Country Risk Ranking from LSEG Risk Intelligence

Assess location-based risk with
a clear, data driven view of
countries and territories

LSEG RISK INTELLIGENCE

Globalisation has connected businesses to more markets than ever before. Many organisations now operate in countries where they have limited experience or information, often relying on local partners they know little about.

To navigate these challenges, major institutions such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the US Department of Justice recommend assessing the geographic risks linked to where you conduct business, including relevant government touchpoints. However, risks go beyond those relating to violations of the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act or the UK Bribery Act.

LSEG Country Risk Ranking provides an objective, data driven view of these risks. It enables organisations to assess a country's propensity for corruption, the quality of its regulatory environment and its broader economic and criminal risk landscape. This helps teams make informed decisions before entering a business relationship or operating in a new market.

Strengthens resilience to location-based risk

Country Risk Ranking provides detailed, risk based information on more than 240 countries and territories, organised across political, economic and criminal factors. This helps organisations apply a structured, proportionate approach to assessing location based risks and supports clearer, evidence based due diligence when entering unfamiliar jurisdictions or evaluating exposure to emerging markets.

Prioritise risk with clarity and confidence

Countries are categorised into configurable risk bandings (Very High to Very Low). This helps organisations identify third parties located in jurisdictions that may warrant enhanced due diligence. By distinguishing vendors or partners based in higher risk regions, compliance teams can focus their resources where they are needed most.

Geographic coverage

240+ countries and territories are covered. Treating territories separately supports a more accurate view where territorial regulatory environments differ from their parent countries.

Source coverage and inclusion

300+ independent sources* from more than 50 respected international organisations and think tanks provide objective, fact based input into the ranking. Examples include:

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

Country Risk Ranking updates source material in line with the product's update schedule as new information becomes available.

* Third party public domain sources

Risk factors

Risk factors	Political	Economic	Criminal
Dimensions	Type of governance	GDP	Illicit drugs and narcotics
	Government effectiveness	Natural resources	Fraud
	Civil liberties and political rights	Poverty	AML controls
	Freedom of the press	Debt	High risk countries
	Political stability	Military expenditure	Illicit financial flow
	Voice and accountability	Country/public debt	Terrorism
	Regulatory quality	Average earnings	Crime rate
	Rule of law	Economic freedom	Human trafficking
	Political terror scale	Sovereign credit ratings	Corruption
	Armed conflict	Developing country classification	Absence of violence
	Military influence	Competitiveness	Arms export controls
	Human rights	Sanctions	Counterfeiting
	Fragile States Index	Trade climate (IP)	Exploitative labour
	Public services and education	Business operational risk	Natural resources industry controls
	Research and development	Tax concerns	
		Environmental performance	
		Free trade zones	
		Heavily indebted poor countries	
		Globalisation	

How organisations use Country Risk Ranking

Objective decision making

When a true positive is confirmed, Country Risk Ranking provides jurisdictional context to support consistent, defensible onboarding decisions.

Supplier onboarding and supply chain due diligence

Country Risk Ranking helps identify higher-risk countries, enabling prioritised checks and risk-based measures across global supply chains.

Risk based Politically Exposed Person (PEP) assessment

Country level risk can be overlaid onto PEP matches to assess where enhanced due diligence may be appropriate, especially in higher risk jurisdictions.

Market entry, expansion and product distribution

Supports strategic planning by highlighting political stability, regulatory pressure, counterfeiting exposure and other country level risks, helping organisations shape their launch, distribution or investment decisions.

Charity, NGO and donor-aid risk planning

For organisations operating in challenging environments, Country Risk Ranking helps identify jurisdictions where conflict, corruption or weak institutions increase the risk of aid diversion or misuse.

Transaction monitoring and alert prioritisation

High-risk jurisdictions can be flagged for closer scrutiny, helping analysts prioritise alerts and apply enhanced due diligence where needed.

Benefits

- **Consistent, evidence based assessments**
  Apply a transparent country-risk framework supported by objective, third-party data.
- **Structured, multi-dimensional analysis**
  Combines political, economic, governance and criminal-risk indicators to provide a holistic jurisdiction-level view.
- **Supports widely recognised FATF-style risk based approaches**
  Helps organisations apply proportionate, risk-based processes consistent with international guidance, strengthening internal oversight and audit readiness.
- **300+ independent sources**
  Draws on a wide range of global institutions to support breadth, reliability and timely updates.
- **Configurable risk bandings**
  Allows teams to tailor thresholds to their organisation's risk appetite.

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Accessing Country Risk Ranking data

Standalone product

Country Risk Ranking is delivered through a highly visual, interactive interface. Users can explore countries via an interactive map, view Master Index scores and risk bandings, and monitor recent source updates.

Reference documentation provides indicator definitions, methodology and a transparent source list showing inputs and update timelines.

Country Risk Ranking offers three default views – Comprehensive, AML and Anti Corruption – and allows organisations to override risk bandings where needed.

For integration, data is available via direct download or via sFTP in CSV, XLS, XML and PDF formats. Files are transferred using industry standard security protocols.

A strong foundation for informed due diligence

Frequently updated, objective, customisable and multi-layered country and regional assessments provide a strong foundation for an effective, risk based customer due diligence framework.

Use alongside LSEG World Check® risk screening

World Check® identifies individuals and entities requiring attention. Country Risk Ranking adds jurisdictional context to help calibrate location based risk and inform appropriate levels of enhanced due diligence.

The two products are licensed separately but complement each other across onboarding and monitoring workflows.

Embedded in Infrastructure 360

Country Risk Ranking data is integrated within Infrastructure 360, enabling users to assess country and region specific risks relating to projects under consideration. By selecting the 'Country/Region Risk' report, users can review jurisdictional risk ratings and support faster decision making.

Customisation of datasets is only available in the standalone product.

About LSEG Risk Intelligence

LSEG Risk Intelligence provides a suite of solutions to help organisations efficiently navigate risks, limit reputational damage, reduce fraud and comply with legal and regulatory obligations around the globe. From screening solutions through World-Check, to detailed background checks on any entity or individual through due diligence reports, and innovative identity verification and account verification – organisations can trust LSEG Risk Intelligence to help them manage their risk, so they can operate more efficiently, more effectively and more confidently.

To learn more, visit **www.lseg.com/risk-intelligence**.

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