

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

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FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2026

Democratic Republic of the Congo

NOT FREE

18
/100

<u>Political Rights</u>	4 /40
<u>Civil Liberties</u>	14 /60

LAST YEAR'S SCORE & STATUS

18 /100 **Not Free**

A country or territory's Freedom in the World status depends on its aggregate Political Rights score, on a scale of 0–40, and its aggregate Civil Liberties score, on a scale of 0–60. See the methodology.



Overview

The political system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is paralyzed due the manipulation of the electoral process by political elites, and is heavily influenced by a long-running conflict in the east of the country. Citizens are increasingly unable to freely exercise basic civil liberties, and corruption is endemic. Physical security is tenuous due to violence and human rights abuses committed by government forces and armed rebel groups, particularly in the east.

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*For additional background information, see the reports from the **2024** and **2025** editions of Freedom in the World.*

Political Rights

A. Electoral Process

A1 0-4 pts

Was the current head of government or other chief national authority elected through free and fair elections?

0 / 4

A2 0-4 pts

Were the current national legislative representatives elected through free and fair elections?

1 / 4

A3 0-4 pts

Are the electoral laws and framework fair, and are they implemented impartially by the relevant election management bodies?

0 / 4

B. Political Pluralism and Participation

B1 0-4 pts

Do the people have the right to organize in different political parties or other competitive political groupings of their choice, and is the system free of undue obstacles to the rise and fall of these competing parties or groupings?

1 / 4

B2 0-4 pts

Is there a realistic opportunity for the opposition to increase its support or gain power through elections?

0 / 4

B3 0-4 pts

Are the people's political choices free from domination by forces that are external to the political sphere, or by political forces that employ extrapolitical means?

0 / 4

B4 0-4 pts

Do various segments of the population (including ethnic, racial, religious, gender, LGBT+, and other relevant groups) have full political rights and electoral opportunities?

1 / 4

C. Functioning of Government

C1 0-4 pts

Do the freely elected head of government and national legislative representatives determine the policies of the government?

0 / 4

C2 0-4 pts

Are safeguards against official corruption strong and effective?

1/4

C3 0-4 pts

Does the government operate with openness and transparency?

0/4

Civil Liberties

D. Freedom of Expression and Belief

D1 0-4 pts

Are there free and independent media?

1/4

D2 0-4 pts

Are individuals free to practice and express their religious faith or nonbelief in public and private?

3/4

D3 0-4 pts

Is there academic freedom, and is the educational system free from extensive political indoctrination?

2/4

D4 0-4 pts

Are individuals free to express their personal views on political or other sensitive topics without fear of surveillance or retribution?

1/4

E. Associational and Organizational Rights

E1 0-4 pts

Is there freedom of assembly?	1 /4
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E2 0-4 pts

Is there freedom for nongovernmental organizations, particularly those that are engaged in human rights- and governance-related work?	1 /4
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E3 0-4 pts

Is there freedom for trade unions and similar professional or labor organizations?	1 /4
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F. Rule of Law

F1 0-4 pts

Is there an independent judiciary?	1 /4
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F2 0-4 pts

Does due process prevail in civil and criminal matters?	0 /4
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F3 0-4 pts

Is there protection from the illegitimate use of physical force and freedom from war and insurgencies?	0 /4
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F4 0-4 pts

Do laws, policies, and practices guarantee equal treatment of various segments of the population?

0 / 4

G. Personal Autonomy and Individual Rights

G1 0-4 pts

Do individuals enjoy freedom of movement, including the ability to change their place of residence, employment, or education?

1 / 4

G2 0-4 pts

Are individuals able to exercise the right to own property and establish private businesses without undue interference from state or nonstate actors?

1 / 4

G3 0-4 pts

Do individuals enjoy personal social freedoms, including choice of marriage partner and size of family, protection from domestic violence, and control over appearance?

1 / 4

G4 0-4 pts

Do individuals enjoy equality of opportunity and freedom from economic exploitation?

0 / 4



On Democratic Republic of the Congo

See all data, scores & information on this country or territory.

[See More >](#)

Country Facts

Population

99,010,000

Global Freedom Score

18/100 **Not Free**

Other Years

2025

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