LIBERTAS EUROPA

Democratic Sovereignty Index

Q1–Q3 2026 Final Public Results Report — v1.6

Measuring whether the demos actually remains sovereign

Public analytical edition • Data cut-off: 29 September 2026 • v1.6 is the longitudinal T0 baseline

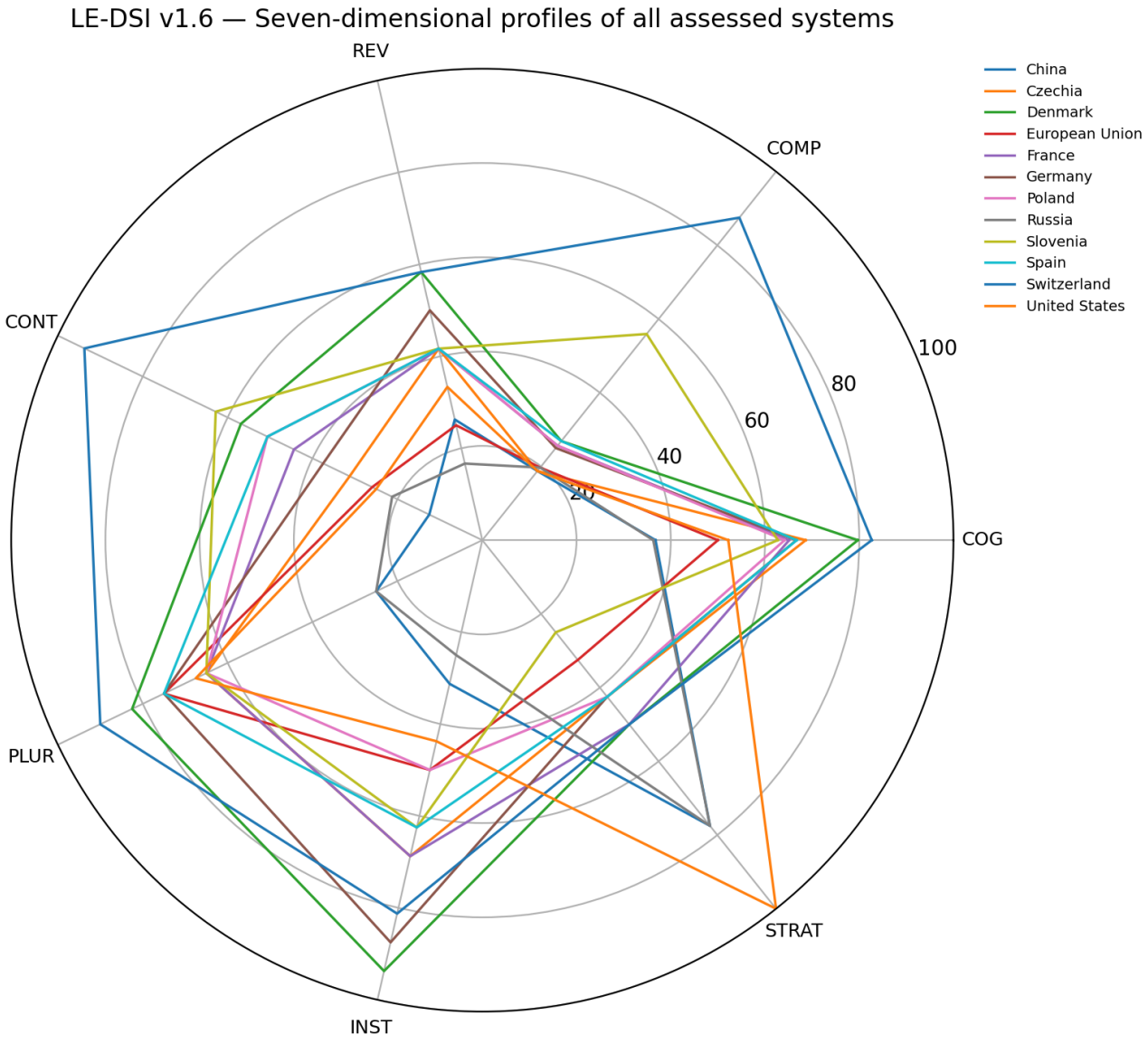


Figure 1. Combined structural profiles. The figure is not an overall ranking.

1. Executive Summary

LE-DSI begins from a simple definition: democracy is the self-government of the demos — effective popular control over collective public decisions and decision-makers, exercised on the basis of political equality. Elections, rights, courts, representative institutions and public authorities are therefore not democracy by themselves; they are democratic insofar as they enable, protect and remain accountable to that popular sovereignty. The LE-DSI asks whether the demos remains the effective holder of political sovereignty after authority has been delegated.

The current results reveal different structures of democratic sovereignty rather than a simple geopolitical hierarchy. Strong institutions do not automatically imply strong demos competence; strategic autonomy does not substitute for democratic control; and formal media freedom does not by itself establish cognitive sovereignty.

Switzerland has the broadest current profile because direct citizen agenda-setting, binding popular votes and continuous democratic intervention are combined with strong cognitive and institutional conditions. Denmark and Germany, by contrast, show that very strong institutions can coexist with much narrower citizen control over national competence.

The EU is assessed as a supranational polity. Its comparison with states is functional rather than institutional: the question is whether the same democratic functions of authorship, accountability, correction and reversibility remain available at the higher level.

The United States, Russia and China demonstrate why External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) must not be read as a measure of democratic quality. STRAT measures whether a polity can implement democratically authorised choices without disabling external dependency. Whether those choices are democratically authored is measured primarily elsewhere in the index.

Evidence quality is part of the democratic problem itself. A polity that does not collect, publish or permit independent verification of information needed to assess public power weakens transparency and democratic accountability. However, lack of data is not automatically treated as poor performance on every substantive indicator: it is scored where opacity itself is the relevant democratic fact, especially under transparency, traceability, informational influence and institutional auditability.

From this edition onward, 29 September 2026 is the T0 baseline for the public v1.6 time series. Earlier pilot results are retained only as historical reference because they were produced under a different methodology.

Key findings for articles and public discussion

Institutional quality and demos sovereignty are related but not identical.

Direct democracy changes the delegation structure, not merely the participation rate.

State sovereignty and citizen sovereignty are distinct analytical concepts.

Opacity of public power is itself democratically relevant when citizens cannot verify how power is exercised.

Cognitive sovereignty depends on effective reach and discoverability of competing interpretations, not only formal media freedom.

The EU should be compared functionally as a supranational polity, not treated as institutionally identical to a state.

Future value will come primarily from longitudinal change under a stable v1.6 architecture.

2. What the LE-DSI Measures

The LE-DSI uses democracy in its literal and functional sense: rule and self-government by the demos. Its normative core is effective popular control over public decisions and decision-makers, exercised under conditions of political equality.

Representative institutions, courts, rights protections, administrations and the state are secondary to this principle: they are instruments through which citizens authorise, exercise, protect, supervise and recover political authority. The LE-DSI therefore measures the degree to which effective political sovereignty remains with the demos after delegation. The benchmark is Integrated Democracy: not one prescribed constitutional form, but a political order in which democratic authorship, meaningful choice, continuous control, correction and reversibility remain substantively available.

Definition used in this report: Democracy is popular self-government. The demos is the original holder of political sovereignty; delegation is legitimate only while citizens retain meaningful control over its scope, exercise, correction and reversal.

This definition is deliberately broader than any single institutional model. Direct, representative, parliamentary, presidential, federal, party-mediated, multi-stage and supranational arrangements may all be democratic if they preserve the underlying functions of popular authorship, political equality, accountability, correction and reversibility. Conversely, formal elections or legally sophisticated institutions do not by themselves establish strong democracy if the demos lacks effective control over delegated power.

Parameter	Abbreviation	What it measures	Weight
Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism	COG	Citizens can access, compare and evaluate materially different interpretations of political reality; this includes reach, censorship, transparency of influence and gatekeeper power.	25%
Sovereign Competence of the Demos	COMP	The demos can place issues on the agenda, reserve decisions to itself, control delegation and reclaim delegated competence.	15%
Revocability of Delegated Power	REV	Delegated political authority remains removable or revocable and cannot become democratically irreversible without meaningful correction.	15%
Continuous Democratic Influence	CONT	Citizen influence continues between elections through binding decisions, initiatives, territorial self-government and responsiveness to sustained public will.	15%
Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi	PLUR	Participation is materially equal, opposition and dissent can operate, and distinct demoi can exercise meaningful self-government and status choice where relevant.	10%
Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection	INST	Institutions resist capture, apply law consistently, provide effective remedy and remain transparent, traceable and accountable.	10%
External and Strategic Sovereignty	STRAT	The polity has enough strategic, economic, financial, energy and technological room to implement democratically authorised choices without disabling external dependency.	10%

2.1 STRAT is an enabling condition, not a democracy score

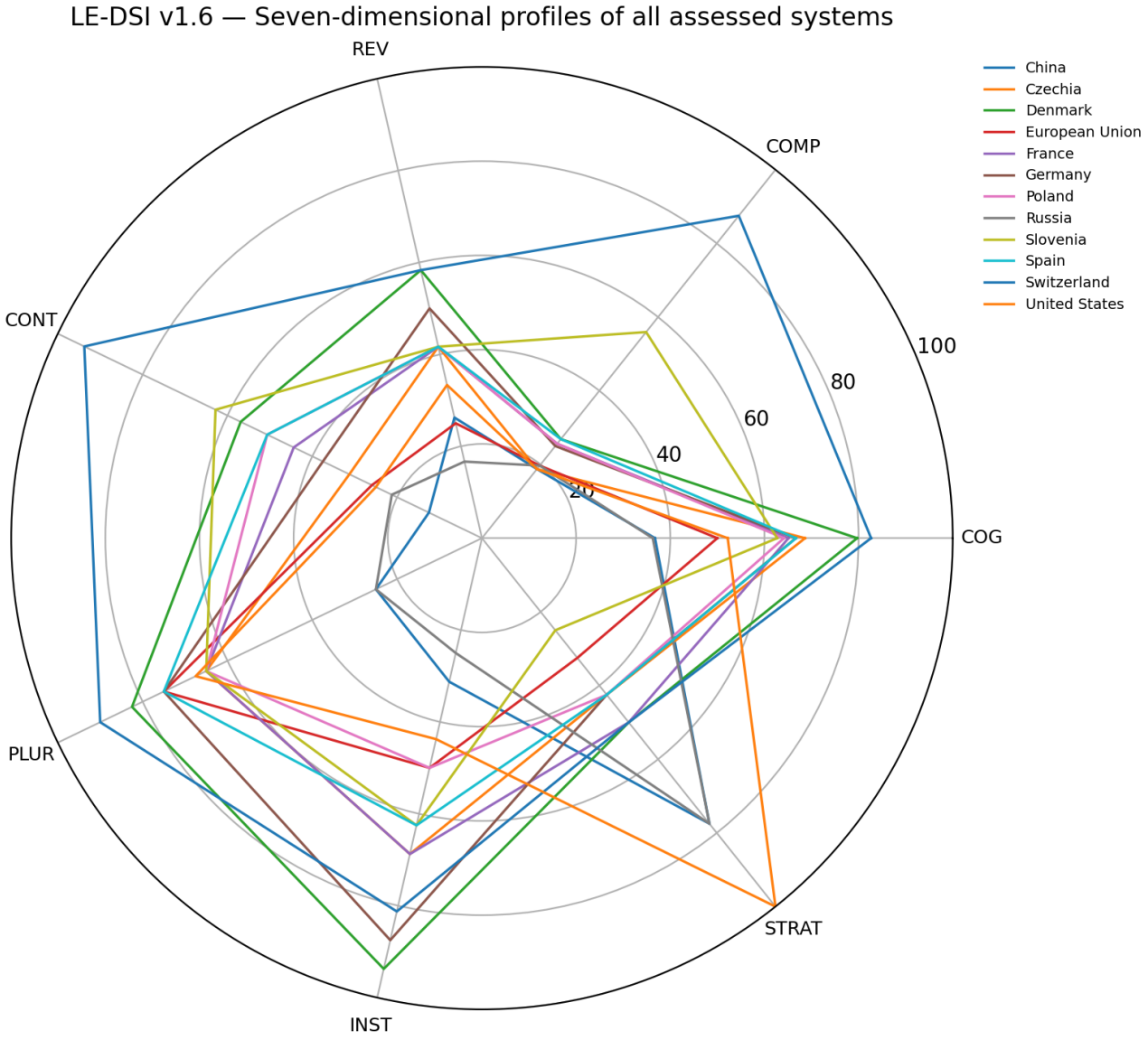
External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) belongs in LE-DSI because democratic self-government can be ineffective if a polity lacks the material capacity to implement democratically authorised choices. STRAT therefore measures the external room for democratic action, not the democratic quality of a regime. A strategically autonomous state is not necessarily democratically sovereign; STRAT becomes democratically relevant only when the underlying political choice is authored and controlled by the demos. For that reason, a high STRAT value cannot compensate for weak Cognitive Sovereignty (COG), Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) or Revocability of Delegated Power (REV).

2.2 Public evidence and transparency

Data availability is not merely a technical inconvenience. In a serious democracy, citizens, researchers, courts, media and oversight bodies should be able to obtain enough public evidence to evaluate how power is exercised. Persistent failure to collect, disclose or independently verify relevant public information can therefore be substantive evidence of weak democratic transparency.

LE-DSI nevertheless distinguishes opacity from the underlying performance being measured. Missing public data does not automatically produce a low score on every indicator. Instead, opacity is scored where it directly belongs — for example transparency of informational influence (CS5), gatekeeper auditability (CS6), institutional capture and conflict controls (II1), decision transparency and traceability (II4), and comparable functions. This prevents a single information deficit from mechanically contaminating unrelated dimensions while still recognising that unaccountable opacity is itself democratically significant.

2.3 Overall structural picture



Read together, the twelve profiles show that democratic sovereignty is multidimensional. Switzerland is broad across most dimensions. Denmark and Germany have strong institutional and plural profiles but narrower COMP. The EU has a distinctive supranational pattern, with PLUR much stronger than COMP and CONT. The United States, Russia and China have pronounced STRAT spokes while one or more foundational dimensions remain considerably narrower.

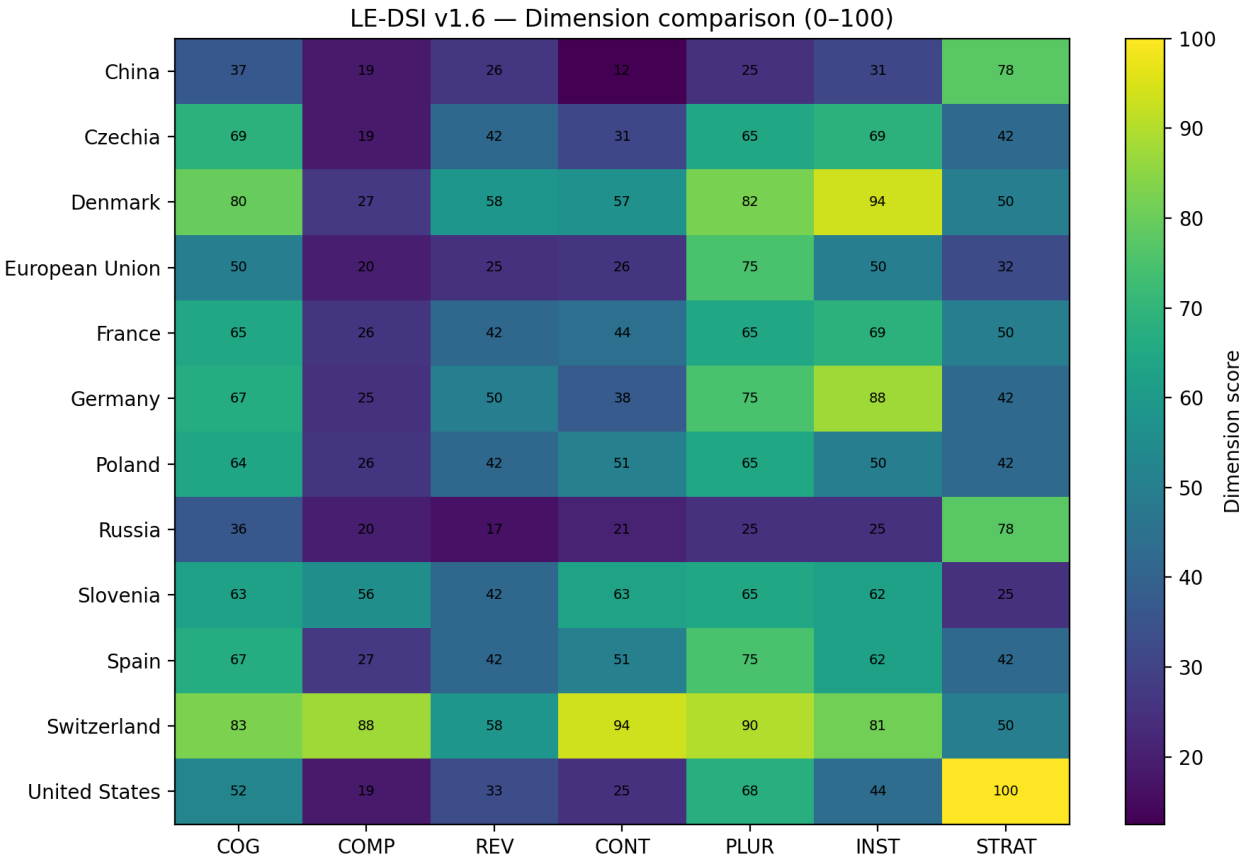


Figure 2. Seven-dimensional comparison of all assessed systems.

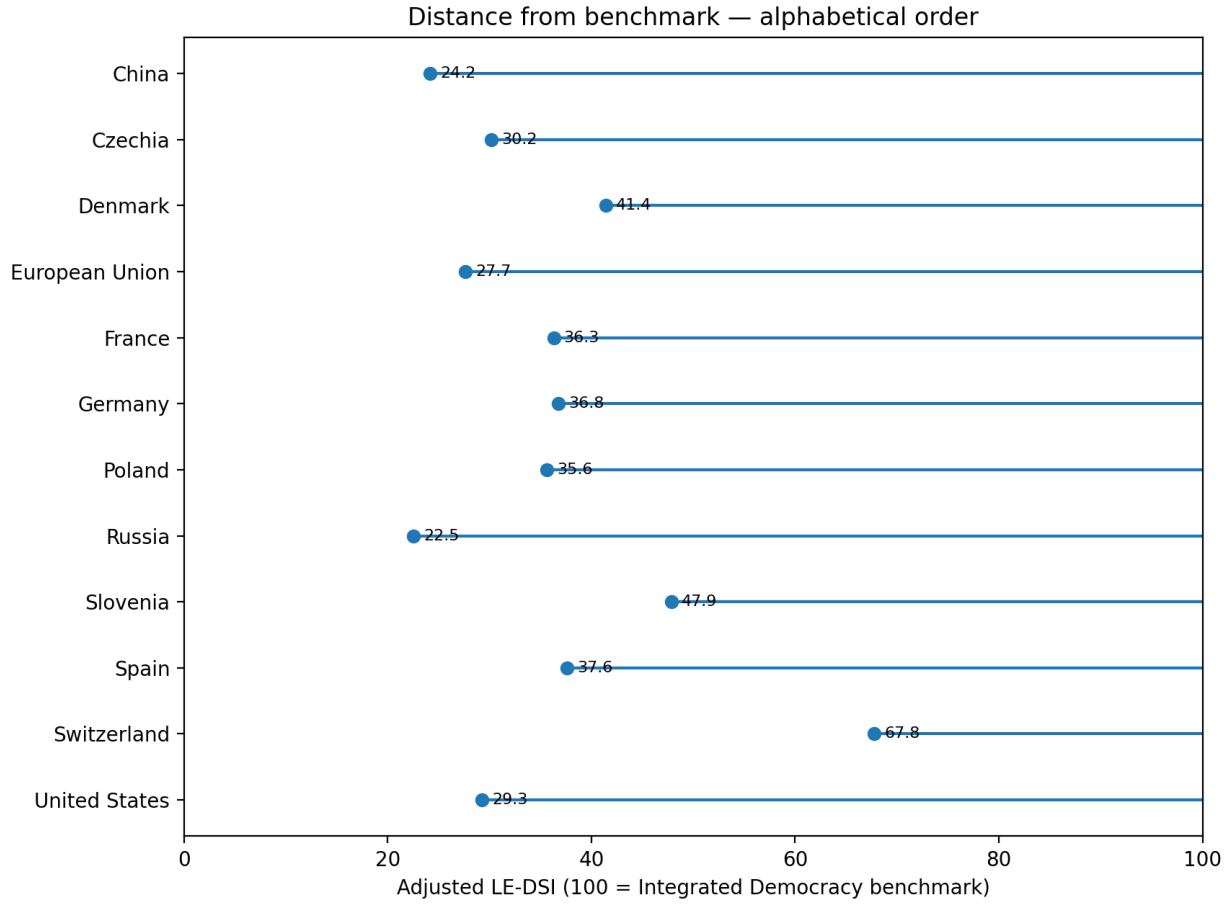


Figure 3. Distance from the Integrated Democracy benchmark, displayed alphabetically.

3. Current v1.6 Results

System	Assessment level	COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
China	National polity	36.8	18.8	26.2	12.5	25.0	31.2	77.5	31.2	18.8	24.2
Czechia	National polity	68.6	18.8	41.7	31.2	65.0	68.8	42.5	48.5	18.8	30.2
Denmark	National polity	79.7	26.9	58.3	56.9	82.5	93.8	50.0	63.9	26.9	41.4
European Union	Supranational polity	50.0	19.7	25.0	25.9	75.0	50.0	32.5	38.8	19.7	27.7
France	National polity	65.1	25.6	41.7	44.4	65.0	68.8	50.0	51.4	25.6	36.3
Germany	Federal polity	66.7	25.0	50.0	37.5	75.0	87.5	42.5	54.0	25.0	36.8
Poland	National polity	64.2	25.6	41.7	50.6	65.0	50.0	42.5	49.5	25.6	35.6
Russia	Federal polity	36.3	19.7	16.7	21.2	25.0	25.0	77.5	30.5	16.7	22.5
Slovenia	National polity	62.7	55.9	41.7	62.8	65.0	62.5	25.0	55.0	41.7	47.9
Spain	National / decentralised polity	66.7	26.9	41.7	50.6	75.0	62.5	42.5	52.6	26.9	37.6
Switzerland	Federal polity	82.7	87.5	58.3	93.8	90.0	81.2	50.0	78.7	58.3	67.8
United States	Federal polity	52.2	18.8	33.3	25.0	67.5	43.8	100.0	45.7	18.8	29.3

3.1 Measurement coverage and evidence maturity

Not all current inputs are equally mature. Direct and partial-direct evidence should be distinguished from evidence-based fallback anchors. High fallback shares do not make the index unusable, but they limit the precision of numerical interpretation. Where fallback remains high, the country profile should be read primarily as a structured evidence assessment rather than as a high-precision statistical measurement.

System	Direct/exact weight	Partial-direct weight	Fallback weight
China	6.00%	5.00%	89.00%
Czechia	13.50%	8.75%	77.75%
Denmark	6.00%	16.25%	77.75%
European Union	0.00%	11.25%	88.75%
France	6.00%	16.25%	77.75%
Germany	9.75%	5.00%	85.25%
Poland	6.00%	16.25%	77.75%
Russia	6.00%	20.00%	74.00%
Slovenia	6.00%	16.25%	77.75%
Spain	6.00%	16.25%	77.75%
Switzerland	6.00%	20.00%	74.00%
United States	13.50%	8.75%	77.75%

4. What the Results Reveal

Institutional quality is not the same as demos sovereignty

Denmark and Germany show that strong rule-of-law institutions can coexist with relatively narrow citizen agenda-setting, reserved competence and competence-reclaim mechanisms. This does not make institutions irrelevant: institutions are essential democratic infrastructure when they protect citizens' capacity to exercise sovereignty. But their legitimacy is derivative rather than sovereign — they serve the demos rather than replace it as the holder of political authority.

Direct democracy changes the structure of sovereignty

Citizen initiatives and binding referendums keep the demos active between elections. They affect who retains final competence, not merely how often citizens participate.

Strategic sovereignty is a capacity condition

The United States, Russia and China show that state power and democratic authorship are separate. STRAT answers whether a polity can act independently; COG, COMP, REV, CONT, PLUR and INST answer how democratically that capacity is controlled.

Opacity is democratically relevant

If public institutions do not collect or disclose information necessary to evaluate public power, that weakness belongs inside the democratic assessment. LE-DSI treats it as a transparency and auditability problem rather than silently converting every missing datum into poor substantive performance.

The EU requires functional rather than institutional comparison

The EU is not a state and should not be treated as one. It remains comparable because LE-DSI evaluates democratic functions at the assessed level: authorship, meaningful choice, accountability, correction and reversibility.

The longitudinal series begins now

The current v1.6 result is T0. Earlier pilot results remain historically informative but are not plotted as part of the same continuous methodological series.

5. Methodological note — only what affects interpretation

Version 1.6 retains the seven dimensions and their total weights, consolidates three overlapping indicators, and applies a stricter zero rule. The main public consequence is greater stability for future longitudinal reporting. Earlier pilot results are not treated as directly comparable time-series observations. Further methodological change should be exceptional and separately documented.

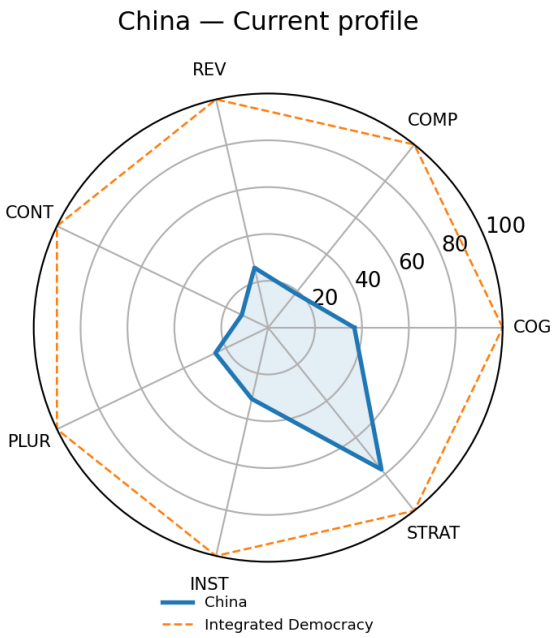
6. Country and Polity Profiles

Each profile contains the current dimension table, radar chart, longitudinal baseline, substantive interpretation, indicator drivers, and evidence-coverage note. Systems are presented alphabetically, not as a ranking.

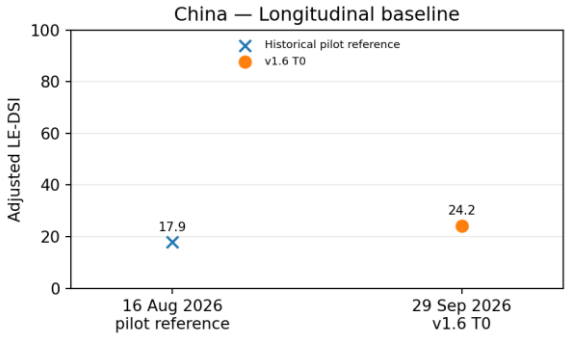
China

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
36.8	18.8	26.2	12.5	25.0	31.2	77.5	31.2	18.8	24.2



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

China also combines high strategic sovereignty with much narrower democratic-sovereignty dimensions. The constitutional system contains a multi-stage delegation chain, direct elections at lower people's-congress levels and formal removal powers; these functions therefore cannot be coded as nonexistent. The profile remains narrow where direct citizen control, opposition, informational openness and practical reversibility are limited.

The profile is widest in External and Strategic Sovereignty (77.5) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (36.8). The narrowest dimensions are Continuous Democratic Influence (12.5) and Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	ES1	Strategic Political Autonomy and Capacity to Refuse or Exit External Commitments	4.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	ES2	Critical Economic, Financial and Energy Resilience	3.00	3.00%
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	2.96	6.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI2	Effective Citizen Initiatives	0.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 36.8. Highest component: CS2 (2.96); lowest component: CS1, CS3, CS4, CS5, CS6, CS7 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 18.8. Highest component: SC1, SC3, SC4 (1.00); lowest component: SC2 (0.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 26.2. Highest component: RV2 (1.15); lowest component: RV1, RV4 (1.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 12.5. Highest component: CI3, CI4 (1.00); lowest component: CI1, CI2 (0.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 25.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 1.00.

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 31.2. Highest component: II1 (2.00); lowest component: II2, II3, II4 (1.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 77.5. Highest component: ES1 (4.00); lowest component: ES3 (2.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 24.2 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (17.9) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

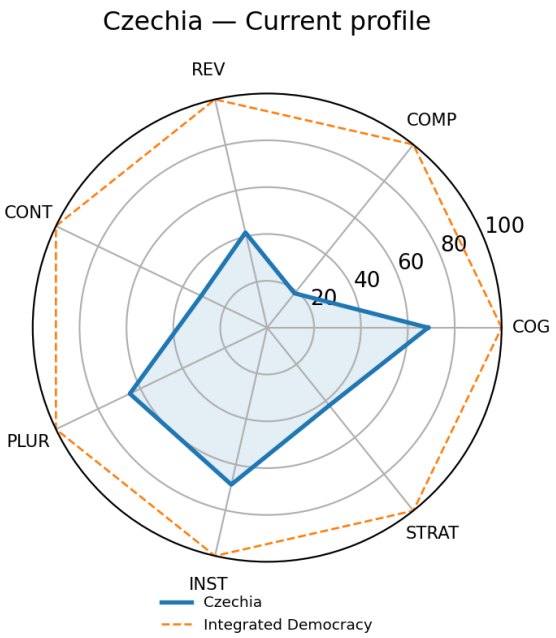
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 5.00% partial-direct and 89.00% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CS1, CS3, CS4, CS6, SC1, SC3, SC4, RV1, RV4, PE2, II3. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

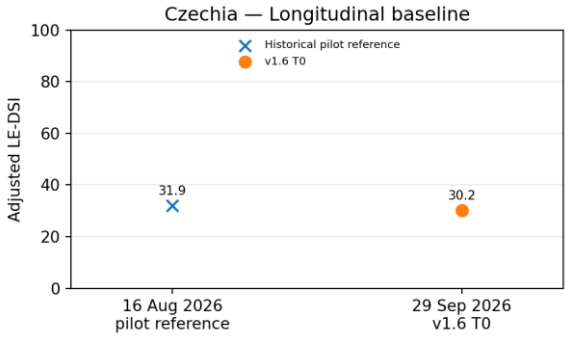
Czechia

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
68.6	18.8	41.7	31.2	65.0	68.8	42.5	48.5	18.8	30.2



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Czechia combines relatively strong institutional, cognitive and plural conditions with narrower national citizen competence. Petition and participation channels exist, but citizen-triggered national law-making and reserved competence remain limited. The profile therefore reflects a representative constitutional system with a relatively narrow direct-sovereignty core.

The profile is widest in Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (68.8) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (68.6). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8) and Continuous Democratic Influence (31.2). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	3.44	6.00%
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	3.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	3.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	0.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 68.6. Highest component: CS2 (3.44); lowest component: CS3, CS5, CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 18.8. Highest component: SC1, SC3, SC4 (1.00); lowest component: SC2 (0.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 41.7. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 31.2. Highest component: CI3 (3.00); lowest component: CI1, CI2 (0.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 65.0. Highest component: PE1, PE2 (3.00); lowest component: PE3 (2.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 68.8. Highest component: II2, II3, II4 (3.00); lowest component: II1 (2.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 42.5. Highest component: ES1, ES2 (2.00); lowest component: ES3 (1.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 30.2 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (31.9) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

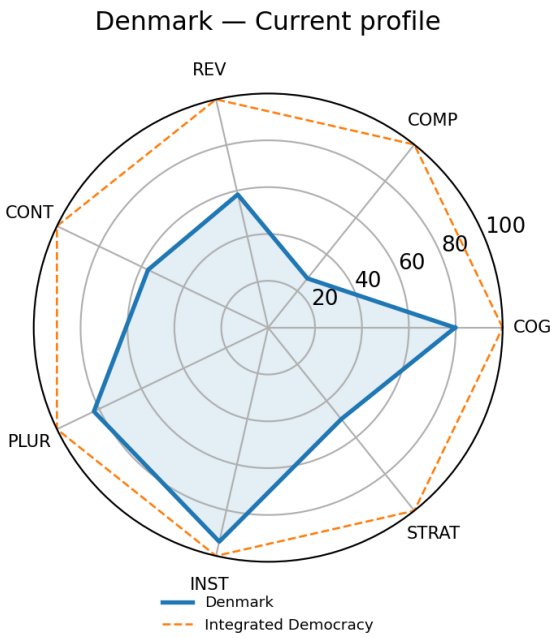
Measurement coverage is 13.50% direct/exact, 8.75% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in SC1. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

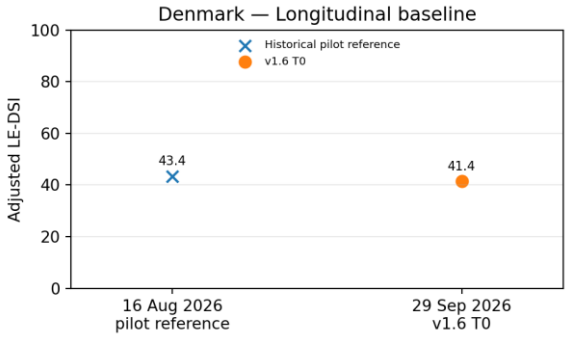
Denmark

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
79.7	26.9	58.3	56.9	82.5	93.8	50.0	63.9	26.9	41.4



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Denmark shows why institutional quality and demos sovereignty should not be collapsed into one concept. Its institutional and plural dimensions are very strong, but national citizen competence remains much narrower. The borgerforslag mechanism creates a real route onto the parliamentary agenda, yet it does not give citizens broad binding reserved competence or a general power to reclaim delegated authority.

The profile is widest in Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (93.8) and Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (82.5). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (26.9) and External and Strategic Sovereignty (50.0). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (26.9).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	4.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	4.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	CS4	Freedom from Viewpoint Censorship	4.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC3	Control over Delegation	1.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	SC4	Capacity to Reclaim and Reverse Delegated Competence	1.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 79.7. Highest component: CS1, CS4, CS7 (4.00); lowest component: CS3, CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 26.9. Highest component: SC1, SC2 (1.15); lowest component: SC3, SC4 (1.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 58.3. Highest component: RV1 (4.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 56.9. Highest component: CI3 (3.00); lowest component: CI2, CI4 (2.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 82.5. Highest component: PE2 (4.00); lowest component: PE1, PE3 (3.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 93.8. Highest component: II1, II2, II3 (4.00); lowest component: II4 (3.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 50.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 2.00.

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 41.4 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (43.4) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

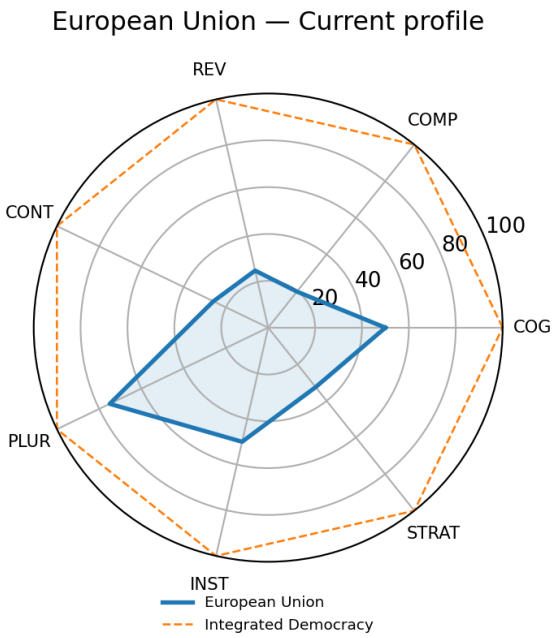
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 16.25% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CI2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

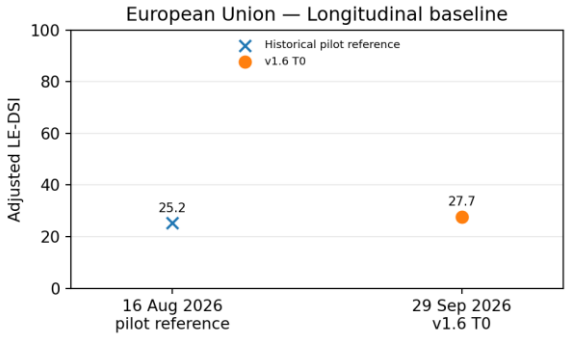
European Union

Assessment unit: Supranational polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
50.0	19.7	25.0	25.9	75.0	50.0	32.5	38.8	19.7	27.7



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

The EU is assessed as a supranational polity, not as an average of member states. Its strongest dimension is political plurality, while citizen competence and continuous influence are limited by the long delegation chain and the fact that EU-level citizen instruments normally trigger consideration rather than direct enactment. The EU profile is therefore comparable functionally, not institutionally, with national systems.

The profile is widest in Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (75.0) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (50.0). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (19.7) and Revocability of Delegated Power (25.0). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (19.7).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	3.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	PE3	Rights, Self-Government and Democratic Status Change of Sub-Demoi	3.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	PE1	Equality of Political Participation	3.00	3.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	0.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 50.0. Highest component: CS1 (3.00); lowest component: CS4 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 19.7. Highest component: SC1 (1.15); lowest component: SC2 (0.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 25.0. Highest component: RV1 (2.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 25.9. Highest component: CI3 (2.00); lowest component: CI1 (0.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 75.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 3.00.

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 50.0. Highest component: II3 (3.00); lowest component: II1 (1.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 32.5. Highest component: ES2 (2.00); lowest component: ES1, ES3 (1.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 27.7 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (25.2) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

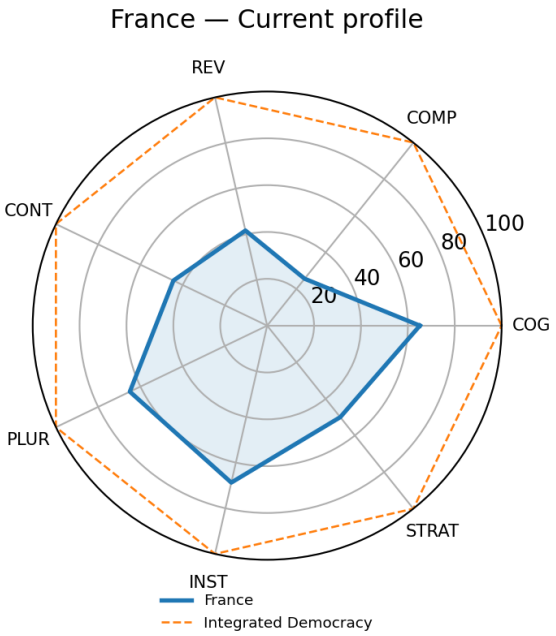
Measurement coverage is 0.00% direct/exact, 11.25% partial-direct and 88.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in SC4. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

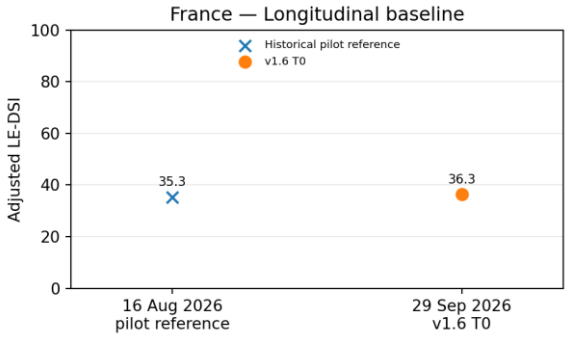
France

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
65.1	25.6	41.7	44.4	65.0	68.8	50.0	51.4	25.6	36.3



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

France's profile is relatively even, but representative institutions and legal safeguards carry more weight than citizen-triggered control between elections. The shared initiative referendum creates a limited correction channel, yet it is not equivalent to a pure citizen initiative. Sovereign competence and revocability therefore remain the main structural constraints.

The profile is widest in Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (68.8) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (65.1). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.6) and Revocability of Delegated Power (41.7). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.6).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	3.52	6.00%
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	3.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	3.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC1	Citizen Agenda-Setting Power	0.95	3.75%
Lower contribution	SC3	Control over Delegation	1.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 65.1. Highest component: CS2 (3.52); lowest component: CS3, CS4, CS5, CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 25.6. Highest component: SC2 (1.15); lowest component: SC1 (0.95).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 41.7. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 44.4. Highest component: CI3 (3.00); lowest component: CI2, CI4 (1.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 65.0. Highest component: PE1, PE2 (3.00); lowest component: PE3 (2.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 68.8. Highest component: II2, II3, II4 (3.00); lowest component: II1 (2.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 50.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 2.00.

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 36.3 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (35.3) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

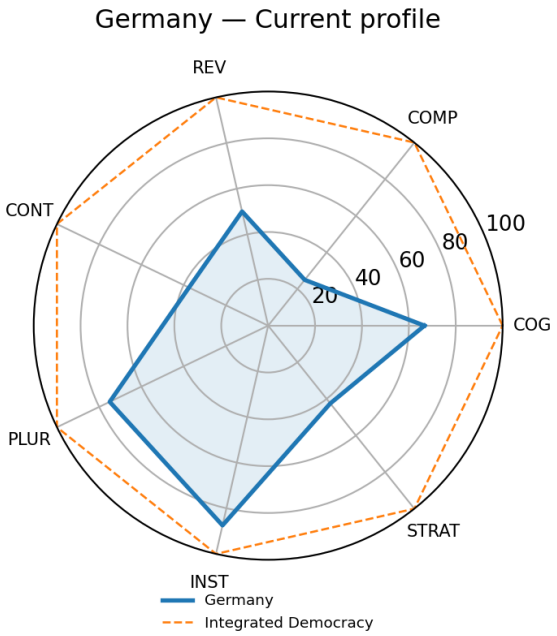
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 16.25% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CI2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

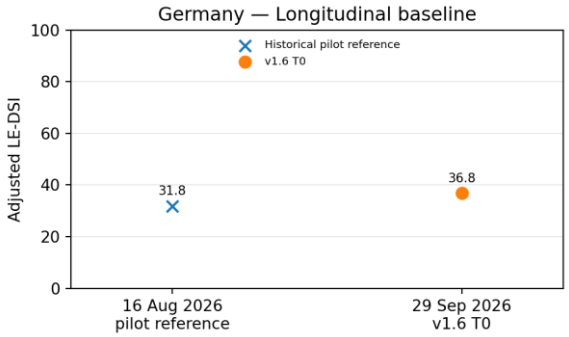
Germany

Assessment unit: Federal polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
66.7	25.0	50.0	37.5	75.0	87.5	42.5	54.0	25.0	36.8



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Germany combines strong legal-institutional safeguards with limited national direct-democratic competence. Petitions and narrow constitutional referendum functions prevent the agenda-setting dimension from being literally absent, but federal citizens still have little direct power to enact, block or reclaim national policy competence. The result is therefore a strong institutional profile with a clear COMP bottleneck.

The profile is widest in Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (87.5) and Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (75.0). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.0) and Continuous Democratic Influence (37.5). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.0).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	4.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CI3	Local and Regional Democratic Control	4.00	3.75%
Higher contribution	II2	Equal and Non-Selective Application of Law	4.00	2.50%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	CI2	Effective Citizen Initiatives	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CS3	Concentration of Effective Interpretative Reach	1.00	4.00%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 66.7. Highest component: CS2 (3.36); lowest component: CS3 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 25.0. All 4 indicators in this dimension are equal at 1.00.

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 50.0. Highest component: RV1 (4.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 37.5. Highest component: CI3 (4.00); lowest component: CI2 (0.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 75.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 3.00.

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 87.5. Highest component: II2, II3 (4.00); lowest component: II1, II4 (3.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 42.5. Highest component: ES1, ES2 (2.00); lowest component: ES3 (1.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 36.8 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (31.8) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

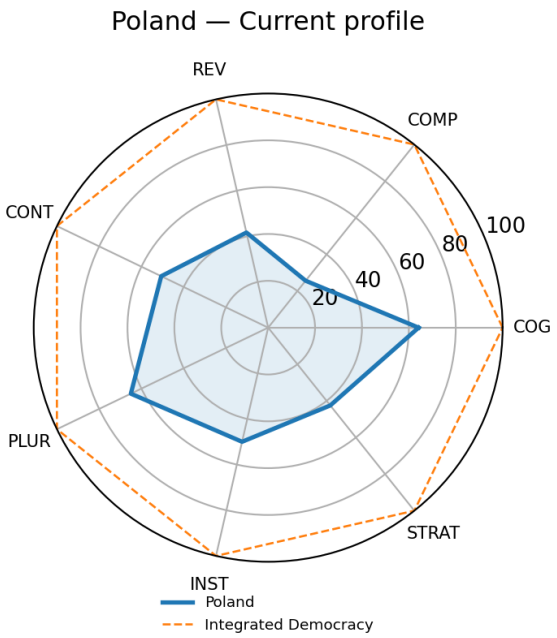
Measurement coverage is 9.75% direct/exact, 5.00% partial-direct and 85.25% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in SC1, SC2, CI1. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

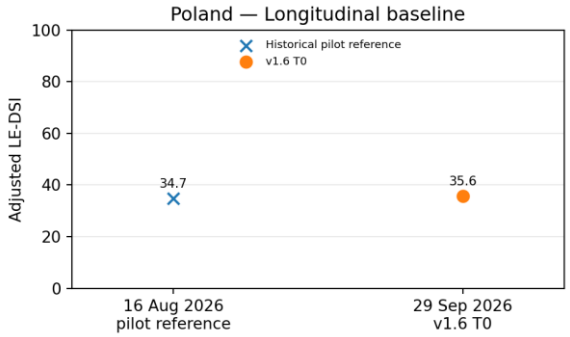
Poland

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
64.2	25.6	41.7	50.6	65.0	50.0	42.5	49.5	25.6	35.6



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Poland's profile is mixed rather than dominated by one dimension. Citizen legislative initiative strengthens continuous influence, but does not itself create broad reserved competence or control over delegation. The main constraint remains sovereign competence of the demos, while institutional and cognitive conditions contribute more strongly.

The profile is widest in Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (65.0) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (64.2). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.6) and Revocability of Delegated Power (41.7). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (25.6).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	3.36	6.00%
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	3.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	3.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.95	3.75%
Lower contribution	SC3	Control over Delegation	1.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 64.2. Highest component: CS2 (3.36); lowest component: CS3, CS4, CS5, CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 25.6. Highest component: SC1 (1.15); lowest component: SC2 (0.95).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 41.7. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 50.6. Highest component: CI1 (2.10); lowest component: CI2, CI3, CI4 (2.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 65.0. Highest component: PE1, PE2 (3.00); lowest component: PE3 (2.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 50.0. All 4 indicators in this dimension are equal at 2.00.

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 42.5. Highest component: ES1, ES2 (2.00); lowest component: ES3 (1.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 35.6 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (34.7) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

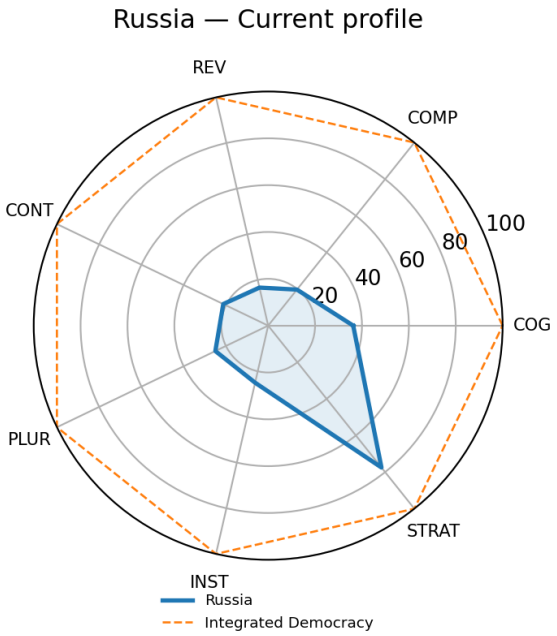
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 16.25% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CI2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

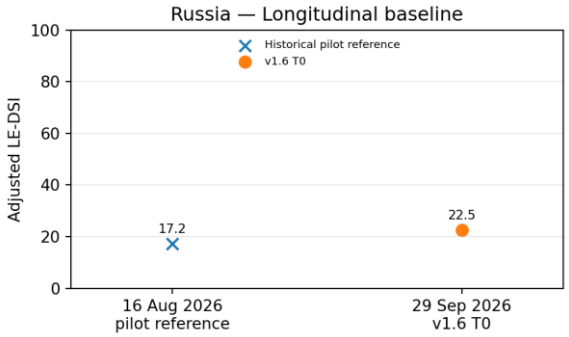
Russia

Assessment unit: Federal polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
36.3	19.7	16.7	21.2	25.0	25.0	77.5	30.5	16.7	22.5



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Russia combines high strategic sovereignty with low competence, revocability and continuous influence. The revised coding recognises that elections, local self-government and formal removal mechanisms exist and therefore should not be treated as absent. The scores remain low where effective competition, practical accessibility, independent correction or reversal are limited in the evidence base.

The profile is widest in External and Strategic Sovereignty (77.5) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (36.3). The narrowest dimensions are Revocability of Delegated Power (16.7) and Sovereign Competence of the Demos (19.7). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Revocability of Delegated Power (16.7).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	ES1	Strategic Political Autonomy and Capacity to Refuse or Exit External Commitments	4.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	ES2	Critical Economic, Financial and Energy Resilience	3.00	3.00%
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	2.88	6.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	0.20	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 36.3. Highest component: CS2 (2.88); lowest component: CS1, CS3, CS4, CS5, CS6, CS7 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 19.7. Highest component: SC1 (1.15); lowest component: SC2 (0.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 16.7. Highest component: RV1, RV4 (1.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 21.2. Highest component: CI3 (2.00); lowest component: CI1, CI2 (0.20).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 25.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 1.00.

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 25.0. All 4 indicators in this dimension are equal at 1.00.

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 77.5. Highest component: ES1 (4.00); lowest component: ES3 (2.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 22.5 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (17.2) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

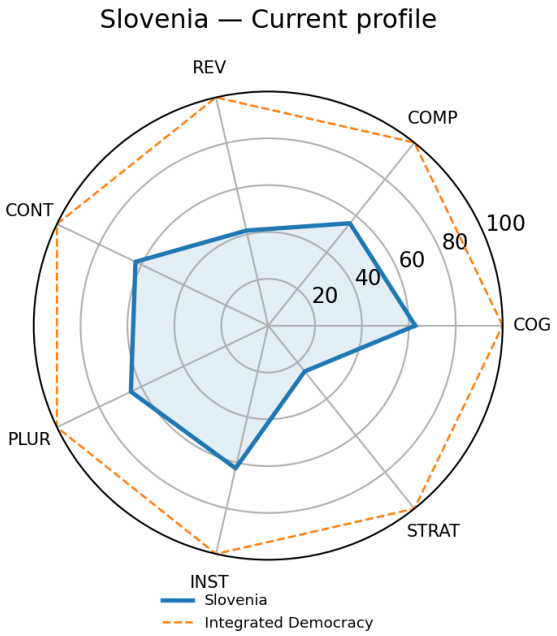
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 20.00% partial-direct and 74.00% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CS3, CS4, CS6, SC3, SC4, RV1, RV4, CI3, CI4, PE2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

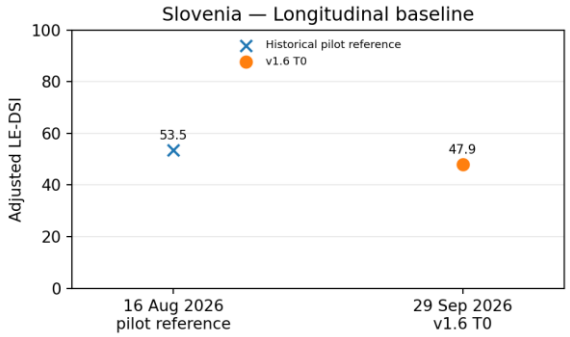
Slovenia

Assessment unit: National polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
62.7	55.9	41.7	62.8	65.0	62.5	25.0	55.0	41.7	47.9



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Slovenia combines a meaningful referendum tradition with citizen legislative and constitutional initiative. This gives the demos more direct corrective capacity than in many predominantly representative systems. The profile is nevertheless constrained by the absence of general national recall, constitutional exclusions from referendum, and relatively weak strategic autonomy.

The profile is widest in Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (65.0) and Continuous Democratic Influence (62.8). The narrowest dimensions are External and Strategic Sovereignty (25.0) and Revocability of Delegated Power (41.7). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Revocability of Delegated Power (41.7).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	3.12	6.00%
Higher contribution	SC1	Citizen Agenda-Setting Power	3.05	3.75%
Higher contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	3.05	3.75%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	CS3	Concentration of Effective Interpretative Reach	1.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	ES1	Strategic Political Autonomy and Capacity to Refuse or Exit External Commitments	1.00	4.00%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 62.7. Highest component: CS2 (3.12); lowest component: CS3 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 55.9. Highest component: SC1 (3.05); lowest component: SC2 (1.90).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 41.7. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 62.8. Highest component: CI1 (3.05); lowest component: CI3, CI4 (2.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 65.0. Highest component: PE1, PE2 (3.00); lowest component: PE3 (2.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 62.5. Highest component: II2, II3 (3.00); lowest component: II1, II4 (2.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 25.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 1.00.

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 47.9 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (53.5) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

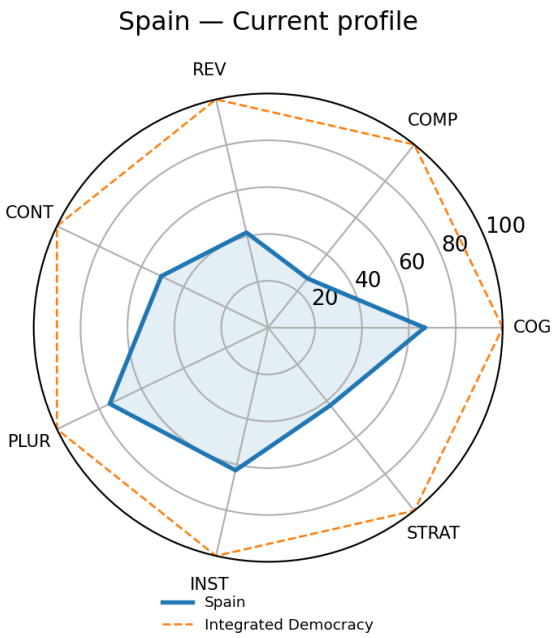
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 16.25% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CI2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

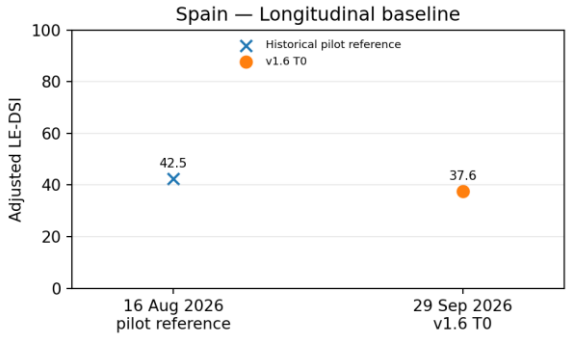
Spain

Assessment unit: National / decentralised polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
66.7	26.9	41.7	50.6	75.0	62.5	42.5	52.6	26.9	37.6



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Spain combines relatively strong cognitive, plural and institutional conditions with lower sovereign competence and revocability. The national popular legislative initiative supports continuous influence, while the territorial constitution makes sub-demoi, autonomy and democratic status questions especially important for the PLUR dimension.

The profile is widest in Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (75.0) and Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (66.7). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (26.9) and Revocability of Delegated Power (41.7). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (26.9).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	CS2	Diversity of Interpretative Frames	3.12	6.00%
Higher contribution	RV1	Effective Removal of Political Leadership	3.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	3.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC3	Control over Delegation	1.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	SC4	Capacity to Reclaim and Reverse Delegated Competence	1.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 66.7. Highest component: CS2 (3.12); lowest component: CS3, CS5, CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 26.9. Highest component: SC1, SC2 (1.15); lowest component: SC3, SC4 (1.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 41.7. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 50.6. Highest component: CI3 (3.00); lowest component: CI4 (1.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 75.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 3.00.

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 62.5. Highest component: II2, II3 (3.00); lowest component: II1, II4 (2.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 42.5. Highest component: ES1, ES2 (2.00); lowest component: ES3 (1.00).

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 37.6 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (42.5) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

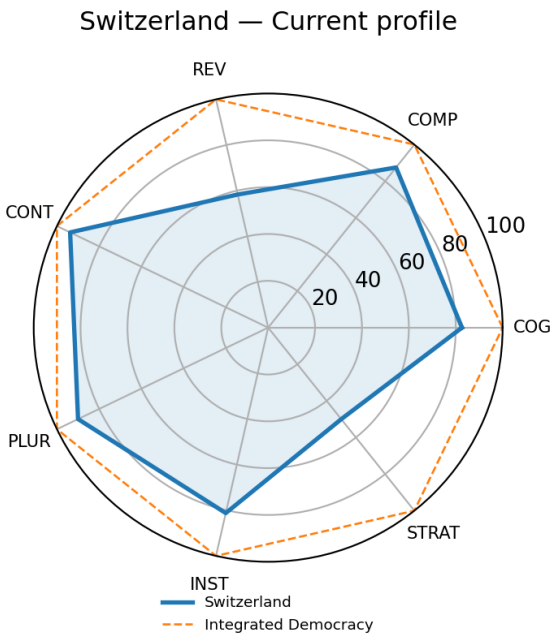
Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 16.25% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in CI2. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

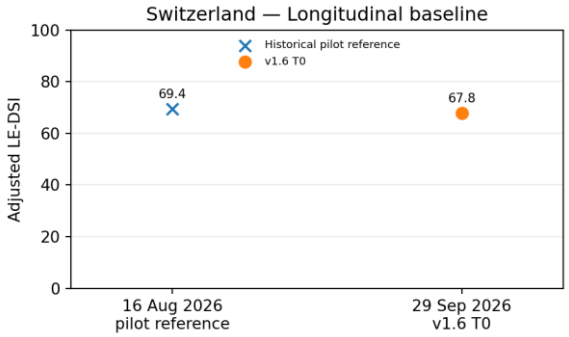
Switzerland

Assessment unit: Federal polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
82.7	87.5	58.3	93.8	90.0	81.2	50.0	78.7	58.3	67.8



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

Switzerland has the broadest current profile because direct citizen law-making and repeated binding popular votes are embedded in normal federal political life. Strong citizen competence and continuous influence are not merely consultative: the demos can initiate constitutional change, trigger referendums and directly decide major questions. The principal structural gap is federal revocability: direct decision-making is extensive, but general citizen-triggered recall of federal officeholders is not.

The profile is widest in Continuous Democratic Influence (93.8) and Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (90.0). The narrowest dimensions are External and Strategic Sovereignty (50.0) and Revocability of Delegated Power (58.3). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Revocability of Delegated Power (58.3).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	RV4	Institutional Entrenchment of Power	4.00	5.00%
Higher contribution	CS1	Effective Access to Competing Sources	4.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	CS4	Freedom from Viewpoint Censorship	4.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	ES1	Strategic Political Autonomy and Capacity to Refuse or Exit External Commitments	2.00	4.00%
Lower contribution	ES2	Critical Economic, Financial and Energy Resilience	2.00	3.00%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 82.7. Highest component: CS1, CS4 (4.00); lowest component: CS6 (2.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 87.5. Highest component: SC1, SC2 (4.00); lowest component: SC3, SC4 (3.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 58.3. Highest component: RV4 (4.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 93.8. Highest component: CI1, CI2, CI3 (4.00); lowest component: CI4 (3.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 90.0. Highest component: PE1, PE2 (4.00); lowest component: PE3 (3.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 81.2. Highest component: II2, II3 (4.00); lowest component: II1 (2.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 50.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 2.00.

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 67.8 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (69.4) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

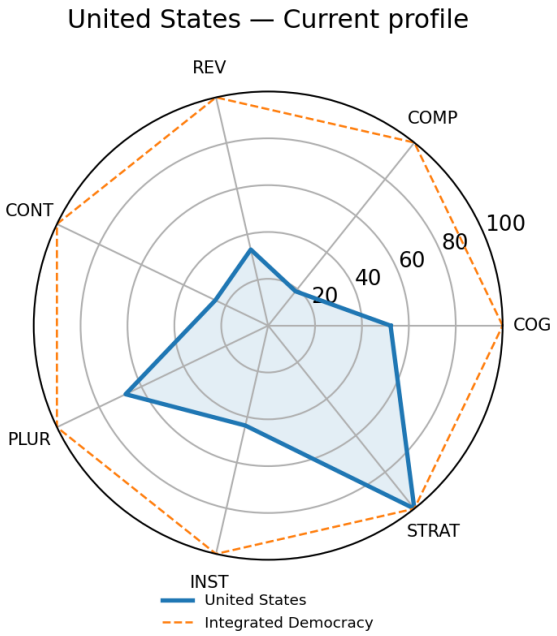
Evidence, transparency and confidence

Measurement coverage is 6.00% direct/exact, 20.00% partial-direct and 74.00% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

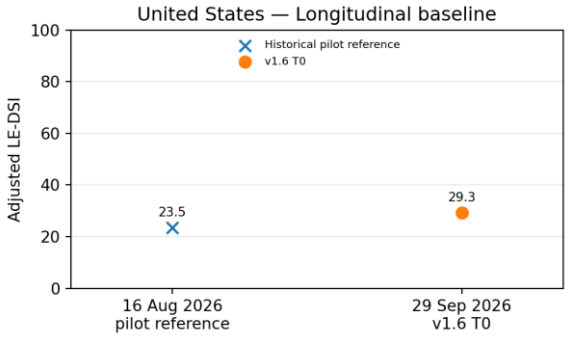
United States

Assessment unit: Federal polity • v1.6 longitudinal baseline T0: 29 September 2026

COG	COMP	REV	CONT	PLUR	INST	STRAT	Raw	Fmin	Adjusted
52.2	18.8	33.3	25.0	67.5	43.8	100.0	45.7	18.8	29.3



Current profile against the benchmark



Pilot reference shown separately; v1.6 is T0

Substantive interpretation

The United States combines very high strategic capacity with low federal demos competence and limited continuous direct influence. State initiatives, referendums and recalls are important, but they cannot automatically substitute for missing federal mechanisms when the federation is the assessed unit. This produces a profile in which state power is strong while direct federal demos control is much narrower.

The profile is widest in External and Strategic Sovereignty (100.0) and Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (67.5). The narrowest dimensions are Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8) and Continuous Democratic Influence (25.0). The foundational adjustment is constrained by Sovereign Competence of the Demos (18.8).

Why the result looks like this

Role	Code	Indicator	Score	Weight
Higher contribution	ES1	Strategic Political Autonomy and Capacity to Refuse or Exit External Commitments	4.00	4.00%
Higher contribution	ES2	Critical Economic, Financial and Energy Resilience	4.00	3.00%
Higher contribution	ES3	Technological and Information Infrastructure Autonomy	4.00	3.00%
Lower contribution	RV2	Direct Recall / Equivalent Revocation Mechanisms	0.00	5.00%
Lower contribution	SC2	Reserved Democratic Competence	0.00	3.75%
Lower contribution	CI1	Binding Direct Democratic Decisions	0.00	3.75%

Dimension notes

Cognitive Sovereignty and Informational Pluralism (COG) — 52.2. Highest component: CS2 (3.20); lowest component: CS3, CS5, CS6 (1.00).

Sovereign Competence of the Demos (COMP) — 18.8. Highest component: SC1, SC3, SC4 (1.00); lowest component: SC2 (0.00).

Revocability of Delegated Power (REV) — 33.3. Highest component: RV1 (3.00); lowest component: RV2 (0.00).

Continuous Democratic Influence (CONT) — 25.0. Highest component: CI3 (3.00); lowest component: CI1, CI2 (0.00).

Political Equality and Plurality of Demoi (PLUR) — 67.5. Highest component: PE2, PE3 (3.00); lowest component: PE1 (2.00).

Institutional Integrity and Effective Legal Protection (INST) — 43.8. Highest component: II2, II3, II4 (2.00); lowest component: II1 (1.00).

External and Strategic Sovereignty (STRAT) — 100.0. All 3 indicators in this dimension are equal at 4.00.

Longitudinal status

The September 2026 v1.6 value of 29.3 is the T0 baseline for the future public series. The August pilot value (23.5) is shown only as a historical reference because it was produced under a different methodology. No trend claim should be made from the difference between these two points.

Evidence, transparency and confidence

Measurement coverage is 13.50% direct/exact, 8.75% partial-direct and 77.75% evidence-based fallback. Where public evidence is unavailable, the absence is not automatically treated as poor performance on the substantive phenomenon being measured. However, systematic opacity, failure to publish auditable records, or inability to independently verify public power is itself relevant evidence under transparency, traceability and accountability indicators.

The current profile also contains conservative zero-audit recoding in SC1. These changes recognise that the function was not proven to be absent; they do not imply strong performance and remain within the fallback evidence layer.

7. Cross-Cutting Findings and Article Themes

Well governed is not the same as democratically sovereign

The gap between INST and COMP in several systems creates a direct analytical distinction between institutional quality and the degree to which citizens retain sovereign competence.

State sovereignty versus citizen sovereignty

The United States, Russia and China show that strategic capacity can be high while demos control is much narrower. This distinction is useful for debates that otherwise conflate sovereignty of the state with sovereignty of citizens.

Democracy requires an auditable public sphere

Public data, traceability and access to evidence are not administrative luxuries. Citizens cannot exercise meaningful control over power they cannot observe or verify. The democratic problem is therefore not only what institutions do, but whether their actions are legible to the demos.

Direct democracy changes delegation

Initiatives and referendums do not merely add participation. They change who retains final authority over agenda, policy and constitutional competence.

The EU is a test of democracy beyond the nation-state

The EU illustrates how democratic sovereignty can be analysed at a supranational level without pretending that its institutions are identical to those of a state.

From snapshots to trajectories

The next major gain in analytical value will come from stable repeated measurement. Future reports should explain why each dimension changes rather than continually reopening the index architecture.

8. Monitoring Priorities for the Next Edition

Keep the v1.6 architecture fixed and append new observations to the T0 baseline.

Increase direct measurement of cognitive reach, platform concentration and gatekeeper auditability.

Treat public-data opacity as a substantive transparency issue where it affects citizens' ability to scrutinise public power.

Develop matched-case evidence for equal and non-selective application of law.

Standardise economic, energy, financial and technology resilience baskets for STRAT.

Keep EU evidence at supranational level and do not substitute member-state averages.

Explain every material movement with concrete legal, institutional, informational or strategic evidence.

9. Limitations and Confidence

LE-DSI remains a developing empirical framework. Several indicators still depend on structured fallback anchors rather than directly measured fulfilment percentages. Fallback-based results are therefore best read as evidence-structured assessments, not high-precision statistics.

Unequal data availability is itself analytically relevant. A lack of evidence about a substantive outcome is not automatically evidence of poor performance. However, democracy requires public power to be sufficiently observable to be controlled. Where authorities fail to collect, disclose or permit independent verification of information that citizens

reasonably need to scrutinise public decisions, the resulting opacity is itself a democratic weakness. LE-DSI therefore records opacity under the indicators where transparency, traceability, auditability and informational accountability are the democratic function being assessed, without mechanically penalising unrelated indicators.

29 September 2026 is the first stable v1.6 public baseline. Future reports should compare new periods to this baseline under the same rules.

Conceptual reference point: the report's definition is consistent with the widely used democratic principles of popular control and political equality, while LE-DSI operationalises those principles more strictly through continuing control of delegated authority.

10. References and Evidence Base

Libertas Europa, LE-DSI Methodology v1.6 — Detailed Methodology.

Libertas Europa, LE-DSI Q1–Q3 2026 Public Pilot Report, data cut-off 16 August 2026 — historical pilot reference only.

Libertas Europa, LE-DSI v1.5 Step 5 Full Audit.

Libertas Europa, LE-DSI v1.6 Zero Audit and Zero-Audited Results.

Primary constitutional, legal, court, official-statistical and administrative sources recorded in the LE-DSI evidence registry.

International IDEA direct-democracy database and comparative sources used as corroboration rather than imported final verdicts.

Media-pluralism, rule-of-law and strategic-resilience sources retained with counter-evidence and confidence notes in the technical layer.

International IDEA, Global State of Democracy Indices Methodology (2026): democracy operationalised through the core principles of popular control and political equality.