

First report on human freedom index: Republic of Moldova is on 64th position from 154

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The Cato Institute from the USA has published today the first report on the human freedom index. The co-publishers are the Fraser Institute from Canada, the Liberales Institut at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation from Germany, the Institute of Economic Analysis from Russia and Visio Institute from Slovenia, writes the echo.msk.ru.

In the report on human freedom index, it is attempted for the first time the integral evaluation of the individual freedom, measure which has reached considerable progress in last decades. It uses 76 distinct indicators of personal and economic freedom in the following areas:

- Rule of Law,
- Security and Safety,
- Movement,
- Religion,
- Association, Assembly and Civil Society,
- Expression,
- Relationships,
- Size of Government,
- Legal System and Property Rights,
- Access to Sound Money,
- Freedom to Trade Internationally,
- Regulation of Credit, Labor and Business.

Two major components of the human freedom index are the personal freedom index and the economic freedom index. The values of all indexes vary from 0 to 10. The report presents the values of the human freedom index in 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012. In the list from 2012 are included 154 jurisdictions (countries and dependent territories).

According to the results, the first ten jurisdictions, as well as other countries placed in 2012 after the highest human freedom index like this:

The freest country (jurisdiction) of the world is Hong Kong (9.04), on the second place – Switzerland and on the third – Finland. Great Britain is on the 9th place, Germany – on the 12th, and the United States of America (8.26) – on the 20th position.

The freest country from the post-Communist states is the Czech Republic (8.25), which is positioned on the 21st place. In its turn, Estonia is on the 22nd position. Lithuania and Latvia are placed on places 26 and 29. Georgia occupied 48th place, Armenia – 53, the Republic of

Moldova – 64, Ukraine – 74 and Kazakhstan – 96th place.

In its turn, Russia positioned in 2012 on the 111th place in the world, with a relatively higher position in the case of economic freedom index and a relatively lower position in the case of that of personal freedom. This combination of values of the personal freedom index and that of economic freedom are in general characteristic to the countries from the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia.

In the period 2008-2012, in the world ranking of human freedom index, Russia positioned between the places 100 and 114. It is estimated that in these years existed an easy increase of the economic freedom index, with an important decrease of the personal freedom index.

The main report on the human freedom index, published today by the Cato Institute, has been realized by the head of the Center for global freedom and prosperity of the Cato Institute, I. Vasquez and the director of the Visio Institute, T. Porcnik.

The idea of the project on the measurement of human freedom index and the formation of the human freedom index was invoked by the author of this report nine years ago. Later, it was needed the effort of the team of researchers from many countries, numerous discussion at many conferences and international seminars.

The author's concept and the key principles of the human freedom index are provided in the text “Conditions for Freedom” in the volume “Towards a Worldwide Index of Human Freedom, Fraser Institute, 2012”.