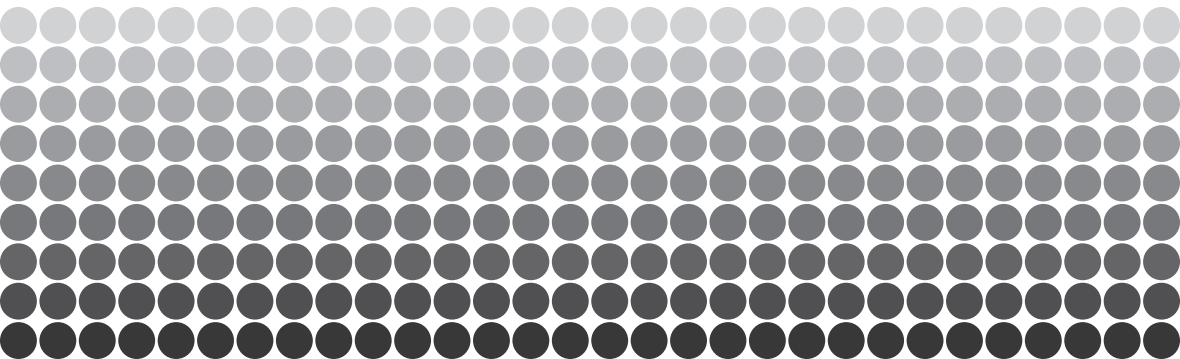


SIPRI YEARBOOK 2014

Armaments, Disarmament and International Security

The Global Peace Index 2013

CAMILLA SCHIPPA AND DANIEL HYSLOP



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IV. The Global Peace Index 2013

CAMILLA SCHIPPA AND DANIEL HYSLOP
INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS AND PEACE

The 2013 Global Peace Index (GPI) is the seventh edition of the world's leading study on global levels of peacefulness. The GPI ranks 162 states using 22 qualitative and quantitative indicators from highly respected sources, which gauge three broad themes: the level of safety and security in society; the extent of domestic or international conflict; and the degree of militarization. The GPI is produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), guided by an international expert panel of independent experts and supported by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), which collates the data and calculates the rankings in conjunction with the IEP.¹ By generating new information on the state of peace at the national and global levels, the IEP hopes to contribute to a better understanding of how civil society, governments, policymakers and researchers can create a more peaceful society.

The 10 highest-ranking states in the 2013 GPI are all relatively small, stable democracies, with Nordic and Alpine countries particularly well represented (see table 2.13). Western and Central Europe was by far the most peaceful region; few of its countries were involved in external conflict and most societies are broadly harmonious. Nevertheless, several European countries experienced less peaceful conditions in 2012–13 amid challenging economic circumstances, including Cyprus, France, Greece, Spain and the United Kingdom. North America was the second-most peaceful region, followed by East and South East Asia and Oceania, which was buoyed by the top-10 rankings of New Zealand and Japan, as well as Australia, Singapore, Taiwan and Malaysia, all of which lie in the top 30.

South Asia was the region least at peace. Bhutan, in 20th place, remained by far the most peaceful country in the region. The other six countries in South Asia ranked below 80th place.

Changes in peacefulness, 2012–13

Libya experienced the greatest rise in peacefulness, with a newly elected government and recovering institutions following the turmoil of the recent revolution and civil war (see table 2.14). Sudan and Chad experienced the

¹ On the IEP see <<http://www.economicsandpeace.org/>>. The panel included the following experts in 2012–13: Kevin Clements, Chairman (University of Otago), Sabina Alkire (University of Oxford), Ian Anthony (SIPRI), Sultan Barakat (University of York), Nick Grono (Walk Free), Manuela Mesa (Centro de Educación e Investigación para la Paz, Madrid) and Ekaterina Stepanova (IMEMO, Moscow).

second- and third-most substantial gains as their respective conflicts eased, but conditions in areas of both countries are far from peaceful and they remain in the lower reaches of the GPI.

War-ravaged Afghanistan returned to the bottom of the GPI in 2013, amid mounting political instability and a sharp rise in military spending as a share of gross domestic product (GDP). Somalia had a more peaceful year and it moved up from the lowest position in the GPI for the first time in two years. Syria's descent into civil war was reflected by the greatest fall in GPI score and it ranked below all states other than Somalia and Afghanistan. Many Middle Eastern and North African countries have continued to be affected by the fallout from the Arab Spring, experiencing violent protests and instability combined with crackdowns by authoritarian regimes.

Côte d'Ivoire registered the second-most substantial decline in peacefulness; a fresh wave of violent conflict punctured an uneasy peace that has held sway since April 2011. While its neighbour Burkina Faso suffered the third-largest deterioration, these two countries are by no means representative of sub-Saharan Africa as a whole. The region ranked above Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia, which partly reflects its rising prosperity and a degree of insulation from the global financial crisis.

Uruguay and Chile stand out as the two most peaceful South American countries, characterized by relatively strong institutions and the rule of law. Conditions worsened in third-ranked Argentina amid a series of trade spats with neighbours. In Central America, Costa Rica was again the most peaceful state, although it suffered from a decline in internal peace. The GPI scores of Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador all improved, albeit from low levels. This partly reflects progress made by their governments in improving internal security after several years of heightened violence linked to Mexican drug cartels.

Trends in the indicators, 2008–13

The world gradually became less peaceful between 2008 and 2013.² The GPI average score fell by 5 per cent, as 17 of the 22 indicators recorded a less peaceful state. There was not a completely uniform trend in scores across states, with 48 countries becoming more peaceful while the scores of 110 countries deteriorated.

The fall in global peacefulness was largely driven by changes in internal indicators measuring safety and security. A majority of these indicators

² Although the first edition of the GPI was issued in 2007, 2008 is the earliest year with which full comparisons are possible.

Table 2.13. The Global Peace Index 2013

Rank	Country	Score	Change	Rank	Country	Score	Change
1	Iceland	1.162	-0.003	49	Lesotho	1.840	-0.028
2	Denmark	1.207	-	51	Timor-Leste	1.854	..
3	New Zealand	1.237	+0.003	52	Jordan	1.858	-0.002
4	Austria	1.250	-0.060	53	France	1.863	+0.037
5	Switzerland	1.272	+0.013	54	Indonesia	1.879	+0.007
6	Japan	1.293	-0.027	55	Tanzania	1.887	+0.030
7	Finland	1.297	-	56	Panama	1.893	-0.002
8	Canada	1.306	-0.021	57	Morocco	1.897	+0.009
9	Sweden	1.319	-	58	Ghana	1.899	+0.106
10	Belgium	1.339	-0.027	59	Sierra Leone	1.904	-0.022
11	Norway	1.359	-0.027	60	Argentina	1.907	+0.147
12	Ireland	1.370	-	61	Mozambique	1.910	+0.064
13	Slovenia	1.374	-	62	Serbia	1.912	+0.006
14	Czech Republic	1.404	-0.003	63	Djibouti	1.917	-0.016
15	Germany	1.431	-0.019	64	Mongolia	1.921	-
16	Australia	1.438	-0.027	65	Cuba	1.922	-0.023
16	Singapore	1.438	+0.005	66	Nicaragua	1.931	-0.096
18	Portugal	1.467	+0.027	67	Togo	1.954	..
19	Qatar	1.480	+0.108	68	Greece	1.957	+0.050
20	Bhutan	1.487	-0.028	69	Albania	1.961	-0.002
21	Mauritius	1.497	-0.075	70	Guyana	1.962	-
22	Netherlands	1.508	-0.039	71	Bosnia-Herzegovina	1.967	-0.001
23	Hungary	1.520	-0.002	72	Kosovo	1.969	..
24	Uruguay	1.528	-0.086	73	Montenegro	1.976	-0.044
25	Poland	1.530	-	74	Malawi	1.984	+0.017
26	Taiwan	1.538	-0.005	74	Moldova	1.984	-0.007
27	Spain	1.563	+0.040	76	Gabon	1.995	-0.007
28	Croatia	1.571	-0.043	77	Tunisia	2.005	+0.027
29	Malaysia	1.574	-0.017	78	Kazakhstan	2.031	-0.115
30	Romania	1.584	-	79	Macedonia, FYR	2.044	+0.072
31	Chile	1.589	+0.007	80	Liberia	2.048	-0.019
32	Botswana	1.598	-0.007	81	Brazil	2.051	+0.004
33	Slovakia	1.622	+0.040	82	Nepal	2.058	+0.054
34	Bulgaria	1.663	-0.023	83	Ecuador	2.059	+0.010
34	Italy	1.663	+0.003	84	Paraguay	2.060	+0.134
36	United Arab Emirates	1.679	-0.013	85	Senegal	2.061	+0.034
37	Kuwait	1.705	-0.003	86	Bolivia	2.062	+0.006
38	Estonia	1.710	+0.003	87	Burkina Faso	2.064	+0.200
39	Laos	1.724	-	88	Swaziland	2.069	+0.023
40	Costa Rica	1.755	+0.074	89	Equatorial Guinea	2.072	+0.026
41	Latvia	1.772	-	90	Madagascar	2.074	-0.080
41	Viet Nam	1.772	+0.035	90	Trinidad and Tobago	2.074	-0.019
43	Lithuania	1.784	-0.016	92	Haiti	2.075	-0.103
44	United Kingdom	1.787	+0.056	93	Gambia	2.091	+0.073
45	Oman	1.806	-0.006	94	Dominican Republic	2.103	+0.026
46	Namibia	1.807	-	95	Bahrain	2.109	+0.025
47	South Korea	1.822	-0.017	96	Belarus	2.117	-0.015
48	Zambia	1.832	-0.064	97	Saudi Arabia	2.119	-0.095
49	Cyprus	1.840	+0.015	98	Armenia	2.123	-0.091

Rank	Country	Score	Change	Rank	Country	Score	Change
99	Papua New Guinea	2.126	+0.003	131	Kyrgyzstan	2.391	+0.032
99	United States	2.126	-0.056	132	Guinea-Bissau	2.431	-0.024
101	China	2.142	-0.011	133	Mexico	2.434	-0.011
102	Angola	2.148	+0.004	134	Turkey	2.437	+0.116
103	Turkmenistan	2.154	-0.029	135	Rwanda	2.444	+0.096
104	Benin	2.156	-0.071	136	Kenya	2.466	+0.133
105	Bangladesh	2.159	+0.009	137	Iran	2.473	+0.056
106	Uganda	2.180	-0.020	138	Chad	2.493	-0.138
107	Congo, Republic of	2.183	+0.008	139	Georgia	2.511	-0.034
108	Cameroon	2.191	+0.060	140	Myanmar	2.528	-0.019
109	Guatemala	2.221	-0.093	141	India	2.570	-0.105
110	Sri Lanka	2.230	+0.030	142	Lebanon	2.575	+0.139
111	Ukraine	2.238	+0.156	143	South Sudan	2.576	..
112	El Salvador	2.240	-0.086	144	Burundi	2.593	-0.025
113	Egypt	2.258	+0.027	145	Libya	2.604	-0.220
113	Peru	2.258	+0.164	146	Ethiopia	2.630	+0.058
115	Cambodia	2.263	-0.034	147	Colombia	2.634	-0.006
116	Guinea	2.272	+0.115	148	Nigeria	2.693	-0.014
117	Jamaica	2.274	+0.007	149	Zimbabwe	2.696	+0.098
118	Tajikistan	2.282	+0.097	150	Israel	2.730	-0.037
119	Algeria	2.284	-0.014	151	Côte d'Ivoire	2.732	+0.237
120	Eritrea	2.288	+0.007	152	Yemen	2.747	+0.049
121	South Africa	2.292	+0.023	153	Central African Rep.	3.031	+0.122
122	Mauritania	2.326	-0.064	154	North Korea	3.044	+0.100
123	Honduras	2.332	-0.013	155	Russia	3.060	+0.092
124	Uzbekistan	2.333	+0.016	156	Congo, Dem. Rep. of	3.085	-0.014
125	Mali	2.346	+0.080	157	Pakistan	3.106	+0.106
126	Azerbaijan	2.350	+0.066	158	Sudan	3.242	-0.156
127	Niger	2.362	-0.024	159	Iraq	3.245	+0.019
128	Venezuela	2.370	+0.042	160	Syria	3.393	+0.524
129	Philippines	2.374	-0.013	161	Somalia	3.394	-0.092
130	Thailand	2.378	-0.017	162	Afghanistan	3.440	+0.075

.. = not ranked in 2012; - = no change.

deteriorated over the period, with 'perceptions of criminality in society', 'likelihood of violent demonstrations', 'number of homicides per 100 000 people' and 'terrorist activity' deteriorating most significantly. Notably, some indicators of ongoing conflict—such as 'number of deaths from organized internal conflict' and the qualitative indicator 'level of organized conflict'—also deteriorated significantly. This reflects a broader long-term trend according to which there has been a shift away from large interstate conflicts towards greater organized internal conflict, criminal violence, terrorism and violent demonstrations.

The two indicators 'homicides per 100 000 people' and 'number of deaths from organized internal conflict' are particularly important measures when it comes to understanding recent trends in peace. 'Homicides per 100 000 people' highlights significant regional and country-specific

Table 2.14. Countries with the greatest change in Global Peace Index scores, 2012–13

Country	Score, 2013	Change in score, 2012–13	Rank, 2013	Change in rank, 2012–13 ^a
<i>Top 5 risers</i>				
Libya	2.604	-0.222	145	+3
Sudan	3.242	-0.156	158	-1
Chad	2.493	-0.138	138	+4
Kazakhstan	2.031	-0.115	78	+18
India	2.570	-0.105	141	+3
<i>Top 5 fallers</i>				
Syria	3.393	+0.524	160	-11
Côte d'Ivoire	2.732	+0.237	151	-15
Burkina Faso	2.064	+0.200	87	-32
Peru	2.258	+0.164	113	-22
Ukraine	2.238	+0.156	111	-23

Note: A fall in the Global Peace Index (GPI) score indicates an increase in peace.

^a The 2013 GPI included 4 more countries than the 2012 GPI, which affects changes in ranking.

differences. The primary reason for the deterioration in the indicator between 2008 and 2013 was the significantly higher rates of homicide reported in a small number of countries in Central America, the Caribbean, South America and sub-Saharan Africa. While this is partly a consequence of better reporting techniques and improved data collection, it also highlights growing differences between regions. It also highlights the ongoing threat that interpersonal criminal violence poses to future human security and peace.

While homicide data may be difficult to use for trend analysis, the data on 'number of deaths from organized internal conflict' is from one consistently recorded source, the Armed Conflict Database (ACD) maintained by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). Figures for the 2013 GPI were compiled from the most recent edition of the ACD, which defined fatalities and the number of 'military and civilian lives lost as a direct result of an armed conflict'. The ACD follows the definition of conflict of the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP)—see section III. The ACD data shows a significant increase in the number of deaths from internal conflicts between 2008 and 2013, with increases in both the magnitude and distribution of conflict.

The increase in magnitude is clear from the almost fivefold increase in deaths between 2008 and 2013, from 37 269 to 178 287. The expanding distribution of conflict deaths across countries is also notable: the number of countries that recorded more than 2000 deaths in internal conflicts

jumped from 4 in 2008 to 11 in 2013. Mexico, Libya and Syria all suffered more than double the number of deaths in 2013 than Iraq suffered in 2008. Indeed, Syria's estimated 72 900 deaths in 2013 is almost double the total number of deaths from internal conflict recorded for the entire world in 2008.

The indicators that improved most were predominately measures of militarization such as 'military expenditure as a percentage of GDP', 'number of armed services personnel per 100 000 people' and 'nuclear and heavy weapon capabilities'. This was driven by slight declines in military spending in the wake of the global financial crisis. The 'Political Terror Scale', which measures the presence of state-sponsored violence, improved on average across the world, with all regions improving except for South Asia and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

In summary, the global trend between 2008 and 2013 was predominately shaped by a handful of key international events: major outbreaks of violence in the Middle East caused by the Arab Spring; a continued deterioration of security and increased levels of terrorism in Afghanistan and Pakistan; civil war in Libya and Syria; the escalation of the drug war in Central America; and violent demonstrations associated with the economic downturn in a number of European countries.

Conversely, the key countervailing improvements in peace recorded over the six-year period were continued declines in homicide and violent crime in the USA and parts of Western Europe; fewer deaths from external organized conflict; widespread falls in the average level of military expenditure; and a reduction in state-sponsored violence.

Sources and methods

The GPI's 22 indicators are divided into three thematic categories: ongoing domestic and international conflict; societal safety and security; and militarization. All of the indicators are assigned a score ('banded') on a 1–5 scale. EIU country analysts score the qualitative indicators, and gaps in the quantitative data are filled by estimates. The GPI is intended to review the state of peace in countries over the period 16 March 2012–15 March 2013, but many indicators are based on available data from 2011 and 2012.

Weights are assigned to each indicator, based on their relative importance, on a 1–5 scale. Two sub-component weighted indices are then calculated from the 22 indicators: one that measures a country's level of internal peace and one that measures a country's level of external peace (its state of peace beyond its borders). The overall composite score and index are then calculated by applying a weight of 60 per cent to the measure of internal peace and 40 per cent for external peace. A heavier weight is applied to internal peace on the assumption that a greater level of internal peace is likely to correlate with a lower level of external conflict.

1. *Measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict.* The five indicators in this category are (a) number of external and internal conflicts fought (from the UCDP Armed Conflict Dataset), with weight 5; (b) estimated number of deaths from organized external conflict (UCDP), with weight 5; (c) number of deaths from organized internal conflict (IISS, Armed

Conflict Database), with weight 5; (d) level of organized internal conflict (EIU), with weight 5; and (e) relations with neighbouring countries (EIU), with weight 5.

Data reflecting a country's historical experience of domestic and international conflict is not included since the GPI uses data on ongoing intra- and interstate conflicts.

2. *Measures of societal safety and security.* The 10 indicators in this category are (a) perceptions of criminality in society (EIU), with weight 3; (b) number of displaced people as a percentage of the population (UN High Commissioner for Refugees Statistical Yearbook and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre), with weight 4; (c) political instability (EIU), with weight 4; (d) political terror scale (Mark Gibney and Matthew Dalton, University of North Carolina/Amnesty International), with weight 4; (e) terrorist activity (IEP and Global Terrorism Database, University of Maryland), with weight 2; (f) number of homicides per 100 000 people (UN Surveys on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, CTS), with weight 4; (g) level of violent crime (EIU), with weight 4; (h) likelihood of violent demonstrations (EIU), with weight 3; (i) number of prisoners per 100 000 people (International Centre for Prison Studies, King's College London, World Prison Population List) with weight 3; and (j) number of internal security officers and police per 100 000 people (CTS), with weight 3.

3. *Measures of militarization.* The seven indicators in this category are (a) military expenditure as a percentage of GDP (IISS, *The Military Balance*), with weight 2; (b) number of armed services personnel per 100 000 people (IISS, *The Military Balance*), with weight 2; (c) volume of transfers of major conventional weapons (imports) per 100 000 people (SIPRI Arms Transfers Database), with weight 2; (d) volume of transfers of major conventional weapons (exports) per 100 000 people (SIPRI Arms Transfers Database), with weight 3; (e) funding for UN peace operations (IEP), with weight 2; (f) nuclear and heavy weapon capability (IEP), with weight 3; and (g) ease of access to small arms and light weapons (EIU), with weight 3.

This category reflects the assertion that the level of militarization and access to weapons is directly linked to how at peace a country feels internationally. Financial support to UN peace operations is considered a contribution to increasing peace.

For the precise definition of each indicator see Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), *2013 Global Peace Index* (IEP: Sydney, 2013), annex A.

Changes to the methodology for 2013

The expert panel that oversees the compilation of the GPI agreed to include four additional countries in the 2013 edition: Kosovo, South Sudan, Timor-Leste and Togo. This brings the total coverage of the 2013 GPI to 162 states, covering 99 per cent of the world's population.

The panel agreed to the revision of a number of indicators for the 2013 edition of the GPI: the indicator 'military capability/sophistication' has been removed from the Index. Its weight (6.1 per cent) has been equally redistributed across the remaining indicators that make up the external peace category. The concept of military capability has been preserved and included in the new indicator 'nuclear and heavy weapon capability'. Countries with nuclear capabilities now automatically receive a score of 5, the highest score possible. Heavy weapons, while scored using the same methodology, are no longer scaled by population. The panel felt that this would better account for countries' actual capacity to project force. The normalization of the indicator 'number of external conflicts fought' has been similarly revised. The banding for the scores now reflects, in a linear way, the number of conflicts fought in the previous five years; that is, countries that have not been in conflict receive a score of 1, countries that have experienced one conflict are awarded a score of 2, and so on.

The renaming of 'terrorist acts' as 'terrorist activity' has been agreed under the premise that the new label better reflects the information contained in the indicator.

Lastly, financial contribution to UN peace operations has been revised in order to overcome a negative bias towards countries with significant accrued debt to the UN. The indicator now measures a country's outstanding contributions for the three years prior to the index publication, rather than since it joined the UN.