

# POSITIVE PEACE REPORT

2015



**CONCEPTUALISING AND MEASURING THE  
ATTITUDES, INSTITUTIONS AND STRUCTURES  
THAT BUILD A MORE PEACEFUL SOCIETY**

**INSTITUTE FOR  
ECONOMICS  
& PEACE**

# UNDERSTANDING POSITIVE PEACE

Positive Peace, the counterpart to Negative Peace, is the presence of the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies. Well-developed Positive Peace represents the capacity for a society to meet the needs of citizens, reduce the number of grievances that arise and resolve remaining disagreements without the use of violence.

## + POSITIVE PEACE

... is the attitudes, institutions and structures which create and sustain peaceful societies

## - NEGATIVE PEACE

...is the absence of violence

## POSITIVE PEACE FACTORS



## POSITIVE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

Positive Peace is empirically and quantitatively associated with successful development outcomes:

- Business competitiveness & entrepreneurialism
- Foundations of wellbeing
- Gender equality
- Youth development
- Progress in a range of Millennium Development Goals
- Reported levels of happiness
- Social cohesion & capital

## POSITIVE PEACE IS TRANSFORMATIONAL

Humanity is now facing challenges unparalleled in its history. The most urgent challenges are global in nature, such as climate change, ever decreasing bio-diversity, increasing migration and over-population. In a globalised world, the sources of many of these challenges are multidimensional, increasingly complex and span national borders. For this reason, finding solutions to these unprecedented challenges fundamentally requires new thinking.

Peace is an essential prerequisite. Without peace it will not be possible to achieve the levels of trust, cooperation, or inclusiveness necessary to solve these challenges, let alone empower the international institutions and organisations necessary to help address them. However, without the appropriate measures and understanding of the factors that support peace, it is not possible to

know what policies work, what programmes need to be implemented, when, how, and where. Practically identifying what resources this effort requires is complex and calls for a shift to new ways of thinking about peace.

Positive Peace is transformational as it moves the discussion about creating peace away from violence and conflict, and instead focuses on the factors that create and sustain lasting peace. It provides a framework to understand and then address the multiple and complex challenges the world faces. Positive Peace is a cross-cutting facilitator improving progress, making it easier for individuals to produce, businesses to sell, entrepreneurs and scientists to innovate and governments to effectively regulate.

## RESULTS & FINDINGS

The Positive Peace Index measures Positive Peace in 162 countries, covering 99 per cent of the world's population. It is the first global, quantitative approach to defining and measuring Positive Peace and is based on the social factors that have strongest statistically significant relationships with the absence of violence.

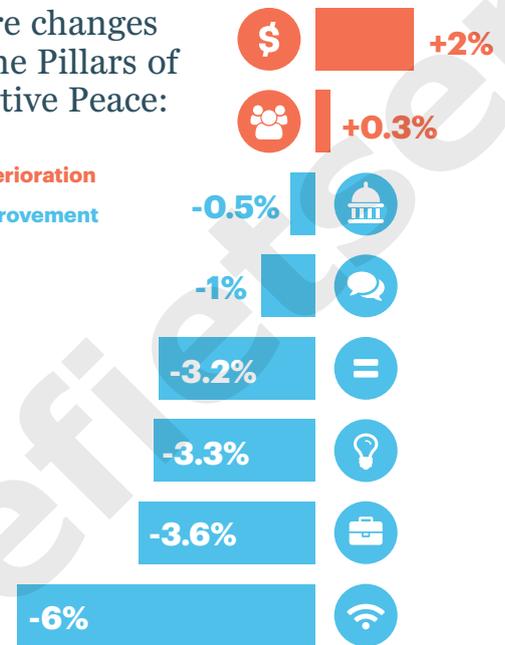
**+1.65%** Improvement in the global average PPI score since 2005



Number of countries where Positive Peace **improved** and **deteriorated**

Score changes in the Pillars of Positive Peace:

> deterioration  
< improvement



### RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS IN HIGH POSITIVE PEACE COUNTRIES ARE:



LESS VIOLENT



MORE SUCCESSFUL

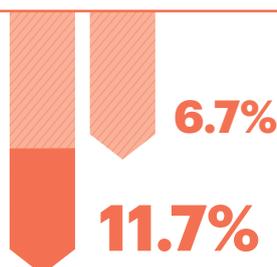


SHORTER AND LESS FREQUENT

POSITIVE PEACE PROVIDES THE RESILIENCE TO BUILD AND MAINTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF NEGATIVE PEACE.

Of the countries that became *less peaceful* from 2005 to 2015...

... deteriorations in low Positive Peace countries were *twice as large*.



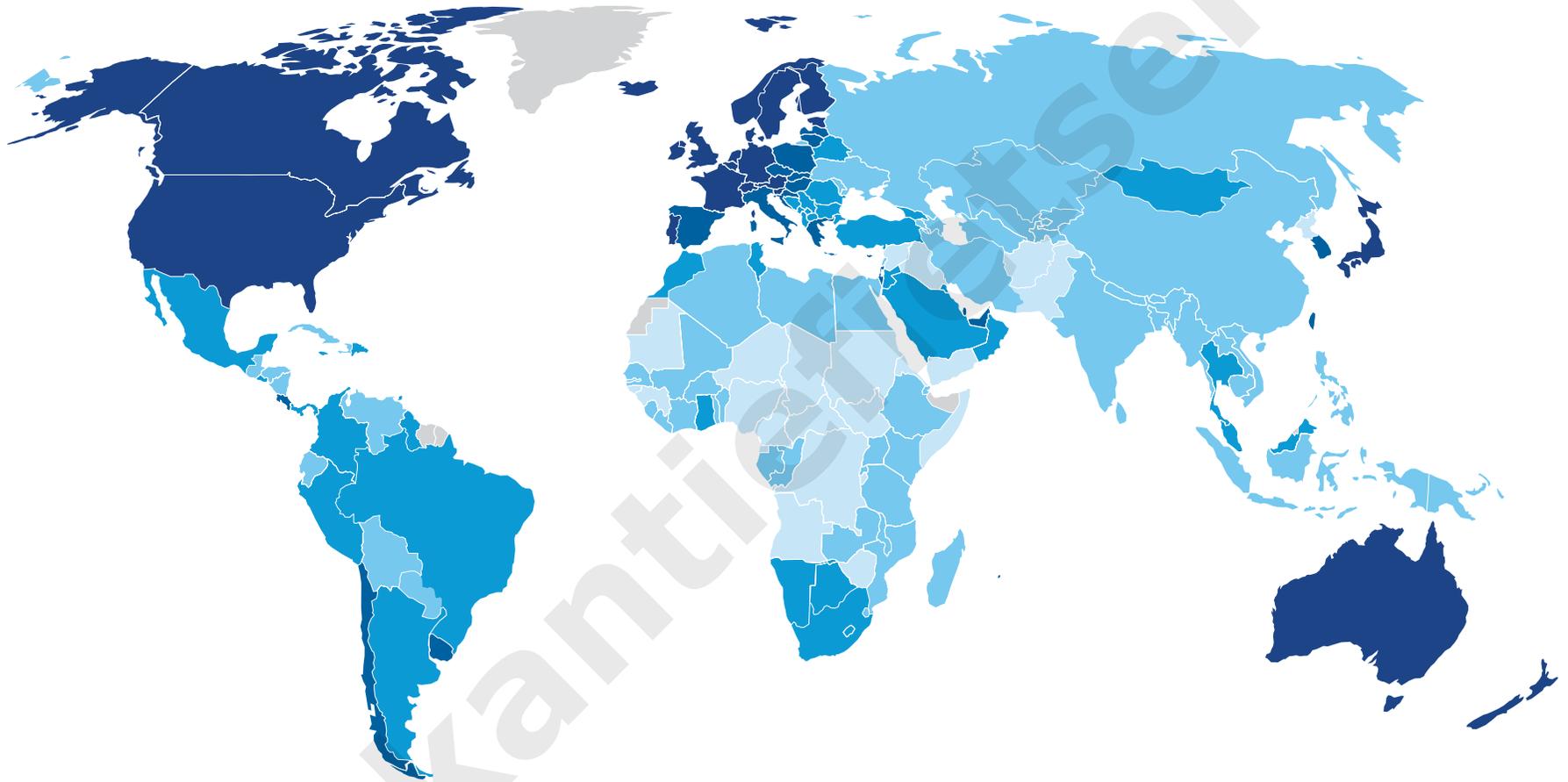
Breakdowns in peacefulness are consistently worse in low positive peace countries.

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Download the full 2015 Positive Peace Report, including the detailed methodology, at:  
[visionofhumanity.org](http://visionofhumanity.org)

## THE STATE OF POSITIVE PEACE

Very high  
High  
Medium  
Low  
Very low  
Not included



# 2015 POSITIVE PEACE INDEX

GLOBAL LEVELS OF POSITIVE PEACE

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IEP is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit think tank dedicated to shifting the world's focus

to peace as a positive, achievable and tangible measure of human wellbeing and progress.

IEP has offices in Sydney, New York and Mexico City. It works with a wide range of partners internationally and collaborates with intergovernmental organizations on measuring and communicating the economic value of peace.

 GlobalPeaceIndex

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