****

**Country Information**

The following resources are starting points in the search for country information, from an international business perspective. Some of the resources are freely available on the web. Others are Leddy Library subscriptions and so, if you are off-campus, you will have to sign on with your University of Windsor ID and email password. If you do not find what you are looking for, please contact: [Katharine Ball](mailto:kball@uwindsor.ca) at (519) 253-3000 ext. 3852

**Start with the Leddy Library Databases**

[**Economist Intelligence Unit**](http://www.eiu.com.ledproxy2.uwindsor.ca/landing/corporate_landing_University_of_Windsor)

<http://www.eiu.com.ledproxy2.uwindsor.ca/landing/corporate_landing_University_of_Windsor>

Reputable, up-to-date information in a number of different databases, with overlapping coverage.

Perhaps, start with the **Country Reports**: indepth analysis and forecasts for an individual country’s economy and political situation. Use the tabs at the top of the page. From here, you get links to other EIU databases, such as **Country Commerce**: a guide to the specific operating conditions, commercial laws and business regulations in 55 countries.

[**Business Source Complete**](http://led.uwindsor.ca/business-source-complete)

<http://led.uwindsor.ca/business-source-complete>

Broad international business coverage; includes journal and trade magazine articles, country, industry, and company profiles, as well as a wide range of other business and economic information.

**Country Reports** (right-hand side). There are reports from a variety of organizations. For example:

Marketline: Country Profile: indepth PESTLE insights

Business Monitor: Country Risk Report

IHS Global: Country Monitor/Country Report: country risk analysis

CountryWatch: Country review: broad analysis, including social and environmental factors

PRS Group: Country Report: political risk

[**Global Market Information Database**](http://led.uwindsor.ca/gmid)**/Passport**

<http://led.uwindsor.ca/gmid>

See under the Economies and Consumers tabs at the top.

The following reports are available: Business Dynamics, Consumer Lifestyles, Country Profile, Demographic, Digital Consumer, Economy, Finance, and Trade, Households, Income and Expenditures, National Resources.

You can also retrieve the reports by typing the country name and the report name in the search box, e.g. Germany Business Dynamics

[**OECD iLibrary**](http://led.uwindsor.ca/oecd)

http://led.uwindsor.ca/oecd  
Covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics to trade, education, development, science, and innovation. Browse by country or use the advanced search option.

**Supplement with Free Country Information from the Web**

Focus your search by considering who might be producing the information you are looking for. The **national government** of your country is an obvious place to start. Some governments also produce reports on other countries. **Inter-governmental organizations** are another excellent resource for international business information. Their statistics tend to be a little more dated than those you might get directly from a particular country's statistical or trade office. However, the numbers are usually more comparable among countries. **Accounting firms, consultants, universities, and libraries** can also be good sources of free information, reports, and guides. Below are just a few examples.

[**Country and Regional Profiles** (UNESCO)](https://en.unesco.org/countries)

<https://en.unesco.org/countries>

Key indicators for education, literacy, science, technology and innovation, and culture (film and cinema).

[**Country Commercial Guides** (U.S. Department of Commerce)](https://www.export.gov/ccg)

<https://www.export.gov/ccg>

Select your country and limit to report type: Country Commercial Guides; covers the political and economic climate, trade regulations, financing, etc.

[**Country Risk Assessments**](http://www.coface.com/Economic-Studies-and-Country-Risks) (Coface)

<http://www.coface.com/Economic-Studies-and-Country-Risks>

Assessments of country risk and business climate give an indication of a country’s potential influence on businesses’ financial commitments. Choose a country from the drop-down menus to view profiles that include macroeconomic indicators, a list of strengths and weaknesses and country commentary.

[**Doing Business** (HLB International)](http://www.hlbi.com/dbi)

<http://www.hlbi.com/dbi>

Covers the investment and business climate, in particular taxation issues.

[Doing Business: Measuring Business Regulations (World Bank)](http://www.doingbusiness.org)

<http://www.doingbusiness.org>  
Select an economy. For each country, gives information on starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency. For some countries, sub-national snapshots are available.

[**Enterprise Surveys**](http://www.enterprisesurveys.org/) (World Bank)

<http://www.enterprisesurveys.org>  
Select an economy. For each country, has information on regulations and tax, corruption, crime, informality, gender, finance, infrastructure, innovation and technology, trade, the workforce, firm characteristics, and performance. See also the Country Profile.

[**Guides to Doing Business** (Lex Mundi)](https://www.lexmundi.com/GuidestoDoingBusiness)

<https://www.lexmundi.com/GuidestoDoingBusiness>

Legal and regulatory aspects of doing business in 100+ countries.

[**Taxation and Investment Guides and Country Highlights**](https://dits.deloitte.com/#TaxGuides) (Deloitte)

<https://dits.deloitte.com/#TaxGuides>  
Information on the investment climate, business regulations, foreign investment, the choice of business entity, corporate and individual taxation, and employment law. Select your country from the pull-down menus under each title.

[**World Factbook**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook) (CIA)

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>

Information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for 267 world entities.

[**Worldwide Tax Summaries Online**](http://taxsummaries.pwc.com/uk/taxsummaries/wwts.nsf/ID/PPAA-85RDKF) (PWC)

<http://taxsummaries.pwc.com/uk/taxsummaries/wwts.nsf/ID/PPAA-85RDKF>

Corporate and individual taxes in over 150 countries.

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Here are some country specific databases and reports that focus on intercultural communication. For further information on this topic, see the guide:**

[**Intercultural Communication in International Business**](http://leddy.uwindsor.ca/intercultural-communication)

<http://leddy.uwindsor.ca/intercultural-communication>

**[Countries and Their Cultures](http://www.everyculture.com/)**

http://www.everyculture.com

Covers many topics, e.g. History and Ethnic Relations, Food and Economy, Social Stratification, Gender Roles and Statuses, Marriage, Family and Kinship, Socialization, Etiquette, etc.

**[Country Insights](http://www.international.gc.ca/cil-cai/country_insights-apercus_pays/countryinsights-apercuspays.aspx?lang=eng" \t "_blank)**[(Canada. Global Affairs Canada)](http://www.international.gc.ca/cil-cai/country_insights-apercus_pays/countryinsights-apercuspays.aspx?lang=eng" \t "_blank)

<http://www.international.gc.ca/cil-cai/country_insights-apercus_pays/countryinsights-apercuspays.aspx?lang=eng>

Focuses on cultural information, e.g. communication styles, preferred managerial qualities, hierarchy and decision making, relationship building, conflicts in the workplace, motivating local colleagues

**[Country Guides And Profiles](http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/guides)**  [(Kwintessential)](http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/guides)

<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/guides>

General culture and customs; also business etiquette and protocol

**[Culture Crossing Guide](http://guide.culturecrossing.net/index.php)**

http://guide.culturecrossing.net/index.php

Information: on the Basics, for Business, and for Students

**[CultureGrams](http://search.proquest.com/publication/2026824?accountid=14789&OpenUrlRefId=info:xri/sid:primo)** [(ProQuest)](http://search.proquest.com/publication/2026824?accountid=14789&OpenUrlRefId=info:xri/sid:primo)

<http://search.proquest.com/publication/2026824?accountid=14789&OpenUrlRefId=info:xri/sid:primo>

Covers: Background, People, Customs and Courtesies, Lifestyle, and Society; off-campus, you will need to sign on with your UWindsor ID and email password.

[**Negotiating International Business** (Leadership Crossroads)](http://www.leadershipcrossroads.com/resources/books/negotiating_international_business/cs_dld.asp)

<http://www.leadershipcrossroads.com/resources/books/negotiating_international_business/cs_dld.asp>

Addresses the following topics: Introduction, Relationships and Respect, Communication, Initial Contact and Meetings, Negotiation, Agreements and Contracts, Women in Business, Other Important Things to Know

**[World Values Survey](http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSOnline.jsp)** [(WVSA)](http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSOnline.jsp)

http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSOnline.jsp

Detailed analysis of country and culture over time

Updated May 2018