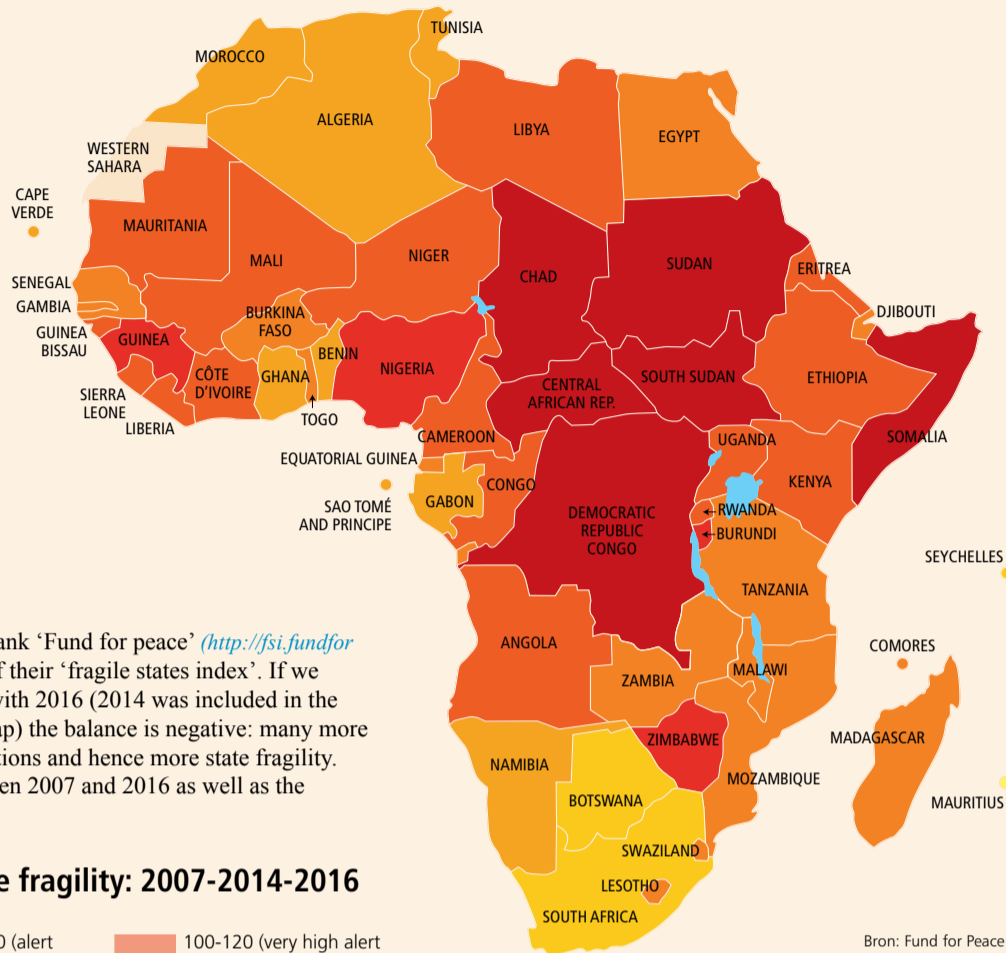
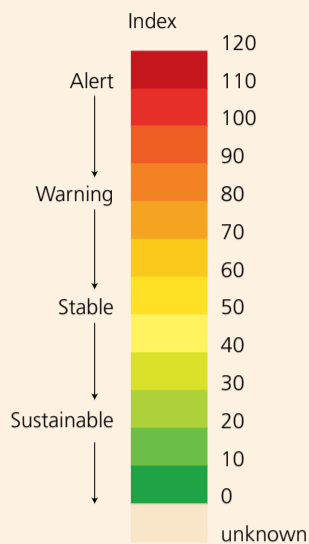


In November 2014, the African Studies Centre in Leiden published a thematic map about Africa's 'no-go areas'. The map was in Dutch, to contribute to a debate among Dutch universities (and particularly universities for Applied Sciences), where university leaders had formulated policies to prevent their students and staff from going to Africa. It was the era of Ebola, and of growing anxiety about the risks of being kidnapped by terrorist organizations and warlords. Between November 2014 and March 2017, universities in the Netherlands formulated policies and protocols that prevent their students from visiting 'red and orange areas', and staff from visiting 'red areas', although exceptions are possible. This thematic map shows what has changed in Africa between late 2014 and early 2017. We note the following improvements: Senegal Casamance, most of Burkina Faso, Lubumbashi in DRC, and some cities in Algeria: from orange to yellow; the Ebola countries Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea from red to mostly yellow, Tanzania-Rwanda border yellow now, Southern Sinai from red to orange and Sharm-el-Sheikh even to yellow. And we note the following deteriorations: Morocco's border with Algeria from green to yellow, most of Tunisia, parts of Eritrea and Ethiopia, Gabon, southeast Congo (including Brazzaville), Kinshasa in DRC, Cabinda in Angola and parts of Mozambique and northern Benin: from yellow to orange, Libya-Egypt border, Somali areas in Kenya, Niger border with Nigeria, Niger delta and Southeast Nigeria from orange to red, South Sudan is now completely red and Burundi has gone from yellow to red. Although some areas have become safer, clearly between 2014 and 2017 the no-go areas in Africa have increased, and more people (and visitors) are coping with deteriorating safety risks.



Since 2007, the Washington-based think tank 'Fund for peace' (<http://fsi.fundforpeace.org>) has published annual updates of their 'fragile states index'. If we compare 2007 with 2016, and also 2014 with 2016 (2014 was included in the November 2015 No-Go-Area thematic map) the balance is negative: many countries are showing deteriorating conditions and hence more state fragility. The table below shows the changes between 2007 and 2016 as well as the changes between 2014 and 2016.

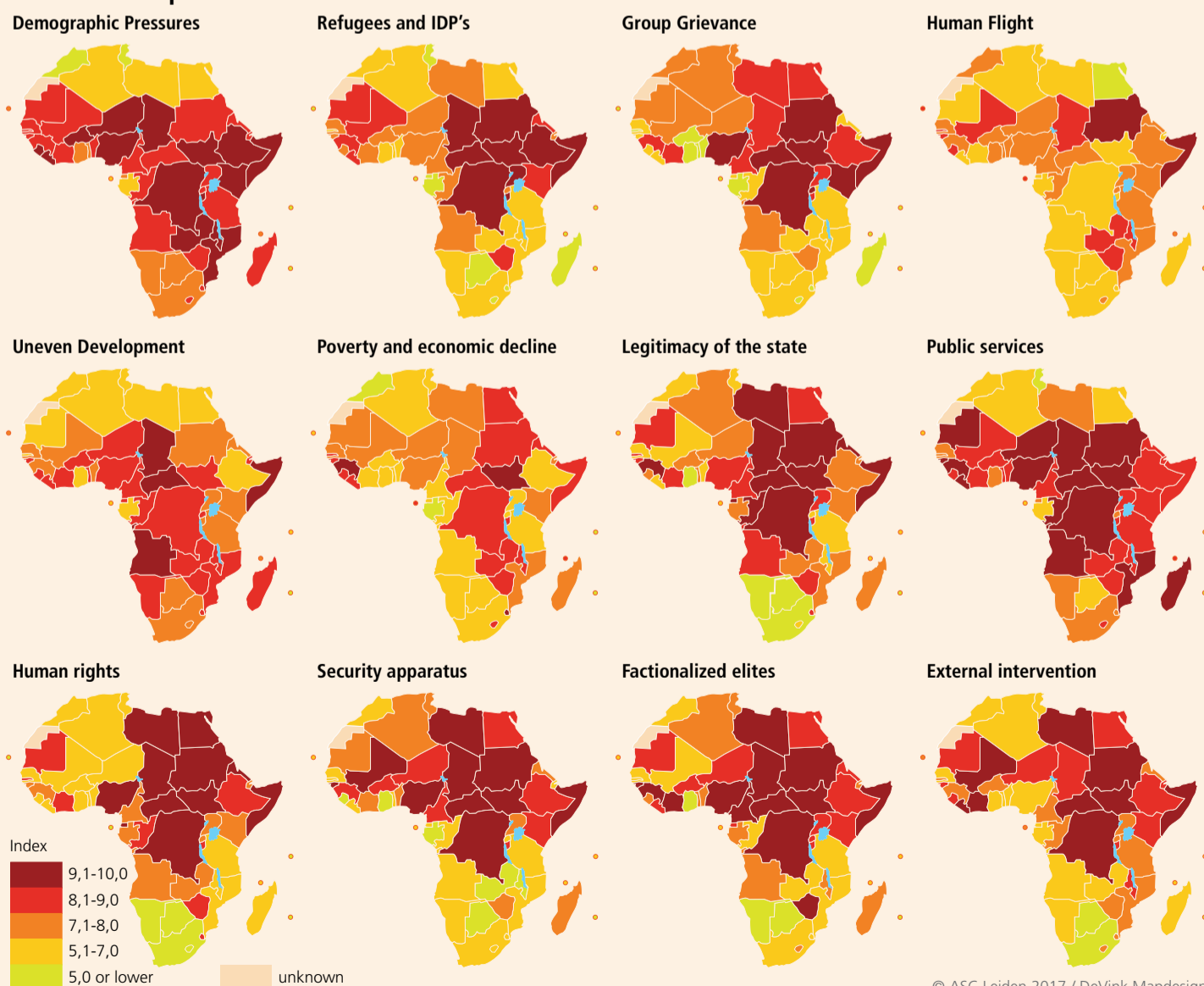
Fund for Peace scores for state fragility: 2007-2014-2016

score in 2016

<80 (elevated warning, warning and better) 80-100 (alert and high warning) 100-120 (very high alert and alert)

	Improved score 2007-2016	Population 2017	Deteriorated score 2007-2016	Population 2017
Improved score 2014-2016	Botswana, Seychelles, Namibia, Cape Verde, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Morocco	44	Mauritius, Tunisia, Algeria	53
	Equatorial Guinea, Togo, Malawi, Côte d'Ivoire	51	Comores, Senegal, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Guinea Bissao	266
	Zimbabwe	16	DR Congo	82
		111 mln		401 mln
Deteriorated score 2014-2016		0	South Africa, Ghana, Benin	95
	Lesotho, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Congo	33	Tanzania, Madagascar, Zambia, Gambia, Swaziland, Mozambique, Djibouti, Angola, Rwanda, Mali, Niger, Mauritania, Liberia, Libya, Uganda, Cameroon, Eritrea	301
	Sudan	42	Burundi, Nigeria, Guinea, Chad, CAR, South Sudan, Somalia	261
		75 mln		657 mln

The twelve separate indicators of risk



The African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL)

The African Studies Centre Leiden, founded in 1947, is the only knowledge institute in the Netherlands devoted entirely to the study of Africa. It undertakes research and is involved in teaching about Africa and aims to promote a better understanding of African societies. The Centre is part of Leiden University and participates in the LeidenGlobal network. The ASCL's work is not only of importance to researchers but also to policymakers, journalists, NGOs, businesses and other organizations.

Research The ASCL's research programme lasts for a period of five years. Projects are multidisciplinary, empirical in nature and are carried out in cooperation with African colleagues and institutions by the Centre's researchers and PhD and Research Masters students.

Education The ASCL organizes a one-year and a two-year Masters in African Studies in cooperation with Leiden University's Faculty of Humanities. The two-year (Research) Masters prepares for a research career.

Library The ASCL's Library, Documentation and Information Department has the most extensive and specialized collection on Africa in the Netherlands in the fields of the social sciences (including law and economics) and the humanities. The library, which is open to the general public, has more than 90,000 books, 1700 documentaries and feature films from and about Africa, and subscribes to nearly 750 (e-)periodicals. Digital Open Access publications form an important part of the library. African Studies Abstracts Online offers some 10,000 abstracts and journal articles, and web dossiers provide background information on specific topical events and themes.

www.ascleiden.nl/content/library

Publications ASCL researchers publish in many different journals and with well-known publishing houses. The Centre also has several publication series of its own: Africa Yearbook, Afrika-Studiecentrum Series, African Dynamics, African Studies Collection, Langaa Series, ASC Infosheets and ASC thematic maps.

Seminars Regular seminars are held at the ASCL on Thursday afternoons on a wide range of topics. These are given by prominent local and international Africanists and are open to the general public.

Visiting Fellows Between six and nine African academics are invited to Leiden every year on three-month fellowships to promote an effective academic dialogue between Africa and the North. These scholars use their stay in Leiden for data analysis and writing, and present a seminar.

Africa Thesis Award A prize is awarded annually for the best Masters thesis on Africa by a student at a university in the Netherlands or in Africa. The winning thesis is published in the African Studies Collection series.

ASCL Community The ASCL Community includes (honorary) fellows, affiliates, artists and associates of the Centre, and people with a professional interest in Africa who are working in business, policymaking, NGOs and in media circles. We would like to welcome you as a partner in the ASCL Community!

www.ascleiden.nl/content/ascl-community

LeidenASA The Leiden African Studies Assembly, founded in December 2015, is a network of Leiden based Africanists aiming to set up a general Leiden University Africa policy.

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