



## Country Information on the Web

### Background Notes

Provides the full-text of the U.S. State Department publication on geographic entities and international organizations. Contains much more information than is found in almanacs. Covers history, government, political conditions, economy, foreign relations, and basic travel information. Principal U.S. officials and consulate officers are also given. Updated periodically.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/>

### BBC News World Edition: Country Profiles

Each profile gives news, history, politics, event timelines, and economic background of world countries as well as country overviews, basic facts, Web links, and details on leaders and media. News stories and audio and video clips from the BBC archives are also included.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm)

### (CIA) The World Factbook

Basic reference work published annually by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) covering the countries of the world. Includes maps and Flags of the World.

<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

### Countries of the World

From Information Please. Gives basic information on all the countries of the world. Each country profile includes: a map; flag; official name; current ruler; land area; population; capital; largest cities; monetary unit; languages; ethnicity/race; religions; literacy rate; economy; government; and history.

<http://www.infoplease.com/countries.html>

### Country at a Glance

Pick United Nation Member States and view their statistics - one at a time.

<http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp>

### Country Commercial Guides

Annual comprehensive overview of countries' commercial environments, using economic, political, and market analysis. Topics such as marketing, trade regulations, investment climate, and business travel are covered. Good resource for those interested in the economy ozone of these countries. Free registration required.

[http://www.buyusainfo.net/adsearch.cfm?search\\_type=int&loadnav=no](http://www.buyusainfo.net/adsearch.cfm?search_type=int&loadnav=no)

### **Country Profiles**

"Tips on social and business customs in 26 major countries..." Part of *CollegeJournal* from the *Wall Street Journal*.

<http://www.collegejournal.com/countryprofiles/>

### **Country Studies**

A searchable, web version of a series of books published by the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress under the Country Studies/Area Handbook Program. This series contains in depth studies of more than 100 countries.

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html>

### **Cultural Profiles Project**

Designed as a guide to aid in cultural awareness of new immigrants to Canada, the Cultural Profiles Project is a good source of information for learning "what life is like" in countries around the world. The profiles include an overview of life and customs in the country, and contain sections on work, food, holidays, family life, spirituality, communication, education, sports and recreation, landscape and climate, history, health care, and arts and literature. Photographs are also included.

<http://cp.settlement.org/english/>

### **Economist.com: Country Briefings**

Provides news stories, fact sheets, and links to government and other relevant Web sites for about 60 countries. Some content is available by paid subscription only.

<http://www.economist.com/countries/>

### **Education for All (EFA)**

Focusing on education in nearly 200 countries, each report covers funding; issues and goals; statistics on enrollment; literacy; educational levels of teachers; academic and vocational education; evaluation of early childhood, primary, and secondary instruction; and more. Some reports are in Spanish or French.

<http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/>

### **Federation of International Trade Associations**

FITA offers links to resources for most countries in the world as well as more than 80 country profiles developed by Export Enterprises, of Paris, France. Good information on the economic situation in each country profiled

<http://fita.org/countries/index.html>

### **Historical Country Names**

Lists the country's former name and then gives the current name. Links are provided for country profiles. Part of the Nations Online Project.

[http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/hist\\_country\\_names.htm](http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/hist_country_names.htm)

### **Human Development Reports**

These reports from the United Nations Development Programme contain data on various development indicators. The reports rank every country annually in areas such as per capita income, literacy, life expectancy and respect for women's rights.

<http://hdr.undp.org/statistics/indexes.cfm>

### **Incore Country Guides.**

These Guides provide information about Internet resources on conflict and ethnicity specific to particular countries and regions. Each guide lists sources which have unique, relevant and preferably substantive content relating to ethnicity and/or conflict in the country/region concerned.

<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/cds/countries/>

### **Index of Economic Freedom**

A practical reference guide to the world's economies. It includes country-by-country analyses and the most up-to-date data available on foreign investment codes, taxes, tariffs, banking regulations, monetary policy, black markets, and more. This special online version is searchable.

<http://www.heritage.org/research/features/index/countries.cfm>

### **InfoNation**

This database allows you to compare statistical data for several UN Member States at once.

<http://www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/info.asp>

### **NationMaster**

A vast compilation of data from such sources as the CIA World Factbook, UN, and OECD. Contains profiles of individual countries and allows comparison of countries and relationships between variables. A one-stop resource for country information.

<http://www.nationmaster.com>

### **Nations Online Project**

Presents a wide range of information on the countries of the world. Links are given to statistics, maps, international codes, current news, and much more.

<http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/countries.html>

### **Portals to the World**

Country resources selected by Library of Congress subject specialists.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/portals.html>