A World Bank Group Flagship Report

Doing Business 2017

Equal Opportunity for All





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- About Doing Business
- II. Findings of *Doing Business 2017*
- III. Doing Business in Eurasian Economic Union states



What does *Doing Business* measure?

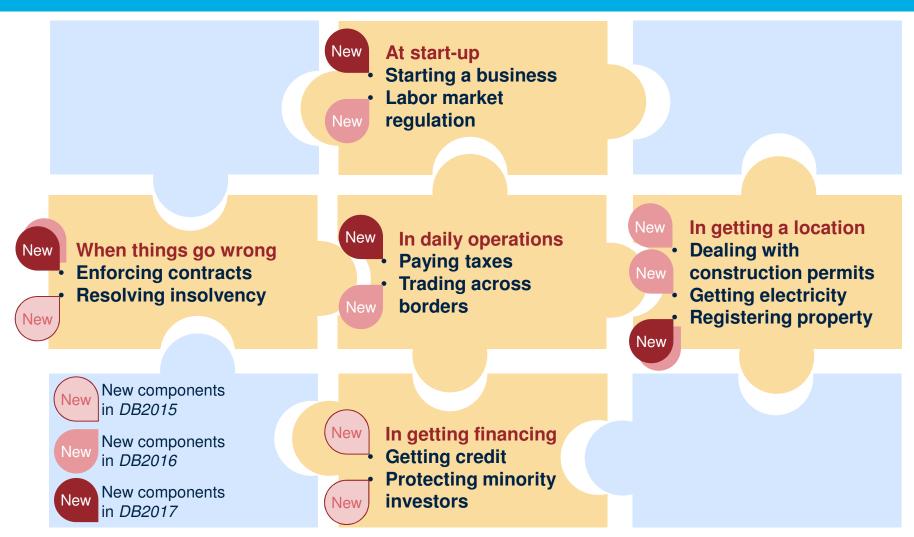


Doing Business indicators:

- Focus on regulations relevant to the life cycle of a small to medium-size domestic business.
- Build on standardized case scenarios.
- Measure the largest business city in each economy, and the second largest business city in countries with more than 100 million inhabitants as of 2013.
- Focus on the formal sector.



The 11 areas of business regulation measured by *Doing Business* affect firms throughout their life cycle





Methodology changes and new research in *Doing Business 2017*

Methodology Changes

- Correcting certain gender biases: assessing gender legal differences in the processes measured by *Doing Business*.
- Expanding the Paying Taxes indicators to cover postfiling processes: measuring the time
 and process associated with tax refunds, tax audits and tax appeals for domestic SME.
 (The data on tax appeals is not included in the ease of doing business ranking)

New Research

 New annex on selling to the government: measuring the process and regulations of the life cycle of a government procurement contract. (The new data is not included in the ease of doing business ranking)



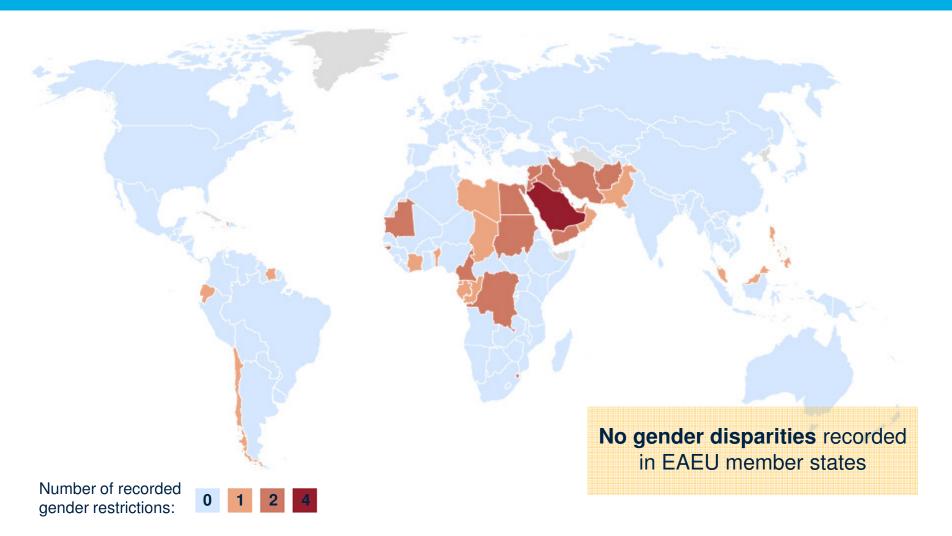
Incorporating gender legal differences in *Doing Business* indicators

Building on the information collected by *Women, Business and the Law, Doing Business* now includes:

- Starting a Business Is the process of starting a business different if the entrepreneur is a woman?
 - Approval from spouse required to own a business or leave the house.
 - Documents or permission required by only one gender for company registration and operation, opening a bank account or obtaining a national ID (since showing proof of ID is a normal requirement in business registration).
- Registering Property Can a woman own, use and transfer property the same way as a man?
 - Do <u>unmarried</u> men and women have equal ownership rights to property?
 - Do <u>married</u> men and women have equal ownership rights to property?
- Enforcing Contracts Does a woman's testimony carry the same evidentiary weight in court as man's?



Doing Business recorded 60 gender disparities in 38 economies





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Top 50 performers on the ease of doing business in 2015/16

Rank	Economy	DTF score		Rank	Economy	DTF sco	re
1	New Zealand	87.01		26	United Arab Emirates	76.89	1
2	Singapore	85.05	1	27	Czech Republic	76.71	1
3	Denmark	84.87	1	28	Netherlands	76.38	1
4	Hong Kong SAR, China	84.21	1	29	France	76.27	1
5	Korea, Rep.	84.07	1	30	Slovenia	76.14	↑
6	Norway	82.82	1	31	Switzerland	76.06	
7	United Kingdom	82.74		32	Spain	75.73	↑
8	United States	82.45		33	Slovak Republic	75.61	1
9	Sweden	82.13	1	34	Japan	75.53	1
10	Macedonia, FYR	81.74	1	35	Kazakhstan	75.09	1
11	Taiwan, China	81.09	1	36	Romania	74.26	1
12	Estonia	81.05	1	37	Belarus	74.13	1
13	Finland	80.84		38	Armenia	73.63	1
14	Latvia	80.61	1	39	Bulgaria	73.51	1
15	Australia	80.26	1	40	Russian Federation	73.19	
16	Georgia	80.20	1	41	Hungary	73.07	1
17	Germany	79.87		42	Belgium	73.00	
18	Ireland	79.53	1	43	Croatia	72.99	1
19	Austria	78.92	1	44	Moldova	72.75	1
20	Iceland	78.91	1	45	Cyprus	72.65	1
21	Lithuania	78.84	1	46	Thailand	72.53	1
22	Canada	78.57		47	Mexico	72.29	1
23	Malaysia	78.11		47	Serbia	72.29	1
24	Poland	77.81	↑	49	Mauritius	72.27	1
25	Portugal	77.40	↑	50	Italy	72.25	1

Source: Doing Business 2017.

Note: EAEU member states are highlighted.



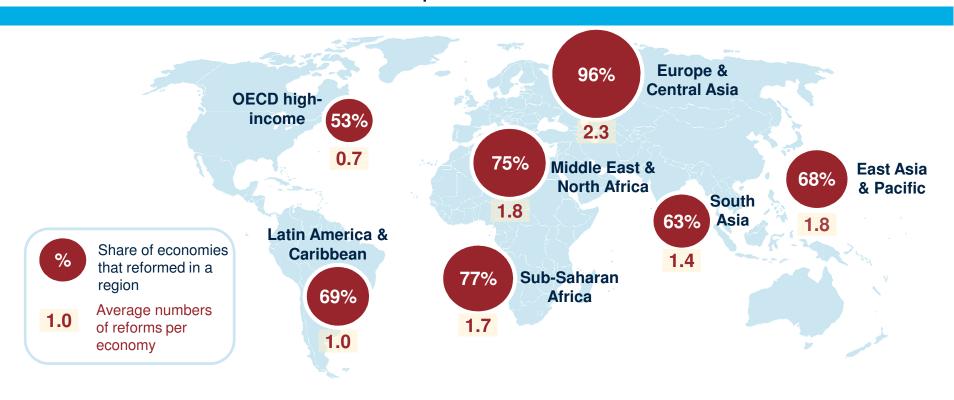
Examples of the frontier in different indicators

Starting a business					Registering property			
Indicator	Frontier	Who set frontier?	Worst performance	Indicator	Frontier	Who set frontier?	Worst performance	
Procedures (number)	1	New Zealand	20	Procedures (number)	1	Georgia; Norway; Portugal; Sweden	14	
Time (days)	0.5	New Zealand	230.0	Time (days)	1	Georgia; New Zealand; Portugal	513.0	
Cost (% of income per capita)	0.0	Slovenia	422.4	Quality of land administration index (0-30)	30	-	0	
	Enforcing c	ontracts			Resolving insolvency			
Indicator	Frontier	Who set frontier?	Worst performance	Indicator	Frontier	Who set frontier?	Worst performance	
Time (days)	120	Singapore	1715.0	Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	92.9	Norway	0.0	
Cost (% of claim)	0.1	Bhutan	163.2	Strength of insolvency framework index (0-16)	16		0	
Each indicator y is rescaled to: Wate: Best result on the Quality of land administration index was achieved by Singapore)	front	tance to ier score	

Note: Best result on the Quality of land administration index was achieved by Singapore with 29 points. Best result on the Strength of insolvency framework index was achieved by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Kazakhstan, FYR Macedonia, Puerto Rico (US) and the United <u>States</u> – with 15 points each.

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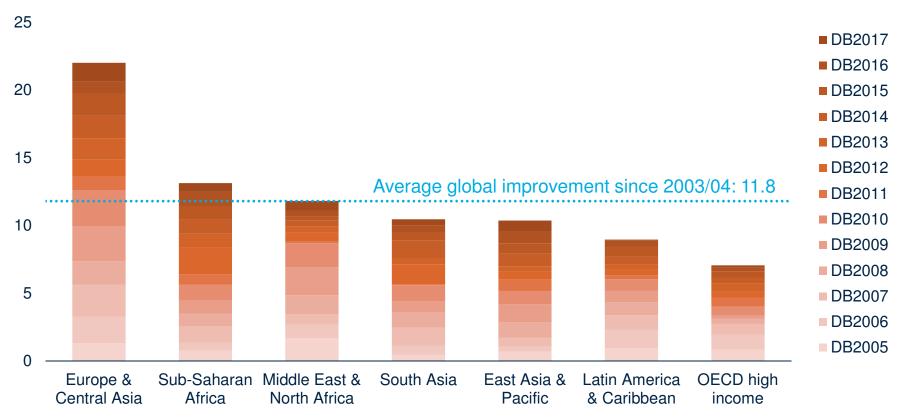
Worldwide, 137 economies implemented 283 reforms in 2015/16



- ✓ More than 75% of regulatory reforms in 2015/16 were implemented by developing countries.
- ✓ While in 2004/05 less than 40% of the economies in Sub-Saharan Africa implemented business regulatory reforms, in 2015/16 77% of the economies did so.
- ✓ *Doing Business* has recorded more than 2,900 regulatory reforms making it easier to do business since 2004.

Europe and Central Asia has made a bigger improvement in business regulation over time than any other region





Source: Doing Business database.

Note: The measure is normalized to range from 0 to 100, with 100 representing the frontier. Because of changes over the years in methodology and in the economies and indicators included, the improvements are measured year on year using pairs of consecutive years with comparable data.



Reforms making it easier to start a business show results over time in reduced delays

2005

It was possible to start a business in less than 20 days in only 41 economies*, mostly in North America and Northern and Central Europe.

In Europe and Central Asia, entrepreneurs in 4 out of 21 economies could incorporate a company in under 20 days.

2016

Now, the time to start a business is less than 20 days for entrepreneurs in 130 economies* worldwide.

In Europe and Central Asia, 23 out of 26 economies allow to start a business in less than 20 days.

✓ Development impact:

Countries that regulate entry more heavily have greater corruption and larger unofficial economies, but not better quality of public or private goods.

(Djankov, La Porta, Lopez de Silanes, Shleifer, February 2002, Quarterly Journal of Economics.)

* Based on samples of 174 economies in *Doing Business 2006* and 190 economies in *Doing Business 2017*.



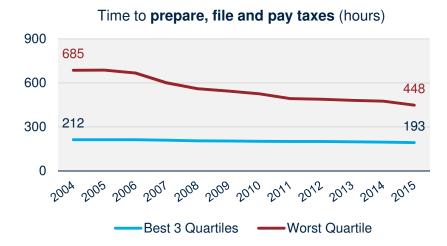


Source: Doing Business database.



Strong convergence across economies since *Doing Business 2006*









Source: Doing Business database.

Note: These numbers use a consistent sample of 174 economies as measured in *Doing Business 2007*, for which data are available starting from 2005.



Following *Doing Business* best practices would significantly decrease the time to start a business

- In the 85 economies covered by both Doing Business and the World Bank's Entrepreneurship Database, an estimated 2.7 million LLCs were newly registered in 2015 alone.
- Assuming that these 2.7 million firms followed the rules and regulations for company incorporation in their home economy as measured by *Doing Business 2016*, together they spent 32.9 million days to get incorporated.
- Because not all economies followed best practice, entrepreneurs spent an extra 31.6 million days satisfying bureaucratic requirements.

Companies that do not follow good practices spend 25 times more time to start a business on average than those that do.

Not following best practices: 32.9 million days



Potential time savings is almost 850 centuries

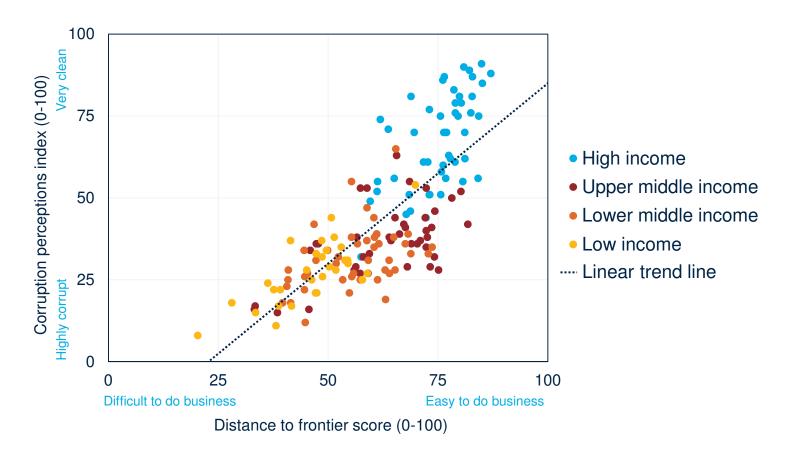
In this time, a person can walk 7,721 times around the Earth (following Jean Béliveau's path)

1.3 million days





Higher levels of regulatory efficiency and quality are associated with lower levels of corruption



Sources: Doing Business database, Corruption Perception Index 2015.

Note: The sample includes 165 economies covered by both Doing Business and the Corruption Perception Index. Both relationships are significant at the 1% level after controlling for income per capita.



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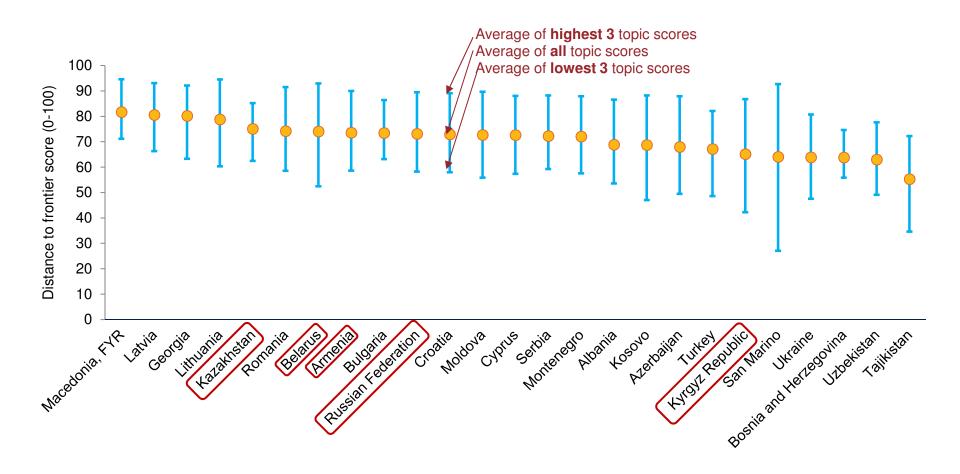
How do economies in the Eurasian Economic Union perform on the ease of doing business in 2015/16?

Rank	Economy	DTF score		Rank	Economy	DTF score	
10	Macedonia, FYR	81.74	↑	★ 47	Serbia	72.29	↑
14	Latvia	80.61	↑	51	Montenegro	72.08	↑
★ 16	Georgia	80.20	↑	58	Albania	68.90	↑
21	Lithuania	78.84	↑	60	Kosovo	68.79	↑
★ 35	Kazakhstan	75.09	1	65	Azerbaijan	67.99	1
36	Romania	74.26	↑	69	Turkey	67.19	
★ 37	Belarus	74.13	1	75	Kyrgyz Republic	65.17	1
38	Armenia	73.63	1	79	San Marino	64.11	1
39	Bulgaria	73.51	↑	80	Ukraine	63.90	1
40	Russian Federation	73.19		81	Bosnia and Herzegovina	63.87	↑
43	Croatia	72.99	↑	87	Uzbekistan	63.03	1
44	Moldova	72.75	↑	128	Tajikistan	55.34	↑
45	Cyprus	72.65	↑				

Source: Doing Business 2017.



Variability across areas of business regulation in Europe and Central Asia in 2015/16



Source: Doing Business database.

Note: The distance to frontier scores reflected are those for the 10 Doing Business topics included in this year's aggregate distance to frontier score.

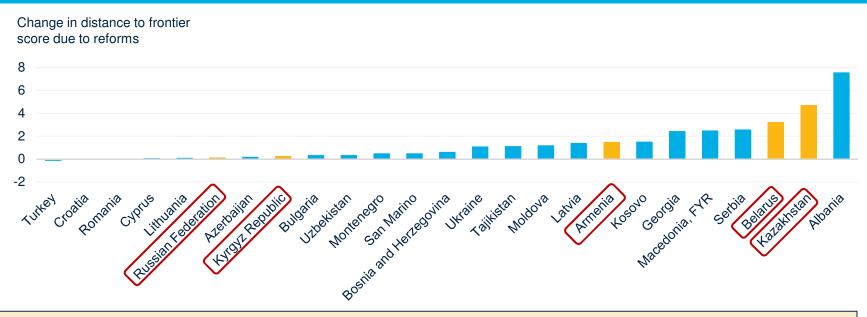


Who in Europe and Central Asia reformed in areas measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16?





EAEU economies improved their distance to frontier scores due to reforms in 2015/16



- ✓ Getting Electricity: Belarus streamlined the process of obtaining an electricity connection by establishing a one-stop shop at the utility that fulfills all connection-related services, including the design and construction of the distribution line.
- ✓ Getting Credit: Armenia strengthened access to credit by adopting a new law on secured transactions that establishes a modern and centralized collateral registry. Armenia improved its credit information system by adopting a new law on personal data protection.
- ✓ Protecting Minority Investors: Kazakhstan strengthened minority investor protections by increasing shareholder rights and role in major corporate decisions, clarifying ownership and control structures and requiring greater corporate transparency.



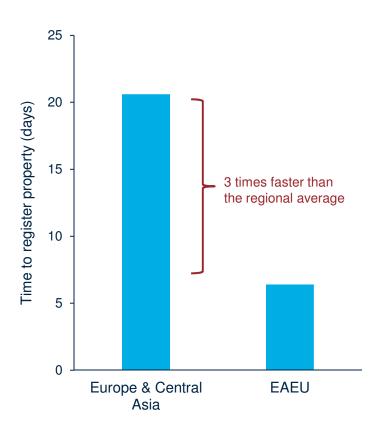
Strengths in EAEU's business regulations and opportunities to improve

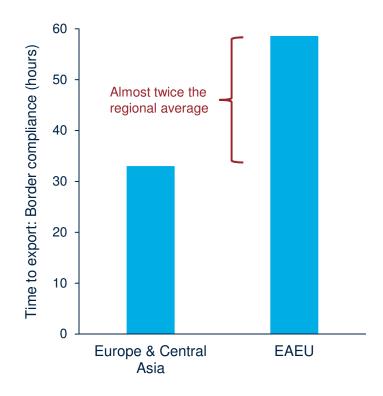


Registering property is faster in EAEU economies...



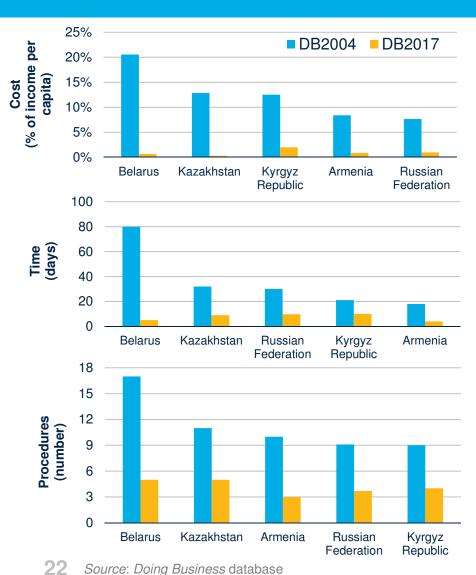
...but complying with border requirements is slower.







EAEU economies made 28 major reforms to the process of starting a business between 2005 and 2016



DB 2017:

 Kazakhstan abolished the requirement to notarize company documents and founders' signatures.

DB 2016:

- **Belarus** expanded the geographic coverage of online registration and improved online services.
- **Kazakhstan** eliminated registration fees, shortening registration times and eliminating the legal requirement to use a company seal.
- The Russian Federation reduced the number of days required to open a corporate bank account in Moscow.

DB 2015:

- Armenia streamlined post-registration procedures.
- The Russian Federation eliminated the requirements to deposit the charter capital before company registration and to notify tax authorities of opening of a bank account in both Moscow and St. Petersburg.

DB 2014:

• **Belarus** reduced registration fees and eliminated the requirement for an initial capital deposit.

DB2012:

 Armenia established a one-stop shop, combining name reservation, business registration and obtaining a tax identification number.

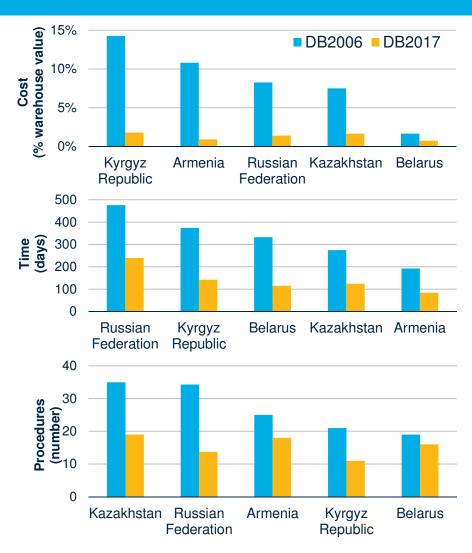
DB 2011:

 The Kyrgyz Republic eliminated the requirement to have the signatures of company founders notarized.

DB 2010:

The **Kyrgyz Republic** eliminated the paid-in minimum capital requirement, reduced the registration time and abolished certain post-registration fees. **WORLD BANK GROUP**

EAEU economies made 17 major reforms to the process of dealing with construction permits between 2007 and 2016



DB 2017:

- The Russian Federation removed the requirement to obtain permission to fence the construction site in Saint Petersburg.
- Kazakhstan introduced a single window.

DB 2016:

- Armenia exempted lower-risk projects from obtaining approval of architectural drawings by an independent expert.
- Kazakhstan eliminated the requirement to obtain a topographic survey of the land plot.

DB 2014:

 The Russian Federation eliminated several requirements for project approvals from government agencies.

DB 2012:

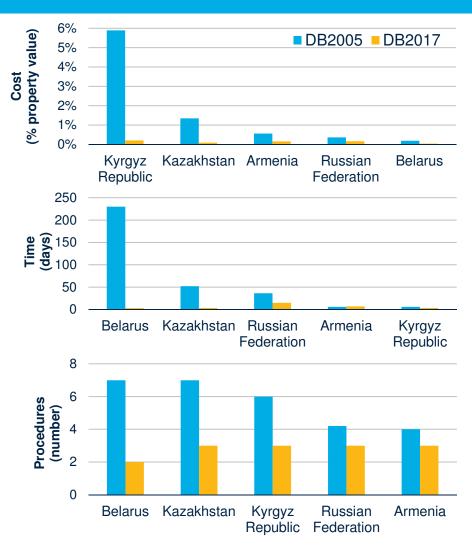
Armenia eliminated the requirement to obtain an environmental impact assessment for small projects.

DB 2010:

- Belarus simplified the environmental and project design approval processes.
- The **Kyrgyz Republic** introduced a risk-based system of approval and construction supervision, allowing low-risk projects to take responsibility for construction supervision.



EAEU economies made 22 major reforms to the process of registering property between 2006 and 2016



DB 2017:

• **Belarus** improved the transparency and reliability of the land administration system.

DB 2016:

- Belarus introduced a new expedited procedure.
- Kazakhstan eliminated the requirements to obtain a technical passport for the property transfer and to have the seller's and buyer's incorporation documents notarized.
- The Kyrgyz Republic introduced an online procedure for obtaining the nonencumbrance certificates.
- The Russian Federation reduced the time required for property registration in both Moscow and St. Petersburg.

DB 2014:

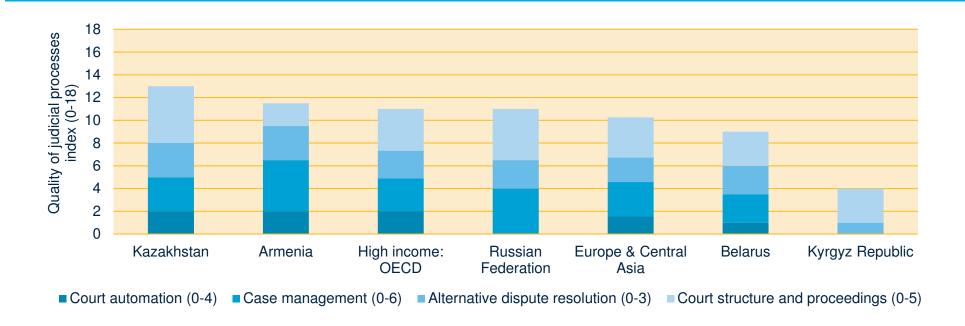
- Belarus and Kazakhstan both introduced a fast-track procedure for property registration.
- The Russian Federation streamlined procedures and implemented time limits for processing transfer applications.

DB 2012:

- Belarus eliminated the requirement to obtain the Minsk municipality's approval for transfers of most commercial buildings.
- The Russian Federation eliminated the requirement to obtain cadastral passports on land plots.



Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation rank in the top 30 economies on the ease of enforcing contracts

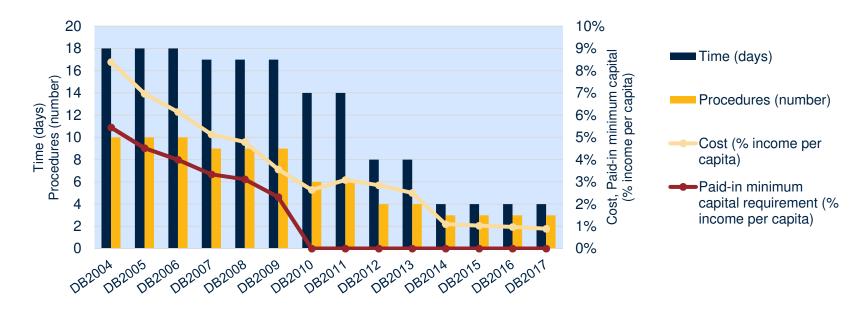


What makes enforcing contracts better in EAEU economies?

- ✓ Specialized commercial courts
- ✓ Small claims court / dedicated procedure
- ✓ Modern civil procedure rules
- ✓ Electronic filing



Armenia reduced the cost and time of starting a business between 2005 and 2016



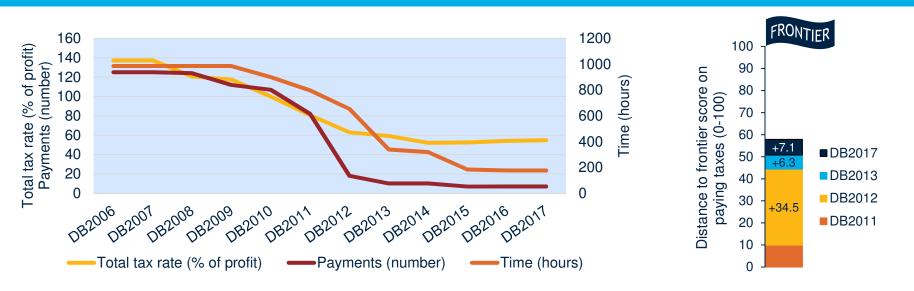
How did Armenia make the process of starting a business easier?

- ✓ DB2015: Armenia streamlined post-registration procedures.
- ✓ DB2014: Armenia eliminated the company registration fees.
- ✓ DB2012: Armenia established an online one-stop shop that merged the procedures for name reservation, business registration and obtaining a tax identification number.

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✓ DB2010: Armenia eliminated the paid-in minimum capital requirement and the requirement to obtain approval from the National Police Department to prepare the company seal.

Belarus reduced the time to pay taxes from 987 hours in 2005 to 176 hours in 2016



How did Belarus make the process of paying taxes easier?

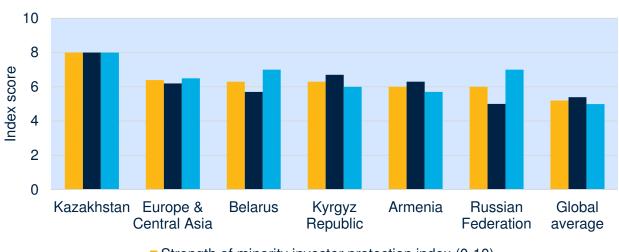
- ✓ DB2015: Belarus introduced an electronic system for filing and paying contributions for the obligatory insurance for work accidents—and simplified the filing requirements for corporate income tax and VAT.
- ✓ DB2013: Belarus made paying taxes less costly for companies by reducing the profit tax rate.
- ✓ **DB2012:** Belarus abolished several taxes, including turnover and sales taxes, and simplified compliance with corporate income, value added and other taxes by reducing the frequency of filings and payments and facilitating electronic filing and payment.
- ✓ DB2011: Reductions in the turnover tax, social security contributions and the base for property taxes along with continued efforts to encourage electronic filing made it easier and less costly for companies in Belarus to pay taxes.



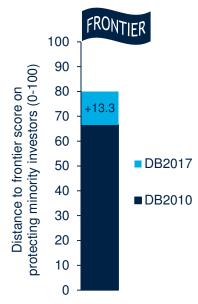
Kazakhstan ranks 3rd overall on the ease of protecting minority investors in *Doing Business 2017*

How did Kazakhstan strengthen minority investor protection?

- ✓ DB2017: Kazakhstan introduced shareholder rights and role into major corporate decisions and clarified ownership and control structures.
- ✓ DB2016: Kazakhstan passed new provisions requiring both immediate disclosure of related-party transactions and detailed disclosure in annual financial statements as well as requiring disclosure of board members' other directorships and primary employment.
- ✓ DB2012: Kazakhstan regulated the approval of transactions between interested parties and made it easier to sue directors in cases of prejudicial transactions between interested parties.
- ✓ DB2011: Kazakhstan strengthened investor protections by requiring greater corporate disclosure in company annual reports.



- Strength of minority investor protection index (0-10)
- Extent of conflict of interest regulation index (0-10)
- Ease of shareholder governance index (0-10)

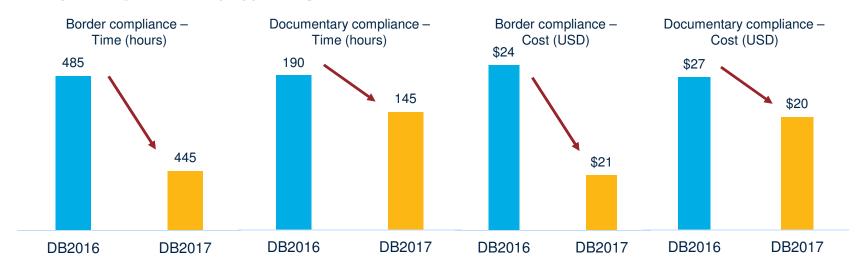




The Kyrgyz Republic streamlined the process of trading across borders by joining the Eurasian Economic Union

- ✓ The Kyrgyz Republic joined the Eurasian Economic Union on August 6, 2015.
- ✓ After accession, the Kyrgyz Republic adopted uniform custom tariffs, regulations and documentary requirements with other EAEU member states.
- ✓ As the Russian Federation is Kyrgyz Republic's largest export partner, the time and cost of document preparation, customs clearance and inspections have all decreased.
- ✓ Previously mandatory documents, such as the export customs declaration, are no longer in use.

Exporting in the Kyrgyz Republic





The Russian Federation reduced the cost of getting electricity between 2010 and 2016



How did the Russian Federation make the process of getting electricity easier?

- ✓ DB2016: The Russian Federation eliminated a meter inspection by electricity providers and revised connection tariffs in both Moscow and St. Petersburg.
- ✓ DB2014: The Russian Federation set standard connection tariffs and eliminated many procedures previously required.
- ✓ DB2012: The Russian Federation made getting electricity less costly by revising the tariffs for connection.



THANK YOU!

Questions



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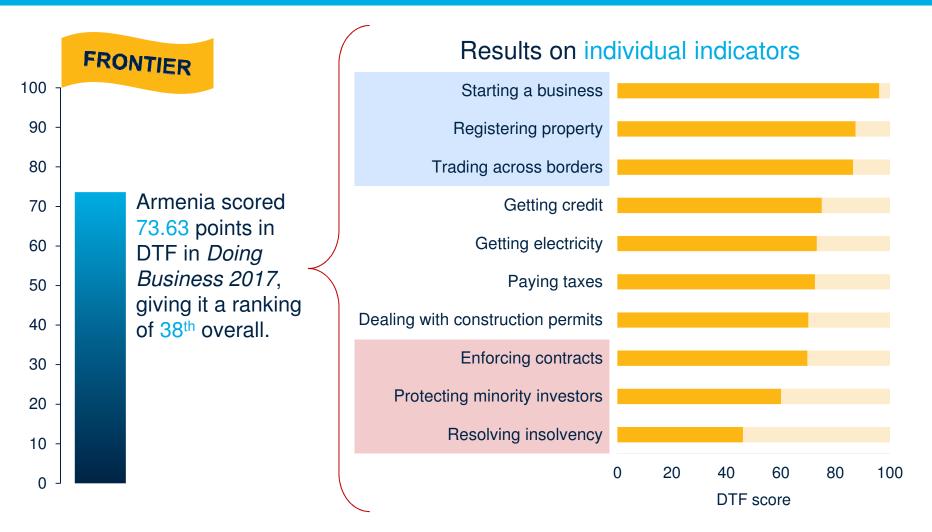
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Annex 1.

Example of performance of specific EAEU states



Doing Business in Armenia – score

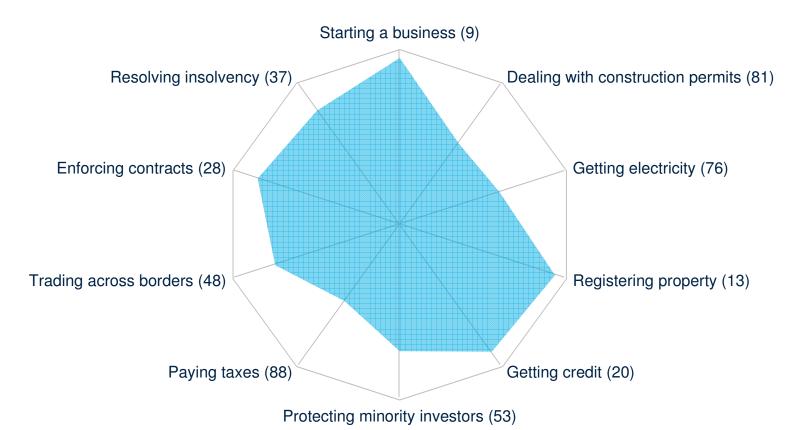




Doing Business in Armenia - ranking

Rankings on *Doing Business* topics – Armenia

(Scale: Rank 190 center, Rank 1 outer edge)

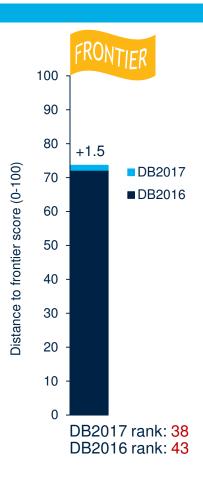




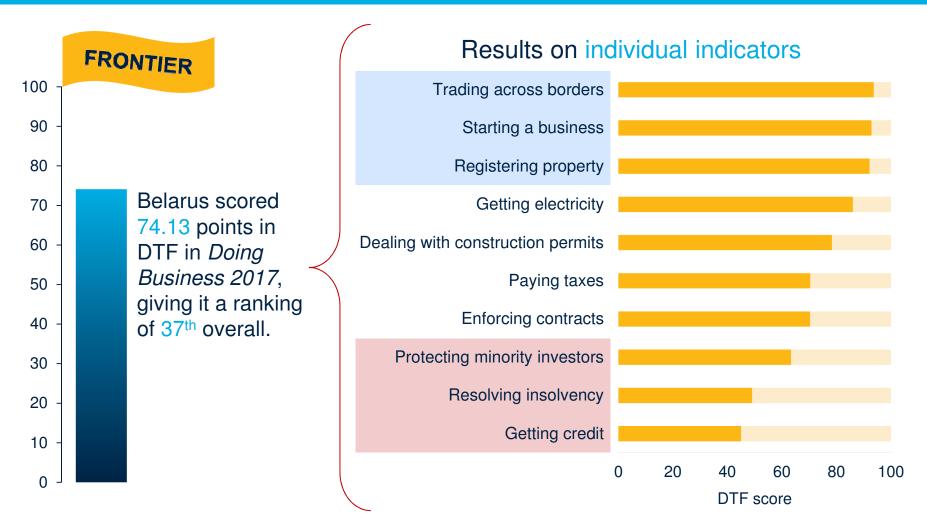
Armenia reformed 4 areas measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16



- ✓ Getting Credit: Armenia strengthened access to credit by adopting a new law on secured transactions that establishes a modern and centralized collateral registry. Armenia improved its credit information system by adopting a new law on personal data protection.
- ✓ Enforcing Contracts: Armenia made enforcing contracts easier by introducing a consolidated chapter regulating voluntary mediation and by establishing financial incentives for the parties to attempt mediation.



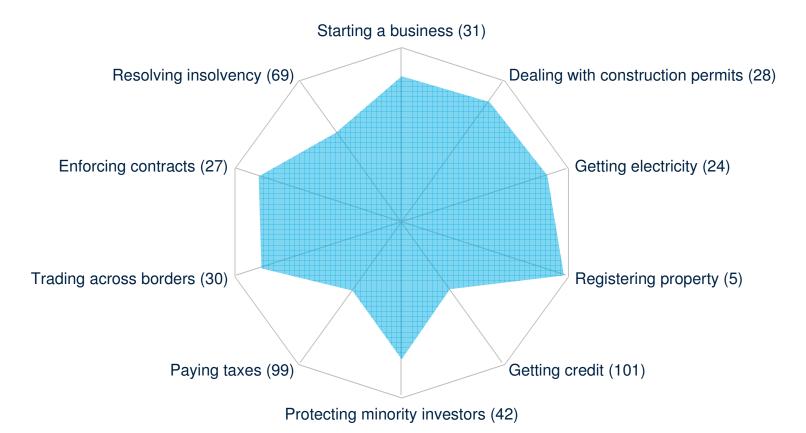
Doing Business in Belarus - score





Doing Business in Belarus - ranking

Rankings on *Doing Business* topics – Belarus

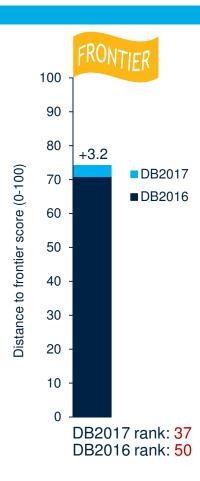




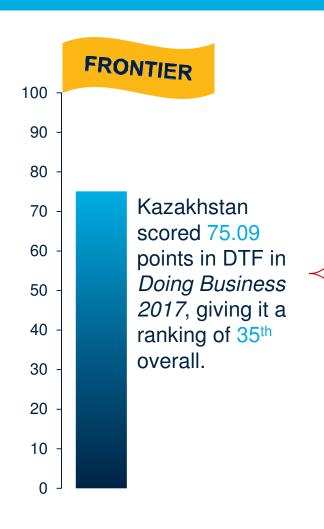
Belarus reformed 4 areas measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16

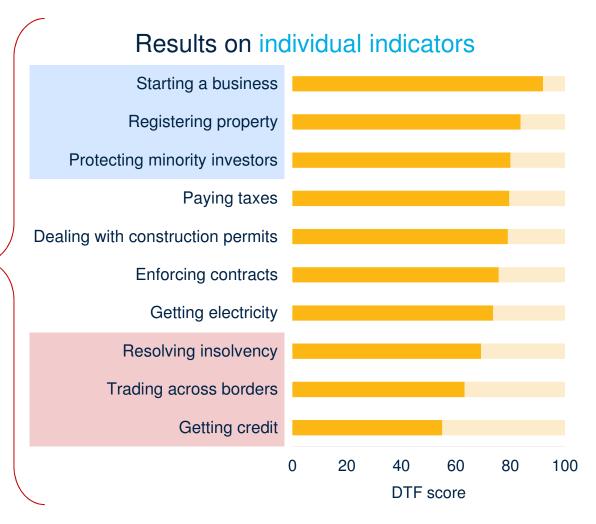


- ✓ Getting Electricity: Belarus streamlined the process of obtaining an electricity connection by establishing a one-stop shop at the utility that fulfills all connection-related services, including the design and construction of the distribution line.
- ✓ Registering Property: Belarus made it easier to transfer a property by improving the transparency and reliability of the land administration system.
- ✓ Getting Credit: In Belarus the credit bureau started to provide credit scores, strengthening the credit reporting system.
- ✓ Protecting Minority Investors: Belarus strengthened minority investor protections by introducing remedies in cases where related-party transactions are harmful to the company and requiring greater corporate transparency.



Doing Business in Kazakhstan - score

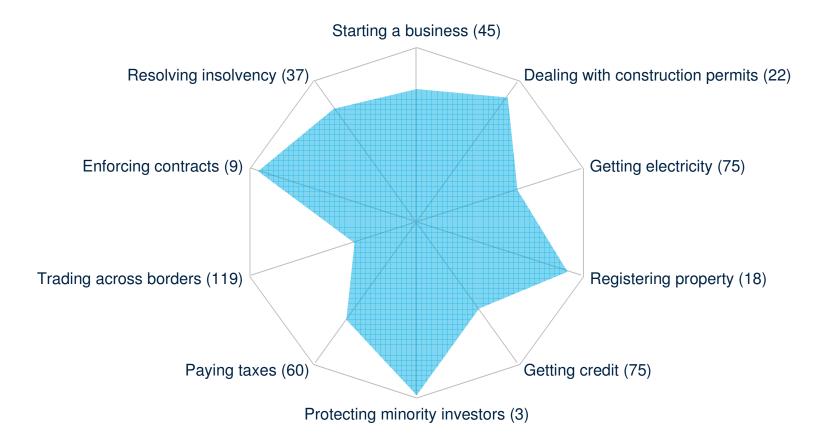






Doing Business in Kazakhstan - ranking

Rankings on *Doing Business* topics – Kazakhstan



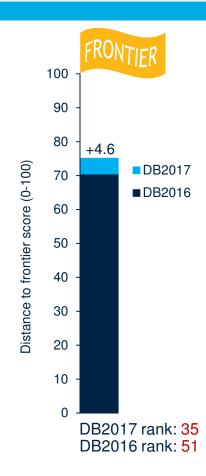


Kazakhstan reformed 7 areas measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16



What did Kazakhstan do to improve its business environment in 2015/16?

- ✓ Starting a business: Abolished the requirement to notarize company documents and founders' signatures.
- ✓ Dealing with construction permits: Introduced a single window and streamlined procedures.
- ✓ Getting electricity: Eliminated the need for an official excavation permit and an inspection by the State Energy Supervision Committee; reduced the time needed to fulfill utility technical requirements and to sign supply contracts; and established the normative levels for the annual system average interruption duration index (SAIDI) and system average interruption frequency index (SAIFI).
- ✓ Protecting minority investors: Introduced greater requirements for immediate disclosure of related-party transactions to the public; increased shareholder rights and role in major corporate decisions; clarified ownership and control structures; and required greater corporate transparency.
- ✓ Trading across borders: Removed two export documents required for customs clearance.



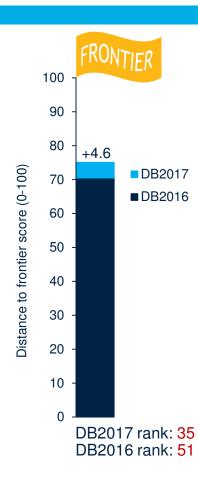


Kazakhstan reformed 7 areas measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16 (continued)

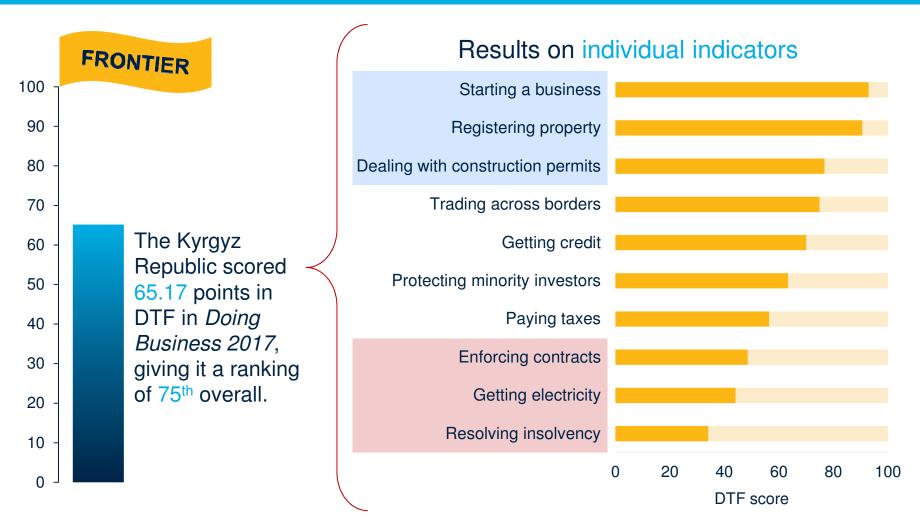


What did Kazakhstan do to improve its business environment in 2015/16?

- ✓ Enforcing contracts: Adopted a new code of civil procedure and regulated the maximum number of adjournments that can be granted by a judge in a given case.
- ✓ Resolving insolvency: Changed voting procedures for reorganization plans and provided protections to creditors who vote against such plans. Additionally, creditors were granted greater access to information about the debtor during insolvency proceedings and allowed to challenge decisions affecting their rights.



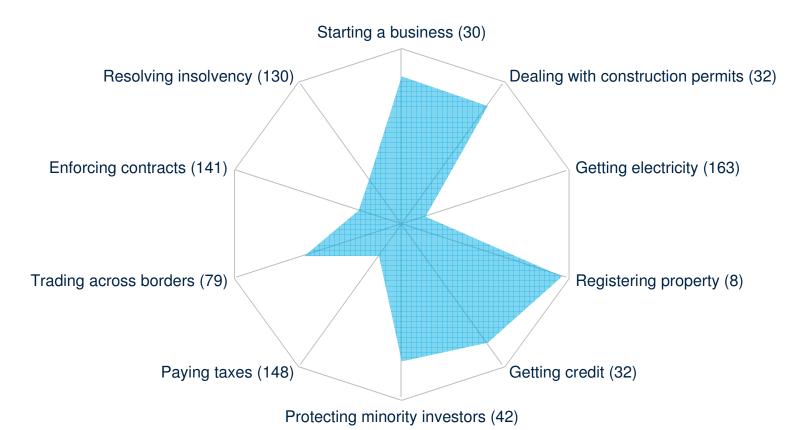
Doing Business in Kyrgyz Republic - score





Doing Business in Kyrgyz Republic - ranking

Rankings on *Doing Business* topics – Kyrgyz Republic



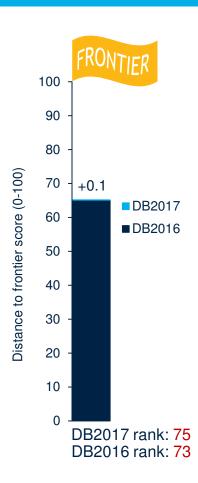


The Kyrgyz Republic improved business environment in 2015/16 as measured by *Doing Business*

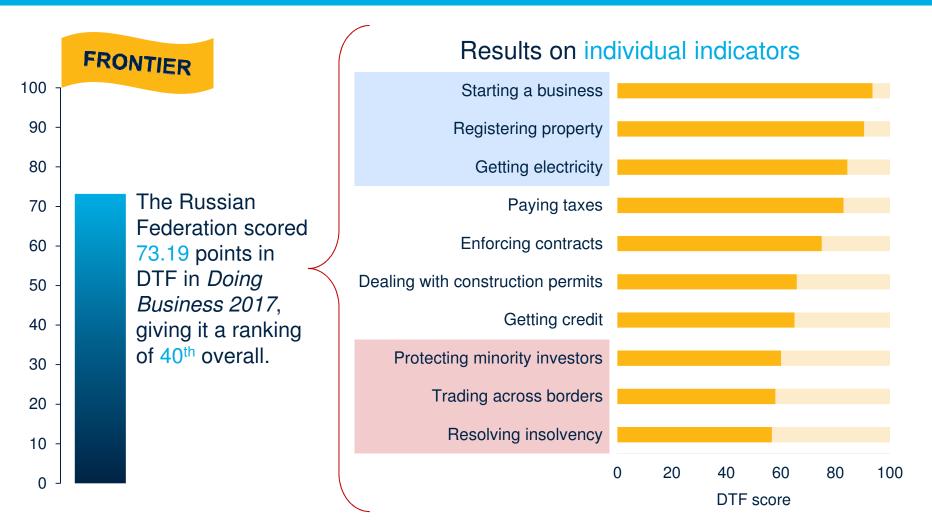


What did the Kyrgyz Republic do to improve its business environment in 2015/16?

- ✓ Trading across borders: Decreased the time and cost needed for exporting by becoming a member of the Eurasian Economic Union.
 - On August 6, 2015, the Kyrgyz Republic joined the Eurasian Economic Union, which consists of Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Armenia.
 - As a result of the accession, the Kyrgyz Republic adopted uniform custom tariffs, regulations and documentary requirements with the member states.
 - Since the Russian Federation is Kyrgyz Republic's largest export partner, time and cost of document preparation, customs clearance and inspection have decreased.
 - The number of documents required to export has also decreased as previously mandatory documents, such as export customs declaration, are no longer in use.



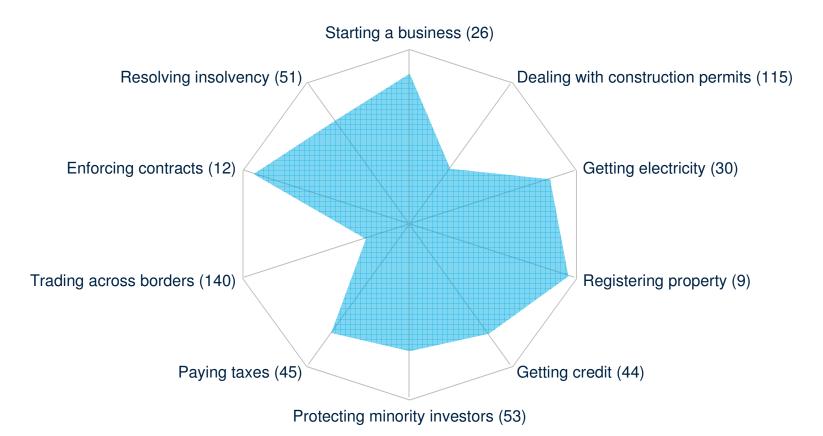
Doing Business in the Russian Federation – score





Doing Business in the Russian Federation - ranking

Rankings on *Doing Business* topics – Russian Federation



The Russian Federation reformed in 1 area measured by *Doing Business* in 2015/16



What did the Russian Federation do to improve its business environment in 2015/16?

✓ Dealing with Construction Permits: Russian Federation Saint Petersburg made dealing with construction permits easier by removing the requirement to obtain permission to fence the construction site.