



Global summary: Key findings on protests and restrictions (1 October 2019 - 30 September 2022)

- Protests took place in at least 131 countries over the the past year.
- Over the past year, the number one violation of civic freedoms documented by the CIVICUS Monitor is the detention of protesters. The CIVICUS Monitor tracks 33 restrictions related to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of expression across 197 countries & territories.
- Over the past year, the detention of protesters was documented in at least 92 of the 131 countries recording protests. In other words, protesters were detained in 70% of the countries where protests occurred.
- Over the past three years in the Asia-Pacific, there has been an increase in the total number of countries detaining protesters – from 14 to 17 to 20 countries. This is the only region where the CIVICUS Monitor documents an increase in the detention of protesters.
- In at least 57 of the 131 countries where protests occurred over the past year, security forces disrupted protests with excessive force. In other words, excessive force was used in over 40% of countries recording protests.
- The use of excessive force at protests is most prevalent in the Asia-Pacific and the Americas. Over the past year, excessive force occurred in over half of the countries recording protests in the Asia-Pacific (14 of 27) and the Americas (12 of 23).
- Protesters were killed In at least 24 of the 131 countries recording protests over the past year. In other words, protesters were killed in over 15% of the countries recording protests.
- Over the past year in the Americas, protesters were killed in at least 8 of 23 countries recording protests. This is the highest regional rate, occurring in at least 35% of the countries in the region where protests occurred.
- Violence from protesters was documented in at least 37 of the 131 countries recording protests over the past year.

Africa summary: Key findings on protests and restrictions

- Protests were recorded in at least 30 countries from the past year.
- Potesters were detained in at least 21 of the 30 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in 70% of the countries recording protests).
- Excessive force was used in at least 12 of the 30 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in 40% of the countries recording protests).
- Protesters were killed in at least 8 of the 30 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 25% of the countries recording protests).



Asia-Pacific summary: Key findings on protests and restrictions

- Protests were recorded in at least 27 countries from the past year.
- Protesters were detained in at least 20 of the 27 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 70% of the countries recording protests).
- Over the past three years in the Asia-Pacific, there has been an increase in the total number of countries detaining protesters – from 14 to 17 to 20 countries. This is the only region where the CIVICUS Monitor documents an increase in the detention of protesters.
- Excessive force was used in at least 14 of the 27 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 50% of the countries recording protests).
- The use of excessive force at protests is most prevalent in the Asia-Pacific and the Americas. Excessive force occurred in over half of the countries recording protests in the Asia-Pacific (14 of 27) and the Americas (12 of 23).
- In the Asia-Pacific, protesters were killed in at least 4 of the 27 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in 15% of the countries recording protests).

Americas summary: Key findings on protests and restrictions

- Protests were recorded in at least 23 countries from the past year.
- Protesters were detained in at least 14 of the 23 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 60% of the countries recording protests).
- Protesters were killed in at least 8 of 23 countries recording protests - the highest regional rate (occurring in 35% of the countries in the region recording protests).
- Excessive force was used in at least 12 of the 23 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in 50% of the countries recording protests).
- The use of excessive force at protests is most prevalent in the Americas and the Asia-Pacific. Excessive force occurred in over half of the countries recording protests in the Americas (12 of 23) and the Asia-Pacific (14 of 27).

Europe & Central Asia summary: Key findings on protests and restrictions

- Protests were recorded in at least 40 countries from the past year.
- Protesters were detained in at least 29 of the 40 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 70% of the countries recording protests).
- Excessive force was used in at least 15 of the 40 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 35% of the countries recording protests).
- Protesters were killed in at least 2 of the 40 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in 5% of the countries recording protests).



Middle East & North Africa: Key findings on protests and restrictions

- Protests were recorded in at least 11 countries from the past year.
- Protesters were detained in at least 8 of the 11 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 70% of the countries recording protests).
- Excessive force was used in at least 4 of the 11 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 35% of the countries recording protests).
- Protesters were killed in at least 2 of the 11 countries recording protests from the past year (occurring in over 15% of the countries recording protests)

METHODOLOGY

The data is extrapolated from the CIVICUS Monitor's country updates, which are published every weekday. These country updates use a standardised template for providing assessments on: freedom of expression; freedom of peaceful assembly; and freedom of association. Each of these country updates is assigned a number of tags from our taxonomy, these tags are then processed to get the number of countries where violations took place. For example: if a protester is detained or a number of protesters are detained in the country during the analysis period, the country is assigned this tag/label and gets entered into our database. From the past year (1 October 2021 - 30 September 2022), there were a total of 476 country updates, 351 of which covering incidents related to protests.

ABOUT THE CIVICUS MONITOR

The CIVICUS Monitor is a research tool that provides quantitative and qualitative data on the state of civil society and civic freedoms in 197 countries and territories. The data is generated through a collaboration with more than 20 civil society research partners, and input from a number of independent human rights evaluations.

The data provides the basis for civic space ratings, countries can be rated as **CLOSED**, **REPRESSED**, **OBSTRUCTED**, **NARROWED** or **OPEN**. The data streams also feed into individual country pages and updates, which provide verified and up-to-date information on the state of freedom of association, peaceful assembly and expression. The CIVICUS Monitor also includes a regularly updated Watch List – countries where, based on research and local analysis of the situation, there is a serious, immediate or emerging threat to civic space.

