

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful

ساختارهای سست جهانی در حال فروریختن است

The feeble structures in the world is falling down

استاد دانش مفید: محمود صانعی پور

Master of usefulness knowledge: Mahmoud Saneipour

پاسخ به نظرات (FSI analysis) از J.J. MESSNER

Reply to Mr. J. MESSNER related FSI analysis views



Mahmoud Saneipour

FSI analysis

FRAGILE STATES INDEX 2017: FACTIONALIZATION AND GROUP GRIEVANCE FUEL RISE IN INSTABILITY

Sunday, 14 May 2017



BY J.J. MESSNER

Reply from: mahmoud saneipour

Thank you for FSI analysis report from **J.J. MESSNER**, this article is important of different aspects, like your analogous physical or material subjects (foreign trade , classical and new-classical economics and so on) but, it is weakness from aspect of spiritual standards and political manners , for example: international transgressions , more than 70% poor people in the world , creating of global terrorism , and hundred injustices in the world , in regarding to this ranking and studied countries will changed , in any case , at this time , it is an important subject that should be follow it.

If this crisis of the world doesn't be end, their flames will penetrate to all over the world and scope of war third III will pass from cyber war and covering of everywhere no doubt. It is surprising, nobody keep its ear to any advises for saving of these dangerous front of oppressed people and world's boxers want to win by ruffianism especial big Satan, and otherwise, there are the solutions for saving people of these tragical events, I have written 100 problems about America those will be can salved them, anybody wouldn't care for my remarks, but we must say our speeches righteously, and we must act to our duties, I inform you that Saudi Arabia will be the greatest dangerous in near future, please read my lamentation as follow:

Explosion is near

You saw the dance of Satan , the Satan is regardless , it is logic- less , blood-thirsty , man of war , decomposer, divisional maker, and he enjoys from all of these dangerous plays , you saw the grin of the Satan, it be heard the Satan's cachinnate , its face apparanted , its murder and pillage is obvious , the followers of big Satan are waiting and looking him , be wait for bad news ever after , the earth didn't have endure such these poverty and bad luck , explosion is near .

اولا پایداری کشورها بدلائل مختلف ممکن نیست در طول حکمرانی - تاریخی جهان ، کشورها از جهات مختلف شکنده بوده و تغییر شدید کرده اند و این تحلیل فقط نیازی به شاخص های ژئوپلیتیکی ندارد ضمن اینکه موقعیت جغرافیائی کشورها را هم تغییر می دهد ، عدم پایداری کشورها بر اساس " قانون جری وانطباق " شامل موارد خاصی است ، که یکی مربوط با کلیه کشورهای شرق و غرب در حال بالانس

هستند و این ترازمندی مشمول مرزهای بین کشوری هم شده است ، موضوع بالانس به یک زیر مجموعه مربوط می شود که کمتر روی آنها بطور حقیقی بحث جدی شده است .

Firstly, I have made a comment about this matter before time; it's not possible Stability of countries for different reasons, in historical governances in the world, countries have been breakable and fragility for different reasons and have severe changed and this analysis doesn't need to geoclinal indices only, in the meanwhile, it changes the situations of Geographical countries, Instability of countries according to "current- conformity law" are contains special cases like " balancing between west and east countries" and this equilibrium has happened subject of borders too , Subject of balance related to a subset doesn't discuss on them seriously.

موضوع بررسی علمی عدم پایداری کشورها و شکنندگی آنها در فروپاشی نظام سرمایه داری ، تروریسم جهانی ، بد رفتاری غرب و بویژه آمریکا ، لشکر کشی ها و احتمال جنگ سوم جهانی ، 70 در صد فقر جهانی ، حضور بی باکانه نظام اسلامی در عرصه سیاست جهانی و ده مورد دیگر که در سایت علم مفید با ده ها مقاله آورده ام ، نیازمند بررسی با "قاعده علیت تراکمی" است و بررسی تک بُعدی ورتبه بندی غلط و گمراه کننده است و این موضوع به طرح یک ابر پروژه نیاز دارد که من هم آمادگی همکاری دارم .

Subject scientific search about countries, s instability and that friability are in collapse of capitalism, global terrorism, West's bad behavior's especial America, military campaigns and world war III possibility, 70% poverty in the world, the fearless presence of Islamic system unto global political arena and tens other cases that I have brought them in site of usefulness science, and it is need review whit " accumulative causity rule" and one dimensional surveying and ranking it is wrong in this method and this subject needs to a top project that I ready to participation into it too.

نویسنده آقای **J.J. MESSNER** با دلسوزی خاص خودش این موضوع را دنبال میکند ولی کافی نیست این پروژه جهانی است و نیازمند مباحث میان رشته ای با رویکرد شاخص های حقیقی و متخصصانی که دارای اندیشه درست و حقیقی در این مورد هستند ، میباشد، یعنی چارچوب متدولوژیک آن فرق اساسی دارد با مدل ها و روش های حاضر ، آنچه که شما به ظاهر بین کشورهای متخاصم ویا موثر در این ناپایداری میبینید ، کافی نیست ، عوامل حقیقی پنهان در پشت این واقعیت ها بر اثر فشارهائی است که شما در تحلیل خود دخالت نمی دهید ، نظر بیداری دینی جهان ، عدالت خواهی ، فشار بیرحمانه اسرائیل، قیام

مردمی ومبازره با زور گوئی آمریکا وده ها مورد دیگر که مدل را کامل ومعادلات رابرای تحلیل حقیقی تکمیل کند.

Writer Mr. **J.J. MESSNER** follows this subject by own compassion, but it is not sufficient and it needs Interdisciplinary discourses by approach truth indices and specialists those are having correct thought field in this big project truly, in other wise, the methodological framework of this case is deferent of Present methods and models, because, what you see between hostile countries appearancely that not enough about these matters , the truth agents hidden at backstage these events is result of pressures that you do not interfere in your model and analysis , likes: global religious awakening , Justice, relentless pressure of Israel, Popular uprising , fight the compulsion of America and tens others cases that your model Is lacking of them .

آنچه شما بصورت چالش ها بین امریکا واروپا وسایر کشورهای دیگر میبیند ویا کشتارهای مستمر در تمام نقاط جهان ، شروع یک وضعیت وخیم است وباید منتظر وقایع سخت تر ومبارزات وحشتناک تر باشید وهیچ کشوری از این ترکش ها درامان نخواهد بود وشما باید این فاکتورها را به لیست کشورهای درگیر اضافه کنید ، کسانی که درحالت سرگرمی وولنگاری بسر میبرند ، در خواب سنگین هستند فقط نظاره گر هستند تا روزی که این آتش دامن آنها را خواهد گرفت وانگاه دیر نیست .

What you see many challenges between America and Europe and other countries or continuous killings people over the world, it is start a Critical condition, and should be wait Events harder and more terrible campaigns and no country Will be safe from these fragments and you must add these factors into list of involved countries, those who been living unto entertainment mode and easy-going , they are in heavy dream and viewer only till the day will be get this fire skirts them and then late very soon !!!.

برای تصمیم گیری در جهت حل مسائل جهانی ، بحث های گروهی ناکارآمد وحتى بیهوده است ، حل مسائل جهانی باید به مناقصه گذاشته شود واز صاحبان خرد که با دانش مفید وحقیقی سروکاردارند دعوت شود تا در جهت حل وعقد این مسائل مداخله کنند ، تحلیل ریاضی وبا داده های گمراه کننده ، مسائل جهانی را حل نمی کند ، صندلی های سیاست لغزنده شده است ، کرسی های سیاست های زور گویانه استکبار جهانی شکسته شده است ، وبسیاری از فرمول های چپاول گری شکسته وبسیاری از قوای تجاوز کارانه شکننده شده است واینها دامنه ای به وسعت کره زمین دارد وبررسی هر کشور به تنهایی ، یک قطعه ناقص از کل پازل جهانی است .

For decision making through solution of global problems, it is inefficient and even in vain, the salving of global problems should put to tender and be invited of Men of understanding usefulness knowledge and truth till they intervene in the direction of resolve these issues, mathematical analysis by illusory data it is not solution making for global problems, the chairs of policies are slippery, the seats of prophetic force policies have broken in the world , and these matters have a big domain the size of earth and survey any country alone , it is a flawed piece of The world puzzle.

آنچه شما بصورت علائم خطر و نشانه های طوفان می بینید از خیلی وقت آغاز شده و اینک میدان آرائی ورزمایش آنها بکار افتاده است ، ولی سیاست مداران دنیا هنوز خواب هستند و یا به زور اسلحه و قدرت نظامی خودشان میبایند ، آنها خبر ندارند کسانی که در سازمان های بین المللی ، حامی آنان هستند ، همینکه خطر را متوجه خودشان دیدند ، یک شبه فرار می کنند و سازمانها را رها و به غارهای کوهستان پناه میبرند و شما این واقعه را خواهید دید ، من در "قانون جری و انطباق " تاریخی بسیار دیده ام و حقیقت جهان را باور کردم که دست های پر قدرتی ، بالاتر از قدرت های فعلی وجود دارند که باید با چشم بصیرت آنها را کشف و شهود کرد .

Whatever you see as danger alarms or storm signs those have started a long time and now it is enabled mnemonic field and their exercises, but the world's politicians are in dream or they get pride to their gunpoint and military power, they don't information from those who are protectors in international organizations overnight escape as soon as they saw a threat to themselves and will release the organizations and refuge to mountain caves , you will see this event in future , I have seen in historical "current- conformity law" a lot and I believe there are Powerful hands higher power of preset powers that we should have insight eyes for discovering and Intuition them .

سوال اساسی این است چه کشوری از این دریای طوفانی جان سالم بدر برده و به ساحل نجات میرسد ، نکته اساسی اینجاست که باید هرگونه تحلیل پاسخ گوی این سوال باشد، شاخص های کلیدی و یا پاسخ های حل مسائل ، برای تحلیل گران فعلی سخت باور کننده هستند و همین تفاوت دیدگاه و یا اعتقاد است که غرب را در باطلاق عمیق گرفتار کرده است و عجیب اینستکه خود را عقل کل میداند و زبان عدالت ، صلح ، دوستی و راست گوئی و وفای به عهد را نمی شناسد و از آنچه میترسد که منافعش در آن است و از آنچه استقبال می کند که بیشتر سرگرمی است ، ضررها برده و راه خود را گم کرده است و خیر خواهان دنیا را از نزد خود رانده و تحلیل گران سنتی را گرد خود جمع کرده است ، این بزرگترین و خطرناک ترین چالش جهان است که غرب در باتلاق آن گیر کرده است .

The basic question is which country will save itself from this stormy Sea and will arrive to saving beach? The fundamental point here and you have suitable analysis for responding of world's problems effectively, Current analysts don't believe the key truth indices and this difference of opinion or conviction is that west has caught in deep mire and it is surprising he knows its intellect and logos -mind and it doesn't know the language of justice, peace, friendships, being honest and promise Kept Promise Kept and what fears that has its benefit and what wanted that has harm for it and more entertainment and it driven from their sight wise and well-wisher and it has gathered traditional analysts , this is biggest and most dangerous challenge in the world that west has been stuck its swamp.

من بارها گفتم هرگونه روند یابی و تحلیل های مبتنی بر هیستوگرام با داده های فعلی ، شما را بسوی چاه ویل راهنمایی میکند ، چرا باین سخن خردمندانه گوش نمی دهید ، دردنیای حقایقی است که شما الزام دارید به آنها توجه کنید وگرنه ضررهای بزرگ خواهید دید ، به سایت علم مفید من سری بزنید و یاد بگیرید و توجه کنید که واقعیت های هر کشور در گروی این حقایق است که نمی توانید از آنها فرار کنید ، نمی شود باصدر اعظم آلمان با گردن کلفتی حرف زد ، نمی شود در خاورمیانه دو کشور دوست را به جان هم انداخت و به هر دو اسلحه فروخت ، نمی شود از کنفرانس پاریس فرار کرد و گرمای لایه ازون را نادیده گرفت ، وقتی عقاب های امریکا جنگل های آتش گرفته آمریکارا ترک می کنند و کارخانه های معظم آمریکائی مکزیک را برای تولید خود انتخاب می کنند ، یک رئیس جمهور تجارت پیشه چکار می تواند بکند؟ .

I said several time, any trending and analysis based on histogram by present data it guides you will the deep wells, why don't hear for this word of wisdom, there are many rights in the world that you must pay attention them, Otherwise will see major losses no doubt, check please to my site as usefulness science and learn and pay attention to facts of every countries those it depends on these facts that you cannot escape from them, it is not Speak whit chancellor of Germany by stoutness, it is not at each other's throats Those two countries are always be friend and historical neighborhood and the same culture and selling guns to them!!!, it is not escape from conference of Paris and get ignored and increasing of Heat from the ozone layer, when America's eagles leave the fired Jungles of USA , and big factories if America have selected Mexico for producing , what can a President as businessman other works ?

من از هم اکنون اعلام میکنم که وقتی ناتو به روسیه حمله کند ، اروپا از هم خواهد پاشید وانگستان و اسرائیل و آمریکا کارت برنده خود را نشان خواهند داد ، شما از این پشت پرده ها چه میدانید ، داده های حقیقی شما در این مورد کدام است ، تحلیل های ریاضی شما چه پرده هائی را از پیش روی شما برمیدارد و تحلیل گر دلسوز را دنبال نخود سیاه فرستاده و در کشورهای سوریه ؛ لیبی ، عراق ، و افغانستان دنبال حل مسئله میگردد ، تقسیم دنیا در پشت پرده انجام میشود مثل خاور میانه بزرگ و شما آنرا در سنگال جستجو میکنید ، این رتبه بندی مشکلی حل نمی کند و این ساختارهای شکسته ، با چسب های قدیمی و یا گیره های ضعیف غرب ، ترمیم نمی شود در حال حاضر بیداری اسلامی معادلات غرب را بر هم زده است .

I now declare that when NATO will attract to Russia, Europe will collapse and England, Israel and America will show their winning card there is no doubt, what do you know from behind the curtains, which is your truth data in this matter, what's curtains from before you remove according your mathematic analysis, it is follow sent Black the compassionate analyst and it is looking for problem solving in Syria, Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan and like that , thus ranking not solve the problem and these structures have broken , and not be restored by old glue or weakness west's clips , in this present time , Islamic awakening is stirred West's equations.

It is arriving from the human, s inflaming heart

A sorrowfulness Song from our Savior at dawn

Whoever hears this burner from Long distance?

He is sleeping when in dawn undoubtedly

نَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ حَبْلِ الْوَرِيدِ (سوره ق/16) شعبان 1396

آنکه دل ستاند از ما ، مارادلبیر است	آنکه عاشقی آموخت بما، چیره تر است
کی تواند این چنین باشد ما را ولی	آنکه از رگ گردن بما ، نزدیکتر است
این گردن افراشته کز تکریم اوست	بندگی بایدش، از ریاست ها، بهتر است
وجد محمود حاصل این قربت است	هر که دارد این قرابت ، فاخرتر است

FRAGILE STATES INDEX 2017: FACTIONALIZATION AND GROUP GRIEVANCE FUEL RISE IN INSTABILITY

Sunday, 14 May 2017



BY J.J. MESSNER

Though South Sudan has returned to top position on the annual Fragile States Index (FSI) for 2017, and Finland continues to maintain its position as the world's least fragile country, the global tumult of the past year has been borne out in the Index's trend analysis, as Ethiopia, Mexico, and Turkey recorded the greatest worsening over 2016. A number of developed countries also recorded notable worsening scores across certain indicators, in particular the United States and the United Kingdom, which both experienced highly divisive political campaigns during 2016. The long-term trends of the FSI have also raised red flags on a number of countries – in particular South Africa and Senegal – for which the conditions that could precipitate instability have worsened significantly.

The FSI, now in its thirteenth year, is an assessment of 178 countries based on twelve social, economic, and political indicators that quantifies pressures experienced by countries, and thus their susceptibility to instability. The FSI itself is based on the CAST conflict assessment framework, a methodology developed a quarter of a century ago that continues to be implemented widely by policymakers, field practitioners, and local communities in better understanding the drivers of conflict. The FSI, adapted from the CAST framework, is assessed through a process that triangulates content analysis of over 50 million data points, with quantitative data sets and qualitative research validation.

MOST WORSENEDED COUNTRIES IN 2017

MOST WORSENEED COUNTRIES IN 2017			
	+3.9	Ethiopia (101.1)	
	+3.9	Mexico (74.3)	
	+3.5	Turkey (80.8)	
	+2.9	Brazil (68.2)	
	+2.6	The Gambia (89.4)	
	+2.4	South Africa (72.3)	
	+2.3	Japan (87.4)	
	+2.1	Italy (48.2)	
	+2.0	South Korea (38.1)	
	+1.8	Belgium (30.8)	
	+1.8	Gabon (73.8)	
	+1.7	Ecuador (77.3)	
	+1.6	Greece (87.8)	
	+1.6	United States (35.8)	
	+1.5	Bahrain (64.9)	
	+1.5	Zambia (87.8)	
	+1.4	Armenia (71.0)	
	+1.3	Estonia (44.7)	
	+1.3	New Zealand (22.6)	
	+1.3	Venezuela (82.9)	

Much attention has been directed at **Turkey** recently, not only because of its pivotal geographical position in proximity to the war in Syria, but also because of its continued slide into instability and authoritarianism. The FSI data demonstrates that, since 2011, Turkey has worsened significantly across a range of indicators, declining in its overall score by 10 points over that period. Though the country has experienced increased pressure driven by refugee flows from Syria, much of the worsening has been driven by social and political indicators, in particular Group Grievance, Human Rights, State Legitimacy, Factionalized Elites, and Security Apparatus. Turkey was the third most worsened country since 2016, in no small part due to the attempted coup in July. In the aftermath, Turkey witnessed a major crackdown on political opponents and journalists. Beyond the attempted coup, a series of terrorist attacks, as well as renewed tensions with the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, has increased the pressures experienced by Turkey. Given that the highly controversial constitutional referendum staged in April 2017 – and its divisive lead-up – was not recorded in the 2017 FSI, the outlook for Turkey in 2018 remains poor.

Limited attention has been given to outbreaks of violence in **Ethiopia**, as anti-government protests, particularly in the Amhara and Oromia regions, led to a declaration of a state of emergency in October 2016. The state of emergency was also used as a tool to crackdown on political opponents and media. An estimated 400 people have been killed in clashes with security forces in Oromia alone. The increased pressure in 2017 marks a continuation of a long-term worsening trend for Ethiopia, whose score has increased from 91.9 in 2006 to a high of 101.1 in 2017.

At the root of some of the increased pressure in Ethiopia are issues that can be traced to climate risks, as the country faces significant drought conditions and pressures on the food supply; further, competition over, and displacement from, grazing land was attributed as an underlying cause of the violence surrounding the planned annexation of land by the city of Addis Ababa as the government sought to expand its boundaries into neighboring Oromia. These pressures are borne out in the fact that Ethiopia's highest indicator score, 9.8, was recorded for Demographic Pressures; interestingly all three of Ethiopia's worst indicators are social indicators, pointing to added pressure from Group Grievance and Refugees and IDPs.

Mexico was a constant target of scorn in a highly charged U.S. Presidential campaign, and it was also the equally most worsened country since 2016. However, this score bucks a generally improving long-term trend for Mexico. After recording a high score of 76.1 in 2010, Mexico had improved by over 5 points to 70.4 in 2016, meaning that the 2017 score runs counter to that long-term trend. Much of the additional pressure has been driven by a surge in violence, with the highest number of homicides being recorded in 2012, as well as high-profile cases of organized crime that included the abduction of 43 students in Guerrero. Perhaps not surprisingly, the Security Apparatus indicator remains Mexico's worst, though the rising pressure on Group Grievance and State Legitimacy is a cause for concern, particularly as Uneven Economic Development is also worsening at a similar rate. Also recording significantly worsened year-on-year scores were three other countries that experienced significant turmoil during 2016 – Brazil, The Gambia, and South Africa.

Brazil experienced a year of immense political turmoil during 2016, as President Dilma Roussef was impeached. Brazil had recorded an impressive trend of improvement through 2014, before turning the opposite direction and displaying a sharp worsening trend over the past four years. The political turmoil has reflected an economic crisis that became a very public issue as the state of Rio de Janeiro declared a state of financial emergency only weeks prior to the Olympic Games, with further protests across the country against austerity policies put in place as a response to the economic crisis. Brazil's political and economic crises have been further compounded by an increase in crime and the effects on public health of the outbreak of the Zika virus.

The Gambia had largely flown under the radar for much of the world's media until the disputed election of December 2016 when Yahya Jammeh, who had been President for over 20 years, lost unexpectedly to Adama Barrow, sparking a crisis when Jammeh first accepted, then rejected the result. Though the crisis was eventually resolved by ECOWAS in early 2017 – an action that will likely be

picked up in the 2018 FSI – the long-term trends in the FSI demonstrated that this instability was a long anticipated. The Gambia is the eighth-most worsened country of the past decade, and has worsened in almost every year since the beginning of the FSI, with State Legitimacy and Human Rights worsening over the long-term, but Factionalized Elites and Group Grievance sharply were increasing immediately ahead of the elections. It is likely that the sharp uptick in the latter two indicators reflects the largely unprecedented widespread protests in the lead-up to the December 2016 vote.

South Africa's trend is particularly alarming. As the economic engine – and in many respects, the political giant – of Africa, the FSI has tracked a rapid decline in the country over the past decade, with only Libya, Syria, Yemen, Mali, and Senegal having worsened more in the past ten years. In 2006, the FSI assessed South Africa at 55.7, within the Stable category. Now, in 2017, South Africa finds itself at 72.3, within the Elevated Warning category, and has been surpassed by both Ghana and Botswana, which are now the most stable countries on the continent. In the past year, the country has experienced increasing economic pressure that has been a major driver of strikes, protests, and political instability, that has crystalized into the growing calls for President Jacob Zuma – who is also embroiled in scandal – to step down.

Fragility is certainly not confined to developing countries – among the ten most worsened countries in 2017 were Japan, Italy, South Korea, and Belgium, with the United States not far behind as the 14th most worsened. **Belgium** experienced a serious terrorist attack in March 2016, and this has further fueled controversy over refugee flows into the country. Notably, this is reflected in the Security Apparatus, Group Grievance, and Refugees indicators being among those that sharply worsened over the past year. **Italy** had begun to show signs of improvement in recent years, however the combination of significant earthquakes, continued pressure from refugee flows, and in particular tensions surrounding the failed constitutional referendum and the resignation of Prime Minister Matteo Renzi all served to undermine Italy's performance in the 2017 FSI.

Japan had demonstrated an improving trend in recent years following the earthquake and nuclear disaster at Fukushima in 2011. However, increasing Demographic Pressures, coupled with a continuing increase in educated Japanese leaving the country, as well as further serious natural disasters – including a typhoon and two major earthquakes – are contributing to Japan's worsened performance. Though **South Korea** has been experiencing an economic slowdown, in many ways it is possible to attribute the significant worsening of South Korea in 2017 on one person – disgraced former president Park Guen-hye. President Park's incredible story of corruption and influence peddling with the daughter of a cult leader rocked South Korea, leading to widespread protests and eventual impeachment by parliament, has served to destabilize the country.

The **United States** has worsened in 2017 despite the majority of its indicators actually improving. Based on the FSI analysis, the United States has recorded long-term economic improvements and – perhaps remarkably, given recent coverage – improvements in political indicators such as State Legitimacy, Public Services, Human Rights, and Refugees. However, these broad improvements have been severely undermined by sharp upticks in three **key indicators** – Group Grievance, Factionalized Elites, and Security Apparatus. The severe worsening of the Group Grievance and Factionalized Elites indicators can be attributed in part to the highly divisive presidential election campaign in 2016, and in particular the tone of the campaign that tended to focus substantially on societal wedge issues, some of which had racial undertones. Interestingly, these indicators tracked very closely with those of the United Kingdom, which experienced its own highly divisive campaign during 2016 on exiting the European Union. It is unclear which of these precipitates the other – whether divisive rhetoric causes increased societal divisions, or campaigns based on such rhetoric take advantage of pre-existing conditions of deep division, or both. Regardless, the United Kingdom and the United States provide somewhat of a warning, that even where the majority of indicators may be improving, a handful of specific key indicators trending in the opposite direction can have profound effects on a country’s ultimate performance and implications for stability.

MOST IMPROVED COUNTRIES IN 2017

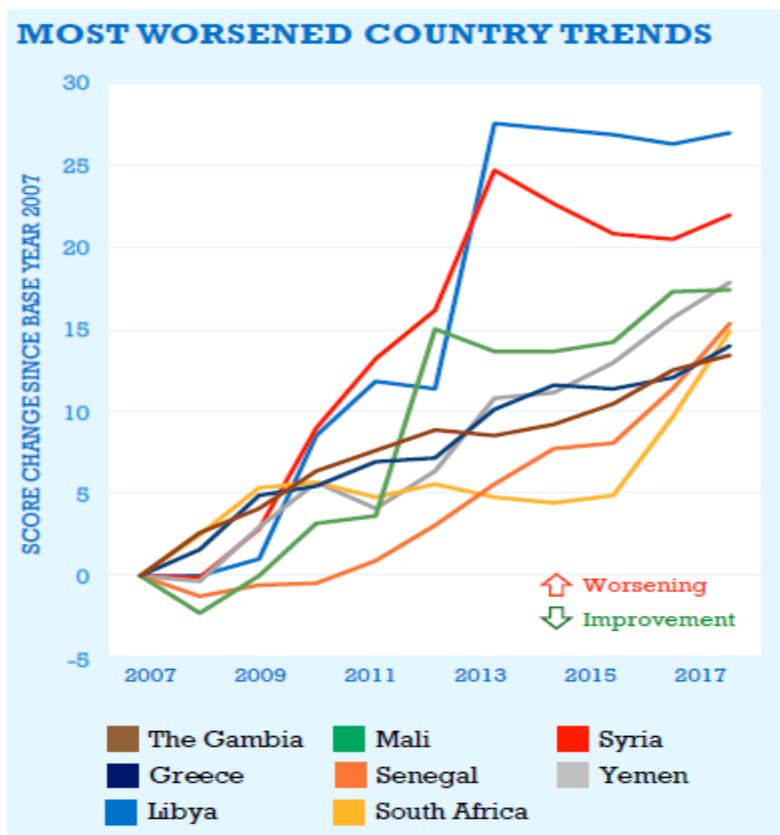
MOST IMPROVED COUNTRIES IN 2017			
	-2.8	Pakistan (98.9)	
	-2.0	Tajikistan (81.8)	
	-2.6	Thailand (76.2)	
	-2.0	Uzbekistan (81.5)	
	-2.5	Panama (80.7)	
	-1.9	Kenya (96.4)	
	-2.4	Georgia (76.5)	
	-1.9	Nigeria (101.6)	
	-2.3	Mali (82.9)	
	-1.9	Spain (87.9)	
	-2.2	Cameroon (95.6)	
	-1.9	Togo (83.9)	
	-2.0	Indonesia (72.9)	
	-1.8	Burundi (98.9)	
	-2.0	Laos (82.4)	
	-1.8	Croatia (80.8)	
	-2.0	Romania (80.9)	
	-1.8	Dom. Rep. (89.0)	
	-2.0	Serbia (70.0)	
	-1.8	Russia (79.2)	

At the other end of the trend analysis for the past year, **Pakistan** recorded the most significant improvement of any country in 2017. However, in analyzing the improvement of any country year-on-year, it is important to understand that improvement within the context of longer-term trends. A country’s year-on-year improvement will tend to fall into one of two categories – either a

“bounce back”, where a country is not so much improving but rather recovering from a shock that might have worsened its score in previous years (in other words, the country is not necessarily performing well, but simply less badly than last year); or, sustainable improvement, where the country’s improvement is another step forward on a long-term trend of decreasing fragility and increasing stability. In the case of Pakistan, it would appear that there have been some important improvements – for example on economic indicators and even security indicators – however, whether this signifies a trend is less clear, particularly as the Group Grievance indicator continues to rise, counter to the country’s overall performance.

Among the other most improved countries for 2017, Georgia, Indonesia, Laos, Panama, Romania, Serbia, and Uzbekistan all continued to improve in accordance with trends over the past decade that demonstrate clear, long-term sustainable improvement. Though Thailand, Mali, and Cameroon were also among the most improved for the year, their longer-term trends suggest that improvements over the past year are more likely “bounce backs” from earlier shocks rather than evidence that overall pressures in those countries are decreasing.

LONG-TERM DECADE TRENDS



Cuba remains the most improved country of the past 10 years, as the government has instituted economic reforms – as well as some limited political reforms – and has significantly opened

up to the outside world, in particular normalizing relations with the United States. Among the other most improved countries are the constituent states of the former Yugoslavia (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, and Macedonia are all among the Top 30 most improved) as well as former Soviet states (7 of the Top 40 most improved), demonstrating a clear post-conflict (or post-Cold War) peace dividend for those countries. Other notable improvements within the Top 20 Most Significantly Improved over the past decade include Colombia, where the level of stability has rapidly consolidated as the decades-long internal conflict with the FARC has come to an end; Germany, where despite the economic and social pressures wracking many of its neighbors, has managed to improve significantly in spite of those pressures; and Indonesia, as the world's largest Muslim-majority nation is the 9th most improved country, driven by economic development and increasing political stability.

Meanwhile, of the most worsened countries of the past decade there are likely few surprises at the very top – but equally a number of countries whose performance should herald a strong warning. Though the four most critically worsened for the decade – Libya, Syria, Yemen, and Mali – are likely obvious candidates, a number of other countries that have worsened significantly – such as Senegal, Eritrea, Mozambique, Central African Republic, and Guinea-Bissau – receive little attention in the world's media. It is worth recognizing that the FSI had been tracking the significant worsening trend of The Gambia ahead of the political crisis at the end of 2016, and has similarly been tracking the worsening trend of South Africa ahead of the growing civil unrest there that is beginning to gain broader international attention now.

... BUT LET'S ALSO NOT FORGET THE RANKINGS

Any index inherently ranks different countries, making some more fragile than others. Though we attempt as much as possible to focus more on the short- and long-term trends and specific indicator fluctuations within the FSI, the rankings are nonetheless informative in understanding where severe fragility continues to persist. The most fragile states topping the index this year remain relatively unchanged. **South Sudan** returned to the number one spot, amid deepening food insecurity, ongoing conflict between supporters of President Salva Kiir and Vice President Riek Machar, reports of ethnic cleansing, and suspended elections. Somalia took second place, improving slightly from last year as battle-related deaths dropped as part of the ongoing conflict with al-Shabaab; though it still faces ongoing state pressures with insecurity, poverty and state legitimacy. The remaining countries in the Very High Alert category of the 2017 FSI include Central African Republic, Yemen, Sudan and Syria – all of which face different

cycles of conflict and violence, leading to weak governance and levels of external intervention.

* * *

Though the FSI does not predict unrest or turmoil, it does provide early warning of the conditions that can likely give rise to instability. To that end, the short and long-term trends suggest that policymakers and practitioners should be mindful of the growing potential for the conditions of further instability in those countries and recognize that if a shock of some variety were to occur – from a natural disaster to a recession to localized communal violence – that such events in any of these countries could have dire consequences given the pre-existing conditions of fragility.