

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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Item 5.1 of the agenda

STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)

INDICATOR FRAMEWORK ON CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY (IFCD)
FEEDBACK QUESTIONNAIRE

For action

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Democratic Governance
Culture, Nature and Heritage Department

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IFCD Feedback Questionnaire

April 2017

Context

The Council of Europe has been working with the Hertie School of Governance to prepare an Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD). The framework and findings extracted from it can be used by governments to adjust cultural policy in order to spend money where it is most needed. The framework can eventually also serve as a continual feedback loop, enabling governments to map participative democratic progress, and continue adjusting their cultural policies.

An online interactive data explorer is currently being developed to enable interested parties to explore the IFCD data, to test assumptions about the relationship between democratic and cultural components, and to examine relative performance and opportunities for improvement within specific countries.

With this short questionnaire, we would like to receive your feedback on the beta version of the interactive data explorer. Please spend some time looking at the different pages and interacting with the tools of the data explorer. Your input is very important to us and will help us to improve the interface and functionality of the explorer. Interacting with the data explorer and filling out the questionnaire should not take more than 15-20 minutes. Kindly return your questionnaire by 30 May to Siobhan.montgomery@coe.int with a copy to list@hertie-school.org.

We would like to thank the CDCPP Bureau members who already participated in a first commenting round on the interactive data explorer earlier in March 2017 in preparation of this survey.

Questionnaire

Information

1. Is the information provided in the 'IFCD' and 'Framework' tabs sufficient for understanding the purpose of the IFCD and what it contains?

- Yes
- No

- 1.b If No, what additional information should be provided?

Country Status

Go to the 'Country Status' tab. First, select your country name from the 'Main country' drop-down menu. Then, select a reference from the 'Comparison country/group' drop-down menu.

2. Does the country's status across the different dimensions reflect your expectation?

- Yes
- No

2.b If No, what seems amiss?

3. Does the country summary that appears in the left margin reflect your understanding of your country's status?

- Yes
- No

3.b If No, what is missing or inaccurate?

4. Is the description of the Country Status tool sufficient?

- Yes
- No

4.b If No, what is unclear or should be added?

5. Do you have any additional research, publications or data related to your country that you are willing to share with the IFCD team?

- Yes
- No

Component Relationships

Go to the 'Component Relationships' tab. Pick elements of interest to you for the x- and y-axes from the drop-down menu. View the resulting scatter plot.

6. Does the result reflect your expectation?

- Yes
 No

6.b If No, please list the elements you chose and indicate what was different from your expectation?

7. Is additional information or description necessary for interpretation of the scatter plot?

- Yes
 No

7.b If Yes, what would help?

8. Is the description of the Component Relationships tool sufficient?

- Yes
 No

8.b If No, what is unclear or should be added?

9. What other function(s) or information would be useful for examining these relationships?

Opportunity Table

Go to the 'Opportunity Table' tab. First, select your country from the drop-down menu. Next, select a comparison country or group. Then, select an element, i.e. a dimension or component of culture or democracy that you might consider a target for policy or programmes. View the resulting table to the right.

10. List the comparison country/group and element you chose. For which component(s) would the opportunities seem most promising, according to the table?

11. Does the result reflect your expectation?

- Yes
 No

- 11.b If No, what would you have expected?

12. Do you consider this a useful tool?

- Yes
 No

- 12.b Why or why not?

13. Is the description of the Opportunity Table sufficient?

- Yes
 No

- 13.b If No, what is unclear or should be added?

Comparison Groups

The Country Status and Opportunity Table functions of the IFCD interactive tool allow comparison of one country with various groupings of countries (currently: 37-country average, OECD, G19, and Nordic countries).

14. What other comparison group or groups would be of interest to you?

Layout

15. Is the layout of the different tools intuitive?

- Yes
- No

15.b If No, what would you change?

Guide to using the explorer

You can access the interactive data explorer under the following url:

<http://www.governancereport.org/fileadmin/governancereport/ifcd>

The link will take you to the main page with a summary of the IFCD, its purpose, content, developers and funders. From here you can use the tabs on the top to navigate through the website and explore the different interactive tools.

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The Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy

Investigating the links between culture and a democratic society

The Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD) is a tool for assessing and optimising cultural policies on the basis of reliable, comparative data and for examining links between culture and democracy within and among Council of Europe member states.

The IFCD collects data on culture and democracy starting with a set of dimensions, or analytical lenses, for each domain, further broken down into one or more components (currently 17), each comprising a number of indicators (currently 41) that at the moment summarise more than 170 variables on 37 Council of Europe member states. (More information, countries and time points will be incorporated as data and resources become available.) The wealth of information contained in the IFCD enables policy makers and other users to examine their country's position in terms of culture and democracy and thereby identify opportunities for policy intervention.

The IFCD has been developed by the Council of Europe in collaboration with the Hertie School of Governance (Berlin) and with support from the European Cultural Foundation and member states. It results from decisions taken by the 2013 Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of Culture – "Governance of Culture – Promoting Access to Culture", where ministers agreed to launch work on indicators of the impact of cultural activities on democracy as well as the economic efficiency of financing culture.

The scores that are presented are calculated using z-score transformation, which assigns all underlying variables a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one. This makes it easy to identify countries that perform above (positive scores) and below (negative scores) the average for the entire set of countries in the framework.

This website 'beta version' and the underlying data are works in progress. We welcome feedback and suggestions: ifcd@hertie-school.org



Hertie School
of Governance



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website and interactive tools developed by CJ Yelman cj@yelman.com

The 'Framework' tab shows the entire composition of the framework and definitions of each of its elements. You can click on each of the four dimensions under both Culture and Democracy to see its definition and the underlying components. Similarly, when you click on a component you will get its definition and a list of the indicators that make up the component.

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The IFCD helps policy makers, cultural managers, private actors, and civil society organizations identify where investment in cultural policy is most needed—and where it is most likely to have a positive impact on society and democracy. Over time, the framework can provide continual feedback to enable governments to map their countries' democratic progress and adjust their cultural policies.

Browse the options below to learn more about the types of data included in the framework. To enable close examination of the relationships between culture and democracy, the IFCD considers four dimensions of culture and four dimensions of democracy. These dimensions are then broken down into multiple components and specific indicators.

For more detail about the underlying variables and data sources, please refer to the Guidebook available on the Downloads page.

Culture	Democracy
▸ Civic	▸ Civic
▸ Policy	▸ Policy
▸ Freedom and Equality	▸ Freedom and Equality
▸ Economic	▸ Rule of Law

Clicking on the 'Download' tab allows you to download the IFCD policy maker's guidebook, the presentation of the IFCD given at the launch event in Brussels on 14 October 2016, and the dataset.

The guidebook is available in both English and French whereas the presentation is unfortunately only available in English. You can download the dataset in two different formats: as an XLSX spreadsheet and as a CSV file. Other reports and materials will be posted for download as soon as they are available.

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Currently available for download

Guidebook ([PDF \(English\)](#), [PDF \(French\)](#))




Presentation ([PDF](#))



Dataset ([XLSX](#), [CSV](#))




The 'Country Status' tab shows a country's status on all dimensions or components of the framework in contrast to various comparison groups. You can select a country from the drop-down menu under 'Main country' to find out more its status across the dimensions and components. A red line is used to indicate a country's status while the grey shaded area shows the standings of a comparison country or group of countries. At the bottom left corner of the page you will also see a written summary of the country's overall status.

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The IFCD Country Status tool provides policy makers with an overview of their countries' standings in terms of crucial aspects of culture and democracy. Both strong performances and areas in need of improvement can be quickly identified. At the same time, each country's standings can be assessed in relation to major country groups, such as the OECD or the G19, as well as compared to its European neighbors.

Choose from the drop-down menus below to see how any country (in red) currently performs when it comes to culture and democracy and how that country compares to its peers (in grey).

All group averages include only those countries for which we have information in the IFCD dataset.

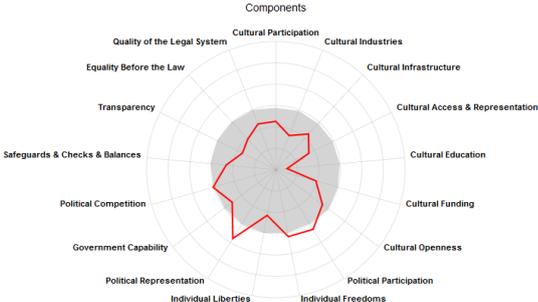
Main country:

Comparison country/group:

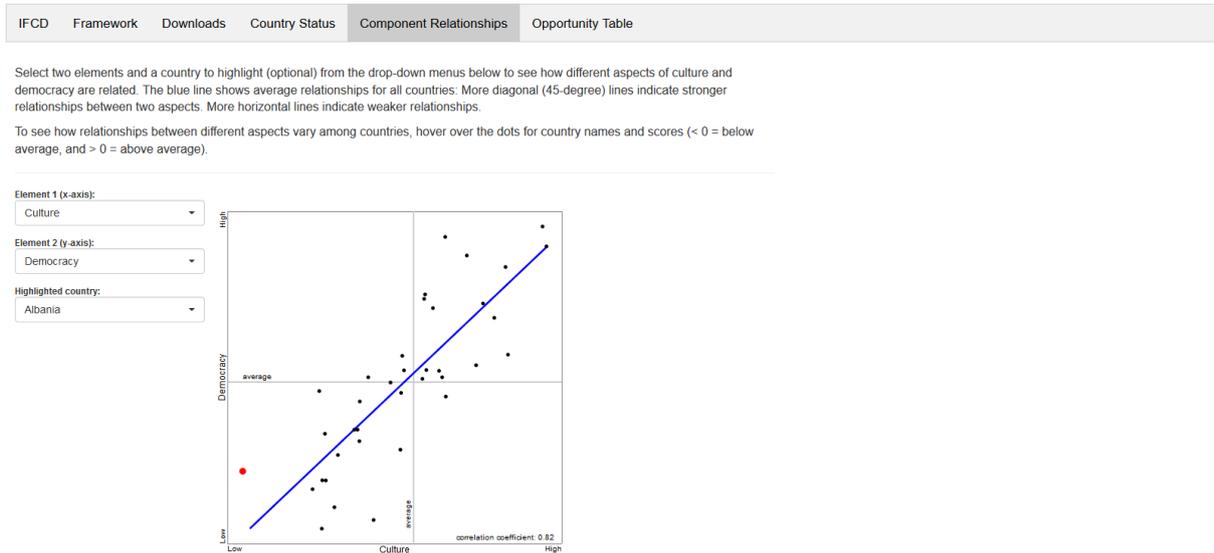
Choose a level:
 Dimensions Components

Country summary:
 Though its overall scores in the culture and democracy domains are among the lowest in the sample, Albania shows an above average score in the civic dimension of democracy, where engagement in non-institutionalised activities such as protests and petitions was strong. The well below average score in the policy dimension in the culture domain reflects lower performance in cultural education policy and direct funding of culture, perhaps not surprising for a lower income country, although the country's cultural openness, reflected in measures to support and promote cultural diversity, was closer to the sample average. In the economic dimension, the low cultural industry outputs determine Albania's below average score.

Components



The 'Component Relationships' tab allows users to test relationships between the different dimensions and components. You can select which components to display by using the drop-down menus under 'Element 1 (x-axis) ' and 'Element 2 (y-axis) '. The strength of the selected relationship is shown in the bottom right corner of the graph.



Finally, the 'Opportunity Table' tab allows users to identify which cultural policy levers have the most potential to positively impact aspects of culture and democracy in select countries. Similar to the 'Country Status' tab you can select a country of interest and a comparison group or country from the first two drop-down menus. The third drop-down menu allows you to select an aspect of culture or democracy that might be a target for intervention in your country of interest. The opportunity score shown in blue on the right is a function of the country's status on a number of cultural components and the relevance (in terms of strength of correlation) of those components to the target aspect of culture or democracy previously selected. The black vertical bars next to the red country status bars indicate the standing of the comparison country or group.

The IFCD Opportunity Table allow policy makers to identify exactly which cultural policy levers have the most potential to positively impact aspects of culture and democracy in their countries. Opportunities to apply cultural policy to enhance culture or democracy can arise, for example, when a country has ample room to improve in a cultural policy area ("Performance"), combined with a strong positive relationship between that policy area and a specific aspect of culture and democracy ("Relevance"). By knowing which cultural policy levers are most likely to encourage additional gains in culture and/or democracy, policy makers can allocate resources much more effectively.

Choose from the drop-down menus below to select a country, a comparison country or group (optional), and a target aspect of culture or democracy.

All group averages include only those countries for which we have information in the IFCD dataset.

