Twenty-one countries, read one at a time

Twelve new country profiles, a clickable map, and what changed in the nine profiles already published.

As of 19 November 2026 **Nevo Goor** An independent project by Nevo Goor

The Country Profiles section of the Atlas has grown from nine countries to twenty-one. The twelve added are South Korea, Guatemala, Mauritius, Germany, Taiwan, Romania, Ghana, Botswana, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, Spain and France. The nine already published were re-read on the 2026 index editions, and three of them changed their count of floors breached: Hungary from two to one, Israel from one to two, and the United States from none to one. Every profile now has its own page, a review date and a place on a clickable map coloured by the number of floors breached. Of the twenty-one, twelve breach no floor, five breach one and four breach two or more. Each profile is a structured analytical opinion. None is a forecast.

SECTION 1

What was added

Twelve countries were added in four groups of three. They bring in regions the first nine did not cover: East Asia, Central America, Africa beyond South Africa, and small island states. Four of them, Guatemala, Mauritius, Botswana and Sri Lanka, are among the countries the V-Dem Democracy Report 2026 records as democratizing. Three large European democracies, the United Kingdom, Spain and France, complete the set.

Every profile reads the same four floors: constitutional rights (Freedom House, Freedom in the World 2026), anti-corruption (Transparency International, Corruption Perceptions Index 2025), emergency limits (the written constitutional and statutory text) and the information environment (RSF World Press Freedom Index 2026).

COUNTRY	PROFILE LABEL	FLOORS BREACHED
South Korea	Resilience Demonstrated, Structurally Constrained	None
Guatemala	In Active Restoration, Three Floors Breached	Three: rights, anti-corruption, information
Mauritius	Structurally Constrained, Repair Under Way	None
Germany	Advanced Democracy, Externally Anchored	None
Taiwan	Floors Intact, Institutional Deadlock	None
Romania	Structurally Constrained, Externally Anchored	None
Ghana	Structurally Constrained, Resilience Demonstrated	None
Botswana	Turnaround by Election, Emergency Floor Open	One: emergency limits
Sri Lanka	Democratic Deepening, Three Floors Breached	Three: rights, anti-corruption, information

COUNTRY	PROFILE LABEL	FLOORS BREACHED
United Kingdom	Floors Intact, Trust and Fiscal Strain	None
Spain	Established Democracy, Externally Anchored	None
France	Emergency Floor Open, Externally Anchored	One: emergency limits

SECTION 2

What the new profiles show

Three patterns stand out in the record. They describe the twelve profiles; they are not general laws.

Improvement and breach at the same time. Guatemala and Sri Lanka each breach three floors. Guatemala scores 48 in Freedom House, 26 in the Corruption Perceptions Index and 43.21 in the RSF index; Sri Lanka scores 63, 35 and 40.77. Both are also recorded by V-Dem as improving: Guatemala in a U-turn that began in 2023, Sri Lanka as a stand-alone case of democratic deepening, at the highest democracy score in its history. The floors read the level an index records, not the direction of travel. The indices also lag: Freedom in the World 2026 covers the year 2025.

An open emergency floor in a democracy that holds the other three. France scores 89 in Freedom House and Botswana 75, and neither breaches the rights, anti-corruption or information floor. Each breaches the emergency floor on its written law. In France, Article 16 of the Constitution sets no time limit on the President's exceptional powers and gives Parliament no vote to end them. In Botswana, the Public Health Act lets the Director of Health Services declare a public health emergency for up to seven days and extend it without limit, with no parliamentary vote. A breach of this floor records what the text allows. It does not say the power has been misused.

Correction through ordinary institutions. In South Korea, the National Assembly voted within hours to lift the martial law declared on 3 December 2024, and the Constitutional Court removed the president on 4 April 2025. In Ghana, the governing party's candidate conceded the December 2024 presidential election before the official result. In Mauritius and Botswana, elections in late 2024 passed power to the opposition; in Botswana they ended the rule of the party that had governed since independence. The profiles record these as events. They are not guarantees about the next test.

SECTION 3

What changed in the first nine

All nine original profiles were re-read against Freedom in the World 2026, the Corruption Perceptions Index 2025 and the RSF World Press Freedom Index 2026, and every index score now names its edition. Events of 2026 that the indices do not yet cover are stated with their dates.

COUNTRY	FLOORS BEFORE	FLOORS NOW	WHAT MOVED
Denmark	None	None	Freedom House 97, CPI 89 (from 90); the press line now reads RSF 88.47, rank 4 of 180
Italy	None	None	Freedom House 87, CPI 53; the Institutional Shock Capacity row is now Impaired, with public debt at 137.1% of GDP in 2025 (IMF)

COUNTRY	FLOORS BEFORE	FLOORS NOW	WHAT MOVED
Hungary	Two	One	Read from the written law, the emergency floor holds: a state of danger lapses after 30 days unless two-thirds of the National Assembly extend it. A new government took office on 12 May 2026 and the special legal order in place since 2020 ended on 14 May 2026. Freedom House 65 is still below the rights floor; new label: Post-Capture Transition, Government Changed May 2026
Poland	None	None	Freedom House 82, CPI 53, RSF 75.52
Israel	One	Two	RSF 46.46 is now below the information floor; the emergency floor stays breached; no new government had been formed as of 18 November 2026
United States	None	One	The emergency floor is now read as breached: deployments under the Insurrection Act carry no time limit and no congressional review, and need no declared national emergency
India	Three	Three	Freedom House 62, CPI 39, RSF 31.96
South Africa	None	None	Freedom House 81 (from 78), CPI 41, RSF 77.95
Brazil	One	One	CPI 35, below the anti-corruption floor; Lula was re-elected in the 25 October 2026 runoff, and the runner-up announced a challenge to the result

SECTION 4

How the emergency floor is read

The emergency floor is read from the written law, not from how a power has been used. A power holds the floor when its text sets a time limit, or when the legislature has a binding way to end it. It breaches the floor when it has neither. This reading is why the United States now breaches the floor, and why Germany, South Korea and Taiwan do not, although their texts set no fixed time limit: in each, the legislature can end the measure.

SECTION 5

The map and the review dates



Every profile now has its own page. The map on the Country Profiles page colours each country by the number of floors it breaches: green for none, amber for one, red for two or more. Grey land has no profile yet. Selecting a country opens a short preview of its four floors, with a link to the full profile. Borders follow Natural Earth and imply no position on any dispute.

Each profile shows the date it was reviewed and the date by which it must be reviewed again: six months later, or earlier after a national election, an emergency declaration or a constitutional court crisis. A profile past its date shows "Under review". Spain's review date is 29 November 2026, the day of its general election.

SECTION 6

Method and limits

Each new profile was scored on the Atlas instrument, with a named source for every value, and was checked by a separate second reading before publication; its scoring record was fixed before the profile went live. Index values were read from the publishers' pages and reports. The profiles were researched and written by one analyst with AI research assistance. Publisher indices lag behind events, so developments in 2026 sit outside the scores and are reported as dated events. The instrument is internally calibrated; external validation remains in progress, and every profile is a Stage 0 reading. Each profile is a structured analytical opinion and makes no prediction. The author is an Israeli citizen.

SECTION 7

Sources

Indices

Freedom House, Freedom in the World 2026, country pages (example, France): https://freedomhouse.org/country/france/freedom-world/2026

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Events

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