



Global State of
Democracy Initiative

The Global State of Democracy 2022: Forging Social Contracts in a time of Discontent

&

The Democracy Tracker

30 November 2022





Global State of
Democracy Initiative

The Global State of Democracy 2022: Our Main Findings



What is democracy?

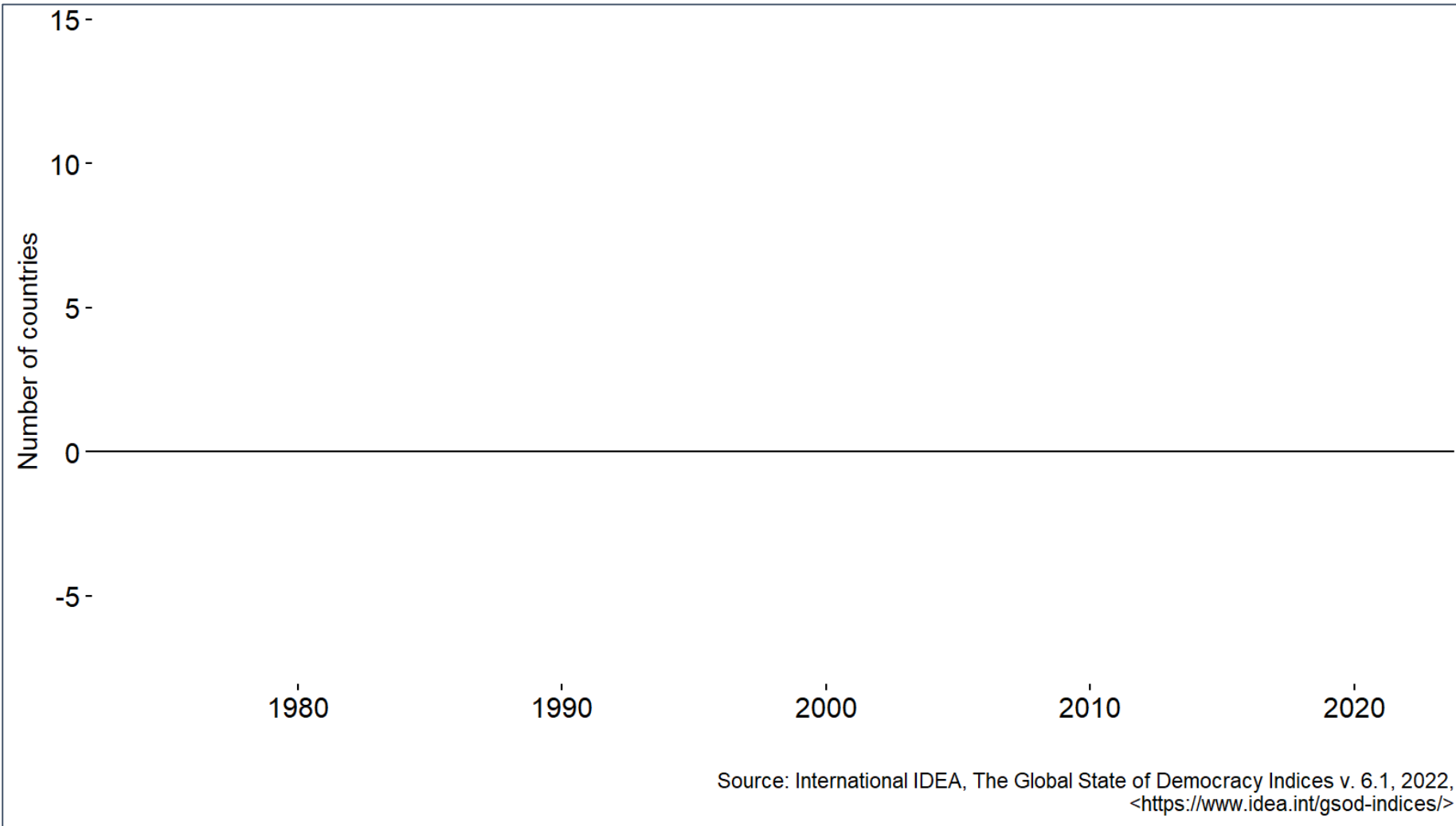
At International IDEA, we think of democracy as:

- Popular control over public decision-making
- Equality between citizens in the exercise of that control



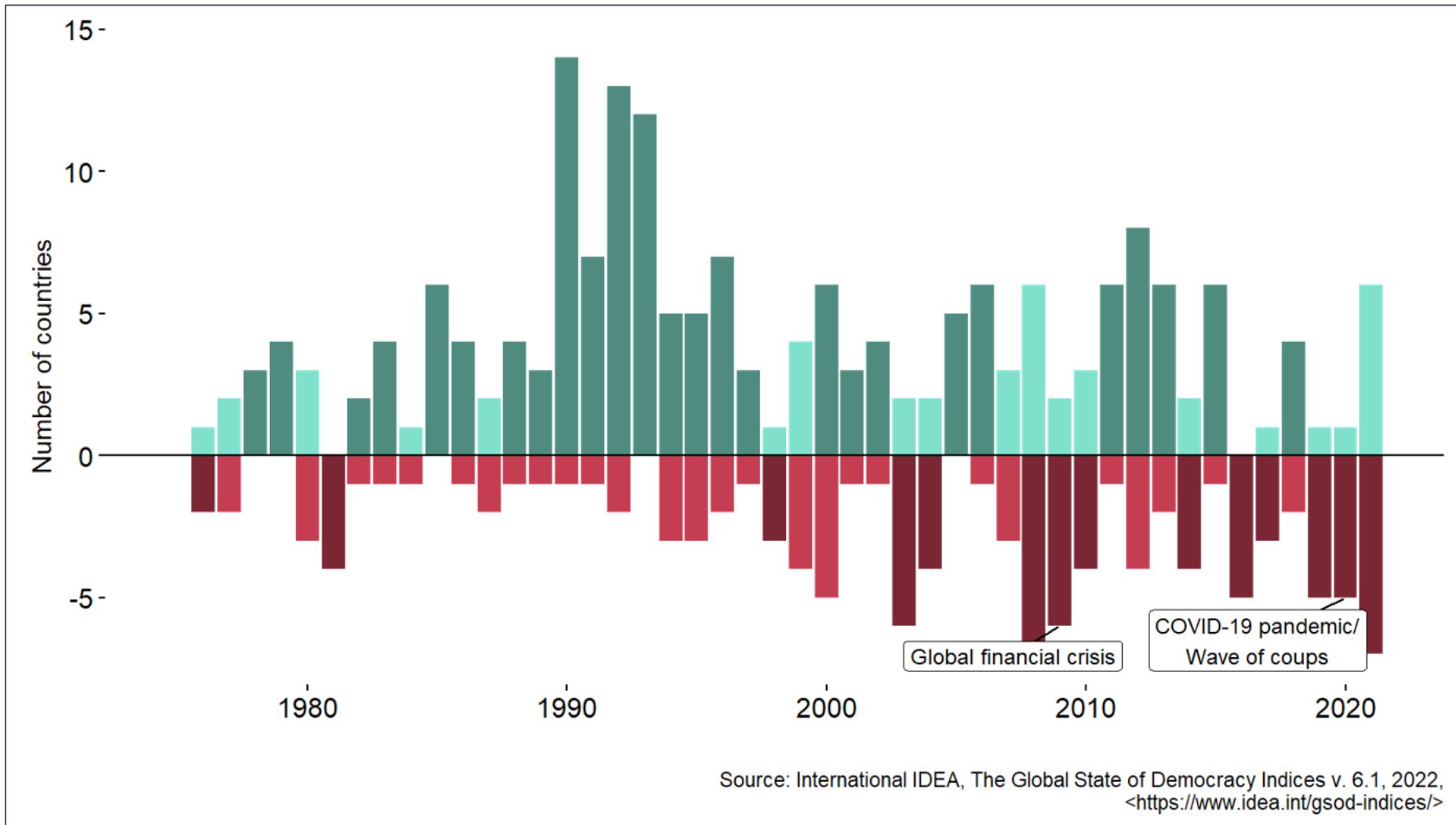
Democracy is in retreat around the world

Net movements towards and away from democracy

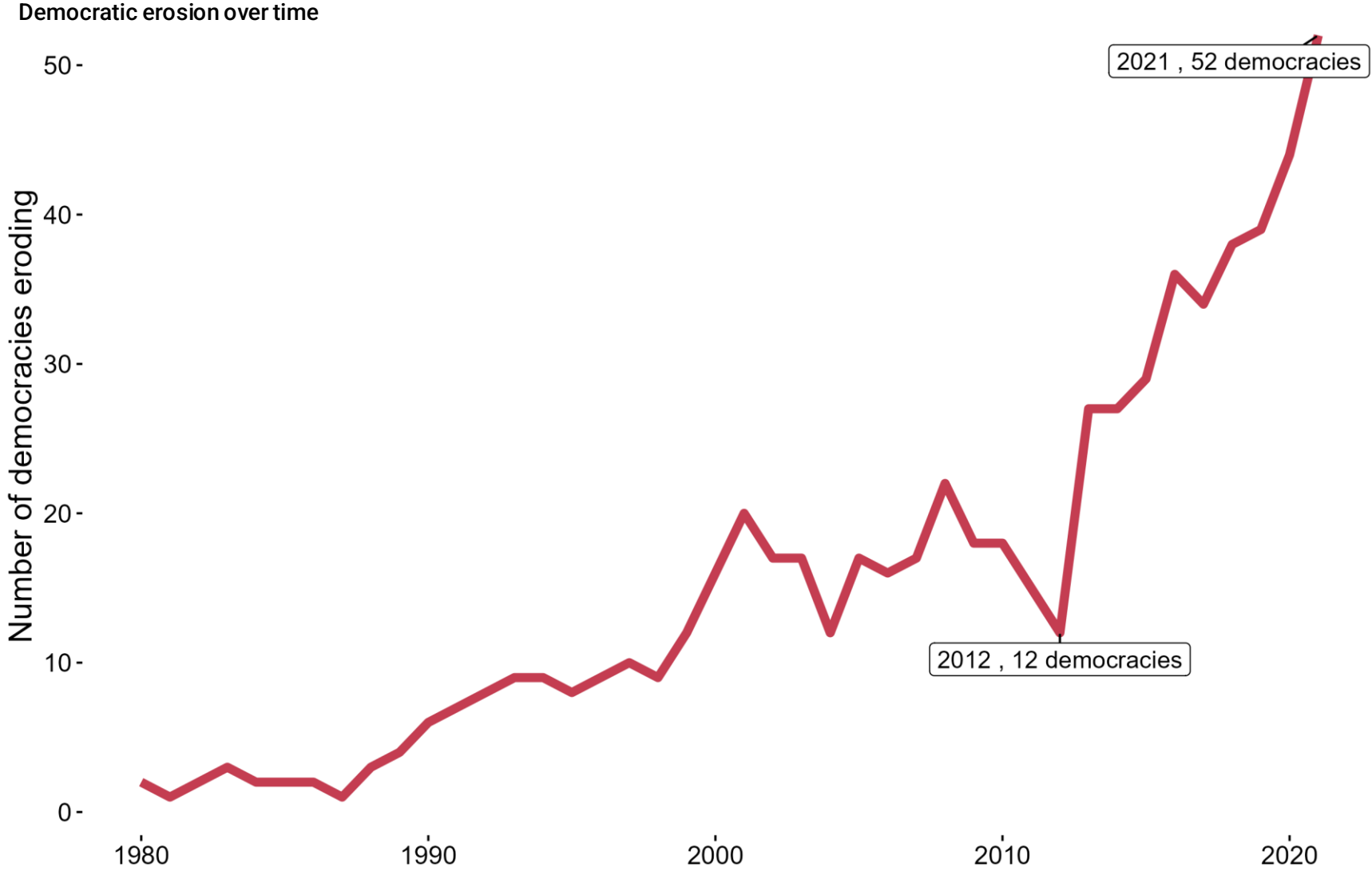


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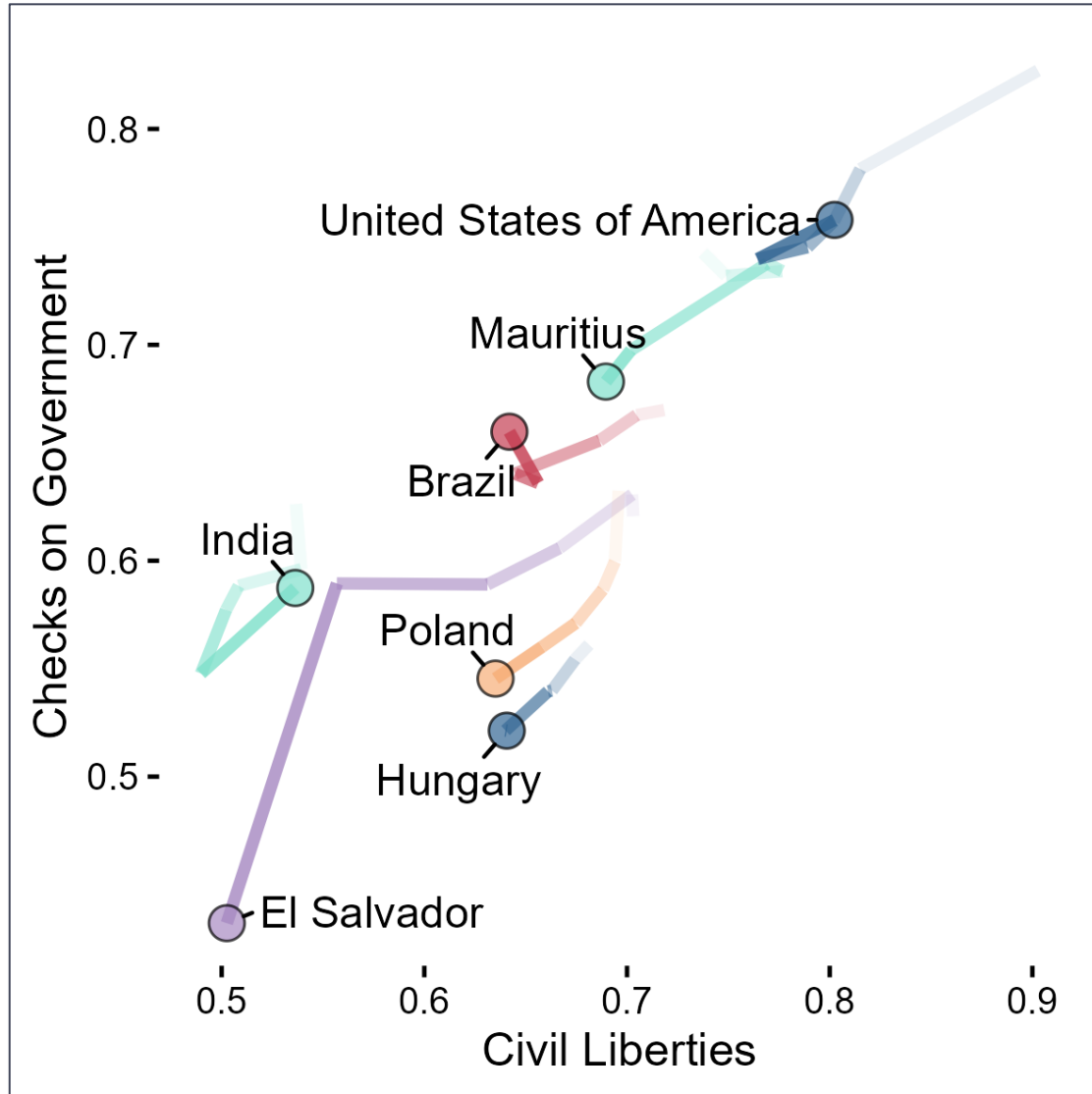


The quality of existing democracies is in decline

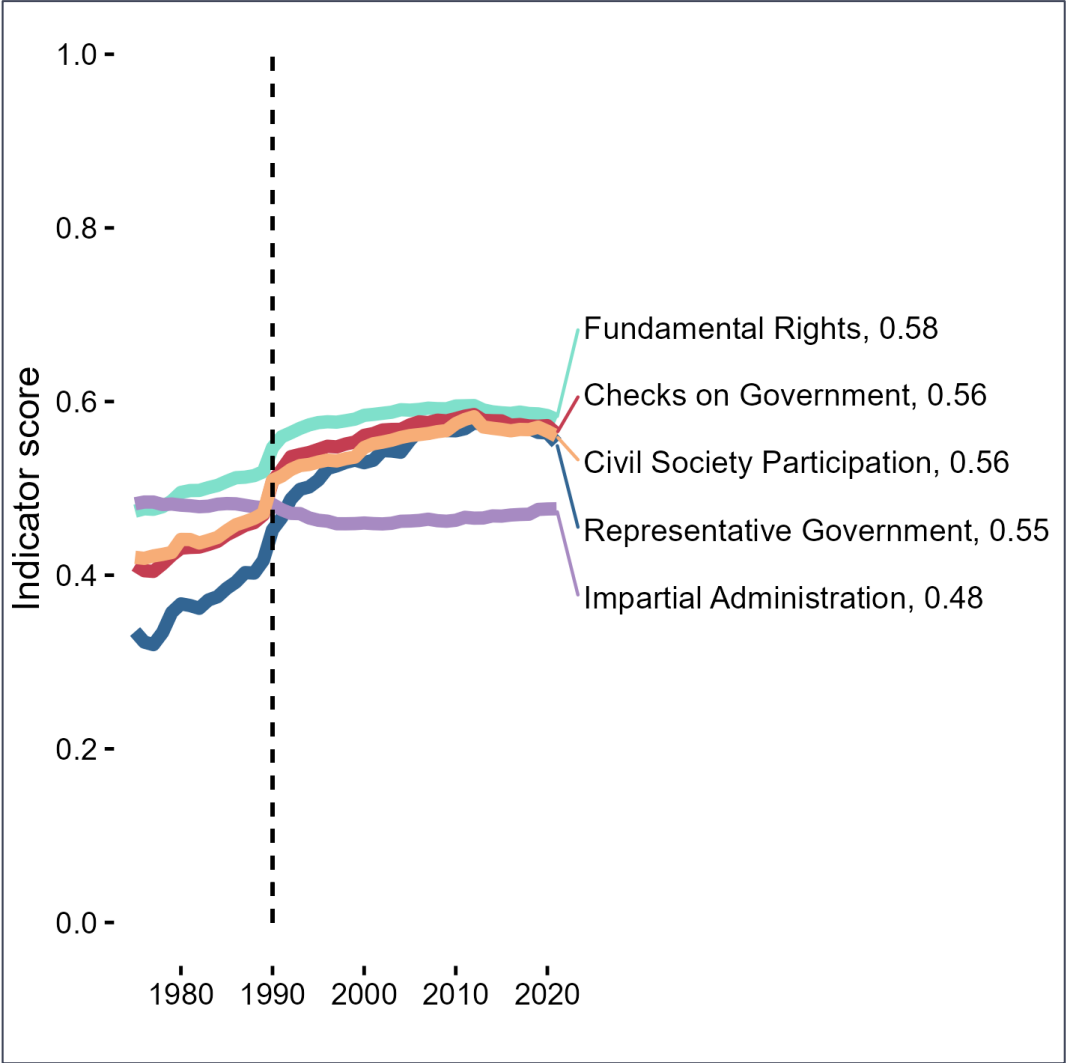
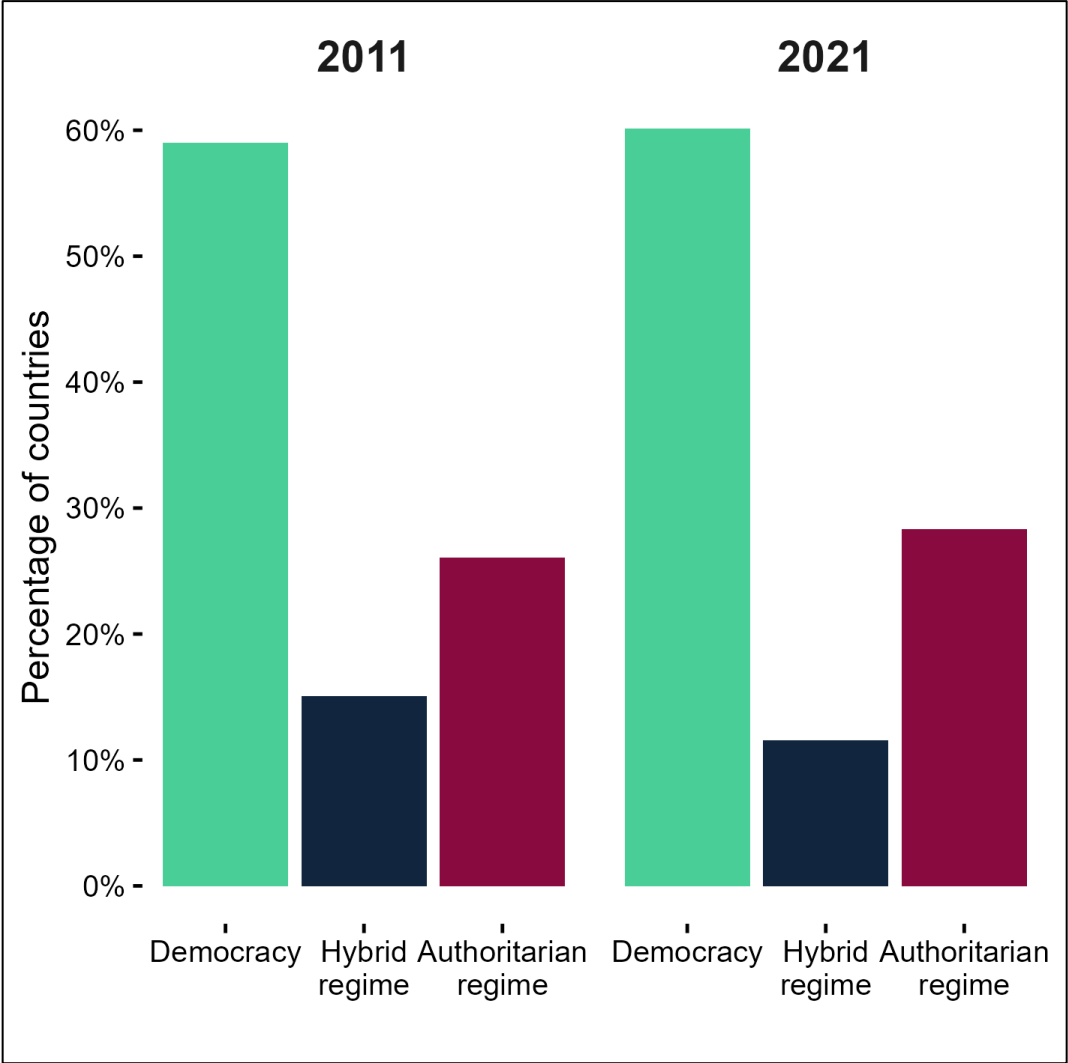


Backsliding is at its peak

Trends over the past 5 years in backsliding countries

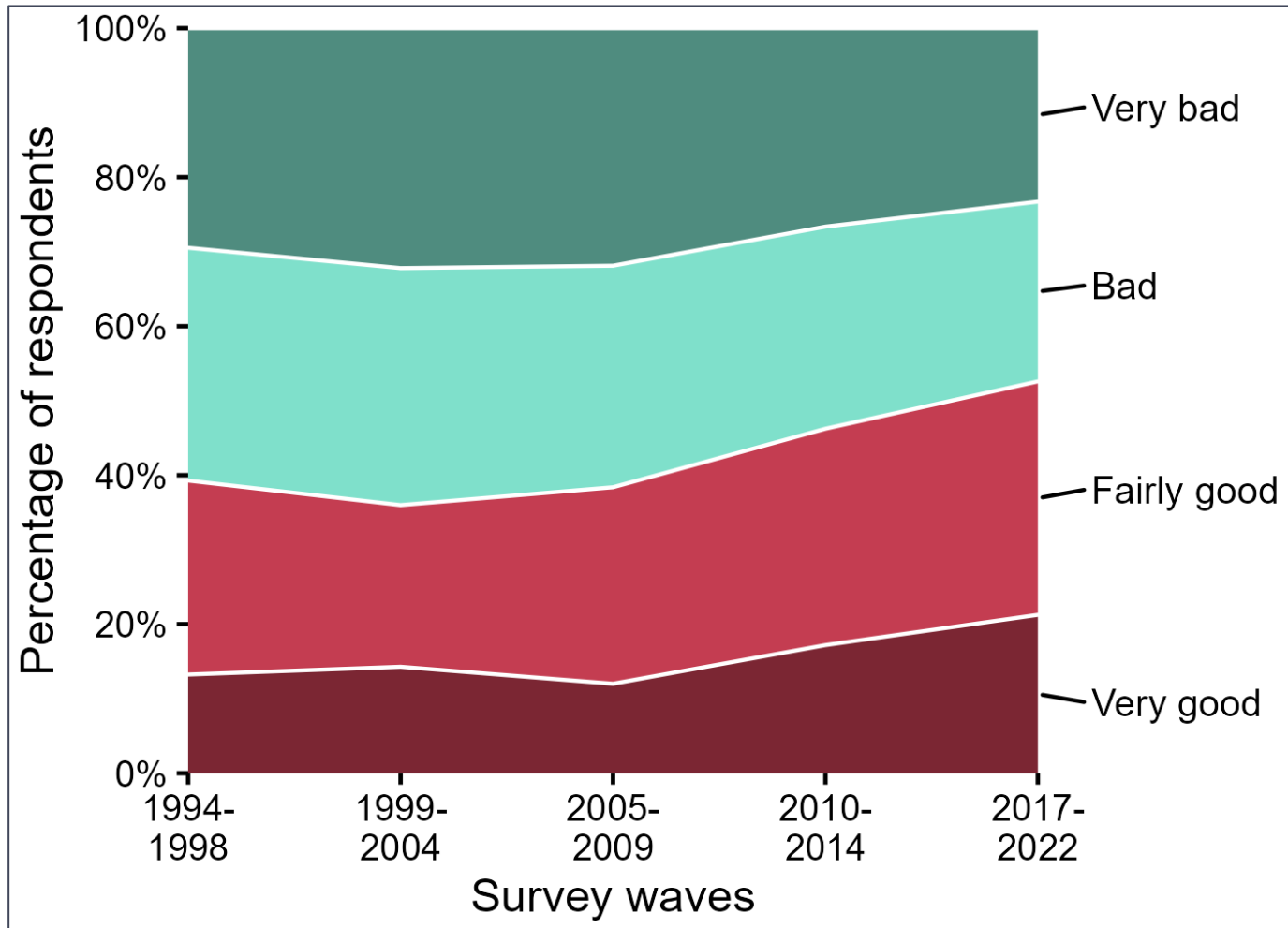


Democratic growth has also stalled



At the same time, public support for authoritarian values is growing

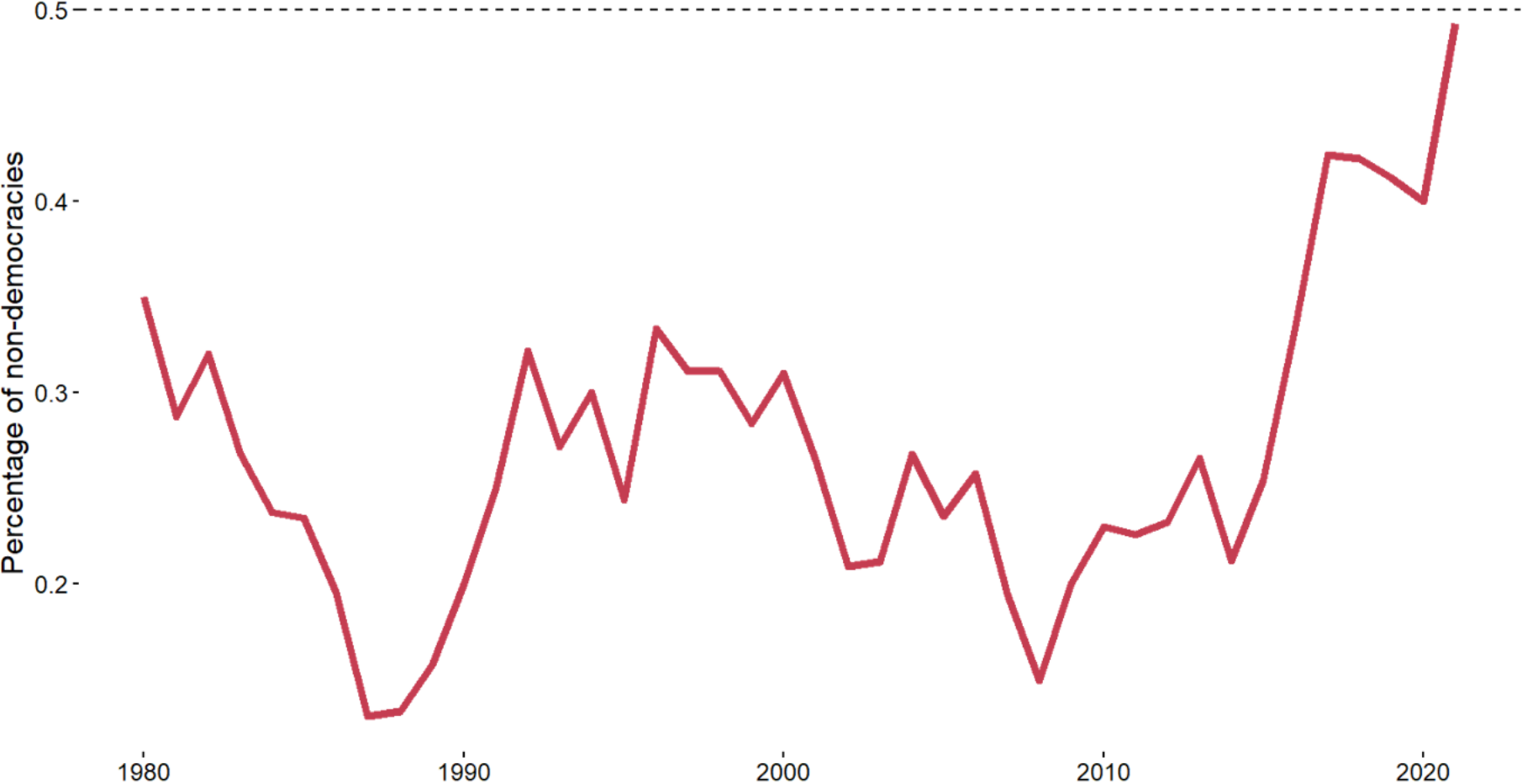
Public opinion on autocratic leadership



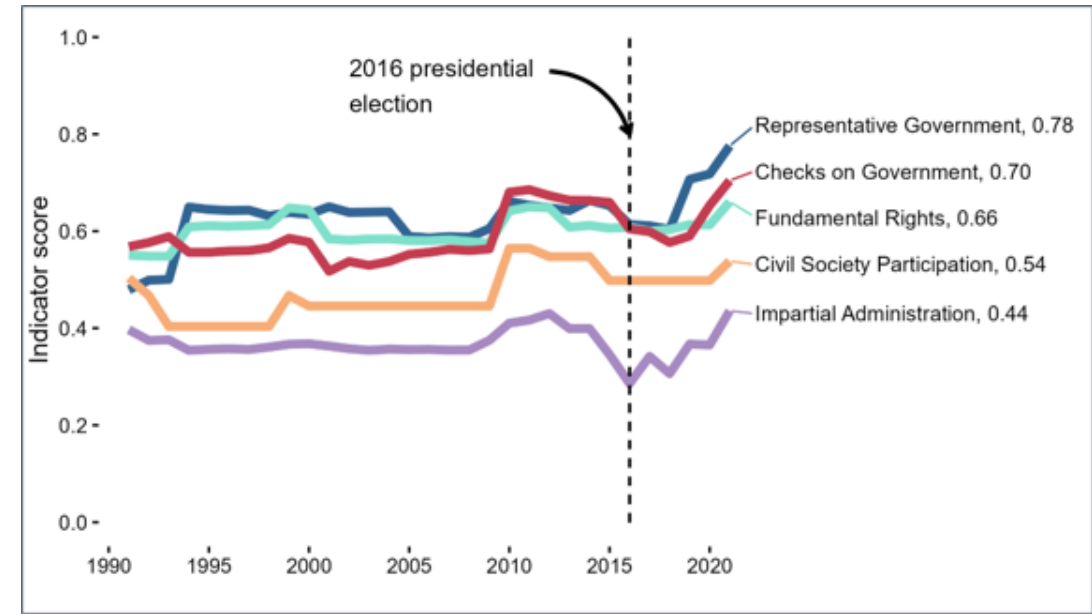
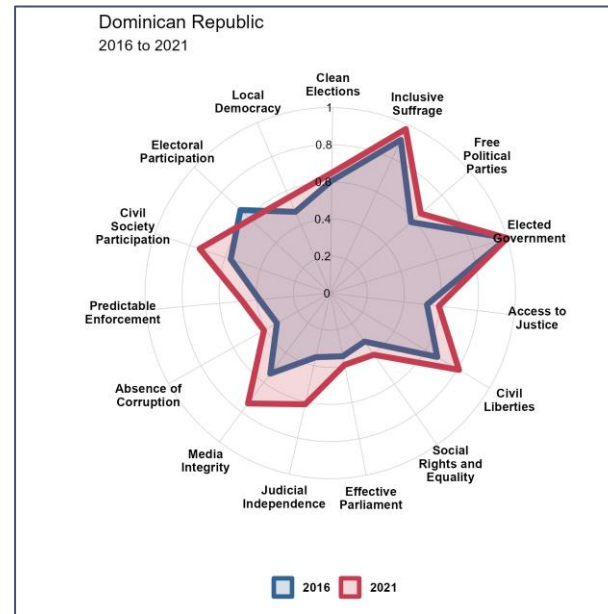
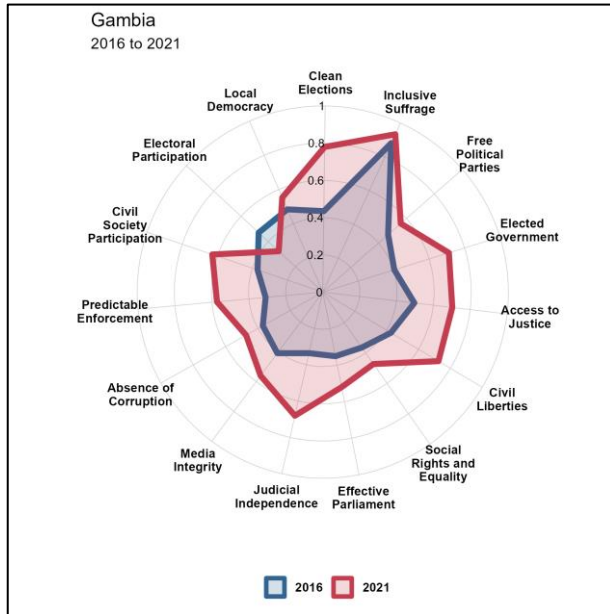
Source: World Values Survey

This is worrying, especially given a deepening of authoritarian tendencies in non-democratic states.

Percentage of non-democracies over time



Signs of hope: The Gambia, The Dominican Republic and Moldova



Redesigning social contracts can help realize democratic innovation.

THIS INCLUDES:

→
Read the GSoD
2022 Report

New constitutions

Spaces for meaningful
youth participation

Regional input integrated
into national and local
laws and policies

Civic
education

Electoral integrity
guarantees

Stronger and updated
protection of freedom
of expression

Participatory mechanisms
that channel public demands
into new laws and policies

The way forward

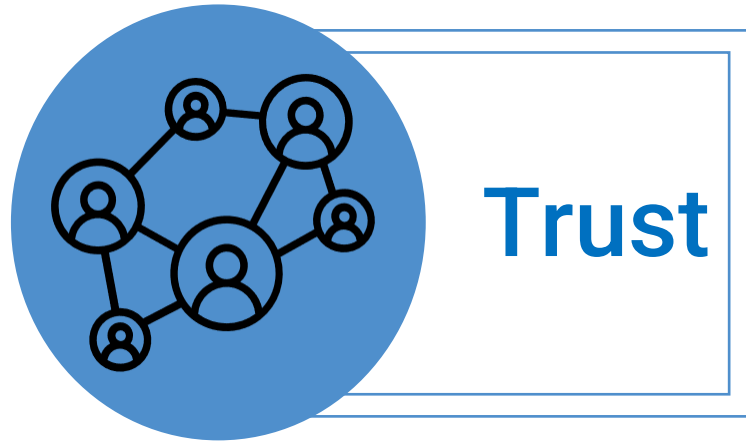


Electoral Integrity

International actors should re-commit to supporting electoral integrity, which is the bedrock of democracy.



The way forward



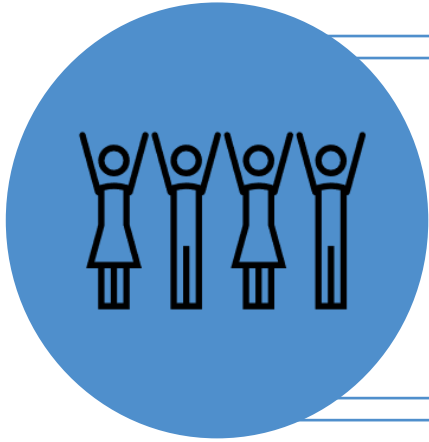
Prioritize accountability and transparency for renewed social contracts.

Prioritize the implementation and enforcement of strategies and policies that reduce corruption and rebuild public trust.

Protect the freedom of expression, including in online spaces.



The way forward



Inclusion

Addressing inequality requires placing marginalized groups' needs front and center



**Youth
Participation**

Youth require meaningful participation in the development of policies that impact them





Global State of
Democracy Initiative

The Democracy Tracker



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and Development



Robert Bosch
Stiftung

The Global State of Democracy Initiative is also supported by contributions of [International IDEA Member States](#)

The GSoD Platform

Democracy Tracker

- 173 country profile pages
- Basic facts and human rights treaty compliance
- Monthly updates on democracy and human rights developments
 - Early warning tool

GSoD Indices

- Annually updated quantitative scores on 116 indicators of democracy
- Interactive tool to see and engage with the data per country, region and attribute/subattribute
 - Raw data

GSoD Reports

- Annual GSoD reports
 - In Focus reports

Democracy Notes

- Blog with the most current analysis of democracy and human rights events around the world
- Explainers: Longer pieces that dive deep into a particular issue





Turkey

Monthly Updates GSoD Indices



Turkey is a hybrid regime that has experienced consistent declines in nearly every indicator of democratic performance since 2011. These declines have become starker since 2016, when the government responded to a failed coup attempt with a two-year state of emergency, mass purges and tens of thousands of arbitrary arrests, and a contested referendum that did away with the country's parliamentary system and concentrated power in the office of the president. Despite the end of the state of emergency in 2018, most of its expanded state powers were prolonged via an anti-terror bill which was most recently renewed in July 2021.

An upper middle income country, Turkey experienced strong and steady economic growth from 2001 until the 2018 emerging markets debt crisis. Since then, the country has been mired in a series of overlapping economic and financial crises triggered or worsened by policy and personnel decisions that prioritized the political fortunes of President Erdogan over macroeconomic stability.

Since its founding as a secular republic in 1923, Turkey has been marked by cleavages between ethnic Turks and Kurds, its urban and rural population, secularism and Islam, and more. The military has frequently interfered in politics - usually, but not universally, framing itself as defending the Turkish republic from an excessively Islamist government - roughly once a decade since the 1950s. Kurds comprise about 20% of the Turkish population, and since 1984 the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) has waged an intermittent armed campaign for Kurdish independence that has resulted in 30,000 to 40,000 deaths.

Since Recep Tayyip Erdogan's AKP took power in 2002, the main political divide has been between mostly rural, conservative, and religious Turks and their urban, liberal, and secular counterparts. With the president and ruling party identifying explicitly with the former group, this has manifested as increasing restrictions on the operations of political parties that represent the latter groups, barriers to civic activism following the 2013 Gezi park protests, and most recently, more active political interference in academia, higher education and the judiciary. The crackdowns on political opposition, liberal civil society, and other groups opposed to Erdogan's increasingly personalized rule are not ad hoc events, but part of a larger shift to move the country towards an illiberal, authoritarian nationalist mode of governance. The shift to a presidential system approved in the 2018 referendum was read as an attempt to legitimize this political project, and was accompanied by a thorough dismantling of Turkey's administrative institutions and more frequent refusals to comply with decisions of the European Court of Human Rights.

There are no indications that the current Turkish government will reverse its path of illiberal nationalism. Although Turkey's political opposition remains strong in major urban centers and is capable of contesting elections, there are significant institutional hurdles to mounting a serious electoral challenge to AKP dominance at the national level. The Erdogan government will continue to find enemies to justify its strong handed rule, which can manifest as further deterioration of relations with the United States and Europe or renewed policing of the perceived loyalty of Turkish citizens abroad. The government's struggle to contain the country's long running economic crisis or integrate Syrian refugees suggest that Turkey's domestic instability will not be resolved in the near term. Key indicators to watch moving forward are Fundamental Rights, Freedom of Expression and Assembly, Clean Elections, Absence of Corruption, and Impartial Judiciary.

READ LESS

Monthly Updates

May 2022

The Turkish Supreme Court of Appeals upheld a decision to ban opposition leader, Canan Kalfancıoğlu, from politics and sentenced her to nearly five years in prison. The court confirmed three charges against Kalfancıoğlu, including inter alia insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and allegedly spreading terrorist propaganda on social media. The decision comes ahead of elections in 2023, where Kalfancıoğlu has been influential in the opposition as the head of the Istanbul branch of the Republican People's Party (CHP).

READ MORE



GSoD Indices Data 2021

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT	0.43
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS	0.36
CHECKS ON GOVERNMENT	0.38
IMPARTIAL ADMINISTRATION	0.35
PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT	0.39

READ MORE

Basic Information

POPULATION: 83,042,736

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT: Presidential system

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT: Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan (since 2014)

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT PARTY: Justice and Development Party (AKP)

ELECTORAL SYSTEM FOR LOWER OR SINGLE CHAMBER: List Proportional Representation

WOMEN IN LOWER OR SINGLE CHAMBER: 17.4%

WOMEN IN UPPER CHAMBER: Not applicable

LAST LEGISLATIVE ELECTION: 2018

EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES: 2.4

HEAD OF STATE: President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

SELECTION PROCESS FOR HEAD OF STATE: Direct election (two round majority)

LATEST UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) DATE: 28/01/2020

LATEST UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) PERCENTAGE OF RECOMMENDATIONS SUPPORTED: 67.29%

Human Rights Treaties

Early Warning System

LOW RISK OF DEMOCRATIC BREAKDOWN

CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING

Attributes Over Time

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

CHECKS ON GOVERNMENT

IMPARTIAL ADMINISTRATION

PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT

GSoD Indices trendlines

Basic information box

GSoD Indices interactive visualisation

Human Rights Treaties

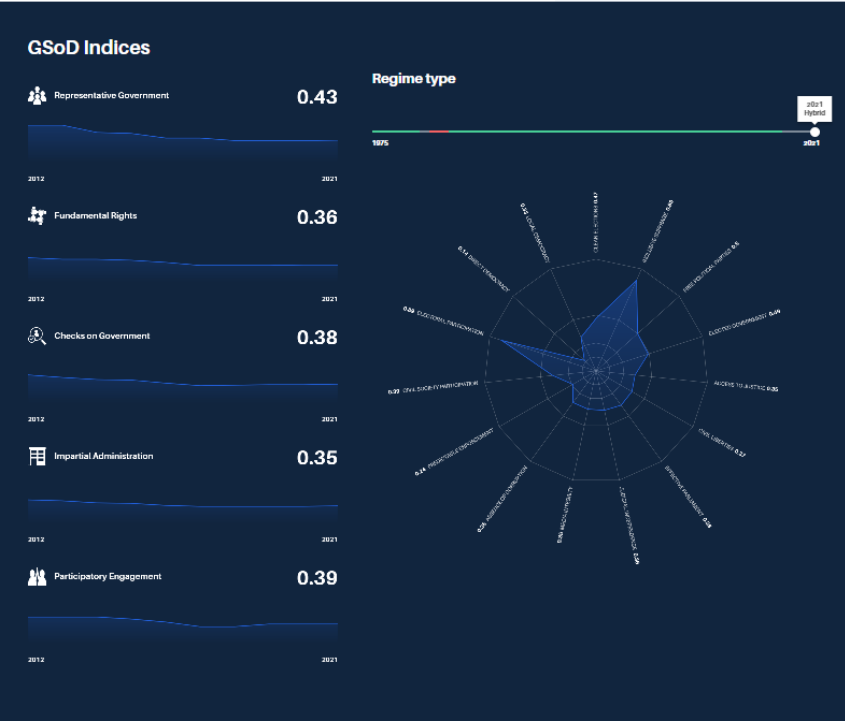
Early Warning System

Attributes over time

Explore past monthly updates

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GO TO DATA ARCHIVE



Context-setting country briefs

Monthly qualitative updates



A holistic view of the world

Monthly updates

The Monthly updates highlight any democracy or human rights related development that has the potential to change the status quo of that country

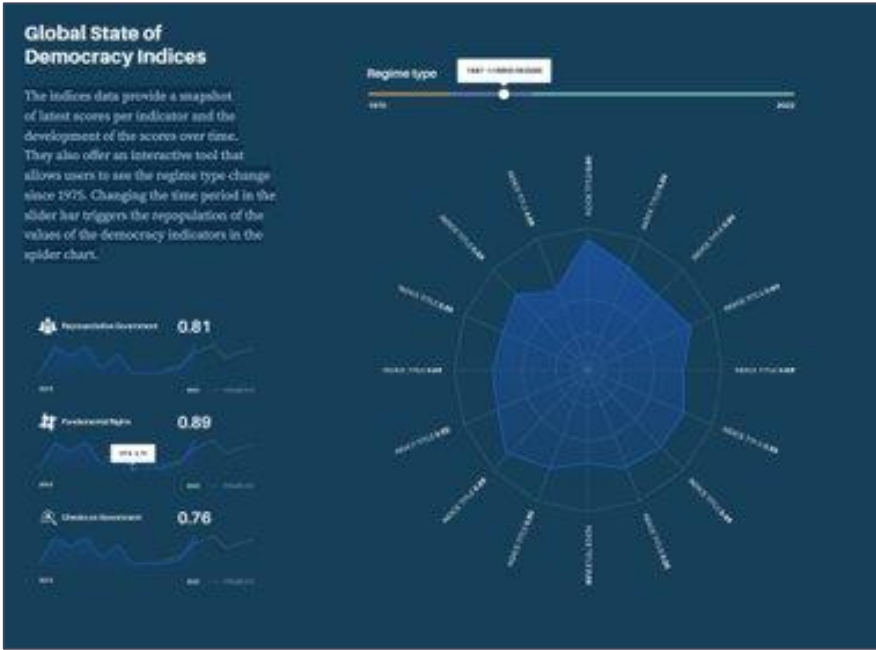
Kenya - August 2022

The outcome of Kenya's presidential election to be reached in court

After four to general elections in 17 years, the winner of the presidential election was not clear until the final tallying of votes in 2022. Very few days after the election, the results were clear in the presidential election. The preliminary findings of the electoral commission (EC) were for incumbent president Uhuru Kenyatta to win. However, the EC's findings were challenged by opposition candidate William Ruto. The EC's findings were challenged by opposition candidate William Ruto. The EC's findings were challenged by opposition candidate William Ruto.

- REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT
- FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS
- CHECKS ON GOVERNMENT
- IMPARTIAL ADMINISTRATION
- PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT

ELECTION MANAGEMENT BODY | BILL OF RIGHTS | SALARIES | JUDICIAL | SUPREME COURT | ELECTION RESULTS



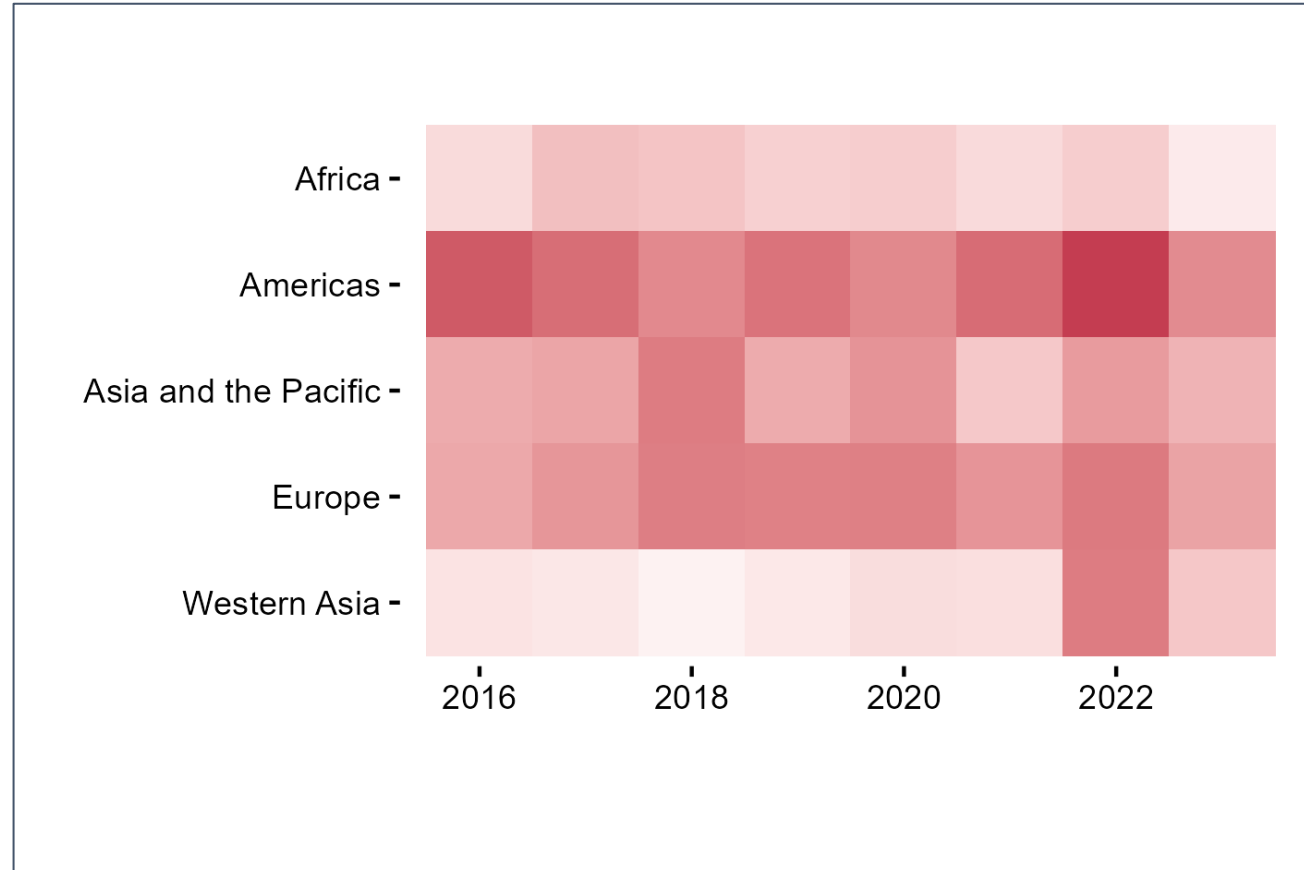
International IDEA's (BETA) Democracy Tracker Early Warning System (DTEWS)

Early Warning System

The early warning tool shows a country's risk for backsliding or breakdown.

 HIGH RISK OF DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING

 MEDIUM RISK OF DEMOCRATIC BREAKDOWN



Our newest report on the Global State of Democracy is out! [View now](#)



Global State of Democracy Initiative

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Democracy Tracker

The Democracy Tracker provides comprehensive qualitative data on the state of democracy in 173 countries. The tool tracks events around the world and every month reports developments that signal changes in country performance across the Global State of Democracy's five democracy attributes. Click on the country hexagons below to find the most recently reported developments or explore regional and global performance trends using the interactive map at the bottom of the page.



[Critical Developments This Month](#)

[About the Global State of Democracy Initiative](#)



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Thank you!

