



International Institute for Religious Freedom
Internationales Institut für Religionsfreiheit
Institut international pour la liberté religieuse

of the World Evangelical Alliance
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**Audit Statement
on the outcomes of the Open Doors World Watch List 2018**

The results of the Open Doors World Watch List 2018 are accurately presented by World Watch Research (WWR) within the parameters of precision reached in the processing of information. Country profiles give a thorough, detailed, and differentiated account of the discrimination and persecution of Christians.

In depth inspection of two sample countries selected by the auditors gave evidence that published methodology was diligently applied by WWR staff. Processes and sources were thoroughly documented and have been made transparently available on request. The documentation mechanisms have been improved and the number of countries examined has increased.

Although the scoring accurately reflects the methodology and information processed, the reliability of each country score always depends on the depth and quality of the information received in the reporting period. This may vary from country to country.

There has been an improvement in determining one of the variables influencing the question scores (proportion of general population living in the territory affected by persecution), which results in a better approximation to reality.

The updated methodology document (November 2017) describes various quality assurance measures by the WWR staff with regard to consistency in application of the questionnaire and methodology. WWR gave credible written description how these were applied.

Additional statements, documents or interpretations by Open Doors International or the Open Doors national affiliates based on or associated with the publication of the World Watch List 2018 remain outside the scope of this audit statement.

IIRF has submitted a list of recommendations for potential future improvements to Open Doors.

Bonn, Cape Town, Colombo, this 8 January 2018

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