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# Mapping threats to peace and democracy worldwide

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## Introduction to the Normandy Index

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## IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

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The 'Normandy Index' aims to measure the level of conflict in the world. It is to be presented for the first time on the occasion of the Normandy Global Peace Forum in June 2019, as a result of the partnership between the European Parliament and the region of Normandy. The Index has been designed and prepared by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) and developed by the Institute for Economics and Peace. This paper sets out the initial findings of the 2019 exercise, and explains how the index can be used to compare peace – defined on the basis of a given country's performance against a range of predetermined threats – across countries and regions. It is complemented by 25 individual country case studies, derived from the Index.

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## Foreword



This year marks the centenary of the Treaty of Versailles, the treaty which formally ended the First World War. During these hundred years Europe has witnessed a devastating second world war, but it has also been the stage for one of the most important achievements of democratic peace: the ever closer union between 28 European states guided by the same values – the values that underpin lasting peace.

But peace is not a given or a constant, especially when one considers the challenging nature of emerging threats and shifting geopolitics today. In several parts of the world peace, security and stability are not part of the reality of citizens. Climate change, terrorism, cyber-attacks, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, poverty and transborder crime are only some of the many factors that disrupt peace, at times leading to violent and deadly conflicts in parts of the world.

As early as its inception, the EU's foreign policy, the CFSP, made the preservation of peace and the strengthening of international security through the EU's global action, two of its key goals. Today, public opinion polls consistently show us that our citizens expect the EU to make its voice heard and implement its actions at global level. Moreover, they expect the EU to be a stronger actor for peace and security.

In order to achieve this, to be an effective global actor, it is indispensable to better understand the threats which challenge global peace so as to identify ways to act preventively and to support the regions and countries that are most threatened, by fostering resilience. This is a key element of the Global Strategy, which refers to the capacity of states and societies to withstand, adapt to, and recover quickly from stresses and shocks. To identify and understand those threats we need information; and we need data to support the elaboration of strategy. In a world which is constantly in flux, the Normandy Index is an additional tool allowing us to evaluate both traditional and new types of threats to peace, and to guide our actions based on facts and data. It is only one of many examples of how critical evidence-based research is for policy-makers and legislators.

As I have said before, the EU is a story of solid and lasting peace, and of democracy and freedom. Through its external action, the EU aims to make peace a global story. And every tool we can have in this process is a tool for the EU and for the world. Through the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament has been empowered as an actor in the EU's foreign policy. Through legislation, parliamentary diplomacy, oversight and its own initiatives, the Parliament will continue to work towards a more peaceful, more secure and more prosperous world.

Antonio Tajani

President of the European Parliament

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# 1. Pursuing peace in a more connected, contested and complex world

The European Union's [foreign policy](#) has long been the subject of varied and contested academic debate – on subjects ranging from the Union's capacity and legitimacy to act, to its need for a strategy, vision and objectives. In response, in part, to some of those questions, the 2016 [Global Strategy](#), launched by the High Representative / Vice-President of the Commission (HR/VP) Federica Mogherini, set out a structured and coherent vision for European Union (EU) foreign policy in an increasingly complex geopolitical and socioeconomic global environment. Building on the provisions of the founding Treaties of the EU – and more specifically of the [Treaty of Lisbon](#) – the Global Strategy raises the EU's level of ambition as a foreign policy actor in pursuit of the objectives defined in the Treaty. Key among those is the pursuit of peace, both in the EU and globally.

The Normandy Index (NI), a product of a 2018 memorandum between the region of Normandy and the European Parliament, aims to provide a holistic picture of the world – regions and countries – through the prism of the pursuit of peace measured against threats explicitly defined in the Global Strategy. Its objective is to provide a tool to help EU policy makers design targeted external action instruments. It is also deliberately framed to be concise and easy to understand, in order to also serve as a communication tool for the wider public – both in terms of understanding threats across the world, but also providing information about EU external action. It complements the Peace and Security Outlook produced by the European Parliamentary Research Service.

## 1.1. How to measure peace

The modern definition of peace [refers](#) not only to 'an absence of war', but also includes elements of well-being: people demand and expect more from peace. This positive dimension of peace is difficult to measure as it is a continuum, stretching from inter-state war to positive public perceptions. This [continuum](#) includes international (i.e. wars, hybrid conflicts) and intra-national violence (i.e. gang or police violence, forced displacements). Therefore, any measure of peace has to take numerous dimensions into account.

Another way to measure peace is to take into consideration the level of threats to peace, in order to address them and avoid possible deterioration. To be sure, several states in the world are faced with multiple threats that not only affect peace individually, but can also merge to create new challenges – and hybrid threats.

The Normandy Index focuses on two main aspects, namely: the perception of threats in the EU's external action (and hence the type of phenomena that EU action aims to tackle to prevent, address or resolve conflict and insecurity, and the monitoring of probability (or existence) of conflict on the basis of the status or level of these threats in a given country.

## 1.2. Identifying threats and shaping policy: indices and policy making

Indices can be [used](#) as early-warning systems designed to give policy makers insights about potential risks and developments in economic, social, environmental, security and political factors. Depending on their makeup, indices can quantify possibilities of an event occurring in the near/foreseeable future, thus acting as foresight tools. Foresight, as defined in the 2019 [Global](#)

[Trends to 2030](#) report of the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS) is 'an intellectual exercise where we imagine different alternatives of the future ... tracing how we end up there'. In that sense, foresight is a tool to help determine and choose a path for action; it is 'an organising yet selective principle'.

An index can also provide a comprehensive overview of a situation made up of a basket of contributing factors. Existing indices relating to peace and security present differing versions of such baskets, taking into account selected variables to build their measurements of conflict and peace. Some function as [conflict trackers](#), focusing specifically on the prevention of deadly violence and its particular relevance for a region or country's foreign policy. [Others](#) aim to be broadly informative about the levels of a multitude of factors such as societal safety and security, domestic and international conflict and the degree of militarisation. A third category, such as the [Fragile States Index](#) (FSI), highlight areas of vulnerability contributing to the risk of state fragility.

Overall, these indices aim to measure the comparative level of pre-defined variables across a region or the world; to make political risk assessments for the future; and to contribute to the work of policy makers and other foreign policy actors. The NI's vision is to perform these functions in the service of EU foreign policy, in a way that is consistent with its objectives and aims.

## 2. The Normandy Index

The Normandy Index differs from other indices by adopting an approach tailored by and to the action of the European Union and by defining conflict (and *conflictualité*) as a product of factors linked to the main threats identified by the EU in its external action strategy. As described in the [2018 Peace and Security Outlook](#), the [EU Global Strategy](#) identifies the following 11 threats as the main current challenges to peace and security.

terrorism	hybrid threats	economic crisis	climate change
energy insecurity	violent conflicts	cybersecurity	disinformation
fragile states	transborder crime	weapons of mass destruction (WMDs)	

The index uses eight of these eleven threats as factors assigned equal weight in the final result for 136 UN countries (with the EU-28 being counted as one).<sup>1</sup>

No solid data was available however to measure transborder crimes across the borders of 136 countries: first, there are thousands of dyads (borders separating two countries) in the world, and second, many states do not publish solid data on transborder crime. This dimension was therefore excluded from the index and replaced by a global measurement of organised crime: the number of homicides.

Measuring [hybrid threats](#) is also complicated, as they are, by their very nature, multi-faceted, comprising of a combination of factors. The index therefore assesses hybrid threats indirectly by

<sup>1</sup> See Methodological Annex.

examining the accumulation of various dimensions but, to avoid duplication, does not explicitly include a 'hybrid threat' category.

Quantifying or even estimating the level of [disinformation](#) in a given country remains a contentious issue among specialists and there is no widely accepted definition or set of data with worldwide coverage, notwithstanding efforts made at [regional level](#). For this reason, this initial version of the NI uses a measure of 'press freedom' in its place. While resilience to disinformation and press freedom are in no way interchangeable or synonymous, the latter is an important factor that contributes to the former. In fact, one of the fields in which a country's *resilience* to disinformation can be measured is the nature of the media landscape. Press freedom and regulations that protect it, along with compliance with a code of ethics are important tools to combat the spread of disinformation. A free, robust press with appropriate legislative safeguards offers a safety net to counter the effectiveness of disinformation. As research into disinformation evolves and as more data becomes available, future versions of the index will adapt accordingly.

The NI adds to the 10 above-mentioned factors the quality of the democratic process, as democracy support is a core dimension of EU's external action. Given the complex and multidimensional nature of the domains, the methodology chosen for the NI is based on the selection of one key representative indicator for each, based on current academic and policy literature and the data available.

Domain (threat)	Indicators	Definition	Source	Number of countries covered	Year of most recent data
Climate change	INFORM Global Risk Index – natural disaster risk sub-indicator	INFORM is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters.	United Nations	193	2019
Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity Index	The Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) is a survey measure capturing the commitment of Member States to cybersecurity in order to raise awareness. It is the only existing open source cybersecurity index.	International Telecommunication Union	199	2017
Democratic processes	Polity IV – Combined Polity Score	Indicator of levels of democracy and autocracy present in a country. The scale runs from +10 Democratic to -10 Autocratic	Polity IV -Systemic Peace	167	2015
Economic crises	Financial Vulnerability – non-performing loans as a % of total loans	The non-performing loans to total gross loans ratio is calculated by using the value of non-performing loans (NPLs) as the numerator and the total value of the loan portfolio as the denominator. It is often used as a proxy for asset quality.	World Bank	139	2017
Energy insecurity	Energy imports	Net energy imports (% of energy use). Banded to be 0 if country is a net exporter of energy.	World Bank	144	2015
Fragile states	Fragile States Index	The Fragile States Index (FSI) is an annual ranking of 178 countries based on the different pressures they face that impact their levels of fragility. The index is based on the	Fund for Peace	181	2018

		proprietary Conflict Assessment System Tool (CAST) analytical approach of the Fund for Peace. Based on comprehensive social science methodology, three primary streams of data — quantitative, qualitative, and expert validation — are triangulated and subjected to critical review to obtain final scores for the FSI.			
Homicide	Homicide rate per 100 000	Homicide rate per 100 000 – used as a proxy for crime	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	166	2015
Press freedom	World Press Freedom Index	The Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking of countries compiled and published by Reporters Without Borders and based on the organisation's own assessment of countries' press freedom records over the previous year. It intends to reflect the degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations, and netizens have in each country, and the efforts made by authorities to respect that freedom.	Reporters Without Borders	180	2017
Terrorism	Global Terrorism Index	A composite score designed to provide an ordinal ranking of countries based on the impact of terrorism on them. The impact of terrorism includes incidents, deaths, injuries, and property damage caused by terrorism.	Global Terrorism Index Report 2018, Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018
Violent conflict	Conflict sub-indicators of the Global Peace Index	This is an average of the following six indicators from the Global Peace Index: (1) intensity of internal conflict, (2) deaths from internal conflict (3) number of internal conflicts, (4) intensity of external conflict, (5) deaths from external conflict (6) external or internal conflicts.	Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018
WMDs	Nuclear and Heavy Weapons Capabilities Indicator of the Global Peace Index	The indicator is based on a categorised system for rating the destructive capability of a country's stock of heavy weapons. 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 and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms. Countries that are signatories to non-proliferation treaties score better in this indicator.	Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018

The Normandy Index is therefore a tool to be used by EU policy makers to assess countries most at risk in the world according to the EU's Global Strategy and target EU action. It is not a ranking of countries according to their peacefulness but a ranking of threats to peace.

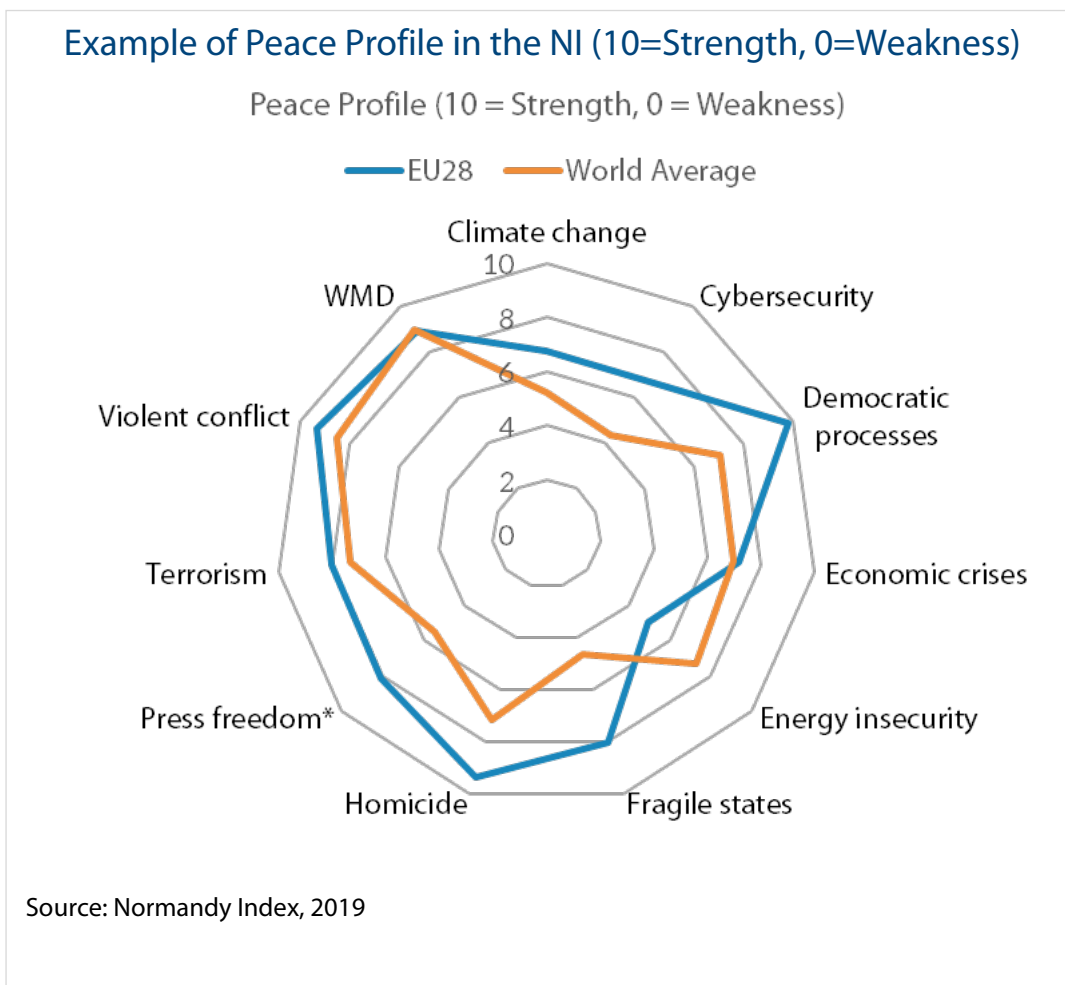
The idea is that it will evolve with time, as new measures become available, and will become better at responding to the needs of policy makers and analysts.

These comparisons enable EU policy makers to grasp which areas need to be given greater consideration when assisting partners all over the world at national and regional levels

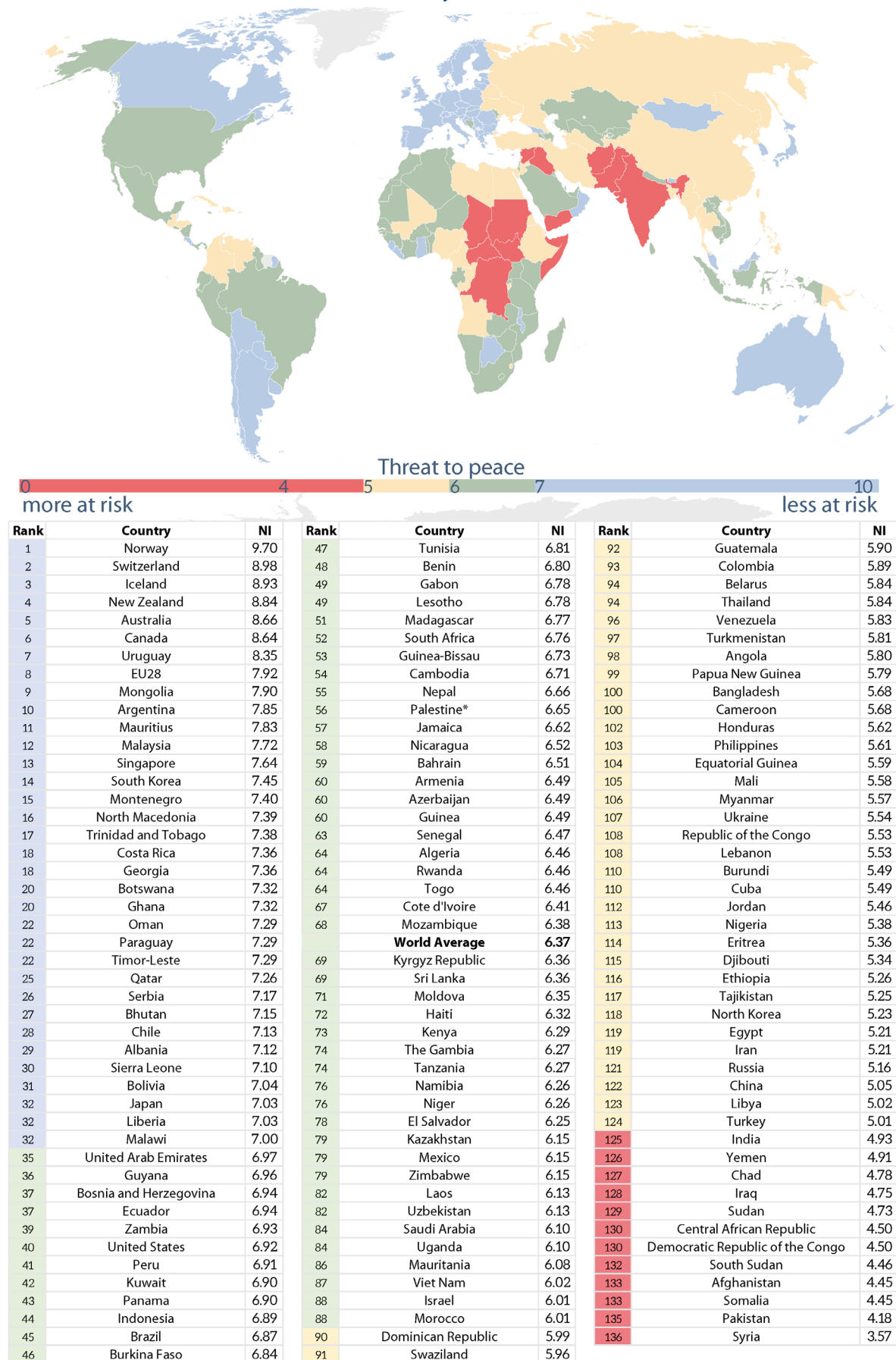
## 2.1. How to use the Normandy Index

For each of the 136 countries, the NI uses the eleven threats to peace as set out in the EU Global Strategy and compares them to the same eleven dimensions for other countries in the same region, as the regional environment obviously plays a major role in countries' resilience to threats.

For each dimension, 10 represents no risk and 0 a major threat. In the example shown below the EU appears less at risk in seven out of eleven dimensions, while being more at risk in the area of energy security than the rest of the world.



## Normandy Index, 2019



### 3. The Normandy Index – why now?

According to a Eurobarometer [survey](#) conducted in 2016 and then [repeated](#) in 2018, the majority of European citizens would like to see increased EU involvement in all policy areas relating to peace and security. While EU foreign and security policy remain in the intergovernmental sphere to a much larger extent than other policy areas, the Lisbon Treaty has contributed to a considerable increase in the EU supranational institutions' [contribution](#) in this area. With respect to Parliament, the most relevant provisions relate to consultation, oversight, accountability and budgetary functions.

Article 36 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), obliges the HR/VP to consult Parliament regularly on the main aspects and choices of common foreign and security policy (CFSP) and common security and defence policy (CSDP) and to keep Parliament [informed](#) on policy developments, requiring that Parliament's views be taken 'duly into consideration'. The European Parliament therefore holds annual debates on the state of play of the CFSP and of the CSDP, on the basis of annual progress reports on the implementation of these policies. Parliament also votes on two annual own-initiative reports (INI) on the implementation of the CFSP and CSDP respectively, asks questions of the HR/VP, and makes recommendations to the HR/VP and to the Council on related matters. Parliament exercises authority in security and defence matters through its function as budgetary authority. Most notably perhaps, the Parliament oversees those civilian aspects of CSDP that are financed by the EU budget ([Article 41 TEU](#)).

The Normandy Index will contribute to the European Parliament's role in foreign policy oversight. It will give Members of the European Parliament a measure of threats to peace throughout the world that is consistent with the EU's Global Strategy. Consequently, it should serve as a tool in response to increased demands for accountability from actors involved in CFSP and CSDP, as well as an empirical argument supporting demand for attention to regions and countries at risk.

At a time of growing demand for EU institutions to demonstrate greater legitimacy and transparency, the gradually growing involvement of the European Parliament in CFSP has helped increase democratic accountability in this policy area. Although, Parliament's formal powers in CFSP are limited, it nonetheless has an increasing influence as a '[norm entrepreneur](#)' in human rights and democracy, both through its close relationship with the HR/VP and as a diplomatic player through its 44 delegations.

### 4. Twenty-five case studies and how to use them

In order to illustrate the use and potential of the Normandy Index, 25 case studies have been singled out in the following pages. For each case study, the reader can find an analysis of the traditional sources of instability and threats to peace, as well as a graphic representation of the situation in the country compared with other countries from the same region. In addition, there is a focus on new sources of insecurity, and an analysis of the EU's contribution and assistance in the area of building [resilience](#) through its involvement with the country in question. The latter can take many different forms (development cooperation, support for democracy and human rights, cooperation within the European Neighbourhood/regional cooperation, pre-accession assistance, etc.) and varies from country to country, depending on the degree and type of cooperation put in place with the country concerned.

# Bosnia and Herzegovina

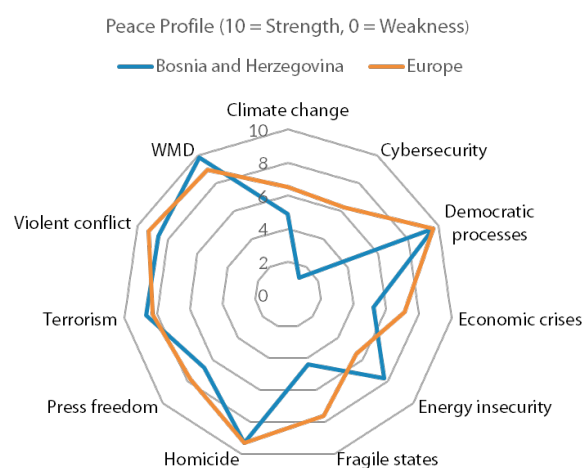
Bosnia and Herzegovina ranks 37 in the Normandy Index. Despite its strong score, it is considered more at risk than the European average. It performs significantly less well than the European average in cybersecurity and fragile states, but scores well in terrorism and energy insecurity.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Bosnia and Herzegovina experienced severe armed conflict between 1992 and 1995, resulting in several international peacekeeping missions.

In 1995 the Dayton Peace Agreement resulted in a decentralised government system. The country is divided into two semi-independent federal units, Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which are largely self-governing.

This decentralised governance is partly the reason for Bosnia and Herzegovina having the second lowest [Fragile States Index](#) score in Europe. Efficient cooperation among the country's constitutional entities is impeded by mistrust among ethnic groups and political parties. Nevertheless, Bosnia and Herzegovina still ranks within the top 100 overall and higher than considerably larger countries. The country is heavily dependent on coal, at 67 % of total electricity production, but is investing in renewable energies, with vast hydro and non-hydro renewable energy potential.



## New security and hybrid threats

Bosnia and Herzegovina has some vulnerabilities to new security threats, owing to resources still being allocated to rebuilding following the conflict and a highly decentralised state structure. One example is [cybersecurity](#), where the country ranks in the bottom 20 for cyber-defence. The constitutional entities in the country lack expertise and resources to build a coherent and solid cybersecurity strategy. While growth in gross domestic product has stagnated somewhat since 2008, some areas of the economy have grown significantly and offer opportunities to build resilience to these

threats. For example, tourism has grown over the past decade, increasing by 12.1 % in 2018 alone.

## EU involvement

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is a potential [candidate](#) for EU membership and therefore has a special relationship with the EU. After the war in the western Balkans in the 1990s, the [Dayton Agreement](#) brought peace in the country. Since 2004, the EUFOR [Althea](#) mission has been supporting efforts in BiH to secure an irreversible peace. Nevertheless, BiH is facing difficulties in a number of areas. It remains a fragile state because constitutional cooperation between the communities is difficult. The EU is [assisting](#) with a number of building and twinning programmes. The EU also supports environmental and climate transition through the [Pre-accession Instrument](#), allocating €9.5 million in 2018.

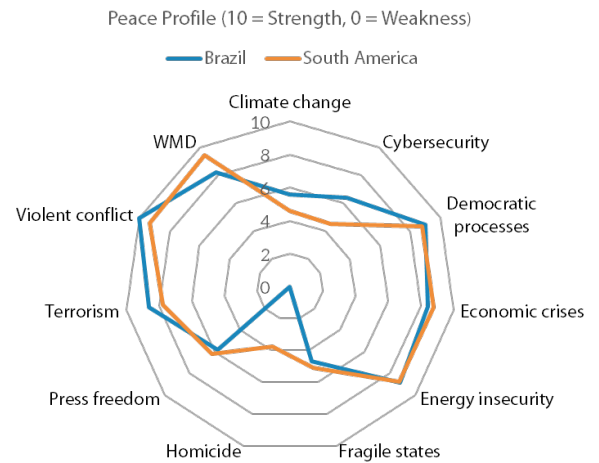
# Brazil

Brazil ranks 45 in the Normandy Index and performs lower than the South American average for the indicators measuring homicide, weapons of mass destruction and resilience to disinformation.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Brazil has the ninth highest homicide rate globally, and the 21st highest score for weapons of mass destruction. While it is not a nuclear power, Brazil has a [large arsenal](#) of tanks, armoured vehicles and combat-capable aircrafts.

In 2018, Brazil's [homicide rate](#) was 30.8 per 100 000 people. This is the 15th highest in the world and more than quadruple the global average of around seven people per 100 000. Homicide and violent crime have increased in recent years owing to [organised crime](#), with most homicides occurring near the main drug smuggling routes. Brazil's deep economic recession from 2014 to 2017 exacerbated deep-rooted social inequalities and translated into a steep rise in homicides.



Brazil scores well on democratic processes, with the 32nd highest score globally.

## New security and hybrid threats

At global level, Brazil's performance is above average for every indicator relating to new security and hybrid threats, especially on cybersecurity. Recognising [the high level](#) of cybercrime and cyber threats in Brazil, the Brazilian government and legislators have been working intensively on this issue. As a result, Brazil has the second highest score in cybersecurity in the South American region.

[A 2018 law](#) inspired by the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) passed by Brazil's Congress will further enhance

national cybersecurity by addressing concerns about digital privacy.

## EU involvement

The EU and Brazil entered a strategic partnership in 2007. Through a large array of [sector dialogues](#) the EU [supports](#) Brazil in addressing the pervasive social inequalities that fuel the country's high homicide rate. EU projects are among others aimed at strengthening the protection of [human rights defenders](#) and the human rights of particularly vulnerable groups such as the [homeless](#), and at countering violence, notably [domestic violence](#) against [women](#). EU [projects on fake news](#) seek to enhance Brazilians' resilience to disinformation. Moreover, the EU fosters transparency in areas such as [public procurement](#). The EU's [Partnership Instrument](#) funds a wide variety of sustainability projects in Brazil. Moreover, Brazil [benefits](#) from the EU programme for Latin America [EUROCLIMA+](#), addressing climate change.

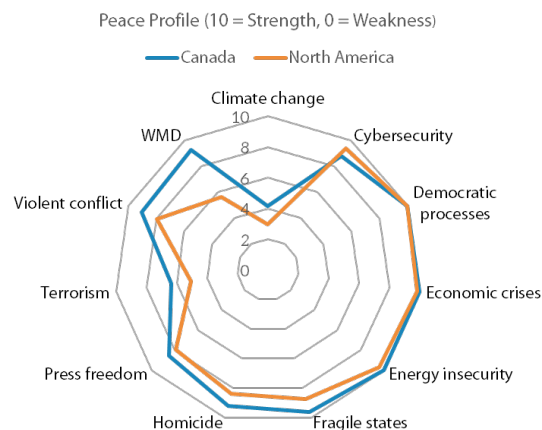
# Canada

Canada ranks 6 in the Normandy Index, indicating low levels of risk. It performs better than the world average in nearly every indicator, and scores notably well on both the democratic processes and fragile states indicators.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

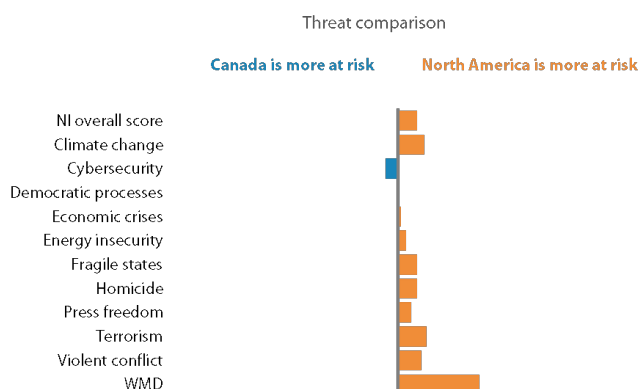
Canada has a long-standing democratic tradition in the form of a parliamentary system, enhanced by strong levels of education and a high GDP per capita. In the [2018 Human Development Index](#), Canada ranked 12 out of the 189 countries measured. In the Economist Intelligence Unit's [Democracy Index](#), Canada comes sixth out of 167 countries with regard to political freedom, culture and participation. In addition, Canada is the sixth most stable country according to the Normandy Index, as measured by the fragile states indicator. This is largely due to high perceptions of state legitimacy, effective public services and low levels of external intervention.

While Canada performs well on most indicators of traditional conflict, it moved up nine rankings to 57 in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). The country experienced six terror-related deaths in 2017.



## New security and hybrid threats

Canada has high levels of both economic development and human capital. The country has the 10th largest economy and second most stable economy globally, as measured by the economic crises indicator. Canada is one of only a few developed countries to be a net exporter of energy, as indicated by its strong score on energy insecurity. Canadian society also enjoys a high level of press freedom, as it ranks 18 in the Freedom of Information Index. This is due to [varied media coverage](#) and freedoms through the Charter of Rights and Freedoms enshrined in the Constitution Act of 1982.



## EU involvement

Canada is a strategic partner for the EU. Under the 2016 [Strategic Partnership Agreement](#) the EU and Canada have strengthened their [foreign policy and sectoral cooperation](#), with a view to upholding their joint commitment to advance democratic principles and human rights and to work together to strengthen international peace and security, effective multilateralism and the rules-based international order. Canada has been one of the steadiest contributors to EU CSDP missions and operations, having taken part in 10 missions and operations to date. The EU and Canada have also concluded a security of information agreement for the exchange of classified information. The agreement aims to facilitate further CSDP cooperation, and cooperation on counter-terrorism, cyber security and sanctions. In 2018 the EU and Canada hosted the first annual [women foreign ministers' conference](#) in September 2018, aiming to propose initiatives with the purpose of elevating a feminist foreign policy agenda around the world. Still in the area of peace and security, Canada and the EU also operate jointly within the [NATO](#) framework. Canada and the EU are meanwhile strong economic partners. In 2017, they signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada ([CETA](#)), which aims to set a high standard for sustainability chapters in trade agreements. Last but not least, the EU and Canada have joined forces as leaders in the international fight against climate change, including by co-convening a [Ministerial on Climate Action](#) (MoCA) with China in 2018.

# Central African Republic

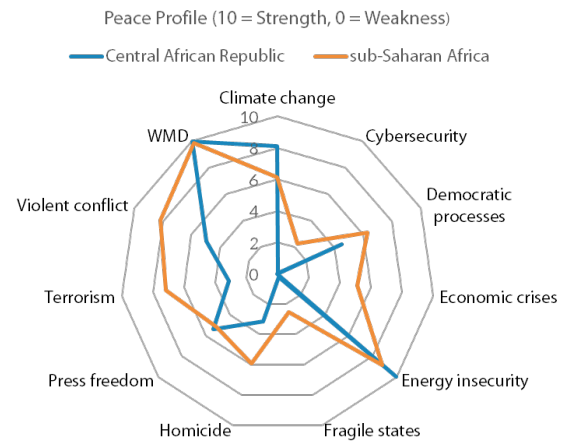
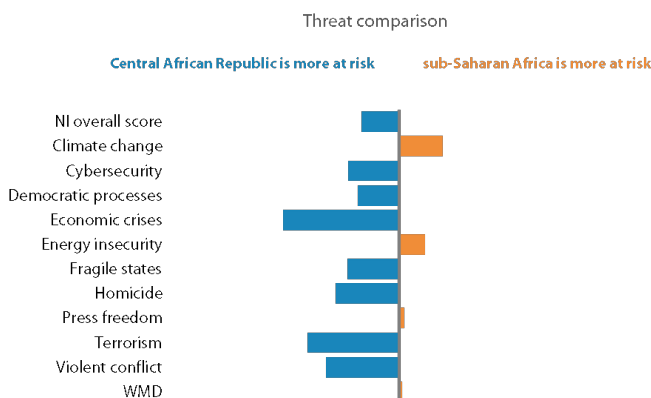
Central African Republic (CAR) ranks 130 in the Normandy Index. It is considered more at risk than the sub-Saharan African average. The constitutional republic has struggled through ongoing episodes of civil war since 2003.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Despite numerous ceasefire and peacebuilding efforts, including the Brazzaville Agreement in 2017 and democratic election of President Touadera in 2016, violence between armed groups remains common and the country is de facto partitioned between the Anti-Balaka in the southwest and ex-Séléka in the northwest.

In 2018, CAR ranked sixth globally on the [Fragile States Index](#), reflecting the weakness of the central elected government. The security vacuum that has emerged as a result has contributed to CAR's high violent conflict score. CAR has the 15th highest score for impact of terrorism globally. The second and third deadliest attacks recorded in the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#) were carried out by Séléka- and Anti-Balaka-affiliated groups, respectively. Both sides of the civil war have demonstrated the capacity and

will to attack civilians, internally displaced persons and even United Nations personnel. There have been instances of ethnic cleansing carried out by both factions.



## New security and hybrid threats

Limited central government capacities and authority make CAR vulnerable to emerging threats in areas including cybersecurity and press freedom. These shortcomings have resulted in the country's low score for democratic processes. In addition to this, attacks on the media are common and the central state authority is often opposed to media criticism, leading to a [2019 World Press](#)

[Freedom Index](#) rating of 112, below the sub-Saharan African average.

## EU involvement

The EU helped the CAR government to draw up the [2017-2021 national recovery and peacebuilding plan](#) and the EU comprehensive approach in the CAR is in line with this plan. The CAR is part of the [ACP \(African, Caribbean and Pacific countries\)-EU partnership](#). In this context, EU aid to the CAR is financed by the [European Development Fund](#) and totals €327 million for the 2014-2020 period. In addition, the EU [Bêkou Trust Fund](#) for the Central African Republic is designed to improve both the coordination of EU donors and the approaches taken by CAR so as to reduce aid fragmentation. At the end of 2016, pledges to the Bêkou Trust Fund amounted to €146 million, mostly from the EU budget and the European Development Fund. Parliament has called on the Member States and other donors to '[scale up their contributions](#)'. One military mission, [EUTM RCA](#), is currently operating in the country, helping to restructure national forces. The EU has committed to [support the implementation of the peace deal](#) signed in February 2019 between the CAR government and armed groups; however the EU was not a prominent actor in this peace deal, which signals the emerging role of Russia on the African continent.

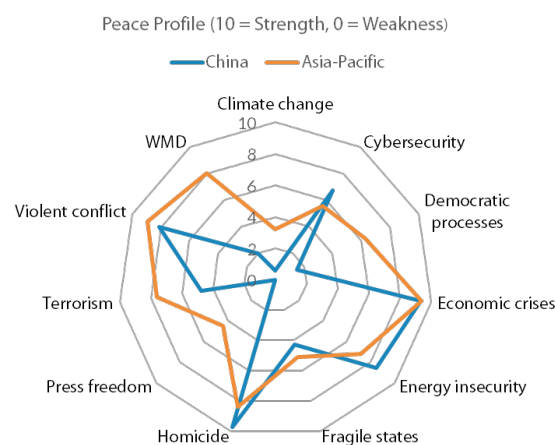
# China

China ranks 122 in the Normandy Index, one place below Russia. It is considered more at risk than the Asia-Pacific average. Since the institution of economic reforms in 1978, China has experienced significant economic growth, becoming the second largest economy in terms of nominal gross domestic product.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

China is still entangled in border disputes with India and Bhutan. Moreover, China's claims to sovereignty over Taiwan and several maritime features in the East and South China Seas have been heavily contested. In support of these claims, China fields the [world's largest army](#) and second largest global defence budget. China also possesses active nuclear weapons.

China ranks 88th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#), with particularly weak scores in the human rights and state legitimacy categories. China has been regularly accused of violent repression in Tibet and Xinjiang Province. It has been the subject of numerous terror attacks in recent years, reportedly committed largely by Uyghur separatists. As a result, China ranks 36th in the 2018 Global Terrorism Index, with six incidents recorded and 16 fatalities.



## New security and hybrid threats

China's rapid economic growth has had a negative impact on its natural resources and environment, severely undermining water quality and leading to erosion and widespread pollution. Desertification claims an additional 4 000 km<sup>2</sup> per year of arable land in the country. China relies on new technologies for an authoritarian model of social surveillance and conformity that it is portraying as an alternative to liberal governance models. It ranks 177 in the 2019 [World Press Freedom Index](#), down from its 176 ranking the previous year, and thus lags far behind other Asia-Pacific countries in terms of resilience to disinformation. Being a one

party state, it scores far below other Asia-Pacific countries when it comes to democratic processes.

## EU involvement

Since the EU and China established a strategic partnership in 2003, they have broadened and deepened their relations through more than [60 dialogue formats](#), including on non-proliferation and disarmament. These contribute to the implementation of the [EU-China 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation](#). Cooperation on [climate change](#), including [emissions trading](#), and on [sustainable development](#), [energy](#), [urbanisation](#), [water](#) and the [circular economy](#) is high on the agenda. The [thematic and regional programmes](#) of the EU's Development Cooperation Instrument aim to strengthen civil society, the rule of law, human rights, and good governance in China. The regular EU-China [human rights dialogue](#) also raises issues such as freedom of expression and of religious belief. The EU has repeatedly called on China 'to expedite the process of ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights', which China signed in 1998. At the 21st EU-China Summit in April 2019 the EU and China [committed](#) to contribute jointly to international peace in several areas, including cyberspace and conflict settlement.

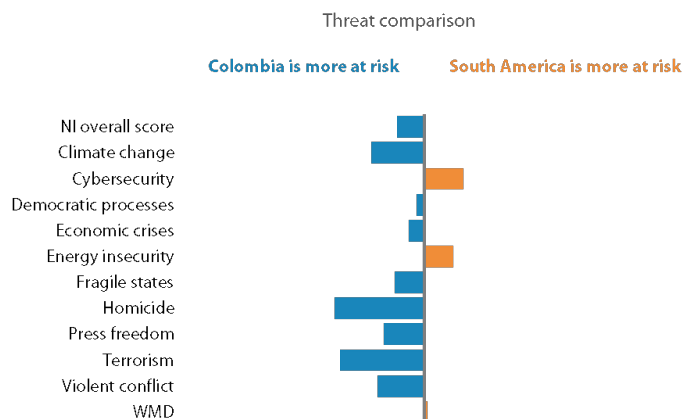
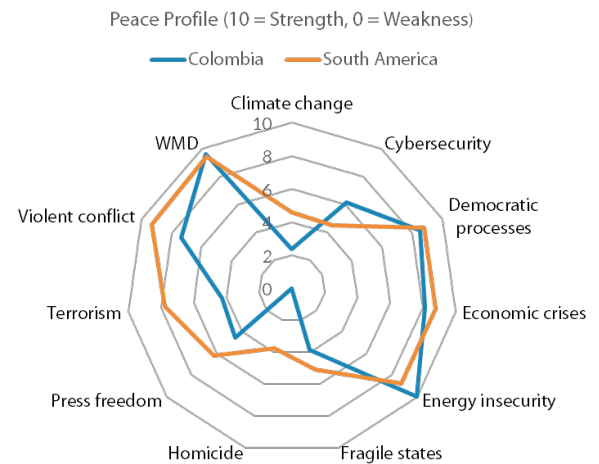
# Colombia

Colombia ranks 93 in the Normandy Index, indicating that the country faces some risk. It is considered more at risk than the South American regional average, and performs below the regional average for homicide, terrorism, violent conflict and resilience to disinformation.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Colombia has struggled with organised crime and the impact of terrorism. A peace agreement between the government and the biggest terrorist group, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC), was signed in 2016. However, there are an [estimated](#) 2 500 active FARC dissidents. In March 2019, hundreds of Colombians were [displaced](#) after a key drug trafficking region experienced increased fighting between ex-FARC groups. It is likely organised crime and terrorist groups will continue to pose a threat to peace in Colombia. This includes knock-on effects to other aspects of society, such as homicides. The homicide rate in Colombia is higher

than the South American regional average and among the 20 highest in the world.



## New security and hybrid threats

Colombia performs below the South American regional average for new security threats. However, the country does show resilience in a number of areas, including energy insecurity, being a net exporter of energy. It also performs higher than the South American regional average in cybersecurity. Colombia performs relatively poorly in press freedom and access to information. The country ranks 129 in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#), largely owing to high numbers of death threats towards

journalists and resultant self-censorship.

## EU involvement

EU support for Colombia's peace process has shaped the EU-Colombia relationship in recent years. Since 2000, [this support](#) has reached [almost €2 billion](#) (including [€575 million](#) announced by the EU for the post-conflict period, and €910 million allocated bilaterally by Member States between 2010 and 2015). In December 2016, the EU set up a [Trust Fund](#) for Colombia, totalling €95 million from the EU budget and 19 Member States; and the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace ([IcSP](#)) mobilised an [extra €40 million](#) for critical elements of the peace process, such as achieving an effective transitional justice system. EU cooperation covers areas such as victims' rights, reintegration of ex-FARC guerrillas into civilian life, de-mining, rural development, land restitution, environment, conflict resolution, projects relating to peace and the post-conflict period, and the establishment of a [special investigation unit](#) in the prosecutor-general's office to combat crime and protect activists. The EU has also appointed a special envoy, Eamon Gilmore, who considers the EU's role in the Colombian peace process to have been a great success, and a [model](#) for EU external policy. The EU also has a [Comprehensive Trade Agreement with Colombia and Peru](#), provisionally applied since 2013. Regional cooperation between the EU and the Andean Community aims to help cement regional ties in Colombia's neighbourhood.

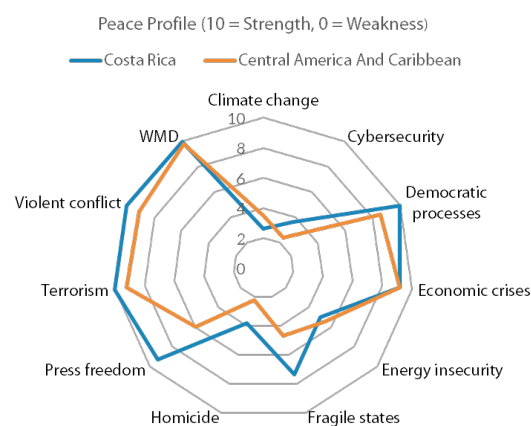
# Costa Rica

Costa Rica ranks 18 in the Normandy Index, indicating relatively low levels of risk. In contrast to several other countries in the Central America and Caribbean region, Costa Rica has high levels of peace and political stability. Costa Rica enjoys a stable and uninterrupted democracy, with 14 presidential elections since 1948.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Costa Rica abolished its military in 1948 following the end of an intense civil war. This has had positive ramifications for its violent conflict and weapons of mass destruction scores. There is a limited threat of armed conflict within the country, and it enjoys good relations with neighbouring states. Additionally, it ranks among the countries suffering the lowest impact from terrorism. Costa Rica ranks [fifth](#) globally in electoral efficiency and credibility, and this is reflected in its high score on democratic processes.

While it performs well on other indicators of traditional conflict, Costa Rica has relatively high levels of homicide. High homicide rates are attributed to [organised crime](#), which also affects many other countries within the Central American and Caribbean region.



## New security and hybrid threats

Costa Rica has a relatively high level of resilience to new security threats. It has a long-standing and stable democracy and benefits from high levels of press freedom and human rights. It ranks 10th in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#), owing to low levels of violence against journalists and state interference. As such, it performs above the regional average for the indicators measuring democratic processes and fragile states. Nevertheless, Costa Rica faces risks from climate change and scores below the regional average. Costa Rica ranks 22 among those countries the most susceptible to hazards resultant from climate-related events in INFORM's [Global Risk](#)

[Index](#). In response, Costa Rica is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2021 and is the only country to have met all five of the United Nations Development Programme's environmental stability measures.

## EU involvement

The EU has traditionally maintained strong political relations with Costa Rica. Both parties played an active part in the [San José dialogue](#) of 1984 to support the peace process and democratisation efforts in [Central America](#). Cooperation agreements were concluded in 1985 and 1993, and a political dialogue and cooperation agreement in 2003. [Costa Rica](#) is also signatory to the EU-Central America Association Agreement concluded in 2012. Although Costa Rica has been [phased out](#) of bilateral cooperation under the 2014-2020 financial exercise, it will continue to benefit from the EU thematic lines, the regional programmes for Latin America and from the [sub-regional programme](#) for Central America. The current programming exercise includes cooperation on security and impunity. The EU also supports [new regional approaches](#) through triangular cooperation schemes; for instance, it is working with Costa Rica, Colombia and Mexico on strengthening restorative justice. The EU has also funded [projects](#) in the areas of citizen security, fighting discrimination against vulnerable groups, border security, and the Central American security strategy. Costa Rica is aligned with the EU in international fora on various issues, including regional peace and security.

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) ranks 130 in the Normandy Index. It is considered more at risk than the Sub-Saharan African average. The republic is still mired in the effects of the profound political and security crisis triggered in 1997 when President Kabila violently seized power.

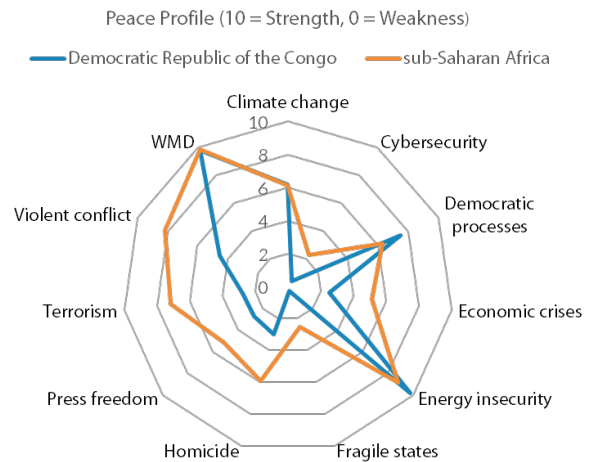
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Despite successful elections in 2006 and in 2011, continued allegations of government corruption and the deferral of elections beyond their 2016 constitutional limit until 30 December 2018 led to escalating violence and government repression from 2016 onwards.

The DRC ranks 5th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#).

Despite the fragility of the state itself, the DRC has a high score for democratic processes relative to the broader sub-Saharan Africa region. This is likely reflective of the ongoing efforts of the United Nations MONUSCO mission and the successful – though contested – election of Félix Tshisekedi as president in January 2019.

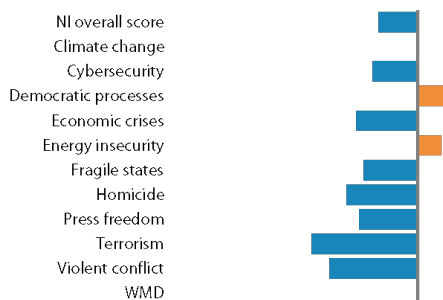
The DRC ranked 11th in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). Its terrorism score is continuing to deteriorate as the ungoverned eastern regions of the DRC host a number of extremist groups and militias that have shown the capacity and resolve to engage both DRC government forces and United Nations peacekeepers. Groups such as the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) and the Lord's Resistance Army are known to use child soldiers and commit acts of ethnic cleansing.



Threat comparison

Democratic Republic of the Congo is more at risk

sub-Saharan Africa is more at risk



## New security and hybrid threats

The unconstitutionally long term of President Kabila took its toll on press freedom, with reportedly regular threats and physical attacks and occasional killings of journalists, leading the DRC to rank 154th out of 180 countries in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#).

The country is considered at-risk, with particular vulnerabilities to threats to its energy supply and infrastructure.

## EU involvement

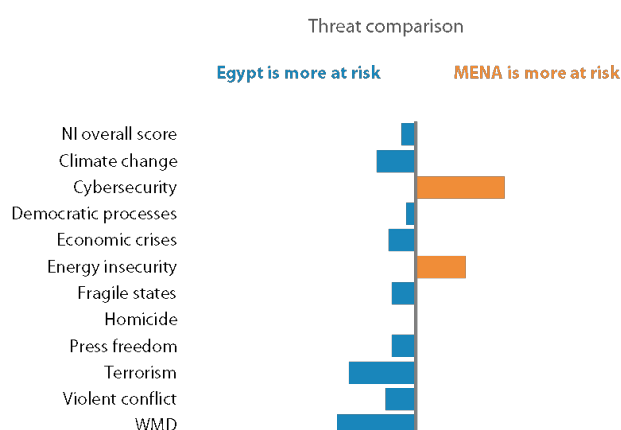
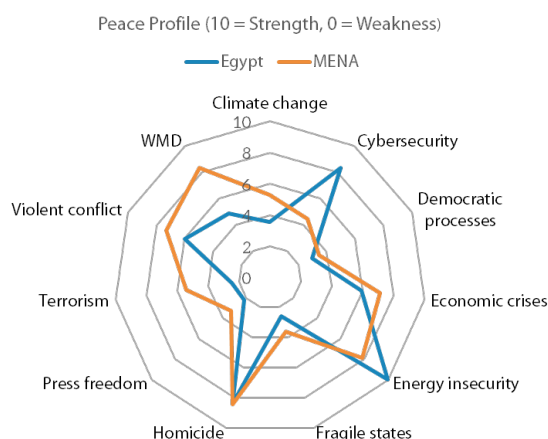
The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is part of the [ACP \(African, Caribbean and Pacific countries\)-EU partnership](#). In this context, EU aid to the DRC is financed primarily by the [European Development Fund](#), up to €709 million for the 2014-2020 period, of which one quarter is dedicated to strengthening governance and the rule of law. The EU has deployed two military missions and three civilian missions in Congo, to help stabilise the country and reform police and army forces. The latest ended in June 2016. EU relations with the DRC are strained due to [sanctions](#) against several Congolese perpetrators of human rights violations, including former President Kabila's relatives. In retaliation, the Congolese government ordered the EU ambassador to leave the country in December 2018, a [few days before the elections](#) were held. The EU was not invited to send an electoral observation mission and it has 'noted' that Tshisekedi's election as the new president was contested.

# Egypt

Egypt ranks 119 in the Normandy Index. It is considered more at risk than the average for the Middle East and north Africa (MENA) region average. Street protests in 2011 forced long-term President Hosni Mubarak to step down. Political unrest has continued since. The military removed Mubarak's successor Mohammad Morsi from power in 2013. Thousands of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood supporters have since been sentenced to death or jailed. Morsi's successor, President el-Sisi, was elected in 2014 and re-elected in 2018.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Egypt ranks 34th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#), with particularly high scores in the human rights and factionalised elites indicators. The military remains the predominant political force in the country and has demonstrated its capacity to influence the country's political direction. Since 2014, the terrorist group Wilayat Sina, the Islamic State's local branch in the Sinai Peninsula, has been conducting a prolonged insurgency against the Egyptian authorities. The group was responsible for 457 deaths in 2017; this is the main reason for Egypt ranking ninth in the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#).



## New security and hybrid threats

98 % of Egypt's population of approximately 95 million is concentrated around the arable Nile valley and delta, which represent only 3 % of the country's total landmass. The population relies on the Nile's regular flow for its basic water needs, a supply which is threatened by Ethiopia's planned construction of a dam upstream. [Soil salinisation](#) also threatens 15 % of the country's agricultural land.

Egypt's ongoing political unrest has led to the detention and sentencing of journalists. Reflecting this, Egypt ranks 161 of 180 countries in the 2018 [World Press Freedom Index](#).

Public access to more than 500 websites has been blocked. In 2017, Egypt launched a national cybersecurity strategy, intended to defend national infrastructure against cyberattacks.

## EU involvement

Egypt is facing a host of economic, social, political and security challenges. The socioeconomic grievances that led to the January 2011 revolution have not been addressed. The [European Union](#) stands by the Egyptian people in their ongoing efforts to achieve socio-economic development, as well as democracy, respect for human rights, social justice and security. The 2001 association agreement, which entered into force in June 2004, forms the legal basis for EU-Egypt relations. Relations were further strengthened through the jointly agreed [EU-Egypt Action Plan](#), adopted in 2007, which helped to develop bilateral relations in the political, social and economic realms. In the context of [the revised European Neighbourhood policy](#), the EU and Egypt have adopted [partnership priorities](#) to guide the partnership for the 2017-2020 period. EU [assistance](#) to Egypt will focus on economic modernisation, energy sustainability and the environment; social development and social protection; and governance.

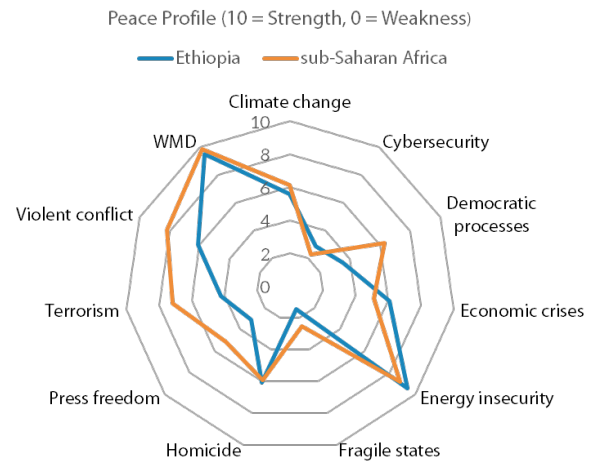
# Ethiopia

Ethiopia ranks 116 in the Normandy Index. It is considered more at risk than average for sub-Saharan Africa. The country is a federal parliamentary republic, with significant power vested in the prime minister. Despite two national states of emergency declared in response to popular protests, in October 2016 and February 2018, under President Abiy Ahmed Ethiopia has made great efforts to both resolve ongoing disputes with Eritrea following the 1998-2000 war and introduce wide-ranging political, economic and electoral reforms.

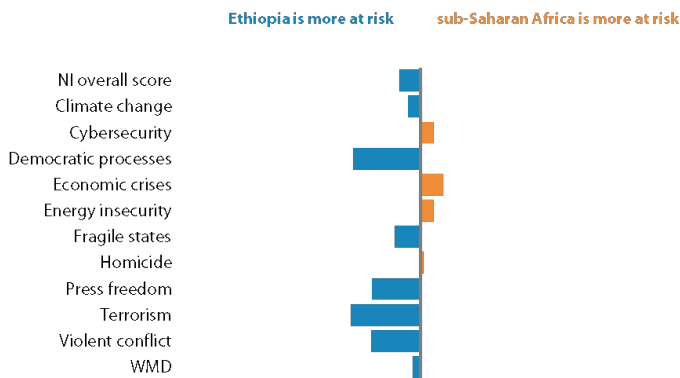
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Ethiopia ranks 23rd on the 2019 [Fragile States Index](#), with particularly high scores for demographic pressures and group grievances. In 2018, clashes between ethnic groups displaced more than 1.2 million people.

Conflict with Eritrea and among ethnic and religious groups has, however, given rise to terrorist violence. Ethiopia ranks 26th on the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#), with 24 recorded incidents and 60 fatalities. Anti-terror measures are particularly harsh and have raised the concern of many human rights organisations.



Threat comparison



## New security and hybrid threats

Ethiopia ranks 150th in the 2019 [World Press Freedom Index](#), well below the sub-Saharan African average. The states of national emergency declared in 2016 and 2018 have been used to silence dissenting voices, with a number of newspapers being shut down and certain broadcast media being banned.

Energy insecurity remains an ongoing issue in Ethiopia. Ongoing disputes with Egypt over the construction of the Millennium

Dam on the River Nile remain a point of tension.

## EU involvement

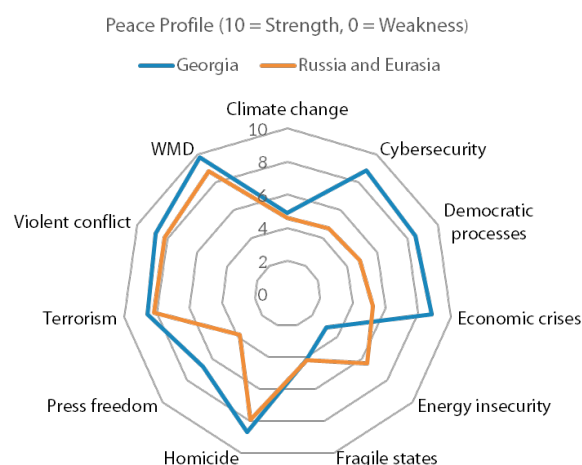
Ethiopia is a key partner for the EU strategic framework for the Horn of Africa, due to its economic potential, its military capacity and its ability to retain refugees. Ethiopia is part of the [ACP \(African, Caribbean and Pacific countries\)-EU partnership](#). In this context, EU aid to Ethiopia is financed primarily by the [European Development Fund](#) up to €745 million for the 2014-2020 period. Conflict prevention and resilience efforts are also financed by means of the [EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#) (EUTF Africa), for projects worth €232 million, with a view to mitigating the root causes of irregular migration. One of the projects partly financed by the EUTF Africa is dedicated to rebuilding roads between Ethiopia and Eritrea in [support of the 2018 peace agreement](#), which ended two decades of conflict between the two countries.

# Georgia

Georgia ranks 18th in the Normandy Index. It performs higher than the Eurasian regional average in the indicators measuring homicide, terrorism, violent conflict, and weapons of mass destruction.

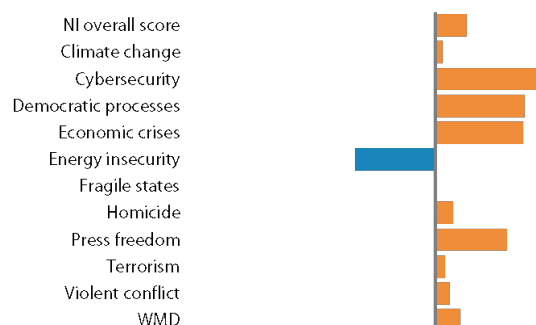
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Since independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Georgia has had to face economic crisis and wars in Abkhazia and South Ossetia. In August 2008, a five-day war with Russia resulted in the Russian occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. While most of the international community and the EU support Georgia's territorial integrity, the intensity of the conflict has decreased without being resolved. Georgia is among the world's lowest 40 % for homicide rates, at 2.68 per 100 000, and has experienced relatively low levels of terrorism in the past five years. The country also scores well in the democratic processes indicator and



Threat comparison

Georgia is more at risk Russia and Eurasia is more at risk



performs in the top 40 % of countries globally.

## New security and hybrid threats

Georgia has the region's second highest score on the economic crisis indicator, and a relatively resilient economy. [Reform](#) over the past 15 years has focused on globalising the business sector and boosting gross domestic product.

Over the past decade, Georgia has cultivated trade relationships across different geographic areas. While neighbouring countries Russia, Bulgaria, Azerbaijan and

Turkey still constitute the main export destinations, Georgia has expanded its relationships with China, established the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, joined the EU's deep and comprehensive free trade area and committed to the NATO Response Force. Georgia has also increased resilience in other areas and now has the highest score for cybersecurity in the Eurasian region.

## EU involvement

Although Georgia is facing Russian [military](#) presence in two regions (South Ossetia and Abkhazia), it ranks as the most resilient [Eastern Partnership](#) (EaP) country. Georgia has been committed to deepening relations with the EU, through European Neighbourhood policy ([ENP](#)) since 2004 and the Eastern Partnership since 2009. With the [association agreement](#) and the deep and comprehensive free trade agreement, the EU is supporting the modernisation of the Georgian economy and the strengthening of state institutions and policies. The EU is also working to offer Georgian citizens new travel, study and business opportunities. Since the entry into force of the visa-free regime in 2017, Georgian citizens holding biometric passports can enter the Schengen area visa-free and remain there for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. Since then, more than 500 000 Georgians have travelled to the EU. In the 2015-2018 period, 5 579 students and academic staff took part in the Erasmus+ programme for the purpose of teaching or studying in the EU or Georgia.

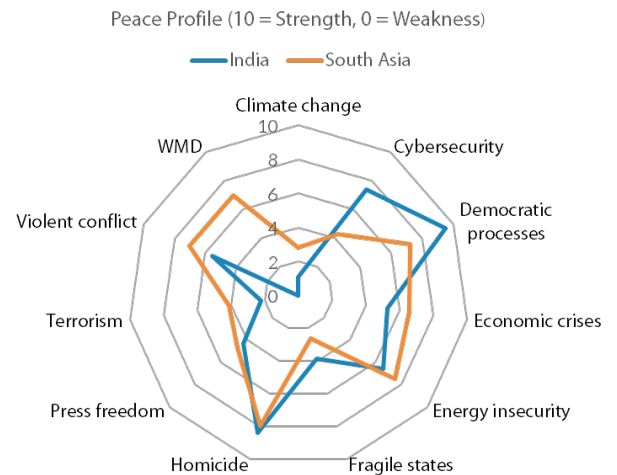
In areas where Georgia is more at threat (energy security and climate), the EU [funds](#) projects in renewable energies, i.e. €105 million for energy security (2007-2017).

# India

India ranks 125 in the Normandy Index. It is considered less at risk than average for southern Asia. The country has been a federal parliamentary republic since its independence from the United Kingdom in 1947. India's high risk on the index is largely the product of a number of unresolved territorial disputes with China and Pakistan, both of which are also nuclear-armed powers.

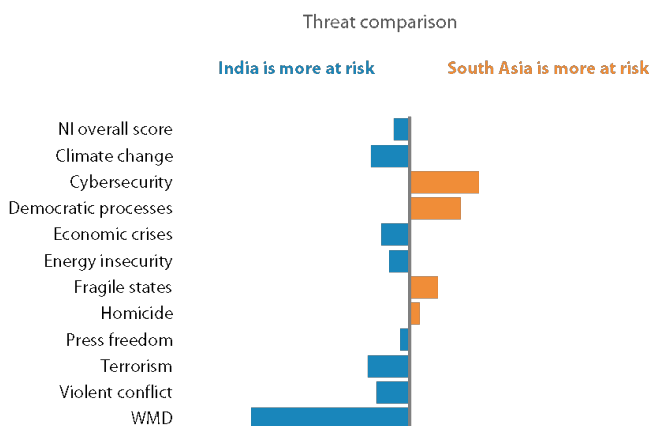
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Although it is the world's most populous democracy, India ranks 74th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#). Despite high-level economic success since the 1990s, the country has been challenged by ongoing inter-religious, inter-caste and inter-ethnic disputes. The country has struggled in particular with endemic poverty, both rural and urban. An [estimated](#) 46 million Indians live below the poverty line. Internally, India ranked 7th in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). The Naxalite Communist Party of India is the deadliest terrorist actor in the country and has been active for several decades in its northern and central territories. India's tensions with Pakistan, particularly over ownership of the Jammu-Kashmir region, have also given rise to a number of Islamist groups operating from within Pakistani territory.



## New security and hybrid threats

More than 180 million Indian households have access to television and more than 462 million people use the internet in India. However, government efforts to limit 'anti-national' thought have led to India ranking 138th on the [2018 World Press Freedom Index](#). The risks posed by flooding, rising temperatures and declining rainfall, mean that India's agricultural sector is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Some [estimates](#) suggest that up to 40 % of total crop yield could be lost if temperatures were to rise by 2°C. India has a much stronger cybersecurity infrastructure than average for southern Asia.



## EU involvement

India is the biggest democracy in the world. India and the EU have been strategic partners since 2004. They began talks on a bilateral trade and investment agreement (BTIA) in 2007, but negotiations are at a deadlock. In November 2018 the EU adopted a new [strategy on India](#) to relaunch the partnership. India is not eligible for bilateral assistance from the EU's Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), however it can still [benefit](#) from DCI-funded thematic and regional programmes for Asia. EU-India cooperation has expanded significantly in research and innovation ([R&I](#)). At their last two summits, the EU and India have agreed on an [Agenda for Action 2020](#) and stated their joint commitment to [cooperation on combatting terrorism](#), and promoting [clean energy and climate change](#), a [water partnership](#) and [smart and sustainable urbanisation](#).

# Indonesia

Indonesia ranks 44 in the Normandy Index. Significant economic growth in the populous country have raised it to political prominence in the region. This rise has not been without its problems: sectarian unrest, corruption, terrorism and the 1997 financial crisis have each posed significant challenges.

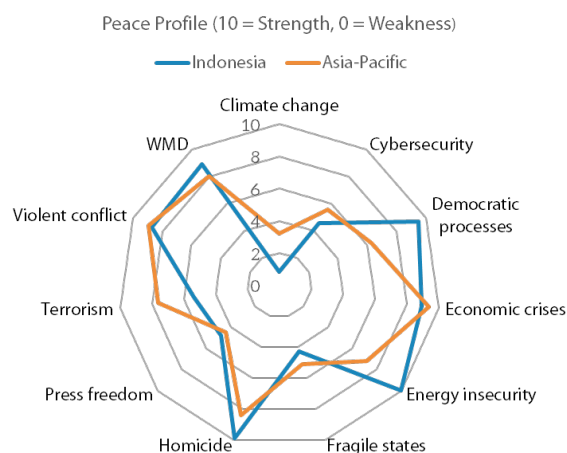
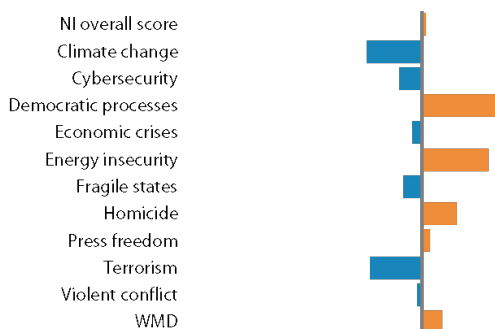
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Indonesia has faced a number of separatist and militant movements since its independence in 1949 and ranks 42 on the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). For instance, the country's occupation of East Timor from 1975 to 1999 led to conflict with Fretilin, a pro-independence militia, and conflict with Papuan separatists remains ongoing. Islamist movements, and Jemaah Islamiyah in particular, while formerly active in the country, have been less active in recent years.

Threat comparison

Indonesia is more at risk

Asia-Pacific is more at risk



## New security and hybrid threats

Despite its success in instituting democratic practices, including the conduct of the 2019 general election, Indonesia ranks 124 in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#) and 93 on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#), with a particularly high score in the group grievances category. This has largely to do with ongoing unrest in the province of

Papua, where media access is restricted.

The 2004 Aceh earthquake and tsunami, in which over 160 000 people were killed, demonstrated Indonesia's vulnerability to environmental and climatic factors. Increasing drought frequency is [predicted](#) to threaten Indonesia's monsoon-based agricultural practices and lead to food shortages, while rising ocean levels are predicted to threaten approximately 42 million low-lying households.

## EU involvement

Although the EU and Indonesia are geographically distant, they have common values, such as a commitment to democracy, human rights and multilateralism. Both are pluralistic societies with a motto of 'Unity in Diversity'. In 2014, Indonesia became the first southeast Asian country to sign a [partnership and cooperation agreement](#) with the EU. A free trade agreement is currently being negotiated. As a middle-income country, Indonesia no longer receives EU bilateral [aid](#), except for programmes pre-dating 2014, but it continues to participate in regional programmes including Erasmus+ for higher education. As a regional leader, Indonesia is also key to the EU's efforts to build a strategic partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

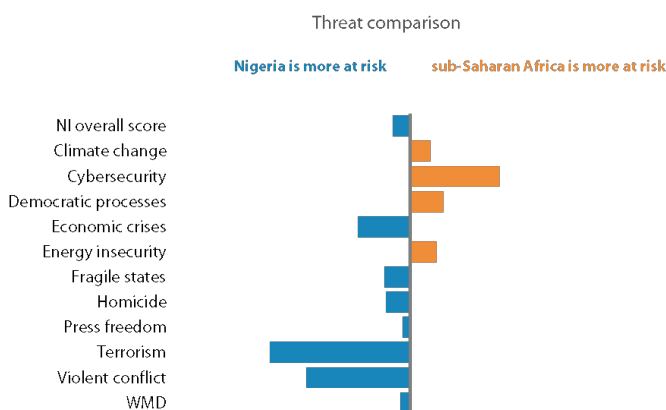
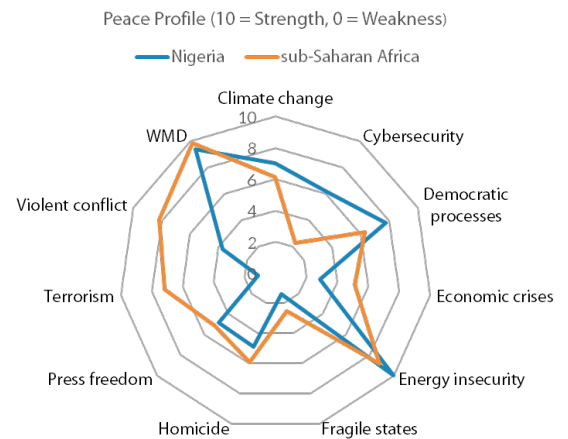
# Nigeria

Nigeria ranks 113 in the Normandy Index. It is considered to be more at risk than average for sub-Saharan Africa. Nigeria has struggled with ethnic tensions since colonial times. While the 1967-1970 civil war was primarily concerned with the equitable distribution of oil revenues between ethnic groups, more recent conflict has assumed more sectarian overtones. The country operates as a federal republic.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Despite an overall improvement on the previous year, Nigeria ranked 3rd in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#), with 411 recorded incidents and 1 532 fatalities. Boko Haram, an ISIL-affiliated Islamist insurgency operating since 2002, produced the majority of these deaths. However, conflict between Christian farmers and Islamic Fulani herdsman has also escalated into violent conflict, with the latter carrying out a number of terrorist attacks.

The country's federal model allows for a large degree of state autonomy between the predominantly Muslim north and the predominantly Christian south. However, the concentration of oil-producing regions in the southern Niger Delta, as well as endemic corruption, have led to Nigeria ranking 14th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#), with particularly high scores in the factionalised elites and group grievances indicators.



## New security and hybrid threats

Despite being Africa's biggest economy in terms of nominal gross domestic product, Nigeria has a fragile economic situation on account of its over-reliance on oil. The country's accelerated demographic growth is a potential factor of instability given the lack of jobs for young people. As a relatively wealthy country in the region, Nigeria is an outlier in terms of the strength of its cybersecurity capacities. However, Nigeria's political corruption has exacerbated issues relating to disinformation. Africa's most populous country thus ranks 119th in the [2019 World Press](#)

[Freedom Index](#). While internationally supported elections are generally praised as fair and efficient, they are often witness to large-scale disinformation campaigns by participating parties. This is likely to continue to be a challenge in the future.

## EU involvement

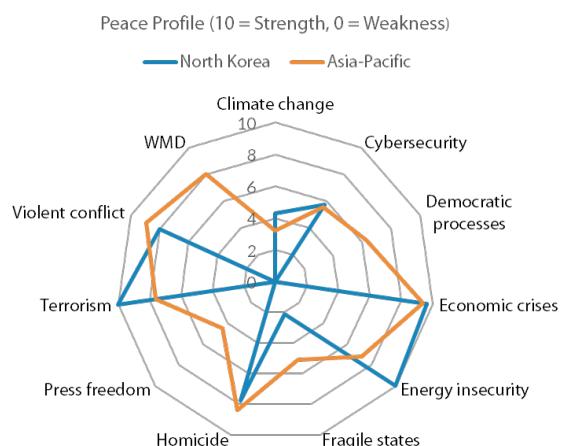
The EU has supported numerous initiatives to increase Nigeria's resilience to violent conflict and other threats. To help fight the terrorist scourge, the EU has [funded](#) a regional initiative bringing together several Lake Chad countries – the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram. The EU has been providing [support](#) through the European Development Fund (totalling over [€500 million](#) from 2014 to 2020) to improve Nigeria's resilience in various areas, such as health and nutrition, electricity production, rule of law, and peace and security. The EU has proposed that Nigeria sign up to a regional [Economic Partnership Agreement](#) between EU and West Africa aimed at liberalising trade exchanges, and fostering regional integration and sustainable development. The partnership would also support Nigeria's much needed economic diversification. The [EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#) supports conflict prevention and relief measures as well as greater economic and employment opportunities, with a view to increasing the resilience of communities in the areas most afflicted by conflict.

# North Korea

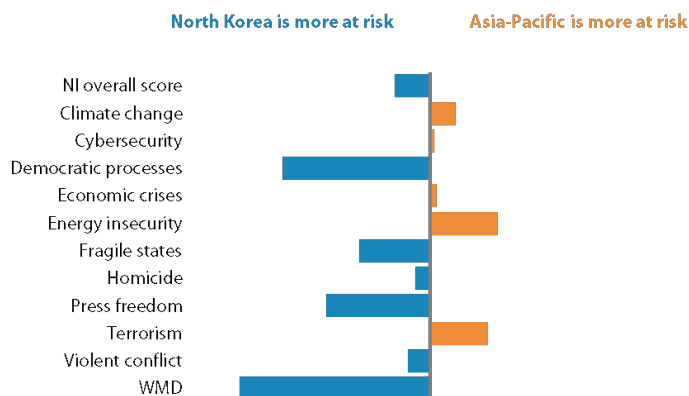
North Korea ranks 118 in the Normandy Index, which is lower than the Asia-Pacific average. Negotiations on the reunification of the Korean peninsula have failed consistently since 1948. The Korean War (1950-1953) produced a ceasefire between North and South but no enduring peace treaty, and each claims to be the sole legitimate government of the peninsula.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Under its 'military first' (*songun*) policy, North Korea produced the [fourth largest](#) active duty military in the world with 1.21 million soldiers, supported by over eight million reserve and paramilitary personnel. In 2013 this policy was replaced with the 'progress in tandem' (*byongjin*) policy, which emphasises economic progress and guarantees security against South Korean or American incursion by means of nuclear development. North Korea ranks 26 on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#), with a particularly weak score in the category of state legitimacy. The North Korean government has sought to address a number of issues related to living conditions under the *byongjin* policy. The government, however, is generally regarded as authoritarian, ranking 176 on the [2019 Global Corruption Perceptions Index](#), and political prisoners are known to be interred in prison camps.



Threat comparison



## New security and hybrid threats

North Korea ranks 179 on the [Global Press Freedom Index](#). The state security apparatus is extensive, maintaining control over citizens' residence, travel, employment, clothing, appearance, food and family life. Refugees report that the population is sorted according to their *songbun* – a status system assessing a citizen's loyalty to the government – and granted opportunities accordingly. Furthermore, the shortage of skilled labour, energy, arable land and transportation has significantly impeded long-term growth and resulted in North

Korea's ongoing difficulty in meeting development objectives. This has had a particular impact on the farming sector and infrastructure.

## EU involvement

The EU has a policy of 'critical engagement' towards North Korea, with a view to diminishing tensions in the Korean peninsula, upholding a nuclear non-proliferation regime and improving the human rights situation. It has applied [sanctions](#) against Pyongyang, implementing the UN Security Council resolutions and adopting autonomous restrictive measures. Meanwhile, since 1995, it has contributed over €135.7 million in [aid funding to North Korea](#) – mostly on food assistance, as well as on disaster relief and poverty alleviation. EU-North Korea trade in goods in 2016 amounted to a mere €27 million (0.5 % of North Korea's external trade). The EU has had diplomatic relations with North Korea since 2001, however it has no delegation; its local representation is ensured in turn by one of the seven Member States having embassies in the country.

# North Macedonia

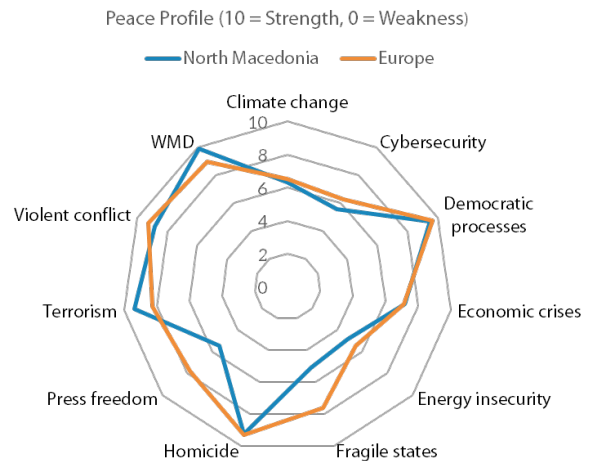
North Macedonia is placed 16th out of 136 countries measured in the Normandy Index. Its performance is below the average for Europe on most indicators, but it outperforms the global average when it comes to democratic processes, cybersecurity and homicide indicators.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

In 1991, North Macedonia gained independence from the former Yugoslavia and since then has remained relatively peaceful. It scores within the top quartile of countries in the democratic processes indicator. The current government, led by the Social Democratic Alliance of Macedonia (SDSM) since May 2017, has improved relations with the EU and, in particular, with Bulgaria and Greece. With the Prespa Agreement, the country changed its name to the Republic of North Macedonia in exchange for Greece ending its veto on the latter's EU and NATO accession.

North Macedonia performs well in the Normandy

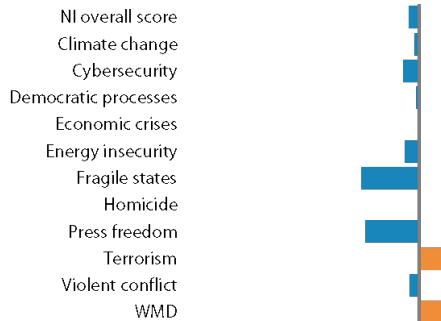
Index conflict indicators and the homicide and violent conflict indicators are in line with European averages. The country has experienced less terrorism than the regional average.



Threat comparison

North Macedonia is more at risk

Europe is more at risk



## New security and hybrid threats

Since independence, North Macedonia has made progress in developing a westernised, open-market economy. There have been reforms in areas such as property registration, access to credit and the protection of minority investors. North Macedonia is the only middle-income country to rank among the top 20 countries globally in ease of doing business, [as ranked by the World Bank](#). The country has applied for both EU and NATO membership. Its progress on economic reform is demonstrated

by its strong economic crises score. However, North Macedonia scores just below the world average, and the second lowest in Europe, on press freedom.

## EU involvement

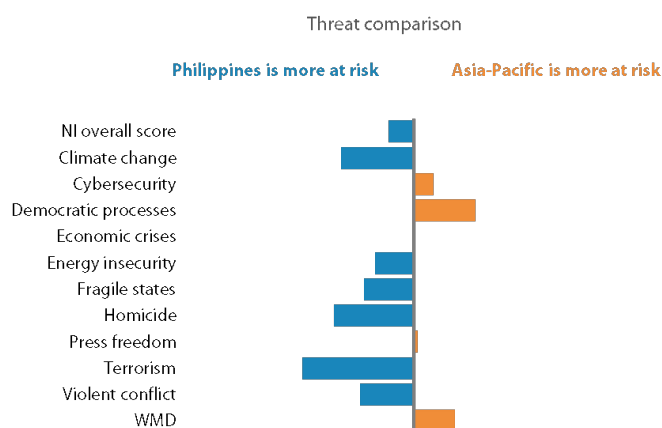
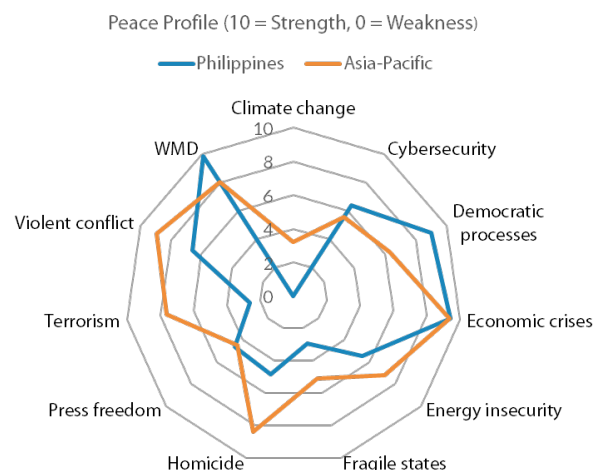
North Macedonia was the first western Balkan country to sign a stabilisation and association agreement with the EU (in 2004); just one year later, it became a candidate country. Because of the accession process, the country developed an on-going relationship with the EU and is gradually taking on the 'acquis communautaire'. Since then, progress towards joining the EU has stalled. However, the June 2018 Prespa Agreement resolved a long-standing dispute with Greece over the country's name, removing one of the main obstacles to both EU and NATO membership. The EU played a key role in assisting both parties in finding a settlement. Accession negotiations are set to begin in [2019](#). To prepare the country for membership, the EU has allocated [€664 million](#) of funding for the 2014-2020 period, focusing on the areas of institutional building, cross-border cooperation, regional development, human resources and rural development. The EU also helped to set up the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), modelled on the Franco-German Youth Office, which was created in 1963 to boost cooperation between young French and German citizens. RYCO promotes student exchanges with the EU and in the region, in order to foster reconciliation.

# The Philippines

The Philippines ranks 103 in the Normandy Index, lower than the Asia-Pacific average. Since securing independence following World War II, the country has faced a range of political, economic and environmental challenges. The Philippines has pursued a wide-ranging campaign against criminality, while still faced by a number of ongoing sectarian insurgencies.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

The Philippines is among the top third most fragile countries in the world. Ranking 50th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#) it has a particularly high score in the security apparatus category. Accordingly, it is considered more at risk than the Asia-Pacific average. One of the reasons for this fragility is the relatively high levels of terrorism. The Philippines ranks 10th in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). In 2017, 486 separate incidents were recorded, with a total 326 fatalities. The country has faced a number of insurgencies since independence, including Communist, Islamist and separatist movements. In 2016, ISIL-affiliated actors sought to establish an 'East-Asia province' in the country, occupying and holding the city of Marawi for five months. In 2019, the Bangsamoro autonomous entity was created to resolve an ongoing insurgency in the region.



## New security and hybrid threats

The Philippines ranks 134 in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#) and 99 on the [2018 Corruption Perception Index](#). The Philippines is one of the world's top ten countries exposed to climate change risks. Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 caused the loss of 6 300 lives, the displacement of over four million people and US\$2 billion in damage. As average sea temperatures rise, the Philippines' vulnerability to such extreme weather events is predicted to increase. Extensive mangrove

deforestation has been [noted](#) as a factor that exacerbates this risk.

## EU involvement

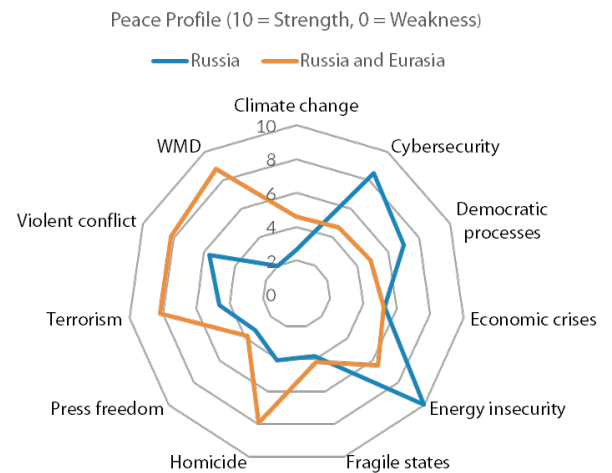
Due to its colonial history, the Philippines is the most westernised country in southeast Asia: Catholicism is the main religion, English is a widely used second language, and the political system is modelled on that of the United States. Together with its Member States, the EU is the Philippines' largest aid donor. For the 2014-2020 period, the EU allocated [€325 million](#) of aid, focusing on two areas: rule of law, and inclusive growth (promoting renewable energy). The EU-Philippines Partnership and Cooperation Agreement came into force in 2018, and a free trade agreement is currently under negotiation. At present, the Philippines enjoys duty-free access to EU markets for most of its exports under the GSP+ scheme. Since 2016, EU criticism of extrajudicial killings has sparked an angry response from President Duterte, but in most areas cooperation has not been affected.

# Russia

Russia ranks 121st of the 138 countries measured in the Normandy Index. While performing better than the Eurasian regional average in terms of energy insecurity, democratic processes and cybersecurity indicators, Russia performs worse than its regional counterparts in the overall score. This is largely due to weak performance on the weapons of mass destruction (WMD), climate change and resilience to disinformation indicators.

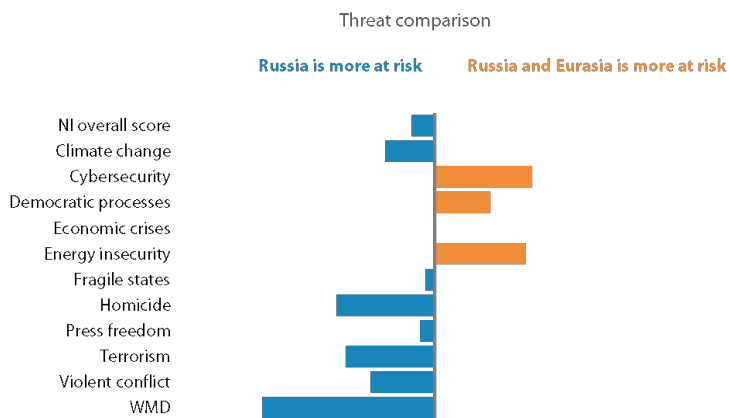
## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia has rebuilt or altered many of its institutions. Nevertheless, elements of authoritarian rule and relatively weak democratic processes remain. Ideological competition between the United States and the Soviet Union in the 20th century resulted in the development of nuclear arsenals in both countries. According to the [Arms Control Association](#), Russia holds around half of the world's nuclear weapons with an arsenal of nearly 7 000 weapons. Russia also has the highest homicide rate in the Eurasian region, at 11.31 per 100 000. This is significantly higher than the global average of 7.27 per 100 000.



## New security and hybrid threats

As a major petroleum and coal exporter, Russia has relatively high levels of energy security. It also scores high on the cybersecurity indicator, placing ninth globally. However, it faces threats from the impact of climate change. Challenges associated with [severe weather](#) have already effected the country's agricultural sector. Additionally, Russia is among the bottom 20 % of countries in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#). Threats and attacks against journalists are high in Russia, and laws censoring independent media companies and the internet have had a severe



impact on the spread of reliable information.

## EU involvement

EU-Russia relations took a sharp downturn after Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea and its involvement in separatist rebellions in eastern Ukraine. Since 2014, the EU has been applying sanctions against Russia for its violation of Ukrainian territorial integrity; these have hurt the country's energy, banking and defence sectors. In return Russia has banned imports of EU agricultural products. Tensions have also arisen from Russia's interference in EU democratic processes (e.g. the UK's EU referendum, the 2017 French presidential election) and the attempted assassination of former Russian spy Sergey Skripal in the UK. EU funding for Russia is limited to four areas: research cooperation (Horizon 2020), cross-border cooperation, education (Erasmus+) and support for civil society.

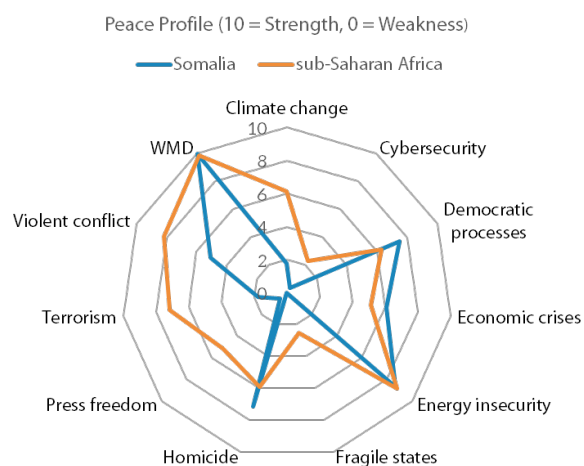
# Somalia

Somalia ranks 133 in the Normandy Index. It is considered more at risk than the sub-Saharan African average. Its performance is below average for sub-Saharan Africa when it comes to the indicators measuring terrorism, resilience to disinformation, state fragility and cybersecurity.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Somalia has struggled with the impact of the civil war that began in 1991 with the overthrow of dictator Siad Barre. The country is also trying to cope with the insurgency of terrorist organisation al-Shabaab, which has been plaguing the country since 2008. Partly as a result of this instability, the country is divided into autonomous and semi-autonomous regions. Somalia has been operating as a federation since 2012.

Somalia saw the second biggest increase in scores on the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#), after Egypt, with a 93 % increase in deaths on the previous year. It was ranked as the country with the sixth highest impact of terrorism. This is almost exclusively due to the activity



of al-Shabaab, a jihadist and al-Qaeda affiliated terrorist group based in Somalia.

Somalia ranks second on the [Fragile States Index](#). This reflects weaknesses in the central government, which has little practical control over much of its territory, not least over the self-declared state of Somaliland.

## New security and hybrid threats

In response in part to the weaknesses of the central government, Somalia has adopted a decentralised federal model. As the federal government does not have significant territorial control or influence over policy, Somalia is vulnerable to the threats that generally accompany weak states. These

include threats in the areas of cybersecurity and press freedom.

## EU involvement

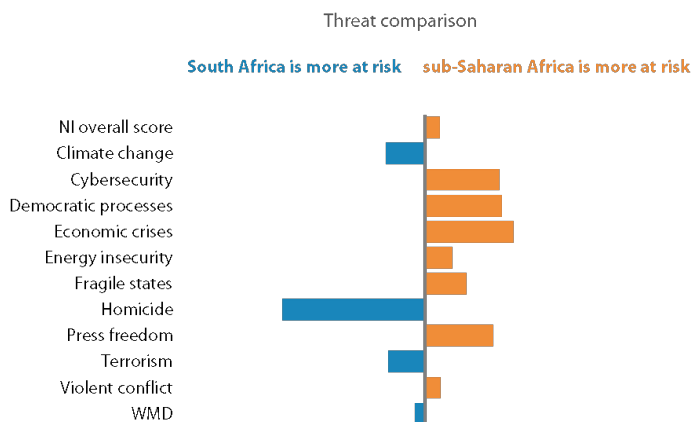
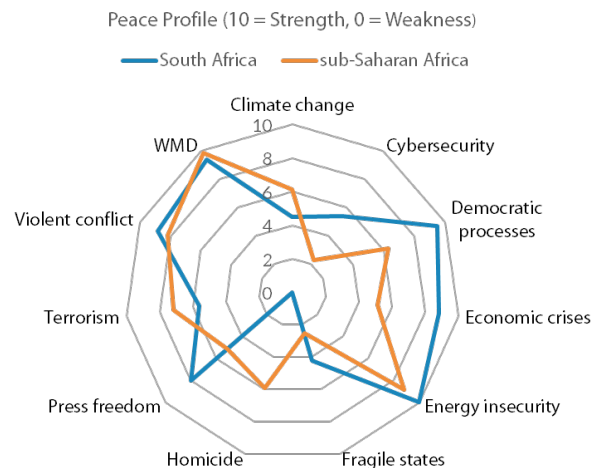
Somalia is one major focus of the EU's strategic framework for the Horn of Africa, which aligns various external policy programmes and instruments to tackle insecurity in the area, in particular the piracy attacks off the Coast of Somalia, and its root causes. EU aid to Somalia is financed primarily by the [European Development Fund](#), up to €286 million for the 2014-2020 period, of which one third is dedicated to peace building and state building. Peace-building efforts are also financed by means of the [EU Trust Fund for Africa](#), for projects worth €292 million, with a view to mitigating the root causes of irregular migration. Two EU military operations and one CSDP civil mission are based in Somalia: [EUNAVFOR operation Atalanta](#), [EUTM Somalia](#) and [EUCAP Somalia](#). While the [EU's direct naval action](#) has helped to secure the Coast of Somalia, international efforts to help improve Somali military and political governance, to which the EU has made a significant contribution, have yet to bear fruit.

# South Africa

South Africa ranks 52 in the Normandy Index, scoring higher than the sub-Saharan African average. While it is considered low-risk and despite apartheid ending in 1994, South Africa still struggles with widespread inequality.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

South Africa consistently has one of the highest income inequality indexes in the world and approximately 25 % of South Africa's population live below the poverty line. As a result, despite its strong democratic processes and status as the second largest African economy, South Africa ranks 88th on the [2019 Fragile States Index](#). South Africa's notably high violent crime rates also contribute to this fragility. The country's homicide rate, for example, is more than four times higher than the sub-Saharan African average. South Africa also ranked 46th globally in the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#), with 27 small-scale incidents in 2017. In 1991, South Africa became the first country to voluntarily dismantle its nuclear weapons programme. Although South African energy security is much better overall the sub-Saharan African average, the country is facing an energy crisis, including rotational load shedding, owing to mismanagement at the state-owned Eskom enterprise and an aging generating capacity.



## New security and hybrid threats

In part due its pluralist political foundations, South Africa exhibits strong resilience to disinformation. It ranks 28 in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#) and scores highly in the cybersecurity indicator for the sub-Saharan African region. Climate changes poses particular risks for South Africa, as heatwaves, drought and bushfire all threaten the country's agricultural and urban areas. Between 2015 and 2018, for example, Cape Town faced a severe drought, resulting in water rationing.

## EU involvement

The EU and South Africa have a strong relationship embodied since 2007 in the [EU-South Africa Strategic Partnership](#) and the [EU-SADAC European Partnership Agreement](#), provisionally in force since 2016. Although EU development aid for South Africa was reduced from €980 million over the 2007-2013 period to € 268 million over the 2014-2020 period, as it was redirected to the poorest countries, the EU collectively remained (in 2016) South Africa's second largest donor (after the US). European-funded projects focused on [three sectors](#): employment creation; education, training and innovation; and efforts to enhance state capacity to provide citizens with services. These are key areas when it comes to addressing the rampant inequality that is key to understanding South Africa's skyrocketing homicide rate and rampant corruption and that weaken the state and undermine economic development and social progress.

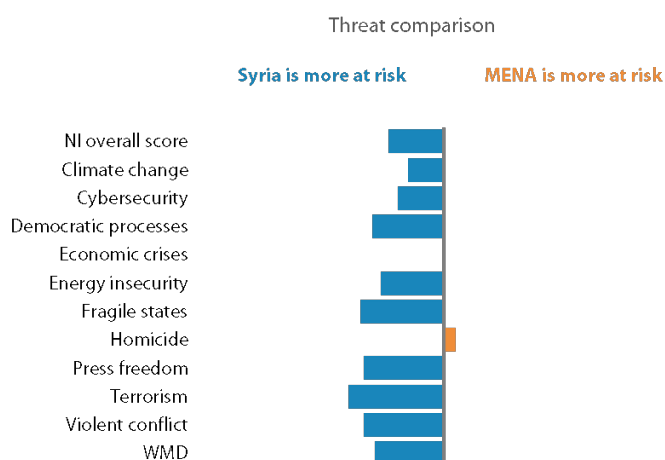
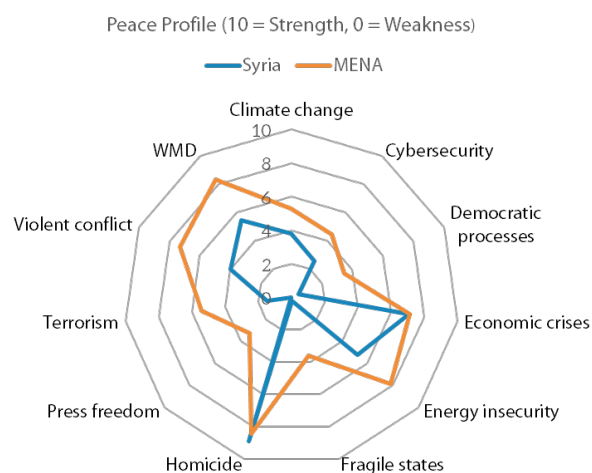
# Syria

Ranking 136, Syria is the least peaceful country in the Normandy Index. It performs worse than the global average in every indicator, especially in democratic processes, terrorism, resilience to disinformation and violent conflict.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Syria ranks at the bottom of the Normandy Peace Index largely due to the ongoing impact of the Syrian civil war, which began in 2011. This war has resulted in an [estimated](#) half a million deaths and extensive displacement and destruction of infrastructure. Over 5.6 million Syrians are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries.

The level of violence in the Syrian civil war has receded and deaths from terrorism in Syria decreased by 48 % to 1 096 in 2017. ISIL was responsible for 63 % of these deaths. However, despite the decrease in the impact of terrorism, Syria still ranks fourth on the 2018 [Global Terrorism Index](#) and continues to suffer the long-term effects of instability due to the conflict.



## New security and hybrid threats

The war and the extreme fragility of the Assad regime has devastated Syria and diminished social and economic capital, all of which will impact post-war recovery.

Syria ranks 177th out of 180 countries in the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#). Attacks and threats against journalists come from all sides in the war. In addition, despite having a weak cybersecurity score, the Assad regime has set up [special cybercrime courts](#) to target internet usage.

## EU involvement

Civil war has been raging in Syria since 2011. Even though actual fighting has calmed down, the potential for violence remains high, with a risk of renewed escalation. Up to 6.2 million Syrians have been internally displaced, and 12 million Syrians, including 6 million children, require humanitarian assistance. The European Union suspended cooperation with the Syrian government under European Neighbourhood policy in 2011, in response to the violent repression of anti-government protests. However, the EU and its Member States are lead providers of [international aid](#) to those affected by the Syrian war, both inside and [outside](#) the country. Since 2011, the EU and its Member States have made available almost €17 billion for humanitarian, stabilisation and resilience assistance to Syrians inside the country and in neighbouring countries. With a view to ending the civil war, the EU has [supported](#) the UN-led intra-Syrian negotiations towards a genuine political transition, and supported Syrian civil society organisations with a view to promoting a democratic form of governance and respect for human rights and freedom of expression.

# Tunisia

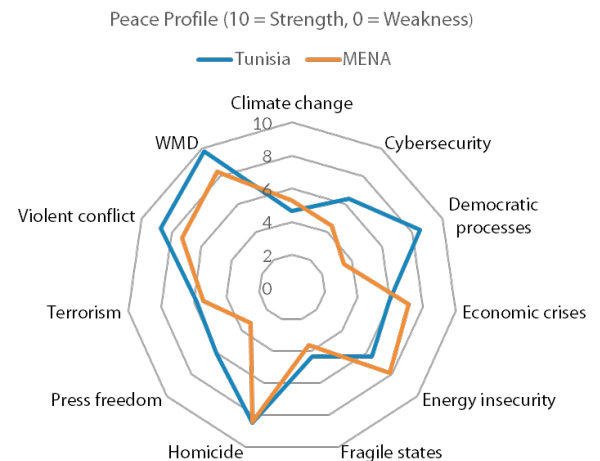
Tunisia ranks 47 in the Normandy Peace Index. It is considered less at risk than average for the Middle East and north Africa (MENA) region. It performs less well than the MENA average for the indicator measuring energy insecurity and climate change, but better on all other indicators.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Since the removal of President Ben Ali during the 'Jasmine Revolution' in 2011, Tunisia has undergone a range of democratic reforms. The fallout from the 2011 revolution, however, led the country to rise on the [Fragile States Index](#), from 118th in 2010 to 95th in 2019, with factionalised elites and the state security apparatus the two largest contributing factors to the 2019 ranking.

In 2015, the country suffered from two major terror attacks on tourist hotspots, leading to a drastic decline in the tourist economy. Tunisia ranked 47th in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#), with only three incidents

recorded in 2017.



## New security and hybrid threats

In 2008, Tunisia ranked 143rd out of 173 on the [World Press Freedom Index](#). However, following the 2011 revolution, it has risen to 97th in the 2018 Index. The country confirmed its commitment to the free flow of information by supporting the International Declaration on Information and Democracy in 2018.

Energy insecurity has led to a degree of instability in Tunisia. The country [currently sources](#) approximately 85 % of its needs from domestic oil and gas. Energy is heavily subsidised, yet these reserves are expected to start declining by 2020, leading to a sharp rise in

energy prices.

## EU involvement

In 2011 Tunisia embarked on a path to democratic transition and socio-economic transformation. Eight years on, the country has made significant progress. The EU has been a key partner to Tunisia in this process. The association agreement signed by the EU and Tunisia in 1995 is the legal basis for the Tunisian partnership with the EU. The 2011 revolution marked a turning point in the [EU-Tunisia relationship](#) and led to the establishment of a privileged partnership in 2012. In 2016, the EU together with the Tunisian president, launched the EU-Tunisia Youth Partnership. Between 2011 and 2017, EU assistance to Tunisia totalled €2.4 billion. The EU and Tunisia are also currently negotiating a free trade agreement, with a view to achieving greater economic and trade integration. The 2018 EU-Tunisia strategic priorities will guide cooperation in the coming years, [focusing](#) on socio-economic development, democracy, good governance and human rights, security and the fight against terrorism among other things. For the 2017-2020 period, the EU's bilateral assistance to Tunisia under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), which has an allocation of up to €616 million, is focusing on promoting good governance and the rule of law; investing in the future: stimulating sustainable economic growth and generating jobs; and strengthening social cohesion regions. Tunisia is also eligible for funding under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) and Erasmus +.

# Turkey

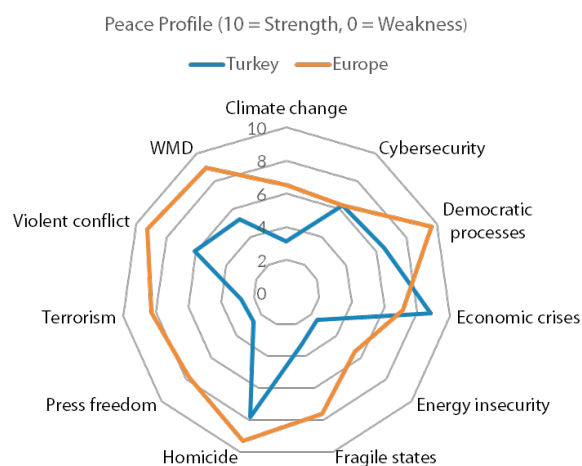
Turkey ranks 124 of the 136 countries measured in the Normandy Index, indicating that Turkey is at risk. Turkey scores much lower than the European average in nine of the eleven indicators, especially when it comes to resilience to disinformation and terrorism.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Ongoing repression of political opposition and participation in foreign conflicts is reflected by Turkey's weak performance on indicators relating to traditional sources of conflict.

Globally, Turkey has the 20th lowest score for violent conflict, owing largely to lasting conflicts in its south-eastern regions. Participation in the Syrian war has also increased the country's weapons of mass destruction score.

Turkey ranked 12th in the world on impact of terrorism in the [2018 Global Terrorism Index](#). This is due to attacks by ISIL and the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), a militant Kurdish separatist group. The PKK was the deadliest terrorist group in Europe in 2017. In 2015, more than 100 people died in terrorist attacks in Ankara.



Threat comparison



## New security and hybrid threats

Turkey is faced with major insecurities within the neighbouring countries of Iraq and Syria. It also considers that the military operations of Syrian Kurdish movements on its border is increasing the threat of terrorism within Turkey.

In addition, Turkey has welcomed more than 3 million refugees, mainly from Syria, and this generous policy is putting a strain on public services.

The country's resilience to disinformation score is among the lowest globally, reflecting its 157th place on the [2019 World Press Freedom Index](#) of 180 countries. This is primarily due to severe censorship of criticism towards the government and to threats against journalists. Additionally, as a net importer of energy, its energy insecurity score is among the weakest 10 % globally.

## EU involvement

Turkey has been in a [customs union](#) with the EU since 1995 and has been an [accession country](#) since 2005. Accession remains a slow and complicated process. In 2016, the elected government led by Recep Tayyip Erdogan faced a failed [military coup](#) and launched a [purge](#) that affected all sections of society. In recent years, the country has also experienced deadly terrorist attacks, and the end of the Kurdish peace process in the south-eastern part of the country, with renewed violence on both sides. The EU has engaged with Turkey in a critical dialogue on the issues of human rights, the rule of law and freedom of expression.

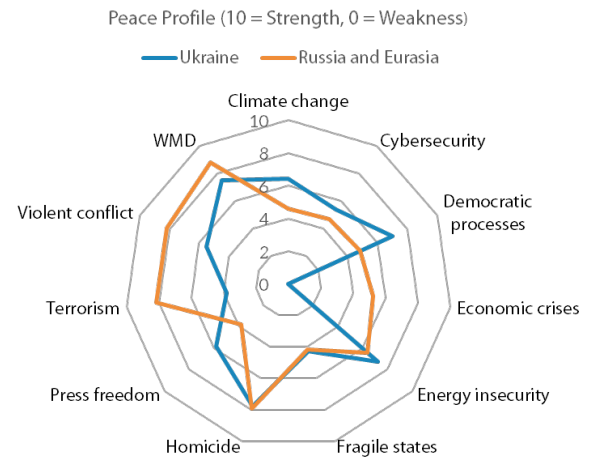
Through the accession process, the EU and Turkey cooperate in many areas, including those in which Turkey is facing threats: Pre-accession [funds](#) support the main public institutions, common energy [projects](#) reduce energy insecurity, and the EU and Turkey cooperate on [fighting](#) terrorism. Turkey has welcomed more than 3 million refugees and the EU has [helped](#) with €6 billion in assistance.

# Ukraine

Ukraine ranks 107 on the Normandy Index, indicating that peace in the country is at risk. It scores below the Eurasian average, owing not least to Russia's on-going hybrid war against the country.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

In 2013, the decision by the president at the time, Viktor Yanukovich, not to sign an association agreement with the EU sparked major pro-European protests in Ukraine. In February 2014, the Ukrainian parliament voted to impeach Yanukovich, who fled Kyiv. Russia responded by annexing Crimea in March 2014, in violation of international law, and by launching an unprecedented hybrid war against Ukraine, including military aggression in eastern Ukraine – which has so far claimed around 12 800 lives, with over 1.5 million displaced people – and, more recently, in the Sea of Azov. Against this backdrop, Ukraine has a high terrorism score and the 14th poorest score in violent conflict globally – higher than Russia, Turkey, and India. Despite this, Ukraine scores well regionally on democratic processes, and holds regular and competitive elections, most recently, the spring 2019 presidential elections.



## New security and hybrid threats

Since 2014, Russia has used a wide range of hybrid tactics against Ukraine, including cyberattacks, disinformation campaigns, energy coercion, economic pressure, religious pressure and an offer of citizenship to all Ukrainians. Despite the EU-Ukraine Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area, which has increased trade with the EU, Ukraine has the second lowest GDP per capita in Europe and experiences high levels of unemployment and poverty. However, Ukraine has a well-developed industrial base and highly trained labour potential, indicating that sound

economic improvement is possible. Ukraine also performs better than the regional average on media freedom. Despite recent media reforms, bans on Russian media and the blacklisting of journalists have had a negative impact on media freedom.

## EU involvement

An association agreement, including a deep and comprehensive free trade area (DCFTA) between the EU and Ukraine, was signed in 2014. The EU is unwavering in its support for the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty and sees the full implementation of the Minsk agreements as the basis for a sustainable, political solution to the conflict in the east of the country. Diplomatic restrictions against Russia were first imposed in March 2014. The EU has gradually increased these measures, starting in March 2014 with targeted sanctions against persons responsible for actions against Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence. A first package of economic sanctions targeting cooperation with Russia was announced in July 2014. The duration of the EU's economic sanctions against Russia is explicitly linked to fulfilment of the Minsk agreements. The EU has also conducted trilateral talks on trade and energy-related issues with Russia and supported political engagement including through discussions in the Normandy format (France; Germany; Ukraine; Russia) and the Trilateral Contact Group (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Ukraine and Russia).

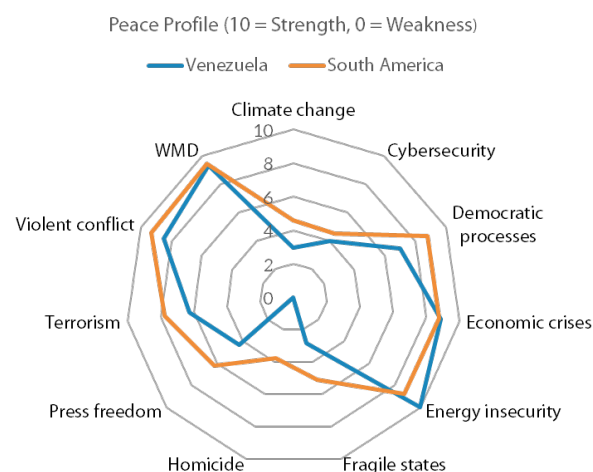
# Venezuela

Venezuela ranks 96 in the Normandy Index and is considered more at risk than the South American average. It performs worse on every indicator except energy insecurity at regional level, with international sanctions exacerbating the situation in this domain.

## Traditional sources and indications of conflict

Since 2010, Venezuela has seen an economic and political [downturn](#) caused by a heavy reliance on oil exports and excess national spending. Massive nationwide anti-government protests have featured violence among both the military and the protesters. The stability of the state and its democratic processes have deteriorated since the onset of the downturn.

President Nicolás Maduro was re-elected in May 2018, but the election was contested owing to irregularities in how the results were announced. Claims to the presidential seat have been disputed. From 2018 to 2019, Venezuela fell by 12 places in the Fragile States Index, largely as a result of decreased state legitimacy and increased group grievances. Venezuela has one of the highest homicide rates globally at 57 per 100 000.



## New security and hybrid threats

Despite a low percentage of non-performing loans, the national performance indicator for economic crisis, Venezuela's economy has been mired in hyperinflation, resulting in food and supply shortages. Migration away from Venezuela has reached massive levels, creating a humanitarian crisis in the region, with the number of Venezuelans abroad rising from under 700 000 in 2015 to 3 million in November 2018 according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Venezuela has the largest known oil reserves in the world, and for decades was a major exporter. However, international sanctions and a

deteriorating infrastructure make it difficult to access the oil, even within the country.

## EU involvement

The European Union has cooperated with Venezuela in the fight against the consumption and trafficking of [illicit drugs](#), by supporting the implementation of the country's national anti-drugs plan. Under the multi-annual indicative programme for Latin America for the 2014-2020 period, Venezuela is eligible to participate with a view to promoting the security-development nexus, environmental sustainability and the fight against climate change. In the context of the political and economic crisis currently affecting the country, the EU supported the failed dialogue efforts between the government and the parliamentary majority, and has reiterated the need for free and transparent [elections](#) respecting Venezuela's constitutional rules. It has also imposed [targeted sanctions](#) and an embargo on arms and related material that could be used for internal repression. To alleviate the migratory crisis, the EU announced a package of €35.1 million in emergency aid and medium-term [development assistance](#) for the Venezuelan people and neighbouring countries affected. More recently, it established an [International Contact Group](#) on [Venezuela](#) with the agreement of some Latin American countries, that is working to [facilitate conditions](#) for a political and peaceful process leading to new presidential elections and to enable the rapid delivery of [humanitarian aid](#).

## 5. ANNEX – The Normandy Index: Methodology

This annex explains the components and the methodology of the index, developed by the Institute for Economics and Peace.



# Normandy Index – Methodology

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# The Normandy Index Methodology

## Background

Humanity is now facing challenges unparalleled in its history. Many of these problems are global in nature, such as climate change, ever-decreasing biodiversity, depletion of the earth's fresh water, and overpopulation. All of these are occurring in a socio-political time of great uncertainty, with shifting power dynamics amongst global superpowers, the breakdown of traditional alliances and a widespread crisis of democracy.

Such global challenges call for global solutions and require cooperation on a scale unprecedented in human history. In a hyper-connected world, the sources of many of these challenges are multidimensional, increasingly complex and span national borders.

These challenges, if not addressed, increase the strain on resources, infrastructure and society, all of which can affect levels of peace in nations and the world. The United Nations and World Bank *Pathways for Peace Report* released in 2018 recognised the interconnectivity of these challenges and called for risks to be considered multi-dimensional in nature.

To contribute to the field between the European Parliament and the Region of Normandy seeks to produce the 'Normandy Index' on an annual basis, starting with the 2019 initial launch. The purpose of the NI is to produce a measurement tool to allow policy makers and civil society be able to grasp different aspects of the threats facing the globe. It aims to capture threats to peace and offer insights into the multidimensional risks faced by countries. Annual updates will allow the tool to track how dynamics shift from year to year and assess positive and negative changes in risks.

The NI has three main aims:

1. To assess the state of conflict and potential for conflict in each given country considering the current state and potential future state
2. To provide a tool for measuring and monitoring trends across time
3. To provide a mechanism to link the aforementioned categories of threats with an actual ranking of "state and risk of conflict" that can be quantified and used for policy-making purposes.

### **Text Box 1: The Normandy Index in context**

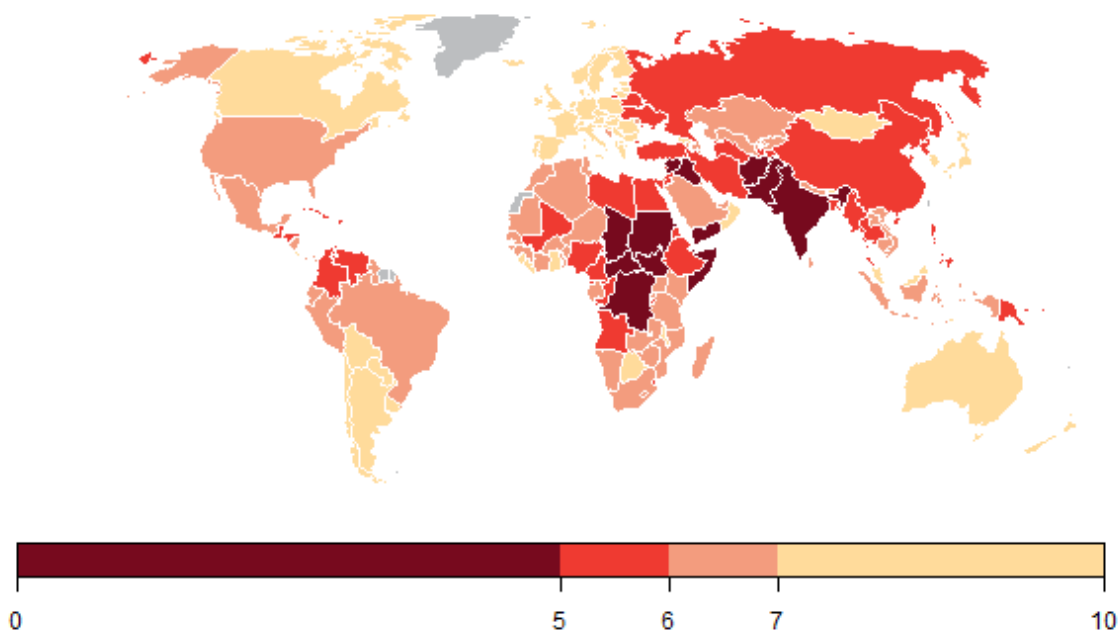
The NI is intended to contribute to the field in being to identify different factors that the EU Parliament believes pose threats to peace in the coming years. As such, the NI is capturing and conveying a unique angle to existing composite indices such as the Institute for Economics and Peace's (IEP) Global Peace Index (GPI).

The GPI produced annually by IEP, ranks 163 independent states and territories according to their level of peace as defined by the absence of violence and absence of fear of violence. It is as such a measure of levels of *negative* peace today. IEP also explores the *positive* aspects of peace in its Positive Peace Index (PPI), which measures the levels within the 163 countries of the attitudes, institutions and structures that are known to create and sustain peaceful societies.

Both the GPI and PPI are measuring levels of peace in the world *today*. The NI however is capturing *threats* to peace in the world today making it a useful contribution to the suite of tools used for quantitative analysis of peace and security.

***In its inaugural launch, the NI covers 136 countries and regions. The EU is considered as one bloc and is given the average score of each country member.***

**NI Overall score (0 = most at risk, 10 = least at risk)**



## Methodology Overview

The EU Global Strategy 2018, the EU Parliament has prioritised a number of domains as being threats to peace in the coming years.<sup>1</sup>

Each domain is in and of itself a complex system with multiple, interconnecting dimensions that are hard to quantify. Recognising this, the NI seeks to simplify many of these domain concepts by selecting one key representative indicator, rather than delving into the more complex and subjective exercise of selecting, weighting and aggregating multiple indicators for each domain. The indicators that were selected for each domain were done so based on current academic and policy literature, data availability, and in consultation with the EU parliament.

Table 1 presents the indicators selected to capture these domains.

<sup>1</sup> (European Union, 2018)

**TABLE 1: NI Indicators**

IEP research is directly relevant to the Normandy Index (NI).

Domain	Indicators	Definition	Source	Number of Countries Covered	Latest Year of Data
Climate Change	INFORM Global Risk index – Natural Disaster Risk Sub-indicator	INFORM is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters.	United Nations	193	2019
Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity Index	The Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) is a survey measure capturing the commitment of Member States to cybersecurity in order to raise awareness. It is the only open source Cybersecurity Index that can be found.	International Telecommunication Union	199	2017
Democratic Processes	PolityIV - Combined Polity Score	Indicator of levels of Democracy and Autocracy present in a country. The scale runs from 10 - Democratic to -10 Autocratic	Polity IV -Systemic Peace	167	2015
Economic Crises	Financial Vulnerability - Non-performing loans as % of total loans	Nonperforming loans to total gross loans ratio is calculated by using the value of nonperforming loans (NPLs) as the numerator and the total value of the loan portfolio as the denominator. It is often used as a proxy for asset quality.	World Bank	139	2017
Energy Insecurity	Energy Imports	Energy imports, net (% of energy use). Banded to be 0 if country is a net exporter of energy.	World Bank	144	2015
Fragile States	Fragile States Index	The Fragile States Index (FSI) is an annual ranking of 178 countries based on the different pressures they face that impact their levels of fragility. The Index is based on The Fund for Peace's proprietary Conflict Assessment System Tool (CAST) analytical approach. Based on comprehensive social science methodology, three primary streams of data — quantitative, qualitative, and expert validation — are triangulated and subjected to critical review to obtain final scores for the FSI.	Fund For Peace	181	2018
Homicide	Homicide Rate per 100,000	Homicide Rate per 100,000 - used as a proxy for crime	UNODC	166	2015
Resilience to Disinformation	World Press Freedom Index	The Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking of countries compiled and published by Reporters Without Borders based upon the organisation's own assessment of the countries' press freedom records in the previous year. It intends to reflect the degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations, and netizens have in each country, and the efforts made by authorities to respect this freedom.	Reporters Without Borders	180	2017
Terrorism	Global Terrorism Index	A composite score in order to provide an ordinal ranking of countries on the impact of terrorism. The impact of terrorism includes incidents, deaths, injuries, and property damage caused by terrorism.	Global Terrorism Index Report 2018, Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018
Violent Conflict	Conflict sub-indicators of the Global Peace Index	Average of the following 6 indicators from the Global Peace Index: (1) Intensity of Internal Conflict, (2) Deaths from Internal Conflict (3) Number of Internal conflicts, (4) Intensity of External Conflict, (5) Deaths from External Conflict (6) External of Internal Conflicts	Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018

WMD	Nuclear and Heavy Weapons Capabilities Indicator from the Global Peace Index.	This indicator is based on a categorised system for rating the destructive capability of a country's stock of heavy weapons. 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 and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms. Countries that are signatories to Non-Proliferation Treaties are scored better in this indicator	Institute for Economics and Peace	163	2018
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The EU Global Strategy 2018 also discusses the importance of *hybrid threats* in coming years. Hybrid threats combine conventional and unconventional, military and non-military activities that can be used in a coordinated manner by state or non-state actors to achieve specific political objectives. They can range from cyberattacks on critical information systems, through to the disruption of critical services such as energy supplies or financial services, to the undermining of public trust in government institutions or the deepening of social divisions. Given the combined nature of hybrid threats, it is not possible to capture the risk posed to a country in any one measure. By capturing the potential components of hybrid threats in the NI domains, no separate 'hybrid threat' domain is calculated.

## Detailed Domain and Indicator Descriptor

### Domain 1 – Climate Change

#### **Indicator: INFORM Global Risk index – Natural Disaster Risk Sub-indicator<sup>2</sup>**

**Full Description:** The INFORM Global Risk Index gives an annual per country score between zero and ten, where ten is "very high risk".

**Rationale:** INFORM is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters, based on three dimensions of hazard & exposure, vulnerability and lack of coping capacity. It recognises climate change and the risks associated with it as having both natural and man-made components, and that the risk resulting from climate change is also dependent on how countries are able to cope with the effects of climate change.

**Source:** INFORM, 192 countries, 2018-2019.

**URL:** <http://www.inform-index.org/>

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<sup>2</sup> (United Nations, 2019)

## Domain 2 - Cybersecurity

### Indicator: GlobalCybersecurity Index<sup>3</sup>

**Full Description:** The Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) is a measure of the commitment of Member States of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) to cybersecurity, assessed along five dimensions: legal measures; technical measures; organizational measures; capacity building; and, cooperation.

**Rationale:** The threat from cybersecurity can only be countered by a systemic and cross-sectoral regulatory approach grounded in technological capabilities. If a country is not currently taking active steps to protect financial and physical infrastructure, personal or government data, it leaves itself open to attacks. Examining the action and measures a country takes to try and minimize threats from cyber-attacks, via this GCI, is a viable, open source quantified measure of future threat.

**Source:** ITU, 193 countries, 2014-2017

**URL:** <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Cybersecurity/Pages/global-cybersecurity-index.aspx>

## Domain 3 – Democratic Processes

### Indicator: PolityIV - Combined Polity Score<sup>4</sup>

**Full Description:** The PolityIV database is a set of country level indicators of political or governmental organization; a society or institution with an organized government; the state; and the body politic.

The Combined Polity score used in the NI is composed of two PolityIV indicators:

- AUTOC: a measure of the presence within a governmental system to restrict or suppress competitive political participation.
- DEMOC: a measure of the presence of institutions and procedures through which citizens can express effective preferences about alternative policies and leaders, the existence of institutionalized, constraints on the exercise of power by the executive and the guarantee of civil liberties to all citizens in their daily lives and in acts of political participation.

The PolityIV Combined Score is calculated by AUTOC – DEMOC.

**Rationale:** Democratic processes are widely recognised as contributing to peace. Well-functioning democracies themselves have institutions to deal with societal grievances in a non-violent way. It is also believed democracies are less like to engage in armed conflict with other democracies. Democratic countries on average have the highest levels of peace globally in the Global Peace Index.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, with the exception of relatively infrequent ‘black swan’ political or conflict events, a country’s current democratic status tends to be a good predictor of future democratic status.

**Source:** Polity IV -Systemic Peace, 167 countries, 2015

**URL:** <http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html>

<sup>3</sup> (International Telecommunication Union, 2019)

<sup>4</sup> (Centre for Systemic Peace, 2019)

<sup>5</sup> (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2018)

## Domain 4 – Economic Crises

### Indicator: Financial Vulnerability- Non-performing loans as % of total loans<sup>6</sup>

**Full Description:** Nonperforming loans to total gross loans ratio is calculated by using the value of nonperforming loans (NPLs) as the numerator and the total value of the loan portfolio as the denominator. It is often used as a proxy for asset quality.

**Rationale:** Sovereign debt crisis have been found to be correlated with civil unrest<sup>7</sup>, and some have argued that sovereign debt crisis followed by extreme austerity measures were a contributing factor to the outbreak of World War II in Germany, and genocide in Rwanda.<sup>8</sup> Non-performing loans are a good predictor of financial crises, with broader social consequences. Most immediately, high levels of debt may affect the state's ability to provide basic public services, which in turn is a key source of legitimacy for a government. Excess borrowing, particularly external debt, means increased exposure to global market risks, and creditor decisions, both of which can make a state vulnerable to external economic shocks<sup>9</sup>. Unsustainable borrowing and debt may exacerbate underlying societal cleavages, particularly if real or perceived inequalities grow.

**Source:** World Bank, 159 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2017

**URL:** <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/FB.AST.NPER.ZS>

## Domain 5 – Energy Insecurity

### Indicator: Energy Imports<sup>10</sup>

**Full Description:** Energy imports, net (% of energy use).

**Rationale:** Energy independence, that is self-reliance on domestic sources of energy including oil, natural gas, other minerals as well as clean energy sources, has been a defining component of energy security since at least the oil price crisis of October 1973.<sup>11</sup> Although it is but one aspect of energy security, along with measures such as source diversity and distance to consumption, it is a measure for which open source, comparable data exists at a global scale, and is hence minimally sufficient to capture the conceptual threat of energy insecurity.

**Source:** World Bank, World Development Indicators, 185 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2015

**URL:** <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/eg.imp.cons.zs>

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<sup>6</sup> (World Bank, 2019)

<sup>7</sup> (Reinhardt, 2009)

<sup>8</sup> (Goldmann, 2012)

<sup>9</sup> (World Economic Forum, 2018)

<sup>10</sup> (World Bank, 2019)

<sup>11</sup> (Gail Cohen, 2011)

## Domain 6 – Fragile States

### Indicator: Fragile States Index<sup>12</sup>

**Full Description:** A score between 0 and 120, where 120 is the highest level of fragility. Each country is scored annually based on 12 conflict risk indicators grouped into four dimensions: cohesion, economic, political and social.

**Rationale:** The Fragile States Index is based on a conflict assessment framework – known as “CAST” – that was developed by FFP nearly a quarter-century ago for assessing the vulnerability of states to collapse. The CAST framework was designed to measure this vulnerability in pre-conflict, active conflict and post-conflict situations, and continues to be used widely by policy makers, field practitioners, and local community networks. The methodology uses both qualitative and quantitative indicators, relies on public source data, and produces quantifiable results.

**Source:** Fund for Peace, 178 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2018

**URL:** <http://fundforpeace.org/fsi/>

## Domain 7 – Criminality/Homicide

### Indicator: Homicide rate

**Full Description:** Country Homicide rate per 100,000 population<sup>13</sup>

**Rationale:** High homicide rates are associated with high risks to security of persons within a country and reflects a diminished capacity of government to perform its duties to protect people within its borders.

The EU Global Strategy highlights trans-border crime as a significant potential threat to peace in the world. Transnational organised crime, by its very nature, affects all countries. The nature of trans-border crimes vary greatly, from Class A drug smuggling to human trafficking. Crime recording varies from country to country, and so there is no one database that captures interdictions of trans-border crimes. While UNODC publish a “transnational organized crime threat assessment”, these are meant to be applied at the local level and do not provide a platform to be able to create a globally comparative ranking of countries.<sup>14</sup> Further complicating the issue is that the factors which enable trans-border crime also enable all other types of economic activity: communications, trade, interconnectedness, globalisation and new technologies.

In the absence of a relative country measure for transnational/transborder crime, the NI uses a countries homicide rate per 100,000 as a proxy for levels of crime. While this is a crude measure, the link between homicide and organised crime is widely explored<sup>15</sup>, it has been used in the literature as an indicator of organised crime in a country.<sup>16</sup>

**Source:** UNODC, 166 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2015

**URL:** <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics.html>

<sup>12</sup> (Fund for Peace, 2019)

<sup>13</sup> (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2019)

<sup>14</sup> (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2010)

<sup>15</sup> (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2011)

<sup>16</sup> (Alberto Alesina, 2019)

## Domain 8 – Resilience to Disinformation

### Indicator: World Press Freedom Index<sup>17</sup>

**Full Description:** A score between 0 and 100, where 0 is highest levels of press freedom and 100 is most repressive press situation. Each country is scored on a yearly basis.

**Rationale:** There is a growing concern over the ability of both state and non-state actors to not only restrict the free flow of information, but also to actively interfere in the functioning of civil society through the use of disinformation campaigns. Research into resilience to disinformation is a relatively new field of quantification. While efforts have been made, there is no one measure that covers the 138 countries in the NI.<sup>18</sup>

While directly measuring the existence of disinformation in a way that is comparable across countries is not currently possible, a factor that contributes to a country's *resilience* to disinformation can be measured by examining the media landscape.<sup>19</sup> Press freedom and regulations that protect these, along with compliance of a code of ethics is an important tool to combat the spread of disinformation.<sup>20</sup> A free, robust press with appropriate legislative safeguards is the best safeguard against the effectiveness of disinformation.

The Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking and scoring of countries compiled and published by Reporters Without Borders based upon the organisation's own assessment of the countries' press freedom records in the previous year. It intends to reflect the degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations, and citizens have in each country, and the efforts made by authorities to respect this freedom. It measures press freedom across seven domains, all of which contribute to resilience against disinformation:

1. Pluralism: Measures the degree to which opinions are represented in the media.
2. Media independence: Measures the degree to which the media are able to function independently of sources of political, governmental, business and religious power and influence.
3. Environment and self-censorship: Analyses the environment in which news and information providers operate.
4. Legislative framework: Measures the impact of the legislative framework governing news and information activities.
5. Transparency: Measures the transparency of the institutions and procedures that affect the production of news and information.
6. Infrastructure: Measures the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information.
7. Abuses: Measures the level of abuses and violence.

While these seven measures do not entirely capture resilience to disinformation, in lieu of other sources, these are as a strong proxy indicator for the domain. This domain will be reviewed in the next iteration of the NI as new measures emerge.

**Source:** Reporters without Borders, 178 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2017

**URL:** <https://rsf.org/en/ranking>

<sup>17</sup> (Reporters without Borders, 2019)

<sup>18</sup> (Ukrainian Prism Foreign Policy Council, 2018); (Global Disinformation Index, 2019)

<sup>19</sup> (Ukrainian Prism Foreign Policy Council, 2018)

<sup>20</sup> (Ukrainian Prism Foreign Policy Council, 2018)

## Domain 9 – Terrorism

### Indicator: Global Terrorism Index Score<sup>21</sup>

**Full Description:** A composite score that provides an ordinal ranking of countries on the impact of terrorism. The impact of terrorism includes incidents, deaths, injuries, and property damage caused by terrorism

**Rationale:** This is a core indicator of the multidimensional impact of terrorism on a country. This is the most reliable and consistent data source, available across more than 163 countries and updated on an annual basis, starting in 2001.

**Source:** Institute for Economics and Peace, Global Terrorism Index Reports, 163 Countries, Latest Year of Data: 2018

**URL:** <http://www.visionofhumanity.org>

## Domain 10 – Violent Conflicts

### Indicator: Violent Conflict<sup>22</sup>

**Full Description:** A composite indicator of the number, intensity and fatalities of both internal and external violent conflicts.

**Rationale:** The Institute for Economics and Peace in its annual Global Peace Index measures the following four indicators relating to violent conflict:

#### Number and Duration of Internal Conflicts

This indicator measures the number and duration of conflicts that occur within a specific country's legal boundaries. Information for this indicator is sourced from three datasets from

Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP): the Battle-Related Deaths Dataset, Non-State Conflict Dataset and One-sided Violence Dataset.

#### Number of Deaths From Organised Internal Conflict

This indicator uses the UCDP's definition of conflict. 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." 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'.

#### Number, Duration and Role in External Conflicts

This indicator measures the number and duration of extraterritorial conflicts a country is involved in. Information for this indicator is sourced from the UCDP Battle-Related Deaths Dataset. The score for a country is determined by adding all individual conflict scores where that country is involved as an actor in a conflict outside its legal boundaries. Conflicts are not counted against a country if they have already been counted against that country in the number and duration of internal conflicts indicator.

<sup>21</sup> (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2019)

<sup>22</sup> (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2019)

### **Number of Deaths From Organised External Conflict**

This indicator uses the UCDP's definition of 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". When no data was provided, several alternative sources have been used: International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Armed Conflict Database; the Iraq Coalition Casualty Count, and the EIU.

Each of these are scored out of 1-5. The NI uses the average score across all of these indicators for the Violent Conflict domain.

**Source:** IEP, 163 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2018.

**URL:** <http://www.visionofhumanity.org>

### **Domain 11 – Weapons of Mass Destruction<sup>23</sup>**

**Indicator: Nuclear and Heavy Weapons Capabilities Indicator and Non-Proliferation Score.**

**Full Description:** This indicator is based on two scores

- The Global Peace Index Nuclear and Heavy Weapons Capabilities Score (**HWC**): a categorised system for rating the destructive capability of a country's stock of heavy weapons. 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 and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms. Countries are given a score of 1 for low military capabilities. Nuclear countries are scored 5.
- Non-Proliferation Score (**NPS**): If a country is a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons they are given a score of 1. If they are not they receive a score of zero.

The final WMD score used in the NI is calculated by **HWC – NPS**.

**Rationale:** This indicator is a categorised system for rating the destructive capability of a country's stock of heavy weapons, including only those of government, and its commitment to non-proliferation of Nuclear weapons.

**Source:** Institute for Economics and Peace, 163 countries, Latest Year of Data: 2019

**URL:** <http://www.visionofhumanity.org>

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<sup>23</sup> (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2019)

## Data Availability and Imputation

The methodology developed has been designed to be in line with other prominent global indicators, and substantial effort has been made to populate the index with the best existing country information. However, the major challenge to developing a harmonized composite index is in attempting to overcome the paucity of consistent and comprehensive data across very diverse countries around the world. They vary significantly not just in terms of demographic and geographic characteristics, but also in terms of socio-economic characteristics which often times can impact data collection and quality.

The issue of data gaps is a common challenge to creating an index. The OECD recommend a number of statistical techniques for dealing with data imputation to fill in data gaps.<sup>24</sup> Table 2 lists the approaches used in the NI. Using the combination of these techniques, the NI represents the use of the best possible data without an overly complex methodology.

**TABLE 2: Data Imputation methods**

Method	Description	Application in NI
Cold Deck Imputation	Replacing the missing value with a value from another source.	The NI uses this either when it uses the most recent data point in a series as the current data point, or uses additional country statistics to fill in gaps.
Hot Deck Imputation	Replacing the missing value with a regional average.	The NI uses hot deck imputation for data that is not available for all countries.

## Weighting the Indicators

As the EU Global Strategy 2018 does not rank domains in order of priority, the NI uses **equal weighting** across all domains, simplifying the calculation of the final NI score.

## Domain Calculations

This section illustrates how each indicator, and hence each domain is treated. The Domain process is in two stages 1) data collection and 2) imputation and banding.

Banding data in the case of the NI is a way of dealing with comparing otherwise incongruous information. It takes each indicator and scales them to a score between 0 and 1 relative to the whole data set. To do this, appropriate minimum and maximum values for the data set are decided such that anything below the minimum is assigned zero, and anything above the maximum is assigned 1, and everything else is scaled evenly between the two. Therefore, in year  $y$ , after data imputation, the banded score is calculated for indicator  $i$  by Equation 1.

<sup>24</sup> ( Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2008)

### Equation 1: Banding Equation

$$Banded_i = \frac{\text{Country Indicator Value in Year } y_i - \text{minimum cutoff}_i}{\text{maximum cutoff}_i - \text{minimum cutoff}_i}$$

Banding this way indicates the implicit assumption that higher levels of the indicator are better. However, higher levels of some indicators, such as the Global Terrorism Index score, represent a less desirable case for countries. In such cases, the banded score is reverse and is calculated by Equation 2.

### Equation 2: Reverse banding equation

$$Reverse\ Banded_i = 1 - \frac{\text{Country Indicator Value in Year } y_i - \text{minimum cutoff}_i}{\text{maximum cutoff}_i - \text{minimum cutoff}_i}$$

The banded indicator score for each country is then the domain score, as each domain is measured by only one indicator. Each domain score lies between zero and one.

An integral part of this process is to set appropriate minimum and maximum cut off values for the banded scores. There are empirical and normative methods available for doing this. While some data may be distributed normally and therefore lend itself well to standard and well defined mathematical techniques such as defining outliers as those greater than three standard deviations from the mean, other data sets do not follow well behaved trends. The final choice of which technique is used must depend on a number of considerations: the nature of the data, the underlying distribution, the purpose of the index, what information is being conveyed, etc. Upon investigation of the global datasets used in the YDI, very few of the distributions can be classified as normal. The presence of outliers affects not only the average, but the variance, skewing both the min and max.

To account for this, IEP in some instances set artificial minimums and maximums to ensure results are not too heavily influenced by outliers. In the cases where outliers are present, the lower bound set for the banding process are set as the lowest data point that is within 1.5 times the interquartile range below the first quartile (where the interquartile range is defined as the distance between the first and third quartiles). Similarly the upper bound set for the banding process are set as the largest data point that is within 1.5 times the interquartile range above the third quartile.

### Aggregating Domain Scores to Final NI Score

Since each domain is weighted equally in terms of threat significance, the final aggregated NI score can be calculated as the average of the eleven domain scores. Thus the final NI score is a value between zero and ten for each country in each year.

$$NPI\ Score = 10 \times \frac{\sum_{i=D1}^{D11} \text{Country Indicator Banded Score}_i}{11}$$

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The 'Normandy Index' aims to measure the level of conflict in the world. It is to be presented for the first time on the occasion of the Normandy Global Peace Forum in June 2019, as a result of the partnership between the European Parliament and the region of Normandy.

The Index has been designed and prepared by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) and developed by the Institute for Economics and Peace. This paper sets out the initial findings of the 2019 exercise and explains how the index can be used to compare peace – defined on the basis of a given country's performance against a range of predetermined threats – across countries and regions. It is complemented by 25 individual country case studies, derived from the Index.

The paper is part of the EPRS contribution to the Normandy Global Peace Forum, alongside two studies: on the EU's contribution to peace and security in 2019, and on the EU's support for peace in Colombia.

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