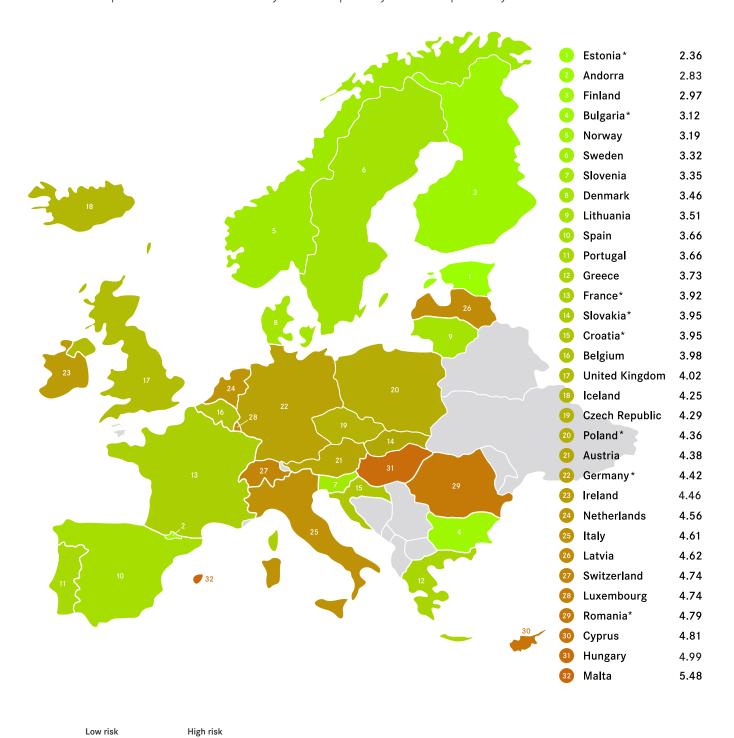


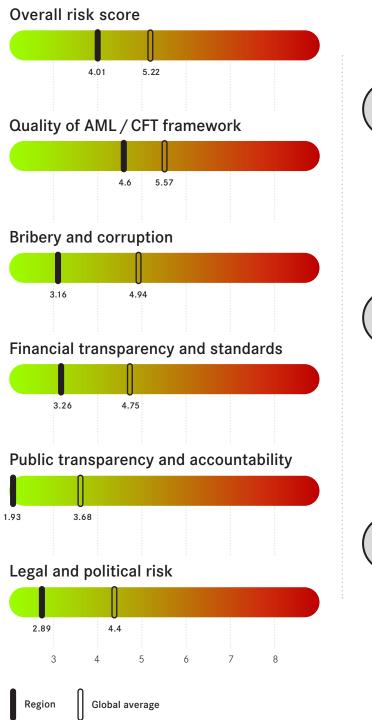
# **European Union and Western Europe**

Despite having a generally lower risk than the global average, the region's biggest deficiency is the quality of AML/CFT frameworks. This could indicate that AML/CFT does not enjoy the same level of priority in Europe than other accountability and transparency factors captured by the Index.



<sup>\*</sup>Countries marked with a star haven't yet undergone an FATF fourth-round evaluation. This may affect comparability between countries. Only countries with sufficient data to calculate a reliable risk score are included.







Weakest area: Quality of AML / CFT frameworks



Belgium, Cyprus, Malta, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK listed by the US as major money laundering destinations



High levels of financial secrecy undermine AML / CFT frameworks in Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the UK



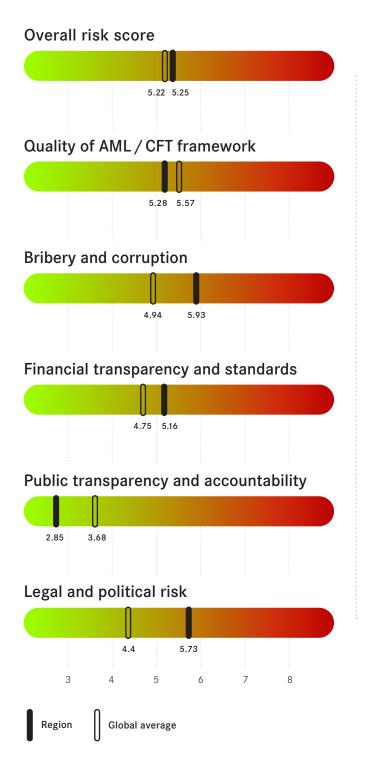
## **Europe and Central Asia**

The region's overall risk score is close to the global average and faring slightly better with respect to the quality of the AML/CFT framework. Weaknesses are most apparent when it comes to corruption and bribery and legal and political risks, reflecting issues with political and civil rights, media freedom and the independence of the judiciary. This can result in a skewed perception of reality when it comes to the effectiveness of AML/CFT systems.



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Weakest areas:
Corruption and issues
with political and civil
rights, media freedom
and independence of
the judiciary



Three quarters of all countries are listed by the US as major money laundering destinations

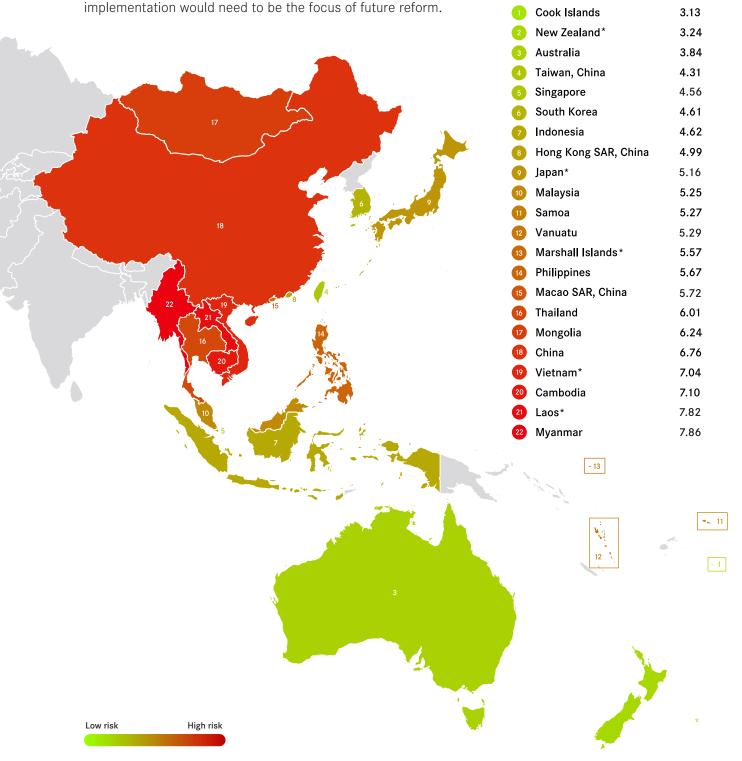


The region faces
high risks of human
trafficking, with the
highest exposure level
in Russia



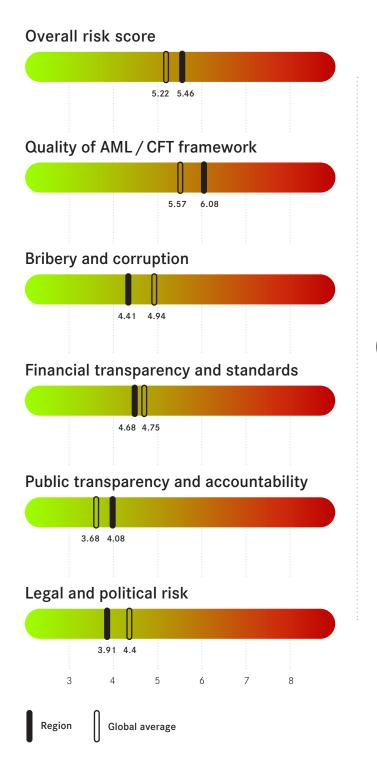
### **East Asia and Pacific**

The East Asia and Pacific region has a slightly higher than average overall risk score. The most prominent weaknesses relate to the quality of the AML/CFT framework itself, and to underperformance with respect to public transparency and accountability. In both areas, technical and legal adjustments as well as effective



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Weakest area:
Quality of AML / CFT
frameworks



Nearly half of all countries are listed by the US as major money laundering destinations - China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam

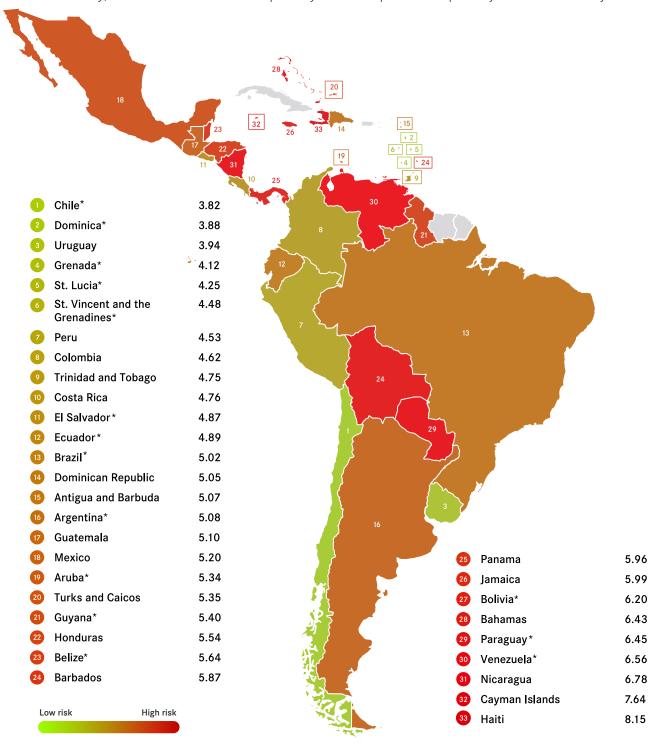


Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and Taiwan face the largest issues with financial secrecy



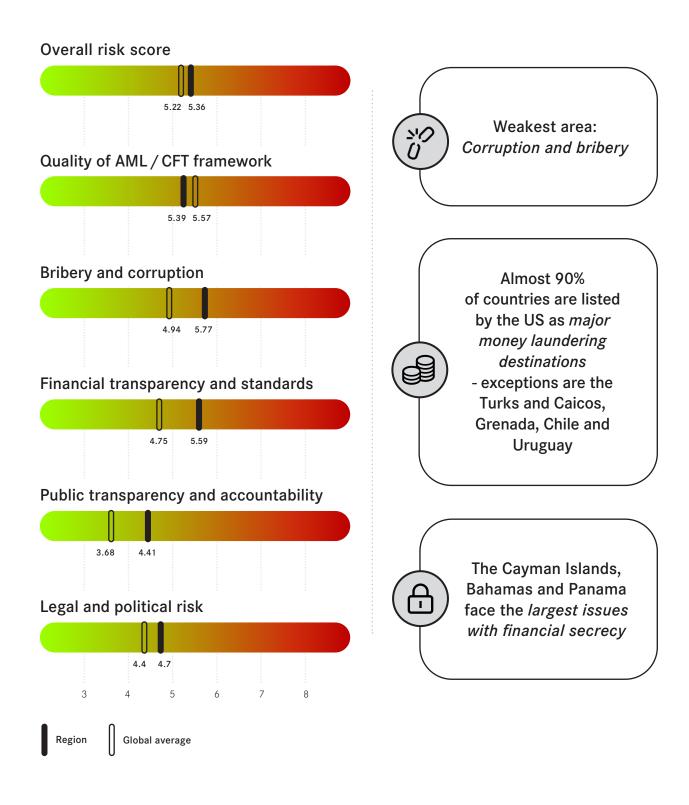
### Latin America and Caribbean

Only around half of countries in this region have undergone an FATF fourth-round evaluation, limiting comparability and, if the general trend holds, making it likely that more countries will fall down the rankings as they undergo new FATF evaluations. At the moment, the main deficiencies lie in high levels of corruption and bribery, low levels of financial transparency and weak public transparency and accountability.



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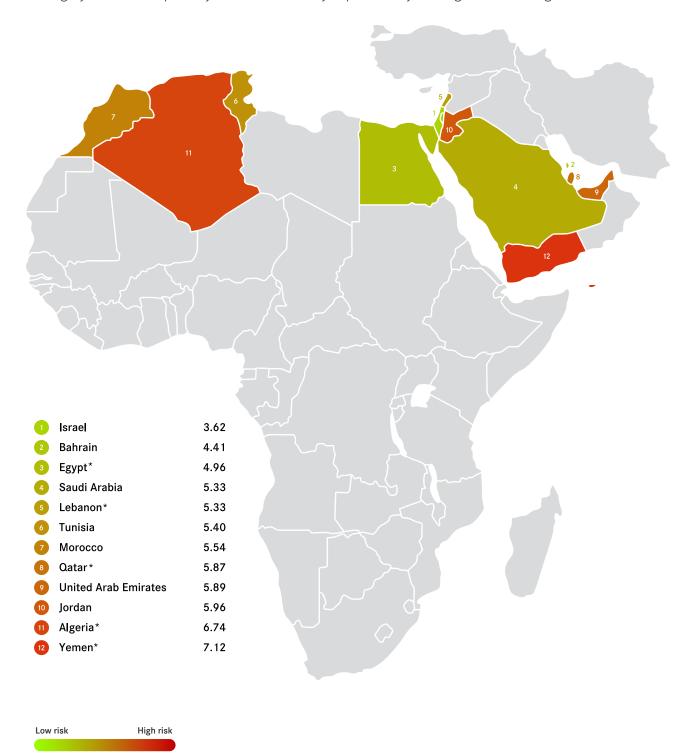






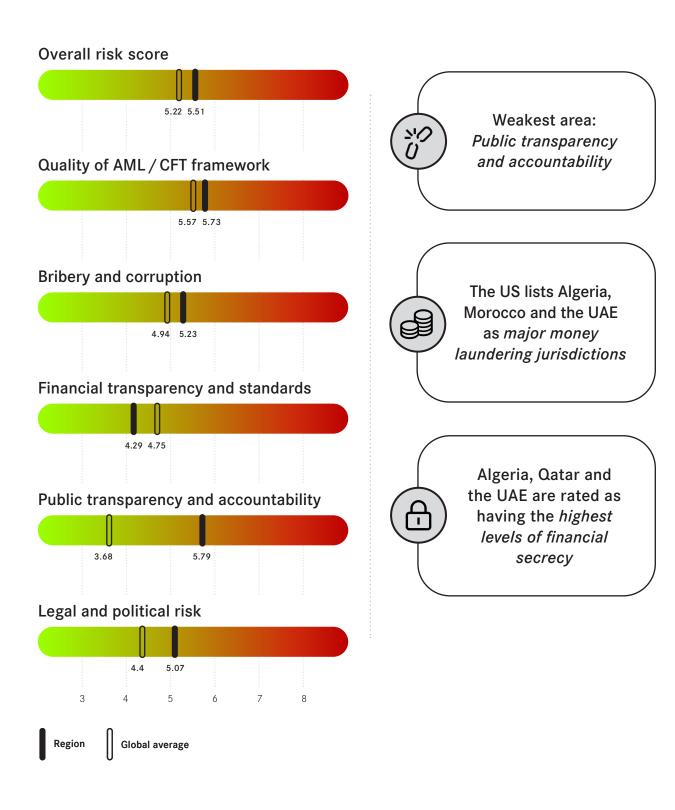
### Middle East and North Africa

Risk levels in this region are higher than the global average across the board. Governments will need to work hard to improve their performance in all categories. The discrepancy to the global average in the category Public Transparency and Accountability is particularly striking and needs urgent attention.



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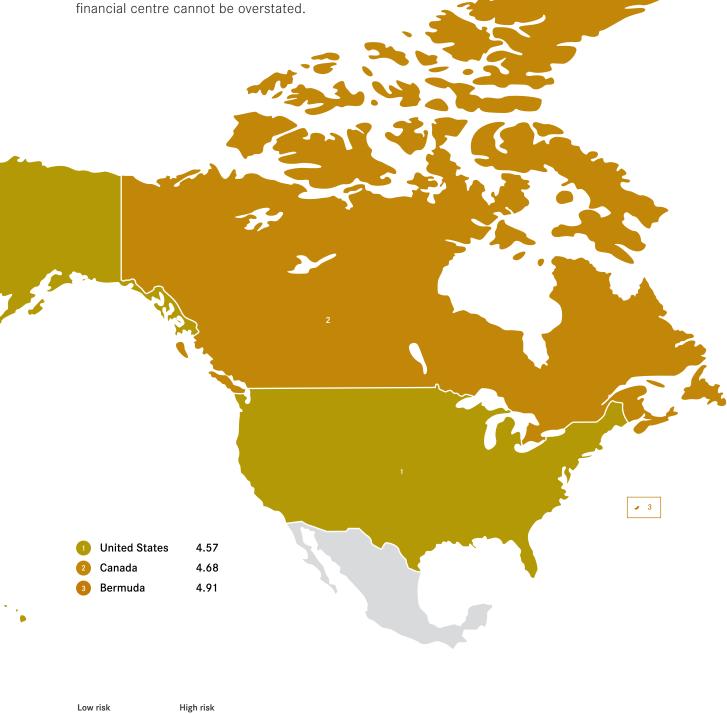






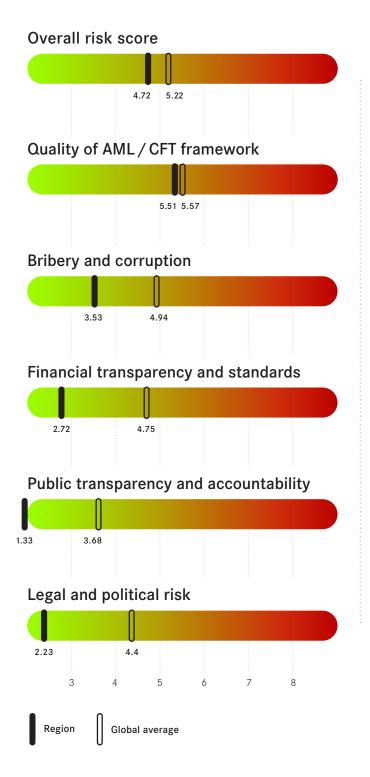
### **North America**

Though containing only three countries, this region plays a huge part in global financial markets. It scores better than the global average in all categories, but clearly the headstart over the rest of the world is very minimal when it comes to the actual AML/CFT framework. Similar to the European Union and Western Europe region, it appears not enough attention is paid to this matter. Yet the region's role as a



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Weakest area:
Quality of AML / CFT
frameworks



Canada and the US are listed in the US INCSR as major money laundering jurisdictions

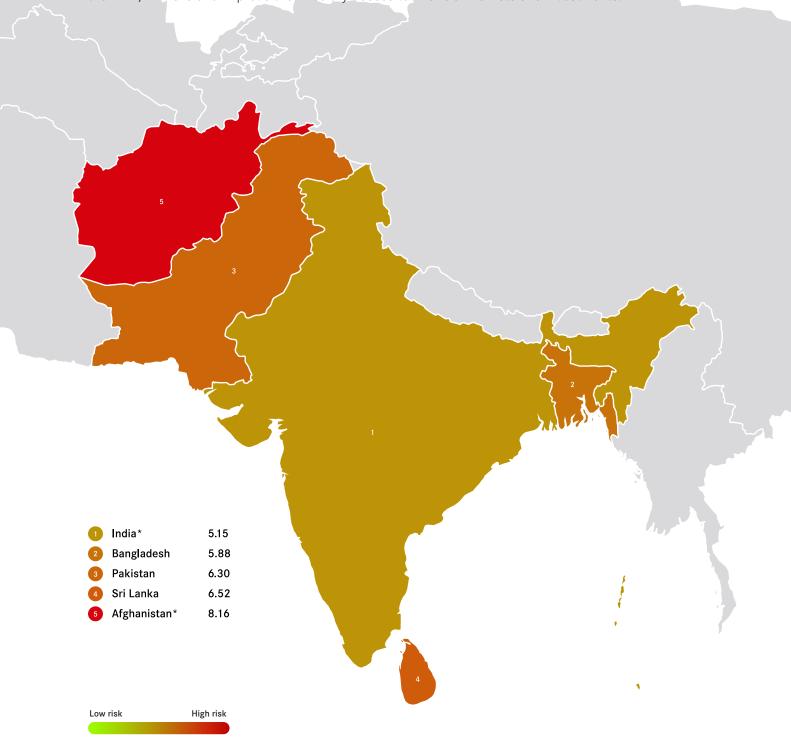


The US is rated as having the highest financial secrecy risks in the region and one of the highest risks globally



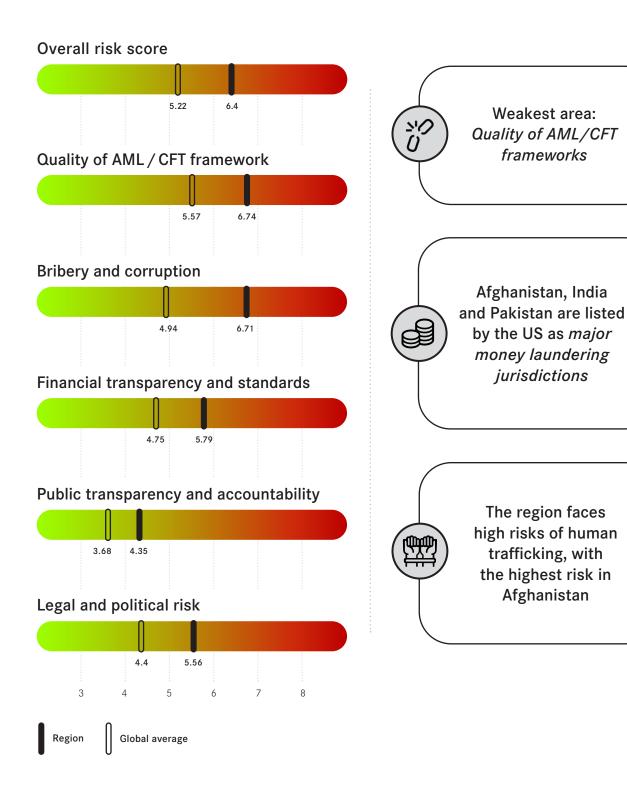
### South Asia

This region has the highest overall risk score and exceeds the global average across all categories. Major deficiencies are the quality of AML/CFT frameworks and very high levels of corruption and bribery. But governments will need to take a coordinated and holistic approach across all categories in order to lower their ML/TF risks and improve their healthy access to financial markets and investments.



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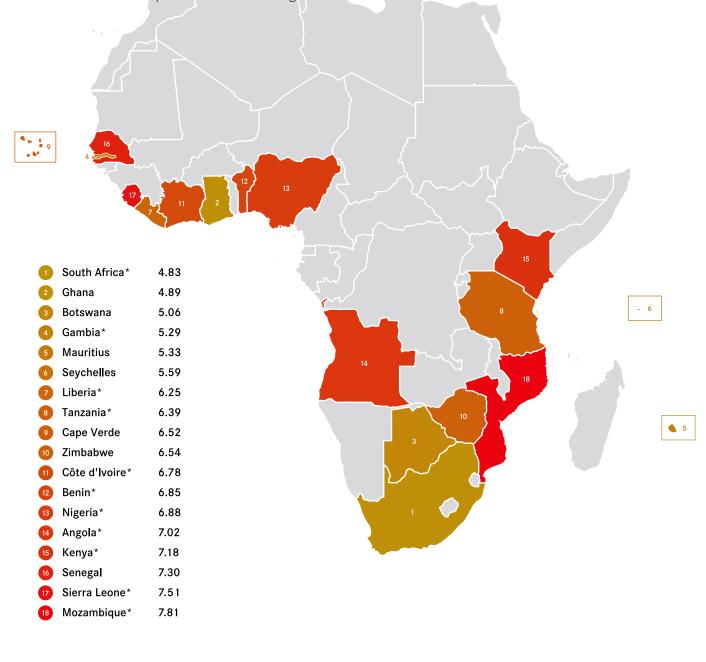
Low risk

High risk

#### Basel AML Index risk scores

### Sub-Saharan Africa

This region has the second-highest overall risk score and scores significantly below average across all categories, similar to South Asia. To add to this, the risk scores are likely to rise even higher after more countries are evaluated with the FATF fourth-round methodology, which evaluates the effectiveness of the systems and generally causes countries to fall down the ranking. A comprehensive and coordinated set of reforms is required to reduce the region's risk and increase its attractiveness for investors.



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