

PRESS RELEASE

World Peace Forum's 16th Report: *World Peace Index 2017*

February 2018

World Peace Forum

Abstract

- The World Peace Forum announces the *World Peace Index 2017*, the 16th report in February 2018.
- The World Peace Forum calculated the index for 143 countries 2001-2016, and calculated the index for 195 countries that added 52 countries by 2017. The Score of World Peace Index for the 143 countries was 69.6 points in 2014, 67.4 points in 2015, 66.9 points in 2016, and 66.9 points in 2017. The scores of 2016-2017 are the lowest level since the World Peace Forum began indexing. The Index score of 195 countries is 68.0 in 2017. It is due to the inclusion of many lots of countries in the newly added 52 countries.
- In the *World Peace Index 2017*, Denmark is the most peaceful country in the world with a Peace Index of 90.8. South Sudan is measured as the most vulnerable country with a Peace Index of 20.2.
- In the *World Peace Index 2017*, each country in the world categorized into five groups of peace level. The first tier consists of the countries with the peace index 80 points or higher; the second tier with the index between 70-79 points; the third tier with the index between 60-69 points; the fourth tier with the index between 50-59 points; and the fifth tier countries show the score lower than 50.
- The Tier 1 (Very High Level) consists of 42 countries, including European countries such as Denmark and Germany, and Canada, and Asia and the Pacific countries such as Australia, Japan and Taiwan.
- The Tier 2 (High Level) consists of the United States, the strongest nation in the world, as well as other 54 countries, including European countries such as Britain, France, Spain and Greece, and Asian countries such as Korea and Malaysia.
- The Tier 3 (Medium Level) includes Asian countries such as China, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, Middle Eastern countries such as Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, Central and South American countries like Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico, as well as African countries such as South Africa, Madagascar and Burkina Faso. It covers 45 developing countries.
- The Tier 4 (Low Level) is composed of 36 countries: Russia, and Asian countries such as India, Bangladesh, Nepal and North Korea, Middle Eastern countries like Turkey, Iran, Israel, Palestine, Algeria and Egypt, and African countries including Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Liberia and Cote D'ivoire. Most of them except Israel and Russia are

economically underdeveloped countries.

- The Tier 5 (Very Low Level) consists of 17 countries, including African countries such as South Sudan, Sudan and Somalia, and Middle Eastern countries such as Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen and Iraq.
- The World Power's Paradox on Peace: USA ranked 83rd, China ranked 141st, Russia ranked 176th, India ranked 154th, and Brazil ranked 125th
- The PI of the United States is 72.0. And the United States ranked 83rd in *WPI 2017*. It is regrettable to see the US not being included in the top tier in spite of its leadership in the world order.
- The point of China's PI in 2017 is 61.2 and the rank is 141st. China is included in medium tier.
- The point of Russia in *WPI 2017* is 50.6. She is included low PI tier, and the rank is 176th.
- The point of India in the *WPI 2017* is 56.1. She is also included in the low tier and the rank is 154th.
- The point of Brazil in the *WPI 2017* is 62.8. She is included in the medium tier and the rank is 125th.
- The peace level of Europe is generally high. But with the exception of Germany (2nd), only Italy (31st) is included in very high tier. Other European power countries like the United Kingdom (56th), France (59th) and Spain (62nd) are included not in the top tier but in the second high tier. Although these countries form main countries in Europe, they did not carry out leading roles for the world peace.
- Two Koreas: South Korea ranked 70th, and North Korea ranked 163rd
- The PI of South Korea is 75.3. She is also included in the high tier and the rank is 70th. The point of North Korea in the *WPI 2017* is 54.8. She is also included in the low tier and the rank is 163rd.
- Looking at 143 countries for comparison with the past, Korea ranked 51st in 2015, 52nd in 2016, and 46th in 2017, and North Korea dropped 114th in 2015 and 114th in 2016, and 116th in 2017, respectively. North Korea's nuclear and missile tests have made the inter-Korean relations worse. The gap in the level of peace is widening as much as the economic gap between North and South Korea. However, if the peace structure of North Korea is not improved, the level of peace in Korea can not be improved dramatically.

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PRESS RELEASE

World Peace Forum (Kim Jin-Hyun, Chairman of WPF and former Minister of Science and Technology) has now published its sixteenth annual report, *World Peace Index 2017: Assessing the State of Peace in the Nations of the World*. The *World Peace Index* (WPI) is not only the most scientific and comprehensive research ever conducted in South Korea, but also the only world peace index released by South Korea. It was first published as *Culture of Peace Index* in 2000, and changed its title to “World Peace Index” in 2001. For this year’s report, they studied 195 countries around the world that have statistical data available as from January 1, 2017. They synthetically analyzed and evaluated the state of peace in each country in terms of their domestic politics, military-diplomacy, and socio-economics. This report is published by World Peace Forum in Seoul on February 9, 2018.

Overview

Having 0:00 o'clock on January 1st, 2017 as a reference point, the state of world peace over the past year to the present was measured, and the result of *World Peace Index* (WPI) for 2017 recorded 68.0. It was the overall average of three dimensions: 70.4 for political PI, 71.2 for military-diplomatic PI, 62.3 for socio-economic PI. When compared with the overall WPI 2016 66.9, which was the lowest from 2001, WPI 2017 raised about 1 point. But we should not make a hasty conclusion of improvement of world peace situation, because the peace index of newly added 52 countries were not so low (see Table 1). The overall situation of world peace could not improved last year.

Figure 1 shows the trend of WPI over the past 17 years. In the early 2000's when the World Trade Center in New York was hit by the terror attacks and the wars broke out in Iraq and Afghanistan, the world peace index got lowered. Since then, the world peace gradually increased until it hit the highest point in 2010, and then gradually decreasing again. This was mainly caused by the global financial crisis

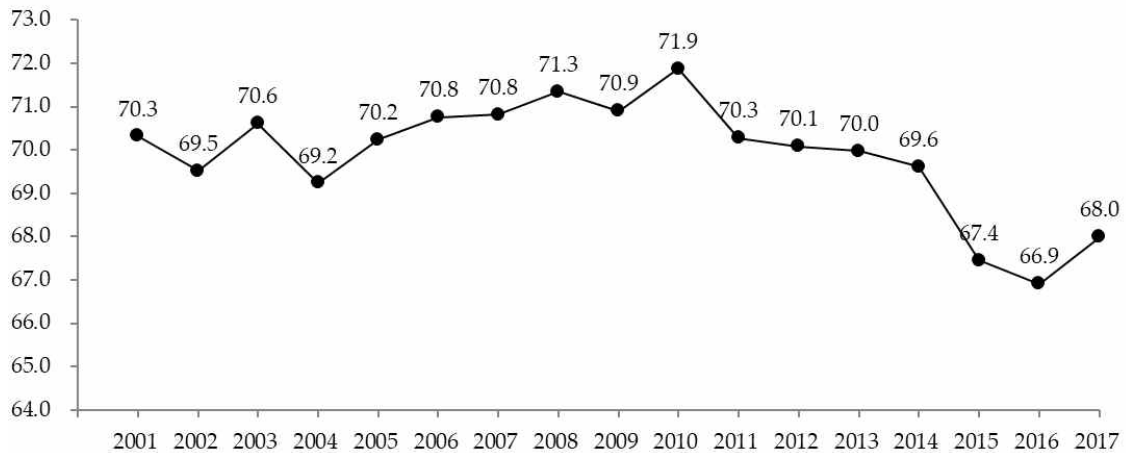


Figure 1. World Peace Index 2001-2017

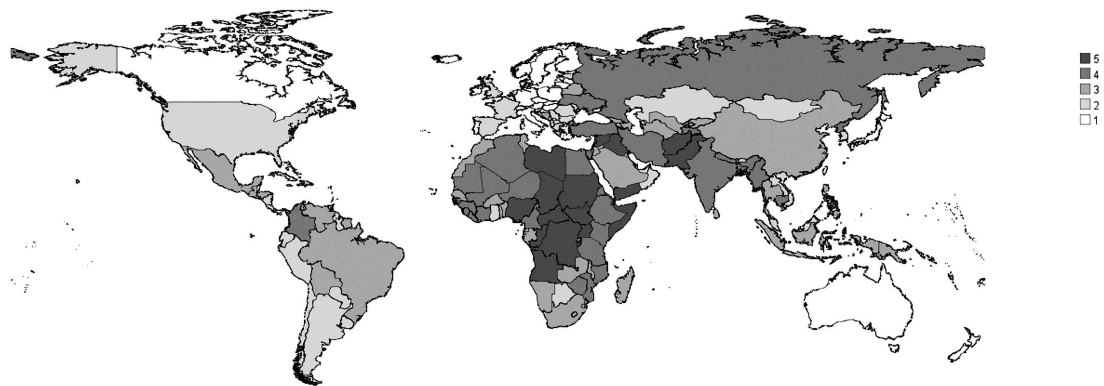


Figure 2. Five Tiers of WPI 2017 by Country

erupted in late 2008 starting from United States reverberating over the whole world threatening social and political stability, and recently arose political confusion and military conflicts in the Arab countries. However, from 2014, the WPI was sharply dropping again. In a broad way, political peace of each countries did not deteriorated. But in the military-diplomatic dimension, terrors, which were initiated by Islamic State (IS), are diffused around the world, and Cold war era strong states such as Russia and China actively intervened military power to the world affairs. And in Socio-economic dimension, the world economy was depressing and the gap of inequality wes widening.

Table 1 shows the scores of 195 countries calculated in the *World Peace Index 2017* and point changes in the meantime. Figure 2 is a map categorized each country in the

Table 1. Scores of WPI 2001-2017

Tiers	Nation	WPI																
		2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Tier 1 (Very High)	Denmark	90.8	88.6	88.0	90.9	87.4	89.9	89.3	90.4	93.5	88.0	87.9	90.5	90.5	85.0	90.6	87.4	92.8
	Germany	89.9	90.0	89.6	92.6	92.1	88.9	84.6	87.4	87.3	81.5	87.2	90.7	92.9	86.6	86.6	86.2	89.2
	Liechtenstein	89.9																
	Canada	89.2	89.2	89.4	89.6	86.3	88.8	87.9	85.7	85.8	86.0	85.8	88.5	88.4	91.2	88.9	88.5	88.6
	Ireland	89.0	88.8	88.1	87.9	84.9	84.7	87.0	89.8	90.1	90.1	90.2	87.9	90.0	89.7	89.4	80.6	88.0
	Norway	88.9	90.1	85.6	88.9	85.4	85.4	87.1	92.2	92.2	86.6	92.0	91.9	91.9	89.3	92.0	91.7	88.7
	New Zealand	88.7	89.0	88.4	86.2	88.2	82.8	85.7	88.3	91.4	85.9	88.8	91.4	88.3	88.1	85.3	90.0	90.3
	Austria	88.5	88.7	88.5	88.8	91.1	90.9	89.7	89.6	92.0	92.3	87.0	93.6	92.4	86.8	86.5	86.8	88.4
	Monaco	88.3																
	Iceland	88.3	88.3	89.5	89.7	89.7	90.9	86.7	90.1	81.9	93.2	93.4	93.4	93.0	93.4	93.1	87.5	93.0
	Luxembourg	88.1	88.5	86.9	87.0	86.6	86.9	86.0	89.8	89.8	90.0	90.0	89.8	90.1	87.4	90.5	90.4	90.4
	Malta	87.3	87.6	87.1	87.4	87.3	87.1	86.6	88.8	85.8	88.8	88.8	88.3	88.4	86.3	89.2	89.2	89.4
	San Marino	87.2																
	Andorra	87.1																
	Finland	87.1	87.4	87.2	87.4	87.0	87.4	85.7	89.4	87.0	83.8	89.4	87.7	86.5	83.5	86.3	89.1	87.9
	Switzerland	86.2	86.2	88.9	91.8	88.5	90.9	89.5	93.3	93.4	93.4	93.9	93.2	93.3	87.5	87.9	87.1	88.3
	Slovenia	86.0	86.0	88.0	86.8	84.0	86.1	85.2	91.0	85.3	90.9	90.7	87.6	90.2	83.9	89.1	88.6	89.2
	Sweden	85.8	86.5	88.9	89.4	91.4	91.5	90.0	93.5	93.4	93.1	93.3	90.2	93.2	87.7	87.7	89.6	92.2
	Poland	85.6	85.4	87.5	84.8	84.2	83.8	83.2	85.0	87.1	77.6	77.3	79.7	84.7	73.2	81.5	73.8	85.3
	Netherlands	85.3	88.4	87.7	91.1	90.7	88.0	89.8	92.6	91.9	86.5	92.4	88.7	92.5	89.7	92.5	86.6	91.9
	Australia	84.6	85.2	82.6	85.9	87.8	84.7	84.2	87.5	90.3	87.7	90.4	87.7	79.0	76.4	83.1	87.1	84.3
	Japan	84.3	83.8	84.9	85.1	81.7	84.6	85.8	85.0	82.0	82.0	82.0	84.5	87.0	81.8	87.5	84.8	89.7
	Hungary	84.0	87.5	86.4	83.6	81.0	77.6	83.1	82.5	88.5	83.2	83.1	86.0	84.9	76.2	81.7	81.4	81.1
	Slovakia	83.9	83.6	82.9	84.2	86.8	83.3	83.8	85.1	87.6	86.9	83.6	86.0	85.7	79.5	82.3	82.6	86.7
	Belgium	83.2	85.8	85.4	88.3	85.2	85.2	86.7	81.5	84.3	87.0	87.2	89.9	90.3	84.6	89.6	86.4	88.6
	Saint Vincent Grenadines	83.0																
	Czech	82.9	83.1	82.0	85.9	85.9	86.0	84.4	83.8	86.5	88.9	83.0	84.5	87.1	81.1	83.5	86.9	84.1
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	82.4																
	Saint Lucia	82.1																
	Singapore	82.0	79.0	78.5	78.5	80.1	79.9	78.1	81.4	81.4	81.5	80.9	80.4	80.2	74.8	77.5	79.7	80.4
	Italy	82.0	82.1	81.7	81.9	81.6	79.4	83.7	86.6	86.6	81.9	81.5	86.9	83.6	80.5	86.0	83.0	85.0
	Palau	82.0																
	Portugal	81.9	79.0	77.9	78.5	78.5	78.5	80.3	84.2	86.9	87.2	84.6	81.4	86.9	81.7	87.2	84.0	86.3
Mauritius	81.7	81.0	81.5	81.6	81.1	81.4	81.2	84.6	84.0	83.6	83.9	82.7	82.9	82.9	82.8	82.1	82.6	
Lithuania	81.3	80.4	81.4	79.8	81.4	80.0	80.1	83.4	83.5	83.1	82.7	78.8	74.4	76.6	80.4	79.8	82.0	
Antigua Barbuda	80.6																	
Marshall Islands	80.5																	
Dominica	80.5																	
Barbados	80.3																	
Bahamas	80.2	81.5	82.2	84.6	84.4	85.5	83.7	85.2	78.8	81.5	84.1	84.5	81.3	83.6	83.8	83.7	83.7	
Taiwan	80.2	80.6	79.5	76.7	79.2	81.7	81.2	82.5	76.9	82.8	80.0	77.9	79.0	75.4	75.5	77.8	72.9	
Latvia	80.0	80.4	80.2	80.6	79.8	78.7	78.4	76.9	80.3	79.9	82.8	79.2	80.9	81.1	81.1	80.1	80.3	
Tier 2 (High)	Micronesia	79.6																
	Chile	79.5	79.9	78.2	78.7	80.9	75.3	77.3	75.8	81.3	78.6	81.1	84.5	83.0	79.8	79.5	79.7	83.6
	Tuvalu	79.5																
	Kiribati	79.5																
	Croatia	79.4	76.7	78.3	77.4	74.5	79.7	79.4	81.2	81.0	80.7	74.6	79.6	78.0	74.8	75.2	72.4	73.4
	Vanuatu	79.3																
	Grenada	79.2																
	Costa Rica	78.5	77.2	75.0	78.3	81.2	80.0	81.5	81.3	86.7	86.2	80.2	80.0	86.0	85.6	85.3	82.4	79.2
	Panama	78.3	78.8	78.5	78.6	76.3	78.9	76.2	83.4	77.6	76.7	81.8	78.8	78.6	75.9	81.5	81.3	80.6
	Uruguay	78.2	78.7	82.5	83.7	83.3	82.9	83.0	79.3	84.3	81.3	83.3	79.8	82.7	82.9	83.0	82.6	83.0
	Samoa	78.2																
	Romania	78.2	77.8	80.0	77.7	74.1	75.4	76.1	78.4	81.4	75.8	77.7	75.7	69.9	66.6	77.4	71.9	74.0
	Tonga	77.5																
	United Kingdom	77.2	79.5	78.5	82.1	80.6	77.9	80.2	79.7	85.1	85.4	88.1	85.8	82.0	76.5	81.7	78.6	78.6
	Estonia	77.2	77.7	76.3	80.5	82.4	81.3	81.0	85.6	85.8	82.9	85.1	78.9	83.7	82.6	82.8	80.9	83.5
	Malaysia	77.2	75.9	77.9	75.2	74.3	73.8	76.6	72.1	77.6	71.5	74.1	73.9	71.6	70.0	75.0	72.4	67.3
	France	77.0	77.9	77.3	81.7	81.3	80.6	82.8	83.1	80.2	77.9	77.8	77.6	80.0	80.2	79.7	82.2	78.7
	Montenegro	77.0																
	Seychelles	76.9																
	Spain	76.6	76.6	78.9	79.8	79.7	79.3	81.7	80.1	74.7	83.7	83.3	88.9	71.9	68.6	79.0	84.2	81.6
	Belize	76.6																
	Cabo Verde	76.6																
	Brunei	76.6																
	Bulgaria	76.5	77.0	76.2	79.2	79.0	80.1	78.3	83.4	80.2	80.3	82.6	81.5	71.4	73.5	75.3	75.2	77.9
	Mongolia	76.4	75.2	73.4	75.6	76.2	72.5	78.4	80.2	75.1	78.6	72.4	75.1	78.9	74.4	77.6	72.6	71.4
	Albania	76.0	73.0	75.4	76.7	79.3	79.0	77.6	79.8	74.7	75.2	79.6	79.6	75.8	74.7	74.6	75.5	75.0

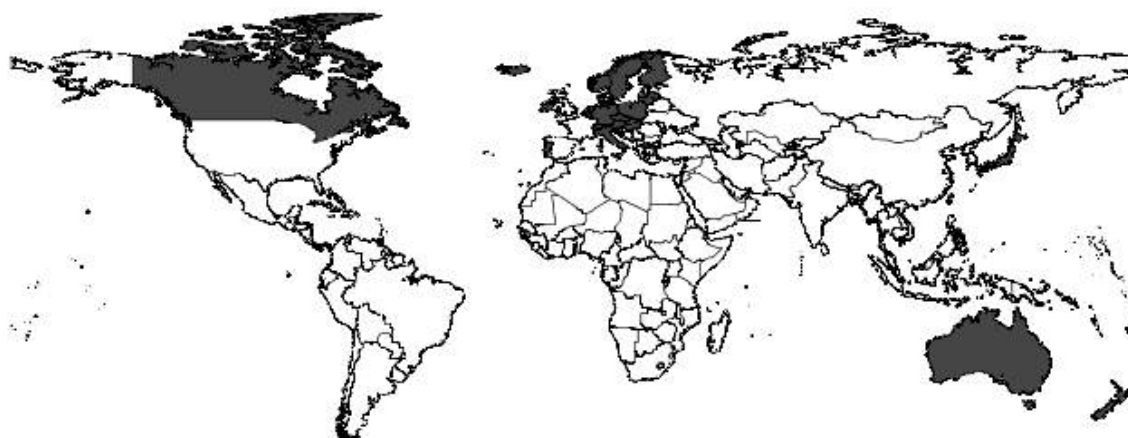
Tiers	Nation	WPI																		
		2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001		
Tier 2 (High)	Qatar	75.9	76.0	76.7	77.5	76.8	73.2	74.5	78.0	73.8	75.5	71.5	69.9	69.2	69.1	65.3	73.4			
	Korea, Republic of	75.3	72.7	72.9	76.2	78.5	77.6	72.4	76.5	70.8	74.2	77.0	76.3	78.2	77.7	72.6	74.8	72.5		
	Kazakhstan	75.0	77.7	75.7	73.6	72.7	71.9	74.8	79.5	79.2	78.9	74.6	74.2	77.1	71.8	71.4	70.9	77.9		
	Nauru	75.0																		
	Serbia	74.6																		
	Bhutan	74.6																		
	Cyprus	74.6																		
	Argentina	74.1	73.9	71.1	73.7	76.1	75.7	78.5	75.8	72.4	72.5	76.8	68.1	76.2	74.0	73.4	67.7	73.5		
	Guyana	73.6																		
	Fiji	73.4	74.3	72.6	74.8	71.3	76.6	71.5	78.9	73.6	80.6	77.5	81.2	80.2	79.9	80.2	80.0	82.4		
	Maldives	73.2																		
	Oman	73.1	74.3	73.9	75.5	74.6	71.8	75.8	74.8	73.7	73.6	76.6	76.3	71.9	73.8	70.6	65.4	73.9		
	Ecuador	72.6	76.0	76.4	76.5	76.2	66.7	71.5	68.5	68.3	73.8	73.9	72.6	74.7	68.5	68.1	71.3	76.2		
	Jamaica	72.1	73.4	74.0	75.8	78.7	78.0	75.4	80.9	75.5	74.8	80.6	75.7	77.7	80.7	77.3	74.3	75.1		
	United States	72.0	72.2	69.2	69.6	71.1	70.8	70.5	80.1	78.7	79.1	78.8	78.8	75.8	70.9	76.2	79.7	82.4		
	Macedonia	71.9																		
	United Arab Emirates	71.7	72.4	72.8	76.5	75.5	72.1	71.5	77.2	73.7	78.5	75.7	73.0	74.5	70.4	72.4	66.4	72.6		
	Greece	71.6	71.9	71.1	71.0	69.8	68.1	67.7	71.8	75.1	78.3	80.5	76.7	78.6	78.5	78.5	78.5	76.1		
	Vietnam	71.5	64.4	64.4	67.8	65.9	69.0	67.0	63.6	63.1	60.8	63.0	57.8	57.9	64.2	63.3	53.7	67.7		
	Botswana	71.3	68.9	69.1	75.8	74.6	73.6	73.1	70.2	71.8	68.9	68.7	64.7	72.2	72.6	72.5	73.3	69.6		
	Laos	71.1	69.3	69.8	67.6	66.1	67.8	69.0	68.1	71.0	70.6	69.8	66.4	67.8	65.4	68.0	62.6	61.0		
	Moldova	70.9	69.5	69.7	79.4	75.9	73.5	76.9	73.7	79.0	72.4	75.0	77.1	75.5	67.0	75.3	75.6	65.3		
	Ghana	70.9	72.4	70.2	73.9	72.9	73.9	74.5	75.6	76.0	73.6	73.2	75.8	77.5	76.7	76.0	70.2	75.6		
	Peru	70.9	68.4	68.9	69.0	71.0	71.0	70.2	61.0	69.0	68.3	70.8	59.2	67.3	65.0	62.4	70.6	60.9		
	Nicaragua	70.9	71.3	61.0	64.1	68.2	64.6	69.9	67.7	68.1	68.3	62.7	68.0	69.4	69.7	66.3	64.5	56.8		
	Kuwait	70.8	71.2	72.1	74.5	72.6	70.5	72.2	79.4	74.8	79.4	78.8	77.1	77.1	68.8	71.6	77.3	78.4		
	Paraguay	70.3	67.0	65.2	65.1	69.5	75.1	72.6	78.2	77.9	77.7	77.9	71.7	76.8	77.1	70.4	76.1	64.7		
	Trinidad Tobago	70.2	71.6	72.5	73.7	78.9	73.7	79.3	82.6	82.6	82.2	80.1	79.9	79.7	79.3	80.0	79.4	80.3		
	Cuba	70.2	70.8	75.2	70.8	72.9	71.2	70.1	77.1	77.3	68.6	73.8	68.8	70.8	73.9	73.9	66.5	75.1		
	Tier 3 (Medium)	Bosnia Herzegovina	69.8																	
	Namibia	69.6	69.4	68.6	72.2	71.8	71.0	70.9	74.9	73.5	74.4	73.1	73.3	71.9	72.2	69.8	69.5	74.7		
	Mexico	69.5	69.0	70.0	70.3	70.4	75.1	77.8	75.6	75.8	67.5	67.3	81.3	83.5	80.4	74.4	82.6	70.5		
	El Salvador	69.3	72.2	72.4	72.4	72.2	69.2	72.2	71.2	74.9	76.7	73.7	70.6	73.2	75.4	75.0	68.9	75.4		
	Senegal	69.2	65.5	64.7	64.8	63.3	71.6	70.4	72.4	67.6	70.6	72.8	72.7	72.3	72.3	68.8	71.4	70.5		
São Tomé and Príncipe	69.2																			
Bolivia	69.0	71.6	69.3	72.5	69.1	69.1	73.1	65.6	71.2	68.1	70.9	70.8	76.5	68.4	80.0	70.4	71.4			
Indonesia	68.9	68.7	67.2	67.4	66.2	65.4	62.3	60.9	60.8	65.5	65.4	59.3	55.5	56.1	57.1	57.0	57.6			
Belarus	68.7	68.1	70.9	74.4	68.2	66.8	74.0	78.5	73.1	69.7	69.3	74.7	75.6	71.6	77.8	76.6	79.2			
Turkmenistan	68.5																			
Kyrgyzstan	68.0	70.6	71.8	73.8	71.0	72.8	74.9	73.8	74.2	75.7	69.7	67.6	71.8	71.3	70.3	67.2	70.6			
Benin	67.9																			
Timor Leste	67.9																			
Comoros	67.9																			
Togo	67.8	65.7	68.2	68.9	68.7	71.4	67.7	71.9	71.5	69.0	71.2	66.0	70.8	71.1	71.1	71.2	63.0			
Georgia	67.6	67.9	65.3	63.8	63.6	64.6	63.5	66.5	53.5	63.9	58.8	64.0	66.0	68.6	63.2	60.4	64.6			
Morocco	67.4	65.4	62.3	68.0	67.5	63.8	64.6	65.2	65.4	68.4	65.1	67.5	61.4	63.4	63.2	59.6	63.7			
Tunisia	67.3	67.9	71.4	70.9	73.1	76.0	76.4	76.0	76.1	76.2	76.4	76.2	76.1	73.2	75.7	72.9	70.3			
Suriname	67.1																			
Papua New Guinea	66.7	66.3	67.2	69.3	67.6	73.7	73.8	70.7	73.0	67.9	67.9	67.9	73.0	71.0	71.0	73.8	74.0			
Thailand	66.6	68.4	68.8	70.1	66.6	68.6	65.4	67.9	72.9	70.4	67.5	67.9	68.1	68.3	73.4	66.9	69.8			
Dominican Republic	66.5	65.8	69.1	68.4	69.1	71.2	66.3	74.5	70.7	71.7	67.9	71.0	70.9	62.8	72.8	68.0	73.3			
Saudi Arabia	66.5	66.3	69.3	75.7	70.5	73.6	73.7	69.1	71.5	71.8	65.9	65.5	67.8	59.7	70.8	71.2	75.8			
South Africa	66.3	68.3	69.9	70.3	72.4	74.7	75.4	76.7	76.4	74.0	75.3	75.4	75.5	70.1	76.5	76.7	74.2			
Honduras	66.2	65.5	66.8	67.2	69.3	69.1	75.7	76.6	71.2	76.6	75.8	75.1	68.9	68.3	76.1	67.8	76.5			
Malawi	66.1	62.6	64.6	68.7	64.9	68.6	66.5	73.1	68.4	71.2	69.8	69.3	63.5	60.7	64.3	69.2	70.6			
Gabon	66.0	67.8	69.6	70.3	72.3	71.7	71.0	69.1	74.6	74.7	72.7	70.0	72.9	69.9	69.7	72.3	71.6			
Brazil	65.8	66.9	68.1	69.0	68.0	70.2	72.2	76.4	76.1	76.0	75.6	72.7	75.5	69.5	69.0	63.3	71.5			
Equatorial Guinea	65.6																			
Solomon Islands	65.3																			
Armenia	64.4	62.5	64.9	67.0	62.5	65.1	64.8	68.8	63.2	72.3	66.1	62.5	70.1	71.0	70.7	67.7	68.6			
Sri Lanka	63.9	67.1	61.0	67.0	68.8	67.0	67.0	51.2	52.0	58.1	56.0	55.5	60.9	61.5	69.0	57.6	55.8			
Venezuela	63.4	63.8	66.2	72.1	73.9	72.1	72.9	76.6	76.7	72.4	75.1	68.9	65.9	74.4	74.5	69.3	69.5			
Swaziland	63.4																			
Jordan	63.2	65.2	64.7	62.3	63.0	60.0	59.5	64.7	65.3	69.0	63.2	62.5	62.3	64.5	64.3	62.3	66.9			
Uzbekistan	62.8	61.6	62.0	66.8	66.2	68.5	65.8	72.0	70.9	67.7	71.0	63.0	59.9	72.7	71.2	63.4	72.2			
Guatemala	62.2	61.7	62.6	62.8	62.0	61.9	62.0	64.8	61.8	58.6	63.7	63.4	68.9	62.9	67.8	62.3	62.0			
Lesotho	62.2																			
Madagascar	62.1	65.2	66.2	66.9	64.5	70.0	66.6	70.3	76.6	75.6	69.8	74.8	71.5	73.7	68.4	72.8	68.1			
Azerbaijan	62.0	63.1	66.0	67.5	66.0	68.6	67.6	70.5	67.3	67.5	68.1	66.4	65.9	66.9	64.2	66.8	59.5			
Burkina Faso	61.9	62.2	61.1	64.5	61.2	64.0	68.6	72.4	69.4	72.7	70.0	69.6	69.9	72.4	71.9	69.4	71.6			
Philippines	61.5	63.6	64.6	61.9	61.0	59.5	61.8	53.3	56.3	61.9	63.9	63.9	55.9	55.5	55.8	58.4	59.2			

Tiers	Nation	WPI																		
		2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001		
Tier 3 (Medium)	Zambia	61.4	60.2	67.7	69.8	65.9	66.6	68.0	70.6	68.8	64.8	59.5	64.8	64.1	66.5	66.6	63.5			
	China	61.2	58.1	61.0	62.8	61.4	61.7	63.6	62.7	62.9	62.7	62.6	64.2	66.6	66.4	66.4	68.7	64.6		
	Bahrain	61.0	63.7	63.8	65.5	69.3	68.9	74.0	75.5	75.8	74.9	71.1	73.5	74.5	74.7	74.7	71.7	72.4		
Tier 4 (Low)	Turkey	59.4	57.2	64.1	61.9	68.3	60.8	66.6	71.9	57.9	54.2	56.6	69.2	62.4	53.6	59.9	61.7	59.3		
	Rwanda	59.2	56.1	54.5	56.0	55.2	55.2	51.8	54.3	50.1	55.7	58.6	59.0	52.8	52.3	56.5	56.3	44.2		
	Tanzania	59.2	59.1	62.6	64.1	67.4	64.1	66.4	69.9	69.4	68.2	58.9	58.8	63.6	66.8	64.6	61.5	67.7		
	Colombia	59.0	59.5	61.8	60.3	63.1	54.1	55.7	64.1	58.6	49.1	59.5	53.8	66.3	61.0	49.8	58.9	59.0		
	Israel	59.0	56.0	58.9	60.2	62.7	64.7	54.6	62.1	65.1	70.4	59.1	69.3	60.7	64.0	66.5	69.6	66.1		
	Haiti	58.5																		
	Bangladesh	58.5	54.4	58.6	63.4	61.7	67.6	67.4	61.3	64.0	66.0	60.3	54.5	57.3	59.8	59.8	53.7	65.1		
	Nepal	57.5	56.4	60.5	64.1	62.8	60.4	58.1	60.9	53.7	56.8	53.9	50.5	49.2	52.4	49.6	52.9	60.8		
	Mauritania	57.2	57.8	59.8	59.7	60.1	62.3	59.5	67.4	62.3	68.4	61.6	58.1	50.5	58.9	64.3	64.2	59.6		
	Liberia	57.0																		
	Tajikistan	56.7	57.4	61.0	59.7	67.9	68.6	63.1	69.7	69.2	64.0	69.3	60.8	68.1	68.5	65.3	60.6	65.7		
	India	56.1	55.2	55.5	56.3	58.7	58.5	55.3	66.4	50.1	50.2	53.0	61.2	60.8	57.6	54.5	46.1	55.2		
	Palestine	55.8																		
	Cameroon	55.8	57.2	57.4	66.4	66.4	67.5	66.8	68.1	62.0	66.7	65.6	68.3	68.2	68.4	69.2	69.1	65.6		
	Gambia	55.8	57.7	62.3	67.4	65.5	68.0	67.9	68.6	69.4	70.1	69.3	69.1	69.4	69.3	63.4	61.2	61.7		
	Guinea	55.8	57.4	54.9	57.0	58.2	57.8	57.3	57.1	61.3	63.1	59.7	60.7	60.5	64.1	60.7	58.1	60.1		
	Cote D'ivoire	55.6																		
	Guinea Bissau	55.3																		
	Cambodia	55.2	51.1	49.4	50.2	55.1	56.4	53.0	51.9	46.3	54.6	57.1	56.6	55.6	54.7	53.2	55.4	55.9		
	Iran	55.0	52.2	57.5	54.9	54.1	55.1	47.6	50.7	56.7	63.8	51.9	57.7	52.6	49.0	54.1	47.8	58.5		
	Korea, DPR	54.8	54.8	56.1	60.4	59.9	56.0	55.4	60.1	54.9	54.9	52.3	54.8	53.6	53.8	59.1	53.5	58.0		
	Eritrea	54.6																		
	Djibouti	54.3																		
	Sierra Leone	54.0	54.4	55.0	58.5	57.7	60.8	61.4	62.4	61.4	55.3	60.4	60.4	59.9	60.5	60.0	54.7	49.3		
	Ukraine	53.5	53.4	56.5	68.2	75.3	74.7	75.3	75.0	74.8	68.5	70.9	72.3	67.3	65.7	62.9	62.4	69.2		
	Kenya	53.5	53.6	54.9	56.7	58.1	58.8	64.3	65.0	61.8	59.7	62.0	64.5	64.2	69.4	66.0	65.8	61.4		
	Mali	53.4	57.1	51.4	48.9	55.3	68.6	65.8	65.2	71.2	62.7	70.9	65.3	68.1	68.0	70.8	70.7	69.2		
	Niger	53.4	54.4	55.9	63.2	62.2	61.8	61.3	54.8	60.7	68.2	68.4	69.0	61.1	66.5	67.8	62.6	67.0		
	Ethiopia	52.2	52.1	59.2	53.2	52.2	49.5	54.3	45.5	49.9	49.7	41.6	52.5	57.7	52.3	52.9	53.8	54.1		
	Algeria	52.0	50.8	47.8	53.7	62.5	61.3	64.1	49.5	55.2	57.4	59.8	54.1	45.1	49.7	49.4	43.7	44.4		
Zimbabwe	51.4	49.2	49.8	46.5	56.5	56.3	54.7	60.8	54.4	48.2	55.0	56.0	47.0	49.5	63.5	56.6	51.6			
Mozambique	51.2	51.6	53.6	54.6	58.0	60.9	58.2	59.1	61.4	58.3	60.9	61.6	61.9	59.5	58.1	58.3	57.4			
Egypt	51.1	51.0	54.8	56.0	65.5	61.6	61.6	61.0	55.6	63.9	49.8	53.8	56.4	59.3	56.4	59.7	55.2			
Russia	50.6	48.9	52.2	61.3	63.0	61.0	55.9	59.8	52.8	63.0	57.2	56.0	55.9	57.4	54.5	54.3	53.5			
Myanmar	50.6	50.5	48.0	49.4	56.1	46.9	42.7	52.4	51.8	47.1	47.2	41.3	54.8	48.6	58.1	50.1	48.5			
Lebanon	50.5	50.4	49.6	58.8	60.0	59.7	57.0	58.6	58.5	54.4	51.7	54.1	53.4	50.6	59.2	59.6	57.5			
Tier 5 (Very Low)	Congo, Republic of	48.8																		
	Angola	46.1	48.4	52.3	51.7	50.9	49.8	47.0	53.3	51.0	49.7	46.6	55.3	51.8	49.9	45.4	45.9	47.2		
	Pakistan	44.9	43.3	44.5	50.1	51.8	51.8	50.6	46.0	48.7	50.2	50.0	44.6	48.1	49.0	46.0	42.9	50.0		
	Libya	44.8	48.3	50.0	58.5	58.5	60.7	62.5	63.6	60.6	66.1	66.0	62.4	61.4	61.0	63.9	59.0	64.2		
	Nigeria	44.0	43.7	47.3	45.8	47.8	53.0	53.8	57.2	53.1	52.0	48.6	46.4	47.2	50.8	51.7	55.9	50.8		
	Central African Republic	43.7	42.7	37.2	44.6	46.2	57.2	52.0	61.5	62.9	62.3	51.0	61.9	50.9	48.6	53.8	56.0	63.0		
	Iraq	42.1	41.4	39.9	42.8	47.5	42.0	31.8	40.5	34.7	39.2	42.5	35.0	30.1	28.0	49.4	49.3	38.9		
	Chad	39.4	41.9	46.1	53.3	58.1	56.8	57.2	47.6	50.5	58.7	53.1	57.5	46.4	58.3	59.6	53.7	42.7		
	Burundi	39.0	36.5	41.8	48.4	54.0	53.2	48.3	56.9	51.3	57.8	53.6	53.3	45.0	48.8	49.2	53.1	48.9		
	Uganda	38.1	38.2	39.3	54.2	51.2	55.0	49.2	50.9	44.7	49.6	49.5	52.3	46.1	49.0	50.2	58.2	58.7		
	Syria	33.9	29.4	30.4	33.5	42.0	46.8	54.6	56.5	51.3	53.3	50.0	59.8	43.2	49.6	49.5	53.9	56.9		
	Yemen	32.6	34.1	37.9	48.4	44.0	41.4	44.4	43.9	45.5	56.7	55.3	57.4	48.5	46.3	47.6	55.8	58.2		
	Congo, DR	32.4	37.2	38.5	45.2	40.3	45.5	42.4	52.5	40.9	47.2	49.2	49.5	36.8	41.7	33.1	42.4	38.9		
	Afghanistan	26.9																		
	Somalia	26.5																		
	Sudan	20.5	22.4	22.3	37.5	39.0	37.8	54.8	51.3	36.2	47.6	48.0	45.0	38.0	50.8	46.6	39.9	42.6		
	South Sudan	20.2	23.1	20.0	41.1	42.3	46.3													

world into five groups of peace level. The first tier consists of the countries with the peace index 80 points or higher; the second tier with the index between 70-79 points; the third tier with the index between 60-69 points; the fourth tier with the index between 50-59 points; and the fifth tier countries show the score lower than 50.

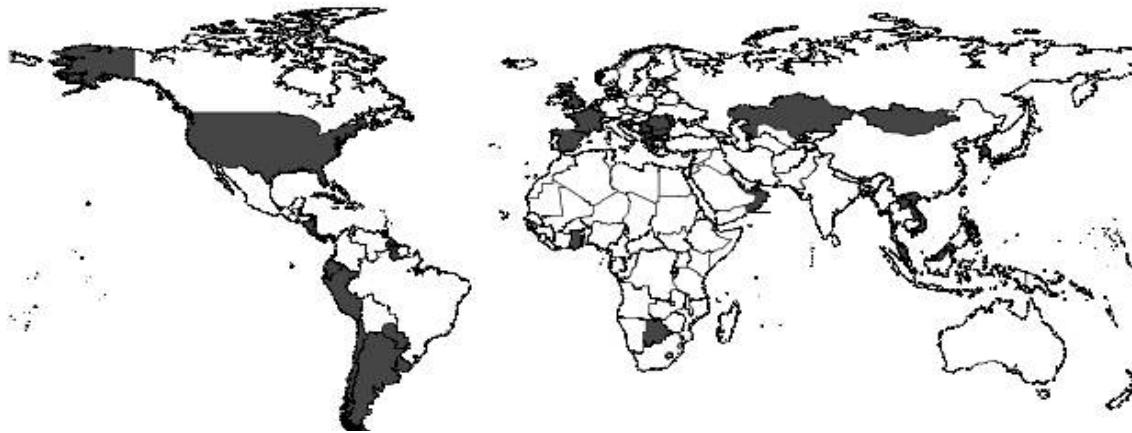
Denmark Ranked the Top, South Sudan Ranked the Lowest

First, let's look at the Tier 1 countries. The Tier 1 consists of 42 countries, including European countries such as Denmark and Germany, and Canada, and Asia and the Pacific countries such as Australia, Japan and Taiwan. According to *WPI 2017*, Denmark was found to be the most peaceful country with a WPI of 90.8. And Germany has received second place with a WPI of 89.9. Germany had recorded first position 3 times consecutively since 2013. But she dropped to second place as the refugee problem raised important social issue in 2016.



Nation	WPI	Nation	WPI
Denmark	90.8	Japan	84.3
Germany	89.9	Hungary	84.0
Liechtenstein	89.9	Slovakia	83.9
Canada	89.2	Belgium	83.2
Ireland	89.0	Saint Vincent Grenadines	83.0
Norway	88.9	Czech	82.9
New Zealand	88.7	Saint Kitts and Nevis	82.4
Austria	88.5	Saint Lucia	82.1
Monaco	88.3	Singapore	82.0
Iceland	88.3	Italy	82.0
Luxembourg	88.1	Palau	82.0
Malta	87.3	Portugal	81.9
San Marino	87.2	Mauritius	81.7
Andorra	87.1	Lithuania	81.3
Finland	87.1	Antigua Barbuda	80.6
Switzerland	86.2	Marshall Islands	80.5
Slovenia	86.0	Dominica	80.5
Sweden	85.8	Barbados	80.3
Poland	85.6	Bahamas	80.2
Netherlands	85.3	Taiwan	80.2
Australia	84.6	Latvia	80.0

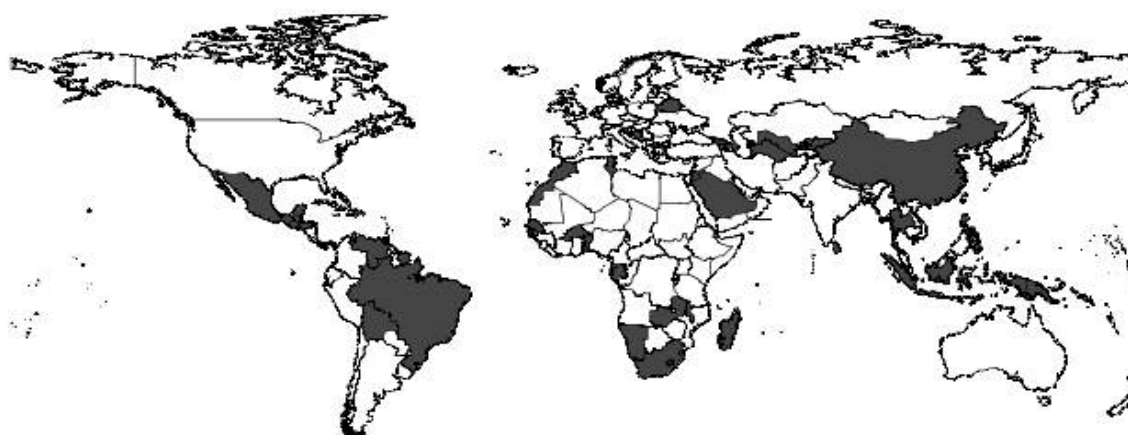
Figure 3. Tier 1 of WPI 2017 by Country: 42 Countries



Nation	WPI	Nation	WPI
Micronesia	79.6	Kazakhstan	75.0
Chile	79.5	Nauru	75.0
Tuvalu	79.5	Serbia	74.6
Kiribati	79.5	Bhutan	74.6
Croatia	79.4	Cyprus	74.6
Vanuatu	79.3	Argentina	74.1
Grenada	79.2	Guyana	73.6
Costa Rica	78.5	Fiji	73.4
Panama	78.3	Maldives	73.2
Uruguay	78.2	Oman	73.1
Samoa	78.2	Ecuador	72.6
Romania	78.2	Jamaica	72.1
Tonga	77.5	United States	72.0
United Kingdom	77.2	Macedonia	71.9
Estonia	77.2	United Arab Emirates	71.7
Malaysia	77.2	Greece	71.6
France	77.0	Vietnam	71.5
Montenegro	77.0	Botswana	71.3
Seychelles	76.9	Laos	71.1
Spain	76.6	Moldova	70.9
Belize	76.6	Ghana	70.9
Cabo Verde	76.6	Peru	70.9
Brunei	76.6	Nicaragua	70.9
Bulgaria	76.5	Kuwait	70.8
Mongolia	76.4	Paraguay	70.3
Albania	76.0	Trinidad Tobago	70.2
Qatar	75.9	Cuba	70.2
Korea, Republic of	75.3		

Figure 4. Tier 2 of WPI 2017 by Country: 55 Countries

Since 1990s when Cold War ended, military tension was resolved and domestic political crisis were reduced in Europe. Instead of military strains or domestic politics, economic crisis emerges major factor of determining peace level in Europe. Although Germany experienced economic decline after the unification for a while,

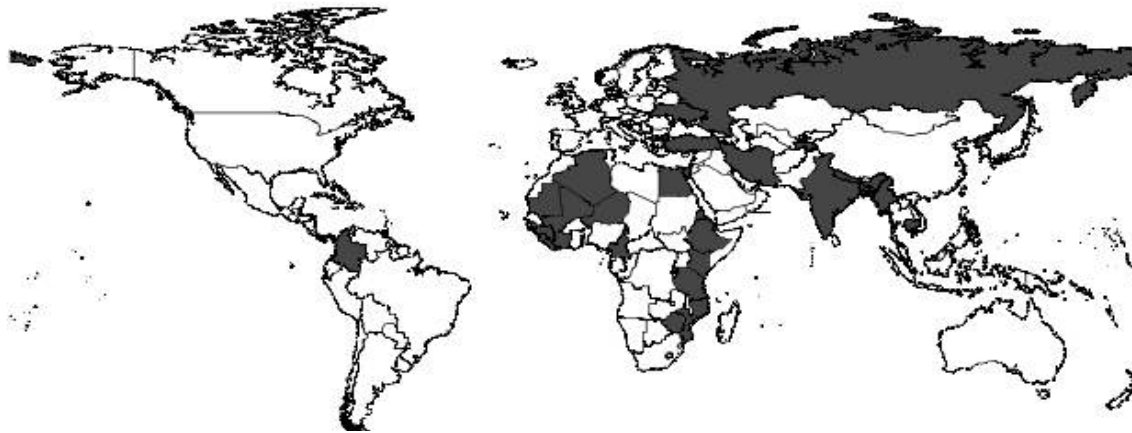


Nation	WPI	Nation	WPI
Bosnia Herzegovina	69.8	South Africa	66.3
Namibia	69.6	Honduras	66.2
Mexico	69.5	Malawi	66.1
El Salvador	69.3	Gabon	66.0
Senegal	69.2	Brazil	65.8
São Tomé and Príncipe	69.2	Equatorial Guinea	65.6
Bolivia	69.0	Solomon Islands	65.3
Indonesia	68.9	Armenia	64.4
Belarus	68.7	Sri Lanka	63.9
Turkmenistan	68.5	Venezuela	63.4
Kyrgyzstan	68.0	Swaziland	63.4
Benin	67.9	Jordan	63.2
Timor Leste	67.9	Uzbekistan	62.8
Comoros	67.9	Guatemala	62.2
Togo	67.8	Lesotho	62.2
Georgia	67.6	Madagascar	62.1
Morocco	67.4	Azerbaijan	62.0
Tunisia	67.3	Burkina Faso	61.9
Suriname	67.1	Philippines	61.5
Papua New Guinea	66.7	Zambia	61.4
Thailand	66.6	China	61.2
Dominican Republic	66.5	Bahrain	61.0
Saudi Arabia	66.5		

Figure 5. Tier 3 of WPI 2017 by Country: 45 Countries

she is recognized as the most strong economy in the European region. She maintained military-diplomatic peace level high, but leveling up of socio-economic peace was a core factor for Germany to maintain the highest position in the *WPI*.

Except newly measured small countries, followed by Denmark and Germany, Canada, Ireland, Norway, New Zealand, Austria, Iceland, and Luxemburg are at the top of *WPI* 2017. Among the top 10 *WPI* countries, except for Germany, Canada, 8 countries are high-income countries with small population below 10 million; Luxemburg, Malta, San Marino, Andorra, Finland, Switzerland, Slovenia and Sweden,



Nation	WPI	Nation	WPI
Turkey	59.4	Cambodia	55.2
Rwanda	59.2	Iran	55.0
Tanzania	59.2	Korea, DPR	54.8
Colombia	59.0	Eritrea	54.6
Israel	59.0	Djibouti	54.3
Haiti	58.5	Sierra Leone	54.0
Bangladesh	58.5	Ukraine	53.5
Nepal	57.5	Kenya	53.5
Mauritania	57.2	Mali	53.4
Liberia	57.0	Niger	53.4
Tajikistan	56.7	Ethiopia	52.2
India	56.1	Algeria	52.0
Palestine	55.8	Zimbabwe	51.4
Cameroon	55.8	Mozambique	51.2
Gambia	55.8	Egypt	51.1
Guinea	55.8	Russia	50.6
Cote D'ivoire	55.6	Myanmar	50.6
Guinea Bissau	55.3	Lebanon	50.5

Figure 6. Tier 4 of WPI 2017 by Country: 36 Countries

which were ranked from 11th to 18th, also fall into this category.

Second, the Tier 2 consists of the United States, the strongest nation in the world, as well as other 54 countries, including European countries such as Britain, France, Spain and Greece, and Asian countries such as Korea and Malaysia. It is worth noting that the United States and its key allies, both economically developed and leading international politics, are in the Tier 2. South Korea, which is in the status of division, is also included in the Tier 2. Peace of South Korea was being undermined by its brother North Korean factors.

Third, the Tier 3 includes Asian countries such as China, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, Middle Eastern countries such as Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, Central and South American countries like Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico, as well as African



Nation	WPI	Nation	WPI
Congo, Republic of	48.8	Uganda	38.1
Angola	46.1	Syria	33.9
Pakistan	44.9	Yemen	32.6
Libya	44.8	Congo, DR	32.4
Nigeria	44.0	Afghanistan	26.9
Central African Republic	43.7	Somalia	26.5
Iraq	42.1	Sudan	20.5
Chad	39.4	South Sudan	20.2
Burundi	39.0		

Figure 7. Tier 5 of WPI 2017 by Country: 17 Countries

countries such as South Africa, Madagascar and Burkina Faso. It covers 45 developing countries.

Fourthly, the Tier 4 is composed of 36 countries: Russia, and Asian countries such as India, Bangladesh, Nepal and North Korea, Middle Eastern countries like Turkey, Iran, Israel, Palestine, Algeria and Egypt, and African countries including Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Liberia and Cote D’Ivoire. Most of them except Israel and Russia are economically underdeveloped countries.

Finally, the Tier 5 consists of 17 countries, including African countries such as South Sudan, Sudan and Somalia, and Middle Eastern countries such as Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen and Iraq. South Sudan is the most unpeaceful country with a WPI of 20.2 in 2017. South Sudan became independent country from Sudan via civil war in 2011. And she has been in the bottom of WPI. Although the civil war resulted in the independence of South, she battles with Sudan continuously. So in spite of separation with South Sudan, the level of peace in Sudan is low, too.

And the countries, which continue civil war, such as Somalia, Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria were in the bottom of WPI 2017. Also Democratic Republic of the

Congo, Uganda, Burundi, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, and Pakistan revealed continuously vulnerable countries. This clearly demonstrates that it is very hard to recover peace if once damaged. These low ranking countries are located in the Middle East or African regions. And except for South Sudan and Central Africa, these are low-income countries with population of more than 20 million. This result shows that poor countries with complex ethnic or religious composition may have low level of peace condition.

Looking at the composition of the top-tier and low-tier rankings, we can find a pattern that certain countries remain in the same group throughout the years. This indicates that especially those countries with low level of peace have limited self-sustaining capacity to improve the level of peace with their own effort only. Therefore, in order to improve peace conditions of countries with poor peace index, collaborative efforts between the concerned country and major countries, who have great influencing power over world peace, is essential to improve the worsening peace condition.

The World Power's Paradox on Peace: USA ranked 83rd, China ranked 141st, Russia ranked 176th, India ranked 154th, and Brazil ranked 125th

In the both top and low tier rankings of *WPI 2017*, we could not find regional powers that represent each continent — USA, China, Russia, India, and Brazil. What would be their levels of peace?

The PI of the United states was 72.0. And the United States ranked 83rd in *WPI 2017*. It is regrettable to see the US not being included in the top tier in spite of its leadership in the world order. In each sub-category, the US points and ranks were: 83.2 (67th) in political PI, 60.9 (157th) in military-diplomatic PI, and 71.9 (69th) in socio-economic PI. Although the US is included in the upper-middle peace group in the political and the socio-economic dimension, she is in the lower peace group in the military-diplomatic dimension. It is to be said that the United States leads political democracy and market economy in the world. But she is still experiencing racial conflict and frequent shooting accidents in domestic politics and widening of inequality as shrinking middle class and expanding lower class. These factors hinders the Unites states to be the leader in political and socio-economic dimensions.

The military-diplomatic dimension is the weakest point in the US peace situation.

As the most strongest military country, she makes an efforts to maintain world peace. But her military-diplomatic dimension of peace has deteriorating as the role of military settler in the world. In order to lead the world peace, the United States should lessen political conflicts and improve socio-economic peace domestically, and endeavor to solve international disputes through peaceful foreign diplomacy rather than military intervention.

The point of China's PI in 2017 is 61.2 and the rank is 141st. China is included in medium tier. Although China is considered G2 with US, and she shows off national development to the world in the Xi Jinping period, she is classified under the middle level peace country.

The points and ranks of China's each peace sub-dimensions are; 60.0 (145th) in political PI, 60.1 (159th) in military-diplomatic PI, and 63.4 (103rd) in socio-economic PI. China still remains at the low tier in all three sub-dimensions. In the domestic political dimension, poor condition of human rights and ongoing ethnic conflicts hinder the upgrading of PI. And recently, intensified territorial disputes in the land and sea with neighboring countries lowered military and diplomatical dimension of PI. Regardless of remarkable accomplishment in the rapid economic growth, rampant large-scale corruption and the wide gap between rich and poor communities have resulted low socio-economic peace level for China.

The point of Russia in *WPI 2017* is 50.6. She is included low PI tier, and the rank is 176th. The points and rankings of Russia in each sub-dimension are: 35.8 (180th) in political PI, 58.0 (166th) in military-diplomatic PI, and 58.0 (123rd) in socio-economic PI. Putin, who advocates strong state power of Russia, seems to maintain stability of the regime's power, but electoral fraud and unfair media coverage show that domestic politics and socio-economic in Russia is still unstable. And Russia underwent territorial dispute with Ukraina on the crimean peninsula in 2014, which lowered military-diplomatic level of peace.

The point of India in the *WPI 2017* is 56.1. She is also included in the low tier and the rank is 154th. India's sub-dimensional points and rankings were: 64.4 (137th) in political PI, 61.1 (155th) in military-diplomatic PI, and 46.7 (164th) in socio-economic PI; positioning in the low-middle range for all three sub-dimensions. India's military-diplomatic and socio-economic PIs are especially low. High population, severe economic inequality, military disputes with the neighboring Islamic country Pakistan and terrors caused by Muslim separatists among the Indians lowered level of peace condition of India.

The point of Brazil in the WPI 2017 is 62.8. She is included in the medium tier and the rank is 125th. Brazil's sub-dimensional points and rankings were: 67.1 (126th) in political PI, 79.9 (54th) in military- diplomatic PI, and 50.5 (144th) in socio-economic PI. Among those three sub-dimensions, Brazil's military-diplomatic PI was in the upper-middle level while its socio-economic PI was relatively lagging behind compared to the other two sub-dimensions. Thus, Brazil needs to make efforts to increase socio-economic peace condition in order to improve the overall WPI.

The peace level of Europe is generally high. But with the exception of Germany (2nd), only Italy (31st) is included in very high tier. Other European power countries like the United Kingdom (56th), France (59th) and Spain (62nd) are included not in the top tier but in the second high tier. Although these countries forms main countries in Europe, they did not carry out leading roles for the world peace.

So far, we have discussed that the PIs of major regional powers are not high. These WPI results suggest that these power countries need to reflect on their insufficient ability to lead the world peace and pay more attention to promote world peace in the future.

Two Koreas: South Korea ranked 70th, and North Korea ranked 163rd

The point of South Korea in the *WPI 2017* is 75.3. She is included in high level tier and the rank is 70th. South Korean's sub-dimensional points and rankings were: 87.5 (46th) in political PI, 55.8 (173rd) in military- diplomatic PI, and 82.6 (22nd) in socio-economic PI. The socio-economic dimension of PI is very high and political PI also high. Especially, the criticism to the Park Geun-Hye regime inflamed to the 'Candle Lights Demonstration' and the president Park was finally impeached. But the people maintained peaceful assembly and demonstration did not developed to the violent actions. So the presidential impeachment is rather evaluated as a politically matured event. But according to the North Korean nuclear experiments and missile launches, inter korean relations were worsened. To enhance the level of South Korean, the dramatic improvement in the military-diplomatic dimension of PI is necessary.

Meanwhile, the point of North Korea in the *WPI 2017* is 54.8. North Korea is included in low tier and the rank is 163rd. North Korea's sub-dimensional points and rankings were: 70.5 (115th) in political PI, 42.7 (190th) in military- diplomatic

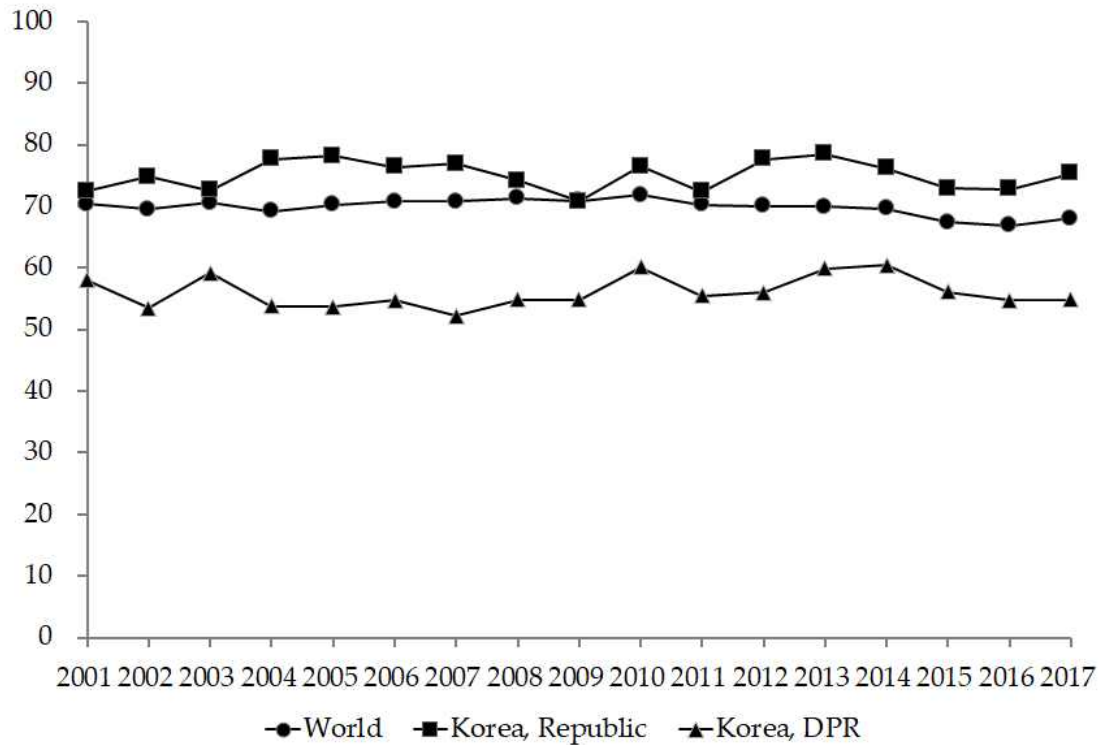


Figure 8. WPI of South and North Korea 2001-2017

PI, and 51.3 (142nd) in socio-economic PI. Despite of the severe human rights abuse, the political PI of North Korea is not low as expected. The reason is that political conflicts in the North Korea did not revealed to the outer-world so far.

If comparing North and South Korea, the gap between two Koreas is wider in the political and socio-economic dimension of PI. And the situation of military-diplomatic dimension lowered both North and South Korea PI. Consequently, WPF suggest that national policies should place priority on enhancing military-diplomatic peace in order to improve overall peace level in the Korean Peninsula.

※ *Note: Measuring Methodology of World Peace Index*

Every specific indicator of the World Peace Index was enumerated from 0 (peace) to 1 (non-peace) so that worsening peace condition can be represented by increasing numerical index values. Two different methods were used to standardize the numbers. First, when absolute minimum and maximum values were found in the index, we first subtracted the minimum value from each value in order to make them all start from 0, and then divided each by the maximum value to make them range from 0 to 1. Secondly, for indices of unemployment and inflation rates, we first took the values lying in the 95th percentile in the distribution (i.e., top 5% values only) to prevent the index values from being sensitive to outliers. After that, we equally re-encoded them to remove outliers, and then divided each by the maximum value in order to make them all range from 0 to 1.

Table 2. Dimensions and Components of WPI

A	Political Dimension	B	Military-diplomatic Dimension	C	Socio-economic Dimension
A ₁	Historical Experiences of Domestic Political Conflict	B ₁	Historical Experiences of International Conflict	C ₁	Social Safety and Stability
A ₁₁	Civil Wars	B ₁₁	War Experience	C ₁₁	Ecological and Social Safety
A ₁₂	Political Conflicts such as Coup d'état or Riots	B ₁₂	Colonial Experience and State Formation	C ₁₂	Socio-economic Stability
		B ₁₃	Geopolitical Conditions		
A ₂	Democracy and Capacity of the State	B ₂	Degree of Militarization	C ₂	Social Exclusion and Inequality
A ₂₁	Degree of Democratization	B ₂₁	Military Expenditure	C ₂₁	Poverty
A ₂₂	Human Rights Protection	B ₂₂	Armed Forces	C ₂₂	Social Inequality
A ₂₃	Political Transparency	B ₂₃	International Treaties against Weapons of Mass Destruction and Its Experiments		
A ₃	Ongoing or Current Domestic Political Conflict	B ₃	Ongoing or Current International Conflict	C ₃	Quality of Life
A ₃₁	Civil Wars	B ₃₁	All-out Wars: Occurrence and Location	C ₃₁	Degree of Life Quality
A ₃₂	Political Conflicts such as Coup d'état or Riots	B ₃₂	Use of Force Other than Wars, or Acts of Violence		
A ₃₃	Political Settlements or Policies to Resolve Domestic Conflicts	B ₃₃	Peace Enhancing Events or Measures		

The previous indices measured the degree of “conflicts” rather than “peace.” In other words, the values of these sub-variables in the previous indices had tendency to increase in more unpeaceful conditions. Therefore, it was very necessary and conceptually more accurate to revert the measurement in order to design the

culture of peace index that is suitable for assessment. Since the values of each sub-category index ranged from 0 (peace) to 1 (non-peace), we converted the values of the previous indices from 1 (i.e., now, 1 referring to “peace” and 0 referring to “non-peace”). And then, we multiplied each index by 100 to adjust all the values ranging from 0 (non-peace) to the perfect score of 100 (peace). In other words, all the indices of components A_1 to A_3 , B_1 to B_3 , and C_1 to C_3 ranged from 0 (the most “unpeaceful” condition) to 100 (the most “peaceful” condition). After that, the arithmetical mean values of each sub-category peace index were calculated to produce the all-item World Peace Index.

Preface of the *World Peace Index 2017*

World Peace Index 2017 has special significance for World Peace Forum. For the last 17 years since the first *World Peace Index* was published in 2001, its coverage has dramatically increased. It began with 76 countries in 2001-2010 but increased to 142 in 2011. After another six years, we ambitiously increased the number of countries to cover to 195 almost all the countries in the world.

We also endeavored to reflect the great reaction and the great disruption across all political, economic, social and security areas such as the Brexit, the US Presidential Election, intense radicalism of the left and the right and populism in developed countries, polarization of income across developed and less developed countries, terrorism and civil wars in relation with immigration, religion and racial issues, and centurial and global financial operations like ultra-low or negative interest rates.

Our ambitious efforts required us to postpone the *World Peace Index 2016* and to incorporate it into the *World Peace Index 2017*. We are pleased to introduce the most advanced version of the *World Peace Index 2017*, which is no more expected to expand the list of the countries for the survey. The *World Peace Index* has usually published at the end of a year; but, it was postponed to the early next year because the expansion of the country list required research team to spend more time than before.

The *World Peace Index 2017* is based on the data of 2016, although it is published in early 2018. It is regrettable that the intense political situation of 2017 Korean peninsula, which was involved with the most intense military tension since 1950 Korean War due to North Korea's repeated nuclear tests and Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) test, now has to be covered by the *World Peace Index 2018* next year. It is easily anticipated that *World Peace Index 2018* would show the deteriorations in peace indexes of North and South Korea, China, Japan, the United States as well as global level.

The *World Peace Index 2017* expanded the list of countries to 195. It assessed the peace index of each country and categorized them into five groups. The first tier consists of the countries with the peace index 80 points or higher; the second tier with the index between 70-79 points; the third tier with the index between 60-69 points; the fourth tier with the index between 50-59 points; and the fifth tier countries show the score lower than 50. The *World Peace Index 2017* shows average 68 points, which was slightly improved from that of 2015-2016. However, when it is taken into account that the *World Peace Index 2017* included the 52 countries, mostly small, which are relatively less affected by international issues, it became hard to argue the

improvement of the overall situation.

The *World Peace Index 2017* continues to show the polarization of the world peace, in other words, the coexistence of 'permanent higher-peace level countries' and 'permanent lower-peace level countries.' The countries of (1) low populations, (2) homogeneous or harmonized religions, languages and ethnicities, (3) high level of education, income and welfare, (4) stable neighbourhood region, (5) settled democratic politics continue to form 'higher-peace-level countries.' To the contrary, the countries in the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and the Middle East form 'permanent lower-peace-level countries.'

After the *World Peace Index 2017*, we need to pay attention to the significant deterioration in index components of the 'high-peace-index countries', while the polarization of peace continues. We witness the coincidence of unrestful democratic politics and populism, polarization of income and education, political, economic and social conflicts in relation with immigration in domestic and international levels, the increase of 'strong man' like Trump, Putin, Erdogan, Duterte, national interest primacy policy, the Brexit and division of EU, repeated mass-destructive terrorism, US's intention to withdraw from TPP and NAFTA, and global retreat of the momentum for the advancement of free-trade. Also, the New Cold War appears to have developed between China, Russia and North Korea, and the United States, Japan and Europe.

In the preface of *World Peace Index 2015*, I mentioned my intentions of substantial reflections of environmental issues and the 'Peace of Justice' as preached by Pope Francis into the Index. Not even a year after the historical Paris Agreement entered into force, the United States, which took the lead in its draft, declared withdrawal. Populism also spread throughout developed countries, which seems to cause the retreat from the approach to the global warming and environmental issues. It already appears the mixture of nuclear, new renewable and fossil fuel energies gives way to fossil fuel or nuclear energies. Although it has not yet had significant effects on the World Peace Index, it is an obstacle to advancing the consolidation of world peace structure. It will have particularly negative impacts on the 'permanent lower-peace-level countries.'

The World Peace Forum is expected to undertake the new task of how to reflect the factors of structural changes which are not easily observed by the changes of the annual index and the factors which will have more significant influences to the future. In addition to the World Peace Index, we need to survey risk index. We also need to study the methods of follow-up or predictive revisions of the index in every five to ten years in addition to the annual index.

We may envisage the major trends of the 21st century from the events of last 17 years like the September 11 attacks in 2001, the International Financial Crisis in 2008, the emergence of Trump and the Brexit in 2016, the emergence of Xi Jinping as the second Mao Zedong in

2017, and North Korea's establishment of nuclear and ICBM. It will be the period of 'thirst of peace' where terrorisms and civil wars continue in large scales, although there will not be the great retreat of peace like in the World Wars in the 20th century. At least until 2040-2050 when the global population begins to decrease, the period of long-term retreat of peace will unfold.

This paradox of centurial great reaction, great disruption and great retreat tells us that the world peace will be achieved only when the global governance of the minds of lives, politics, economy, social system and institutions actually settles down and operates. It is the time to ask ourselves whether the age of global common management is possible and to endeavor to seek its direction. We complete the edition of this report on the opening day of the world peace festival — the *PyeongChang 2018 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games* and wish all the states' and citizens' level of the world peace would improve.

February 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jin-Hyun Kim', written in a cursive style.

Kim Jin-Hyun

Chairman of World Peace Forum

World Peace Forum, Seoul, Korea

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