Institute for Economics & Peace

- Research used extensively by organisations including the OECD, Commonwealth Secretariat, World Bank and the United Nations.

- Work is included in 1,000s of university courses and trained over 1,100 IEP ambassadors.

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# The Global Peace Index

Now in its **13th** year, the Global Peace Index ranks **163** countries according to their relative states of peace. Developed by the Institute for Economics and Peace, the index uses **23** indicators weighed on a 1-5 scale and is guided and overseen by a panel of **International Experts**.
The Global Peace Index Indicators

6 measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict
Including: intensity of organized internal conflicts, relations with neighbouring countries and number of deaths from conflict

10 measures of societal safety and security
Including: number of refugees and IDPs, impact of terrorism, homicide and incarceration rates

7 measures of militarisation
Including: military expenditure, number of armed service personnel, ease of access to small weapons
01. Key Findings
2019 GLOBAL PEACE INDEX

A SNAPSHOT OF THE GLOBAL STATE OF PEACE

THE STATE OF PEACE

OVERALL AVERAGE CHANGE (%)

-0.09

The global GPI average improved 0.09 per cent from 2018 to 2019

IMPROVEMENTS

86 countries were more peaceful in 2019 than 2018

DETERIORATIONS

76 countries were less peaceful in 2019 than in 2018
2019 highlights

The average level of country peacefulness has improved by **0.09%** from last year. This was the first improvement in the last five years.

**↑ 86** countries became more peaceful,

**↓ 76** deteriorated.

Deteriorations primarily driven by changes in:
- Perceptions of Criminality
- Internal and External Conflicts Fought
- Incarceration

Improvements were driven by changes in:
- Deaths from Internal Conflict
- Military Expenditure
2019 highlights

- Iceland is, again, the most peaceful country in the world
- Ukraine and Sudan had the largest improvement
- Russia and Eurasia had the largest regional improvement
- Europe remains the most peaceful region, improving for the first time since 2014, despite ongoing political instability
- Bhutan rises to 15 - largest improvement of any country in top 20 - risen 43 places in 12 years
2019 highlights - continued

- Afghanistan is now the world’s least peaceful nation, followed by Syria
- Nicaragua and Burkina Faso had the largest deteriorations
- Central America and North America had the largest regional deteriorations
- Iran drops 9 places to 139
- US drops 4 places to 128 – Homicide, Violent crime, Milex, Weapons Exports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Rank Change</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ICELAND</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>NEW ZEALAND</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PORTUGAL</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>AUSTRIA</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>DENMARK</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>CANADA</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>JAPAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>CZECH REPUBLIC</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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10 most peaceful countries
10 least peaceful countries

163. AFGHANISTAN
Rank change: 1 ↓

162. SYRIA
Rank change: 1 ↑

161. SOUTH SUDAN
Rank change: ↔

160. YEMEN
Rank change: 2 ↓

159. IRAQ
Rank change: 1 ↑

158. SOMALIA
Rank change: 1 ↑

157. CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Rank change: 1 ↓

156. LIBYA
Rank change: 1 ↑

155. CONGO, DEM. REP.
Rank change: ↔

154. RUSSIA
Rank change: 1 ↓
5 most improved countries

- **SUDAN**
  - Rank: 151
  - Rose 3 places

- **EGYPT**
  - Rank: 136
  - Rose 7 places

- **NORTH MACEDONIA**
  - Rank: 65
  - Rose 23 places

- **UKRAINE**
  - Rank: 150
  - Rose 2 places

- **RWANDA**
  - Rank: 79
  - Rose 24 places
5 most deteriorated countries

- **Nicaragua**
  - Rank: 120
  - Fell: 54 places

- **Burkina Faso**
  - Rank: 104
  - Fell: 26 places

- **Brazil**
  - Rank: 116
  - Fell: 10 places

- **Zimbabwe**
  - Rank: 132
  - Fell: 6 places

- **Iran**
  - Rank: 139
  - Fell: 9 places
02. Trends & Peace
Peace in the last decade

Peacefulness has declined year on year for eight of the last eleven years.

OVERALL SCORE TREND

Source: IEP
Changes in peace, 2008-2019

81 countries became less peaceful
81 countries became more peaceful

Peace declined 3.78% Over the last decade
Deteriorations in peace-10 years

This number of DISPLACED PEOPLE has doubled

60 million in 2017

251% Increase in battle deaths

203% Increase in deaths from terrorism
Deaths from terrorism by country, 2018

Source: START GTD, IEP Calculations
Improvements in peace-10 years

- 39% more countries improved than deteriorated in political terror
- 61% of countries reduced military expenditure as a % of GDP
- 72% of countries had a drop in the homicide rate
Peace in the last decade

Militarisation was the only domain to improve.

Source: IEP
The stickiness of peace
Gap between the least and most peaceful countries continues to grow.

Source: IEP
Perceptions of global leadership in 2018

Approval of Chinese leadership overtook approval of American leadership.

Source: Gallup World Poll
Climate change and peace

971 million people live in areas with high or very high climate change exposure. 400 million reside in countries with low levels of peacefulness.

Climate change can increase the likelihood of violent conflict through its impact on resource availability, livelihood security and migration.

Countries with high levels of Positive Peace are better able to manage climate-induced shocks and tend to have higher environmental performance.
03. Economic Impact of Violence
The global cost of violence, 2019
Deaths from conflict and terrorism peaked in 2014.

$14.1 trillion

Which is equivalent to
11.2% of total world GDP
OR
$1,853 per person

If the world decreased violence by 10%...

$1.41 trillion

Could be directed to other economic activities
Global economic impact of violence

- The average economic cost of violence was equivalent to 45% of GDP in the ten countries most impacted by violence, compared to only 2% in the ten least affected.

- In the last 70 years, per capita GDP growth has been three times higher in highly peaceful countries compared to those with low levels of peace.

- Peace is positively related to changes six macro economic indicators.

- GDP growth, exchange rate, inflation rate, interest rate, FDI and sovereign credit ratings
Breakdown of the economic impact of violence

Military expenditure accounts for over 40% of the total economic impact of violence.

A 1% reduction in the cost of violence is the equivalent to:
- total global Official Development Assistance in 2017

A 10% reduction in the cost of violence is the equivalent to:
- The global total Foreign Direct Investment in 2018
- The size the combined economies of Switzerland, Ireland and Denmark

Source: IEP
03. Positive Peace
Defining and measuring peace

The perfect state would have no police, jails or crime.

**Actual Peace**

Measures:
- Crime
- Suppression
- Military
- Armed Conflict

**Positive Peace**

Derived through statistical analysis of datasets, indices and attitudes with the GPI

**Positive Peace Index**
Positive Peace

Positive Peace creates the optimum environment for human potential to flourish.

High levels of Positive Peace are associated with:

- Higher per capita income
- Resilience
- Better environmental outcomes
- Higher GDP growth per annum
- Better performance on MDGs
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