

A country analysis grid

*Dr Alexander Ressos, TEP
Attorney-at-Law (Switzerland), Solicitor (Hong Kong),
Solicitor (England & Wales)*

The principles are applied country by country, with the help of an analysis grid that structures the examination. It combines governance indicators, financial indicators, compliance indicators and indicators specific to the institution's own activity.

Dimension	Indicators	Sources
Governance and stability	political stability, changes of government, judicial independence, press freedom	international indices, Geneva missions, local press
Financial situation	debt, rating, reserves, exchange controls, arrears	IMF, World Bank, rating agencies
Compliance	FATF evaluation, sanctions, perceived corruption, judicial cooperation	FATF, SECO, OFAC, Transparency International
Sector concerned	governance of state-owned companies, transparency of contracts, membership of the EITI	EITI, NRGI, sector reports
Exposure of the institution	volume, concentration, intermediaries, politically exposed persons	internal data
Warning signs	changes of regime, investigations, defaults, withdrawal of correspondent banks	monitoring, networks, Geneva organisations

A country analysis grid

Without producing any automatic decision, the grid organises judgement. A country with poor scores on several dimensions is not necessarily excluded: it may justify a limited exposure, enhanced conditions and close monitoring. A country with good scores is not without risk, since changes of regime strike stable states too. The grid must be reviewed every year and at every significant event. Its conclusions must be documented in accordance with Principle 6.

For general information only. This article does not constitute legal or tax advice, does not replace advice on an individual case and creates no lawyer-client relationship. It reflects the legal position as of September 2026.

Online version: helveticaregister.com/geneva-a-country-analysis-grid