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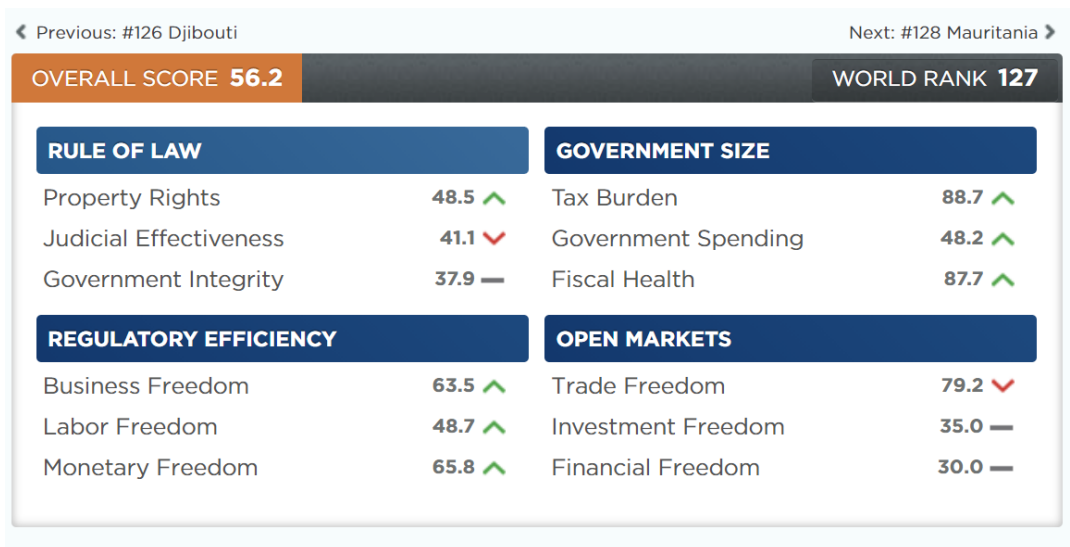
## Essay 2 - Ukraine

Check out the [Index of Economic Freedom](#), and the [Doing Business World Bank Report](#), find your country in them, and check out the constituent variables (Rule of Law, Government Size, Regulatory Efficiency etc.) that led to that score and rank positions.

Write a 750-word (or about that) Essay about your perception, as a citizen of that country, whether the indices get it right, and suggest what you could do in your country to improve one or more of that variables.

### Index of Economic Freedom

127 Ukraine 56.2+1.3



### Doing Business World Bank Report

Rankings on Doing Business topics (1-190) - Ukraine



Ukraine is a young democracy, gaining independence in 1991. Ukraine relies heavily on the production of wheat and exports of industrial and energy products. Ukrainian law addresses property rights, but enforcement by corrupt courts is unreliable. The judiciary's susceptibility to political pressure, corruption, and bribery weakens public confidence in the courts. Government integrity is severely compromised, and corruption within state-owned enterprises is of particular concern.

According to both the Index of Economic Freedom and the Doing Business World Bank Report, the indices are indicated correctly, according to my perception of my country. Ukraine doesn't rank very high across all the indices, and in fact rank towards the tail, and not at the front with the other countries which are doing better. On my opinion, Ukraine does not promote entrepreneurship and individuals are not encouraged to start their own business, because the corruption is very high and one gets disappointed very fast. As I have been away from the age of 17, I have learned other ways and for me it feels strange to be able to function as a company or individual in Ukraine, since you do not have support from many points of view, like salaries, job opportunities, the climate for opening a company. With the new president there is some push to adopt modern services, like banking services, fast internet, online management of paperwork and civil services.

Nevertheless, the old corrupted system is so entrenched, it will take some time to get rid of it.

On my opinion what could be done to improve the situation is to first of all let Ukrainians travel more, outside of Ukraine and the Eastern Block, so they can see and experience other ways, other lifestyles, other principles, which will open their minds and will show them that things can be done differently. This is actually slowly happening, as in the last 20 years there are strong ties with Italy, Spain, Germany and lately the UK.

Another step is for people to go to vote and participate in the political arena, believe that they can change the status quo and be the change themselves, not expecting that things will happen from above. At the moment usually the population of my age doesn't vote and I hardly know anyone of my friends who vote, because from the start nobody believes they can make a change and nobody trusts the government.

One more thing which could probably help is that people should do business outside of the family, and not keep everything in the family, as these things are non-productive.

Ukrainians are famous for their IT skills and that is a good thing, maybe the government should have a favourable legislation for this industry and allow it to develop. Ukraine also has very highly qualified and educated people, and the government should think how to keep them in the country by creating conditions for them to stay, starting with decent salaries.

Tourism is another potential which the country has not fully developed and the country could benefit from its access to the Black Sea and the Carpathian mountains, to attract interest and investments. There should also be an initiative to make the local population want to travel inside of Ukraine - there is a lot to see. This industry should not be overlooked. The roads in Ukraine are in a disastrous condition - this actually doesn't make people want to travel. Maybe one needs to start here when thinking about tourism - first improve the roads.

The education system, although very good from the core, is very corrupted too, as the professors accept bribery to pass students, or often they actually are setting a price which one has to pay to pass. This needs to be changed.

So overall, I think the change should start with the mindset of every citizen, but also the government should make a step towards its people and put them first, not their pockets first.