

Increase of persecution worldwide

Introduction

This paper is meant to see if there is an increase in persecution worldwide in comparison to last year.

The increase (or decrease) of persecution is derived from the persecution profiles. Each country on the WWL 2014 has a persecution profile that gives a short background analysis of the country score.

In some cases the content of the persecution profile gives a slightly different interpretation of the persecution situation than the changes in scores seem to indicate. This happens when for methodological reasons the changes in scores are not (fully) relevant for the real situation 'on the ground'.

For further understanding of the meaning of the information given in this paper, please see the persecution profiles added to the WWL 2014 resources on Global Point.

Increase of persecution worldwide

World Watch Research sees an increase of persecution worldwide:

- In 8 countries the level of persecution increased seriously (**2+**).
- In 22 countries the level of persecution increased (**1+**).
- In 13 countries the level of persecution stayed more or less the same (**0**).
- In 2 countries the level of persecution decreased (**-1**).
- In 2 countries the level of persecution decreased considerably (**-2**).
- There are 3 new countries that entered the top 50 (**new**).
- There are 3 countries that fell out of the top 50 but still scored more than 35 points.
- There are 5 other countries that didn't make it to the top 50 but scored more than 35 points.

The level of persecution decreased considerably		The level of persecution decreased		The level of persecution stayed more or less the same		The level of persecution increased		The level of persecution increased seriously		New countries that entered the top 50	
-2		-1		0		1+		2+		new	
33	Mali	35	United Arab Emirates	1	North Korea	2	Somalia	3	Syria	16	Central African Republic
49	Tanzania	36	Mauritania	6	Saudi Arabia	5	Afghanistan	4	Iraq	29	Sri Lanka
		old	Uganda	10	Yemen	7	Maldives	8	Pakistan	48	Bangladesh
				12	Eritrea	9	Iran	11	Sudan		
				27	Oman	14	Nigeria	13	Libya		
				31	Bhutan	15	Uzbekistan	22	Egypt		
				37	China	17	Ethiopia	25	Colombia		
				38	Kuwait	18	Vietnam	39	Kazakhstan		
				41	Bahrain	19	Qatar				
				44	Morocco	20	Turkmenistan				
				45	Tajikistan	21	Laos				
				46	Djibouti	23	Myanmar				
				47	Indonesia	24	Brunei				
				Old	Azerbaijan	26	Jordan				
						28	India				

The level of persecution decreased considerably		The level of persecution decreased		The level of persecution stayed more or less the same		The level of persecution increased		The level of persecution increased seriously		New countries that entered the top 50	
-2		-1		0		1+		2+		new	
						30	Tunisia				
						32	Algeria				
						34	Palestinian Territories				
						40	Malaysia				
						42	Comoros				
						43	Kenya				
						50	Niger				
						old	Kyrgyzstan				
2		3		14		23		8		3	
4%		6%		26%		43%		15%		6%	

In 34 countries persecution has increased in comparison to the foregoing WWL (**64%**). In 5 countries persecution has decreased which means the situation has improved (**10%**). The level of persecution remained more or less the same in 14 countries (**26%**).

The 3 countries that fell out of the top 50 but still scored more than 35 points -the entry level of last year- are Azerbaijan (44 pts), Kyrgyzstan (42 pts) and Uganda (37 pts).

The 5 countries that did not make it to the list but scored more than 35 points are Chad (44 pts), Mexico (43 pts), Russian Federation (38 pts), Cameroon (38 pts) and Nepal (36 pts).

In short, this year a higher number of countries scored more than 35 points than last year.

All this indicates an increase in persecution worldwide.

Factor of persecution increase

The **factor of persecution increase** is the number of countries where persecution increased minus the number of countries where persecution decreased divided by the total number of countries concerned. This factor can fluctuate between -1,00 and +1,00. When the factor is higher than 0, persecution has increased. When it is lower than 0, persecution has decreased which means the situation has improved. For the calculation it is important to realize that the total number of countries concerned is 53 because the countries that dropped off the list are included too, as well as the new-comers.

The **factor of persecution increase** for the persecution situation **worldwide** is $(34-5)/53=0,55$. This indicates an increase in persecution worldwide.

Conclusion

There is an increase in persecution worldwide in comparison to last year. This increase is not limited to specific regions but applies to all the regions the World Watch List has been highlighting in foregoing years until now.