



REGIONAL SECURITY

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BSSb 1105 International Security Policy

23/10/2023



Regional Security

- Region is the area of interest to many fields of science.
- Definition and characteristics of RS:
 - a) "System of mutual relations between countries in the region against the threats of instability, crises, armed conflicts and regional wars" (*Kusztal A., 2017 - Theoretical foundations of regional security in international relations*).
 - b) Most frequently, security at the regional level is built based upon a system or an alliance operating within the defined region, and "regional security institutions are often, but not always, established on the basis of geographical boundaries of the region, at the interface of functional cooperation.
- Criteria of regional security according to Kusztal:
 - the military potential of states of a region and its technical and technological levels;
 - the condition, strategy and the size of armed forces of countries in a region;
 - the quality of management of a defense sector in states of a region;
 - the character of borders between countries of a region and of external ones (geographical and political);
 - political and military alliances of regional range;
 - the role of political elites and rationality in choosing allies within - and beyond a region

Security architecture and relations among states

- *„An institutional system of organizing relations between states guaranteeing their security. It is based on the assumption that issues and problems related to the security of states cannot be solved individually.“*
- **Cooperative security** - ongoing effort to reduce the risk of war that does not target a specific state or coalition of states
- **Collective security** - states avoid the use of force in mutual relations (two principles - the obligation to resolve all disputes by peaceful means, the prohibition of the use of force in mutual relations)
- **Collective defense** - system of joint defense against external threats, i.e. against attacks by states that are not members of the organization

Evolution of security studies towards regional security - Critical Security Studies

- Shift in the 90s (The first impulse - Toronto school - Strategies in Conflict: Critical Approaches to Security Studies)
- **Traditional security studies** focused on military and state as a referent object
- A shift in the definition of the referent object and threats
- According to Waisova, there are two main characteristics of CSS:
 - a) *Exploring the differences between the Euro-Atlantic approach and that of Third World authors*
 - b) *The concept of the individuals as a separate referent object*
- Mohammed Ayooob – subaltern realism
- Discussion of the concept of security in the 90s - three groups
 - A) group against changing the agenda (John Mearsheimer, Stephen Walt)
 - B) group supporting the partial change (Schultz, Buzan?)
 - C) group supporting radical reform (Ulman, Kegley)

Evolution of security studies towards regional security – Toronto School

- 1994 - small conference at the York University entitled Strategies in Conflict: Critical Approaches to Security Studies
- Keith Krause and Michael C. Williams - Critical Security Studies: Concepts and Cases
- They began to questioning the concept of state as the main referent object – who or what is to be secured?
- Set out agenda of CSS in three points:
 - a) referent object
 - b) security more than just a military security
 - c) changed the way how security was studied

Evolution of security studies towards regional security – Copenhagen School

- 1995 - Barry Buzan, Ole Weaver and Jaap de Wilde published book: Security: A New Framework for Analysis
- Old vs. new concept of security
- Resolves its incoherence by arguing that the social production of security is sufficiently stable to be treated objectively
- Concept of sectoral security - military, political, economic, societal, environmental security
- Concept of analytical levels/categories (international systems, international subsystems, units, subunits and individuals).
- Concept of regional security complexes (4 basic principles)
- Concept of Securitization

Theory of Regional Security Complexes

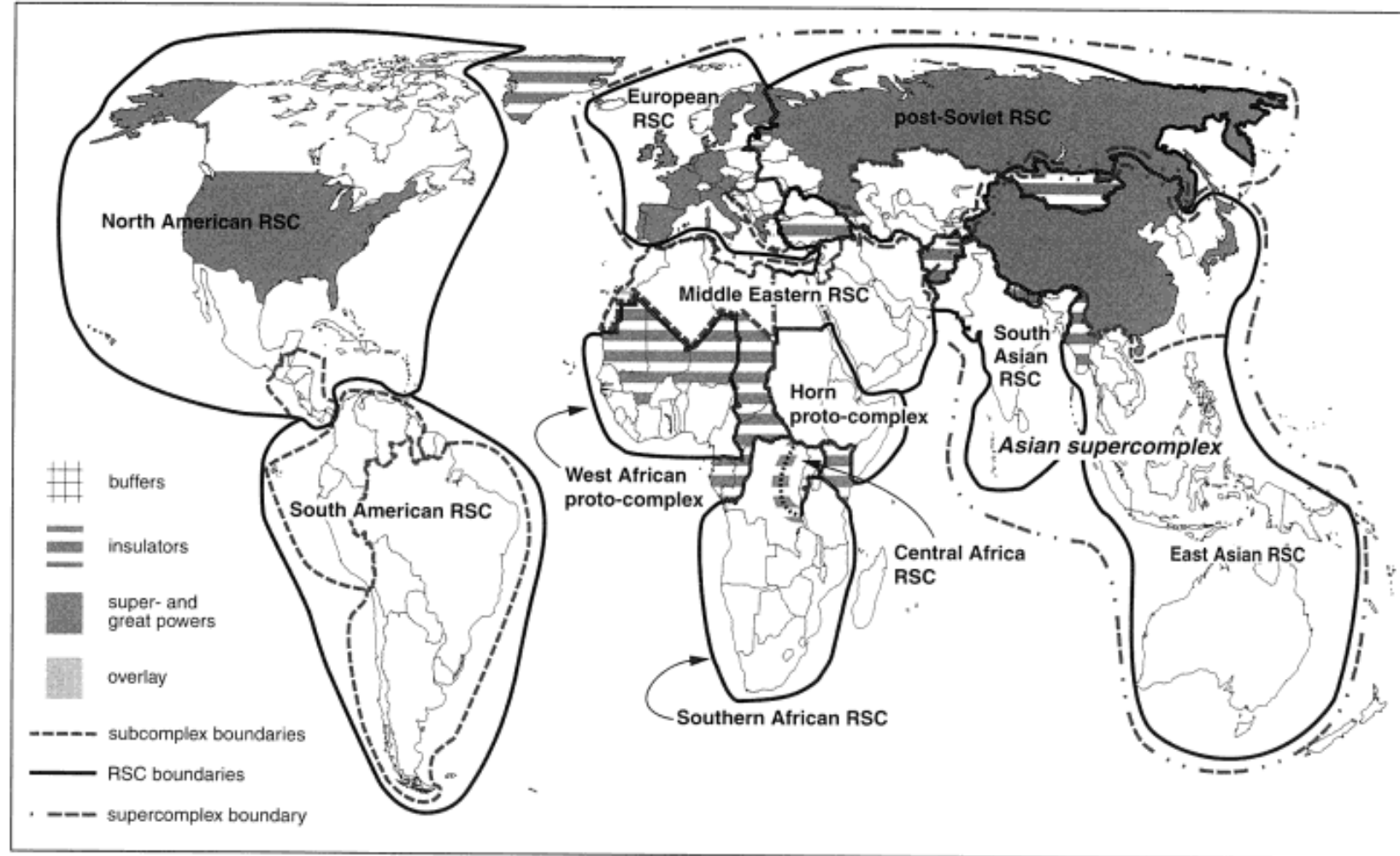
■ Concept of regional security complexes (4 basic principles):

- Composed of two or more states
- Geographically coherent grouping
- Mutual security dependency relationship (MSDR)
- MSDR deeply embedded, long term not permanent

„a group of states whose major security perspectives and concerns are so intertwined that the national security issues of each cannot be adequately analyzed or addressed separately“

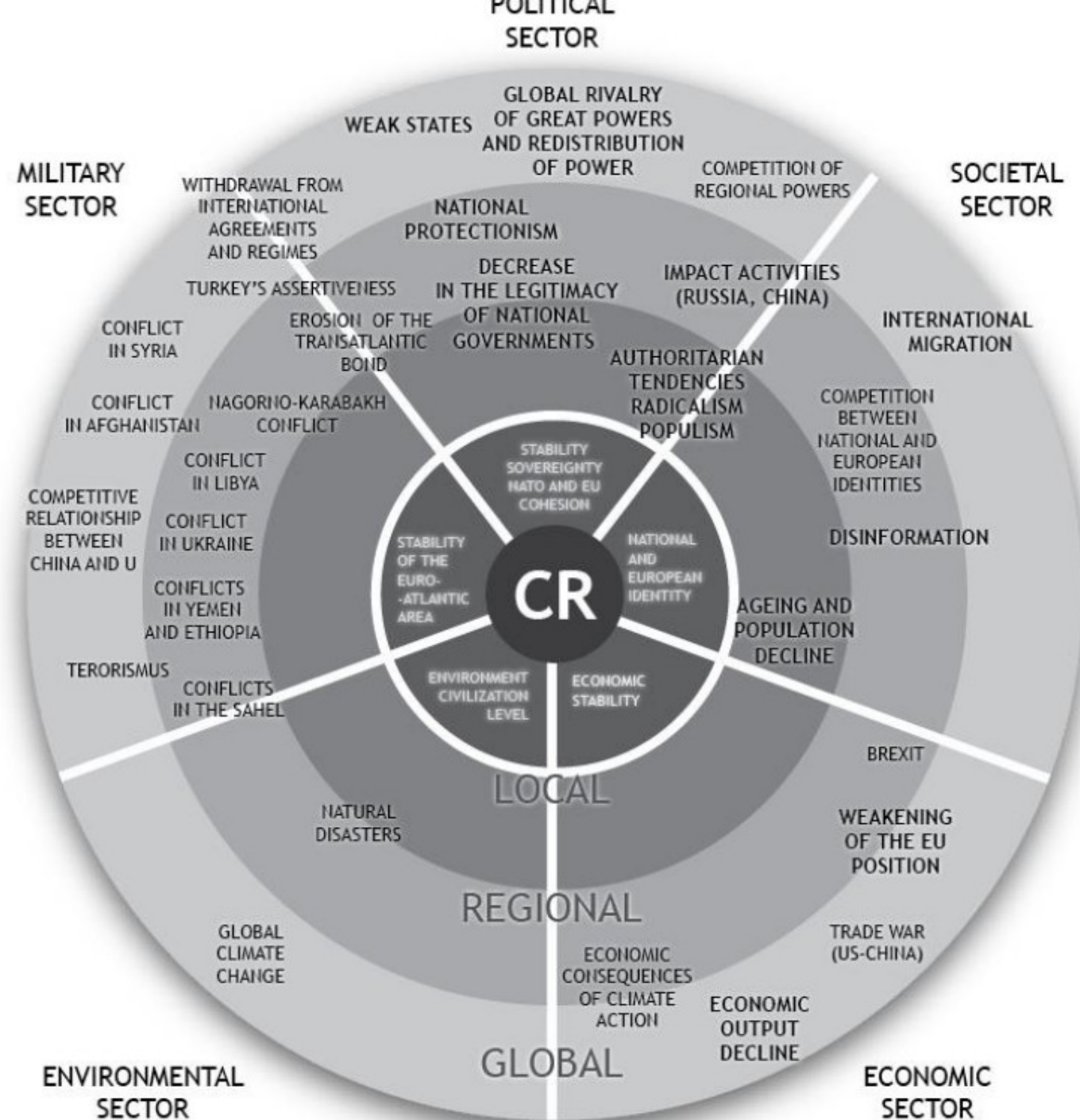
- Lower level security complex x Higher level security complex
- Buffer zones and states „inbetween“

Copenhagen School – Regional Security Complexes



Map 2. Patterns of Regional Security Post-Cold War

Security of the Czech Republic through the lens of the Copenhagen School



Security Dimensions

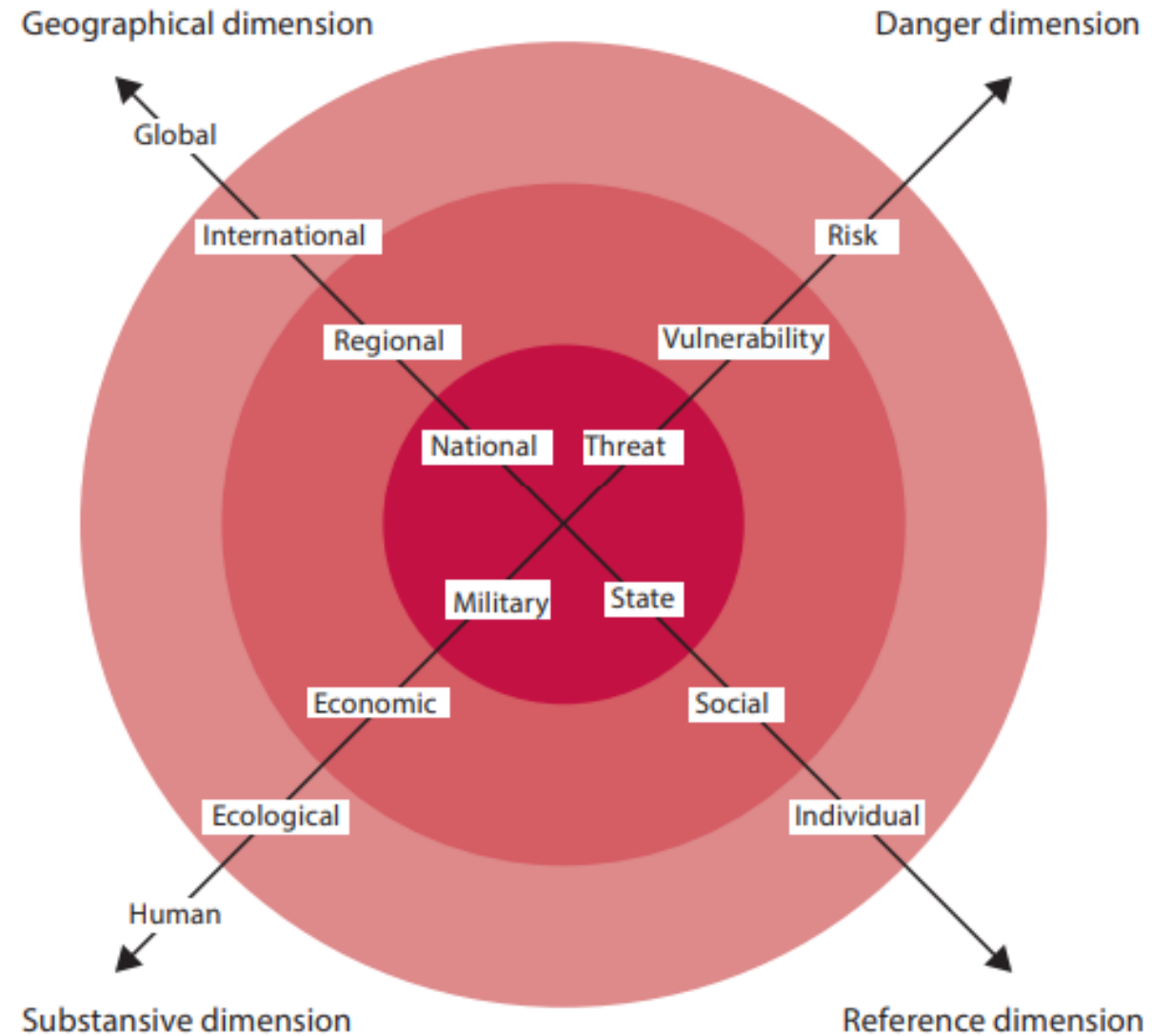


Fig. 2.1 Dimensions of security. (Source: DAASE 2013: 13)

Regional Security Threats

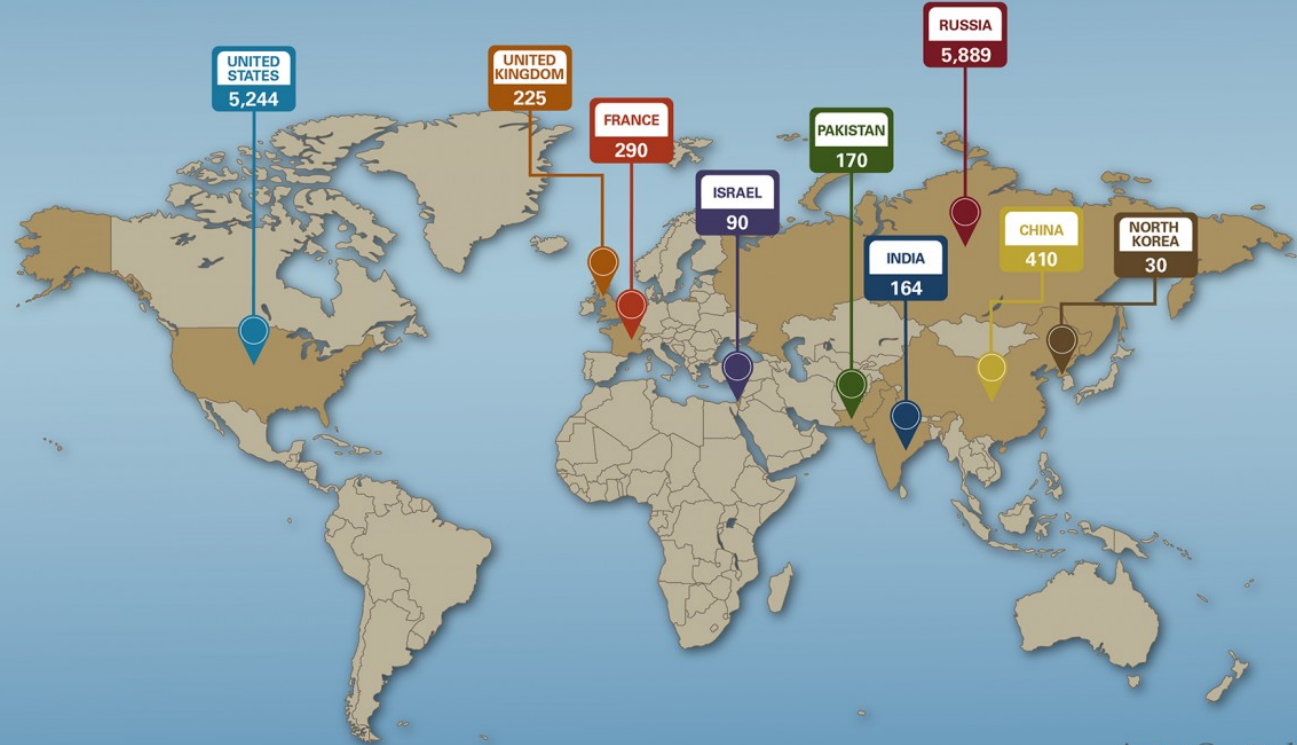
- The most prominent regional threats According to Eichler (2009):
 - a) Military threats - regional conflicts, WMD proliferation and armed aggression
 - b) Political threats - terrorism and organized crime, existence of dangerous dictatorial regimes, human rights violations and threats to internal politics by superpowers (NATO, USA, etc.).
 - c) Economic threats - instability of world markets, uneven economic development and economic crisis.
 - d) Ecological threats - changes in land and sea use; direct exploitation of natural resources; climate change; pollution and invasive species.

Regional Security Threats - WMD

- NPT 1968 - the NPT non-nuclear-weapon states agree never to acquire nuclear weapons and the NPT nuclear-weapon states in exchange agree to share the benefits of peaceful nuclear technology and to pursue nuclear disarmament aimed at the ultimate elimination of their nuclear arsenals.

2023 ESTIMATED GLOBAL NUCLEAR WARHEAD INVENTORIES

The world's nuclear-armed states possess a combined total of over 12,500 nuclear warheads; nearly 90% belong to Russia and the United States. Approximately 9,600 warheads are in military service, with the rest awaiting dismantlement.



Source: Hans M. Kristensen, Matt Korda, Eliana Reynolds, and Kate Kohn, Federation of American Scientists, U.S. Department of State, and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Updated: June 2023

Arms Control
Association

Regional Security Threats - Conflicts

- **An armed conflict** is a contested incompatibility that concerns government or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in one calendar year.
- **Conflict:** clash between two actors who have incompatible interests.
- Necessary features of conflict according to Holsti (1991):
 - a) Actors of the conflict
 - b) Area of the clash (incompatibility)
 - c) Tension
 - d) Conflict behavior
- Conflict vs. War vs. Civil war

Regional Security Threats - Conflicts

The World at War in 2023

Countries in which armed clashes between state forces and/or rebels were reported in 2023*



* As of April 28

Source: The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project



African conflicts to watch in 2022

Fresh approaches needed to avoid disaster in worst-affected countries

Libya

- ✗ Conditions not conducive to elections
- ✗ Mercenaries' withdrawal key

Cameroon

- ✗ Anglophone crisis led to insurgency
- ✗ Military solutions are failing

Central African Republic

- ✗ Dialogue stymied by ongoing clashes
- ✗ New approach to peace essential

South Sudan

- ✗ Last year to implement 2018 peace deal
- ✗ Political and community clashes persist

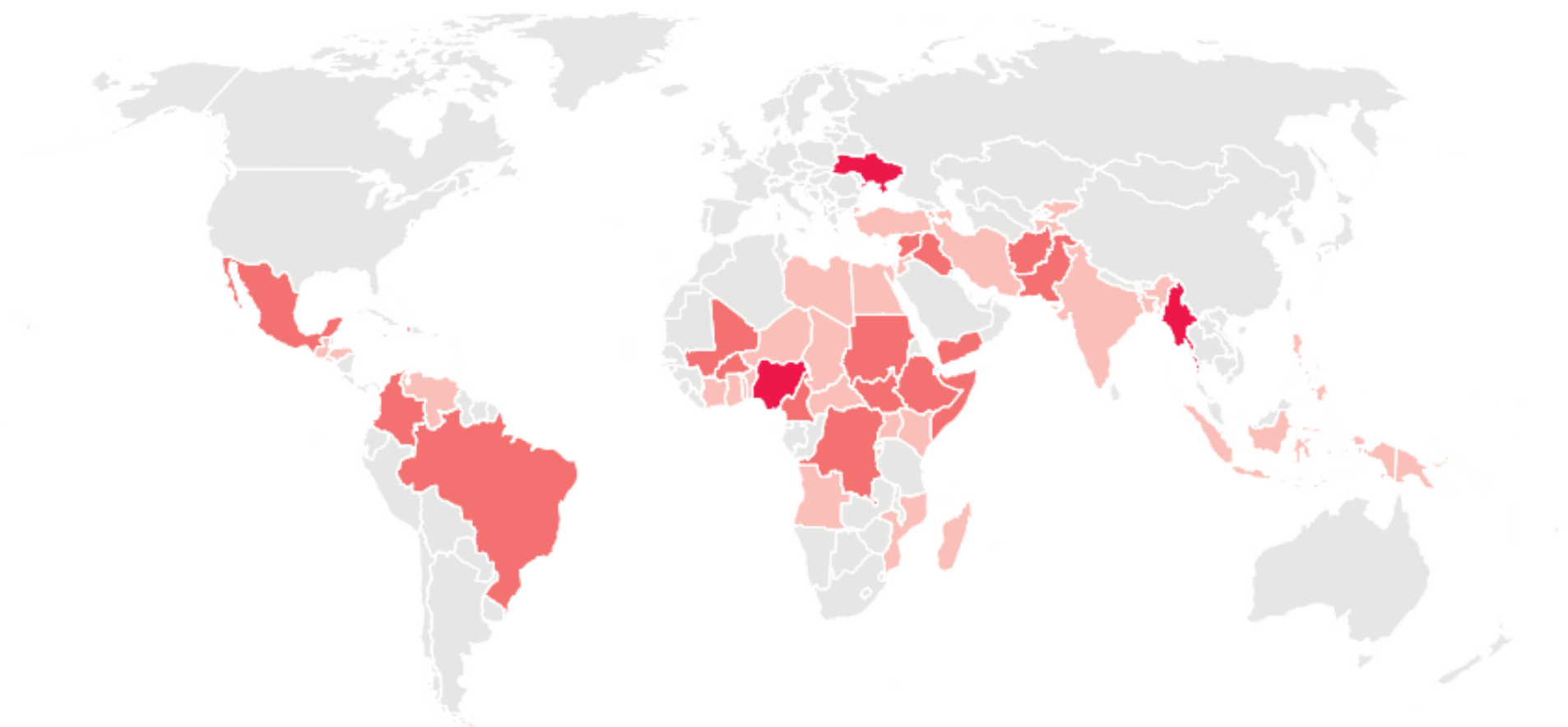
Ethiopia

- ✗ Negotiated settlement a priority
- ✗ AU mediation not showing results

Mozambique

- ✗ Rwandan and SADC troops battling an insurgency
- ✗ Developmental response and regional links key

ARMED CONFLICTS BY NUMBER OF ESTIMATED CONFLICT-RELATED DEATHS, 2022



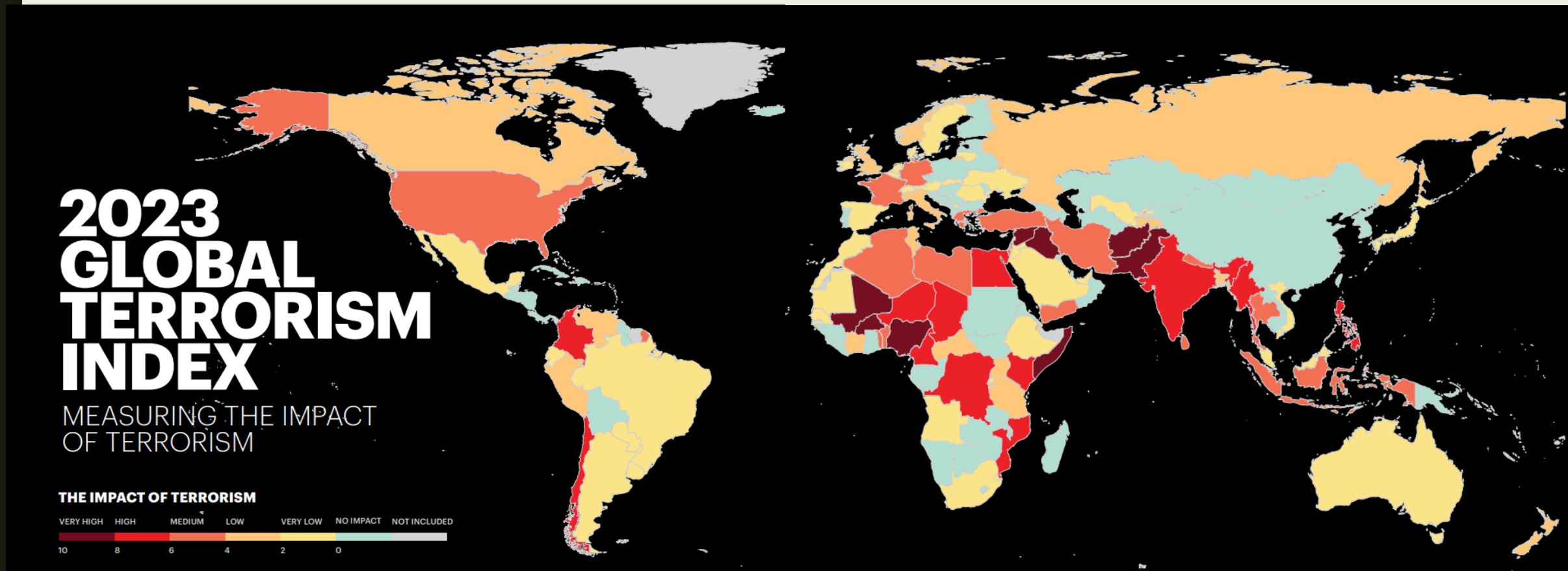
■ Major armed conflicts with 10 000 or more conflict-related deaths in 2022.

■ High-intensity armed conflicts with 1000 to 9999 conflict-related deaths in 2022.



















































































■ Low-intensity armed conflicts with 25 to 999 conflict-related deaths in 2022.

Note: The boundaries used in this map do not imply any endorsement or acceptance by SIPRI.

Regional Security Threats - Terrorism



Regional Security Threats - Terrorism

RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE
1	 Afghanistan	8.822	↔	29	 Sri Lanka	4.839	↓ 4	56	 Ethiopia	3.044	↓ 7
2	 Burkina Faso	8.564	↑ 2	30	 United States of America	4.799	↓ 2	57	 Argentina	2.875	↔
3	 Somalia	8.463	↔	31	 Greece	4.793	↓ 2	58	 Slovakia	2.784	↑ 38
4	 Mali	8.412	↑ 3	32	 Libya	4.730	↓ 5	59	 Belgium	2.763	↑ 11
5	 Syria	8.161	↑ 1	33	 Palestine	4.611	↓ 1	60	 Spain	2.712	↓ 5
6	 Pakistan	8.160	↑ 3	34	 France	4.419	↑ 2	61	 Austria	2.677	↓ 8
7	 Iraq	8.139	↓ 5	35	 Germany	4.242	↓ 4	62	 Japan	2.398	↑ 12
8	 Nigeria	8.065	↓ 3	36	 Nepal	4.134	↓ 2	63	 South Arabia	2.387	↓ 9
9	 Myanmar (Burma)	7.977	↑ 1	37	 Algeria	4.083	↑ 3	64	 Sweden	2.307	↑ 7
10	 Niger	7.616	↓ 2	38	 Tanzania	4.065	↓ 3	65	 Switzerland	2.205	↓ 9
11	 Cameroon	7.347	↑ 1	39	 Burundi	4.051	↓ 6	66	 Ecuador	2.198	↓ 8
12	 Mozambique	7.330	↓ 1	40	 Tunisia	3.989	↓ 1	67	 Netherlands	2.120	↓ 8
13	 India	7.175	↔	41	 Peru	3.856	↓ 3	68	 Jordan	2.033	↓ 8
14	 Democratic Republic of the Congo	6.872	↑ 2	42	 United Kingdom	3.840	↓ 5	69	 Australia	1.830	↓ 8
15	 Colombia	6.697	↓ 1	43	 Bangladesh	3.827	↓ 2	70	 Uzbekistan	1.731	↑ 26
16	 Egypt	6.632	↓ 1	44	 Djibouti	3.800	↑ 52	71	 Paraguay	1.605	↓ 7
17	 Chile	6.619	↑ 1	45	 Russia	3.799	↓ 1	72	 Mexico	1.578	↓ 10
18	 Philippines	6.328	↓ 1	46	 New Zealand	3.776	↓ 4	73	 Ukraine	1.535	↓ 10
19	 Chad	6.168	↔	47	 Côte d'Ivoire	3.747	↓ 4	74	 Cyprus	1.392	↓ 8
20	 Kenya	6.163	↔	48	 Uganda	3.599	↓ 3	75	 Malaysia	1.357	↓ 7
21	 Iran	5.688	↑ 5	49	 Norway	3.514	↑ 31	76	 United Arab Emirates	1.241	↑ 20
22	 Yemen	5.616	↓ 1	50	 Tajikistan	3.438	↓ 3	77	 Senegal	1.108	↓ 5
23	 Türkiye	5.600	↔	51	 Venezuela	3.409	↓ 5	78	 Eswatini	1.058	↓ 5
24	 Indonesia	5.502	↔	52	 Lebanon	3.400	↔	=79	 Bahrain	0.826	↓ 14
25	 Israel	5.489	↑ 5	53	 Italy	3.290	↓ 3	=79	 Rwanda	0.826	↓ 3
26	 Thailand	5.430	↓ 4	54	 Canada	3.275	↓ 6	=79	 South Africa	0.826	↓ 3
27	 Togo	4.915	↑ 49	55	 Central African Republic	3.194	↑ 12	=79	 Uruguay	0.826	↓ 4
28	 Benin	4.840	↑ 23								

Regional Security Threats - Terrorism

					DESCRIPTION
1	COUNTRY PAKISTAN	PROVINCE BALUCHISTAN PROVINCE	DEATHS 195		Gunmen bombed and shot at two Frontier Corps buildings in a coordinated attack.
	DATE 2/2/22	GROUP BALUCHISTAN LIBERATION ARMY (BLA)			
2	COUNTRY SYRIA	PROVINCE AL-HASAKAH GOVERNORATE	DEATHS 154		At least 200 assailants attacked Al-Sina prison, driving two explosive-laden truck bombs into the outside wall of the prison before gunmen then stormed the facility as a riot took place inside. The attack lasted ten days until the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) announced they had regained control of the prison. At least 154 SDF members were killed. Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility for the attack.
	DATE 20/1/22	GROUP ISLAMIC STATE (IS)			
3	COUNTRY SOMALIA	REGION BANAADIR REGION	DEATHS 120		Two car bombs killed at least 120 people and wounded 300 outside the education ministry building. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack, saying that the ministry was responsible for a 'war on minds' that has removed Islam from schools and recruits students into militias.
	DATE 29/10/22	GROUP AL-SHABAAB			
4	COUNTRY BURKINA FASO	PROVINCE SAHEL REGION	DEATHS 116		Gunmen killed at least 116 civilians in an attack on a village. No group had claimed responsibility at the time of writing, but jihadists operate in the area.
	DATE 12/6/22	GROUP UNKNOWN - JIHADISTS			
5	COUNTRY MALI	PROVINCE MOPTI REGION	DEATHS 110		Gunmen killed at least 110 civilians in attacks on several villages. No group had claimed the attack at the time of writing, but jihadists operate in the region.
	DATE 19/6/22	GROUP UNKNOWN - JIHADISTS			
6	COUNTRY MALI	REGION GAO REGION	DEATHS 100		Gunmen killed approximately 100 Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) fighters in Gao region. The battle lasted for approximately 24 hours and local media outlets said that there were casualties on both sides. Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility attributing the attack to its 'Sahel Province'.
	DATE 7/12/22	GROUP ISLAMIC STATE (IS)			
7	COUNTRY SOMALIA	REGION HIRSHABELLE STATE	DEATHS 59		Gunmen killed an unspecified number of Burundian soldiers during an attack on an African Union. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack, claiming to have killed 59 soldiers, but authorities had not released details on casualty numbers at the time of writing.
	DATE 3/5/22	GROUP AL-SHABAAB			
8	COUNTRY PAKISTAN	REGION PAKHTUNKHWA PROVINCE	DEATHS 56		A suicide bombing killed at least 56 people and injured over 190 others in an attack on a Shia mosque. Islamic State - Khorasan Province (ISK) claimed responsibility.
	DATE 4/3/22	GROUP ISLAMIC STATE - KHORASAN PROVINCE			
9	COUNTRY AFGHANISTAN	PROVINCE KABUL PROVINCE	DEATHS 50		A bomb killed more than 50 civilians and wounded an unspecified number of others at a mosque. No individual or group had claimed responsibility for the attack at the time of writing, but based on the target, tactic, and location, Islamic State - Khorasan Province (ISK) was probably responsible.
	DATE 29/4/22	GROUP ISLAMIC STATE - KHORASAN PROVINCE			
10	COUNTRY AFGHANISTAN	PROVINCE BALKH PROVINCE	DEATHS 50		A bomb killed 50 civilians and wounded at least 100 more in an attack on a mosque during prayers. Islamic State - Khorasan province (ISK) claimed responsibility.
	DATE 21/4/22	GROUP ISLAMIC STATE - KHORASAN PROVINCE			

Regional Security Threats - Terrorism

TABLE 1.2

Ten countries most impacted by terrorism, ranked by GTI score

Afghanistan had the highest impact of terrorism for the fourth consecutive year.

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Afghanistan	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1
Burkina Faso	113	113	111	108	52	30	21	15	7	6	4	2
Somalia	5	7	7	7	8	5	3	3	3	3	3	3
Mali	41	23	19	21	16	13	10	9	8	7	7	4
Syria	20	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	6	5	6	5
Pakistan	2	2	2	2	4	4	5	5	5	8	10	6
Iraq	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	7
Nigeria	8	5	5	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	6	8
Myanmar	17	21	24	29	39	42	40	42	23	24	9	9
Niger	49	57	44	34	20	19	18	19	14	12	8	10

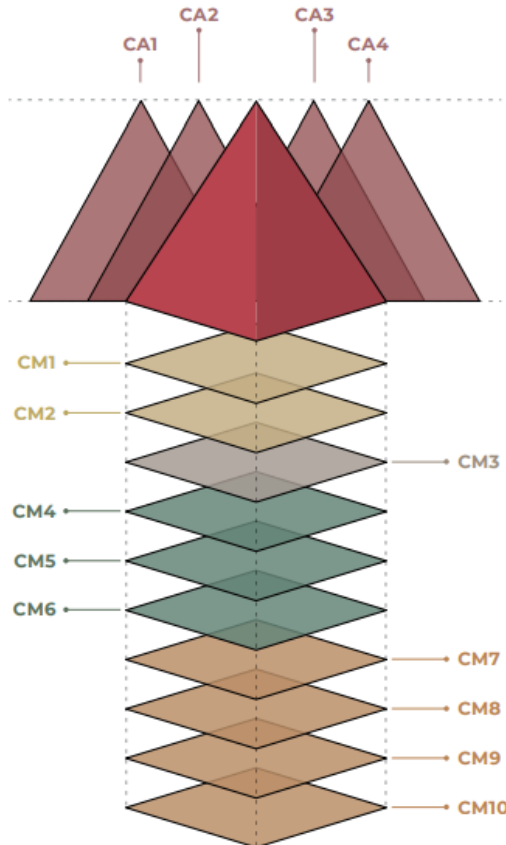
Source: Dragonfly TerrorismTracker; IEP calculations

Regional Security Threats - Terrorism

Rank	ORGANISATION	DEATHS	ATTACKS	INJURED
1	Islamic State (IS)	1045	410	644
2	Al-Shabaab	784	315	1016
3	Islamic State - Khorasan Province (ISK)	498	141	832
4	Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM)	279	77	215
5	Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)	233	30	113
6	Islamic State West Africa (ISWA)	219	65	118
7	Boko Haram	204	64	51
8	Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)	137	90	187
9	Islamic State - Sinai Province	71	27	32
10	Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB)	57	40	16

Regional Security Threats - Global Organized Crime Index

FIGURE 1.1
Criminality indicators



Criminal Actors

- ▲ CA1. Mafia-style groups
- ▲ CA2. Criminal networks
- ▲ CA3. State-embedded actors
- ▲ CA4. Foreign actors

Criminal Markets

- ◆ CM1. Human trafficking
- ◆ CM2. Human smuggling
- ◆ CM3. Arms trafficking
- ◆ CM4. Flora crimes
- ◆ CM5. Fauna crimes
- ◆ CM6. Non-renewable resource crimes
- ◆ CM7. Heroin trade
- ◆ CM8. Cocaine trade
- ◆ CM9. Cannabis trade
- ◆ CM10. Synthetic drug trade

Scoring thresholds – criminality

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NON-EXISTENT TO LITTLE INFLUENCE			MODERATE INFLUENCE		SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE		SEVERE INFLUENCE		

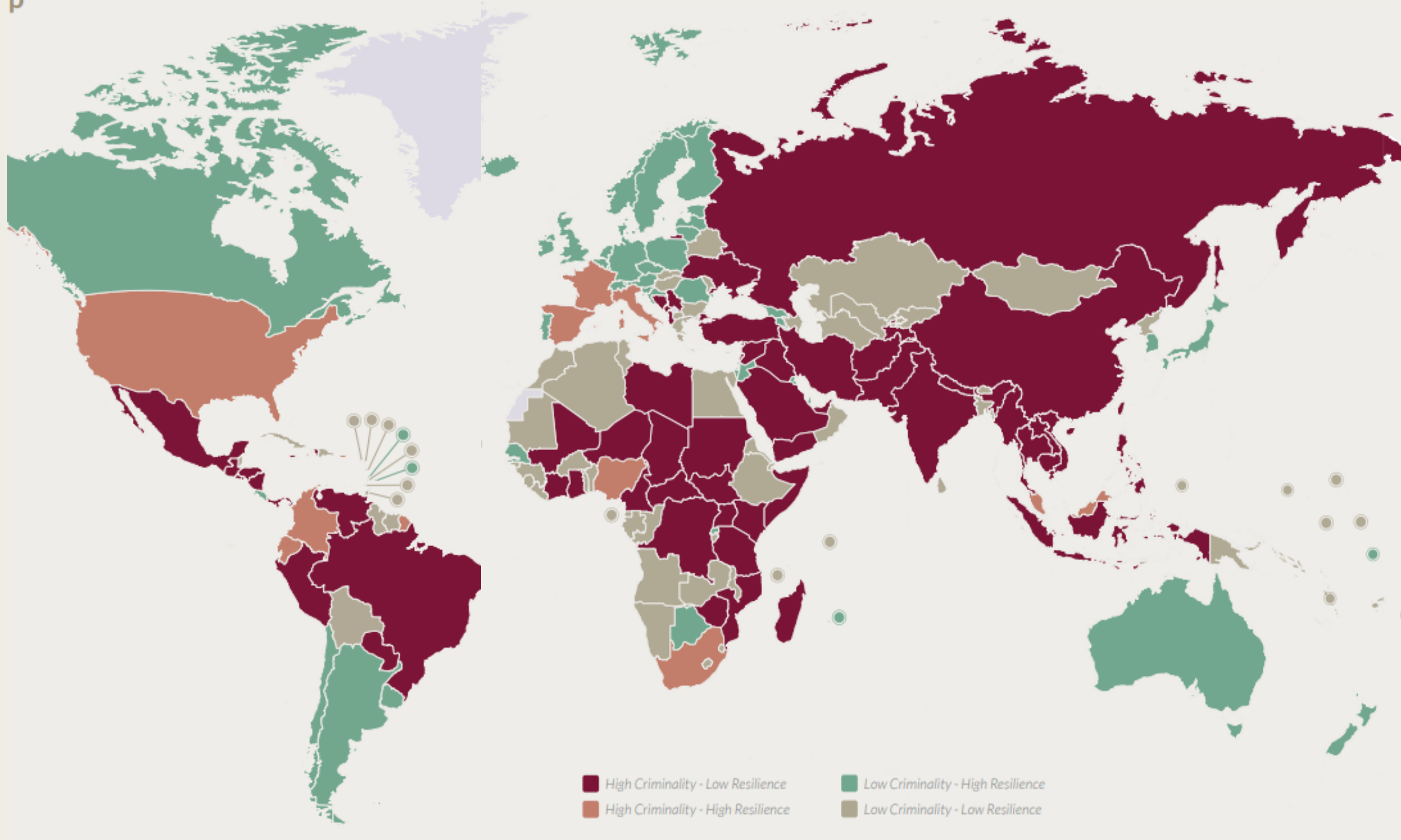
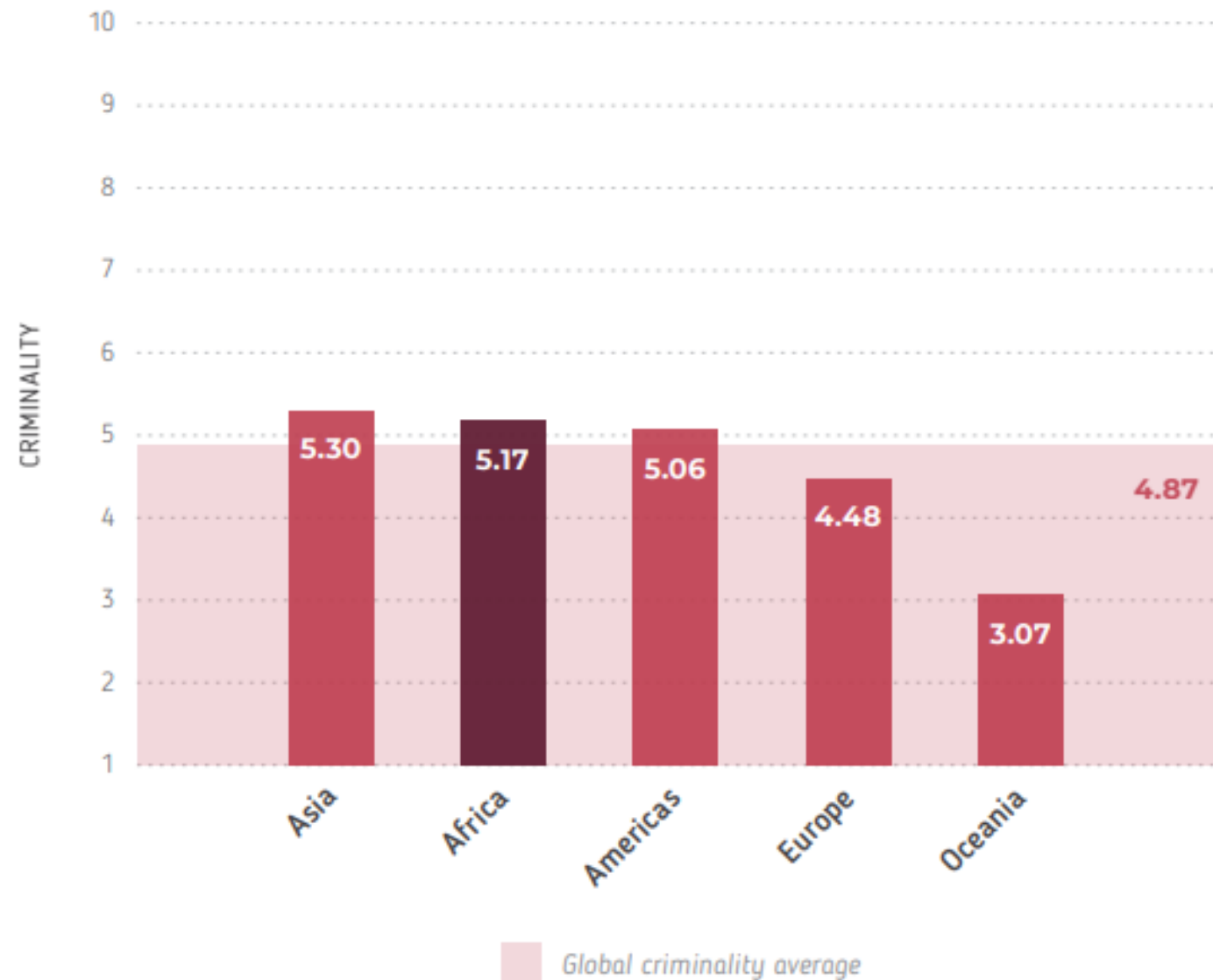


FIGURE 2.4

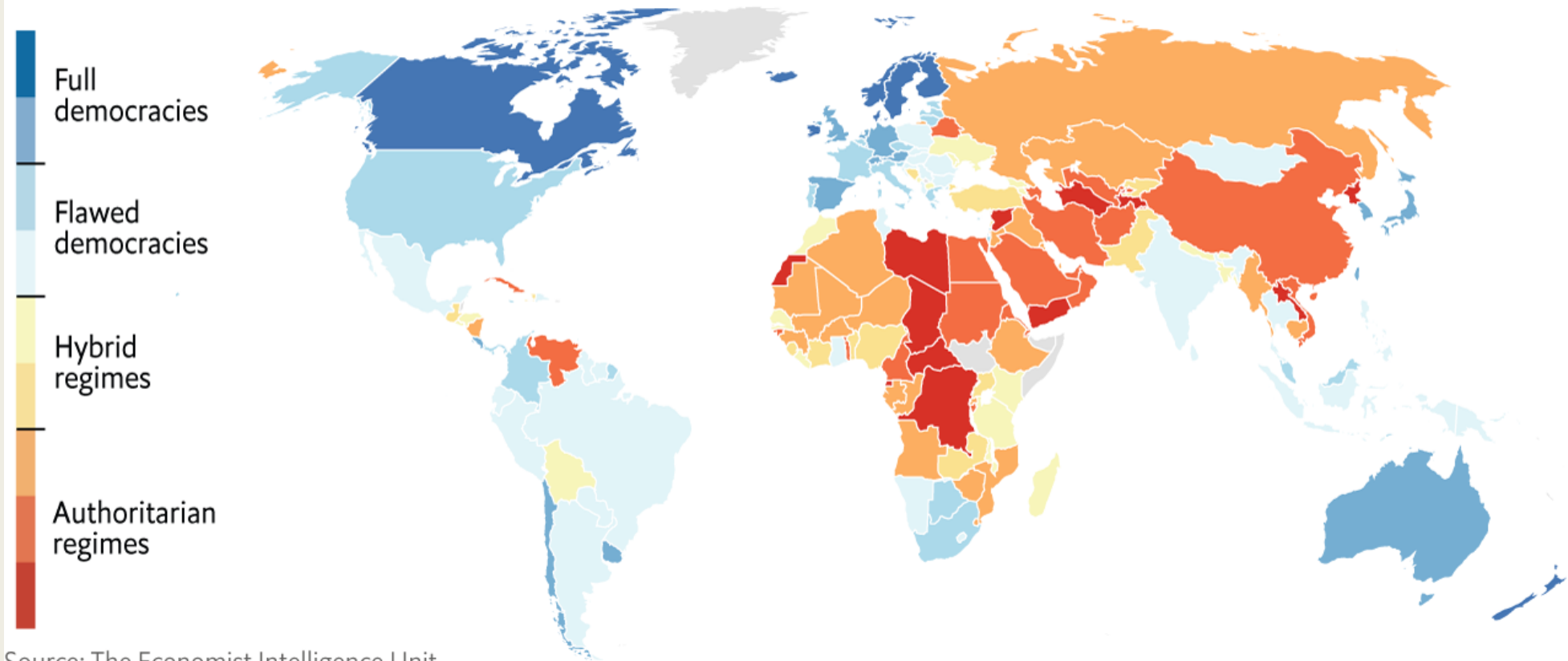
Criminality by continent



Regional Security Threats - Dictatorial regimes

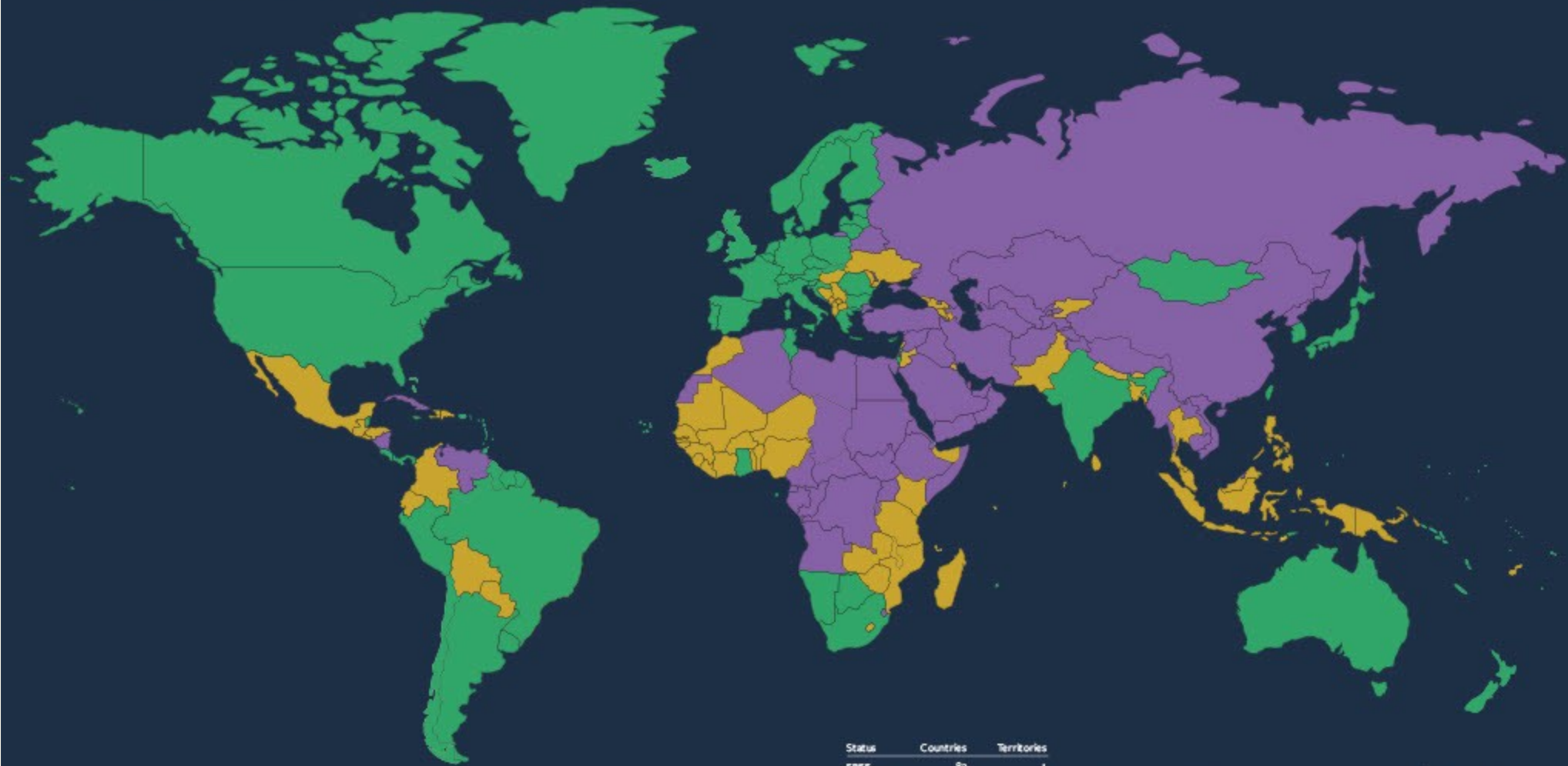
The Economist Intelligence Unit's 2020 Democracy Index

167 countries scored on a scale of 0 to 10 based on 60 indicators



Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit

FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2020



FREE PARTLY FREE NOT FREE

Status	Countries	Territories
FREE	83	1
PARTLY FREE	63	4
NOT FREE	49	10
Total	195	15

Freedom in the World 2020
assessed 210 countries and
territories around the globe.

Regional Organisations

- *„Regional institutions are the regimes or formal organizations with membership limited to a specific geographical region or possibly two or more neighboring regions.“*
- Three types of regional organizations according to Kuzstal :
 - *Multi-tasking organizations*
 - *Organizations with economic profile*
 - *Defensive alliances*
- *Regional organisations vs. regimes*
- *„International organizations are generally seen to be more formally specified institutions, with a secretariat, permanent office, and the like. International regimes have been defined as sets of principles, norms, rules, and decisions upon which actors' expectations converge (Krasner 1983).“*
- *Security organisations:*
 - *Cooperative security*
 - *Collective security*
 - *Collective defense*

Regional organizations with security functions

Africa

African Union (AU)	2001
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	1994
Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)	1998
East African Community (EAC)	1999
Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC)	1998
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	1975
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	1996
Mano River Union	1973
Southern African Development Community (SADC)	1992

Middle East

Arab League	1945
Arab Maghreb Union	1989
Council of Arab Economic Unity	1964
Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	1981
Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)	1971

Asia

Australia, New Zealand, United States (ANZUS) Security Treaty	1951
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)	1989
Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN):	1967
ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)	1994
ASEAN Plus Three (APT)	1997
Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building measures in Asia (CICA)	1992
Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	1985
Pacific Community	1947
Pacific Islands Forum	1971
Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)	2001
South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC)	1985

Regional organizations with security functions

Europe and Euro-Atlantic

Arctic Council	1996
Baltic Council	1993
Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC)	1993
Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)	1992
Central European Initiative (CEI)	1989
Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)	2003
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	1991
Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS)	1992
Council of Europe	1949
European Union (EU)	1951
North Atlantic Treaty Organization:	1949
Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC)	1997
Nordic Council	1952
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe:	1973
Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe	1999
Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)	1996
Visegrad Group (V4)	1991
Western European Union (WEU)	1954

Americas

Andean Community of Nations (Andean Pact)	1969
Caribbean Community (CARICOM)	1973
Central American Integration System (SICA)	1991
Latin American Integration Association (LAIA)	1980
MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market)	1991
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)	1994
Organization of American States (OAS)	1948
Rio Group	1987

Regional Organisations/Regimes - Asia

Arab League

- *Cairo 1945, 22 member states*
- *„draw closer the relations between member states and co-ordinate collaboration between them“*
- *Council of the Arab League, Joint Defense Council, General Secretariat (Secretary General), Economic Council*

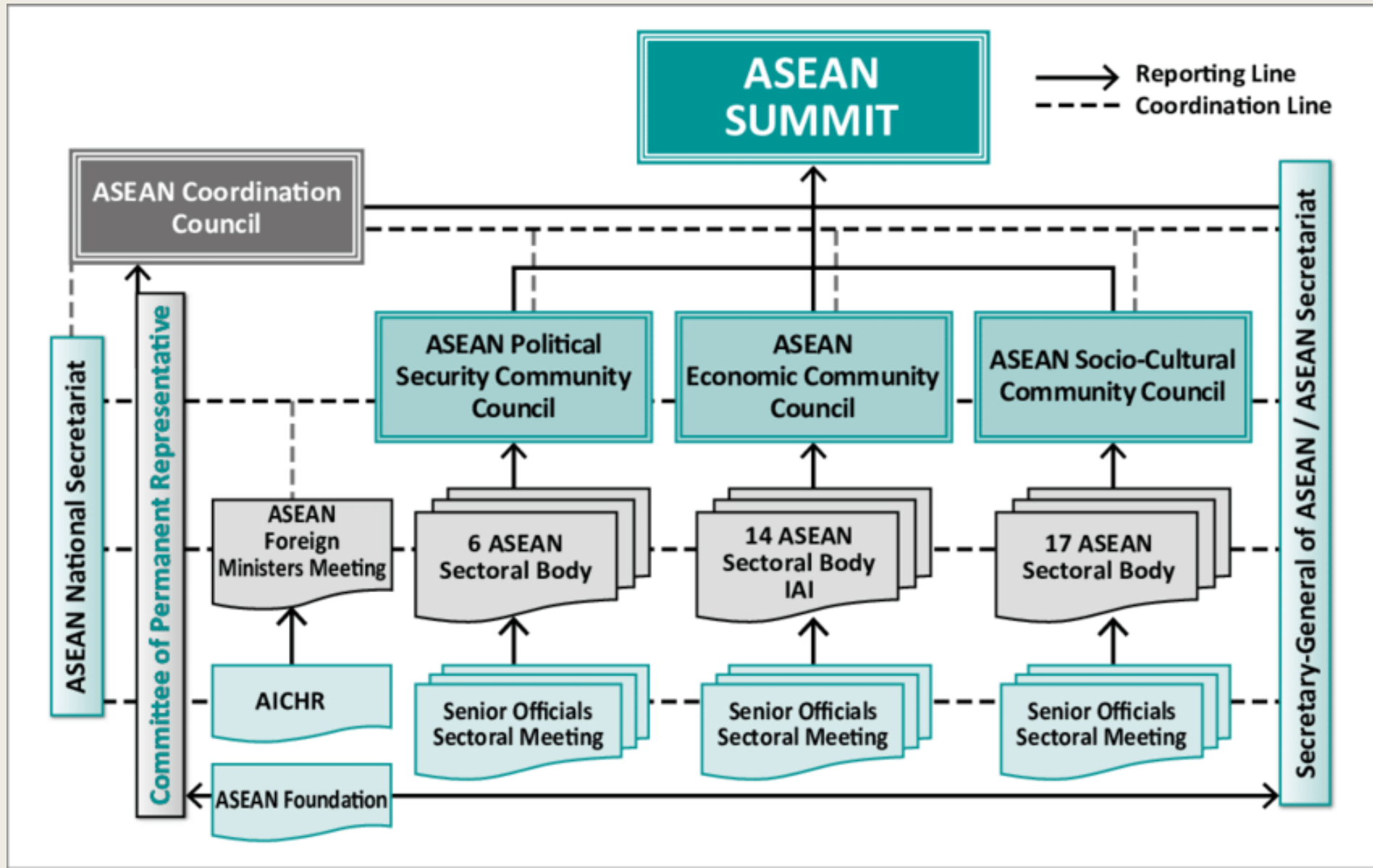
Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS)

- *1951 trilateral agreement*
- *New Zealand was suspended from ANZUS 1986-2007*
- *AUKUS - Trilateral Security Partnership Between Australia, U.K. and U.S.*

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

- *1961 - Association of Southeast Asia (ASA), 1967 ASEAN Declaration, 10 member states*
- *ASEAN's primary objectives are: "(1) to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and (2) to promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries in the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.,,*

ASEAN Structure



Regional Organisations - Africa

Africa Union (AU)

- 1963 Organization of African Unity (OAU), 2002 –AU, 55 member states
- Main administrative capital of the African Union is in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Multiple goals: Accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent; Promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples; Encourage international cooperation, etc.

South African Development Community (SADC)

- Southern African Development Coordination Conference transformed into SADC in 1992
- Gaborone, Botswana, 16 member states
- „to achieve economic development, peace and security, and growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the peoples of Southern Africa, and support the socially disadvantaged through Regional Integration.“

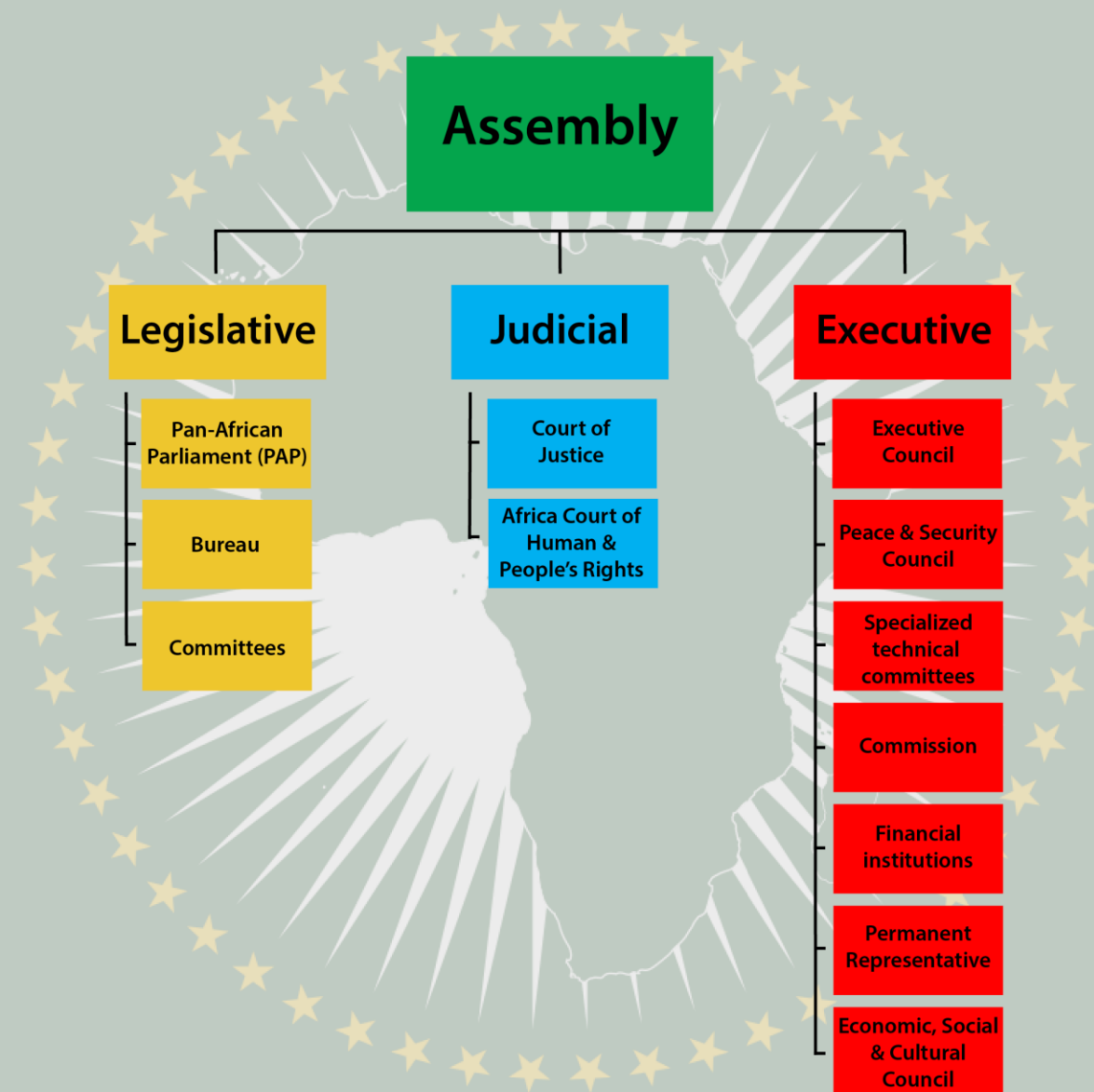
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

- 1975, 15 member states, Abuja Nigeria
- „The aim of the Community is to promote co-operation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its peoples, and to maintain and enhance economic stability, foster relations-among Member States and contribute to the progress and development of the African continent.“
- The Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) was a West African multilateral armed force established by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). 1990-2005.

AU Structure

- 2003–2004, African Union Mission in Burundi (AMIB)
- 2004–2007, African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS)
- 2007–2021, United Nations–African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID)
- 2007–2021, African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM)
- 2022–Ongoing, African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS)
- 2008, 2008 invasion of Anjouan, also known as Operation Democracy in Comoros.
- 2011–2018, Fight against the Lord's Resistance Army insurgency through the African Union-led Regional Task Force in Uganda, South Sudan and the CAR.
- 2013–Ongoing, African-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA), organized by ECOWAS.
- 2013–Ongoing, African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA)

The Institutional Structure of the African Union



Regional Organisations/Regimes – America and Europe

Organisation of American States (OAS)

- 1948 – Washington D.C., 35 member states
- „the premier regional forum for political discussion, policy analysis and decision-making in Western Hemisphere affairs. The OAS brings together leaders from nations across the Americas to address hemispheric issues and opportunities.“

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) x Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada (USMCA)

- 1994, agreement signed by Canada, Mexico, and the United States that created a trilateral trade bloc in North America
- 2020 - free trade agreement between Canada, Mexico, and the United States

Visegrad Group (V4)

- 1991, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary
- To advance co-operation in military, economic, cultural and energy affairs
- International Visegrad Fund, Non-institutionalized, regular meeting of top executives (Presidency lasts one year)

Thank you for your
attention