



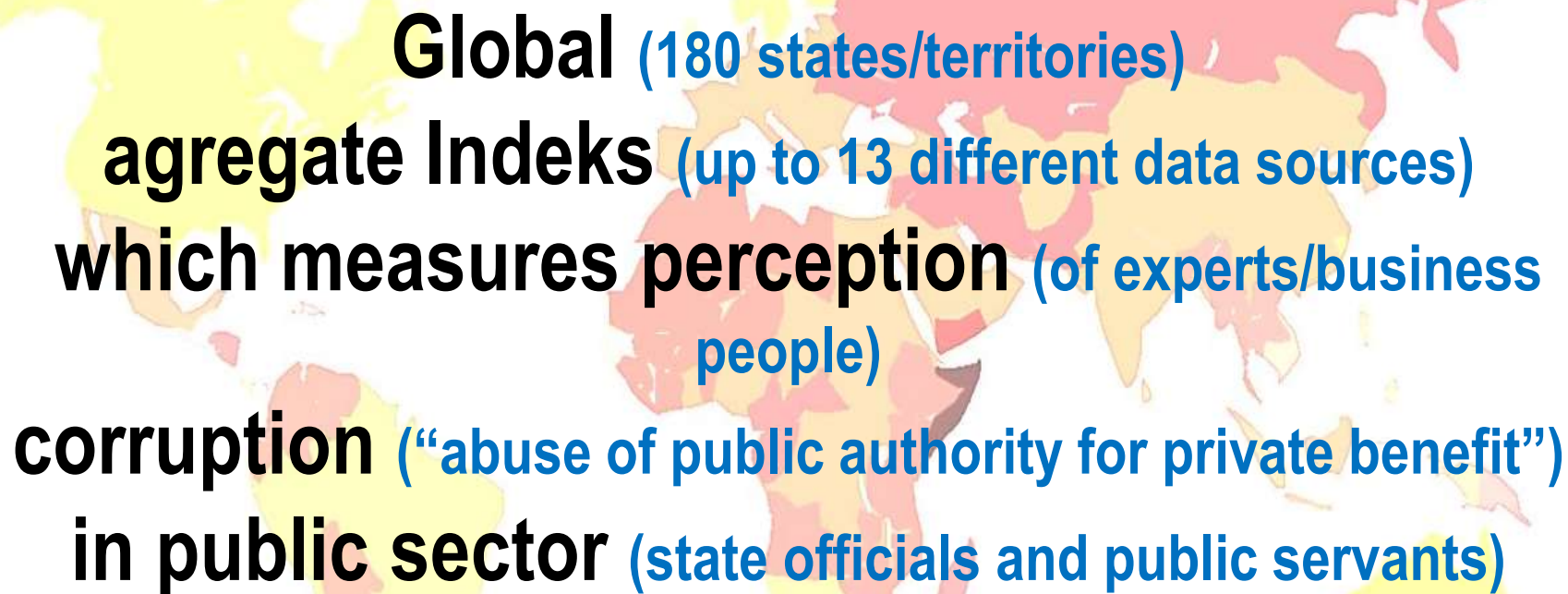
GLOBAL CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX (CPI) 2023

published 30 January 2024.



www.transparentnost.org.rs
www.transparency.org/cpi

Corruption Perception Index **CPI 2023**



Global (180 states/territories)
aggregate Indeks (up to 13 different data sources)
which measures perception (of experts/business people)
corruption (“abuse of public authority for private benefit”)
in public sector (state officials and public servants)

Corruption Perception Index **CPI 2023**

- The CPI is an annual survey that provides data that can be monitored continuously. CPI 2023 is 28th in a row.
- **At least 3 surveys per country/territory for ranking**
- Research must be published within the previous 24 months
- **Countries are scored on a scale of 100 (very 'clean') to 0 (very corrupt).**
- **It examines perception, not necessarily performance in the fight against corruption, the quality of regulations, intentions or potential for the fight against corruption** (e.g. the number of reported cases, the number of convictions, the number of articles in the media on this topic, adopted laws, announcements by politicians .)



Possibility of Comparison

- **For long-term comparisons, a country's score is more relevant than its place in the table** (the number of countries/territories included varies).
- Changes in the index for individual countries/territories **may be the result of a change in the sample** - research that was taken into account when compiling the index
- **The current CPI score is fully comparable with results from CPI 2012 (country/territory rating).** Due to methodological changes from 2012, the possibility of comparing the current CPI with results from earlier years (before CPI 2012) is limited: one can compare the place on the list (taking into account the changes in the number of countries in the sample and the movement of other countries) or compare the results by individual researches; it is not methodologically correct to multiply the score from years before 2012 by 10 or divide the current score by 10! Comparisons with previous years should be taken with a grain of salt because the number of sources has increased, which has affected the way grades are calculated.

Data Sources

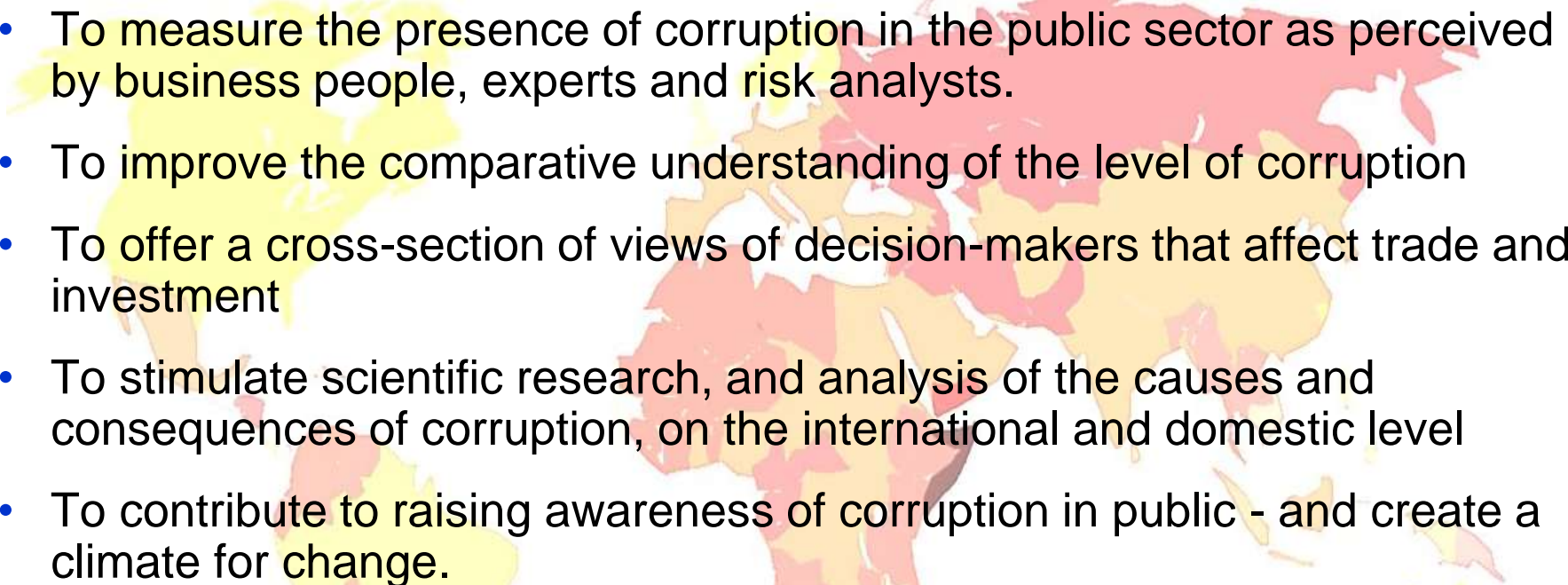
The CPI relies on 13 data sources that include the assessment of experts and business people on a range of corrupt practices in the public sector, including:

- Bribery
- Abuse of public funds
- Use of public office for private gain
- Nepotism in the civil service
- State capture

Some of the sources also discuss the mechanisms available to prevent corruption in countries/territories, such as::

- the government's ability to implement integrity mechanisms
- effective prosecution of corrupt officials
- bureaucracy and excessive bureaucratic burden
- the existence of adequate laws on the publication of financial data, conflict of interest, prevention of corruption and access to information
- legal protection of whistleblowers and journalists

CPI Objectives

- 
- A world map is visible in the background, color-coded by region. North America, Australia, and parts of South America are colored yellow. Europe, Africa, and parts of Asia are colored orange. Russia and parts of Asia are colored red.
- To measure the presence of corruption in the public sector as perceived by business people, experts and risk analysts.
 - To improve the comparative understanding of the level of corruption
 - To offer a cross-section of views of decision-makers that affect trade and investment
 - To stimulate scientific research, and analysis of the causes and consequences of corruption, on the international and domestic level
 - To contribute to raising awareness of corruption in public - and create a climate for change.

CPI Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages:

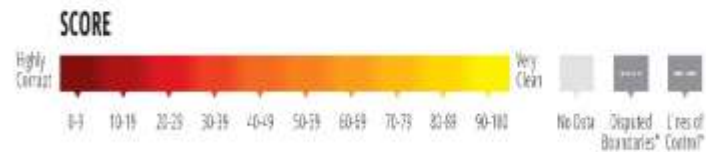
- **CPI provides an opportunity to advance the debate on corruption in the public**
- **CPI is a good incentive to conduct further analysis**
- **CPI enables global comparability - it covers almost all countries of the world**
- **Other mechanisms for assessing the level of corruption give similar findings to the CPI**

Disadvantages:

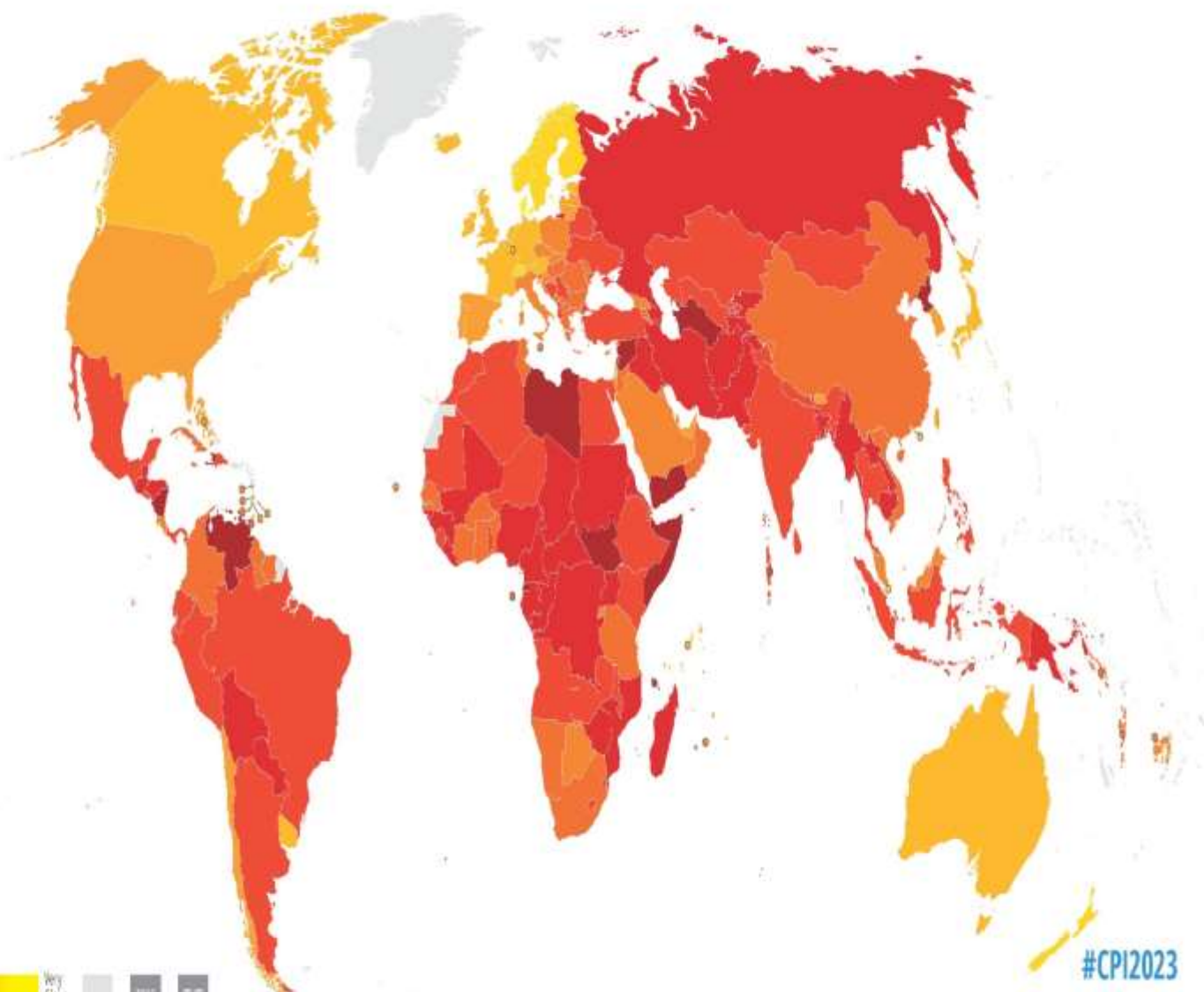
- The index will not reflect the achieved results in the fight against corruption until the change in practice becomes clearly visible and convincing to the respondents; the index changes relatively slowly, as it includes research from the last two years
- Developing countries can be portrayed in a worse light due to the biases and prejudices of foreign observers. That is why there are other means for measuring corruption, e.g. (The index of bribe payers)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.



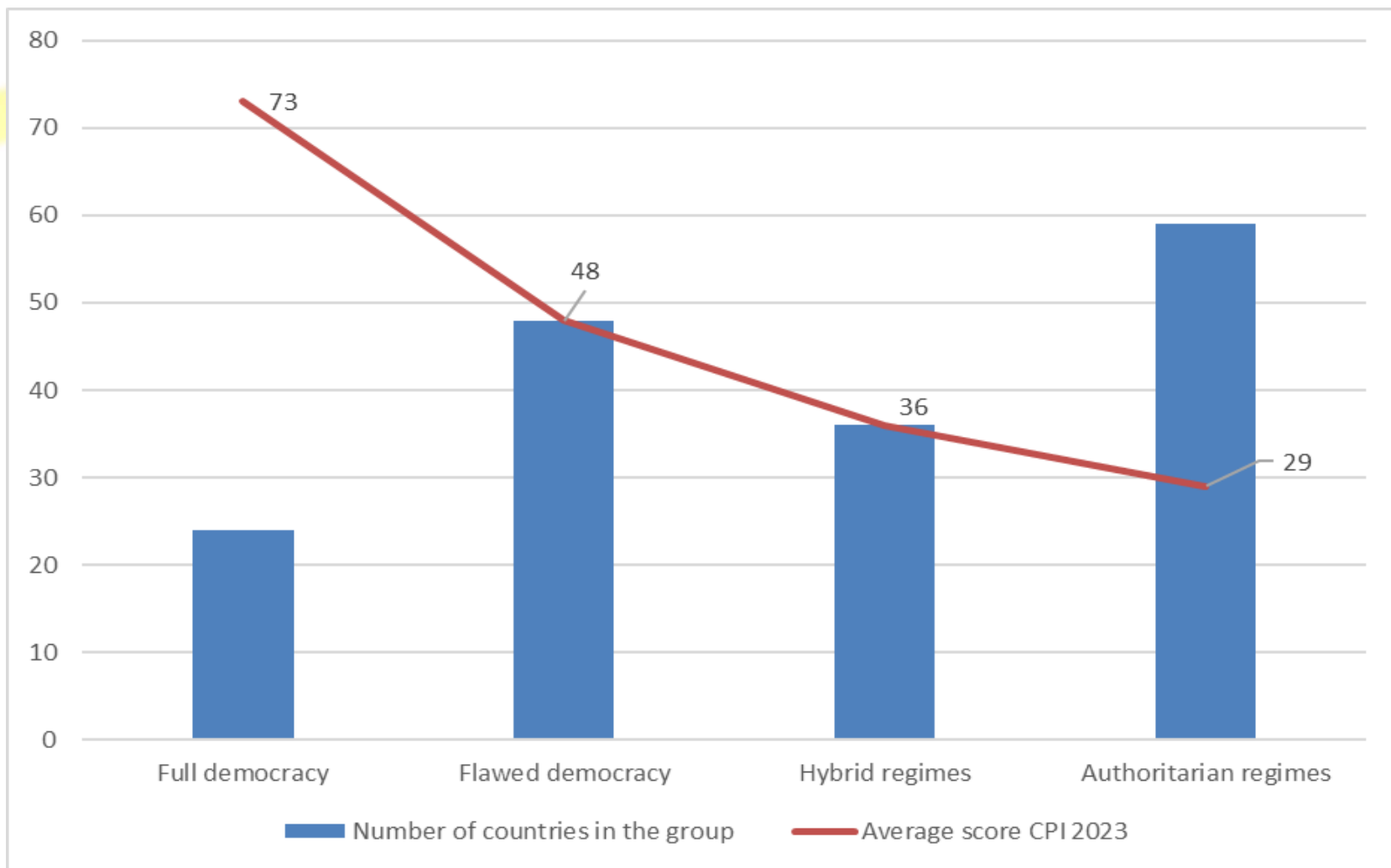
*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge and as of January 2024. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its borders or boundaries.



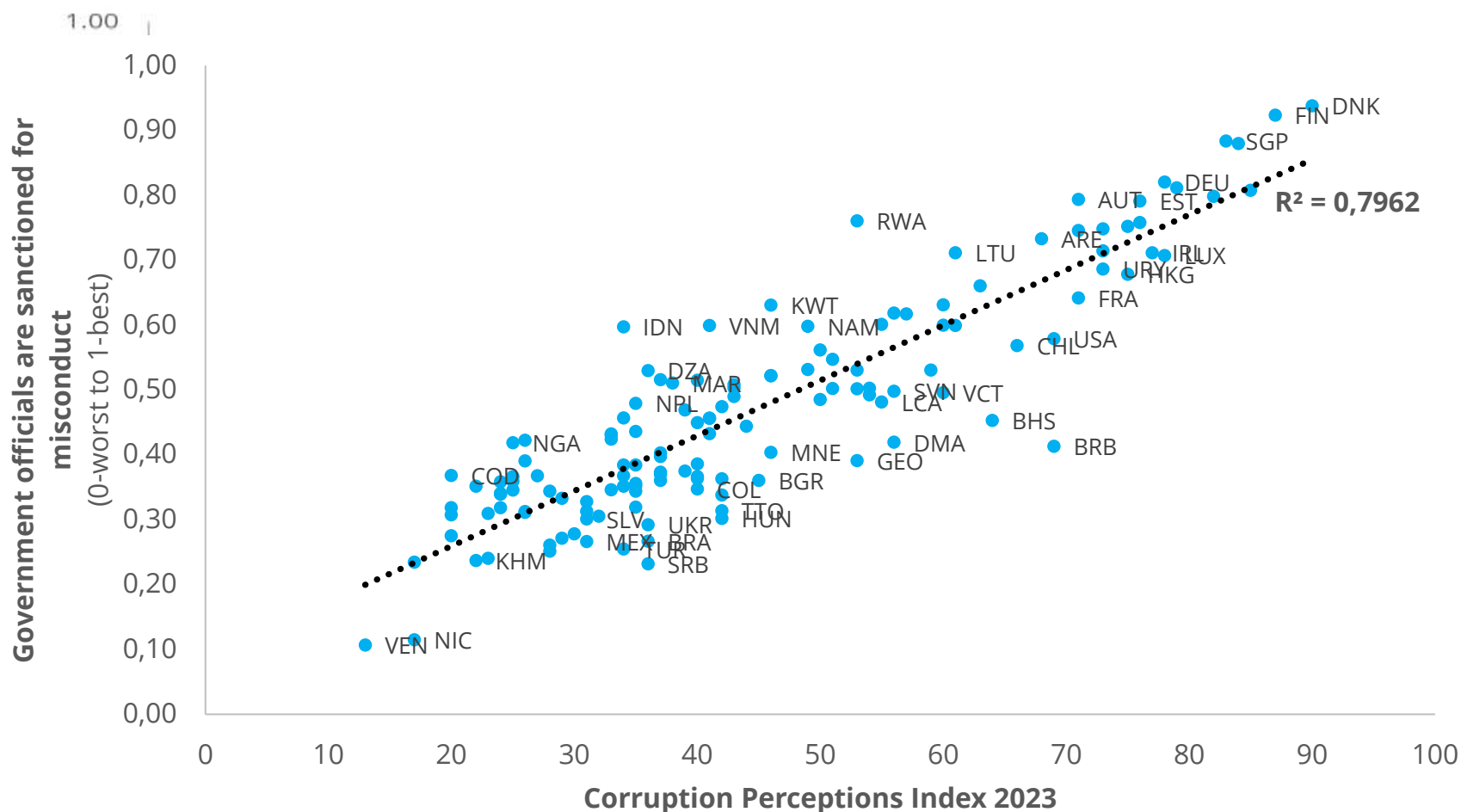
#CPI2023

www.transparency.org/cpi

Quality of democracy and perception of corruption



Perception of corruption and impunity of officials - clear correlations



Sources: World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index and Transparency International's Corruption Perception index 2023

Methodological Notes for Serbia - **CPI 2023**

- **Serbia was included in 8 surveys** considered when compiling this year's indices. sources for Serbia have been used for six years (when a new one was added). The same seven sources have been used for 11 years in a row. It gives high reliability when comparing data over a longer period of time.
- The territory of Serbia was observed without Kosovo and Metohija (for which the index is prepared separately)
- Of the original surveys that were taken into account when compiling the CPI for Serbia, data were collected during 2023 (three surveys), during 2022 (three surveys), and during both years (one survey), while one includes an earlier period.
- In **seven** original surveys, the score for CPI 2023 is **the same as in CPI 2022**, while in **one** survey, **the score is worse** compared to CPI 2022. However, this was not enough to change the total score for Serbia (36).

Source of data in initial research that includes Serbia

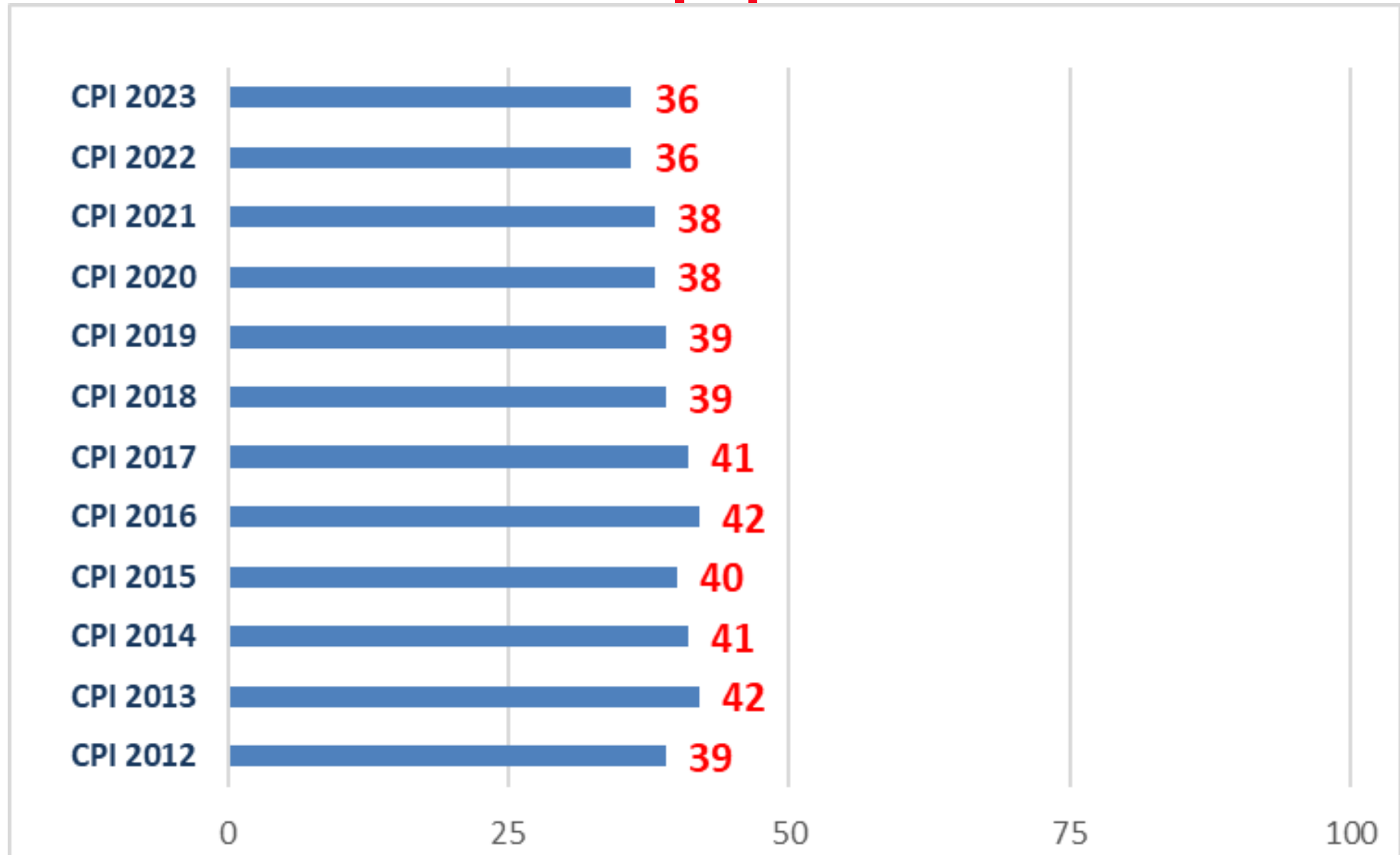
Sources	Sample research
<p>FH (Freedom House, Nations in Transit) 2023</p>	<p>Observations of non-residents; respondents mostly come from developed countries</p>
<p>BF (Bertelsmann Foundation) Transformation Index 2024</p> <p>EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit) 2023</p> <p>GI (Global Insight Country Risk Ratings) 2022</p> <p>PRS ICRG (Political Risk Services International Country Risk Guide) 2023</p>	<p>Experts hired by the bank/institution</p>
<p>WEF (World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey) 2023</p>	<p>Perceptions of residents; respondents are mostly local experts, local business people and multinational companies</p>
<p>WJP (World Justice Project Rule of Law Index) 2023</p> <p>Varieties of Democracy Project 2023</p>	<p>Local experts</p>

Results of Serbia in **CPI 2023**

Rank	Country	Score 2023	Number of research
104	Serbia	36	8

- Serbia shares the 104th place with three other countries (Algeria, Brazil, Ukraine).
- Last year, with the same score (36), we shared the 101st place with eight other countries. In this year's ranking, Serbia was overtaken by Albania, Gambia, Kazakhstan and Zambia.

Changes in Serbia's score on the CPI

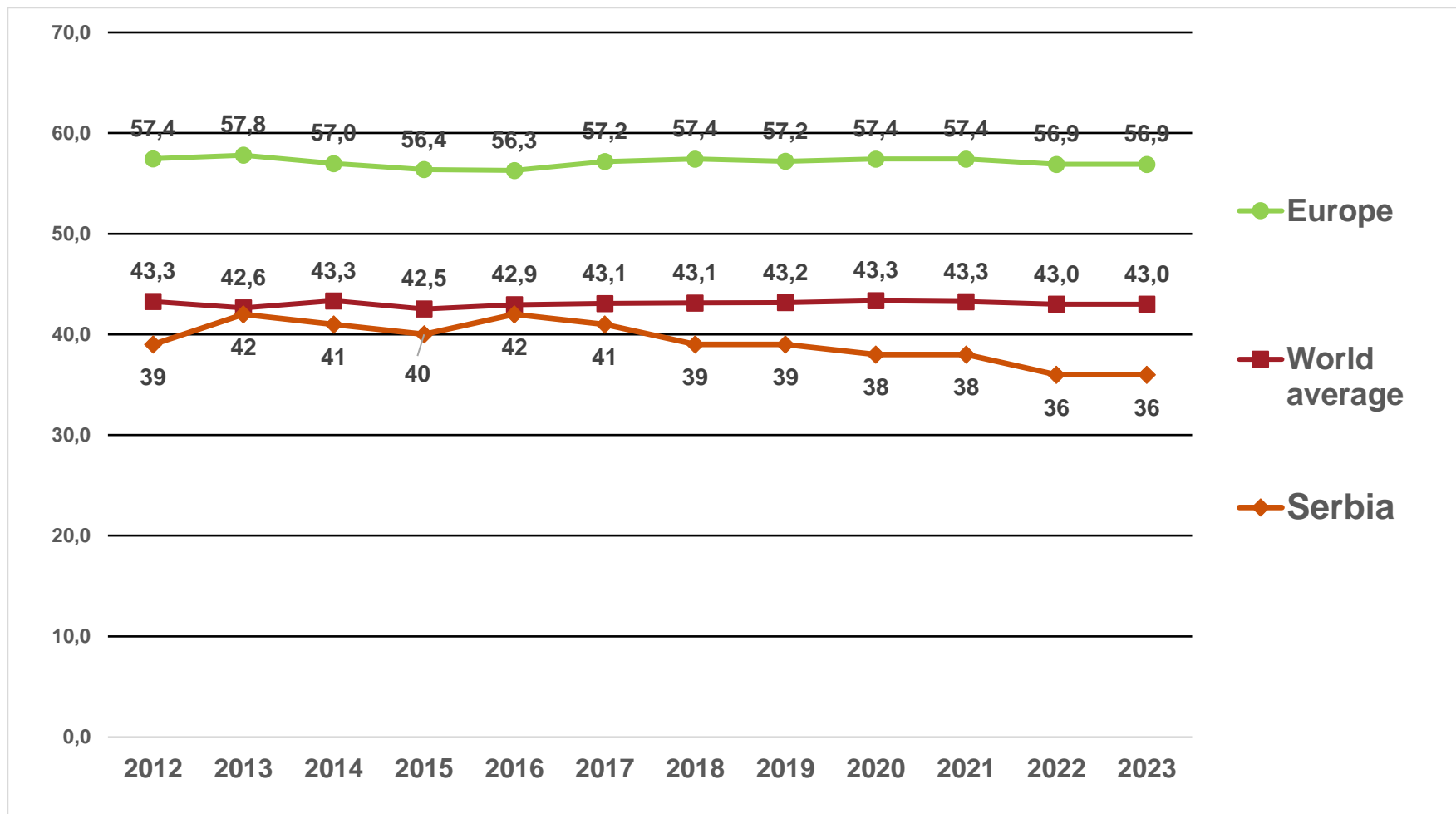


Ratings for Serbia by sources 2012-2023



- Bertelsmann Foundation Transformation Index
 — Economist Intelligence Unit Country Ratings
— Freedom House Nations in Transit
- Global Insights Country Risk Ratings
 — PRS International Country Risk Guide
— Varieties of Democracy Project
- World Economic Forum EOS
 — World Justice Project Rule of Law Index

CPI changes for Serbia, Europe and the World



CPI 2023 - Best and Worst Ranked

Countries perceived as the least corrupt

Rank	Country	Score (0-100)	No. of research
1	Denmark	90	8
2	Finland	87	8
3	New Zealand	85	8

Countries perceived as the most corrupt

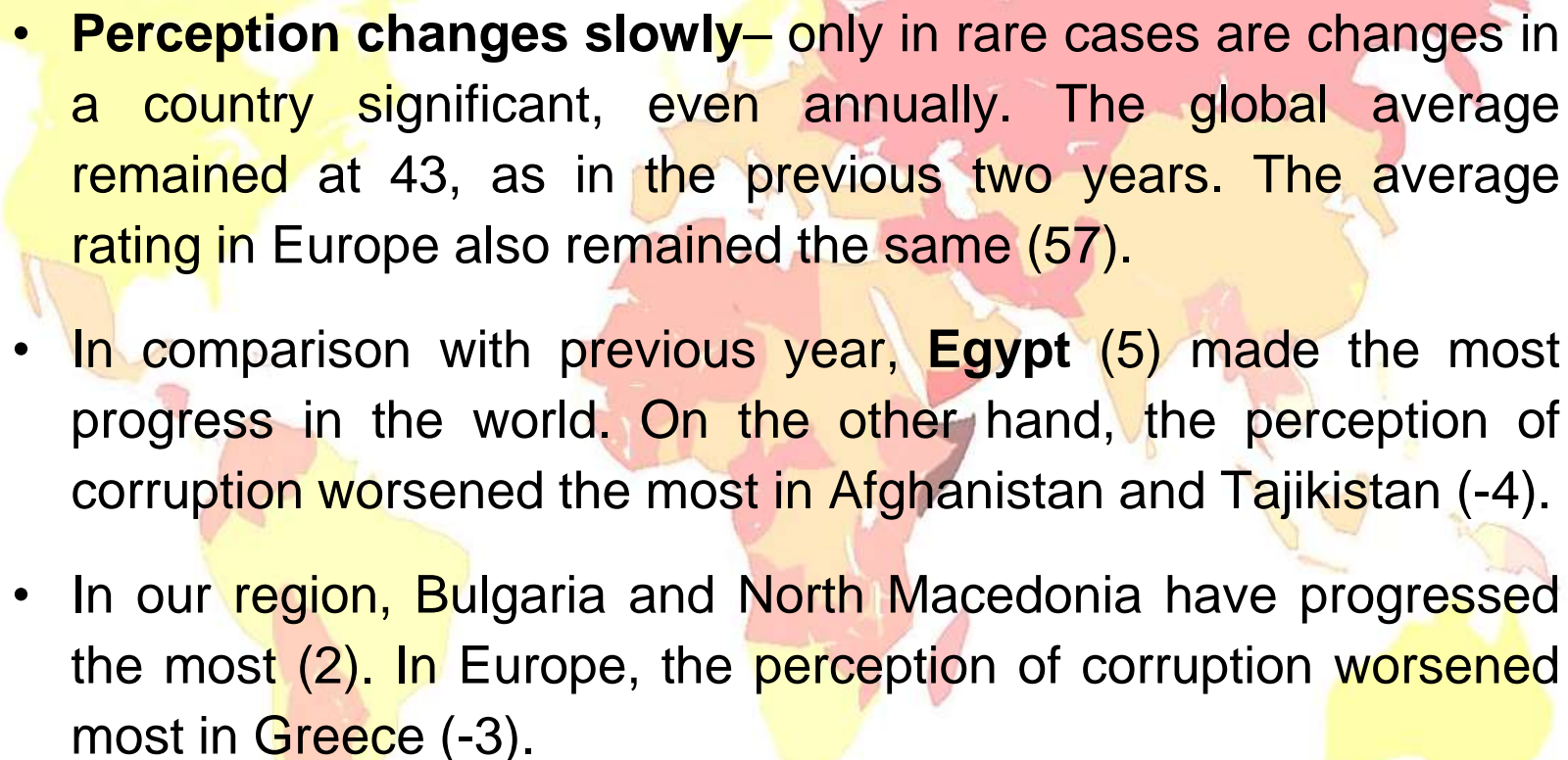
Rank	Country	Score (0-100)	No. of research
180	Somalia	11	6
177	South Sudan	13	5
	Syria		5
	Venezuela		8

CPI 2023 – Serbia and the Region

Rank	Country/Territory	Score 2022	Score 2023
42	Slovenia	56	56 =
57	Croatia	50	50 =
63	Romania	46	46 =
63	Montenegro	45	46 ↑
67	Bulgaria	43	45 ↑
76	Hungary	42	42 =
76	North Macedonia	40	42 ↑
83	Kosovo*	41	41 =
98	Albania	36	37 ↑
104	Serbia	36	36 =
108	Bosnia and Herzegovina	34	35 ↑

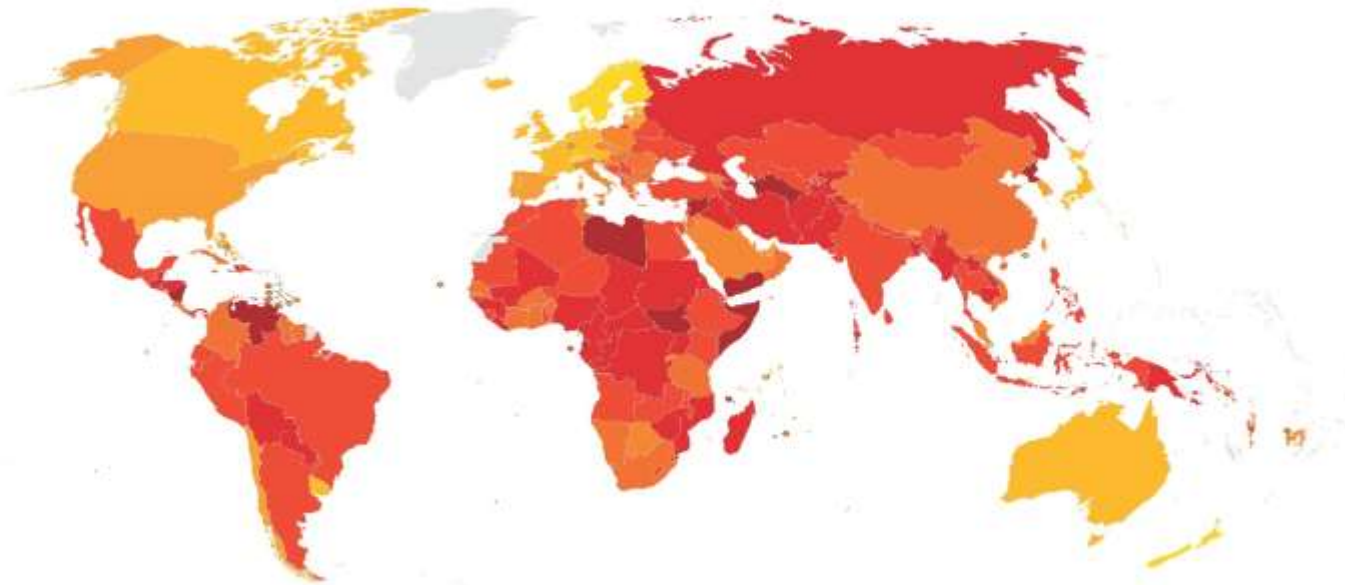
Legend: green – EU members

CPI 2023 and comparisons with previous years

- 
- A world map is displayed in the background, color-coded by CPI 2023 scores. The map uses a color scale from yellow (higher scores) to red (lower scores). The map shows that countries in North America, Europe, and Australia generally have higher scores (yellow/orange), while countries in Africa, Asia, and South America have lower scores (red/orange).
- **Perception changes slowly**— only in rare cases are changes in a country significant, even annually. The global average remained at 43, as in the previous two years. The average rating in Europe also remained the same (57).
 - In comparison with previous year, **Egypt** (5) made the most progress in the world. On the other hand, the perception of corruption worsened the most in Afghanistan and Tajikistan (-4).
 - In our region, Bulgaria and North Macedonia have progressed the most (2). In Europe, the perception of corruption worsened most in Greece (-3).

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.



SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

90	Denmark
87	Finland
85	New Zealand
84	Norway
83	Singapore
82	Sweden
82	Switzerland
79	Netherlands
78	Germany
76	Luxembourg
73	Ireland
76	Canada
76	Estonia
75	Australia
74	Hong Kong
73	Belgium
73	Japan
72	Uruguay
72	Iceland
71	Austria
71	France
71	Seychelles
71	United Kingdom
69	Barbados
69	United States
68	Bhutan

68	United Arab Emirates
67	Taiwan
66	Chile
64	Bahamas
64	Cabo Verde
63	Korea, South
62	Israel
61	Lithuania
61	Portugal
60	Latvia
60	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
60	Spain
59	Botswana
58	Qatar
57	Czechia
56	Dominica
56	Italy
56	Slovenia
55	Costa Rica
55	Saint Lucia
54	Poland
54	Slovakia
53	Cyprus
53	Georgia
53	Grenada
53	Rwanda

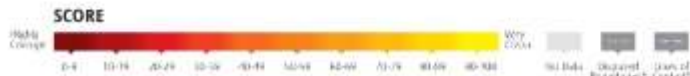
53	Fiji
53	Saudi Arabia
51	Malta
51	Mauritius
50	Croatia
50	Malaysia
49	Greece
49	Namibia
48	Vanuatu
47	Armenia
46	Jordan
46	Kuwait
46	Montenegro
46	Romania
45	Bulgaria
46	Sao Tome and Principe
44	Jamaica
43	Benin
43	Ghana
43	Oman
43	Senegal
43	Solomon Islands
43	Timor-Leste
42	Bahrain
42	China
42	Cuba
42	Hungary

42	Moldova
42	North Macedonia
42	Trinidad and Tobago
41	Burkina Faso
41	Kosovo
41	South Africa
41	Vietnam
40	Colombia
40	Côte d'Ivoire
40	Guyana
40	Suriname
40	Tanzania
40	Tunisia
39	India
39	Kazakhstan
39	Lesotho
39	Maldives
38	Morocco
37	Argentina
37	Albania
37	Belarus
37	Ethiopia
37	Gambia
37	Zambia
36	Algeria
36	Brazil
36	Serbia

36	Ukraine
35	Bosnia and Herzegovina
35	Dominican Republic
35	Egypt
35	Nepal
35	Panama
35	Sierra Leone
35	Thailand
34	Ecuador
34	Indonesia
34	Malawi
34	Philippines
34	Sri Lanka
34	Turkey
33	Angola
33	Mongolia
33	Peru
33	Uzbekistan
32	Niger
31	El Salvador
31	Kenya
31	Mexico
31	Togo
30	Djibouti
30	Eswatini
30	Mauritania

29	Bolivia
29	Pakistan
29	Papua New Guinea
28	Gabon
28	Laos
28	Mali
28	Paraguay
27	Cameroon
26	Guinea
26	Kyrgyzstan
26	Russia
26	Uganda
25	Liberia
25	Madagascar
25	Mozambique
25	Nigeria
24	Bangladesh
24	Central African Republic
24	Iran
24	Lebanon
24	Zimbabwe
23	Azerbaijan
23	Guatemala
23	Honduras
23	Iraq
22	Cambodia

22	Congo
22	Guinea-Bissau
21	Eritrea
20	Afghanistan
20	Burundi
20	Chad
20	Comoros
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
20	Myanmar
20	Sudan
20	Tajikistan
18	Libya
18	Turkmenistan
17	Equatorial Guinea
17	Haiti
17	Korea, North
17	Nicaragua
16	Yemen
13	South Sudan
13	Syria
13	Venezuela
11	Somalia



© 2023 Transparency International. All rights reserved. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. For more information, see www.transparency.org/cpi. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. For more information, see www.transparency.org/cpi.

Results **CPI 2023 and Serbia**

- **Long-term stagnation** in the perception of corruption, with a **worsening trend**, is another indicator that Serbia does not only have a problem with the perception of corruption but also that **there is no substantial progress in its suppression.** u percepciji korupcije,
- **The similarity of trends in the research** based on which the CPI is calculated drastically reduces the possibility that it is only a matter of subjective impressions or a reaction to individual disputed situations.
- Serbia is considered a **country where the level of corruption is high**; it is in **the lower half of the world's list**. Serbia's score has reached the global average only twice during the last decade, and now it is **seven points below it**. The rating is **far below the average of our continent** and has been below the Balkan average for several years.
- **Serbian citizens also have the impression of a high prevalence of corruption**, although, in those surveys, the fluctuations in the perception of corruption are significantly greater. Also, **research on the implementation of specific anti-corruption regulations** and findings of international organizations speak of the malfunctioning of the system.

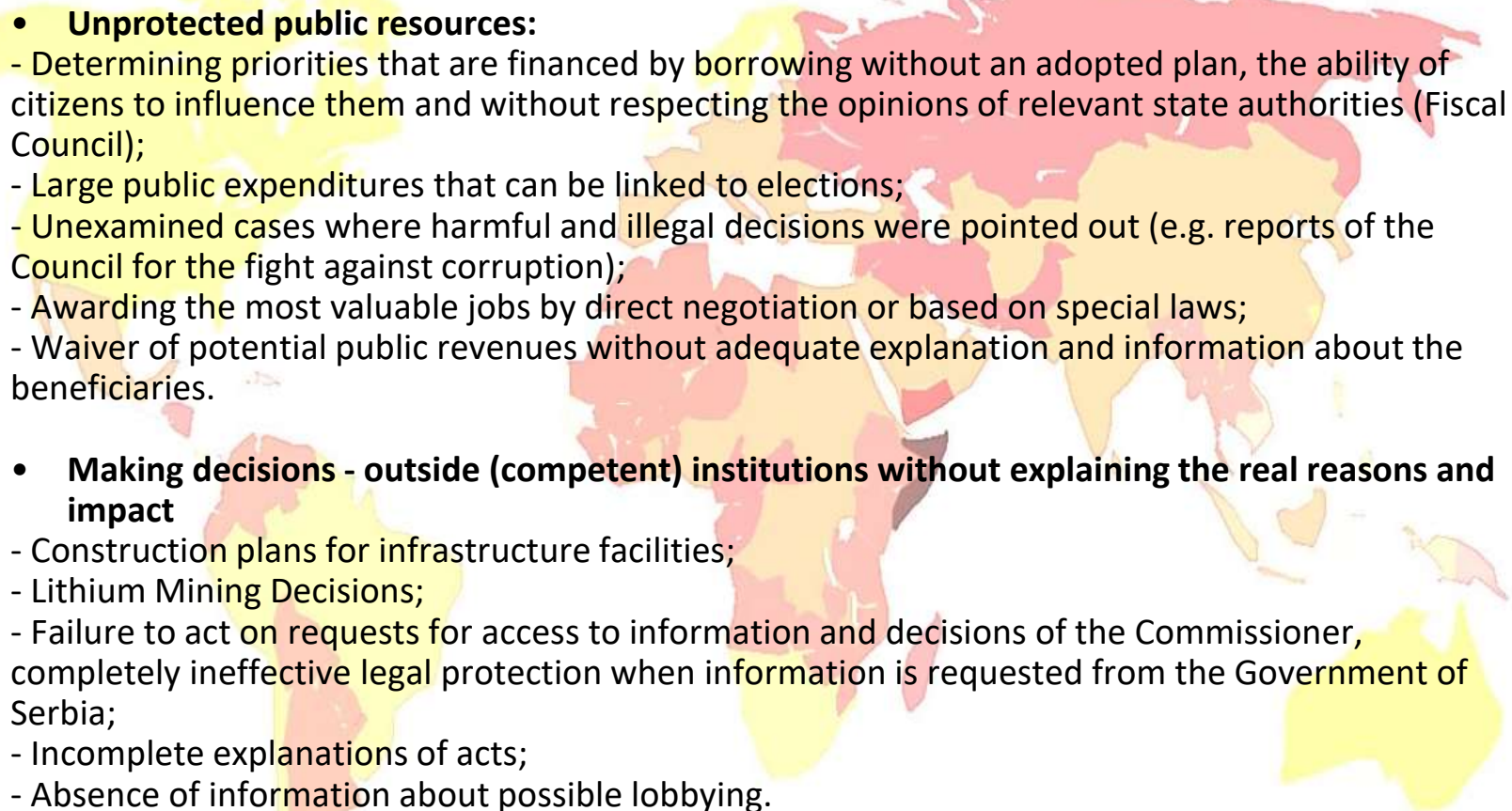
Main problems in fight against corruption

- The fight against corruption **is not a priority.**
- **The reform of the judiciary** has not brought visible progress regarding the independence of action of public prosecutors in detecting and prosecuting corruption
- There is no systematic follow-up of actions following **whistleblower reports** / and cases brought to the public remain unexamined
- The Government of Serbia **openly violates** existing anti-corruption rules
- **Public resources** are not protected
- **Critical decisions are made outside the (competent) institutions** and without explaining the reasons and impact

Most current anti-corruption issues

- **Insufficient importance given to the fight against corruption:**
 - The national strategy **has not existed for more than five years**, and the proposal from 2023 does not offer adequate solutions;
 - The fight against corruption did not occupy a significant place in the pre-election programs of the parties that won the majority in the December 2023 elections, so there are no great expectations regarding the program of the future Government;
 - In the reports for the Action Plan for Chapter 23, it is stated what was not done, without considering responsibility;
 - Ignoring the recommendations of GRECO and ODIHR.
- **Judicial reform**
 - Constitutional guarantees of the independence of public prosecutors did not bring any changes in practice;
 - For now, there are no visible changes that would be a consequence of the new composition of the judicial councils;
- There is no monitoring of **what happens after whistleblowers' reports**; even cases that were brought to the public by whistleblowers, journalists or certain public institutions remain unexamined;
- **Open disregard for anti-corruption rules:**
 - Continuation of illegal management of public enterprises. Reducing the transparency of the work of state enterprises transformed into capital companies;
 - Retroactive and otherwise illegal appointments of acting officials in the public administration;

Most current anti-corruption issues

- 
- **Unprotected public resources:**
 - Determining priorities that are financed by borrowing without an adopted plan, the ability of citizens to influence them and without respecting the opinions of relevant state authorities (Fiscal Council);
 - Large public expenditures that can be linked to elections;
 - Unexamined cases where harmful and illegal decisions were pointed out (e.g. reports of the Council for the fight against corruption);
 - Awarding the most valuable jobs by direct negotiation or based on special laws;
 - Waiver of potential public revenues without adequate explanation and information about the beneficiaries.
 - **Making decisions - outside (competent) institutions without explaining the real reasons and impact**
 - Construction plans for infrastructure facilities;
 - Lithium Mining Decisions;
 - Failure to act on requests for access to information and decisions of the Commissioner, completely ineffective legal protection when information is requested from the Government of Serbia;
 - Incomplete explanations of acts;
 - Absence of information about possible lobbying.

Unexploited Opportunities to Fight Corruption

- **EU integration and international recommendations:**
 - The fact that the progress in the fight against corruption is monitored throughout the negotiations was not used - the critical problems are repeated in the EC's annual reports;
 - in the implementation of the Action Plan for Chapter 23, there is no substantial progress even when the measures have been formally implemented;
 - The recommendations of other international organizations (ODIHR, GRECO) have not been fully implemented;
- **Concentrated political power** - since 2014, the situation in which the government is stable enough to implement reforms has not been used to establish a complete system of institutional fight against corruption but to weaken it;
- **Support of citizens** - citizens show a principled intolerance towards corruption and, to a lesser extent, a willingness to politically reward what is presented to them as a fight against corruption; other issues nevertheless gain priority in the narrative of the most influential media (e.g. security, stability, investments), while the unresolved cases of suspected corruption encourage apathy among critical citizens.

Anti-corruption priorities in 2024

Political corruption

- Establishment of safe channels for reporting irregularities related to abuse of public resources, use of public office and election procedure and their promotion by state authorities;
- Urgent investigation of all disclosed violations before and during the December 2023 election campaign;
- Legally restricting the possibility of conducting a "functionary campaign", that is, apparently regular activities of public officials undertaken for political promotion and the establishment of functional independent supervision, as well as public expenditures in the period before and immediately after the election;
- Limiting the expenses of the election campaign, specifying the duties of the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption in the control of reports on campaign expenses, ensuring greater public disclosure of data while the election campaign lasts;
- Ensuring greater public influence on the adoption of regulations and individual decisions, whether it is registered lobbying, unregistered lobbying or informal forms of communication, which the Law on Lobbying does not regulate;
- Respect for constitutional and legal rules and principles of separation of powers in decision-making.

Anti-corruption plans - priorities

- Determining the reasons for not achieving the goals from the National Strategy for the Fight against Corruption 2013-2018;
- Essential improvement of the proposal of the new Strategy and Action Plan in terms of coverage and planning of measures so that the set goals and criteria for evaluating the fulfilment of those goals can be achieved;
- The inclusion of measures to prevent corruption in the new Government programme, with an unequivocal obligation to abandon illegal practices (especially in connection with the appointment of acting officials) and acts in connection with the reports of the Government Council for the fight against corruption.

Prosecution and Punishment of Corruption

- Investigating all cases of suspected corruption in connection with which documents have been disclosed or direct accusations have been made, without waiting for the public prosecutor to file a criminal complaint, and publishing information about the outcome of the investigation, including the explanation in case it is determined that there is no criminal responsibility;
- Ensuring all conditions for prosecuting corruption using special investigative techniques, for conducting financial investigations alongside criminal ones and for proactivity in investigating corruption, which includes amendments to the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Law on the Organisation and Competence of State Authorities in Suppression of Organised Crime and Terrorism and corruption for more effective prosecution of certain forms of corruption;
- Improvement and comprehensive supervision of the implementation of the Law on the Protection of Whistleblowers;
- Publishing of information on the current implementation of the Law on the Investigation of the Origin of Property and Special Tax and an overview of its anti-corruption effects (if any), and opening a discussion on the criminalisation of "illegal enrichment" in the sense of Article 20 of the UNCAC as a potentially better solution.

Prevention of Corruption – Public work

- The Government of Serbia should ensure the execution of the Commissioner's decision and start acting regularly on the received requests;
- The possibility of appealing to the Commissioner should also be introduced in cases where information is withheld by the Government, the National Assembly, the President, the Supreme Court, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, the Constitutional Court and the National Bank;
- The provisions of other laws must not reduce the right to access information, and the exercise of that right should be extended to information in the possession of currently uncovered entities (e.g. joint ventures within a public-private partnership); Authorities should publish all information in an open format, and state control authorities should cross-check data from these databases when determining their work plans and conducting supervision;
- The obligation to prepare and publish explanations for decisions should be introduced where it does not currently exist (e.g. certain conclusions of the Government);
- The National Assembly should apply the provisions of the Code of Ethics in cases where MPs do not explain their actions to the public.

Public Finances

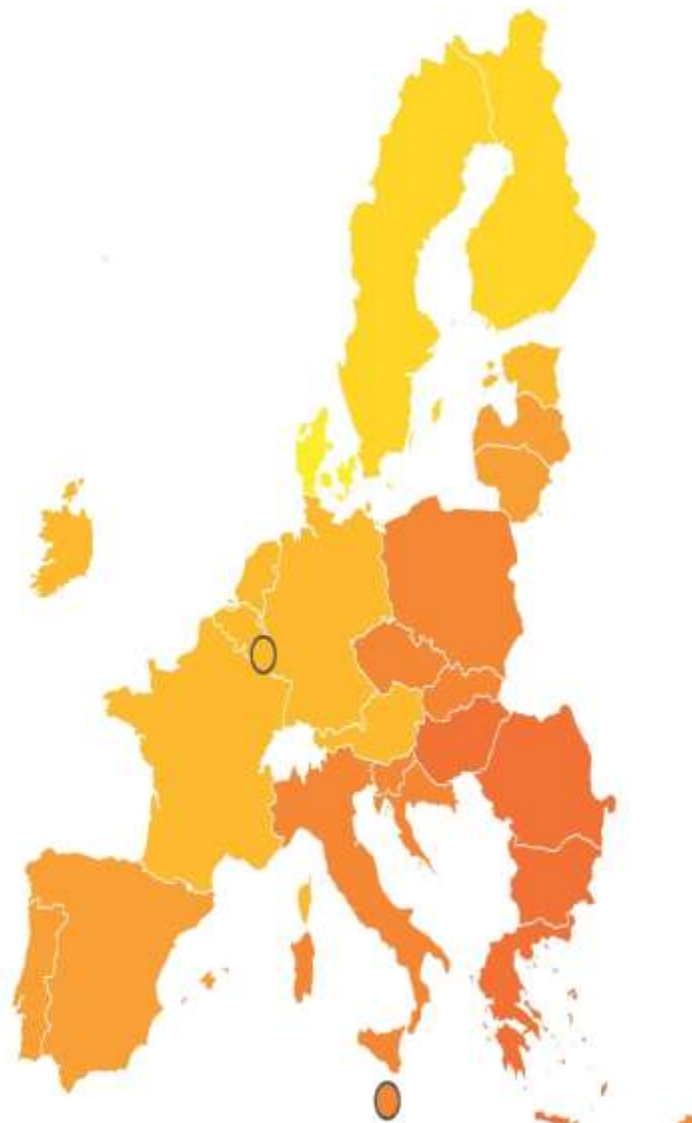
- Providing complete information regarding the transformation of public enterprises and the impact of unprofessional management on public finances;
- Carrying out supervision over the planning, implementation and execution of public procurement in a far greater number of cases;
- Ensuring full transparency in public-private partnerships;
- Termination of the practice of concluding interstate agreements based on which transparency and competition can be excluded in connection with the conclusion of contracts on public procurement, public-private partnerships and the sale of public assets;
- Stopping the practice of procurement based on special laws passed for infrastructure projects and repealing the recently passed special law for EXPO 2027;
- Increasing the publicity of data on allocations from the budget reserve;
- Providing full explanations for the selection of infrastructural priorities, the profitability of borrowing, the implementation of existing projects, as well as measures of financial support;
- Enabling citizens to influence budget priorities at the national level;
- Publication of data on budget execution during the year in a way that allows monitoring by budget users and programs.

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

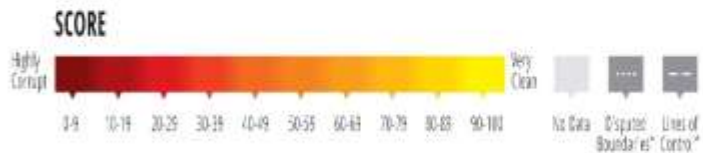
EUROPEAN UNION

64/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
90	Denmark
87	Finland
82	Sweden
79	Netherlands
78	Germany
78	Luxembourg
77	Ireland
76	Estonia
73	Belgium
71	Austria
71	France
61	Lithuania
61	Portugal
60	Latvia
60	Spain
57	Czechia
56	Italy
56	Slovenia
54	Poland
54	Slovakia
53	Cyprus
51	Malta
50	Croatia
49	Greece
46	Romania
45	Bulgaria
42	Hungary



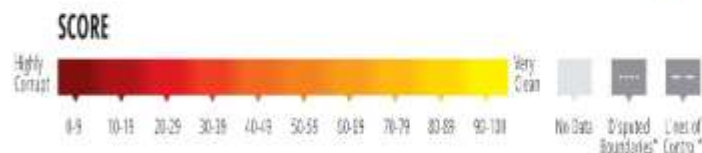
*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge and as of January 2024. They do not imply the expression of any opinion or the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

WESTERN EUROPE & EUROPEAN UNION

65/100

AVERAGE SCORE



*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge and as of January 2024. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



SCORE	COUNTRY/TERRITORY
90	Denmark
87	Finland
84	Norway
82	Sweden
82	Switzerland
79	Netherlands
78	Germany
78	Luxembourg
77	Ireland
76	Estonia
73	Belgium
72	Iceland
71	Austria
71	France
71	United Kingdom
61	Lithuania
61	Portugal
60	Latvia
60	Spain
57	Czechia
56	Italy
56	Slovenia
54	Poland
54	Slovakia
53	Cyprus
51	Malta
50	Croatia
49	Greece
46	Romania
45	Bulgaria
42	Hungary

#CPI2023

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2024) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

35/100

AVERAGE SCORE



SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

53	Georgia
47	Armenia
46	Montenegro
42	Moldova
42	North Macedonia
41	Kosovo
39	Kazakhstan
37	Albania
37	Belarus
36	Serbia
36	Ukraine
35	Bosnia and Herzegovina
34	Turkey
33	Uzbekistan
26	Kyrgyzstan
26	Russia
23	Azerbaijan
20	Tajikistan
18	Turkmenistan

SCORE



*The designations employed and the presentation of material in this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge and as of January 2024. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2023

www.transparency.org/cpi

This work from Transparency International (2024) is licensed under CC BY-ND 4.0