Voice and Accountability

Voice and accountability captures perceptions of the extent to which a country’s citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media. This table lists the individual variables from each data source used to construct this measure in the Worldwide Governance Indicators

Representative Sources

**EIU** Democracy index
- Vested interests
- Accountability of public officials
- Human rights
- Freedom of association

**FRH** Political rights (FRW)
- Civil liberties (FRW)
- Freedom of the net (FOTN)

**GWP** Confidence in honesty of elections

**IPD** Freedom of elections at national level
- Are electoral processes flawed?
  - Do the representative institutions (e.g. parliament) operate in accordance with the formal rules in force (e.g. Constitution)?
  - Freedom of the press (freedom of access to information, protection of journalists, etc.)
  - Freedom of association
  - Freedom of assembly, demonstration
  - Respect for the rights and freedoms of minorities (ethnic, religious, linguistic, immigrants...)
- Is the report produced by the IMF under Article IV published?
- Reliability of State budget (completeness, credibility, performance...)
- Reliability of State accounts (completeness, audit, review law...)
- Reliability of State-owned firms’ accounts
- Reliability of basic economic and financial statistics (e.g. national accounts, price indices, foreign trade, currency and credit, etc.).
- Reliability of State-owned banks’ accounts
- Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)... communicated?
- Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)... publicly debated?
- Degree of transparency in public procurement
- Freedom to leave the country (i.e. passports, exit visas, etc.)
- Freedom of entry for foreigners (excluding citizens of countries under agreements on free movement, e.g. Schengen Area, etc.)
- Freedom of movement for nationals around the world
- Genuine media pluralism
- Freedom of access, navigation and publishing on Internet

**PRS** Military in politics
- Democratic accountability

**RSF** Press freedom index

**VDM** Expanded freedom of expression
- Freedom of association
- Clean elections

Non-representative Sources

**AFR** Trust parliament / national assembly
- Satisfaction with democracy
- Freeness and fairness of the last national election

**BTI** Political participation (SI)
- Stability of democratic institutions (SI)
- Political and social integration (SI)

**FRH** Independent media (NIT)
- Civil society (NIT)
- Electoral Process (NIT)

**GI** Elections
- Public management
- Access to information and openness

**IFD** Policies and framework for rural development and rural poverty alleviation
- Legal frameworks for and autonomy of rural people's organizations

**IRP** Electoral index

**LBO** Satisfaction with democracy
- Trust in parliament

**OBi** Open budget index

**VAB** Trust in parliament
- Satisfaction with democracy

**WCY** Transparency of government policy is satisfactory

**WJP** Factor 1: Limited government powers
- Factor 4: Fundamental rights
- Factor 5: Open government

**Code** Data Source Name

- **ADB** African Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments
- **AFR** Afrobarometer
- **ASD** Asian Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments
- **BPS** Business Enterprise Environment Survey
- **BTI** Bertelsmann Transformation Index