



COUNTRY PROFILE MAURITANIA

Arab Business Legislative Frameworks Mauritania Profile

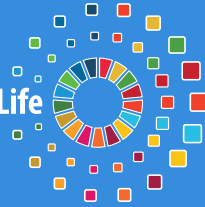


Shared Prosperity Dignified Life





Shared Prosperity **Dignified Life**



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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

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Country Profile

MAURITANIA



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Summary



The Islamic Republic of Mauritania gained independence from French rule in 1960. Since then, Mauritania has been experiencing sporadic military rule, the last of which was in 2008. The first peaceful transfer of power through elections occurred in 2019. Mauritania's legal system is composed of a combination of French civil law and sharia law.

Competition



- Mauritania is a **REGIONAL LEADER** among LDCs in terms of **competition legislative frameworks**, without having a formal competition law, but rather through its **Law No. 2000-05 of 2000 on commerce**, known as the **Commerce Code**;
- **MAURITANIA'S COMMERCE CODE**, which is particularly **comprehensive** in terms of outlining clear and **concise enforcement** mechanisms to enable and promote competitive behaviour, was updated with **Law No. 2015-032 of 2015**, which **prohibits abuse of dominant position, cartel behaviours** and other **anti-competitive practices**.

Foreign Direct Investment



- FDI was first covered by **MAURITANIA'S COMMERCE CODE**, but a specialized law on FDI was most recently **established in 2012**, with **Law No. 52 on Investment**;
- Within the legislation, there is **NO PROHIBITION OR LIMITING** of **foreign investment**, participation or **control** in any of the sectors of the **Mauritanian economy**.



Anti-Corruption



- Mauritania has most recently established **LAW NO. 14** of 2016 on **anti-corruption**;
- However, Mauritania's **ANTI-CORRUPTION LAW** has extremely **poor definitions of corruption**. The law defines corruption in a few **short paragraphs**, without providing details or nuance. While the law references terms such as "**illicit enrichment**," it does not clearly define them;
- Other legislation that tackles components of corruption include **LAW NO. 54 OF 2007** on **FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY** in the Public Sector, **Law No. 68-066** of 1968 on **Punishment by the State**, and **Law No. 32** of 2018 on **Court of Accounts**, among others.

Consumer Protection



- Mauritania **DOES NOT HAVE A FORMAL CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW**;
- There is a **DRAFT LAW UNDER DISCUSSION** in the **Mauritanian Parliament**, known as **Law No. 007-2020**;
- Until a formal consumer protection law is passed, the country relies on articles within its **COMMERCE CODE** (Law 2000-05) to deal with **consumer protection rights**. However, the Commerce Code **lacks definitions of consumer rights** and other details necessary to **control prices** and **protect consumers**.

Main Headings

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

COMPETITION

● **STRONG**

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





FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

● **BASIC**

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



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

CONSUMER PROTECTION		● N/A
Physical Safety Regulations	● N/A	
Protection of Consumers' Economic Interests	● N/A	
Measures Enabling Consumers to Obtain Redress	● N/A	
Promotion of Sustainable Consumption	● N/A	

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)	● Very Strong	
Institutions (i.e. bodies/authorities)	● Very Strong	
International Agreements (regional/international conventions, treaties, trade agreements)	● Strong	
Enforcement (i.e. positive or negative, such as incentives, subsidizes, sanctions, fines, prison sentences)	● Very Strong	
Exemptions	● Weak	
Accessibility/Transparency	● Very Strong	

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

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

ANTI-CORRUPTION



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

CONSUMER PROTECTION



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



