

ASemana

Cape Verde is the second freest country in Africa

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Cape Verde has been ranked in 54th place on the list of the world's freest countries. The first edition of the Human Freedom Index, released yesterday, August 19, by the US-based Cato Institute, establishes a direct relationship between human freedom and democracy. In Africa, Cape Verde is only surpassed by Mauritius, which comes in 19th place worldwide.

“The index portrays a wide-reaching analysis of human freedom, understood as the absence of coercive constraints, and used 76 indicators of personal and economic freedom” in areas such as law enforcement, security, circulation, religion, size of government and individual relations.

According to authors Ian Vásquez and Tanja Porcnik, the Human Freedom Index “is the most comprehensive index creative so far for a significant group of countries.” It establishes a direct relationship between human freedom and democracy, with Hong Kong being an exception.

Using a scale of 0 to 10, with 10 representing the highest level of freedom, the analysis of the 76 different items making up the index shows an average of 6.96 in the 152 countries studied.

The ten countries with the greatest human freedom are Hong Kong, Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, New Zealand, Canada, Australia, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Sweden, with the United States coming in in 20th place. The lowest-ranking countries on the list are Myanmar, Democratic Republic of Congo and Iran.

“The countries at the top of the human freedom list benefit from significantly higher individual income,” which suggests there exists a “strong correlation between human freedom and democracy,” reads the study that was released yesterday.

Cape Verde second in CPLP

Among the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), only Portugal (25th place) ranked higher than Cape Verde, followed by Brazil (82), East Timor(103), Mozambique (116), Guinea Bissau (131) and Angola (135). São Tomé and Príncipe and the most recent member of the CPLP, Equatorial Guinea, were not included in the study.