



COUNTRY PROFILE EGYPT

Arab Business Legislative Frameworks Egypt Profile



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life





Shared Prosperity **Dignified Life**



VISION

ESCWA, an innovative catalyst for a stable, just and flourishing Arab region

MISSION

Committed to the 2030 Agenda, ESCWA's passionate team produces innovative knowledge, fosters regional consensus and delivers transformational policy advice. Together, we work for a sustainable future for all.



Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Arab Business Legislative Frameworks

Egypt Profile



UNITED NATIONS
Beirut

© 2021 United Nations
All rights reserved worldwide

Photocopies and reproductions of excerpts are allowed with proper credits.

All queries on rights and licenses, including subsidiary rights, should be addressed to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), e-mail: publications-escwa@un.org.

The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials or Member States.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Links contained in this publication are provided for the convenience of the reader and are correct at the time of issue. The United Nations takes no responsibility for the continued accuracy of that information or for the content of any external website.

References have, wherever possible, been verified.

Mention of commercial names and products does not imply the endorsement of the United Nations.

References to dollars (\$) are to United States dollars, unless otherwise stated.

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

United Nations publication issued by ESCWA, United Nations House, Riad El Solh Square, P.O. Box: 11-8575, Beirut, Lebanon.

Website: www.unescwa.org.

Country Profile

EGYPT



©iStock-GarySandyWales

Summary



Egyptian law is built on an amalgamation of sharia law and the French Code and has a constitution.

Competition



- The **MAIN LEGISLATION GOVERNING COMPETITION** in Egypt is **Law No. 3 of 2005 on Competition and Banning Monopolistic Practices**, which was updated through the Prime Minister's **Decree No. 2957** in 2010;
- The legislation establishes the **EGYPTIAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY**, contains an exhaustive **list defining abusive practices**, and provides a detailed **description of anti-competitive acts** that are **prohibited**;
- However, **THE LAW** also **PROVIDES exemptions for public utilities and enterprises** managed by the state.

Foreign Direct Investment



- **EGYPT UPDATED ITS INVESTMENT LAW** with **Law No. 72 of 2017** and **Decree No. 2310 of 2017**. **Law No. 72 of 2017** simplifies **procedures** and **offers guarantees** and further **incentives for investors**;
- However, **NUMEROUS RESTRICTIONS ARE STILL IN PLACE**, such as particular **professions** that are **banned for foreigners** to work in, **restrictions** on acting as commercial agents, and **prohibition** on land acquisitions (particularly in the Sinai Peninsula).



Anti-Corruption



- Egypt does not have a singular streamlined anti-corruption legislation; rather, it utilizes a **WEB OF LAWS** to **tackle corruption**. These include **Law No. 97 of 2015** that amended and updated the **Illicit Gain Law of 1975**; **Law No. 80 of 2002** on Money Laundering; **Law No. 106 of 2013** on Prohibiting Conflict of Interest for Public Officials; **Law No. 182 of 2018** on Public Procurement; **Decree No. 2890 of 2010** on establishing the National Committee on Fighting Corruption; and provisions of its penal code that outlaw forms of bribery;
- Egypt also has **SEVERAL AGENCIES** concerned with **FIGHTING CORRUPTION**, including but not limited to the **Administrative Control Agency**; the **Public Prosecutor**; the **Accountability State Authority**; the **Department of Illicit Gain** within the Ministry of Justice; and the **Directorial General for Combating Financial Crimes** within the Ministry of Interior;
- Yet, there are **CONSIDERABLE CHALLENGES** related to implementation that arise from the **jurisdiction** and **duplications** of these various agencies and legislations.

Consumer Protection



- Egypt established an **EXPLICIT CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW** in 2018, with **Law No. 181**. The law notably provides **protection from unsafe products**, **mandates the provision of more information** to consumers and other forms of transparency, **explains provisions** related to e-commerce and real estate, and **establishes the roles and responsibilities of the Consumer Protection Authority**.

Main Headings

● Very Strong
● Strong
● Developed
● Moderate
● Basic
● Weak
● Very Weak

COMPETITION

● **DEVELOPED**

Anti-Trust and Competition Laws	● Developed
Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws	● Strong
Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements	● Strong
Competition Enforcement Practices	● Developed
International Trade Agreements	● Very Weak
Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors	● Moderate
Merger Regulatory Regime	● Strong
Labor Protection	● Weak



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **DEVELOPED**

Banking Regulations	● Developed
Macroeconomic Policies	● Very Strong
Investment Regulatory Framework	● Very Strong
Incentivisation Schemes	● Developed
Bi-lateral Treaties	● Weak



ANTI-CORRUPTION

● MODERATE



Anti-Corruption and Integrity in Public Sector	● Very Strong
Anti-Bribery and Whistle Blow Laws	● Developed
Budgeting and Public Expenditures	● Very Weak
Digital Government	● Moderate
Open Government and Transparency	● Very Weak
Public Procurement Standards	● Moderate

CONSUMER PROTECTION

● MODERATE



Physical Safety Regulations	● Developed
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● Strong
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● Very Strong
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● Very Weak

Sub-categories

● Very Strong
● Strong
● Developed
● Moderate
● Basic
● Weak
● Very Weak

COMPETITION

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Developed
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Developed
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



ANTI-CORRUPTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Strong
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Developed
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Basic
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Very Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong
Exemptions	● Very Strong
Accessibility/Transparency	● Weak

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Laws/Decrees (i.e. national legislations/regulations)	● Moderate
Definitions (i.e. legal definitions within legislation/treaties)	● Strong
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Strong
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Weak
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Basic
Exemptions	● Very Weak
Accessibility/Transparency	● Strong



