

WE'VE ALREADY SEEN HOW RECESSION AFFECTS BUSINESSES. BUT HOW WILL IT AFFECT POLITICAL STABILITY?

BACKGROUND

The world's economy has been experiencing one of the worst recessions for 70 years. This economic downturn has had a major impact on businesses and organisations. But what of its effect on political and social systems? Will a rise in unemployment lead to increased political unrest? Are threats such as piracy, kidnap and expropriation likely to be heightened by economic uncertainty?

These threats are evolving with the global financial crisis. And this, potentially, will expose businesses worldwide to a new set of risks. Produced in co-operation with Control Risks, an independent specialist risk consultancy, the report explores how businesses can plan for and mitigate the global risks caused by the recession.

WHAT'S DISCUSSED?

We tackle the risks under three main headings:

1) Expropriation

The socially-motivated confiscation of private property is becoming increasingly common in developing countries. For businesses, this poses (understandably) several challenges. We explore the factors that make some projects and some countries particularly exposed to this kind of threat. We also explore what can be done to lessen the risk.

2) Civil unrest

Civil unrest – wherever it occurs in the world – can have a disruptive and destructive affect on businesses. As we've already seen in this country, unrest in this recession can also be sharply focussed on certain types of business, such as the financial sector. We discuss how unrest can be predicted, and how business can prepare for it.

3) Piracy and kidnap

Piracy risk is likely to get worse before it gets better. Even over the past year, we've seen an increase in reports of hijacking, kidnap and marine piracy. Here, we explore important questions about this trend. For example, what effect will more robust rules of engagement have on the frequency and severity of piracy and kidnap attacks? And will the recession fuel the emergence of new piracy hotspots?

Overall, the report will give you a chance to read beyond the news stories, and explore the relationship between crime and financial instability.

Click [here](#) to view the full report: *Global Recession: The Magnifying Glass for Political Instability*.

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