



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 2021

The results of the Open Doors World Watch List 2021 are accurately presented by World Watch Research (WWR) within the parameters of precision reached in the processing of information. Country dossiers 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 (bringing the total of countries audited since 2014 to 24) 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 mechanisms are pursued that maintain the depth of information.

The scoring accurately reflects the methodology and information processed. The degree of certainty 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.

The methodology document (April 2020) 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 of how these were applied. WWR also provided detailed information about the processing of plausibility checks of the scoring results by internal analysts and by IIRF.

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 2021 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 11 January 2021

Prof. Dr. theol. Dr. phil. Thomas  
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