policy?
24. Popular perceptions of the extent to which citizens have free choice and control over their lives.
25. Public confidence in government.
26. Public confidence in political parties.

Political participation

27. Voter participation/turn-out for national elections. (Average turnout in parliamentary elections since 2000. Turnout as proportion of population of voting age.)
28. Do ethnic, religious and other minorities have a reasonable degree of autonomy and voice in the political process?
29. Women in parliament. % of members of parliament who are women
30. Extent of political participation. Membership of political parties and political non-governmental organizations.
31. Citizens' engagement with politics.
32. The preparedness of population to take part in lawful demonstrations.
33. Adult literacy.
34. Extent to which adult population shows an interest in and follows politics in the news.
35. The authorities make a serious effort to promote political participation.

Democratic political culture

36. Is there a sufficient degree of societal consensus and cohesion to underpin a stable, functioning democracy?
37. Perceptions of leadership; proportion of the population that desires a strong leader who bypasses parliament and elections.
38. Perceptions of military rule; proportion of the population that would prefer military rule. 1: Low. 0.5: Moderate.

39. Perceptions of rule by experts or technocratic government; proportion of the population that would prefer rule by experts or technocrats.
40. Perception of democracy and public order; proportion of the population that believes that democracies are not good at maintaining public order
41. Perception of democracy and the economic system; proportion of the population that believes that democracy benefits economic performance.
42. Degree of popular support for democracy
43. There is a strong tradition of the separation of Church and State.

Civil liberties

44. Is there a free electronic media?
45. Is there a free print media?
46. Is there freedom of expression and protest (bar only generally accepted restrictions, such as banning advocacy of violence)?
47. Is media coverage robust? Is there open and free discussion of public issues, with a reasonable diversity of opinions?
48. Are there political restrictions on access to the Internet
49. Are citizens free to form professional organizations and trade unions
50. Do institutions provide citizens with the opportunity to petition government to redress grievances
51. The use of torture by the state
52. The degree to which the judiciary is independent of government influence
53. The degree of religious tolerance and freedom of religious expression
54. The degree to which citizens are treated equally under the law
55. Do citizens enjoy basic security?
56. Extent to which private property rights are protected and private business is free from undue government influence
57. Extent to which citizens enjoy personal freedoms.
58. Popular perceptions on protection of human rights; proportion of the population that think that basic human rights are well-protected.
59. There is no significant discrimination on the basis of people's race, colour or religious beliefs
60. Extent to which the government invokes new risks and threats as an excuse for curbing civil liberties.