

Ukraine in International Rankings

PXC G

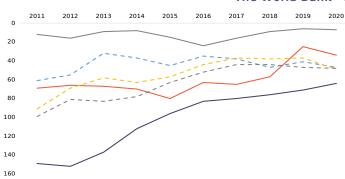
Economic Outlook and Indicators

Research

Issue #8 18.05.2021

International rankings and indicators help us to understand and assess how countries are performing in different areas. In this bulletin, Ukraine's positions in international rankings and the dynamics therein will be reviewed based on recent data. The positions will also be compared with other Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Georgia, and Belarus).

The World Bank - Ease of Doing Business



–Azerbaijan – – Belarus ——Georgia —

-Ukraine

The "Ease of Doing Business" is a series of annual studies conducted by the World Bank, which looks at different countries' regulations that either enhance or constrain business activity. A country's Ease of Doing Business score reflects its economy's performance in 10 business topics, with a total of 41 indicators.

In 2020, Ukraine was ranked 64th among 190 countries in the Ease of Doing Business ranking, which represents a rise of 7 places compared to 2019.

In 2020, among the 10 topics in the Ease of Doing Business ranking, Ukraine's best result was in "Dealing with Construction Permits" (20th), while its lowest position was in "Resolving Insolvency" (146th).

In 2020, compared to 2019, Ukraine made significant improvements in the following topics: "Protecting Minority Investors" (improved by 27 places) and "Dealing with Construction Permits" (improved by 10 places).

The improvements in these topics were brought about by targeted reforms. In particular, Ukraine strengthened minority investor protections by requiring greater disclosure of transactions with interested parties, while it also streamlined the construction permits process by eliminating the requirement to hire an external supervisor and introducing an online notification system.

During 2011-2020, Ukraine's position in the ranking improved every year. However, compared to other EaP countries, Ukraine performed significantly worse in the Ease of Doing Business ranking over this period.

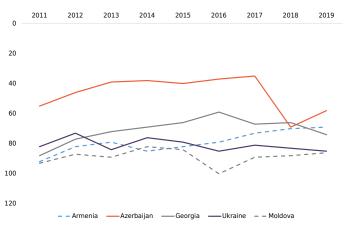
World Economic Forum - The Global Competitiveness Index

The Global Competitiveness Index created by the World Economic Forum measures national competitiveness - defined by a set of institutions, policies, and factors that determine a country's level of productivity. The index consists of 12 pillars, with a total of 103 indicators.

In 2019, Ukraine was ranked 85th among 140 countries in the Global Competitiveness Index, thereby dropping 2 places compared to 2018.

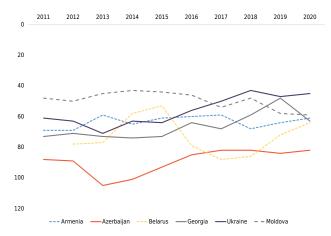
In 2019, across the 12 pillars of the index, Ukraine's best result was in "Skills" (44th), while its lowest position was in "Financial System" (136th).

In 2019, compared to 2018, the significant deterioration was recorded in Financial System (by 19 places) and Health (by 7 places).



In 2019, compared to 2011, Ukraine's position in the Global Competitiveness Index worsened by 3 places. Compared with other EaP countries¹, in 2011-2012, Ukraine performed better than Armenia, Georgia, and Moldova and during this period. However, in recent years the situation has changed, as during 2016-2019, of the other EaP countries, Ukraine only performed better than Moldova.

World Intellectual Property Organization - Global Innovation Index



The Global Innovation Index (GII) is an annual ranking of countries according to their capacity for (and success in) innovation, which is published by the WIPO, INSEAD, and Cornell University. It provides detailed metrics about innovation performance in seven pillars, with a total of around 80 indicators.

In 2020, Ukraine was ranked 45th among 131 countries in the GII ranking, which represents an improvement of two places² compared to 2019.

In 2020, out of seven pillars, Ukraine's best performance was recorded in "Knowledge and Technology Outputs" (25th), while the worst performance was in "Market Sophistication" (99th).

Ukraine made improvements in 2020, compared to 2019, in "Human Capital" (by 12 places) and "Knowledge & Technology Outputs" (by 3 places).

It is worth noting that the increase in "Human Capital" could largely be attributed to its improvement in the indicator of government funding/pupil ratio, which increased from 25.7 to 30.3 points.

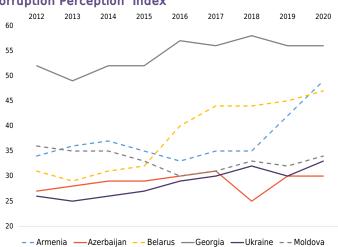
Moreover, in 2011-2016, Ukraine was outperformed by Moldova consistently, and by Belarus and Armenia on two occasions, while since 2017 Ukraine has been outperforming every other EaP country in this index².

Transparency International - Corruption Perception Index

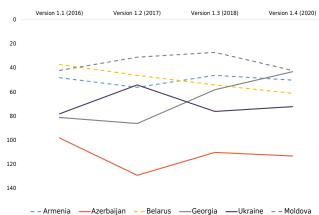
The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) is developed by Transparency International and is one of the most widely used indicators for corruption worldwide. The CPI scores and ranks countries based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be by experts and business executives. The CPI scores range from 0 to 100, with 0 indicating a high level of perceived corruption and 100 indicating the lowest level of perceived corruption.

In 2020, Ukraine scored 33 out of 100 in the CPI, which represents an improvement from its previous score of 30 in 2019 (and from 26 in 2012). Overall, Ukraine's score in this index has been demonstrating an upward trend since 2012.

During 2012-2020, compared to other EaP countries, Ukraine has been on average the worst performer in the index, bettering Azerbaijan just twice (in 2018 and 2020) in that time. Georgia, Belarus, Armenia, and Moldova have consistently had lower levels of perceived corruption compared to Ukraine over the period of 2012-2020.



Simon Anholt - Good Country Index



The Good Country Index, created by Simon Anholt, measures what each country contributes to the common good of humanity, and reports on each country's external impacts (both positive and negative) outside its own borders. The index consists of seven pillars (categories), with five indicators under each pillar. Different categories of the index generally have a 2-3 year time lag between data collection and the publication of results, and thus the index is labeled by version (from version 1.1 (2016) to version 1.4 (2020)).

In the latest version of the index in 2020, Ukraine was ranked 72nd among 149 countries, which represents an improvement by 4 places compared to the previous version in 2018.

In 2020, across the seven pillars of the index, Ukraine's best result was in "Science & Technology" (1st). On the other hand, Ukraine recorded its lowest position in "International Peace & Security" (133rd).

It has to be noted that Ukraine has been the biggest global contributor in the pillar of "Science & Technology" for three consecutive reports (in 2017, 2018, and 2020). The pillar of "Science & Technology" includes the following five criteria: International Students in the Country; Exports of Periodicals, Scientific Journals and Newspapers; International Publications; Accumulated Nobel Prizes; and Patents.

In 2020, compared to 2018, Ukraine recorded improvements in the following pillars of the ranking: "Health & Well-being" (by 21 places) and "Planet & Climate" (by 6 places).

Overall, compared to other EaP countries, Ukraine has on average performed worse than Moldova, Armenia, and Belarus in this index, with the only other EaP country performing consistently worse than Ukraine being Azerbaijan. Ukraine outperformed Georgia in the first two versions of the index, but fell behind in the latest two versions.

Conclusion

To conclude, in the latest versions of the abovementioned rankings,³ Ukraine performed best in the Global Innovation Index (45th), but ranked lowest in the Global Competitiveness Index (85th).

Moreover, it is worth noting that Ukraine achieved progress in all of the rankings covered in this period in the respective time periods, except for the Global Competitiveness Index. Over the analyzed period for the respective rankings, the highest growth was recorded in the Ease of Doing Business ranking, where Ukraine improved its position by 85 places in 2011-2020 and reached 64th. Ukraine also made a noteworthy improvement in the Global Innovation Index, rising by 16 places to 45th place in 2020.

Compared to other EaP countries in 2020, Ukraine is performing better than others in the Global Innovation Index. However, Ukraine is struggling in the Ease of Doing Business ranking, in which it sits below all other EaP countries. In the Global Competitiveness Index, Ukraine is performing better than Moldova, but worse than all other EaP countries. Moreover, in 2020, in the Corruption Perception Index and the Good Country Index, the only EaP country that Ukraine has been outperforming is Azerbaijan.

1 Data for Belarus is not available. 2 Data for Belarus in 2010-2011 and for Moldova in 2010 is not available.

3 Corruption Perception Index was not taken into consideration due to to fact that it is based on scores, rather than ranks.

Basic Economic Indicators	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Nominal GDP (bln hryvnia)	2,385	2,984	3,561	3,975	4 194
GDP per Capita (USD, PPP)	11,148	11,871	12,629	13,341	-
GDP Real Growth (%)	2.4%	2.5%	3.4%	3.2%	-4.0%
Yearly inflation (%)	13.9%	14.4%	10.9%	7.9%	2.6%
Exchange rate (hryvnia/USD)	25.7	26.7	27.3	25.7	27.2
FDI (BOP net inflows) (bln USD)	3.8	3.7	4.5	5.9	-0.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.7%	9.9%	9.1%	8.6%	-
Gross external Debt (bln USD)	112.5	115.5	114.7	121.7	125.7