The Global State of Democracy 2022: Forging Social Contracts in a time of Discontent

The Democracy Tracker

30 November 2022
The Global State of Democracy 2022: Our Main Findings
What is democracy?

At International IDEA, we think of democracy as:

- Popular control over public decision-making
- Equality between citizens in the exercise of that control
The quality of existing democracies is in decline

Democratic erosion over time

Number of democracies eroding

- 2012, 12 democracies
- 2021, 52 democracies
Democratic growth has also stalled
At the same time, public support for authoritarian values is growing

Source: World Values Survey
Signs of hope: The Gambia, The Dominican Republic and Moldova
The EU & Finland
The majority of Europe continues to live in a democracy.
A certain level of discontent exists across Europe.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Voter turnout (percentage of registered voters)</th>
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<td>Albania</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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There are notable examples of growth
Progress in Moldova

- Representative Government, 0.78
- Checks on Government, 0.70
- Fundamental Rights, 0.66
- Civil Society Participation, 0.54
- Impartial Administration, 0.44

2016 presidential election
Democracy in Finland

• In the top 25% of countries around the world for every GSoD metric, with exception of Electoral Participation

• Stagnant and lack of movement in positive direction across all attributes
Advances and declines in Finland
(comparing 2021 to 2016)

Elected Government -
Inclusive Suffrage -
Gender Equality -
Checks on Government -
Fundamental Rights -
Freedom of Movement -
Clean Elections -
Social Rights and Equality -
Access to Justice -
Media Integrity -
Local Democracy -
Predictable Enforcement -
Effective Parliament -
Civil Liberties -
Social Group Equality -
Judicial Independence -
Impartial Administration -
Absence of Corruption -
Basic Welfare -
Civil Society Participation -
Personal Integrity and Security -
Representative Government -
Freedom of Religion -
Freedom of Expression -
Freedom of Association and Assembly -
Free Political Parties -
Electoral Participation -

Source: International IDEA, The Global State of Democracy Indices v. 6.1, 2022,
<https://www.idea.int/gsdod-indices/>
Redesigning social contracts can help realize democratic innovation.

THIS INCLUDES:

- New constitutions
- Spaces for meaningful youth participation
- Regional input integrated into national and local laws and policies
- Civic education
- Electoral integrity guarantees
- Stronger and updated protection of freedom of expression
- Participatory mechanisms that channel public demands into new laws and policies
International actors should re-commit to supporting electoral integrity, which is the bedrock of democracy.
The way forward

Prioritize accountability and transparency for renewed social contracts.

Prioritize the implementation and enforcement of strategies and policies that reduce corruption and rebuild public trust.

Protect the freedom of expression, including in online spaces.
Youth Participation

Addressing inequality requires placing marginalized groups' needs front and center

Youth require meaningful participation in the development of policies that impact them
The GSoD Platform

Democracy Tracker
- 173 country profile pages
- Basic facts and human rights treaty compliance
  - Monthly updates on democracy and human rights developments
- Early warning tool

GSoD Indices
- Annually updated quantitative scores on 116 indicators of democracy
- Interactive tool to see and engage with the data per country, region and attribute/subattribute
  - Raw data

GSoD Reports
- Annual GSoD reports
- In Focus reports

Democracy Notes
- Blog with the most current analysis of democracy and human rights events around the world
- Explainers: Longer pieces that dive deep into a particular issue
Turkey is a federal republic that has experienced sustained democratic gains in recent years owing to a broad-based democratic movement. The government is committed to upholding human rights and ensuring the rule of law. However, challenges remain, particularly regarding freedom of speech and media freedom.

**Human Rights Treaties**
- Article 2.1: Right to life
- Article 7: Freedom from torture and inhuman treatment

**Early Warning System**
- Enhanced monitoring of human rights and political developments
- Interactive visualisation for realtime updates

**GSoD Indices**
- Attributes over time
- Interactive visualisation
- Basic information box

**Monthly Updates**
- May 2022

**Context-setting country briefs**
- Turkey

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*Additional details are available in the comprehensive report.*
Monthly updates

The Monthly updates highlight any democracy or human rights related development that has the potential to change the status quo of that country.

Kenya - August 2022

Global State of Democracy Indices

The indices rate provide a snapshot of action scores per indicator and the development of the scores over time. They also offer an interactive tool that allows users to see the regime type change over time. Dragging the time period in the slider bar triggers the recalculation of the values of the democracy indicators in the wider area.
International IDEA’s (BETA) Democracy Tracker
Early Warning System (DTEWS)

Early Warning System

The early warning tool shows a country’s risk for backsliding or breakdown.

- HIGH RISK OF DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING
- MEDIUM RISK OF DEMOCRATIC BREAKDOWN
Thank you!