

UN Regional Workshop on the Women, Peace and Security Index

Session 2: WPS Index aims,
method and global findings

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January 19, 2021

Tracking sustainable
peace through
inclusion, justice,
and security
for women

WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY INDEX 2019/20

PRIO • GIWPS

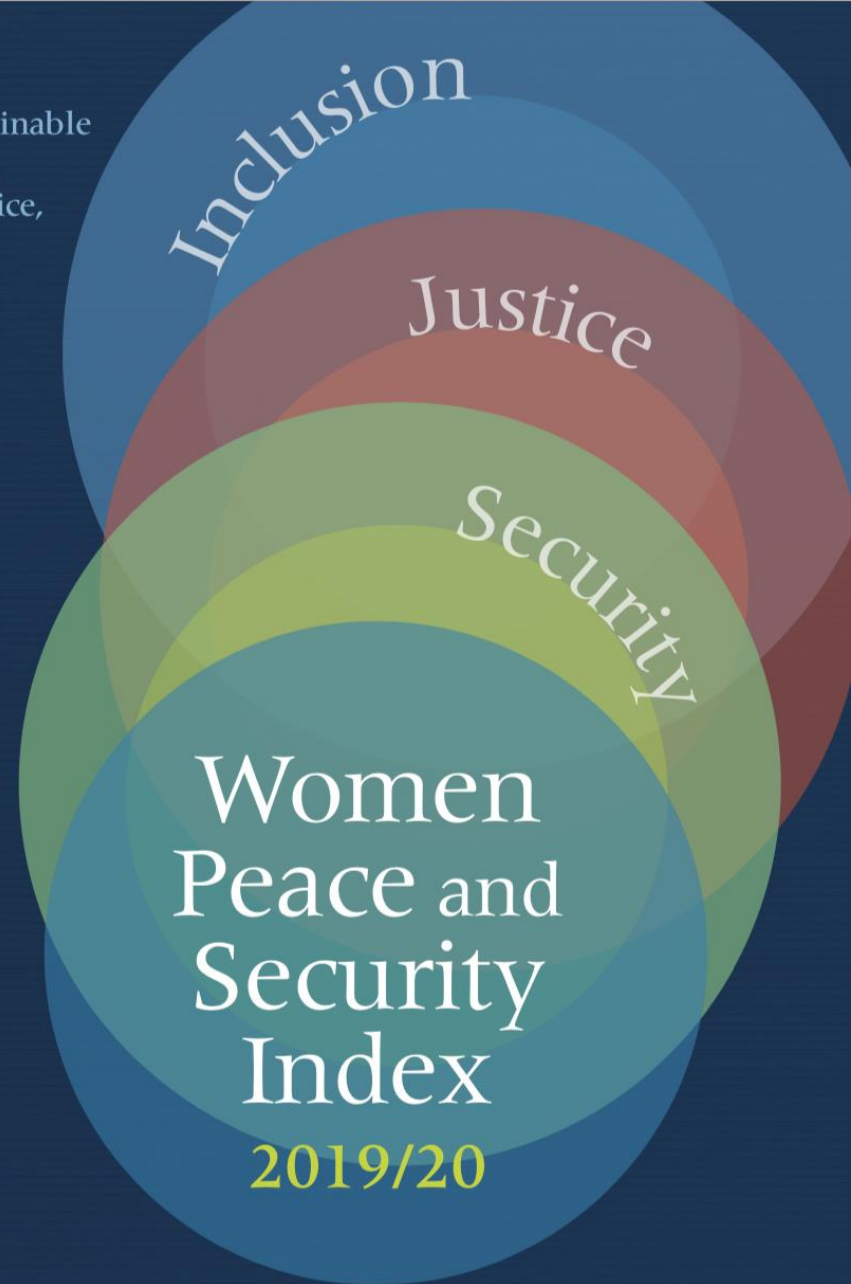


PRIO Centre on
Gender, Peace
and Security



GIWPS

Georgetown Institute for
Women, Peace and Security



Outline

Why a new index?

Chapter 1: Global, regional, and comparative findings

Chapter 2: Insights from recent trends in the WPS Index

Chapter 3: How the WPS Index matters

Why a new Index was needed

1. A simple number and ranking
2. Wide country coverage
3. The first ever Index bringing women, development, and security
4. Spotlight gains and gaps, demonstrate the feasibility of progress
5. Inform and inspire action

PERIL PROGRESS PROSPERITY

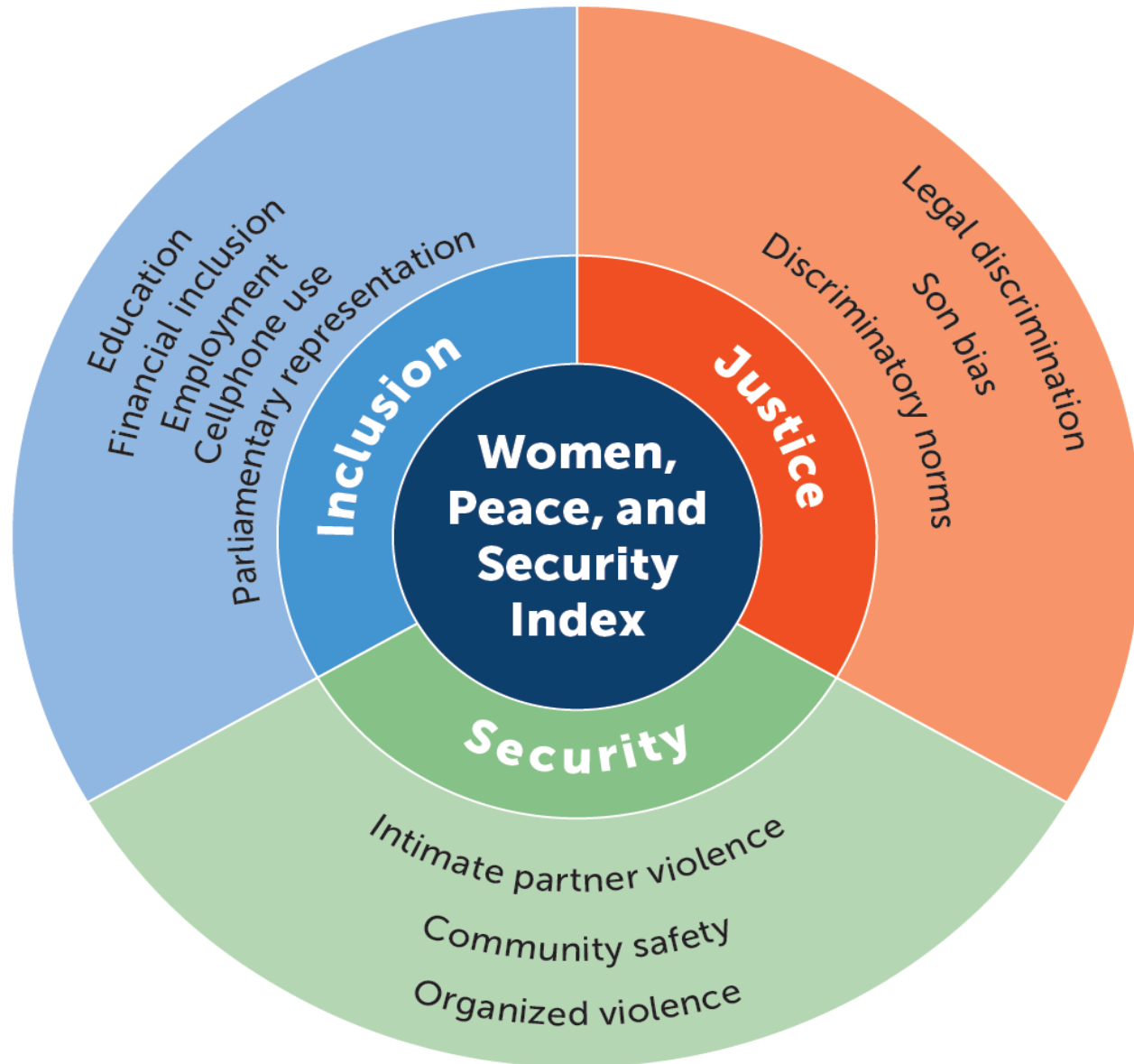
WOMEN'S WELL-BEING
AROUND THE WORLD


BY IRENE BERMAN-VAPORIS, LAWSON PARKER,
AND ROSEMARY WARDLEY

The best and worst countries to be a woman



The WPS Index captures three dimensions of women's well-being and empowerment in 11 indicators

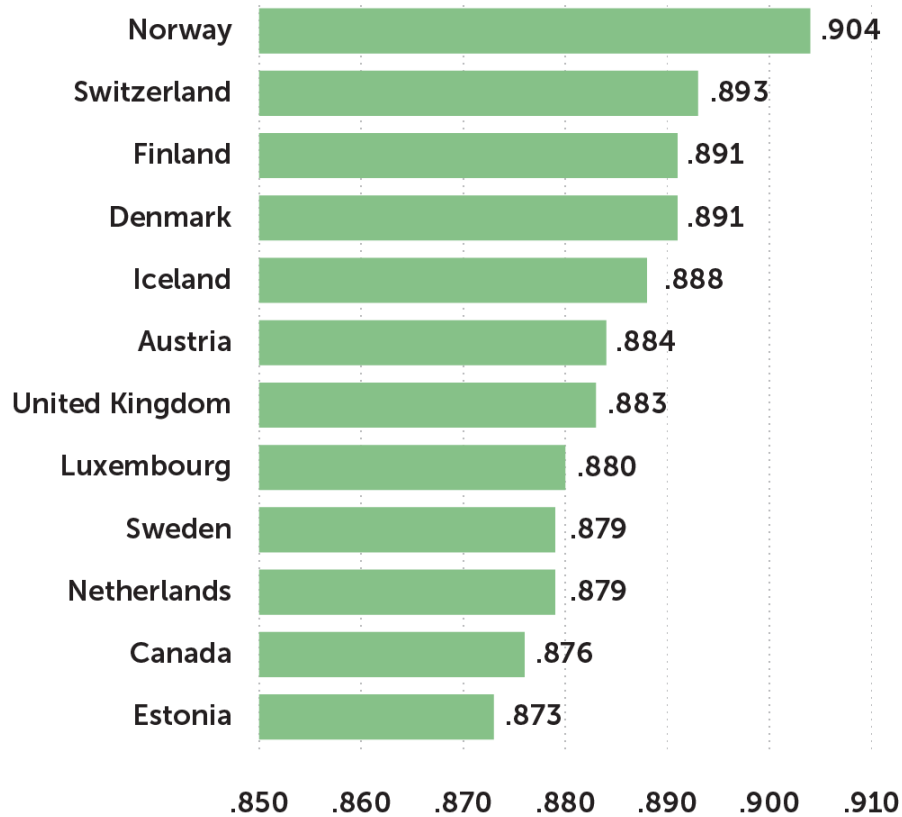


The background features a dark green gradient on the left and a lighter green gradient on the right. Overlaid on the right side are several overlapping circles in various shades of green and blue, creating a layered, abstract effect.

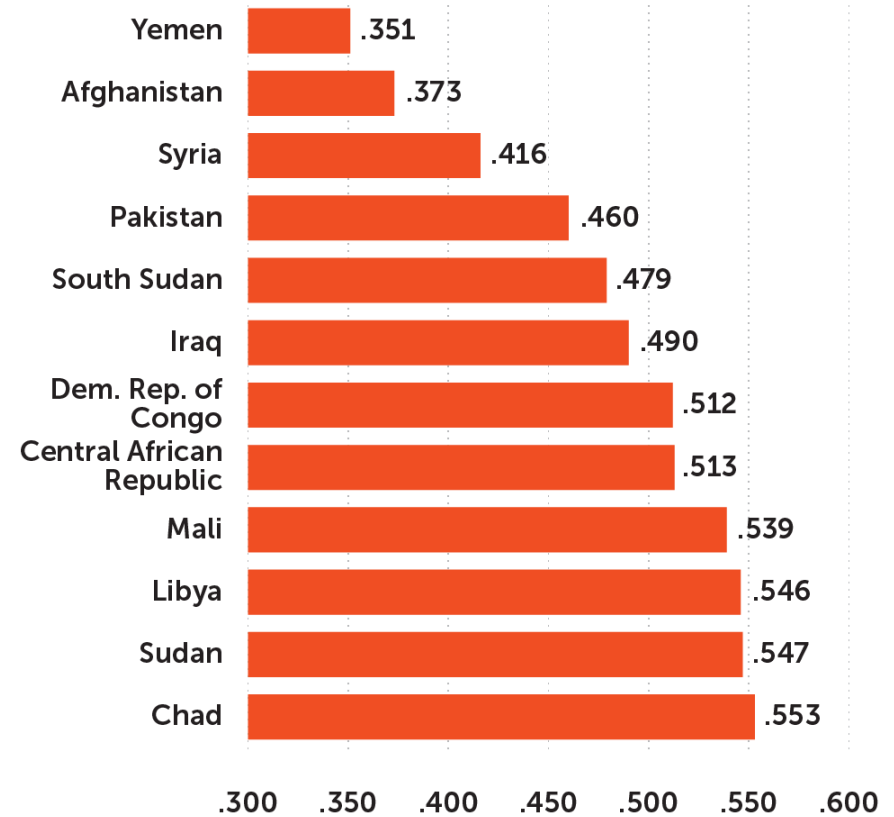
Chapter 1: **Global, regional, and comparative findings**

The dozen best and worst performers on the WPS Index

Best performers

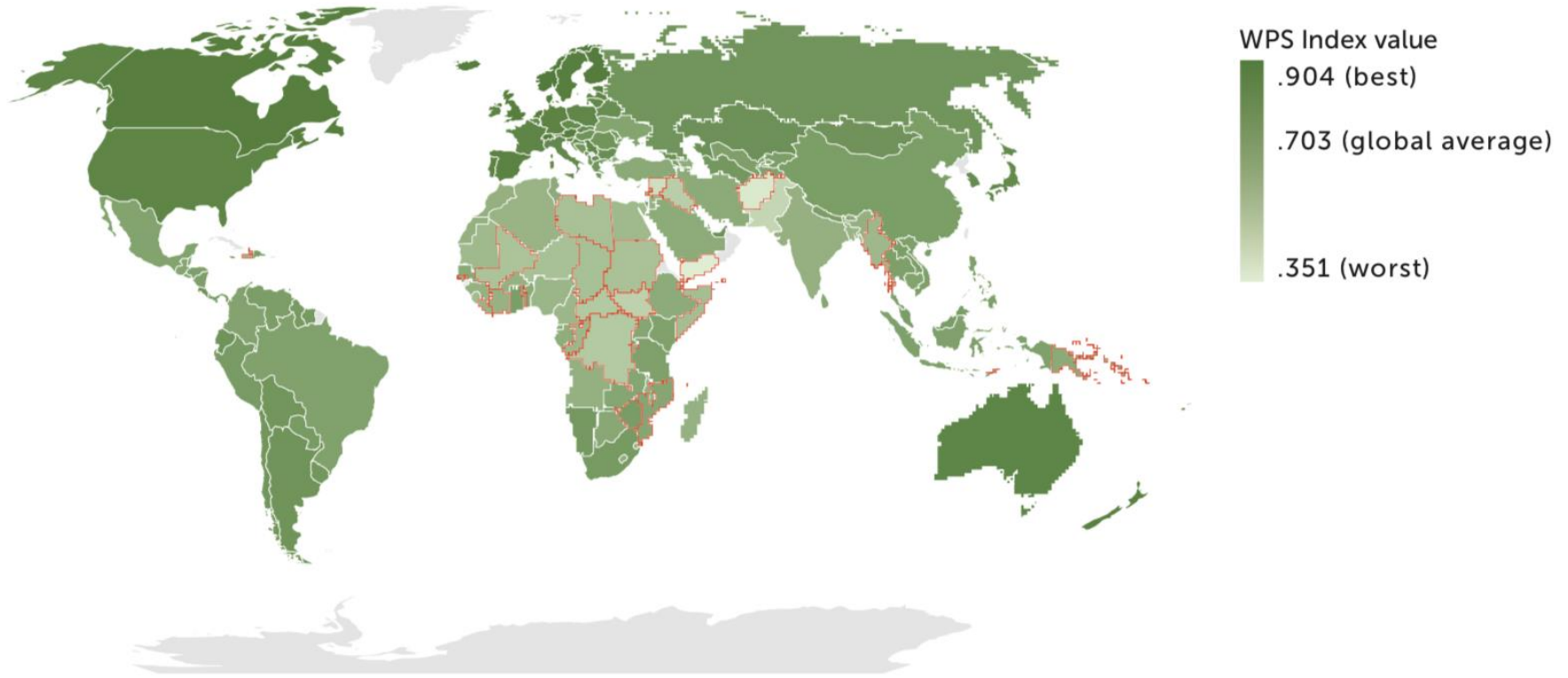


Worst performers



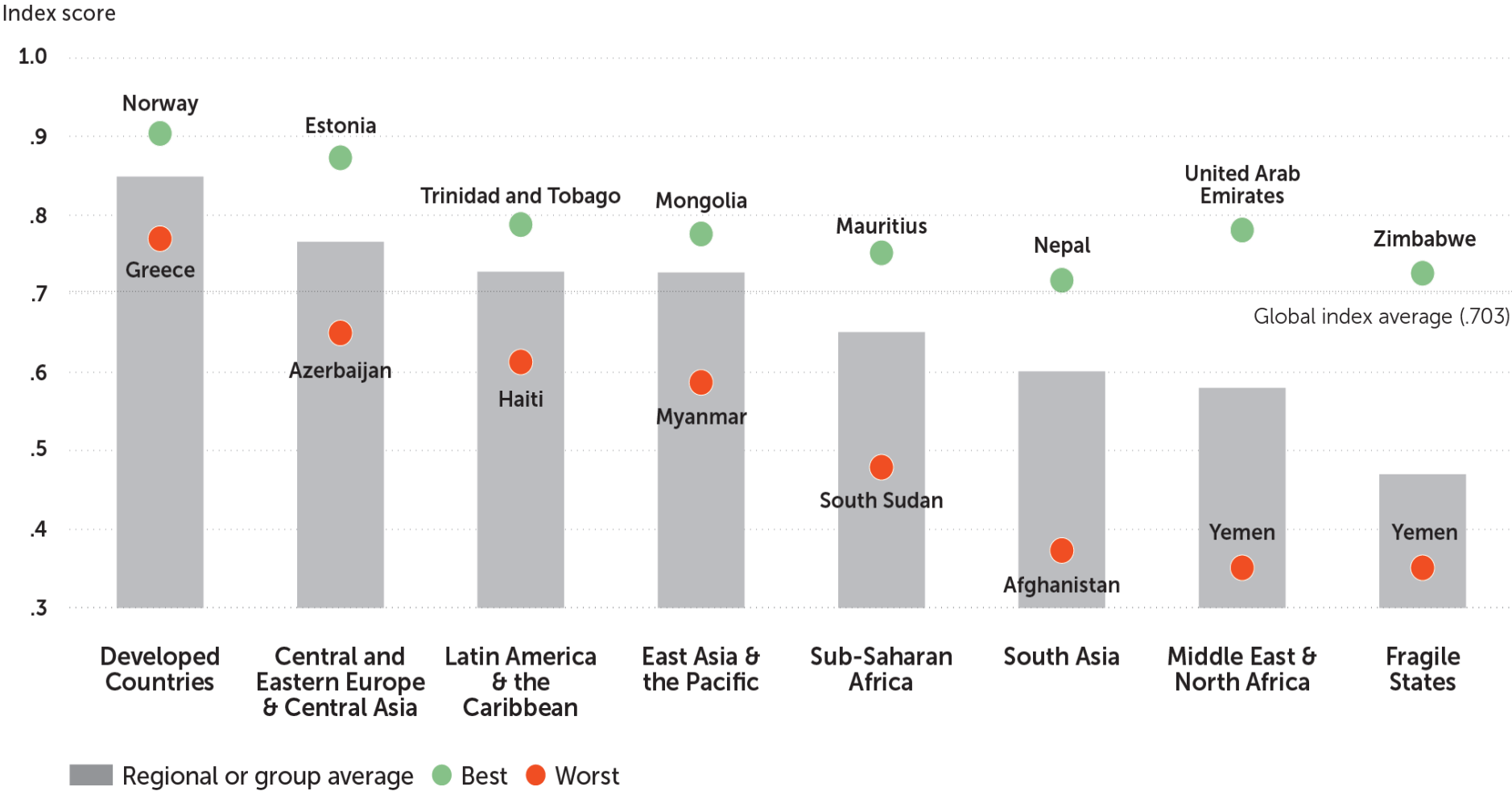
Index score

A spectrum of WPS Index scores around the world



Note: Countries outlined in red are classified as fragile and conflict affected. See statistical table 1 for data sources, detailed scores, and date ranges.
Source: Authors' estimates.

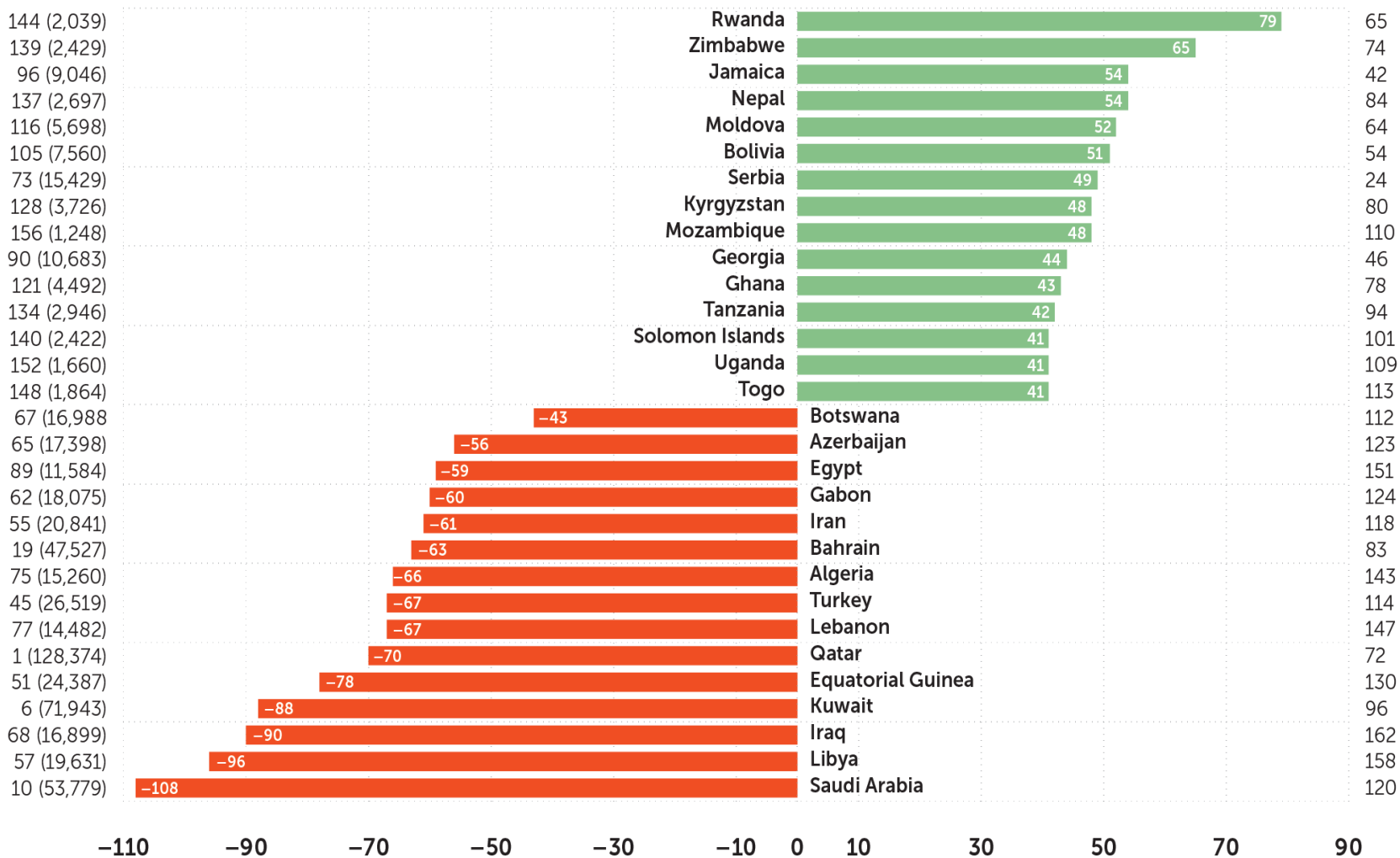
Some countries perform much better and some much worse than their regional and country group average on the WPS Index



Countries that rank much better or much worse on the WPS Index than on per capita income

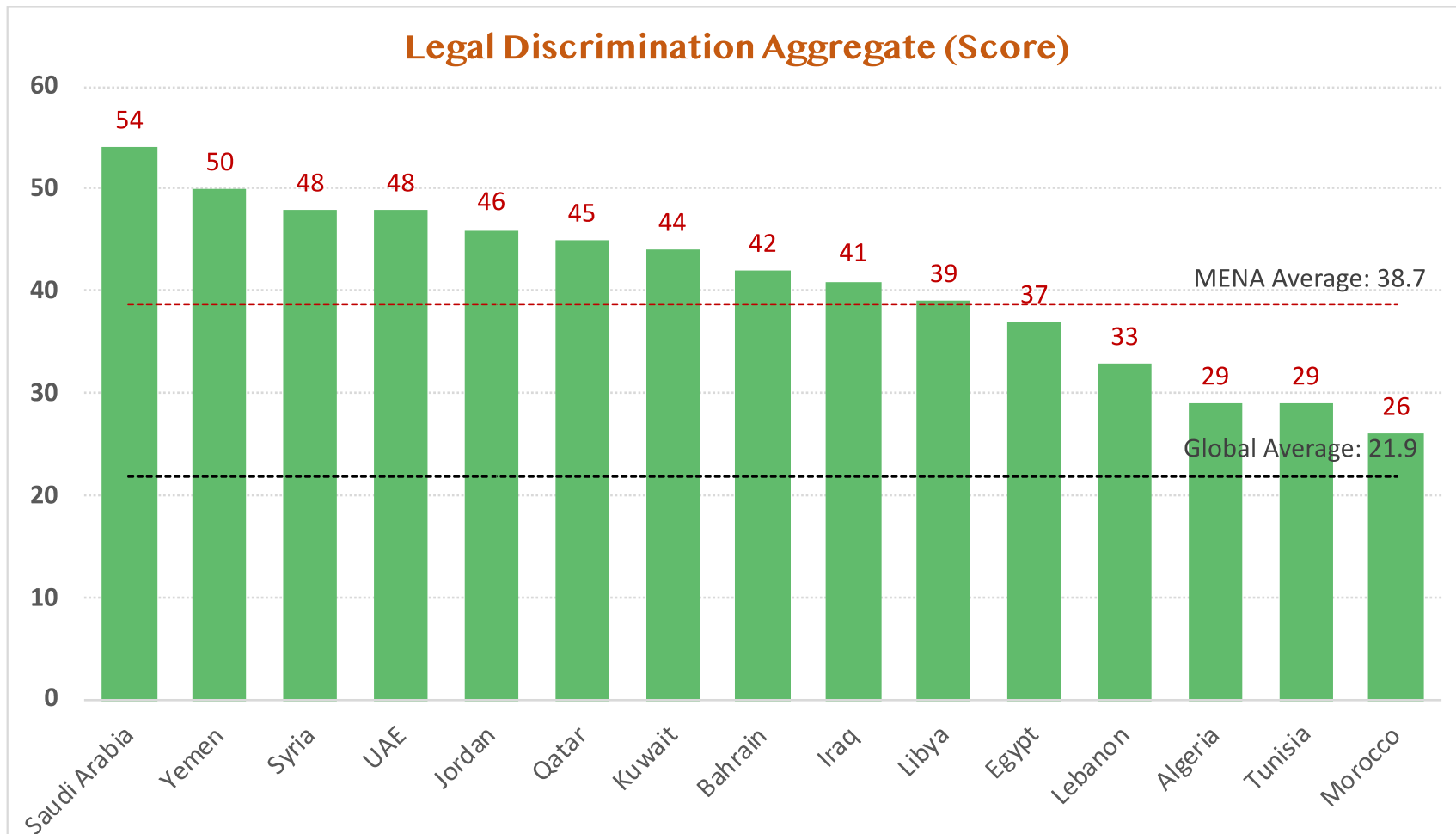
GDP rank
(GDP per capita 2017 PPP \$)

Index
rank



Number of places higher or lower in index ranking than in income per capita ranking

All 16 countries in MENA perform worse than the global mean on legal discrimination; 9 countries among the world's bottom dozen performers



Aggregate score of laws and regulations that limit women's ability to participate in society or the economy or that differentiate between men and women. **Lower is better.**

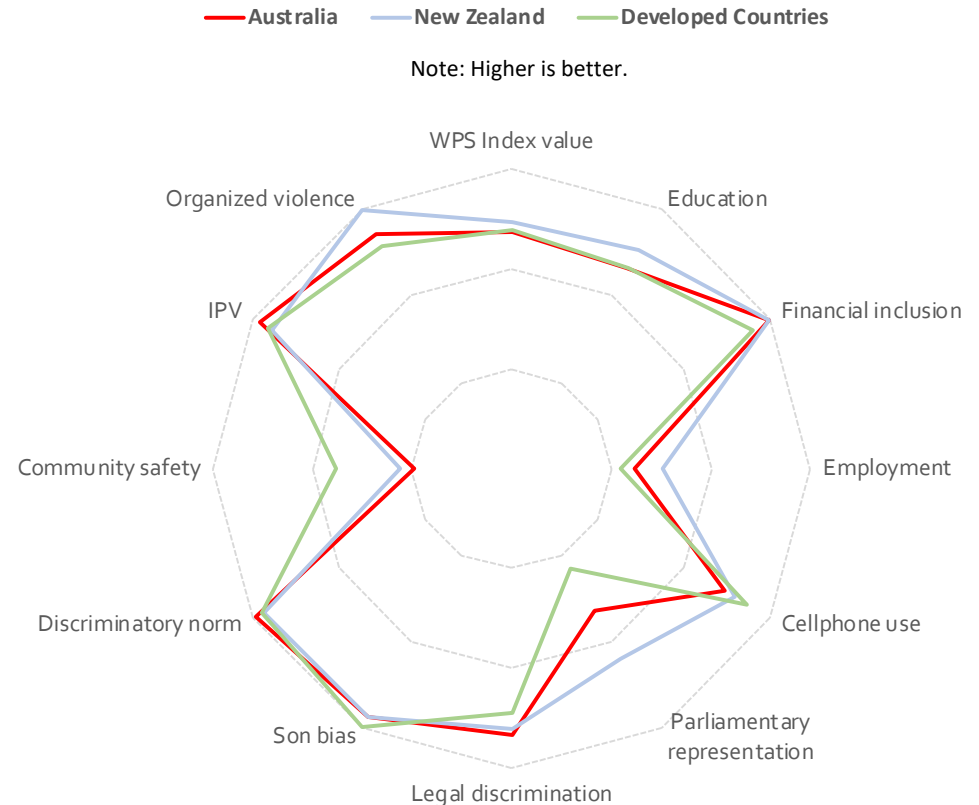
Source: World Bank, Women Business, and the Law (<http://wbl.worldbank.org>). Accessed in March 2019.

Australia

Ranked 22nd globally, in top tercile but below the developed country average.

Ranking dropped five places (from 17th) place in 2017.

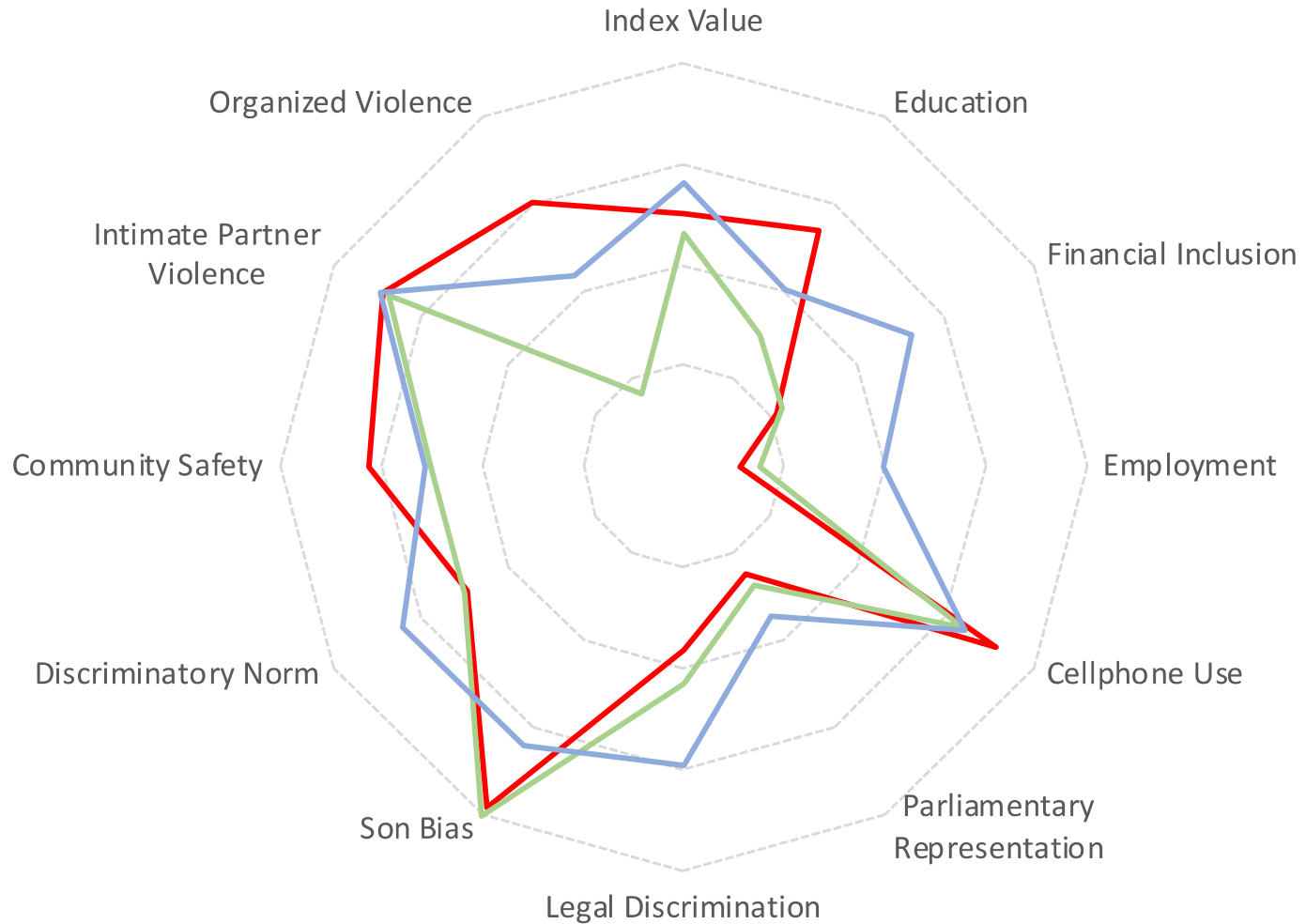
New Zealand ranks 14th globally, and outperforms Australia on several indicators, including employment, parliamentary representation and community safety.



Jordan

Jordan MENA Global

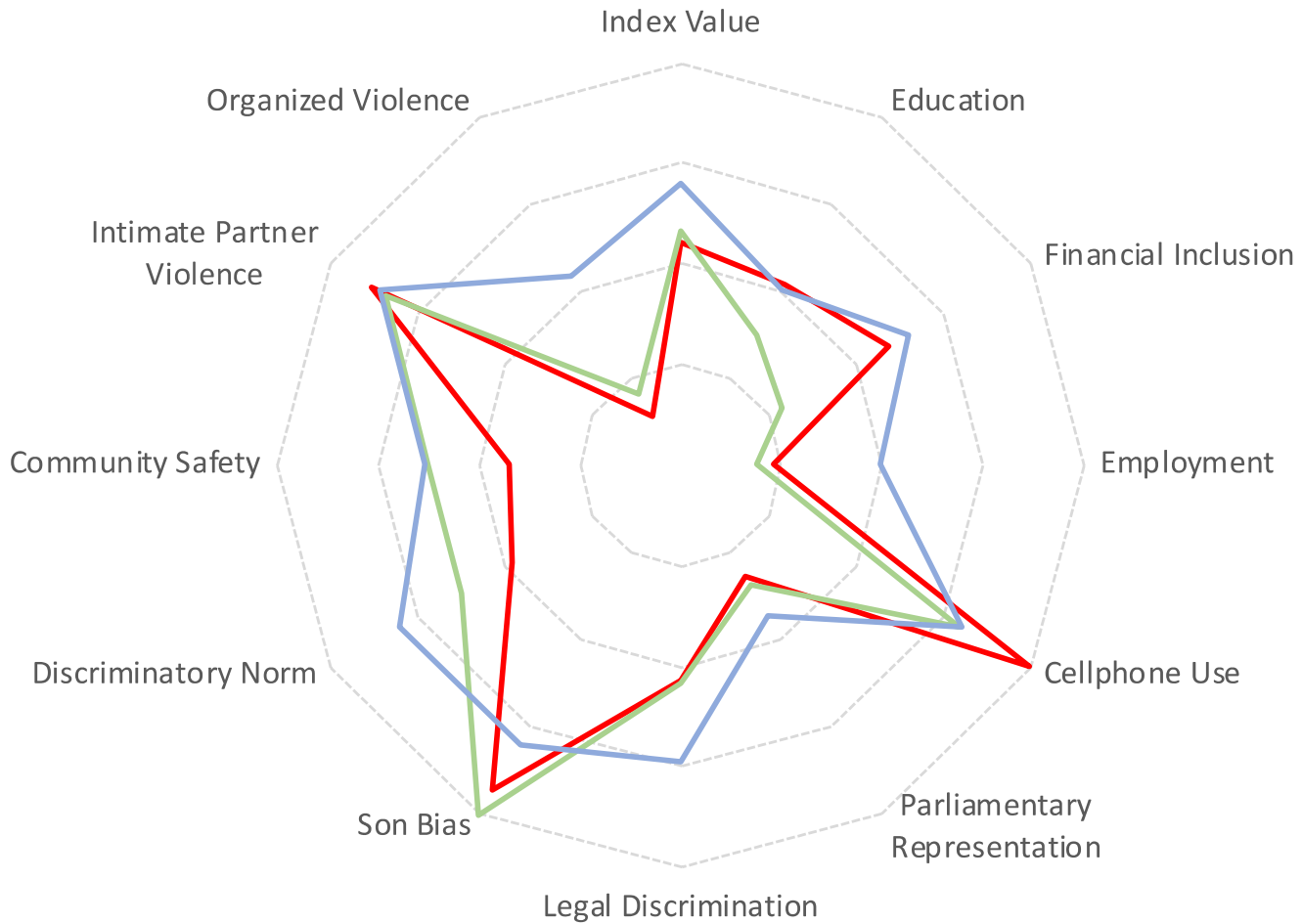
Note: Higher is better.



Libya

— Libya — MENA — Global

Note: Higher is better.





Chapter 2:
Insights from
recent trends in
the WPS Index

Good news:

Widespread progress on women's inclusion, access to justice, and security

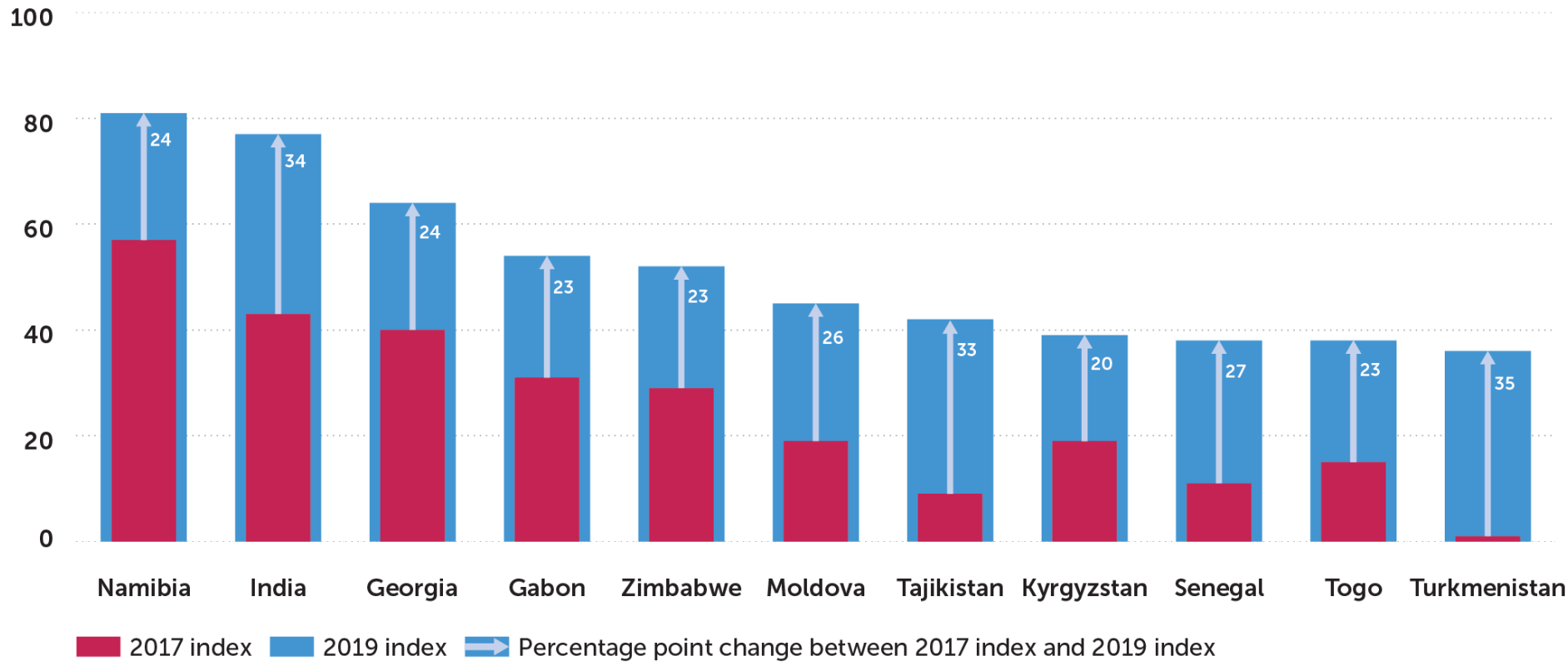
- Almost **60 countries** across all regions recorded major progress – although only two in MENA.
- Only **Yemen** scored significantly worse than in 2017.

Progress on multiple fronts

- Often due to financial inclusion.
- Globally, legal reforms drove many of the biggest movers.
- The number of battle deaths from organized violence fell.

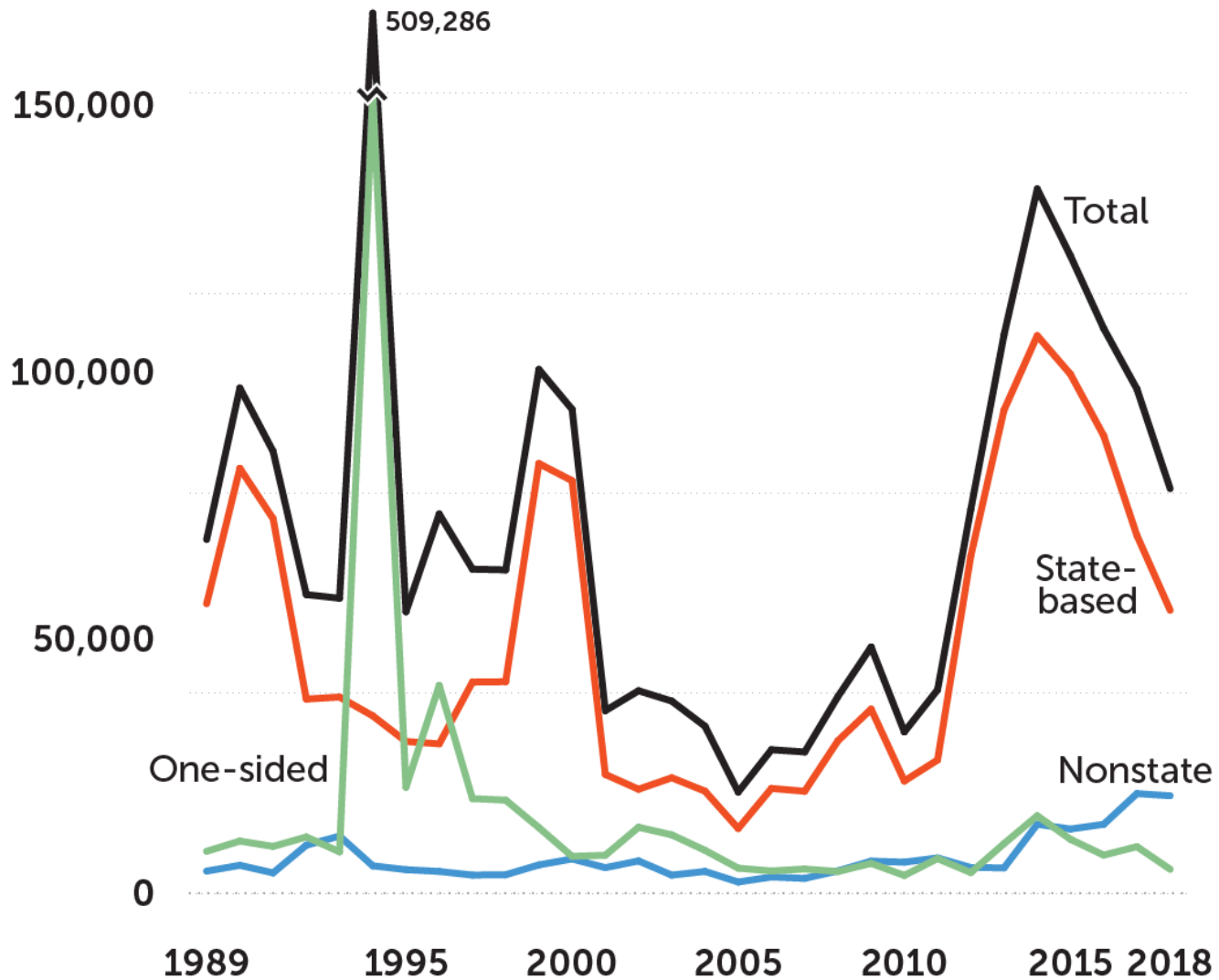
Top 10 gainers in women's financial inclusion since the 2017 WPS Index

Percent of women with financial account



Total battle deaths have declined globally since the 2012–14 peak

Number of battle deaths

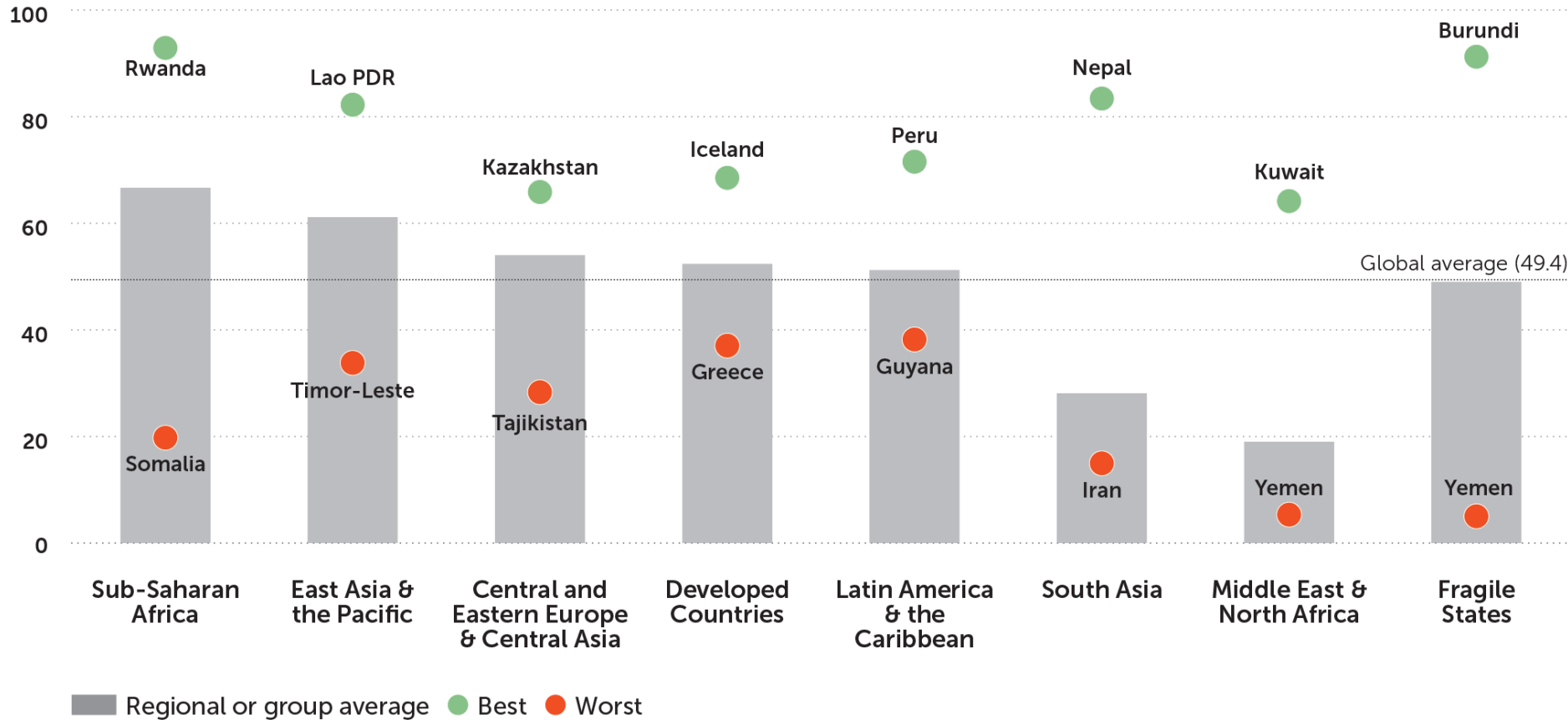


Yet progress is too slow and uneven

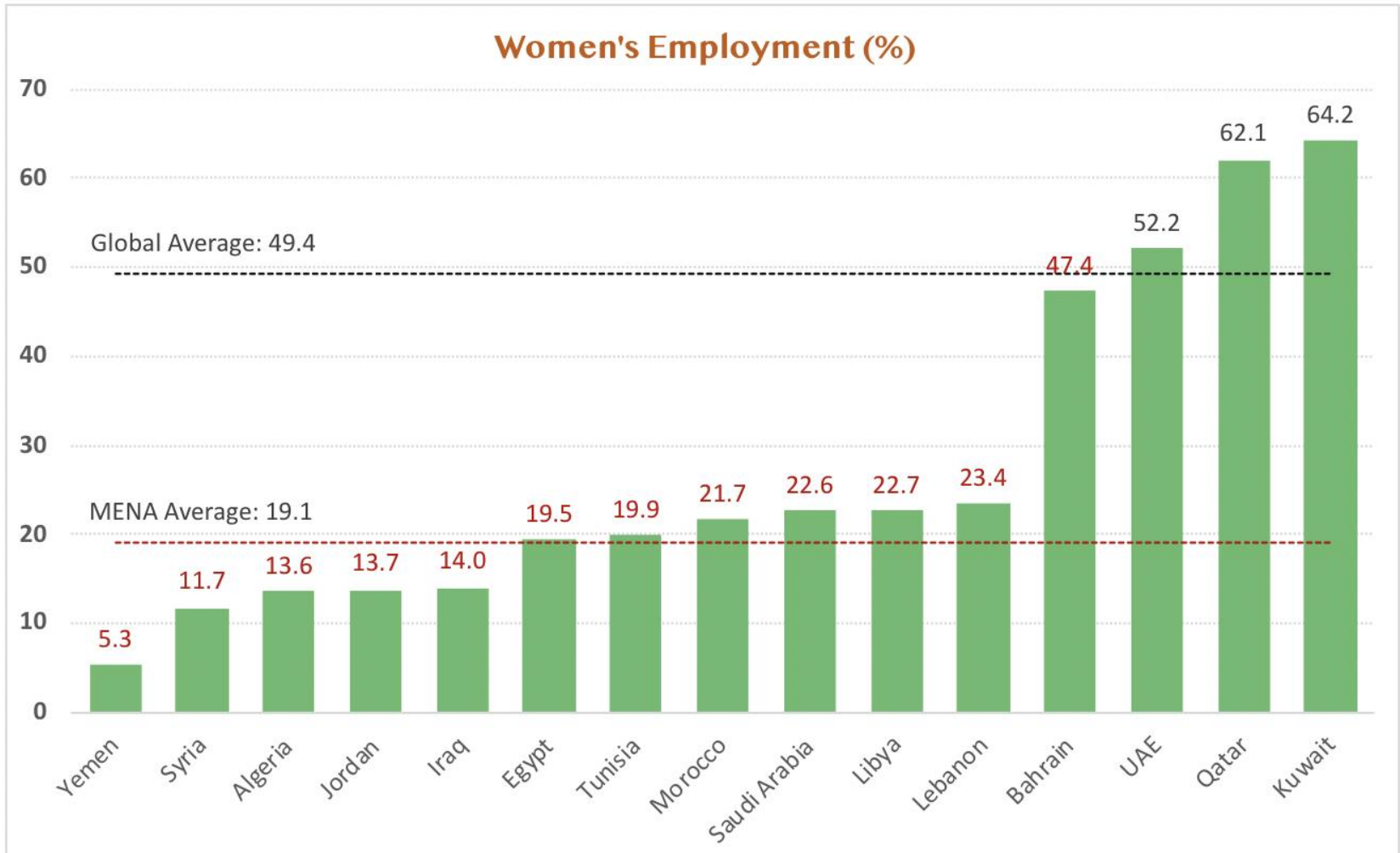
- Women's employment is **moving in the wrong direction globally**; falling in all regions except Sub-Saharan Africa
- Women's **parliamentary representation stalled far below parity**
- Women's financial inclusion remains low **in conflict-affected countries**, at only about 1 in 10; MENA regional rates of women's financial inclusion remain below half the global average

Large differences across regions and countries in women's paid employment

Percent of women employed



The gender gap in paid employment gap averages 60 percentage points in MENA, with 8 of the bottom 10 countries globally

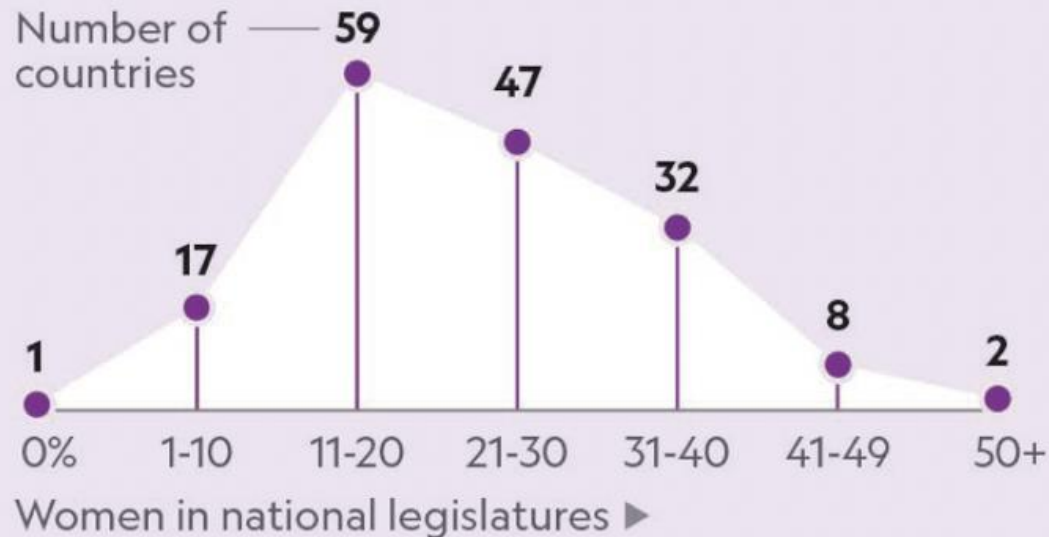


Women's parliamentary representation largely stalled below parity



Representation in government

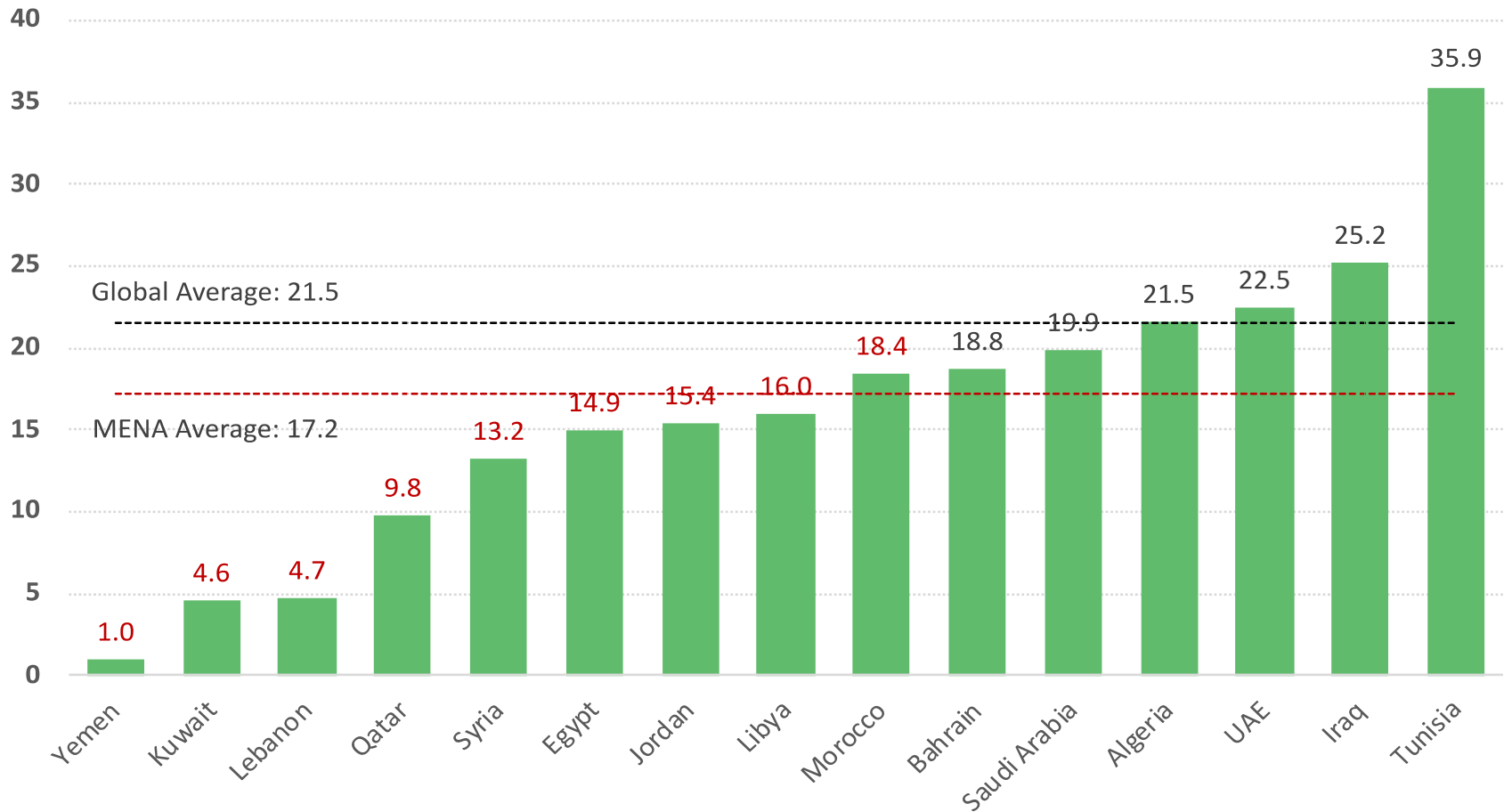
The average share of women in national legislatures is 21.5 percent worldwide. At the current pace, it will take 52 years to reach gender parity.



Source: Berman-Vaporis, Parker, and Wardley, November 2019. Used with permission by National Geographic. Copyright of NGP 2019.

MENA is below global average on women's parliamentary representation -- Tunisia leads the region, at 36 percent, scoring higher than Australia, the Netherlands, and Canada.

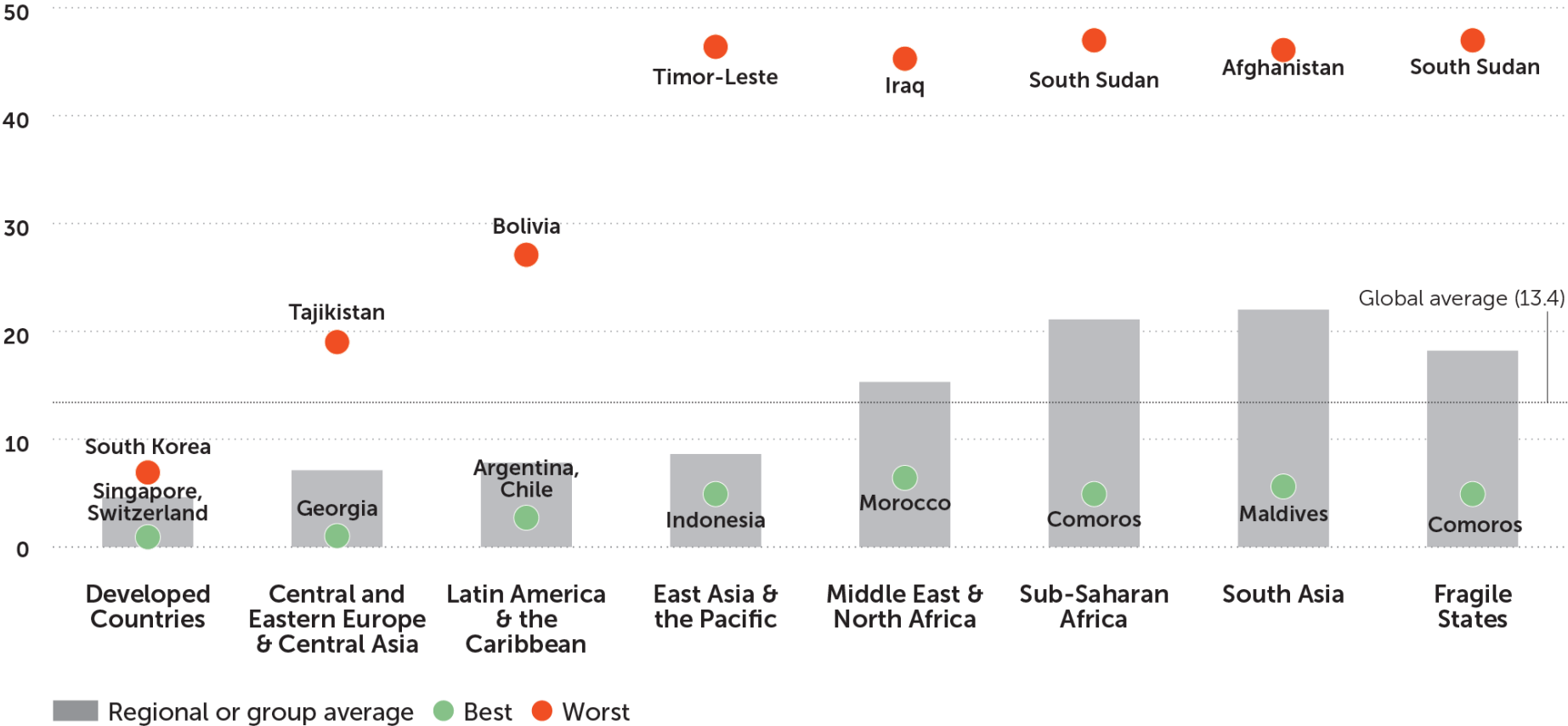
Parliamentary Seats Held by Women (%)

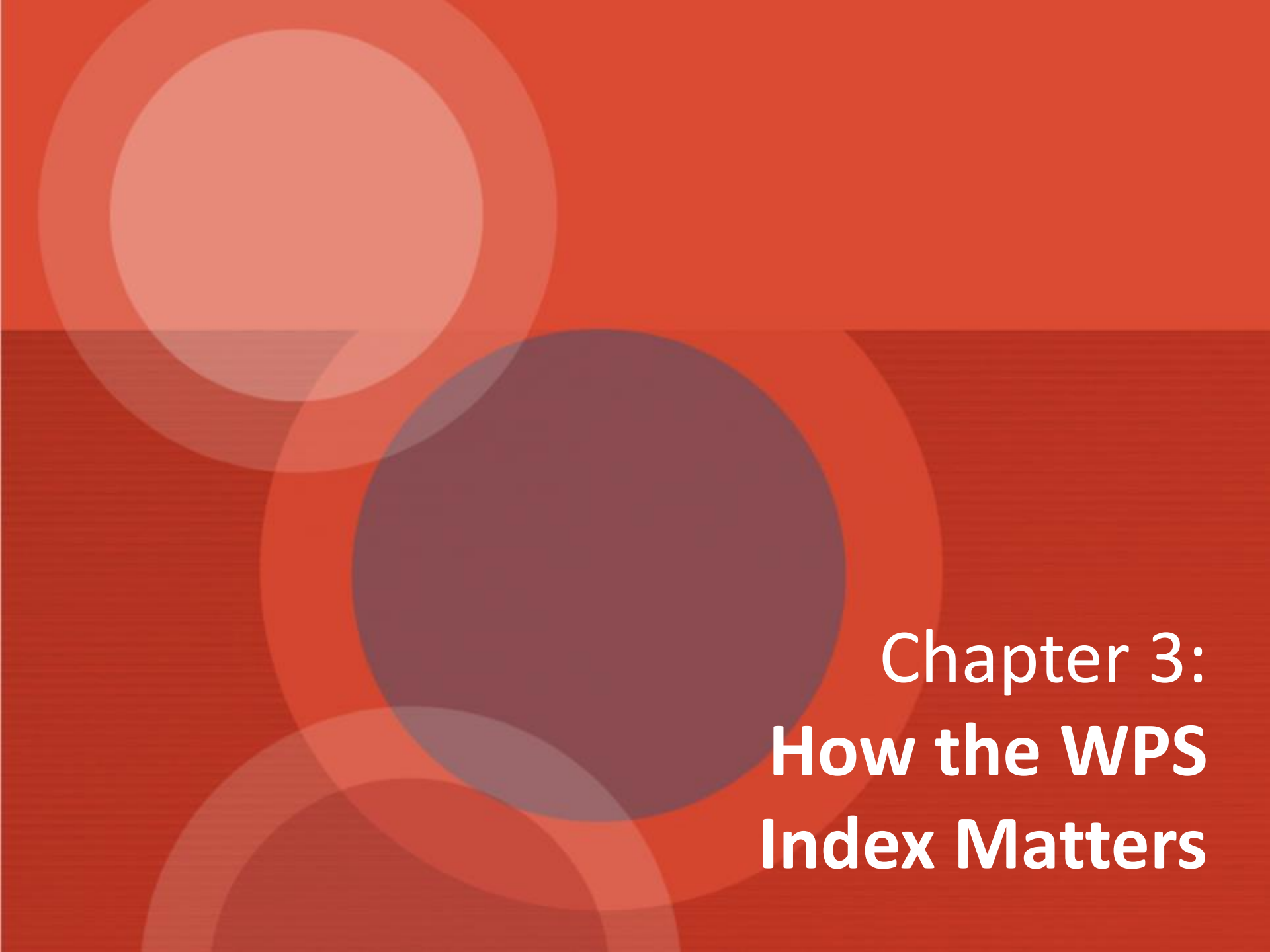


The percentage of seats held by women in lower and upper houses of national parliaments combined.
Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>). Accessed in May 2019.

The worst rates of current intimate partner violence are similar across several developing regions

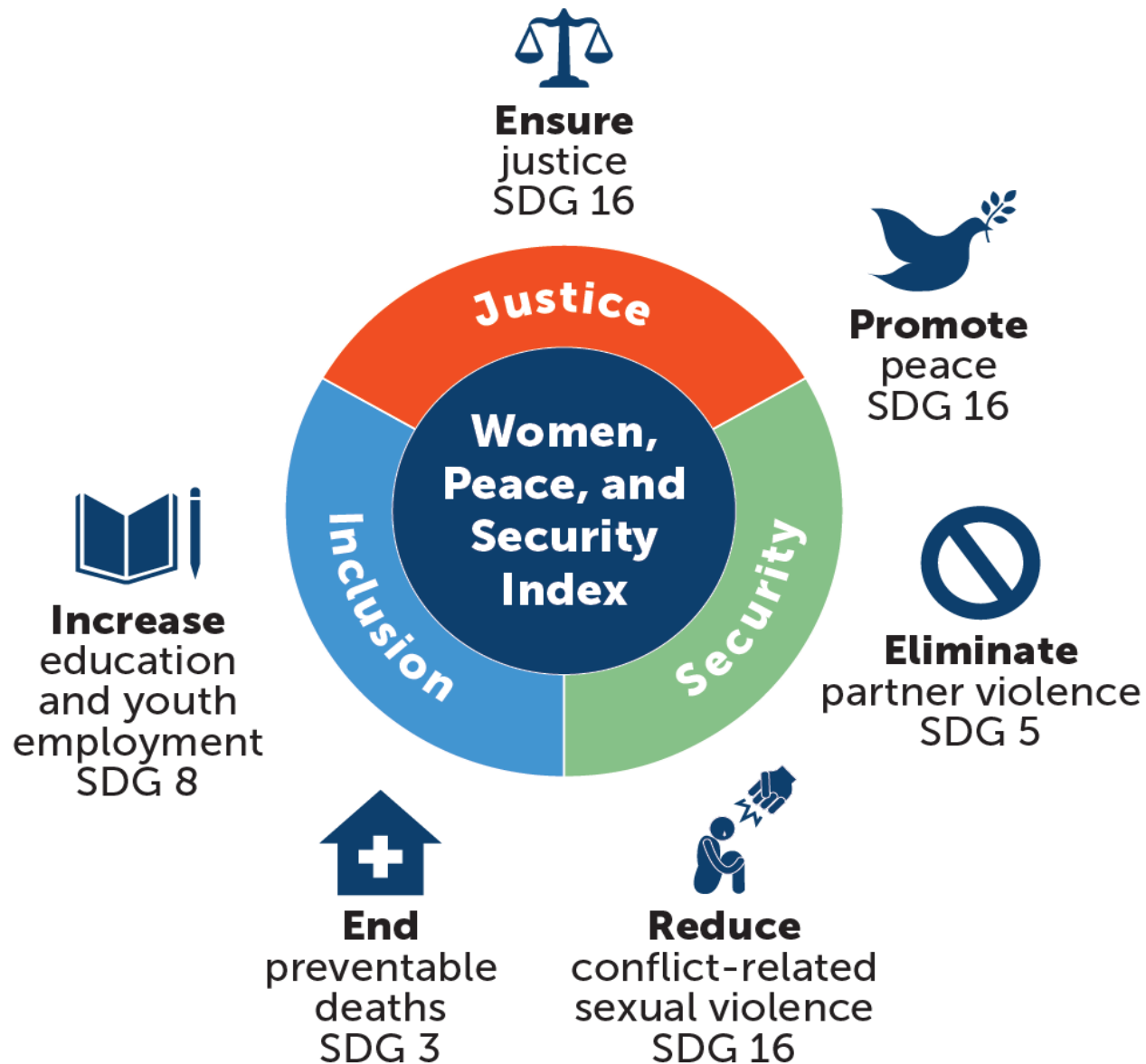
Percent of women





Chapter 3:
**How the WPS
Index Matters**

How the WPS Index intersects with broader aspects of the SDGs



As a spur to action



Source: Authors.

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Resources and Looking Ahead



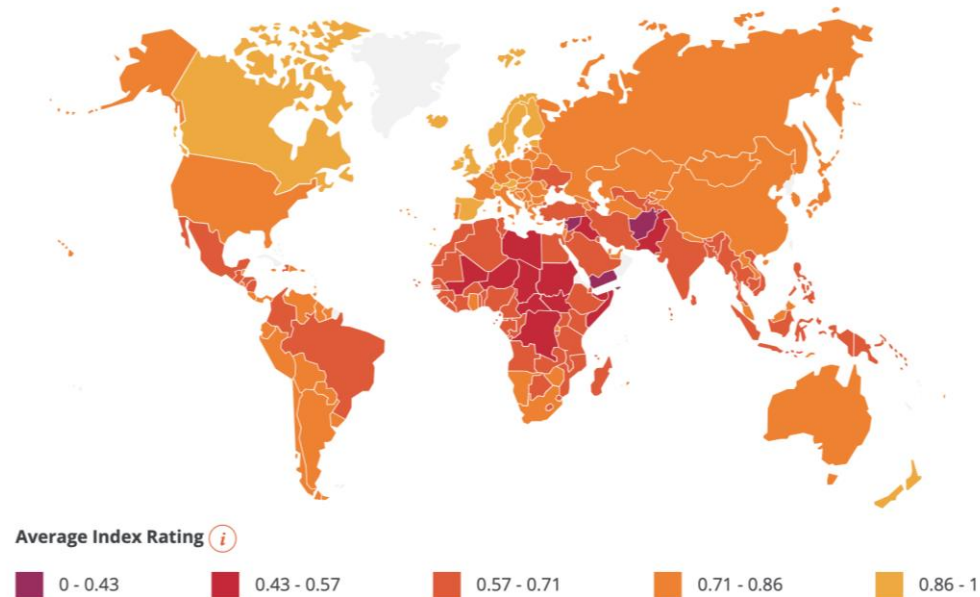
Women, Peace and Security Index:
A Tool for Accelerating Gender Equality



Explore by Country

Hover over a country and click to explore more.

Choose a Country 



giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index