



Policy risks associated with hybrid threats



Common values = common interests

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Atlantic Council, November 25, 2023

# Institutions & values affected by hybrid threats

Institutions as stable and valued patterns of behavior (Huntington, 1968).

Institutions not restricted to legal framework; government attitudes toward freedom also important (Porter & Schwab, 2008).



Reference: Samuel Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies*. Yale University Press, 1968

The Global Competitiveness Report 2008-2009, [World Economic Forum](#), 2008.

Common transatlantic values under risk of hybrid threats.

*Hybrid CoE: promoting a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to countering hybrid threats.. with a vision of open, democratic societies operating free of hostile outside interference (hybridcoe.fi).*

# Disinformation reduces trust

Disinformation as a policy challenge for transatlantic institutions; undermining trust in liberal democracy and fact-based policymaking; the need for core civic virtues and critical thinking to strengthen democratic resilience (Hinšt, 2021).



Reference: Daniel Hinšt, Disinformation as geopolitical risks for transatlantic institutions, 2021., *Međunarodne studije*, XXI (2), 89-111.

Social trust deriving from well functioning and fair institutions with respect for laws (Nordic Council of Ministers, 2017).

# Disinformation reduce trust

Russia, China, and other countries spreading disinformation and promoting authoritarianism (Office of the Director of National Intelligence, 2023).



Reference: Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community, 2023.

Active measures and the link between academic postmodernism, denial of absolute truth and disinformation; democratic societies need serious steps to reduce the effects of disinformation (cia.gov, 2020).

Reference: [cia.gov](https://www.cia.gov)

Acemoglu &  
Robinson:  
Why Nations Fail

## Western institutions and values at risk

Inclusive political-economic institutions

Property rights, law and order

Efficient use of talent and talent

Freedom and broad opportunities

*What does authoritarian influence offer?*

Ferguson:  
Civilisation +  
The Square and  
the Tower

## Western institutions & values at risk

Work ethic and rational organizations

Individual freedom & Enlightenment networks

Upward mobility & transatlantic trade

Representative constitutional government

What does authoritarian influence offer?

World Economic  
Forum:  
Competitiveness

## Competitive institutions at risk

Social capital & policy stability

Transparency & meritocracy

Security, terrorism & property rights

Education, skills & innovation

Are authoritarian institutions competitive?

Economist  
Intelligence  
Unit:  
Democracy Index

## Democratic institutions at risk

Electoral pluralism and participation

Functioning government

Political culture, knowledge & values

Civil liberties, rule of law & free media

Does liberal democracy exist anywhere?

Fraser Institute:  
Economic  
Freedom of the  
World

## Capitalist institutions at risk

Self ownership & personal choice & security

Limited power & rule of law

Security & property rights

Voluntary exchange

Does capitalism exist in any case?

# Global methodologies for competitive institutions

## Global methodologies and rankings

## Organizations

Global Competitiveness Report

World Economic Forum

World Competitiveness Ranking

International Institute for Management Development

Economic Freedom of the World

Fraser Institute

Index of Economic Freedom

Heritage Foundation

Human Freedom

Cato Institute & Fraser Institute

Democracy Index

Economist Intelligence Unit

Source: Author

## Global methodologies and rankings

## Organizations

Global Competitiveness Report

World Economic Forum, 2019

Economic Freedom of the World

Fraser Institute, 2021

Democracy Index

Economist Intelligence Unit, 2020

Source: Author

# TOP 20: Best-ranked countries (free & competitive)

TRIO ranking	Countries	Average ranking
1	Switzerland	7
2	Denmark	9
3	New Zealand	9
4	Netherlands	10
5	United States	11
6	Canada	11
7	Australia	11
8	United Kingdom	12
9	Finland	13
10	Taiwan	13

11	Ireland	13
12	Germany	14
13	Japan	15
14	Sweden	16
15	Iceland	17
16	Norway	18
17	Luxembourg	20
18	Austria	22
19	Spain	23
20	Estonia	24

Source: Author

Reference: Daniel Hinš, Institutions Behind Competitive Global Rankings, [CEA](#), 2023

# TOP 20 countries: dominant policy pattern(s)

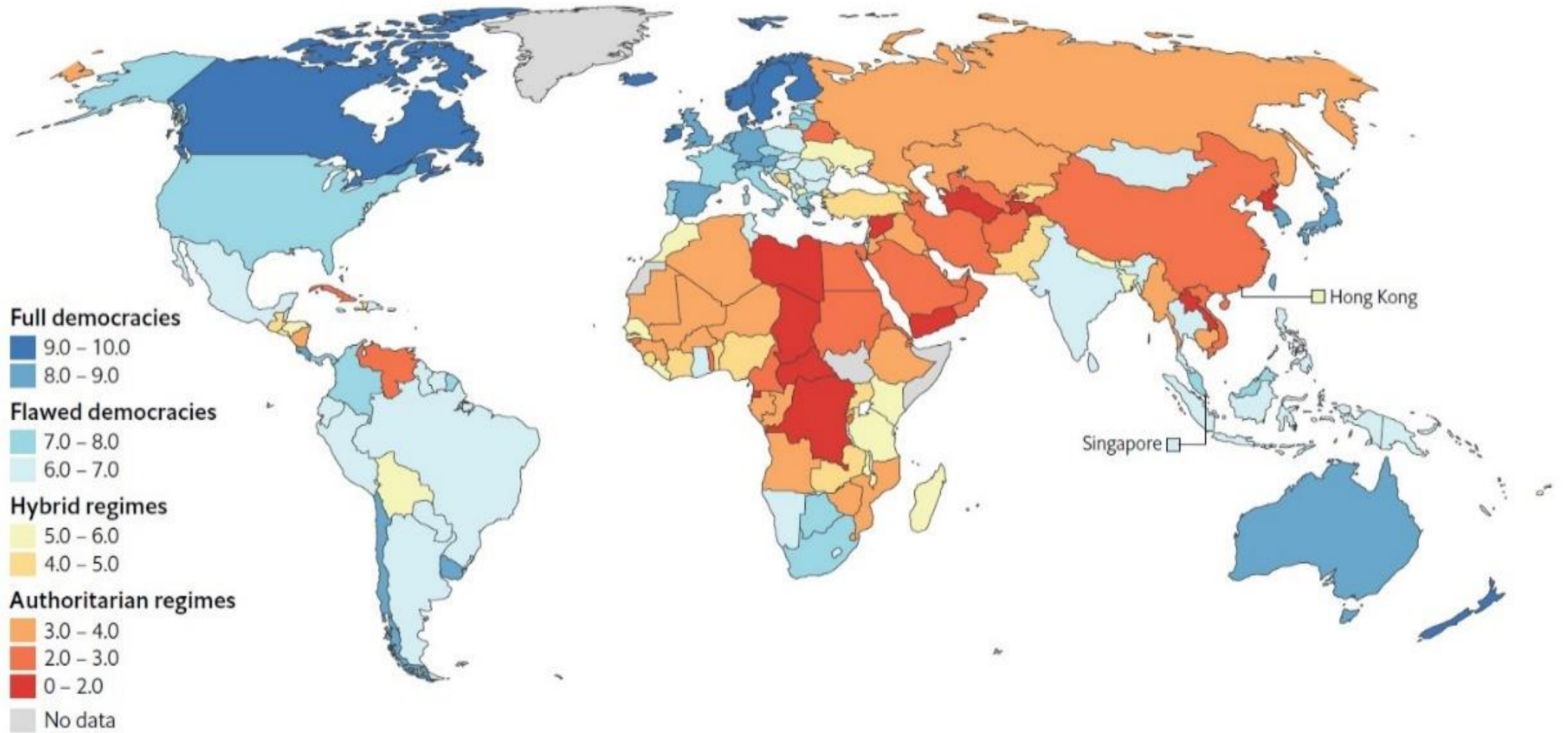
European (Nordic & Continental)  
+ Anglo-Saxon & East Asian  
Other regions?

NATO + associated & allies  
Europe security architecture without NATO?

Transatlantic alliance  
Other alliances?

Western societal background  
Western Balkans?

# Limited geopolitics behind democratic institutions



# Limited geopolitics behind global capitalism



Source: Fraser Institute, 2020

# Policy navigator for democratic resilience

Policy learning  
and improvements  
(work)

Deep understanding  
of complex risks  
(no AI)

Countering disinformation  
and authoritarian influence  
(defense)

Civic education  
for common values  
(culture)