

Dr Muhammad Mohan | President, TI-Malaysia 31 January 2023



# WHAT IS THE CPI?



A global (180 countries/territories) aggregate Index (up to 13 different data sources) capturing perceptions (experts/business people) of corruption (abuse of power for private gain) in the public sector (public officials and institutions)

# WHAT DOES THE CPI MEASURE?





- Bribery
- Diversion of public funds
- Enforcement of integrity mechanisms
- Commitment to fight corruption
- Restriction on freedom of expression
- Use of public office for private gain
- CSO access to information
- State capture
- Prosecution of corrupt officials
- Excessive red tape/bureaucracy
- Legislation on financial disclosure
- Legal protection for whistleblowers

- Citizens' perceptions or experience on corruption
- Tax fraud
- Illicit financial flows
- Enablers of corruption
- Money Laundering
- Any type of private sector corruption
- Informal economies and markets



# **SURVEY SOURCES**

















Bertelsmann Stiftung



Asian Intelligence
Report

**S&P Global**Ratings

# **METHODOLOGY**





Select Data Sources

Rescale & Standardise Data Sources

Calculate Average

Report Uncertainty

# **CPI 2022: GLOBAL THEME**





# **Conflict, peace and security**

Corruption can undermine political, social and economic stability, and ultimately threaten peace, safety and security as a whole. Corruption also creates a fertile ground for organized criminal activities, even terrorism, as criminals are aided in their illegal activities by the complicity of corrupt public officials.

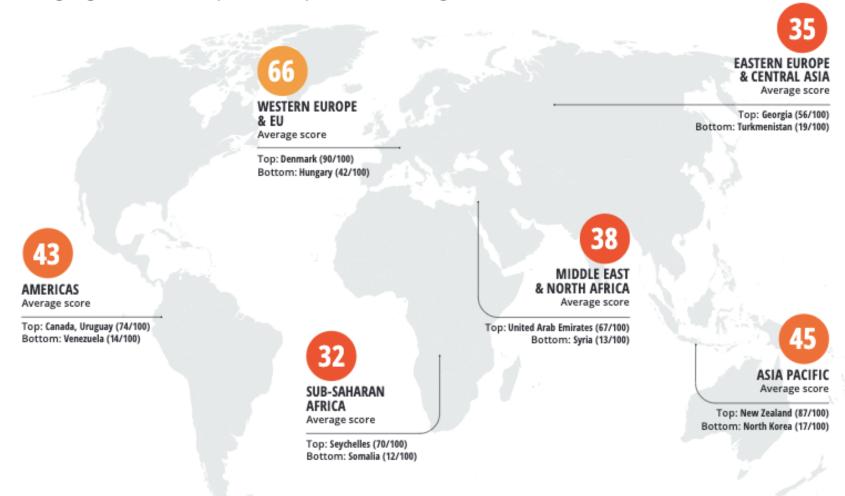


# 2022 RESULTS

# **REGIONAL AVERAGES**

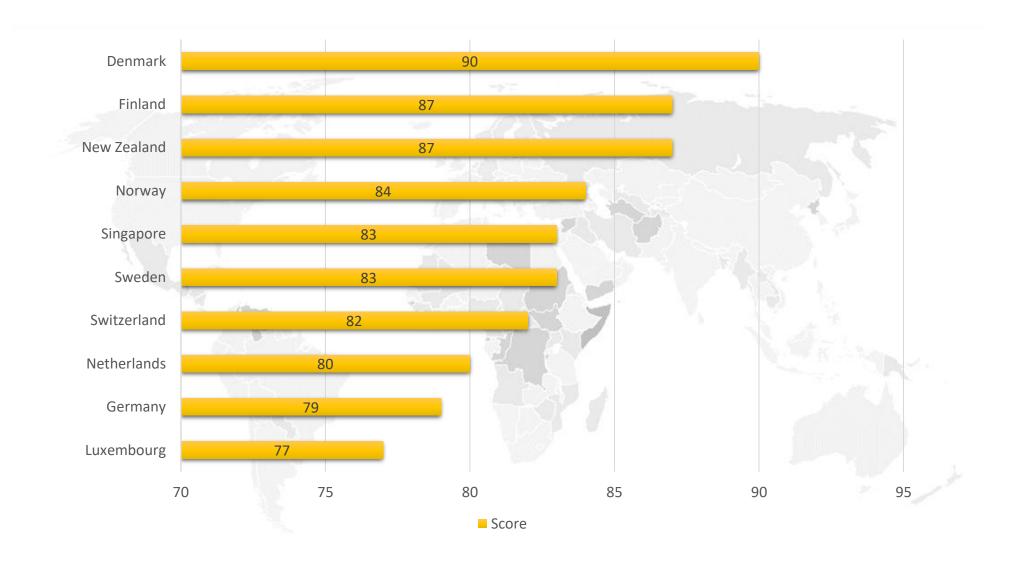


Average regional scores, with top and bottom performers in each region.



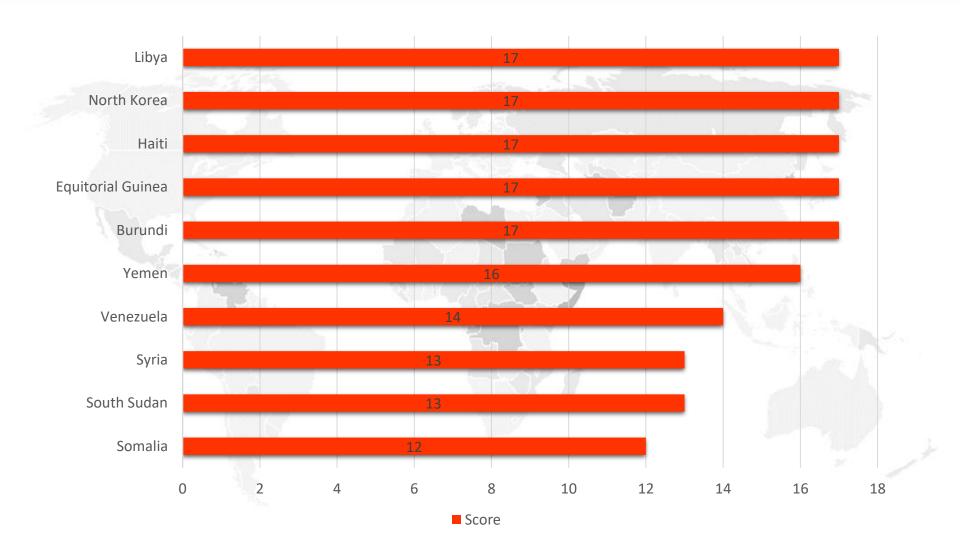
# **TOP 10 COUNTRIES**





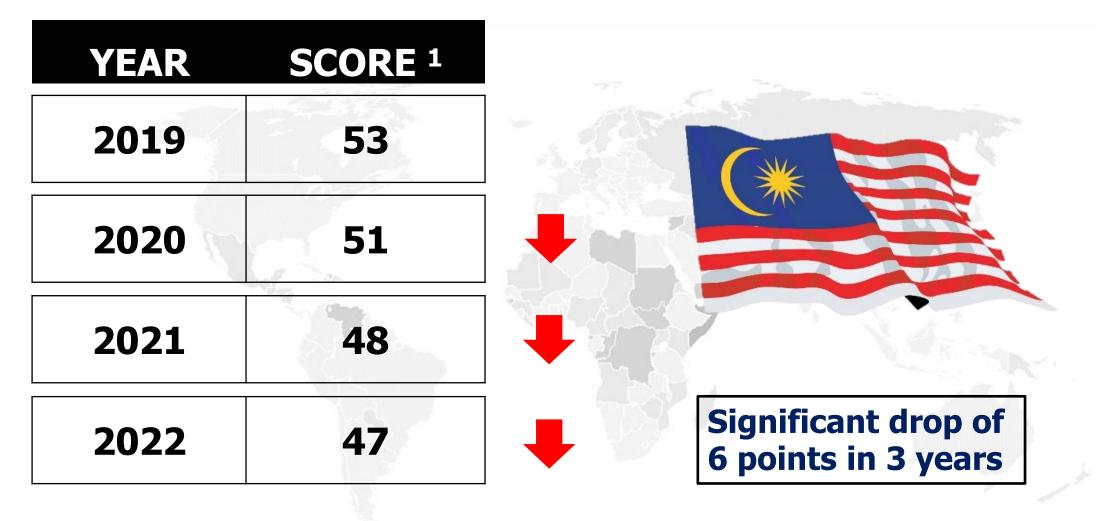
# **BOTTOM 10 COUNTRIES**





# **MALAYSIA'S SCORE**





Note: 1. 100 (very clean) to 0 (highly corrupt)



# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2022

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.

#### SCORE COUNTRY/TERRITORY

- Denmark Finland New Zealand Norway Singapore Sweden Switzerland Netherlands Germany Ireland Luxembourg Hong Kong Australia Canada Estonia Iceland Uruguay Belgium Japan **United Kingdom** France Austria Seychelles **United States** of America Bhutan Taiwan
- Chile **United Arab Emirates Barbados Bahamas** Israel Korea, South Lithuania **Portugal** Botswana Cabo Verde Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Spain Latvia Qatar Czechia Georgia Italy Slovenia Dominica Poland Saint Lucia Costa Rica Fiji Slovakia Cyprus Greece
- Grenada Malta Rwanda Saudi Arabia Croatia Mauritius Namibia Vanuatu Iordan Malaysia Armenia Romania China Cuba Montenegro Sao Tome and Principe Bahrain Jamaica Oman Benin Bulgaria Ghana Senegal South Africa **Burkina Faso** Hungary Kuwait
- Solomon Islands Timor-Leste Trinidad and Tobago Vietnam Kosovo Guyana India Maldives North Macedonia Suriname Tunisia Belarus Colombia Moldova Argentina Brazil Ethiopia Morocco Tanzania Cote d'Ivoire Lesotho Albania Ecuador Kazakhstan Panama Peru Serbia
- Sri Lanka Thailand Turkey Bosnia and Herzegovina Gambia Indonesia Malawi Nepal Sierra Leone Algeria Angola El Salvador Mongolia **Philippines** Ukraine Zambia Dominican Republic Kenya Niger **Bolivia** Laos Mexico Uzbekistan Djibouti Egypt Eswatini
- Mauritania Papua New Guinea Togo 29 Gabon Mali Paraguay Russia Kyrgyzstan 27 Pakistan Cameroon Liberia Madagascar Mozambique Uganda Bangladesh Guinea 25 Iran Afghanistan Cambodia **Central African** Republic Guatemala Lebanon Nigeria Tajikistan Azerbaijan Honduras

23	Iraq
23	Myanmar
23	Zimbabwe
22	Eritrea
22	Sudan
21	Congo
21	Guinea Bissau
20	Democratic Republic of the Congo
19	Chad
19	Comoros
19	Nicaragua
19	Turkmenistan
17	Burundi
17	Equatorial Guinea
17	Haiti
17	Korea, North
17	Libya
16	Yemen
14	Venezuela
13	South Sudan
13	Syria
12	Somalia

# **DETAILED SCORING**



NO.	SOURCE	2022	2021	Change
1	Bertelsmann Stiftung Transformation Index	49	49	_
2	Economist Intelligence Unit Country Risk Service	55	55	_
3	Global Insight Country Risk Ratings	59	59	_
4	IMD World Competitiveness Center World Competitiveness Yearbook Executive Opinion Survey	40	43	-3
5	Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Asian Intelligence	37	38	-1
6	The PRS Group International Country Risk Guide	41	41	_
7	World Economic Forum Executive Opinion Survey	47	54	-7
8	World Justice Project Rule of Law Index Expert Survey	45	48	-3
9	Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem)	49	49	_

Total: Aggregate:

422	436	
47	48	



# ANALYSIS

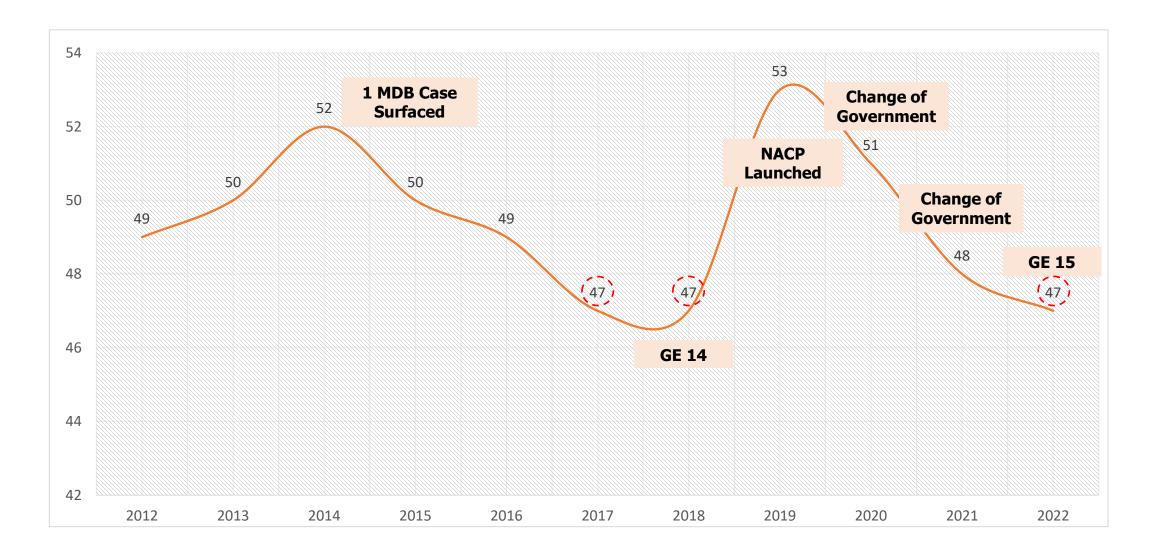
# **ASEAN COUNTRIES**



COUNTRY	<b>Country Scores</b>		Rank		
	2022	2021	2022	2021	SCORE
Singapore	83	85	5	4	
Brunei		-			
Malaysia	47	48	61	62	
Vietnam	42	39	77	87	
Thailand	36	35	101	110	
Indonesia	34	38	110	96	₽ C:
Philippines	33	33	116	117	_
Laos	31	30	126	128	
Cambodia	24	23	150	157	
Myanmar	23	28	157	140	1

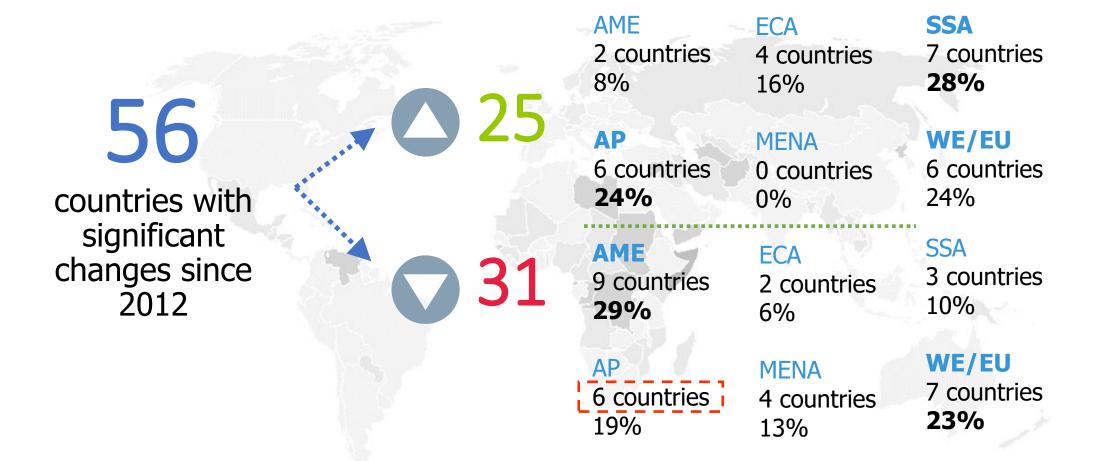
# MALAYSIA'S SCORE – LAST 11 YEARS





# STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES





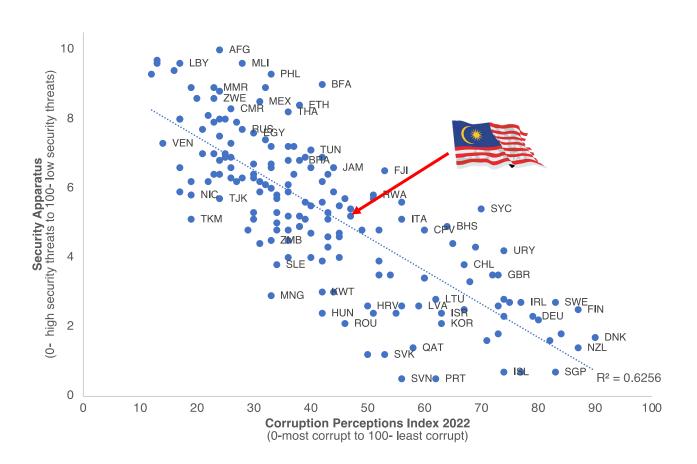
# STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES





# CORRUPTION MAKES SECURITY THREATS MORE LIKELY





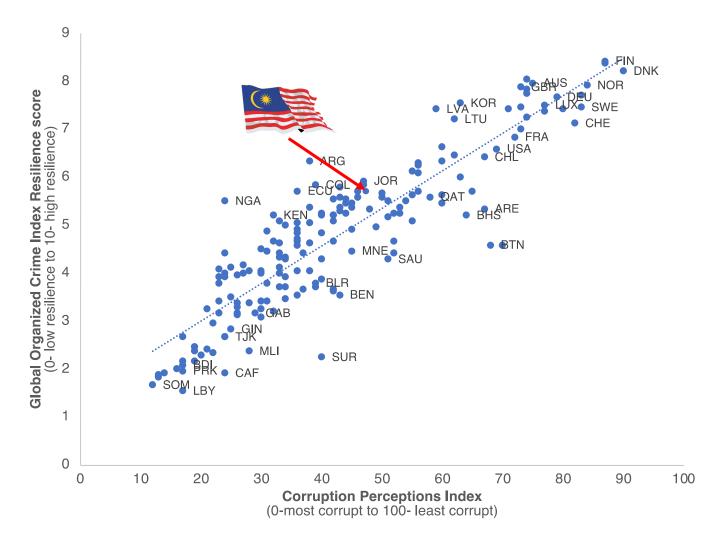


The Security Apparatus indicator considers the security threats to a state, such as bombings, attacks and battle-related deaths, rebel movements, mutinies, coups, or terrorism. It also takes into account serious criminal factors, such as organized crime and homicides, and perceived trust of citizens in domestic security.

Source: Fund for Peace Fragile States Index

# CORRUPTION MAKES CRIME RESPONSE HARDER





Resilience scores represent the political, legal, economic and social spheres of society that when taken together, have the potential to provide holistic and effective responses to organized crime. The higher the resilience score, the more effective the response to organized crime.

Source: Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (2021), Global Organized Crime Index.

# **REASONS FOR MALAYSIA'S POOR SCORE**



### Lack of political will in fighting institutional corruption

- Huge COVID-19 pandemic stimulus packages were rolled out without parliamentary debate & scrutiny
- Patronage in appointing unqualified politicians to head GLCs/GLICs
- Reluctance to firmly address cost overruns (e.g. Littoral Combat Ship project)
- Repeated governance failures highlighted by the Auditor General
- Lack of action against public officials found to have abused their position
- Slow implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Plan 2019-2023 (NACP)

### > Institutional reforms have stalled

- Last 4 governments have failed to table the Political Financing Bill
- Proposed IPCMC Bill was revised to a watered down, ineffective IPCC Bill
- ❖ No progress on reforms to MACC recommended in 2015
- Slow progress on amendments to the Whistle Blower Protection Act 2010
- ❖ Government Procurement Bill is yet to be tabled in Parliament
- Separation of power between the Attorney General and the Public Prosecutor

### **POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS**



- Demonstration of Judiciary's Independence
  - Conviction in SRC International Corruption Case
- MOU between the previous PN Government & Pakatan Harapan
  - Passing the minimum voting age to 18 and automatic voter registration (done)
  - ❖ Anti-Hopping Law (done)
  - ❖ Malaysia Agreement (MA) 63 (progress made in 2021 & 2022)
  - Limiting the tenure of the PM in office to 10 years (pending)
  - ❖ Parliamentary Reforms (pending)
- Positive Announcements by the Prime Minister
  - Good governance, fighting corruption and judicial independence are identified as core issues
  - Mandatory competitive bidding for procurement contracts
  - Review of certain high-value projects
  - ❖ Address issues raised in the Auditor-General's Report
  - Good governance and a corrupt-free Malaysia to boost foreign investor confidence

## **OUR RECOMMENDATIONS**



### 1. Transparency with Information

- Narrow the scope of the Official Secrets Act so that matters of public interest can be released and only matters related to national security are protected
- Share information transparently including uploading data on all public contracts and supporting documents
- Provide regular updates on the status of pending high profile corruption cases
- Monitor implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) and disclose progress on its initiatives via a public dashboard

### 2. Public Administration

- Empower KSN to be responsible for the successful delivery and implementation of the NACP's goals
- Adopt International Standards on Integrity Pact in Government Procurement for transparency and good governance. Latest government circular failed to address this issue
- Mandate that large "mega" projects must require parliamentary approval before commencing, and all supporting documents e.g. Needs Analysis and Cost Benefit reports are publicly available
- Compel public officials found guilty of corruption to vacate their official positions, even while they exhaust their appeal process

# **OUR RECOMMENDATIONS**



### 3. Legislation to Strengthen Governance

- Whistle blower Protection Act 2010 provide wider reporting channels for the public and strengthen protection for whistle blowers
- Election Offences Act 1954 include sanctions against corruption
- ❖ MACC Act 2009 include Misconduct in Public Office (MIPO) provision to hold public officials accountable for their actions
- ❖ Political Financing Act to address money politics, both during elections and as a scheme for corruption
- ❖ Procurement Act to improve transparency and governance in the public procurement process
- Ombudsman Act to enact an independent Ombudsman's office with powers to sanction for the public to report wrong doings and maladministration
- Asset Declaration Act to compel politicians and high ranking public officials to declare their assets and make it accessible to the public

### 4. Strengthen MACC

- Provision for separate funding for MACC operations approved by Parliament
- Ability to manage its own administration and manpower requirements
- Mandates direct reporting to Parliament
- Requires amendments to the MACC Act and the Federal Constitution (as proposed by Civil Society in 2015)

# **GOVERNANCE LANDSCAPE**



### A. Investigative Journalism

- Protection for journalists to conduct investigative journalism via the strengthened Whistleblower Protection Act
- In line with the Prime Minister's call for public officials to report questionable decisions directly to him
- ❖ Last significant piece of Investigative Journalism was the Wang Kelian mass graves exposure in 2015
- This led to an RCI which only recently published its findings
- Questions remain were the main perpetrators ever caught, how did it escape monitoring by authorities?

### **B. Local Council Elections**

- Local councils deal with various governance issues that directly impact the rakyat
- They are an integral part of the public sector delivery service
- Having local council elections directly enhances public governance
- Without elections, appointing councillors can be a form of rewarding supporters
- Citizen participation can help improve transparency in the delivery service
- TI-M is promoting the Community Integrity Building (CIB) tool to enable citizen participation

# **LOOKING FORWARD**



- The Prime Minister's emphasis to practice good governance, transparency, integrity and democratic accountability in his administration gives fresh hope for Malaysia's fight against corruption
- ➢ If we wish to see Malaysia's CPI score improve, this hope must be translated into measurable action that produces the desired results









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