



# FINLAND



## General information

**Type of government:** unitary parliamentary democracy (centralized power)

**Current leader:** Sauli Niinistö (2018 – 2024), of a liberal-conservative obedience

**Number of inhabitants:** 5,56 million inhabitants

**Secular or religious state?** secular state

**Main religions:** 68% Christians, 30% non-religious

**Main political beliefs and values:** political neutrality and independence, political and individual freedom, women’s rights, importance of labour agreements

**Economic situation:** good – open and transparent economy, minimal corruption, dynamic trade and investment, low Gini coefficient (inequalities)

## International position

**Influence on a world scale:** average – member of the UE and NATO

**Major strengths:** very good foreign relations, favourable business climate, strong institutions, high standard of living

**Major weaknesses:** highly vulnerable to international economic conditions (exportations), direct neighbour of Russia, dependence of Finnish banking on Swedish and Danish financial sectors

**Main allies:** Sweden and other Scandinavian countries (Norway, Denmark), all Western European countries

**Main enemies:** no enemies due to political neutrality, unsure relations with Russia.

**Major conflicts and tensions it is/has been involved in:** several conflicts with Russia (from which it gained independence in 1917), participation in the wars in Afghanistan against the Taliban, and in Iraq against the Islamists

## Internal situation

|                                     | GOOD | FLAWED | BAD |
|-------------------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| Press rights                        | X    |        |     |
| Access to and quality of education  | X    |        |     |
| Access to and quality of healthcare | X    |        |     |



|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Women's rights                                | X |  |  |
| Minorities' rights                            | X |  |  |
| Civil/ Justice rights                         | X |  |  |
| Ecology                                       | X |  |  |
| Technological situation                       | X |  |  |
| Happiness of the population/Life satisfaction | X |  |  |

## Sources & useful links

### Overview of Finland:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finland>

[https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/country-profiles/finland\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/country-profiles/finland_en)

<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/finland/>

### Politics, History and media in Finland:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17288360>

### Economy of Finland:

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

<https://www.heritage.org/index/country/finland>

### Finnish foreign relations:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign\\_relations\\_of\\_Finland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_relations_of_Finland)

## Signature

Zoe Z., 1ère Internationale 2023-2024