



COMPETITION
ANTI-CORRUPTION
FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
CONSUMER PROTECTION
LAWS

Arab Business Legislative Frameworks

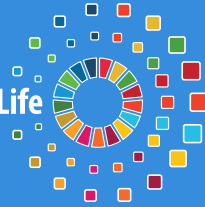


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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

ARAB BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS

22 Country Profiles



UNITED NATIONS
Beirut

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United Nations publication issued by ESCWA, United Nations House, Riad El Solh Square, P.O. Box: 11-8575, Beirut, Lebanon.

Website: www.unescwa.org.

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Country Profile

ALGERIA



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Summary



Algeria's legal system is based on a combination of French civil law and Islamic sharia.

Competition



- Algeria first established a **COMPETITION LAW** in **1995**, with **Order No. 95-06**, which was **replaced** in **2003** with **Order No. 03-03**, and **amended** and **expanded** in **2008** (Law No. 12-08) and **2010** (Law No. 05-10). **Order No. 59-75 of 1975**, known as the **Commercial Law**, is **still in effect**;
- However, **ALGERIA'S COMPETITION COUNCIL ACTIVITIES** were **suspended** from 2003 to 2013, and state-owned enterprises still have a **massive dominance** over the economy;
- **DEFINITIONS AND PROVISIONS** within the competition law **have many ambiguities**, including making **no distinction** between state-owned and private enterprises, and, in fact, giving **preferential treatment** to the former.

Foreign Direct Investment



- **LAW NO. 16-09 OF 2016** is the **key up-to-date legislation** related to investment. Since its establishment, the law has been **amended** and **expanded** by **Order No. 196-16 of 2016** (on enforcement of investment; **Order No. 17-100 of 2017** (on amending rules for the Investment Agency); **Order No. 17-105** (on implementing components of investment); and most recently, **Order No. 19-166** (on establishing a **National Committee on Investment**);
- Most recently, the **ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT** was reportedly **seeking to end a rule** that **caps foreign ownership** of a company at 49 per cent, versus 51 per cent for a local investor.



Anti-Corruption



- Algeria has **SEVERAL LEGISLATIONS ON ANTI-CORRUPTION**, including, but not limited to, **Order No. 05-10 of 2010 (on Combating Corruption)**; **Law No. 01-05 of 2005 (on Money Laundering and Combating Terrorism)**; **Order No. 66-155 of 2007 (on the penal code)**; and **Order No. 6-413 (on establishing the National Committee on Combating and Preventing Corruption)**;
- The Algerian Government is currently planning to **STRENGTHEN AND UPDATE ITS CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** to **strengthen the independence and enforcement of anti-corruption legislation** by the judiciary.
- **ALGERIAN LEGISLATION** also **protects whistleblowers**.

Consumer Protection



- Algeria established a **CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW IN 2019**, with **Law No. 18-09**;
- Algeria also has a **NATIONAL ACTION PLAN** that explicitly **promotes sustainable consumption and production**, known as the **42 Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Basic
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Basic




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Basic
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION		DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Developed	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Very Strong	
Digital Government	Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		STRONG
Physical Safety Regulations	Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	Very Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	Very Strong	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	Moderate	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Developed
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong



Country Profile

BAHRAIN



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Summary



Bahrain's legal system is an amalgamation of sharia, the main source of legislation, and English common law.

Competition



- Bahrain established **LAW NO. 31 OF 2018** on **Competition Promotion and Protection**;
- Bahrain is a **REGIONAL LEADER** in terms of **clearer legislative definitions of competition, anti-competitive agreements, and dominance**, in addition to the **ability to enforce the law**;
- However, **THERE REMAINS KEY SECTORS** that are **not liberalized** or **allow for competition intervention**, particularly **natural resources, real estate** and other sectors that involve **state companies**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Bahrain is still in the **PROCESS OF CREATING** a **streamlined** and **unified law** to govern **FDI** into the country;
- So far, Bahrain relies on its **COMMERCIAL COMPANIES LAW**, first established with **Decree No. 21 of 2001** and updated and amended with **Law No. 50 of 2014**;
- **DESPITE THE LACK OF ANY FDI LAW**, there are **many routes for foreign investors** to **engage in commercial activities** in Bahrain, after approval from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. However, **real estate, press and publishing, land transportation** and other sectors are **limited to Bahraini nationals** only.



Anti-Corruption



- Bahrain **DOES NOT HAVE A SINGULAR ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW**; rather, it has a **framework** and relies on its **penal code** (Law No. 15 of 1976, amended and updated over the years). The penal code specifically **criminalizes active and passive forms of bribery, abuses of power, money laundering and embezzlement**;
- Moreover, Bahrain utilizes **LAW NO. 32 OF 2010 on Financial Transparency and Legislative Decree** and **Law No. 4 of 2001** concerning the **Prohibition and Combating Money Laundering**, as part of its overarching **anti-corruption framework**;
- Bahrain has also **SIGNED AND RATIFIED** the **United Nations Convention against Corruption**;
- **GAPS** appear in terms of **poor enforcement** and holding **senior officials accountable**.

Consumer Protection



- Bahrain established **LAW NO. 35 OF 2012** on **Consumer Protection**;
- Because of that law, Bahrain is **THE ONLY GCC COUNTRY** that has **exemptions** applying to the **military, medical and health products** licensed by the **Ministry of Health**, and **freelancers' services**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws ● Developed

Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws ● Strong

Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements ● Strong

Competition Enforcement Practices ● Strong

International Trade Agreements ● Developed

Liberalisation and Competition Intervention
in Regulated Sectors ● Moderate

Merger Regulatory Regime ● Developed

Labor Protection ● Moderate



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **BASIC**

Banking Regulations ● Very Strong


Macroeconomic Policies ● Basic

Investment Regulatory Framework ● Basic

Incentivisation Schemes ● Basic

Bi-lateral Treaties ● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Developed	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Strong	
Digital Government	● Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	● Moderate	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	● Moderate	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Developed	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Basic	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



Country Profile

COMOROS



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Summary



The Comoros has a mixed legal system of Islamic sharia, civil law inherited from the French Civil Code, and customary law.

Competition



- Comoros has a **COMPETITION LAW, No. 13-014/AU**;
- However, the law **DOES NOT PROVIDE CLEAR DEFINITIONS** of **anti-competitive behaviour**, nor any **coherent methods** of **tackling monopolistic behaviour**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Comoros adopted a **NEW INVESTMENT LAW, Law No. 07-010 of 31 August 2007**. A **reform** is being **prepared**, but has not yet been approved;
- **SPECIAL FDI PROCEDURES**, including **enforcement** and **institutions to approve** and manage FDI, are **not clearly defined** and provided for in the law;
- The law **LACKS CLEAR DEFINITIONS** related to FDI, as well as **clear restrictions and/or requirements** for **foreign investors** to invest in specific sectors.



Anti-Corruption



- The **COMOROS ANTI-CORRUPTION RULES** are provided in **Law No. 08-013 (Transparency of Public, Economic, Financial and Social Activities)**, **Law No. 082 P/A.F** (penal law), and **Law No. 11-027/AU** (Public Markets and Delegation of Public Services);
- The law **LACKS A CLEAR DEFINITION OF CORRUPTION** and related concepts, or any specific procedures to **tackle corruption**;
- An **OFFICIAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BODY** is **created by the law**. However, it is **not an independent body**.

Consumer Protection



- Comoros has **LAW NO. 95-013** on **Public Health and Wellbeing of the Population**;
- This law is **STILL NOT ENOUGH** to address the **consumer protection** subject and **lacks definitions, procedures, enforcement and specific bodies** and **authorities to handle violations**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Developed
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Very Weak
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Moderate
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Basic
International Trade Agreements	● Developed
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Moderate
Labor Protection	● Developed




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **BASIC**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Moderate
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Weak
Incentivisation Schemes	● Very Weak
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Developed



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● MODERATE
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Developed	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Basic	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Weak	
Digital Government	● Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	● Strong	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● VERY WEAK
Physical Safety Regulations	● Very Weak	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Weak	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Very Weak	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Very Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Basic
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Developed	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak	

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Weak	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Weak	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak	



Country Profile

DJIBOUTI



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Summary



Djibouti has a mixed legal system of Islamic sharia, civil law inherited from the French Civil Code, and customary law.

Competition



- Djibouti has a competition **LAW, NO. 28/AN/08/6EME L**;
- However, **THE LAW DOES NOT PROVIDE clear definitions of anti-competitive behaviour** and other related concepts. **THESE DEFINITIONS** are **PROVIDED** in **treaties signed by Djibouti** under the **Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Djibouti has **INVESTMENT LAWS, No. 88/AN** and **No. 114/AN/01**, that have created the **Agence Nationale pour la Promotion des Investissements (ANPI)**, a national agency to **promote investment**;
- The **procedures for FDI, enforcement, related institutions and restrictions** are **DEFINED IN THE LAW**.



Anti-Corruption



- Djibouti's **ANTI-CORRUPTION RULES** are provided in **Law No. 03/AN/13/7eme L** (preventing and fighting corruption), and **Law No. 59/AN/94** (penal law);
- The **PENAL LAW** provides **definitions of corruption and similar practices**, and the **related sanctions**;
- However, **THE LAW LACKS** clear and **concise procedures to tackle corruption**. It also **lacks a procedure to protect whistleblowers**;
- Djibouti has an **OFFICIAL INDEPENDENT ANTI-CORRUPTION BODY**: **Commission Indépendante Nationale pour la Prévention et Lutte contre la Corruption**.

Consumer Protection




- **CONSUMER PROTECTION PROVISIONS** are mentioned in the **Competition Law No. 28/AN/08/6eme L**;
- This law created a **SPECIAL COMMISSION** to **enforce the consumer protection provisions** and provide the **enforcement mechanisms**;
- The **LAW** is **clear** regarding **consumers' rights**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION


● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong	
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate	
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Moderate	
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Strong	
International Trade Agreements	● Basic	
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate	
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Very Strong	
Labor Protection	● Moderate	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Very Strong	
Macroeconomic Policies	● Moderate	
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Very Strong	
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic	
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Basic	

ANTI-CORRUPTION		● MODERATE
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Moderate	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Moderate	
Digital Government	● Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	● Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	● Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Moderate	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Moderate	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Basic	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Basic	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed



Country Profile

EGYPT



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Summary



Egyptian law is built on an amalgamation of sharia law and the French Code and has a constitution.

Competition



- The **MAIN LEGISLATION GOVERNING COMPETITION** in Egypt is **Law No. 3 of 2005 on Competition and Banning Monopolistic Practices**, which was updated through the Prime Minister's **Decree No. 2957** in 2010;
- The legislation establishes the **EGYPTIAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY**, contains an exhaustive **list defining abusive practices**, and provides a detailed **description of anti-competitive acts** that are **prohibited**;
- However, **THE LAW** also **PROVIDES exemptions for public utilities and enterprises** managed by the state.

Foreign Direct Investment



- **EGYPT UPDATED ITS INVESTMENT LAW** with **Law No. 72 of 2017** and **Decree No. 2310 of 2017**. **Law No. 72 of 2017** simplifies **procedures** and **offers guarantees** and further **incentives for investors**;
- However, **NUMEROUS RESTRICTIONS ARE STILL IN PLACE**, such as particular **professions** that are **banned for foreigners** to work in, **restrictions** on acting as commercial agents, and **prohibition** on land acquisitions (particularly in the Sinai Peninsula).



Anti-Corruption



- Egypt does not have a singular streamlined anti-corruption legislation; rather, it utilizes a **WEB OF LAWS** to **tackle corruption**. These include **Law No. 97 of 2015** that amended and updated the **Illicit Gain Law of 1975**; **Law No. 80 of 2002** on Money Laundering; **Law No. 106 of 2013** on Prohibiting Conflict of Interest for Public Officials; **Law No. 182 of 2018** on Public Procurement; **Decree No. 2890 of 2010** on establishing the National Committee on Fighting Corruption; and provisions of its penal code that outlaw forms of bribery;
- Egypt also has **SEVERAL AGENCIES** concerned with **FIGHTING CORRUPTION**, including but not limited to the **Administrative Control Agency**; the **Public Prosecutor**; the **Accountability State Authority**; the **Department of Illicit Gain** within the Ministry of Justice; and the **Directorial General for Combating Financial Crimes** within the Ministry of Interior;
- Yet, there are **CONSIDERABLE CHALLENGES** related to implementation that arise from the **jurisdiction** and **duplications** of these various agencies and legislations.

Consumer Protection



- Egypt established an **EXPLICIT CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW** in 2018, with **Law No. 181**. The law notably provides **protection from unsafe products**, **mandates the provision of more information** to consumers and other forms of transparency, **explains provisions** related to e-commerce and real estate, and **establishes the roles and responsibilities of the Consumer Protection Authority**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Developed
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Weak

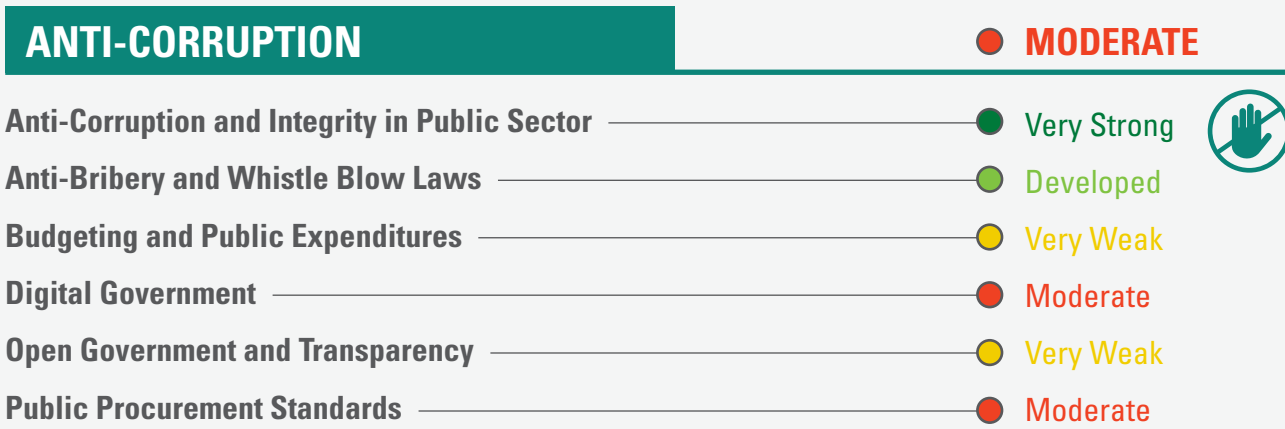


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Very Strong
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Very Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Weak





Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



- Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Strong
- Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Developed
- Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Basic
- International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Very Weak
- Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Very Strong
- Exemptions ● Very Strong
- Accessibility/Transparency ● Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



- Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Moderate
- Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Strong
- Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Strong
- International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Weak
- Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Basic
- Exemptions ● Very Weak
- Accessibility/Transparency ● Strong



BUSINESS ROYALS
Business Royals of London

BUSINESS ROYALS
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تاریخ الإنتاج
تاریخ الاستهلاك
1421 هـ / 2000 م
1422 هـ / 2001 م
1423 هـ / 2002 م
1424 هـ / 2003 م
1425 هـ / 2004 م

Country Profile

IRAQ



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Summary



The legal system in Iraq is a mix of laws inspired by Egyptian and French systems and laws created by the Coalition Provisional Authority. Iraq is a civil law country with a constitution, while certain aspects of personal status are handled in religious courts.

Competition



- Iraq established a **LAW IN 2010** that explicitly **governs competition**, known as **Law No. 14 on Competition and Monopoly Prevention**;
- Iraq is a **LEADER IN THE MASHREQ SUB-REGION** for having clear and **concise definitions** in relation to **competition**;
- Even though Iraq has very strong legislation, **IT HAS YET TO FORM** and empower **a competition authority** to comprehensively **implement its legislations**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Iraq established **LAW NO. 13 OF 2006** that **amended** and **updated** its **Investment Law**. The Republic also **updated** its **Company Law with Law No. 21 of 2004**;
- To that effect, Iraq has a developed **FDI LEGISLATION SYSTEM**, which includes **legislations, enforcement processes**, and **institutions** to **approve, assess** and **control foreign investments** into the country;
- Iraq **RESTRICTS FDI IN CERTAIN SECTORS**, particularly the **transportation and finance sectors**.



Anti-Corruption



- Iraq's **MAIN ANTI-CORRUPTION LEGISLATION** is the **Accountability Act, Law No. 10 of 2008**. Other forms of corruption and criminal behaviour are covered in **Law No. 39 of 2015 on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism**, and the **Iraqi Criminal Procedure Code**, among others. Moreover, **Law No. 30 of 2011** establishes an **Integrity Committee to monitor and assess the laws**;
- Yet, the Iraqi Government has **NOT BEEN ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THE LEGISLATION** due to **internal conflicts** on responsibilities, **poor transparency, unclear regulatory processes** and **weak investigatory powers**;
- Exemptions undermine **IRAQ LEGISLATIVE CAPABILITIES**, particularly in **tackling corruption**. For example, Iraq's **public procurement standards** contain **exemptions for entities** linked to the **Government** and **senior officials**, and articles within the Iraqi Criminal Code allow ministers to **exempt ministry officials** from workplace accountability.

Consumer Protection



- Iraq has **TWO LAWS RELATED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION**: **Law No. 1 of 2010 on Consumer Protection** and **Law No. 14 of 2010 on Competition and Monopoly Prevention**, which notes certain rights and privileges owed to consumers;
- There **REMAIN MASSIVE GAPS** related to **equipping consumer protection bodies** with the power to **implement and enforce the legislation**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Basic
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Weak
Labor Protection	● Developed

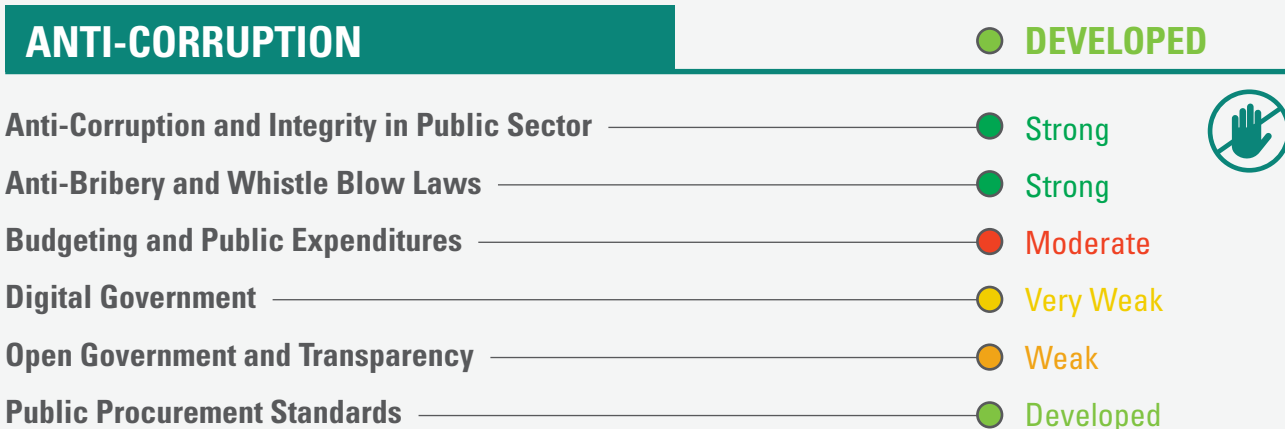


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Very Strong
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Moderate
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Strong





Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Strong
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Developed
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic



Country Profile

JORDAN



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Summary



The Jordanian legal system is influenced by Ottoman and British law, and the country has a constitution. The laws on personal status are heavily influenced by sharia jurisprudence, while there are civil and criminal courts to deal with other matters.

Competition



- Jordan has a **COMPETITION LAW**, known as **Law No. 33 of 2004**;
- Jordanian **ECONOMY AND SECTORS** are **highly liberalized**;
- Nevertheless, Jordan **LACKS CLARITY ON KEY CONCEPTS** related to **competition**. For example, Jordan's competition law does not explicitly outlaw monopolies, but it does outlaw certain **monopolistic practices**. At the same time, **Article 5 of the Jordanian competition law** includes **cartels** as part of an example of **anti-competitive practices** but **lacks a clear definition** of what constitutes a cartel.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Jordan is a **REGIONAL LEADER** in terms of its **legislative frameworks** for FDI. The Kingdom first passed an **investment law** in 1995, which it **amended** in **1998** and **2000**, and most recently **updated** in **2014** (Law No. 30 of 2014);
- The **JORDANIAN INVESTMENT LAW** is a **comprehensive document** that rigorously explores **trade incentives** and advantages within and outside of free trade zones and outlines the **Investment Commission** and its responsibilities, overarching **general procedures**, and **general provisions** that cover the rights of **non-Jordanian investors**;
- Moreover, Jordan has **“very strong”** components in its **banking regulations** to **ease** and entice further **FDI** into the **resource-strapped country**.



Anti-Corruption



- Jordan has an **ARRAY OF LEGISLATION** that tackles **ANTI-CORRUPTION** and similar practices. As early as 1993, Jordan enacted **Law No. 11 on Economic Crimes**. Since then, Jordan passed **Law No. 54 of 2006 on Financial Disclosures**; **Law No. 46 of 2007 on Money Laundering**; **Law No. 62 of 2014 on Whistleblower Protection**; and **Law No. 13 of 2016 on Integrity and Anti-Corruption**, which was **updated and amended in 2019**.

Consumer Protection



- Jordan established **LAW NO. 7 OF 2017** on **consumer protection**;
- In effect, Jordan matches **INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES** by clearly **outlining institutions** that **protect consumers**;
- Jordan is a **RARE EXCEPTION AMONG THE ARAB STATES** to include the **concept of sustainable consumption** within its legal frameworks to support its **National Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws ● Developed

Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws ● Moderate

Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements ● Developed

Competition Enforcement Practices ● Developed

International Trade Agreements ● Basic

Liberalisation and Competition Intervention
in Regulated Sectors ● Moderate

Merger Regulatory Regime ● Strong

Labor Protection ● Basic



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **STRONG**

Banking Regulations ● Very Strong


Macroeconomic Policies ● Developed

Investment Regulatory Framework ● Very Strong

Incentivisation Schemes ● Developed

Bi-lateral Treaties ● Developed



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Strong	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Strong	
Digital Government	● Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	● Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● DEVELOPED
Physical Safety Regulations	● Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Very Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Developed	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Basic	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong	

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic



CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Strong
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed





Country Profile

KUWAIT



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Summary



Kuwait's legal system is a combination of French and Egyptian civil law, as well as English common law, with the sharia governing only family law for Muslims.

Competition



- Kuwait has **STRONG CENTRALIZED** and **STREAMLINED COMPETITION LAWS**, such as **Law No. 10 of 2007** concerning **competition** and **Law No. 1 of 2016**, dubbed the **Commerce Law**;
- Kuwait's legislation still has **GAPS** in partially **ADDRESSING ANTITRUST**, **MONOPOLIZATION** and **ANTI-COMPETITIVE AGREEMENTS**. For example, **Law No. 10 of 2007** outlines examples of **anti-competitive behaviour**, but does not explicitly use the term 'cartels';
- Like many other Arab countries, Kuwait still **HESITATES TO FULLY LIBERALIZE ITS REGULATED SECTORS** – most notably the **oil** and **gas sector**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Kuwait is a **REGIONAL LEADER** in terms of **FDI legislation**. Kuwait's FDI laws include **Law No. 8 of 2001** regulating **FDI**, which contains **robust definitions** of the **rights of foreign investors**, and **Law No. 116 of 2013**, which established the **Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA)**;
- The **KDIPA** has **29 ONGOING PROJECTS**, of which **10** are **related to FDI**. Kuwait's FDI process is allegedly open to **scrutiny from multiple stakeholders**.



Anti-Corruption



- Kuwait has **VERY STRONG REGULATIONS related to anti-corruption**, including definitions, laws and decrees, institutions and enforcement mechanisms. Those include **Law No. 2 of 2016 on anti-corruption; Decree No. 24 of 2012** on forming an **Anti-Corruption Authority; Law No. 106 of 2013 on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing**; and a **national anti-corruption strategy**. Moreover, Kuwait has the **promotion and protection of whistleblowers** as part of its national strategy;
- Kuwait has also moved to approve and **INCORPORATE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS**. It actively works with **UNDP** and **UNODC** on instances of non-transparency, resulting in Kuwait having one of the most **transparent systems** in relation to **public procurement**. On its website, **Kuwait's Central Agency for Public Tenders** displays **information about open tenders**, giving details on each project and the cost of each tender.

Consumer Protection



- Kuwait established a **CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW, NO. 39**, in **2014**;
- Thanks to that legislation, Kuwait has **STRONG INSTITUTIONAL and ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES** to **support consumer protection**, with **no exemptions** in that regard;
- Kuwait's legislation allows **ROOM FOR REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROCESSES** for an **individual** or **organization** to pursue **consumer rights**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **STRONG**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Developed
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Strong
International Trade Agreements	● Strong
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Developed




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **STRONG**

Banking Regulations	● Very Strong
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Very Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION	● VERY STRONG
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong 
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Strong
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Strong
Digital Government	● Very Strong
Open Government and Transparency	● Strong
Public Procurement Standards	● Strong

CONSUMER PROTECTION	● DEVELOPED
Physical Safety Regulations	● Strong 
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Strong
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Very Strong
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Weak

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong	

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Developed	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong	

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate	
Exemptions	● Very Strong	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong	

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Country Profile

LEBANON



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Summary



Lebanon has a legal system based on and inspired by the French legal code. Lebanon is considered a civil law country with a constitution, while the personal status is governed by the different religious courts.

Competition



- Lebanon currently has **NO COMPETITION LAW** relying instead on other **legislation to govern modes of competition**, such as the **archaic Commercial Code and Penal Code**;
- Because of the **LACK OF ANY COMPETITION LAW**, there are **neither clear definitions of anti-competitive behaviour nor coherent methods of tackling monopolistic behaviour**;
- A **DRAFT COMPETITION LAW** has been **pending** for over a decade.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Lebanon developed **LAW NO. 360 OF 2001**, known as the **Investment Law**;
- To that effect, Lebanon has developed **FDI LEGISLATION SYSTEM**, which includes **legislations, enforcement processes** and institutions to **approve, assess and manage foreign investments** into the country;
- However, the **FDI LEGISLATION** still **LACKS SOME CLEAR and CONCISE DEFINITIONS**. In addition, there are **restrictions on FDI** in certain sectors, such as the fields of **military and security**, the **media, banking, telecommunications, energy, real estate** and **public utilities sectors**, to name a few.



Anti-Corruption



- Lebanon **DOES NOT HAVE A STANDARDIZED ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW**; a **draft law** is currently pending;
- Lebanon currently relies on a **MIX OF OTHER LEGISLATION** to **TACKLE CORRUPTION**, such as **Law No. 154 of 1999** (The Illicit Wealth Law); **Law No. 318 of 2001** (on fighting money laundering); **Law No. 44 of 2015** (on money laundering and terrorist financing); and **Law No.83 of 2018** (on whistleblower protection);
- The Lebanese Government **HAS NOT YET FORMED AN OFFICIAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BODY** that is **independent** and **authorized** with the **powers to monitor, asses** and **enforce** the **legislations**.

Consumer Protection



- Lebanon has a **CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW, No. 658 of 2005**, which was **amended** and **updated** in **2012** and **2014**;
- Thanks to that law, there is a **CONSUMER PROTECTION AUTHORITY** within the **Ministry of Economy and Trade** that is **authorized** to **handle complaints** and **tackle violations**;
- **THERE REMAIN MAJOR GAPS** in terms of coherent and **consistent definitions** related to **consumer protection**, and a **major gap** in terms of **robust implementation** and **enforcement of the laws**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **WEAK**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Weak
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Very Weak
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Weak
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Weak
International Trade Agreements	● Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● No Score
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Basic
Labor Protection	● Basic

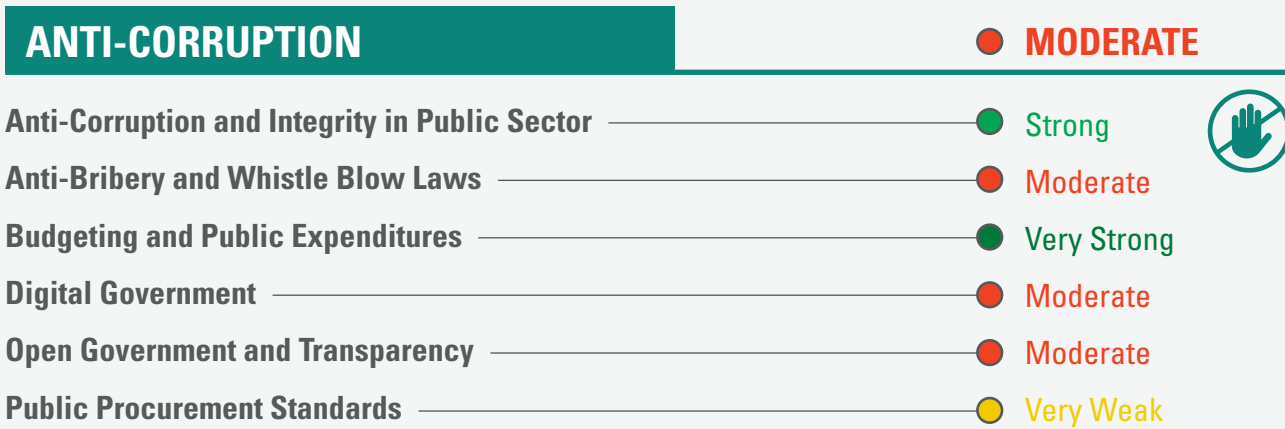


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Strong
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Developed





Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Weak
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Weak
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● No Score
Exemptions	● Moderate
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Basic	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate	
Exemptions	● No Score	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate	
Exemptions	● Very Strong	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed	



Country Profile

LIBYA



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Summary



Libya's legal system has been influenced by Ottoman, French, Italian and Egyptian laws, and has heavily incorporated sharia law.

Competition



- Libya **DOES NOT HAVE A FORMAL COMPETITION LAW**;
- **LAW NO. 23 OF 2010** regarding commercial activities is the **only law available** that manages all commercial activities within and outside the country, whether by persons or entities. The law also allows for the **establishment of a Competition Council**, notes **general prohibitions** of certain commercial activities and **illegal competitive acts**, and provides a **general measure** for a controlling or dominant position.

Foreign Direct Investment



- **LAW NO. 9 OF 2010** on **Investment Promotion**, **Law No. 9 of 2000** regarding **Transit and Free Zones** and **Law No. 23 of 2010** on **Commercial Activities** are the main legislations to **govern FDI** in Libya;
- However, **CONFLICT AND INSTABILITY**, a **weak centralized government**, continued **strong presence** of **state-owned enterprises**, and **ineffective institutions** and **enforcement capabilities** have **limited the strength** of the legislation in Libya.



Anti-Corruption



- Libya **LACKS A GENERAL ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW**. Consequently, Libya relies on its **Criminal Code and other legislations**, such as **Law No. 2 of 1979 on Economic Crimes**, **Law No. 3 of 1986 on Illicit Wealth**, and **Law No. 11 of 2014 on Establishing a National Authority to Fight Corruption**;
- However, much of Libya's **LEGISLATIONS ARE UNCLEAR** on **implementation and enforcement mechanisms**.

Consumer Protection



- Libya **DOES NOT HAVE A FORMAL CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW**. A **draft law**, created in **2017**, is still **pending**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Developed
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Developed
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Strong
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Basic
Labor Protection	● Weak



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● N/A
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	●	N/A
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	●	N/A
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	●	N/A
Digital Government	●	N/A
Open Government and Transparency	●	N/A
Public Procurement Standards	●	N/A



CONSUMER PROTECTION		● WEAK
Physical Safety Regulations	●	Moderate
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	●	Moderate
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	●	Very Weak
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	●	Weak



Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Basic
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	●	N/A
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	●	N/A
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	●	N/A
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	●	N/A
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	●	N/A
Exemptions	●	N/A
Accessibility/Transparency	●	N/A

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	●	Very Weak
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	●	Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	●	Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	●	Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	●	Weak
Exemptions	●	Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	●	Weak



Country Profile

MAURITANIA



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Summary



Mauritania's legal system is composed of a combination of French civil law and sharia law.

Competition



- Mauritania is a **REGIONAL LEADER** among LDCs in terms of **competition legislative frameworks**, without having a formal competition law, but rather through its **Law No. 2000-05 of 2000 on commerce**, known as the **Commerce Code**;
- **MAURITANIA'S COMMERCE CODE**, which is particularly **comprehensive** in terms of outlining clear and **concise enforcement** mechanisms to enable and promote competitive behaviour, was updated with **Law No. 2015-032 of 2015**, which **prohibits abuse of dominant position, cartel behaviours** and other **anti-competitive practices**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- FDI was first covered by **MAURITANIA'S COMMERCE CODE**, but a specialized law on FDI was most recently **established in 2012**, with **Law No. 52 on Investment**;
- Within the legislation, there is **NO PROHIBITION OR LIMITING** of **foreign investment**, participation or **control** in any of the sectors of the **Mauritanian economy**.



Anti-Corruption



- Mauritania has most recently established **LAW NO. 14** of 2016 on **anti-corruption**;
- However, Mauritania's **ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW** has extremely **poor definitions of corruption**. The law defines corruption in a few **short paragraphs**, without providing details or nuance. While the law references terms such as "**illicit enrichment**," it does not clearly define them;
- Other legislation that tackles components of corruption include **LAW NO. 54 OF 2007** on **FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY** in the Public Sector, **Law No. 68-066** of 1968 on **Punishment by the State**, and **Law No. 32** of 2018 on **Court of Accounts**, among others.

Consumer Protection



- Mauritania **DOES NOT HAVE A FORMAL CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW**;
- There is a **DRAFT LAW UNDER DISCUSSION** in the **Mauritanian Parliament**, known as **Law No. 007-2020**;
- Until a formal consumer protection law is passed, the country relies on articles within its **COMMERCE CODE** (Law 2000-05) to deal with **consumer protection rights**. However, the Commerce Code **lacks definitions of consumer rights** and other details necessary to **control prices** and **protect consumers**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **STRONG**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Strong
International Trade Agreements	● Developed
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Very Strong
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Very Strong
Labor Protection	● Very Strong




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **BASIC**

Banking Regulations	● Very Weak
Macroeconomic Policies	● Basic
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● WEAK
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Moderate	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Basic	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Weak	
Digital Government	● Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	● Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	● Very Weak	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● N/A
Physical Safety Regulations	● N/A	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● N/A	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● N/A	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● N/A	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Basic	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Basic
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Weak
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● N/A
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● N/A
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● N/A
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● N/A
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● N/A
Exemptions	● N/A
Accessibility/Transparency	● N/A



Country Profile

MOROCCO



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Summary



The legal system in Morocco is shaped by French civil law and a combination of traditions and customs. Morocco adopted a new constitution in 2011 that expanded the legislative sector.

Competition



- **LAW NO. 104-12 OF 2014** on **Freedom of Prices** and **Competition** is the **main legislation** to govern **competitive practices** in Morocco. The law contains **rigorous definitions** of **anti-competitive behaviour** in one single piece of legislation;
- **LAW NO. 20-13 OF 2014** established a **Competition Council** to oversee and implement the legislation. In 2018, the Council received **expanded powers** to carry out **investigations** and **impose sanctions**. Yet, **weaknesses remain** since competition legislation lacks clear definitions of monopolies and the Competition Council is not an autonomous body. This **lack of autonomy** and **transparency jeopardizes the Council's ability to apply the law** on all levels in order to uphold public good over private business interests;
- In addition, Morocco established **LAW NO. 91-14 OF 2016** on **Foreign Trade**, with provisions related to **competition** under this theme.

Foreign Direct Investment



- FDI in Morocco was **FIRST GOVERNED** by its **Law No. 18 of 1995**, titled the **Investment Charter**. Since then, Morocco established **Law No. 19-94** on **Free Zones** and **Law No. 91-14** on **Foreign Trade**. The laws are considered quite **favourable for investors**, with incentives such as **major tax exemptions** and no requirement for prior approval of FDI;
- An **UPDATED VERSION** of the investment **incentive regime** is currently being **planned** by the government;
- **RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP** are only **within the agricultural sectors**.



Anti-Corruption



- Most recently, Morocco adopted **BILL 46-19 OF 2020** on the **National Authority for Probity, Prevention, and the Fight against Corruption**, and a **draft law** is set to **enhance the authority's ability to function**;
- Until a formal law is established, Morocco **RELIES ON A SYSTEM OF LEGISLATION** to **counter corruption**, especially its **Penal Code** that includes many **provisions on bribery**.

Consumer Protection



- Morocco established an **EXPLICIT CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW, No. 31-08 of 2011**;
- Morocco is one of the **FEW ARAB COUNTRIES** with **LEGISLATIONS** that provide a range of **clear definitions** on **corruption activities**, cover new forms of technology, such as **e-commerce**, offer **protection for whistleblowers**, and allow room for consumers to obtain redress, including **regional** and **international processes**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **STRONG**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Strong
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Very Strong
Labor Protection	● Very Strong





FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **BASIC**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Moderate
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Weak
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Very Strong	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Strong	
Digital Government	● Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	● Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	● Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Basic	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Basic	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Strong
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak



OMANI KANJAR, GI

Country Profile

OMAN



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Summary



Oman's legal system includes sharia law and a Basic Law (established by a Royal Decree in 1996), as well as components of a civil code structure. Ultimately, royal decrees form the basis for primary legislation, followed by ministerial decisions.

Competition



- **ROYAL DECREE NO. 67 OF 2014** forms the **basis** for **governing competition**; this has since been amended and updated through **Royal Decree No. 22 of 2018**;
- Complementing Oman's legislation on competition is **ROYAL DECREE NO. 18 OF 2019** governing **commercial companies**;
- However, Oman **EXCLUDES KEY SECTORS**, such as **research** and **development activities**, allowing for the possibility of **monopolistic behaviour** to flourish.

Foreign Direct Investment



- FDI in Oman is governed by **ROYAL DECREE NO. 55 OF 1990 ON TRADE**; **Royal Decree No. 102 of 1994** on **Foreign Investment**; and **Royal Decree No. 56 of 2002** on **Free Trade Zones**. Recently, Oman established **Royal Decree No. 50 of 2019**, which updated the FDI regulations, and **Royal Decree No. 52 of 2019** on **Promulgating the Public Private Partnership Law**;
- The updated FDI law **REMOVES LIMITS** on **foreign ownership** and seeks to open up the market for more **foreign investment**. The legislation still **does not have a clear regulatory framework** and is **so far assessed** on a case-by-case basis through the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.



Anti-Corruption



- Oman **DOES NOT HAVE** a singular explicit law on anti-corruption;
- **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS** in a number of royal decrees address corruption and bribery in various ways. These include **Oman's Penal Code**, which was updated by **Royal Decree No. 7 of 2018**; **Royal Decree No. 120 of 2004 on Civil Service**; **Royal Decree No. 36 of 2008 on Public Tenders**; **Royal Decree No. 111 of 2011 on State Audits**; **Royal Decree No. 112 of 2011 on Protection of Public Funds and Avoidance of Conflict of Interest**; **Royal Decree No. 30 of 2016 on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing**; and **Royal Decree No. 41 of 2016 on Joining Anti-Bribery Conventions**;
- Despite these laws, however, several cabinet members have allegedly had **DIRECT** or **INDIRECT BUSINESS INTERESTS**. In addition, there currently is **no national institution** or body **authorized to receive** and **handle whistleblowing** claims in cases of abuses, which undermines the whistleblower laws.

Consumer Protection



- Oman established its **CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW** through **Royal Decree No. 66 of 2014**;
- The law, however, **MAKES NO MENTION** and **authorizes no bodies to act on complaints**, despite it being **possible to file complaints** with the **Public Authority of Consumer Protection**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws ● Developed

Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws ● Strong

Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements ● Moderate

Competition Enforcement Practices ● Developed

International Trade Agreements ● Basic

Liberalisation and Competition Intervention
in Regulated Sectors ● Moderate

Merger Regulatory Regime ● Strong

Labor Protection ● Basic



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations ● Very Strong

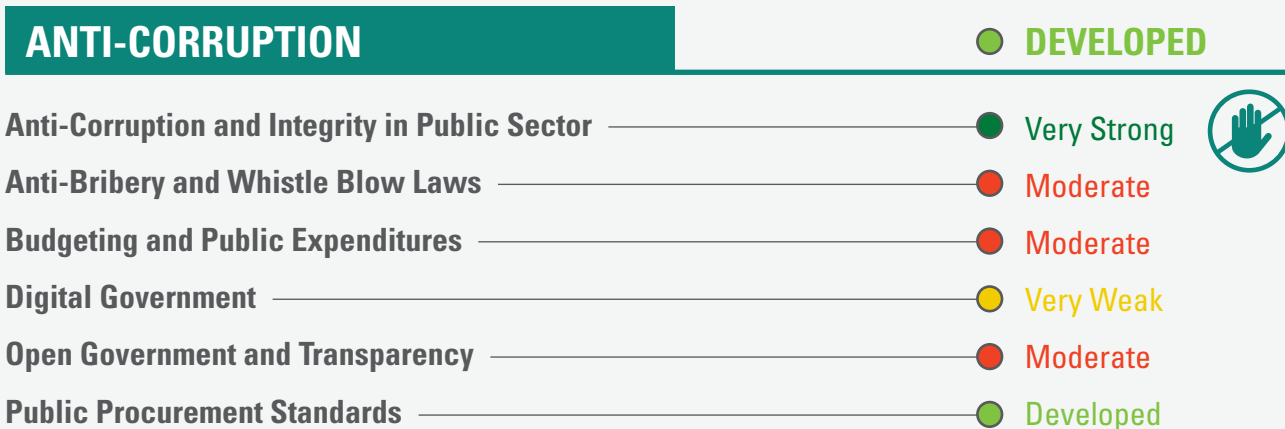
Macroeconomic Policies ● Developed

Investment Regulatory Framework ● Strong

Incentivisation Schemes ● Basic

Bi-lateral Treaties ● Weak





Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Basic
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic



موزع معتمد

معرض
لات والبلد

ميراث

حضارة

الطوخي للطور

شركة
للصناعات
تجديل عمال

المؤسسة الاهلية للتأمين

المنزحة بعصارتة لراس

الدكتور ابراهيم حسن الناطور

DEHJET

مركز

للصناعات
والصيانة

حواء سنتر لتزي السركي

حواء سنتر لتزي الشرعي
بيت الصيانة والجلياب

25

10

25

10

Country Profile

STATE OF PALESTINE



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Summary



The legal system in the State of Palestine includes separate governing systems in Gaza and the West Bank. It is a combination of the Palestinian National Authority's Basic Law, established in 2002, and Egyptian, British and Jordanian legislations.

Competition



- The State of Palestine **HAS NO FORMAL AND STANDARDIZED LAW** to **govern competition**;
- In effect, **COMPETITION REMAINS UNGOVERNED**, especially so due to the **occupation**, that business competition varies between, and even within, Palestinian cities and towns;
- A **DRAFT LEGISLATION** has been **in the works** for over a decade. However, the **lack** of a **unified political government** and the **challenges** of the **Israeli occupation** has made it near impossible to be established and implemented.

Foreign Direct Investment



- The State of Palestine has a robust **FDI LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**, particularly on incentivisation schemes. The State of Palestine's **Law No.1 of 1998** on **investment**, which has been **amended** and **updated** over the course of a decade (notably in 2004, 2011, and 2014), contains **considerable incentives** for **attracting investments** and sets up the **Palestinian investment promotion agency** (as outlined in Article 12 of the 1998 Law).
- Palestine **FALLS BEHIND OVERALL** due to the **restrictions** imposed by **Israel's occupation**, in addition to **dual forms of government** in **Gaza** and the **West Bank**.



Anti-Corruption



- The State of Palestine has established an **ANTI-CORRUPTION LEGISLATION, Law No. 1 of 2005**, concerning **Illegal Gains**, which was **amended** and **updated** in 2010 and 2014;
- **PALESTINIAN ANTI-CORRUPTION LEGISLATION** benefits from **rigorous definitions** and a **newly approved whistleblower law** from October 2019, pushing it into the upper **“Developed” scoring category**. However, the **whistleblower law** is **still new** and it **remains to be seen** whether it will be **enforced** on the ground.

Consumer Protection



- The State of Palestine established **LAW NO. 21 OF 2005** on **consumer protection**;
- **LEGISLATION IN THE STATE OF PALESTINE** is one of the **rare cases allowing room** for **regional** and **international processes** for an individual or an organization to **pursue consumer rights**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● NO SCORE

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws ————— ● No Score

Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws ————— ● No Score

Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements ————— ● No Score

Competition Enforcement Practices ————— ● No Score

International Trade Agreements ————— ● No Score

Liberalisation and Competition Intervention
in Regulated Sectors ————— ● No Score

Merger Regulatory Regime ————— ● No Score

Labor Protection ————— ● No Score



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● MODERATE

Banking Regulations ————— ● Developed


Macroeconomic Policies ————— ● Moderate

Investment Regulatory Framework ————— ● Developed

Incentivisation Schemes ————— ● Strong

Bi-lateral Treaties ————— ● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● BASIC
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Developed	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Weak	
Digital Government	● Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	● Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	● Very Weak	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	● Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Very Strong	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Very Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● No Score

Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● No Score

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● No Score

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● No Score

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● No Score

Exemptions ● No Score

Accessibility/Transparency ● No Score



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Basic

Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Developed

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Strong

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Basic

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Moderate

Exemptions ● Very Strong

Accessibility/Transparency ● Moderate



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Weak
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Moderate
Exemptions	Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Very Weak
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Basic
Exemptions	Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	Strong



Country Profile

QATAR



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Summary



Qatar's legal system is a mix of sharia law, civil law and international law.

Competition



- Qatar established **LAW NO. 19 OF 2006** on **Competition Protection and Anti-Monopolistic Practices**;
- Qatar is a **REGIONAL LEADER** in terms of the components within its competition legislation that matches **international standards**;
- Qatar still **HESITATES TO LIBERALIZE** key **regulated sectors**, such as **natural resources, the media** and the **security sector**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Qatar first passed **LAW NO. 13 OF 2000** on **Foreign Capital Investment**. Of late, Qatar passed **Law No. 1 of 2019** that **regulates non-Qatari capital investment**;
- Yet, Qatar **STILL LAGS BEHIND** regionally in terms of **matching international standards of banking regulations**;
- **KEY REGULATED SECTORS** remain **off-limit to FDI**.



Anti-Corruption



- Qatar lays out **ROBUST DEFINITIONS OF CORRUPTION AND INTEGRITY** during public procurement in the following laws: **Qatari Penal Code of 2004**; **Civil Service Law No. 1 of 2001**; **Public Procurement Law No. 26 of 2005**; and **Emiri Decree No. 84 of 2007**. These laws **cover corruption-related definitions** and prohibited acts, and **clearly define the monitoring bodies** responsible for **enforcement**;
- Importantly, **QATAR'S PUBLIC PROCUREMENT LAW** includes an **administrative review of procurement** and stipulates that the **state audit must be involved** in the **procurement process**;
- Qatar has incorporated the **UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION against Corruption** into its **national legislation** through **Decree No. 71 of 2007**.

Consumer Protection



- Qatar established **LAW NO. 8 OF 2008** on **consumer protection**;
- Thanks to that legislation, Qatar has **STRONG INSTITUTIONAL AND ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES** to **support consumer protection** and provides **“very strong” measures** to **enable consumers to obtain redress**;
- **JOINING THE REST OF THE GCC COUNTRIES**, Qatar has **limited or no exemptions** within **consumer protection legislation**, thus ensuring its capability to **enforce the legislation appropriately** and consistently.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Basic
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Very Weak
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Developed
Labor Protection	● Developed




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Moderate
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Moderate	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Developed	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Very Strong	
Digital Government	Moderate	
Open Government and Transparency	Strong	
Public Procurement Standards	Strong	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	Moderate	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	Very Strong	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate



CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed





Country Profile

SAUDI ARABIA



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Summary



Saudi Arabia's legal system is heavily shaped by sharia jurisprudence. The sharia is governing most of the legal processes in the country.

Competition



- **COMPETITION IN SAUDI ARABIA** is governed by **Royal Decree No. M25 of 2004**, which has most recently been **updated** by **Royal Decree No. M75 of 2019**;
- The **UPDATED COMPETITION LAW** greatly expands **jurisdictional powers** on **competition**, establishes a **General Authority for Competition**, and has **stronger punishments** for **anti-competitive behaviour**;
- More importantly, the **NEW COMPETITION LAW** provides **greater clarity** on merger processes and approvals (in particular, a longer waiting period for approval). Yet, the law also provides **means** for companies to **seek exemptions** on their anti-competitive behaviour through the **Authority**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- **SAUDI ARABIA'S LEGISLATION** governing FDI is **Royal Decree M1 of 2000**;
- Saudi Arabia **LACKS CLEAR DEFINITIONS** in both of its **laws** governing FDI: **the 1979 Foreign Investment Law** and an update to the law through **Royal Decree No. M1 of 2000**. In both iterations of the legislation, definitions are **rudimentary, lacking elaboration and clarity** as recommended by international standards;
- **DESPITE RECENT STEPS** to **open up the Saudi economy for FDI**, such as **allowing foreigners to invest** in most sectors of the economy (except for essential sectors related to oil and mining, among other services), and waiving the requirement of having a local partner to operate, there is a **lengthy process** for approval and a **stronger drive** for the **Saudization of the economy**. In addition, much of the **enforcement** and mechanisms to resolve commercial disputes remain inadequate.



Anti-Corruption



- Saudi Arabia relies on **OVERLAPPING LAWS** to tackle aspects of **corruption**, such as **Royal Decree No. M128 on Public Tenders and Procurement**; **Royal Decree No. M19 on Commercial Fraud**; **Royal Decree No. M39 on the Regulations for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing**; and, more crucially, **Royal Decree No. M36 on Combating Bribery**;
- **ROYAL DECREE NO. M36** was greatly expanded into the private sector through **Royal Decree No. 4 of 2019**, which also established the **National Anti-Corruption Commission** as the key related governmental agency, as well as the **Control and Investigation Board**;
- However, Saudi law **DOES NOT PROVIDE** an **explicit definition** of **bribery** or **corruption**, nor does it provide **clarity** on formal settlement mechanisms.

Consumer Protection



- As of yet, **THERE ARE NO FORMAL LAWS** in Saudi Arabia that **directly deal** with **consumer protection**. However, a **draft law** is currently **pending** approval.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Strong
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Developed
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Basic
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Developed
Labor Protection	● Basic




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Very Strong
Macroeconomic Policies	● Basic
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Developed
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● STRONG
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Very Strong	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Weak	
Digital Government	● Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	● Very Strong	
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● BASIC
Physical Safety Regulations	● Basic	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Moderate	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Weak	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Basic	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak



Country Profile

SOMALIA



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Summary



Most regions in Somalia apply customary and religious law to govern the functions of society.

Competition



- Somalia **DOES NOT HAVE** a **formal or standardized law** that governs **competition**;
- As an alternative, Somalia relies on a **MIXTURE OF RELIGIOUS AND XEER COURTS** to handle **commerce matters** and **disputes**;
- Of late, the **SOMALI PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION OF 2012** made note of the **rights and duties** in commercial activities that can be extended to form the **foundations** of a **competition law**. However, due to the political and social instability, the Somali state is still **unable to adequately implement** and **enforce legislation**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Somalia first established **LAW NO. 19 OF 1987** on foreign investment that still provides the **core components** used to **govern FDI**; the law was further **updated** in **2015**;
- In terms of **ATTRACTING NEW INVESTMENT**, the Somali Government passed **Law No. 130 of 2012** regarding **financial institutions**, and there are **no limits** to foreign control of assets. The **Ministry of Commerce** has launched a **one-stop shop business registration website**;
- Yet, the ongoing **POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY** is a **major barrier** to **entice international investors**.



Anti-Corruption



- Somalia has not had an explicit **ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW** until **late 2019**, when a **draft bill** was signed into law by the **Somali president**. Yet, the details of the law and its impact are still **too early to assess**;
- Prior to the enactment of the new law, **CORRUPTION WAS TACKLED** through **Somalia's Penal Code of 1962** its **Public Procurement, Concession and Disposal Act** of 2015 (updated in 2016), and its **Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act** of 2016;
- **THERE REMAIN HIGH CONCERNS** about the authorities' **ability to enact** these **legislations** throughout the country.

Consumer Protection



- Somalia **DOES NOT HAVE** a **consumer protection law**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **VERY WEAK**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Weak
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Very Weak
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Weak
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Very Weak
International Trade Agreements	● Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● No Score
Merger Regulatory Regime	● No Score
Labor Protection	● No Score




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Basic
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Developed



ANTI-CORRUPTION		BASIC
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Moderate	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Weak	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Moderate	
Digital Government	Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		NO SCORE
Physical Safety Regulations	No Score	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	No Score	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	No Score	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	No Score	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● No Score

Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● No Score

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● No Score

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Basic

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● No Score

Exemptions ● Basic

Accessibility/Transparency ● No Score



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Moderate

Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Moderate

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Very Strong

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Basic

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Moderate

Exemptions ● Very Weak

Accessibility/Transparency ● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Moderate
Exemptions	Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	Very Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	No Score
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	No Score
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	No Score
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	No Score
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	No Score
Exemptions	No Score
Accessibility/Transparency	No Score



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Country Profile

SUDAN



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Summary



Sudan's legal system is a combination of sharia law, English common law and Egyptian civil code, as well as informal customary tribal courts.

Competition



- Sudan established **LAW NO. 7 OF 2009** on **Competition Protection and Antitrust**, which also established the **Competition and Prevention of Monopoly Practices Council** in 2013;
- Yet **CONFLICTS**, **political instability**, **sanctions**, and a large **informal sector** of commercial activities, among other structural issues, have **weakened** the ability of **Sudan's competition legislation** to be enacted and implemented.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Sudan first established the **INVESTMENT ENCOURAGEMENT ACT** in **1996**, and **updated** it in **1999**, **2003**, and most recently in **2013**. The authorized body to **oversee the legislation** is the **Ministry of Investment**;
- With the **LIFTING OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS** by the **United States** in 2017 and Sudan's removal from the list of states sponsoring terrorism in December 2020, further **progress on FDI** is expected to **soon occur** at the material and legislative levels.



Anti-Corruption



- Sudan established **LAW NO. 8 OF 2016** to explicitly **tackle corruption**. Prior to this law, Sudan relied on its **1991 Criminal Procedures Law**;
- Moreover, Sudan established a **FREEDOM OF ACCESS to Information Law** in 2015;
- However, due to the **ONGOING POLITICAL INSTABILITY**, there remain **major gaps** in Sudan's ability to adequately **enforce these legislations** at all levels.

Consumer Protection



- As of yet, a **FORMAL CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW** is still **pending**, and there is **no national authority** for consumer protection.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Moderate
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Moderate
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Moderate
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Very Weak
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Weak




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **WEAK**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Weak
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Moderate
Incentivisation Schemes	● Very Weak
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		DEVELOPED
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Developed	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Very Weak	
Digital Government	Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	Strong	
Public Procurement Standards	Very Strong	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		VERY WEAK
Physical Safety Regulations	Very Weak	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	Moderate	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	Very Weak	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	Very Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Weak	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Weak	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Weak
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Weak
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Weak



Country Profile

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC



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Summary



The Syrian Arab Republic has a legal system based and inspired by the Ottoman, French and Islamic legal code. The Syrian Arab Republic is considered a civil law country with a constitution, while certain aspects of personal status are handled by religious courts.

Competition



- The Syrian Arab Republic has passed **LEGISLATION ON COMPETITION**, particularly over the past decade, notably **Law No. 7 of 2008**;
- By extension, the Syrian Arab Republic also established a **COMPETITION COUNCIL** that is directly **embedded in the Ministry of Economy**, hence regressing the Council's autonomy and independence;
- Despite having legislation, **THERE REMAIN GAPS** in **clarity** and **coherence** of **definitions of the themes and terms**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- The Syrian Arab Republic has developed **LEGISLATIVE DECREE NO. 8 OF 2007** on **investment promotion**, and has been amending and updating the regulations ever since. Moreover, **Legislative Decree No. 29 of 2011**, or the Company Law, is a further indication of **progress** in that regard;
- To that effect, Syria has a developed **FDI LEGISLATION SYSTEM**, which includes **legislation, enforcement processes**, and **institutions** to approve, assess and manage **foreign investments** into the country;
- The Syrian Arab Republic has a **RESTRICTION ON FDI** in certain sectors, particularly in the field of **military/security**. However, there seem to be **indications** that it will lax these measures for its **developmental needs** in the **post-conflict era**.



Anti-Corruption



- The Syrian Arab Republic has **TWO LEGISLATIONS** that relate to **tackling corruption**: **Law No. 3 of 2012** on **Punishment of Economic and Monetary Crimes**, and **Law No. 33 of 2005** on **Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing**;
- The Syrian Arab Republic has formed an **ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITY**, yet the **implementation** of its policies **varies** according to **political** and **state considerations**.

Consumer Protection



- The Syrian Arab Republic has developed **TWO LAWS** related to consumer protection: **Law No. 2 of 2008** and **Law No. 14 of 2015**;
- As a consequence of that law, Syria has established the **MINISTRY OF INTERNAL TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION** that has the **legislative characteristics** to **support enforcement**;
- Yet, there remain **MASSIVE GAPS** in **implementing** and **enforcing the law** due to a **lack of awareness** and **training** of government officials and the society at large on **consumer protection rights**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Moderate
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Moderate
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Moderate




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Moderate
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION		BASIC
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Moderate	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Weak	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Moderate	
Digital Government	Very Weak	
Open Government and Transparency	Very Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		DEVELOPED
Physical Safety Regulations	Developed	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	Very Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	Developed	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	Basic	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Basic	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Developed	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Basic	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Weak
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Moderate
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Moderate
Exemptions	Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Very Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Developed
Exemptions	Developed
Accessibility/Transparency	Basic



Country Profile

TUNISIA



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Summary



The Tunisian legal system is a predominantly civil law, based on the French Civil Code and Islamic sharia.

Competition



- Tunisia was one of the **EARLIER ADOPTERS** of a **competition law**, with **Law No. 64 of 1991**. Most recently, Tunisia passed **Law No. 36 of 2015** on **reorganizing competition and prices**;
- **TUNISIAN LAW** on competition establishes the **Competition Council and the General Directorate of Competition and Economic Investigations** (under the Ministry of Trade), with **enforcement powers**;
- Moreover, Tunisian law on competition distinguishes between **FOUR MAIN TYPES OF ANTICOMPETITIVE BEHAVIOURS**, including: **restrictive agreements; abuse of dominant position; abuse of economic dependence**; and abusively **low pricing**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Of late, Tunisia established **LAW NO. 71 OF 2016** on **Investment**, and **Law No. 2017-8 of 2017** on **Financial and Tax Incentives** that provide the **main legal framework** for domestic and foreign investment;
- The **TUNISIAN INVESTMENT LAW** also established the **High Investment Board** as the **key centralized body to manage investments** into the country, as well as the **Foreign Investment Promotion Agency**;
- Despite these steps, Tunisia still has **RESTRICTIONS ON FDI** based on **labour regulations, prohibitive customs and tax regimes, restrictions on foreign investment** in numerous essential sectors, and the ongoing large role of **state-owned enterprises**.



Anti-Corruption



- Tunisia has one of the **STRONGEST REGULATORY AND LEGISLATIVE SYSTEMS** that **tackle corruption**. Most of Tunisia's anti-corruption laws were passed since 2011, during a push towards **greater transparency** following the **Arab Spring** and in reaction to popular demands to reduce corruption. These include **Law No. 59 of 2017 on Anti-Corruption**; **Law No. 22 of 2016 on Access to Information**; **Law No. 10 of 2017 on Reporting Corruption and Protection of Whistleblowers**; and **Law No. 46 of 2018 on Disclosures of Gains and Illicit Wealth**;
- Furthermore, **TUNISIA'S LAW NO. 10 OF 2017** on whistleblowers provides one of the **most robust and clear definitions of corruption, transparency, accountability** and **integrity** in the whole region.

Consumer Protection



- Tunisia is one of the **FIRST COUNTRIES IN THE ARAB WORLD** to establish an **explicit consumer protection law**, which is **Law No. 117 of 1992**;
- However, the law itself is **RELATIVELY BRIEF** as it **relied on other successive laws** that were established over time to **reinforce the consumer protection law**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **BASIC**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Developed
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Developed
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Moderate
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Very Weak
Labor Protection	● Weak




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Very Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		● STRONG
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Strong	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Strong	
Digital Government	● Very Strong	
Open Government and Transparency	● Strong	
Public Procurement Standards	● Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● BASIC
Physical Safety Regulations	● Developed	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Developed	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Weak	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Very Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Developed



Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Moderate

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Strong

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Very Weak

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Strong

Exemptions ● Very Weak

Accessibility/Transparency ● Basic

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations) ● Moderate



Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties) ● Developed

Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities) ● Strong

International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements) ● Very Weak

Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences) ● Strong

Exemptions ● Very Weak

Accessibility/Transparency ● Very Strong

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Moderate	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Developed	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Developed	

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Very Weak	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Moderate	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Basic	
Exemptions	● Developed	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Weak	

WALAH TRADING



Country Profile

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



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Summary



The United Arab Emirates' legal system is comprised of a mix of Islamic sharia and French civil law, wherein sharia court and civil courts operate in parallel, and each emirate has its own federal court.

Competition



- Competition in the United Arab Emirates is governed by **FEDERAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2012**, which was refined by **Cabinet Resolution No. 37 of 2014** that clarified and broadened the regulations on competition. **Federal Law No. 4 of 2012** also established a **Competition Regulation Committee** chaired by the undersecretary of the Ministry of Economy and provided greater clarity on anti-competition practices and restrictive agreements. However, the **United Arab Emirates competition law** remains **unclear** in terms of the processes and aspects related to leniency, compensation, and any special forms of immunity;
- Furthermore, the United Arab Emirates enacted **FEDERAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2015** on **Commercial Companies** that bolsters the norms related to **competition**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Prior to 2018, the United Arab Emirates relied on **FEDERAL LAW NO. 8 OF 2002** on **Financial Free Zones**, and **Federal Law No. 1 of 2017** on **Anti-dumping, Countervailing and Safeguard Measures** to formally govern FDI into the country. In 2018, the United Arab Emirates established **Federal Law No. 19 of 2018** that is explicitly concerned with governing FDI;
- For its part, **Article 6** of the United Arab Emirates FDI **LAW NO. 19 OF 2018** specifies the **legislative criteria** for FDI committee to consider enforcement. The FDI law is unique in containing **clear criteria** and **goals** for incentives, procedures, limitations, processes, aims, and goals to **enforce FDI regulation**. **Tax exemptions** are often the most common form of incentives used to **attract foreign investors** into a country;
- Nevertheless, **ARTICLE 19 OF FEDERAL LAW NO. 19 OF 2018** concerning FDI notes that the **Licensing Authority and the Competent Authority** will **reject FDI projects** in cases of “**threat to national security or peace**”, or “**negative impact on a strategic sector in the State.**” The law does not provide clear definitions of these terms, enabling manipulation of the law.



Anti-Corruption



- The United Arab Emirates **DO NOT HAVE A SINGULAR EXPLICIT LAW** on **anti-corruption**;
- **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS** in several federal and local emirate laws **tackle corruption** and **bribery** in implicit ways. These include: the **United Arab Emirates Penal Code; Federal Law No. 21 of 2011 on Civil Service; Federal Law No. 11 of 2008 on Federal Human Resources; Federal Law No. 4 of 2002 on Criminalization of Money Laundering; Federal Law No. 7 of 2012 on Combating Terrorism Crimes**; and **Dubai Law No. 4 of 2016 on Financial Crimes**, among others.

Consumer Protection



- The United Arab Emirates established **FEDERAL LAW NO. 24 OF 2006** on **consumer protection**, which outlines **consumers' rights and obligations**;
- On 10 November 2020, The United Arab Emirates issued the **FEDERAL LAW NO. (15) OF 2020**. The new law has repealed the old consumer protection law, **extending the definition of Supplier to cover e-commerce** that are registered in the country.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **MODERATE**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Moderate
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Moderate
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Basic




FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Moderate
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Very Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION		BASIC
Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	Strong	
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	Moderate	
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	Very Weak	
Digital Government	Very Strong	
Open Government and Transparency	Weak	
Public Procurement Standards	Very Weak	

CONSUMER PROTECTION		MODERATE
Physical Safety Regulations	Very Strong	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	Very Strong	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	Moderate	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	Very Weak	

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Very Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Developed	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Moderate	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Weak	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Basic
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Basic
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Moderate
Exemptions	Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Very Weak
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Strong
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Basic
Exemptions	Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	Basic



Country Profile

YEMEN



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Summary



The Yemeni legal system is a combination of sharia jurisprudence and old Egyptian and French code.

Competition



- Yemen is one of the **EARLIEST COUNTRIES** to adopt **competition-oriented legislation**, which is **Law No. 19 of 1999**;
- Thanks to that law, Yemen has **SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES** to **govern and implement competition**, such as the **Public Administration to Promote Competition and Prevent Monopoly and Commercial Fraud** at the **Ministry of Industry and Trade**;
- Yemen is an **EXCEPTIONAL CASE** among the rest of the region's countries to include **specific legislation** that **defines** and **outlaws monopolies**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- Yemen established **LAW NO. 15 OF 2010**, known as the **Investment Law**;
- The **YEMENI INVESTMENT LAW** establishes the **General Investment Authority** and applies the concept of a **one-stop shop** to **facilitate** and **coordinate investment** into the country; this is particularly elaborated on in **Articles 13 and 14** of the law. The General Investment Authority is also granted **“a legal personality, an autonomous financial status, and is accountable to the Prime Minister,”** as stated in **Article 11**;
- The **YEMENI INVESTMENT LAW** clearly **outlines** the **roles** and **responsibilities** of the **General Investment Authority** (covered within **Articles 15-25** of the Investment Law).



Anti-Corruption



- Yemen has **MULTIPLE LEGISLATION** to support anti-corruption efforts. Those include **Law No. 6 of 1995** on the **Impeachment Proceedings and Trial of the Occupant of Senior Executive Authority in Government**; **Law No. 35 of 2003** concerning **Money Laundering**; **Law No. 39 of 2006** on **anti-corruption**; and **Law No. 13 of 2012** on the **Right to Information**;
- **EXEMPTIONS** are a **key component** that undermines Yemeni legislation. For decades, “**senior officials**” in Yemen benefited from **anti-corruption legislation**, which exempted them from scrutiny. In light of the **increased focus on anti-corruption measures** since 2011, lawmakers were set to remove this exemption. However, the **recent unrest** in the country has brought this development to a halt.

Consumer Protection



- Yemen established **LAW NO. 46 OF 2008** on **consumer protection**;
- **YEMEN’S CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW** components match **international standards**, such as **defining consumer rights clearly**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Developed
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Developed
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Developed
Labor Protection	● Weak

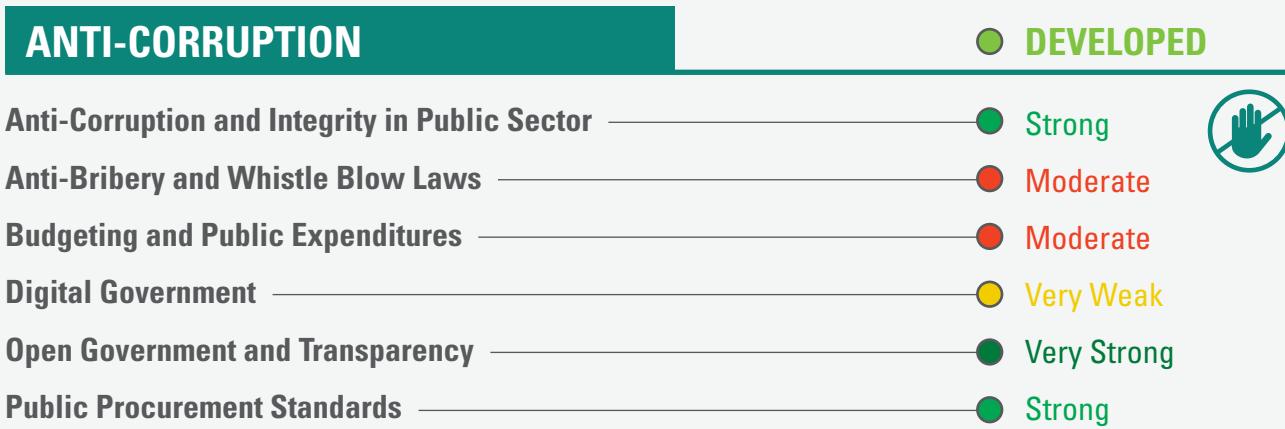


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **MODERATE**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Developed
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Moderate
Incentivisation Schemes	● Basic
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Developed





Sub-categories

● Very Strong
 ● Strong
 ● Developed
 ● Moderate
 ● Basic
 ● Weak
 ● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Basic	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong	
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Weak	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Moderate	
Exemptions	● Very Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Moderate	

ANTI-CORRUPTION

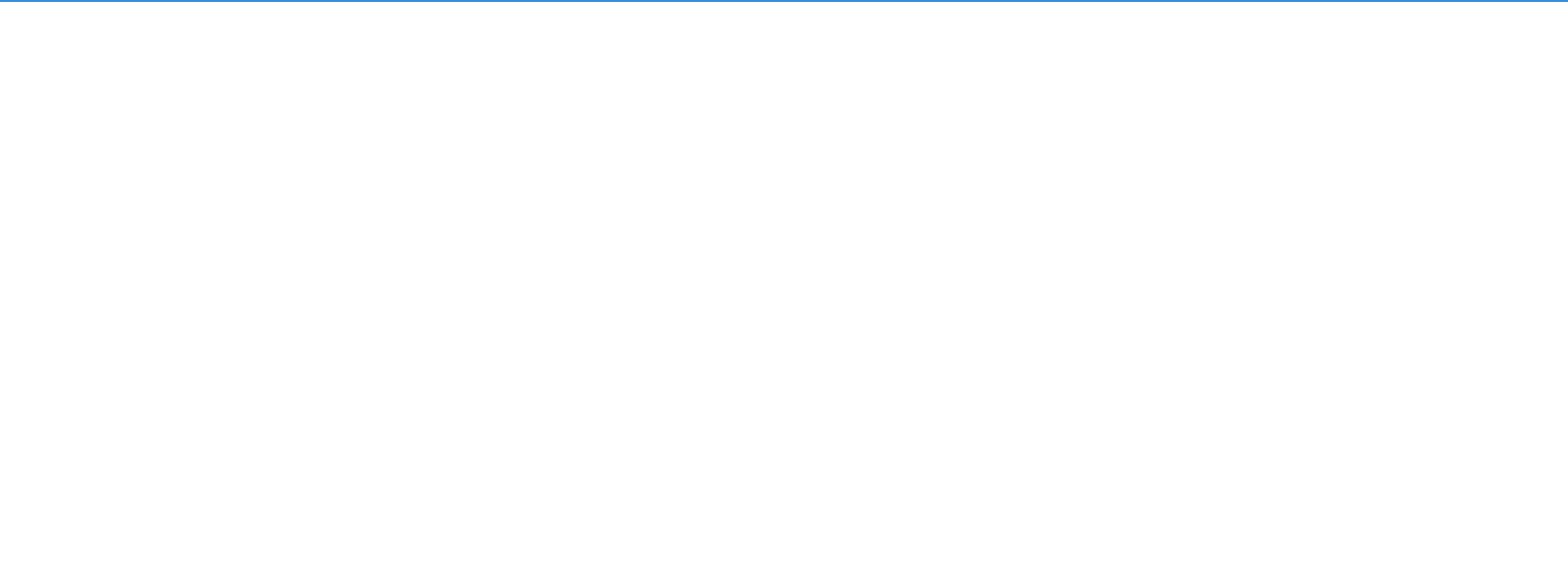


Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Developed
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Strong
Exemptions	Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	Developed

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	Moderate
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	Basic
Exemptions	Basic
Accessibility/Transparency	Moderate



The growing interest in legal and institutional reforms, business facilitation and better governance in the Arab region has led Governments, donors and development agencies to increasingly focus their attention on improving the regulatory framework for doing business, and ensuring a fair balance between the rights and obligations of various social players. Legal reform, however, is not merely about enacting legislation but also ensuring that such legislation is well understood, applied and integrated into the overall legal framework, and is consistent with the specific context of each Arab country. Various stakeholders in the Arab region do not have adequate access to laws on competition, anti-corruption, foreign direct investment (FDI) and consumer protection. Small firms, activists, political reformists, and researchers face challenges in accessing up-to-date legislation related to public policy. The absence of a unified consolidated and accessible repository of legislation in the region has negative knock-on effects on transparency, accountability, and the rule of law.

In addition to assessing the legislative climate using common standards derived from international best practices, the present study provides a repository of existing legislation in the Arab region. It offers a basic assessment of the current business regulatory climate in the region, by evaluating legislation related to competition, FDI, anti-corruption and consumer protection. It also provides a gap analysis assessment of the current legislative, regulatory, institutional and enforcement mechanisms and recommends actions that can bridge those gaps. Moreover, the study provides ESCWA member States with a foundation for a flexible assessment model on business legislative frameworks that can be regularly updated, so as to establish more coherent region-wide indicators on business legislation.

