



GREASE

Religion, Diversity
and Radicalisation

Radicalisation, Secularism and the Governance of Religion: Bringing together European and Asian Perspectives

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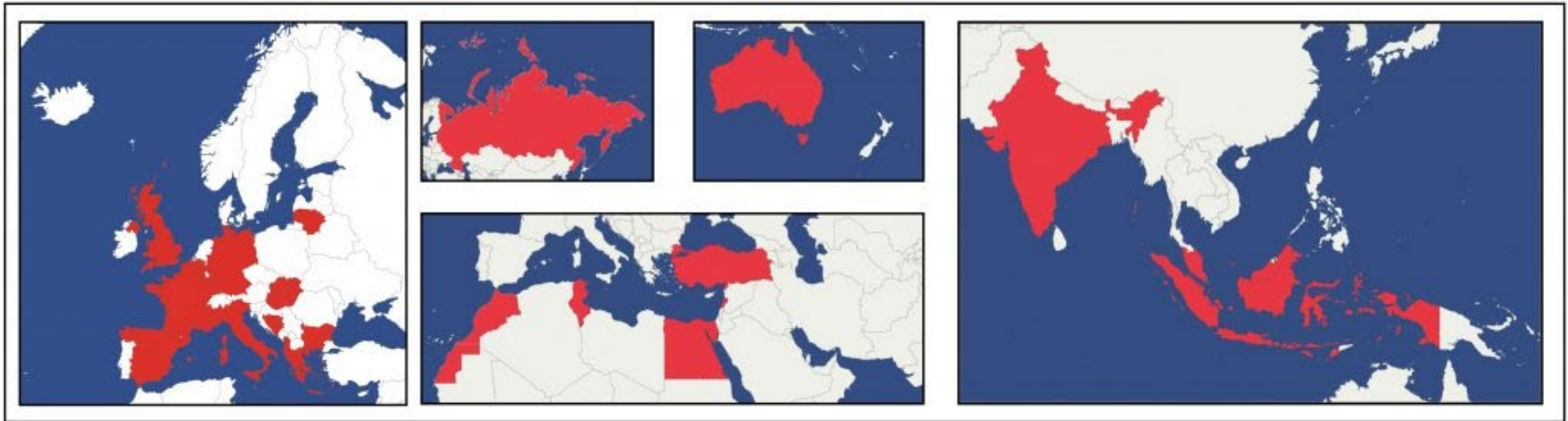
State-Religion Governance Indicators: Comparative Insights

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GREASE Project



- **European global research** project funded by the EC (H2020)
- **Ten-partner consortium:** coordinated by the EUI, comprises institutions from Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Asia Pacific region
- **Investigate** how **religious diversity** is **governed** in a broad range of **cultures**; shed light on how different societies cope with the challenge of integrating religious minorities
- **Compare norms, laws and practices** that may (or may not) prove useful in successfully governing religious diversity and **countering religiously inspired radicalisation**

GREASE Indicators

- The GREASE State-Religion Governance Indicators (SRGI) aim to:
 - **Transform complex academic knowledge** into a simplified scheme which can be readily available for identification of trends and **monitoring of developments** in state-religion relations, governance of religious diversity, violent radicalisation and efforts to address it;
 - Serve as a **toolkit for experts, stakeholders, policymakers** to assess trends on secularism and radicalisation within a country in 5-year intervals.

Four composite indicators and their dimensions

CI 1: Autonomy and freedom of religious institutions/groups from the state

- Legal dimension
- Practical dimension

CI 2: Status/Rights of Religious Minority Groups

- Legal dimension
- Practical dimension

CI 3: Violent Radicalisation

- Structural factors (drivers)
- Perception-based dimension
- Incidence-based dimension

CI 4: Radicalisation Prevention Measures

- Comprehensiveness of P/CVE policy and legal framework
- Comprehensiveness of P/CVE measures
- Civic society involvement in P/CVE

Application of GREASE indicators to 23 partner countries: sources

	CI 1 Autonomy and freedom of religious institutions/groups from the state	CI 2 Status/Rights of Religious Minority Groups	CI 3 Violent Radicalisation	CI 4 Prevention of Radicalisation
Expert assessment	✓	✓		✓
Desk research (legal and policy documents, reports, media)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Survey data (perceptions, attitudes, experiences)			✓	
Pre-existing global indices and country scores (<i>e.g. GTI, Freedom in the World, SHI, Fragile States Index</i>)			✓	

Limitations and caveats

- Focus on the most recent years for which data is available (i.e. 2015-2020): not possible to highlight changing trends in some indicators
- Missing data in some measures: caution in interpretation of results
- Composite indicators scores aggregate several measures relating to different aspects:
 - judgment and decisions of researchers involved in the building process
 - quantification blends out important nuances and contextual differences

Composite Indicators CI 1 and 2

Indicator	Sub-Indicators (each including a legal and practical dimension measure)
<p>CI 1 Autonomy and freedom religious institutions/ groups from state (8)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State autonomy from religion • Participation in political decision-making • State non-interference in religious matters • State recognition of freedom of religion • Autonomy of religious media
<p>CI 2 Status/Rights of Religious Minority Groups (7)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal status of religious minority groups • Participation in political life • Access of public spaces • Access to public funds • Public accommodation of cultural practices • Ownership of houses of worship

Comparative Insights: CI 2

Geographic Region	Country	CI 2 Level of rights of religious minorities	
		Legal Dimension	Practical Dimension
Europe	Albania	4.2	3.1
	Belgium	3.2	3.0
	BiH	4.1	3.4
	Bulgaria	3.7	4.0
	France	2.5	2.8
	Germany	4.0	3.7
	Greece	3.6	3.1
	Hungary	3.9	3.4
	Italy	3.0	2.1
	Lithuania	4.4	4.4
	Slovakia	3.1	3.0
	Spain	3.5	2.1
	UK	3.8	4.0
North America	Canada	4.4	4.6

- In majority of countries, there are **discrepancies between legal and practical dimensions**: legal dimension scores are higher than the practical dimension scores (exceptions, e.g., Bulgaria, France, UK).
- Greatest difference between legal and practical dimensions in Albania, Spain, Morocco.

Radicalisation and violent extremism: concepts

- **Radicalisation:** a variety of contextual multi-level processes by which people come to adopt an ideological framework that advocates for and drives action on the perceived need for fundamental transformational change in their existing socio-cultural and political order.
- **Religiously-motivated violent extremism:** promoting, supporting or committing acts of violence (incl. terrorism) by an *in-group against an out-group* to achieve religious goals or suppress or eliminate out-groups. Articulation of religious ideas within *violent extremist* frameworks (*clear exclusivism, desire to dominate out-groups, commitment to violence*).
- **Key factors radicalisation into VE:**
 - socio-economic and structural conditions
 - social experiences and interpretations of these (grievances)
 - ideological framework and mobilizing networks

Composite Indicator CI 3

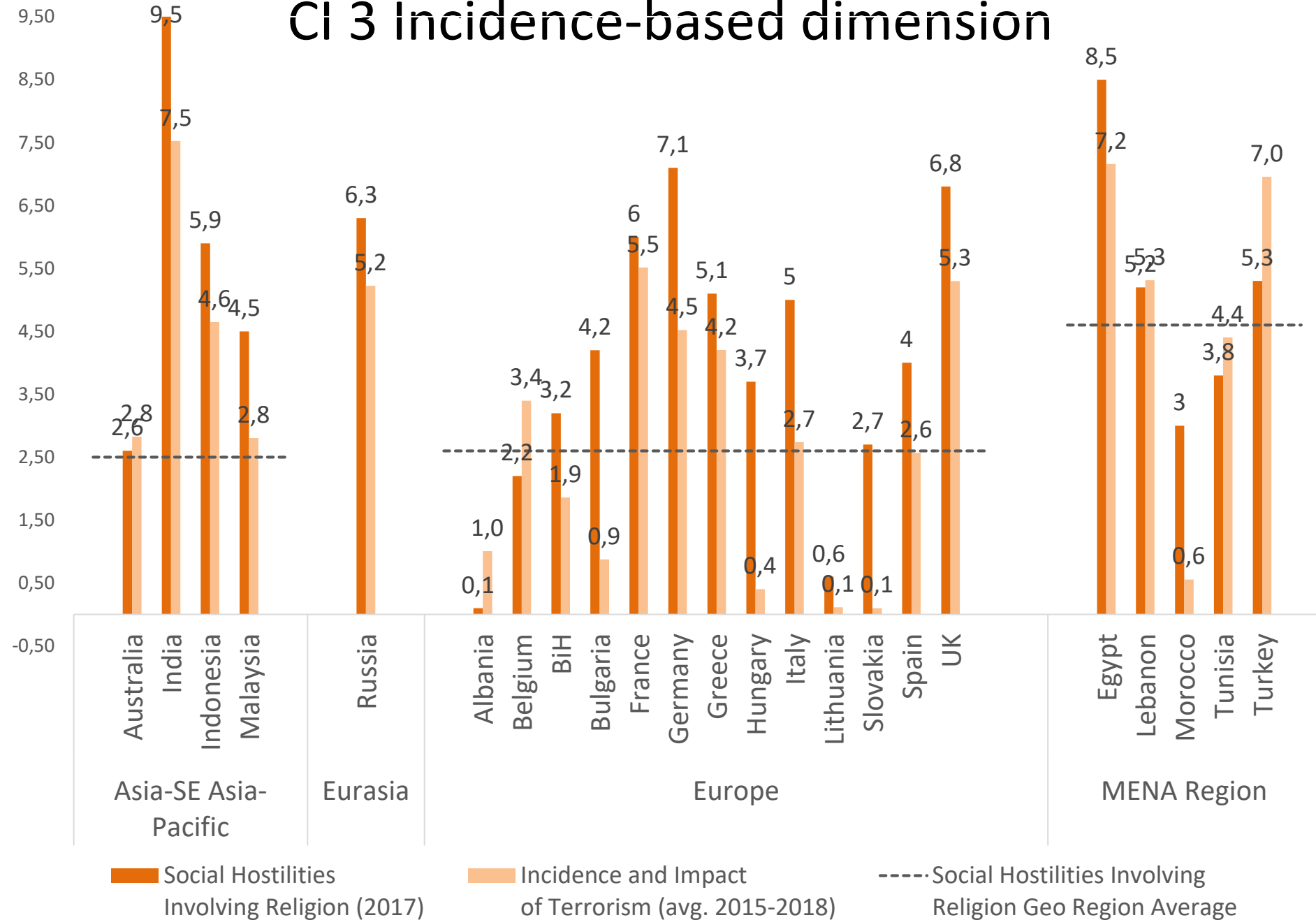
Indicator	Dimension	Sub-indicators
CI 3 Violent Radicalisation	Structural factors/ drivers (8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • level of freedom (civil liberties), protection of human rights, state legitimacy • government restrictions on religion, group grievances • uneven economic development
	Perception-based (8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • political and economic grievances (dissatisfaction with government, economy, democracy) • discomfort with minorities, discrimination • violent extremism threat perception
	Incidence-based (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Hostilities involving Religion (SHI index) • Incidence and Impact on Terrorism (GTI index)

Comparative Insights: CI 3 (Violent) Radicalisation, Perception-based dimension

Country	Perception- based				
	Key sub-dimensions (%)				
	Political, economic grievances	Discomfort with minorities	Discrimination		VE threat perception
Perceived			Experienced [minorities]		
Belgium	0.41	0.27	0.68	0.24 [0.26]	0.88
BiH	0.66	NA	0.87	0.30 [NA]	0.43
Bulgaria	0.59	0.23	0.25	0.10 [0.14]	0.29
France	0.53	0.10	0.72	0.21 [0.30]	0.87
Germany	0.30	0.18	0.49	0.16 [0.26]	0.68
Greece	0.73	0.38	0.57	0.07 [0.43]	0.69
Hungary	0.40	0.42	0.42	0.18 [0.21]	0.59
Italy	0.57	0.23	0.57	0.15 [0.26]	0.80
Lithuania	0.42	0.59	0.17	0.10 [0.04]	NA
Slovakia	0.48	0.63	0.19	0.15 [0.30]	NA
Spain	0.57	0.11	0.47	0.11 [0.28]	0.75
UK	0.52	0.05	0.64	0.21 [0.12]	0.64
Canada	0.43	NA	0.50	NA	0.60

- **Political and economic grievances** highest in EL, BiH and BG.
- **Discomfort with minorities** and social distances concerning Muslims highest in CEE, lowest in WE.
- **Discrimination perceived as widespread** highest in BiH, FR and BE, lowest in CEE.
- **Experienced discrimination (general population)** highest in BiH and Greece (among minorities)
- **VE threat perception** highest in BE, FR, IT

CI 3 Incidence-based dimension



More information on indicators at:

- ❖ [State-Religion Governance Indicators](#)
- ❖ [Introduction to GREASE Indicators](#)
- ❖ [GREASE Indicators Toolkit](#)
- ❖ [Country Assessments](#)





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