

Codebook of the CIVILSPACE Dataset

Version: 11.03.2026

This Codebook for the CIVILSPACE Dataset¹ contains, first, information on the coding process and data structure, and second, a full list and description of the indicators.

Recommended citation if you use the CIVILSPACE Dataset or this codebook in your research: Bolleyer, Nicole, Fabrizio Di Mascio, Orsolya Salát, Paula Guzzo Falci, Adam Eick, Agnieszka Bejma, Vivian Spyropoulou, Burtejin Zorigt, and Gabriel Katz. 2026. “The CIVILSPACE Dataset”. <https://www.cps-lmu.org/civilspace---data.html>.

License: The dataset and its associated codebook are made available under the Creative Commons Attribution–ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-SA 4.0). Researchers are free to use and adapt the data but must give credit and distribute any derivative works under the same license.

Funding: The dataset was produced as part of the ERC-project CIVILSPACE (see <https://www.cps-lmu.org/civilspace.html> for more information), financed by the European Research Council (ERC) (Grant agreement No. 101001458, CIVILSPACE). This support is gratefully acknowledged. Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the researchers only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Council. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

1. Coding the Legal Environment for CSOs in Twelve Democracies from 2000 to 2022

The CIVILSPACE Dataset is an original dataset containing information on the legal environments for civil society organizations (CSOs) and their annual changes from 2000 to 2022 in 12 legal domains across the following 12 European countries: Austria, Germany, Spain, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Poland and the UK. Using pre-defined codebooks, one for each legal domain central to CSOs’ legal environments, trained coders (fluent in the respective languages) identified and coded legal obligations and benefits embedded in original legislation² from 2000 until 2022 in the respective countries and in the respective domain.

The *codebooks* were designed to balance systematic, cross-jurisdictional comparability and sufficient nuance to capture the complexity of individual legal domains. Some domains include more indicators than others to reflect differences in complexity and scope. We define *legal*

¹ For an introduction to the dataset and its potential applications, see Bolleyer, Nicole, Adam Eick, Paula Guzzo Falci, Agnieszka Bejma, Fabrizio Di Mascio, Orsolya Salát, Vivian Spyropoulou, Burtejin Zorigt, and Gabriel Katz. 2026. Studying the Shrinking and Expansion of Civil Society Space in Europe. *Democratization*, March, 1–25. doi:10.1080/13510347.2026.2629588.

² One exception was Latvia. Here English translations of legislation has been coded. Moreover, in three legal domains (Fundraising Restrictions, Regulation of Public Benefit Status, and Tax Benefits), coding decisions more strongly relied on specialized secondary literature. This is because these domains regulate the resources available to CSOs and are typically highly technical and fragmented across various types of laws, such as tax codes, fiscal legislation, and laws regulating specific legal forms of CSOs.

domains according to the substance of what is being regulated. Therefore, we considered legal provisions from all potentially relevant laws for coding. For example, public benefit status may be regulated in association law or tax law, and both are considered. This ensures that comparable substantive provisions are identified and coded consistently across countries and that no relevant provisions are overlooked. Where multiple legal forms are available for CSOs within the same legal domain – for instance, when different pathways to legal incorporation exist – we coded the legal framework associated with the form most commonly used by the sector, based on secondary literature.³

In our dataset, the *unit of analysis* is the *legal provision*, rather than the law as a whole. This means that we coded the specific clauses, sentences or articles within legal texts that introduce, modify or remove the regulatory grounds relevant to CSO activity. Therefore, a single law can generate multiple coded provisions if it contains several distinct rules affecting different aspects of CSO regulation. For example, one article may authorize the dissolution of associations based on several separate grounds, each of which corresponds to a different indicator. This again enables us to capture legal substance and change precisely while taking into account cross-national differences in the style of legal texts.

Our standardized coding process allows other researchers to *replicate* and *extend* the dataset. Using the process outlined here and the indicators listed below, researchers can reconstruct the dataset, verify coding decisions and reproduce the published indices. Researchers can also extend the dataset to additional countries with this process. This involves collecting the relevant primary legal texts for each country/year (in each legal domain under consideration) from official sources. It then involves identifying all legal amendments to capture change over time. Finally, coders need to read through each legal provision and code them based on the indicators listed below. Coding results are recorded in standardized Excel sheets in country–year format, where the columns represent the indicators, the rows the country and year.

The CIVILSPACE dataset includes a total of 321 indicators in 12 domains. The domains along with their respective indicators are subsequently grouped into four overall categories. The first category, ‘CSO Existence’ comprises three domains: ‘Freedom of Association’ (37 indicators), ‘Access to Incorporation and Grounds for Withdrawal’ (27 indicators) and ‘Supervision of Incorporated CSOs’ (17 indicators). In total, this overall category includes 81 indicators. The second category, ‘CSO Resource Access’, comprises three domains: ‘Fundraising Restrictions’ (12 indicators), ‘Tax Benefits’ (10 indicators) and ‘Regulation of Public Benefit Status’ (18 indicators). Together, these domains account for 40 indicators. The third overall category, ‘CSO Voice’, consists of three domains: Restrictions on ‘Freedom of Expression’ (36 indicators), ‘Freedom of Assembly’ (48 indicators) and ‘Lobby Regulation’ (27 indicators). This category comprises a total of 111 indicators. The fourth category, ‘Regulation of Rights Infrastructures’, contains three domains: “Constitutional Protections and Judicial Review” (32 indicators), “National Human Rights Structures (NHRS)” (31 indicators) and “Freedom of Information” (26 indicators). Collectively, this overall category includes 89 indicators.

We distinguish between legal obligation indicators, which limit CSOs, and legal benefits, which enable them. Of our 321 indicators, 205 capture legal obligations and 116 legal benefits. While

³ For example, several legal forms are available for CSOs in the UK. However, in the domain ‘Access to Incorporation and Grounds for Withdrawal’, we focus on the ‘company limited by guarantee’ model, which is regulated by company law and is the dominant legal structure that CSOs take in the country.

some domains may contain both,⁴ most are dominated by one type. In liberal democracies, fundamental rights like freedom of expression and association are mainly regulated through clearly defined conditions under which authorities may impose limits, and countries differ in how broad such grounds are. Such domains are, for example, predominantly constituted by legal obligation indicators. By contrast, newer domains like freedom of information (FOI) and national human rights structures (NHRS) primarily expand rights and protections, following an enabling logic. They are mostly made up of legal benefit indicators. Specifically, the legal domains of ‘Lobby Regulation’, ‘Tax’, and ‘NHRS’ predominantly consist of benefit indicators, with few or no obligation indicators. In contrast, the remaining legal domains primarily comprise obligation indicators.

2. List of Indicators in the CIVILSPACE Dataset

Table 1 below lists all indicators in the 12 legal domains and 12 countries from 2000–2022. For each indicator, the table specifies the ‘Indicator Name’, a composite of the relevant legal domain, identified by an abbreviation (e.g., "Ass" for Freedom of Assembly), along with an indicator name composed of the domain abbreviation and a numeric identifier (e.g., Expr_1 for the first indicator within the Expression domain). The subsequent column, ‘Indicator Description’, briefly outlines the substantive content of the indicators. Each indicator is further classified according to ‘Indicator Type’, distinguishing whether it is binary, ordinal, or discrete. ‘Obligation/Benefit’ categorizes each indicator as representing either a legal obligation or a legal benefit. Most importantly, the exact values and their respective meanings an indicator can take are noted in the ‘Values’ column. NA indicates a complete absence of regulation in that legal domain for the country–year (e.g. no lobbying law exists); 0 indicates the domain is regulated but the specific obligation/benefit is absent (e.g., lobby law exists but specific obligation absent). Therefore, NA does *not* mean data is missing or unknown. Instead, both NA and 0 indicate absence of the obligation/benefit, despite different regulatory contexts. Thus, when building indices of obligations or benefits, NAs should first be converted to 0 in order to ensure that they are also counted as an absence of the obligation/benefit. Finally, the column ‘High Values’ indicates if an indicator can take high values. This is the case if it has no upper limit or a very high maximum value.⁵

Contents of Table 1: Broad categories of domains:

CSO EXISTENCE.....4
 CSO RESOURCE ACCESS.....10
 CSO VOICE.....15
 REGULATION OF RIGHTS INFRASTRUCTURES.....25

⁴ Such as requirements for CSOs to register as a legally incorporated organisation, which may be accompanied by appeal procedures against non- or de-registration that CSOs can use.

⁵ Indicators of this nature may skew additive indices if left unadjusted; therefore, they should be standardized or handled separately for such indices. Examples are indicators that record monetary fines in Euros (with no specified upper limit) or percentages (with a maximum value of 100 for 100%).

Table 1. List of indicators in the CIVILSPACE Dataset per major category and legal domain

CSO EXISTENCE					
REGULATION OF FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION (BAN REGULATION)					
Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Ban_1	Violation of the constitutional order or constitutional principles (e.g., democratic or republican order) as legal ground to ban groups ⁶	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_2	Specification of Ban_1: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_3	Violation of international legal obligations or commitments as a legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_4	Specification of Ban_3: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_5	Violation of basic democratic norms/rights as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_6	Specification of Ban_5: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_7	Support of particular ideology as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_8	Existence of legal provisions exclusively tailored to ban one (or a few) specifically named organization(s)	binary	obligation	0.5 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_9	Violence as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

⁶ Ban refers to measures that terminate the existence of an organization as a collective entity and prevent it from continuing activities, including as an informal group. This differs from refusal or withdrawal of legal registration, which may remove legal personality while still allowing to operate as an unincorporated association.

Ban_10	Specification of Ban_9: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_11	Terrorism as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_12	Specification of Ban_11: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_13	Threat to existence/integrity/security of the state as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_14	Specification of Ban_13: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_15	Disturbing public order/interference with authorities as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_16	Specification of Ban_15: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_17	Unlawful or criminal behavior as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_18	Specification of Ban_17: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_19	Immoral/indecent behavior or character as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_20	Discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, nationality etc. as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_21	Specification of Ban_20: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_22	Religious fundamentalism as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_23	Specification of Ban_22: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

Ban_24	Extremism as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_25	Specification of Ban_24: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_26	Treason as legal ground to ban groups	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_27	Specification of Ban_26: Intention/aspiration or glorification is sufficient for a ban, even in the absence of actual conduct	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_28	A group ban requires the combination of several legal grounds, which may not be sufficient individually (e.g., ideology alone insufficient unless combined with violent intent)	binary	obligation	0.5 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_29	Law includes protections for CSOs facing a ban (e.g., right to be heard, access to evidence, evidence-based decisions)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Ban_30	Law includes appeal procedures for banned groups or possibility of de-proscription	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Ban_31	Executive actors (e.g. ministry of interior) decide unilaterally on initiating ban proceedings	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_32	Executive actors (e.g. ministry of interior) decide unilaterally on imposition of ban	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_33	Provisions that relax the requirements for imposing a ban (making it easier for authorities to impose a ban) in exceptional or emergency circumstances, or for specific types of organizations (e.g., terrorist organizations)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_34	Sanctions other than imprisonment for violation of ban (e.g., fines or restrictions on holding public office)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_35	Prison sanctions for violation of ban	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ban_36	Specification of Ban_35: Maximum prison sentence in months	discrete	obligation	Maximum prison sentence in month (indicator has no upper limit)	yes
Ban_37	Restrictions associated with ban refer to CSO's supporters more broadly, rather than only to their leaders or formal members	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

REGULATION OF ACCESS TO INCORPORATION AND GROUNDS FOR WITHDRAWAL					
Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Incorp_1	Location requirements for legal incorporation ⁷ (e.g. for headquarters, residence of chairman)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_2	Requirement to provide statutes to authorities for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_3	Requirement to specify organizational purpose in statutes for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_4	Restrictions on the purposes or activities of organizations seeking legal incorporation (e.g., prohibitions on political party activity or other specified activities).	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_5	Restrictions on legal incorporation based on prior violations of laws or norms (e.g., illegal activities, violence, indecency)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_6	Restrictions on legal incorporation based on the sector in which the organization operates (e.g., social services or education).	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_7	Requirement to have an external professional accountant for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_8	Registration fee for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_9	Requirement of submission of financial information for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_10	Requirement for formal recognition by a public official (e.g., notary) prior to legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_11	Requirement for a minimum number of members for legal incorporation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_12	Requirement how specific internal governance structures of the organization must be set up (e.g., mandatory governing organs, allocation of powers, decision-making rules or dissolution procedures).	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_13	Requirement that statutes include specific financial rules (e.g., specification of membership fees within certain parameters) beyond the basic non-profit requirement.	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

⁷ Legal incorporation refers to the process by which an organization becomes a legally recognized entity through registration with a competent authority, thereby gaining legal personality (e.g., the ability to hold property, enter contracts, and limit members' personal liability).

Incorp_14	Appeal procedures against non-registration exist in legislation	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Incorp_15	Protections during legal incorporation application exist in legislation (e.g., right to be heard, submit clarifications, or timely decision requirement)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Incorp_16	Violation of basic registration requirements or of obligations (e.g., reporting ones) as legal ground to withdraw legal personality ⁸	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_17	Problematic internal practices (e.g. repressive behavior of leading organizational organs) as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_18	Inactivity of association as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_19	Violation of organization's own statute as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_20	Achievement or impossibility of achieving the organization's stated purpose as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_21	Illegal activities/violation of decency norms/violence/violent intent as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_22	Violation of external obligations (e.g., in government-contracted service delivery) as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_23	Problematic financial practices or violation of financial rules (e.g., disclosure or accounting requirements) as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_24	Bankruptcy/insolvency as legal ground to withdraw legal personality	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_25	Failure to meet substantive conditions required for charitable/public-benefit status (e.g. fulfilling a charitable purpose) as legal ground to withdraw legal personality. Applicable only if specific path to legal incorporation for PBOs exists	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Incorp_26	Appeal procedures against withdrawal of legal personality exist in legislation	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Incorp_27	Protections of CSOs prior to withdrawal of legal personality process exist in legislation (e.g., right to be heard, or to submit clarifications)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
SUPERVISION OF INCORPORATED CSOs					

⁸ Withdrawal of legal personality (or dissolution) refers to the termination of an organization's legal existence as a recognized corporate entity, with the indicators here focusing on mandatory dissolution imposed by state authorities rather than voluntary dissolution.

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Supervis_1	Obligation for CSOs to notify supervisory body of updates to non-financial information (e.g., changes to statutes)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_2	Requirement for CSOs to submit regular non-financial reports to the supervisory body	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_3	Specification of Supervis_2: Periodicity of mandatory non-financial reports submitted to the supervisory body (in months) <i>Note: Higher non-zero values indicate less frequent – and therefore less restrictive – reporting obligations, so the indicator should be interpreted inversely for non-zero values.</i>	discrete	obligation	Periodicity of mandatory non-financial reports submitted to the supervisory body in months (no upper limit)	yes
Supervis_4	Obligation for CSOs to publicly disclose non-financial information	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_5	Exemptions from non-financial reporting obligations for CSOs	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Supervis_6	Requirement for CSOs to submit regular financial reports to the supervisory body	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_7	Specification of Supervis_6: Periodicity of regular financial reports submitted to the supervisory body (in months) <i>Note: Higher non-zero values indicate less frequent – and therefore less restrictive – reporting obligations, so the indicator should be interpreted inversely for non-zero values.</i>	discrete	obligation	Periodicity of regular financial reports in months – Discrete (in months). (no upper limit)	yes
Supervis_8	Mandatory external audit/review of CSO's submissions to supervisory body	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_9	Obligation for CSOs to publicly disclose financial information	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_10	Exemptions from financial information obligations for CSOs	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Supervis_11	Supervisory body has investigatory powers (e.g., ability to request information)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_12	Supervisory body has the authority to initiate investigations on its own initiative	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_13	Supervisory body has the power to deregister organizations	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_14	Supervisory body has the power to impose fines as a sanction	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_15	Specification of Supervis_14: Maximum fine amount (in €)	discrete	obligation	Maximum fine amount in €	yes

				(no upper limited)	
Supervis_16	Supervisory body has power to impose legal sanctions beyond fines (e.g., initiate legal proceedings against CSOs)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Supervis_17	Supervisory body has power to impose reputational sanctions (e.g., “naming and shaming” of non-compliant CSOs)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

CSO RESOURCE ACCESS

FUNDRAISING RESTRICTIONS⁹

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Fundrais_1	Restrictions on anonymous donations	ordinal	obligation	2 = anonymous donations to CSOs are generally prohibited 1 = anonymous donations are capped or otherwise restricted (e.g., subject to limits or prior approval by public authorities) 0 = none	no
Fundrais_2	Restrictions on foreign donations	ordinal	obligation	2 = foreign donations by individuals and/or corporates are generally prohibited 1 = some individual/corporate donations are capped or otherwise restricted 0.5 = foreign donations by (some) individuals and/or corporates need to be made public 0 = no	no
Fundrais_3	Restrictions on individual donations	ordinal	obligation	1 = (some types of) individual donations are capped or otherwise restricted 0.5 = (some types of) individual donations need to be made public 0 = no	no
Fundrais_4	Restrictions on corporate donations	ordinal	obligation	2 = corporate donations are generally prohibited	no

⁹ Fundraising refers to CSOs’ ability to raise private income, such as donations from various actors and revenue from economic activities

				1 = corporate donations are capped or otherwise restricted 0.5 = corporate donations need to be made public 0 = no	
Fundrais_5	Restrictions on CSOs' ability to generate income through economic activities (e.g., sales or merchandising).	ordinal	obligation	2 = CSOs are not allowed to engage in economic activities directly 1 = CSOs can engage in economic activities, but with limits on the amount of income that may be generated 0.5 = Economic activities are restricted through other means than limits (e.g., certain for-profit activities are prohibited, non-profit activities must remain dominant etc.) 0 = none	no
Fundrais_6	Permission requirement to directly engage in economic activities	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_7	Requirement of license, registration, or official permission for fundraising campaigns	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_8	Public or door-to-door fundraising is limited to predefined purposes (e.g., specific public benefit or charitable goals)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_9	Legal recognition/personality required to engage in public collections	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_10	Requirements to report income generated from fundraising activities after collections (other than tax return and regular financial reports)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_11	Sanctions for non-compliance with private income fundraising regulations (e.g., fines or additional requirements)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Fundrais_12	Existence of specialist public body/regulator monitoring CSOs' fundraising activities (other than general tax authorities)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

TAX BENEFITS					
Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/ Benefit	Values	High Values
Tax_1	Number of “worthy purposes” ¹⁰ recognized in law that qualify CSOs for tax privileges: 1. Welfare, 2. Education, 3. Science, 4. Health-care, 5. Cultural, 6. Environmental, 7. Disaster relief and civil protection, 8. Civil society/democracy and third sector, 9. Community service, 10. Human rights, 11. Humanitarian/developmental aid (abroad), 12. Child-care, 13. Religious, 14. Amateur sport, 15. Animal protection, 16. Consumer protection, 17. Political organizations	discrete	benefit	Score from 0 (none recognized) to 17 (all recognized)	no
Tax_2	Donors receive (some) tax benefits based solely on the organization’s non-profit status (without requiring public-benefit/charitable designation)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Tax_3	CSOs’ public benefit/charitable status grants individual donors access to tax benefits/relief/exemptions	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_4	CSOs’ public benefit/charitable status grants corporate donors access to tax benefits/relief/exemptions	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_5	CSOs’ public benefit/charitable status grants anonymous donors access to tax benefits/relief/exemptions	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_6	Non-profit and/or public benefit/charitable organizations can benefit from tax allocation schemes allowing citizens to direct a percentage of their taxes to specific organizations or causes	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, including not just public benefit/charitable organizations 0.5 = yes, including only public benefit/charitable organizations 0 = no	no

¹⁰ PBO (public benefit organization) status under law typically provides access to the bulk of tax benefits. It typically requires CSOs to pursue a “worthy purpose” (sometimes called public benefit purpose or charitable purpose).

Tax_7	Non-profit organizations can access (some) income tax relief/benefits/exemptions based solely on their non-profit status, not requiring public benefit/charitable designation	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions, benefits linked to being a non-profit organization 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_8	Non-profit status, recognition, or certain non-profit activities are linked to VAT relief/benefits/exemptions	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions, benefits linked to being a non-profit organization 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_9	Public benefit/charitable organizations can access (some) income tax relief/benefits/exemptions based solely on their public benefit/charitable status	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions, benefits linked to being a public benefit/charitable organization 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no
Tax_10	Public benefit/charitable status, recognition, or certain public benefit/charitable activities are linked to VAT relief/benefits/exemptions	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, without restrictions, benefits linked to being a public benefit/charitable organization 0.5 = yes, with restrictions 0 = no	no

REGULATION OF PUBLIC BENEFIT STATUS

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/ Benefit	Values	High Values
PBO_1	Public benefit/charitable status (PBO status) is only granted to CSOs pursuing a legally defined “worthy purpose” (sometimes called “public benefit purpose”/“charitable purpose”)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_2	Worthy purposes (e.g. welfare, education) are listed exhaustively in the law (i.e., only a limited number of purposes qualify as such)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_3	Legal incorporation is a prerequisite for tax-exempt status of organizations	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_4	Requirement for organizations to be formally recognized as public benefit/charitable organizations to access tax benefits designated to PBOs	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

PBO_5	Specialist regulator, or regulators with hybrid/shared responsibility, are tasked with monitoring PBOs or equivalent tax-exempt non-profit organizations	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, separate regulator in charge 0.5 = yes, external/specialist body involved, shared responsibility 0 = no	no
PBO_6	PBO monitoring body has the right to inspect organizations' premises to examine operations	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_7	PBO monitoring body has the right to interfere with organizations' internal affairs (e.g. approve donations or changes to CSO's governance structure)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_8	Requirement for organizations benefiting from tax relief to submit extra reports beyond standard tax returns	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, by (some or all) non-profit organizations and PBOs 0.5 = yes, by (some or all) PBOs 0 = no	no
PBO_9	Restrictions on political and/or partisan activities for public benefit/charitable organizations	ordinal	obligation	1 = restrictions on partisan and (some) political activities 0.5 = restrictions on partisan activities only 0 = no	no
PBO_10	Explicit exclusion of political parties, partisan groups, or broader political organizations from public benefit/charitable status	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes 0.5 = only political parties/partisan organizations are excluded 0 = no	no
PBO_11	Requirement of minimum time of operation for organizations applying for PBO status	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_12	Specification of PBO_11: Minimum time of operation in months for organizations applying for PBO status	discrete	obligation	Minimum time of operation in months for organizations applying for PBO status in months	yes
PBO_13	Requirement for organizations to provide financial information to obtain PBO status	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_14	Requirement for organizations to provide proof of financial viability to obtain PBO status	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_15	Requirements regarding internal decision-making for PBOs (e.g., members rights, decision-making rules, organs' competencies)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

PBO_16	Additional fundraising obligations for PBOs beyond those for non-profit organizations (e.g., additional transparency requirements)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
PBO_17	Appeal procedures for CSOs that have not been granted the PBO status are provided for in legislation	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
PBO_18	Protections during the PBO application process (e.g., right to be heard or timely decision requirement).	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no

CSO VOICE

REGULATION OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Expr_1	Speech affecting personal honor or reputation can be restricted (e.g., defamation, slander, insult)	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, provisions also cover opinions or value judgments 0.5 = yes, provisions cover only false statements of fact 0 = no	no
Expr_2	Speech affecting dignity or personality rights can be restricted	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_3	Speech constituting blasphemy/insulting religion can be restricted	ordinal	obligation	1 = restrictions apply concerning any religion 0.5 = restrictions apply only to blasphemy against the dominant religion 0 = no	no
Expr_4	Speech inciting violence can be restricted	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, incitement as well as glorification or justification of violence 0.5 = yes, but only incitement to violence 0 = no	no
Expr_5	Specification of Expr_4: Number of groups protected from violence-inciting speech: 1. racial/ethnic/nationality groups 2. religious groups 3. sex/gender identity/sexual orientation 4. persons with disabilities	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none restricted) to 5 (all restricted)	no

	5. majority group				
Expr_6	Speech inciting hatred can be restricted	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, incitement as well as glorification or justification of hatred 0.5 = yes, but only incitement to hatred 0 = no	no
Expr_7	Specification of Expr_6: Number of groups protected from hatred-inciting speech: 1. racial/ethnic/nationality groups 2. religious groups 3. groups based on sex/gender identity/sexual orientation 4. persons with disabilities 5. majority group	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none restricted) to 5 (all restricted)	no
Expr_8	Speech inciting to discrimination can be restricted	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, incitement as well as glorification or justification of discrimination 0.5 = yes, but only incitement to discrimination 0 = no	no
Expr_9	Specification of Expr_8: Number of groups protected from discrimination-inciting speech: 1. racial/ethnic/nationality groups 2. religious groups 3. groups based on sex/gender identity/sexual orientation 4. persons with disabilities 5. majority group	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none restricted) to 5 (all restricted)	no
Expr_10	Speech degrading/insulting someone for belonging to a group or degrading/insulting the group can be restricted	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_11	Specification of Expr_10: Number of groups protected from degrading/insulting speech 1. racial/ethnic/nationality groups 2. religious groups 3. groups based on sex/gender identity/sexual orientation 4. persons with disabilities 5. majority group	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none restricted) to 5 (all restricted)	no
Expr_12	Speech supporting terrorism can be restricted	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, also glorification and/or belittlement, etc.	no

				0.5 = yes, only incitement 0 = no	
Expr_13	Speech can be restricted to protect public peace/public order	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_14	Speech can be restricted to protect the stability/integrity of state or its institutions	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_15	Speech can be restricted to protect state secrets/for security reasons	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_16	Speech can be restricted to protect truth/prevent misinformation/disinformation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_17	Holocaust denial is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_18	Glorification, belittlement or apologizing of the Holocaust or fascist rule is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_19	Denying crimes of communism is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_20	Glorification/belittlement/apology of the crimes of communism is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_21	Denial of any other historical event/regime atrocity not covered by categories Expr_17 and Expr_19 is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_22	Glorification/belittlement/apology for other historical events/regime atrocities not covered by categories Expr_18 and Expr_20 is a crime	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_23	Restrictions on wearing/displaying symbols of specific political ideologies (e.g. totalitarian or extremist symbols)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_24	Restrictions on mutilating/defacing/desecrating or just displaying privileged/protected political symbols (e.g. national symbols or official uniforms)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_25	Restrictions on wearing/displaying minority/marginalized religious symbols (excluding veil/head coverings, covered in Expr_27)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_26	Restrictions on mutilating/defacing/desecrating or just displaying privileged/protected religious symbols (e.g. symbols of the majority religion)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_27	Restrictions on wearing a veil (or equivalent head covering)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_28	Restrictions on wearing/displaying certain ethnic/cultural symbols	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

Expr_29	Speech can be restricted to protect the dignity or reputation of the state, its representatives, or political actors	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes 0.5 = yes, but protection of dignity/reputation of top representative positions only 0 = no	no
Expr_30	Speech can be restricted to protect the privacy of state representatives or political actors	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes 0.5 = yes, but protection of dignity/reputation of top representative positions only 0 = no	no
Expr_31	Speech can be restricted to protect the youth/children	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, broadly framed (e.g., vague or contested "protections", such as against gender-diverse displays) 0.5 = narrowly targeted (e.g., against pornography or clearly defined harms) 0 = no	no
Expr_32	Speech can be restricted to protect morals or decency	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_33	Speech that provokes can be restricted (if not covered by previous indicators)	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, broadly directed against provocation 0.5 = narrowly targeted (e.g., provoking human trafficking, war, etc.) 0 = no	no
Expr_34	Speech that offends feelings can be restricted (if not covered by previous indicators)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_35	Speech spreading certain ideologies can be restricted (other than by symbols, covered by Expr_23 to Expr_26)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Expr_36	Specification of Expr_35: Number of ideologies to which speech restrictions apply: 1. Fascism/Nazism, 2. communist/socialist ideology, 3. other ideology	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none restricted) to 3 (all restricted)	no

REGULATION OF FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY					
Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Ass_1	Prohibition of assemblies on specific dates	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_2	Specification of Ass_1: Number of specific dates where assemblies are prohibited: 1. dates related to WW1, 2. dates related to Holocaust/WW2, 3. dates related to Communism, 4. dates related to colonization, 5. dates related to national holidays, 6. dates related to religious holidays, 7. dates related to other events	discrete	obligation	Score from 0 (none prohibited) to 7 (all prohibited)	no
Ass_3	Restrictions on the place of an assembly	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_4	Specification of Ass_3: Number of specific places where assemblies are restricted: 1. places related to WW1, 2. places related to Holocaust/WW2, 3. places related to Communism, 4. places related to colonization, 5. religious places, 6. parliamentary buildings, 7. governmental buildings, 8. court buildings, 9. seat of head of state, 10. other places/buildings	ordinal	obligation	Score from 0 (none prohibited) to 10 (all prohibited)	no
Ass_5	Restrictions on wearing masks (face coverings concealing identity) at assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_6	Restrictions on wearing a uniform at assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_7	Restrictions on display of specific symbols at an assembly (e.g., discriminatory symbols)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_8	Restrictions on specific chants, sounds or music at assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present	no

				0 = obligation is absent	
Ass_9	Advance notice or permit requirement to hold an assembly	ordinal	obligation	2 = permit required 1 = advance notice required 0 = none	no
Ass_10	Administrative fee as prerequisite to hold an assembly	ordinal	obligation	1 = for all 0.5 = for some 0 = no	no
Ass_11	Dispersion of an assembly is possible due to lack of advance notice, permit, or unpaid administrative fees	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_12	Existence of legally privileged gatherings subject to fewer requirements/regulations (e.g., recurrent or religious gatherings)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Ass_13	Specification of Ass_12: Types of legally privileged gatherings: 1. stationary, 2. recurring/traditional, 3. (certain) religious, 4. other gatherings	discrete	benefit	Score from 0 (none privileged) to 4 (all privileged)	no
Ass_14	Possibility to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and specific blanket orders can ban types of assemblies in a given area 1 = yes, but only individual assemblies can be banned 0 = no	no
Ass_15	Potential violence is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements ¹¹ in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_16	Potential incitement to violence is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no

¹¹ A likelihood requirement is a specification of how probable a risk must be before authorities can invoke a legal ground to ban an assembly, e.g. that a "senior police officer reasonably believes that a public assembly may result in serious public disorder" (UK, S.676 Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022).

Ass_17	Potential disorder/public safety is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_18	Public health threat is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_19	Potential criminal activity is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_20	Potential violation of rights of others /serious harm is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_21	Potential hindrance to traffic is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_22	Disruption of essential services is a legal ground to ban assemblies in advance	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation 1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	no
Ass_23	Failure to commit to police conditions (e.g., route or time restrictions) is a legal ground to ban an assembly in advance	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_24	Any other substantive legal ground to ban assemblies in advance (not covered by Ass_15 to Ass_23)	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and no likelihood requirements in legislation	no

				1 = yes, but likelihood requirements in legislation 0 = no	
Ass_25	Actual violent behavior is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_26	Incitement to violence is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_27	Carrying weapons is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_28	Aggressive/anti-social behavior is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_29	Public disorder/public safety is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_30	Protection of public health is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_31	Criminal activity at an assembly is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_32	Violation of rights of others/serious harm is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_33	Hindrance to traffic is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_34	Disruption of essential services is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_35	Failure to comply to police conditions (e.g., restrictions on route or time of assembly) is a legal ground for assembly dispersal	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_36	Any other legal ground for assembly dispersal (not covered by Ass_25 to Ass_35)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_37	Guarantees for spontaneous/urgent assemblies (e.g., exemption from advance notice, or shortened notice periods for urgent assemblies)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Ass_38	Possibility to prevent the participation of specific individuals/groups in assemblies	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, and for more than one specific assembly 1 = yes, for only one specific assembly at a time 0 = no	no

Ass_39	Prior violent activity of individuals/groups in assemblies is a legal ground for preventing their participation in assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_40	Prediction of future violent behavior of individuals/groups is a legal ground for preventing their participation in assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_41	Membership in a specific or banned party is a legal ground for preventing individuals/groups from participating in assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_42	Membership in specific or banned group is a legal ground for preventing individuals/groups from participating in assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_43	Criminal record is a legal ground for preventing individuals/groups from participating in assemblies	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_44	Any other legal ground for preventing individuals/groups from participating in assemblies (not covered by Ass_39 to Ass_43)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_45	Sanctions for preventing or disturbing an assembly or others' engagement in an assembly	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_46	Sanctions for advertising/encouraging the participation of others in a banned assembly	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_47	Sanctions for leading or organizing a banned assembly	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Ass_48	Sanctions for participating in, or refusing to disperse from, a banned assembly	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

LOBBY REGULATION

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
Lobby_1	Existence of lobbying regulation at the national level	ordinal	obligation	2 = yes, statutory lobbying regulation ¹² 1 = yes, but only non-statutory lobbying regulation 0 = no, absence of such regulation on national level	no
Lobby_2		binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present	no

¹² Statutory regulation is formal legislation passed by parliament, while non-statutory regulation refers to parliamentary proceedings, codes of conduct, or ministerial codes.

	Requirement for lobbyists to register with national authorities to access to certain actors or for privileged access			0 = obligation is absent	
Lobby_3	Lobbying parliamentary actors is covered by national lobby regulation	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, parliament as a whole 0.5 = yes, in part 0 = No	no
Lobby_4	Lobbying executive actors is covered by national lobby regulation	ordinal	obligation	1 = yes, executive as a whole 0.5 = yes, in part 0 = No	no
Lobby_5	Both consultant and in-house/organizational lobbying are covered by national lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_6	Lobbyists must disclose their clients to register/remain registered	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_7	Lobbyists must disclose the purpose and target of lobbying to register/stay registered	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_8	Information provided by lobbyists to register/stay registered is publicly accessible	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_9	Lobby regulation includes code of conduct or principles of engagement covering lobbyist behavior	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_10	Restrictions of certain individuals from registering as lobbyists (e.g. former criminal conviction, or cooling off period for government representatives)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_11	Requirement of disclosure of financial information to register/stay registered as lobbyist	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_12	Public disclosure of financial information provided by lobbyists to register/stay registered	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_13	Existence of specialist regulator monitoring compliance with lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_14	Possibility of removing lobbyists from lobby register for violating the lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_15	Possibility of referring severe violations of lobby regulations to the judiciary	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_16	Penalty sanctions other than imprisonment (e.g. fines, void contracts) for violations of lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_17	Prison sanctions for violations of lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

Lobby_18	Specification of Lobby_17: Maximum prison sentence for violations of lobby regulation in months	discrete	obligation	Maximum prison sentence in months (no upper limit)	yes
Lobby_19	Reputational sanctions (e.g. public reports) for violations of lobby regulation	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_20	Appeal procedures for lobbying actors to contest sanctions for violations of lobby regulation	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Lobby_21	Exemptions from lobby regulation for certain lobbyists or organizations	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Lobby_22	Appeal procedures for lobbying actors to contest the denial of registration or their removal from the lobby register	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Lobby_23	Procedural safeguards before imposing sanctions for non-compliance with lobby rules	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Lobby_24	Requirement for the production of “legislative footprints”(outlining how pieces of legislation came about), which require lobbying actors to provide additional information	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_25	Restrictions on non-party actors, including CSOs, on election campaign spending (e.g., caps on financial expenses)	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_26	Requirement for “third party campaigners”, ¹³ which include CSOs engaged in campaigns, to register/report election campaign spending	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no
Lobby_27	Ban for CSOs from participating in (electoral) campaigns?	binary	obligation	1 = obligation is present 0 = obligation is absent	no

REGULATION OF RIGHTS INFRASTRUCTURES

CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS AND JUDICIAL REVIEW

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/ Benefit	Values	High Values
----------------	-----------------------	----------------	---------------------	--------	-------------

¹³ “Third party campaigners” are individuals and organizations that are not legally tied to any candidate or party but campaign for or against candidates or parties, or on specific issues – which can include CSOs (See, OSCE/ODHIR. 2015. *Handbook for the Observation of Campaign Finance*, p. 37. <https://cdn.osce.org/sites/default/files/f/documents/f/8/135516.pdf>, accessed 09.02.26.)

Court_1	Constitutional amendments require a qualified majority in the First Chamber of Parliament	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_2	Specification of Court_1: Majority required in the first house in %	discrete	benefit	Majority required in the first house in % Maximum value: 100 (as in 100%)	yes
Court_3	Constitutional amendments require ratification by the Second Chamber of Parliament (only for Bicameral systems)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_4	Specification of Court_3: Majority required in the second house in %	discrete	benefit	Majority required in the second house in %	yes
Court_5	Constitutional amendments require ratification by regional institutions or by regional referenda	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_6	Specification of Court_5: Number of regional units required to approve a change	discrete	benefit	Number of regional units required to approve a change (no upper limit)	yes
Court_7	Requirement of a national referendum for ratifying constitutional amendments	ordinal	benefit	2 = ratification by a mandatory, national referendum is a standard requirement 1 = ratification by a national referendum is mandatory in a limited number of cases 0.5 = national referendum is held only if certain actors (e.g., president, parliamentary groups) request it 0 = no	no
Court_8	Prohibition of or procedures for constitutional amendments affecting fundamental rights or basic state principles	ordinal	benefit	1 = such amendments are prohibited 0.5 = stricter special procedure required to pass such amendments 0 = no prohibition of or stricter procedures for such amendments	no
Court_9	Scope of the power of members of government to propose constitutional court judges, in terms of number of judges	ordinal	benefit	1 = members of government are not involved 0.5 = members of government propose some judges 0 = members of government propose all judges	no
Court_10	Constraints on the power of government to propose constitutional court judges, in terms of unilateral executive control over appointments of judges	binary	benefit	1 = members of government do not propose judges unilaterally 0 = members of government propose unilaterally some or all judges	no
Court_11	Scope of the power of non-political/non-partisan actors to propose constitutional court judges, in terms of number of judges	ordinal	benefit	2 = non-political/non-partisan actors propose all judges 1 = non-political/non-partisan actors propose some judges 0 = non-political/non-partisan are not involved	no

Court_12	Scope of the power of members of government to confirm constitutional court judges in office, in terms of number of judges	ordinal	benefit	1 = members of the government are not involved 0.5 = members of the government confirm some judges 0 = members of the government confirm all judges	no
Court_13	Constraints on the power of government to confirm constitutional court judges in office, in terms of unilateral executive appointment of some or all judges	binary	benefit	1 = members of government do not confirm judges unilaterally 0 = members of government confirm unilaterally some or all judges	no
Court_14	Scope of the power of non-political/non-partisan actors to confirm constitutional court judges, in terms of number of judges	ordinal	benefit	2 = non-political/non-partisan actors confirm all judges 1 = non-political/non-partisan actors confirm some judges 0 = non-political/non-partisan actors not involved	no
Court_15	Involvement of constitutional court members in appointing the court's President	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_16	The term of office for constitutional court judges is longer than that of parliamentary terms	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_17	Prohibition of re-election of constitutional judges	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_18	Protection of constitutional court members from dismissal	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_19	Restrictions on political appointees (e.g., party members, candidates for/elected to a government office before appointment) to the constitutional court	ordinal	benefit	1 = individuals with a political background cannot be appointed to any position of the constitutional court 0.5 = Individuals with a political background cannot be appointed to the top positions of the constitutional court 0 = individuals with a political background can be appointed to constitutional court	no
Court_20	Requirement of legal expertise for appointment to the constitutional court	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_21	Restriction on constitutional court members on holding other offices in government	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_22	Restrictions on political activity (e.g. party or trade union membership) by constitutional court members	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no

Court_23	Cooling off period for constitutional court members before appointment to other offices in government	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_24	Specification of Court_23: Duration of cooling off period in months	discrete	benefit	Duration of cooling off period in months (no upper limit)	yes
Court_25	Constitutional court members are protected from prosecution for opinion and votes made in the course of their duties	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_26	Special procedure for criminal action against constitutional court members (e.g. a prior authorization of the court is needed to bring criminal action against its members; only the court itself can bring criminal action against its members)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_27	Ordinary courts can ask the Constitutional or High Court to review a law if they believe it might be unconstitutional	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_28	Power of regular/ordinary courts assess the constitutionality of statutes	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_29	Constitutional review can occur independently of a specific legal dispute	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, public bodies and individuals can apply regardless of being affected 0.5 = yes, but only public bodies can apply for this type of proceedings 0 = no	no
Court_30	Possibility to review the constitutionality of (some or all) ordinary bills	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
Court_31	Natural or legal persons can lodge a constitutional complaint to a court/constitutional review body if their fundamental rights are violated by a public authority	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, direct access 0.5 = yes, but only after the legal remedies before the ordinary courts have been exhausted 0 = no	no
Court_32	Possibility for <i>ex ante</i> review of constitutional amendment by Constitutional Court	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURE (NHRS)					
Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/Benefit	Values	High Values
NHRS_1	Existence and remit of a dedicated infrastructure/actor/body (e.g. Ombudsman, human rights commissioner) for examining rights violations	ordinal	benefit	2 = yes, with a broad remit dealing covering human rights in general	no

				1 = yes, but only with a limited remit covering specific areas (e.g. equality, anti-corruption) 0 = no	
NHRS_2	“Location” of the national human rights structure in relation to executive and legislative branches	ordinal	benefit	2 = outside of either government branch 1 = embedded in parliament 0 = embedded in the executive/forms part of the executive	no
NHRS_3	Legal underpinning of the national human rights structure	ordinal	benefit	2 = infrastructure enshrined in the national constitution 1 = infrastructure enshrined in statutory law 0 = neither in statutory law nor constitutional provisions (e.g. based on executive decree)	no
NHRS_4	Scope of the power of members of government to propose human rights commissioners, in terms of number of commissioners	ordinal	benefit	1 = members of government are not involved 0.5 = members of government propose some commissioners 0 = members of government propose all commissioners	no
NHRS_5	Constraints on the power of government to propose human rights commissioners unilaterally	binary	benefit	1 = members of government do not propose commissioners unilaterally 0 = members of government propose some or all commissioners unilaterally	no
NHRS_6	Scope of the power of non-political/non-partisan actors to propose human rights commissioners, in terms of number of commissioners	ordinal	benefit	2 = non-political/non-partisan actors propose all commissioners 1 = non-political/non-partisan actors propose some commissioners 0 = non-political/non-partisan actors do not propose commissioners	no
NHRS_7	Scope of the power of government to confirm human rights commissioners, in terms of number of commissioners	ordinal	benefit	1 = members of government are not involved 0.5 = members of government confirm some commissioners 0 = members of government confirm all commissioners	no
NHRS_8	Constraints on the power of government to confirm human rights commissioners unilaterally	binary	benefit	1 = members of government do not confirm commissioners unilaterally	no

				0 = members of government confirm unilaterally some or all commissioners	
NHRS_9	Scope of the power of non-political/non-partisan actors to confirm human rights commissioners, in terms of number of commissioners	ordinal	benefit	2 = non-political/non-partisan actors to confirm all commissioners 1 = non-political/non-partisan actors to confirm some commissioners 0 = non-political/non-partisan actors are not involved	no
NHRS_10	If applicable, Parliamentary majority for proposing or confirming human rights commissioners in %	discrete	benefit	Necessary majority in the first house of parliament in % (Maximum value = 100)	yes
NHRS_11	The term of office for human rights commissioners is longer than that of parliamentary terms	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_12	Prohibition of re-election of human rights commissioner	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_13	Protection of members of human rights commission/the commissioner against dismissal	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_14	Human rights commissioners/the commissioner are protected from prosecution for opinion and actions made in the course of their duties	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_15	Restrictions on political appointees (e.g., party members, candidates for/elected to a government office before appointment) to human rights commission	ordinal	benefit	1 = individuals with a political background cannot be appointed to any position of the commission 0.5 = Individuals with a political background cannot be appointed to the top positions of the commission 0 = individuals with a political background can be appointed to commission	no
NHRS_16	Requirement of professional expertise for appointment to the human rights commission	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_17	Restriction on human rights commissioners to hold other offices in government	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_18	Restrictions on political activity (e.g. party or trade union membership) by human rights commissioners during term	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_19	Cooling off period for human rights commissioners before appointment to other offices in government	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_20	Specification of NHRS_19: Duration of cooling off period for human rights commissioners in months	discrete	benefit	Duration of cooling off period for human rights commissioners in months (no upper limit)	yes
NHRS_21	Power of oversight body/commissioner to investigate proactively human rights violations	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, on own initiative 0.5 = only when formally approached by third party	no

				0 = no	
NHRS_22	Power of oversight body/commissioner to review classified documents (e.g. military or national security documents)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_23	Power of oversight body/commissioner to inspect the premises of public bodies	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_24	Power of oversight body/commissioner to propose legislation/legislative amendments to ensure respect for human rights	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_25	Power of oversight body/commissioner to request constitutional review of enacted laws	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, also independent of specific application 0.5 = yes, if a specific case of application is brought to commission 0 = no	no
NHRS_26	Power of oversight body/commissioner to request constitutional review of laws before approval/enforcement	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_27	Power of oversight body/commissioner to initiate/support individual judicial cases (e.g. acting as plaintiff, referring cases to higher courts or providing supporting evidence)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_28	Access to oversight body/commissioner is free of charge	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_29	Access to oversight body/commissioner does not require legal assistance	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
NHRS_30	Right of individuals to approach the oversight body/commissioner with a case/complaint directly	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, also if they are not directly affected 0.5 = yes, if they are directly affected 0 = no	no
NHRS_31	Right of corporate/institutional actors to approach the oversight body/commissioner with a case/complaint directly	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, also if they are not directly affected 0.5 = yes, if they are directly affected/ speak on behalf of someone directly affected 0 = no	no

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

Indicator Name	Indicator Description	Indicator Type	Obligation/ Benefit	Values	High Values
FOI_1	The legal framework recognizes a fundamental right of access to information	ordinal	benefit	2 = yes, legal recognition in the Constitution 1 = yes, legal recognition in statutory law 0 = no	no

FOI_2	Everyone (e.g. legal entities, non-citizens) has the right to file requests for information	ordinal	benefit	2 = natural and legal persons 1 = all natural persons 0.5 = only residents/citizens 0 = no	no
FOI_3	Right of access to information applies to all material held by public authorities	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_4	Right to access to information applies to both specific documents and information	binary	benefit	1 = yes, documents AND information 0.5 = specific documents OR information	no
FOI_5	Right of access to information applies to the executive branch	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_6	Specification of FOI_5: Scope of the right of access to information: 1. Head of state, 2. Cabinet of Ministers, 3. Government ministries/departments, 4. Local/regional governments, 5. Police/armed forces/ security services, 6. Governmental agencies	discrete	benefit	Score from 0 (applies to none) to 6 (applies to all)	no
FOI_7	Extent of the right of access to information within the legislature	ordinal	benefit	1 = all functions of all legislative bodies 0.5 = some legislative bodies and/or some functions 0 = not covered	no
FOI_8	Extent of the right of access to information within the judicial branch	ordinal	benefit	1 = all functions of all legislative bodies 0.5 = some legislative bodies and/or some functions 0 = not covered	no
FOI_9	Extent of the right of access to information for national institutes, independent regulatory authorities, oversight bodies	ordinal	benefit	1 = all functions of all legislative bodies 0.5 = some legislative bodies and/or some functions 0 = not covered	no
FOI_10	Individuals/entities are not required to provide reasons for freedom of information requests	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_11	Existence of clear and reasonable maximum timelines exist for responding to freedom of information requests	ordinal	benefit	1 = limit of 20 working days/30 calendar days 0.5 = limit above 20 working days/30 calendar days 0 = no	no
FOI_12	National law defines clear rules on information access fees	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no

FOI_13	Exceptions in the freedom of information law are aligned with internationally recognized standards (e.g. internationally recognized exceptions due to privacy, national security)	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_14	Requirement that information is released as soon as a freedom of information exception ceases to apply	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_15	Severability clause that requires non-exempt parts of a record to be disclosed	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes 0.5 = yes, but only if revealing part of the record wouldn't be misleading 0 = no	no
FOI_16	Requirement for public authorities to provide legal grounds and reasons for refusing access to information	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, reasons need to be provided 0.5 = yes, reasons need to be provided only if the requester demands them 0 = no	no
FOI_17	Requirement for public authorities to establish an internal freedom of information appeal procedure	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, with clear time limit to receive responses 0.5 yes, without time limit 0 = no	no
FOI_18	Right of freedom of information requesters to lodge an external appeal with an oversight body (e.g. Information Commissioner/Ombudsman)	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, full 0.5 yes, restricted to specific public bodies or specific categories 0 = no	no
FOI_19	Protection of freedom of information oversight body members from arbitrary dismissal	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_20	Requirement of professional expertise for members of the freedom of information oversight body	ordinal	benefit	1 = yes, for all members of the oversight body 0.5 = yes, only for a few members of the body 0 = no	no
FOI_21	Power of freedom of information oversight body to review classified documents	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_22	Power of freedom of information oversight body to inspect the premises of public bodies	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_23	Freedom of information oversight bodies' decisions are binding	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_24	Freedom of information requesters have the right to lodge a judicial appeal	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no

FOI_25	Sanctions (e.g. fines, disciplinary liability) for unlawful destruction of information or documents	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no
FOI_26	Sanctions (e.g. fines, disciplinary liability) for failure to disclose information	binary	benefit	1 = benefit is present 0 = benefit is absent	no