



# LSEG Country Risk Ranking

Calculate the location-based risk levels of countries  
and territories



**LSEG** RISK  
INTELLIGENCE



Globalisation has encouraged a world trade network that is more multilateral in nature than ever before. Many companies have moved into territories where they have little experience and entered into partnerships with entities of which they have little knowledge.

Major institutions such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the US Department of Justice mandate that companies assess the geographic risks in the areas where they conduct business, including government touch points. However, the risks posed go beyond those relating to the violations of the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act or the UK Bribery Act. Companies should review such liabilities as a country's propensity toward lax enforcement of anti-money laundering (AML) laws, regulations and export controls, or to actually engage in corrupt practices.

The Country Risk Ranking tool is a powerful instrument that enables companies to perform a sophisticated risk analysis of a country or territory before entering into any business dealings there.

#### **A critical tool in mitigating location-based risks**

Get detailed, risk-based information on more than 240 countries and territories categorised by criminal, economic and political factors. Location-based risk screening is part of a best practice, risk-based approach to compliance, supports AML and anti-corruption due diligence, and helps companies make informed decisions when entering into business in unfamiliar jurisdictions and emerging markets.

#### **Develop a risk ranking methodology**

Countries are separated into several risk bandings (very high to very low), allowing clients to analyse third parties located in higher-risk countries that may warrant more thorough due diligence.

By separating out vendors and partners who are located or do business in very high-risk and high-risk countries, compliance officers are better able to deploy resources to the areas that need the most attention.

## Country and territory coverage

LSEG Country Risk Ranking covers more than 240 countries and territories. By separating countries and territories, we are able to provide a more accurate picture of risk in cases where territories have a different regulatory environment to their parent countries.

## Sources coverage and inclusion

More than 300 independent sources from over 50 respected international organisations and think-tanks provide objective, fact-based ranking.

Examples include:

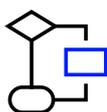
- World Bank
- FATF
- World Economic Forum
- OECD
- European Union
- United Nations
- CIA – The World Factbook
- Transparency CPI

Country Risk Ranking updates the source material as soon as it's available – ensuring the most up-to-date content from our source providers.

Risk factors	Political	Economic	Criminal
Dimensions	Type of governance	GDP	Illicit drugs and narcotics
	Civil liberties and political rights	Natural resources	Fraud
	Media freedom	Poverty	AML controls
	Political stability	Tax concerns	-
	Government effectiveness	Debt	Threat financing
	Government opacity	Military expenditures	Crime fate
	Regulatory quality	Country/public debt	Human trafficking
	Rule of law	Average earnings	Corruption
	Political terror scale	Economic freedom	Levels of violent crime
	Armed conflict	Sovereign credit rating	Arms export controls
	Human rights	Developing countries	Counterfeiting
Failed states index	Sanctions	Exploitative labour	

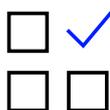
Sources. More than 300 third-party public domain sources

## Typical uses



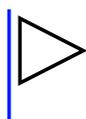
### Objective decision making

When a Know Your Customer (KYC) screening hit has been verified as a true positive, customers must make a decision as to whether to engage in the business relationship (client, partner or third party). Country risk intelligence can be a powerful tool in that decision.



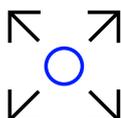
### Supplier on-boarding

Organisations with global supply chains are subject to strict anti-corruption laws, such as the FCPA and UKBA. Country risk intelligence can be a critical tool in mitigating these location-based risks and staying on top of developments.



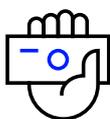
### Risk-based politically exposed person (PEP) screening

Check a PEP who has been flagged in the KYC screen for any possible location-based risk.



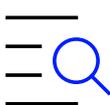
### Product launch or distribution

Develop or restrict launch and distribution activity based on, for example, corporate risks or prevalence of counterfeiting in a particular region.



### Charity groups/donor aid

Determine which countries are high-risk for money laundering and corruption to plan for stricter compliance requirements – for example, in determining whether aid should be given to any government entity within a certain jurisdiction.



### Transaction monitoring

Suspicious accounts can be screened for risk based on their location and help to focus enhanced due diligence efforts.

### Benefits:

- Enables ranking of countries by risk, with relevant details on all information sources
- Multi-layered analysis of countries
- Enables a risk-based approach as per FATF recommendations
- Contains more than 300 credible, up-to-date sources
- Shows auditable proof of due diligence with downloadable reports
- Customisable source inputs and weightings to reflect your organisation's risk approach
- Customisable risk bands to reflect your organisation's categorisation of risk





## Access to Country Risk Ranking data

### Combination of LSEG Country Risk Ranking and LSEG World-Check® risk screening

With this exclusive feature, compliance departments are able to do their customer due diligence screening against World-Check®, while at the same time checking for location-based risk using the full capabilities of Country Risk Ranking.

#### Standalone

Access with full capabilities and customisation; report downloads with sources included for record-keeping purposes.

There is also a direct data download option. The data file allows for direct import of the data into internal systems. The Country Risk Ranking data file download enables fast and efficient downloads of the content in CSV, XLS, XML and PDF formats and comes with industry standard security protocols.

#### Embedded in Infrastructure 360 app

Infrastructure 360, available in LSEG Workspace, combines more than 45 years of leading content from Project Finance International (PFI), Lipper, Deals Intelligence, DataStream, Loans, Reuters News and ESG to bring together the world's most comprehensive view of infrastructure and project finance-related insight.

Our Country Risk Ranking data is available within Infrastructure 360, giving you the ability to check for location-based risk relating to any project you may consider investing in or partnering with. By navigating to the 'Insight' tab and selecting 'Country/Region Risk', you can find the comprehensive risk rating associated with a specific country or territory, helping to speed up your decision-making process.

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**Up-to-date, objective, customised and multi-layered analysis of regions and countries is an essential component of an effective customer due diligence compliance programme.**

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Discover more at [lseg.com](https://lseg.com)



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