

# Food safety in the EU and in Slovakia

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# Why is European food safety policy needed?

- ▶ Protecting the health of humans, animals and plants
- ▶ Three general objectives:
  - ▶ safe and nutritious food and animal feed
  - ▶ high level of animal health, welfare and plant protection
  - ▶ providing transparent information
- ▶ European-wide laws exist to reach these objectives



▶ Main challenges:

- ▶ preventing diseases from entering the EU
- ▶ preventing the spread of diseases from animals to humans
- ▶ maintaining common rules
- ▶ protecting animal welfare
- ▶ providing clear, unambiguous information on food
- ▶ contributing to global food security



# Basic principles

- ▶ defined in the EU's General Food Law, adopted in 2002
- ▶ safe free trading of food across all EU countries
- ▶ ensuring the same level of consumer protection in all Member States
- ▶ securing animal feed, food production, processing, storage, transport, import and export



# What does the policy consist of?

- ▶ **Precaution and scientific advice**
- ▶ **Controls**
- ▶ **Additives and flavourings**
- ▶ **Safe limits for food contact materials**
- ▶ **Limiting feed additives, plant and veterinary product residues**



- ▶ Improving food hygiene
- ▶ Reducing food contamination
- ▶ Promoting better nutrition
- ▶ Supporting food innovation
- ▶ Clear labelling





- ▶ **Food for specific groups**
- ▶ **Accurate health claims**
- ▶ **Promoting high quality and traditional foods**
- ▶ **Promoting animal health and reducing animal disease**
- ▶ **Preventing the spread of disease from animals to humans**

- ▶ Ensuring a high level of animal welfare
- ▶ An efficient tracking system for live animals and food and feed of animal origin
- ▶ Making it easier to travel with pets
- ▶ Promoting international welfare standards
- ▶ Stopping pests from spreading







- ▶ **Protecting plant reproductive material**
- ▶ **A strict system for authorising and marketing genetically modified organism**
- ▶ **Ensuring the safe use of pesticides**
- ▶ **Effective rapid alert systems**
- ▶ **Meeting standards: regular checks within the EU**

- ▶ Official controls at EU borders
- ▶ Better training for safer food
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Worldwide cooperation
- ▶ Global food security, development and humanitarian aid



# Food security in Slovakia

- ▶ The Global Food Security Index
- ▶ its idea is to examine food security
- ▶ issues of affordability, availability, and quality
  - ▶ 113 countries
  - ▶ 28 unique indicators

## THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY INDEX

Learn more at  
[foodsecurityindex.eiu.com](http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com)



Developed by

**Economist Intelligence Unit**

The  
Economist



34 / 113 index countries

Slovakia / 26 countries in Europe



# 34 Slovakia

**70 score** Figures are from annual baseline model (September 2017).

Explore the impact of GFSI's new natural resources & resilience category

**FREE**  
Download the index  
September 2017 Model  
(Excel file 4mb)

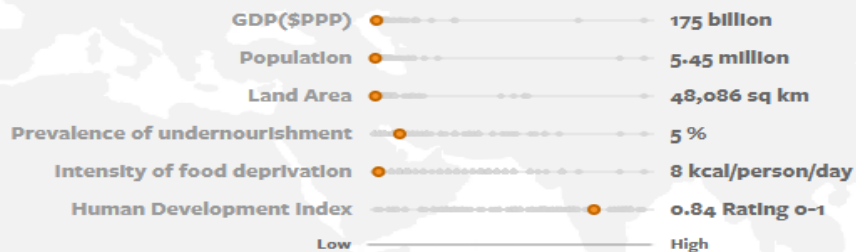
score / 100 **Strengths (11)**

- 100 Food safety
  - 100 Presence of food safety net programmes
  - 100 Nutritional standards
- [View all strengths](#)

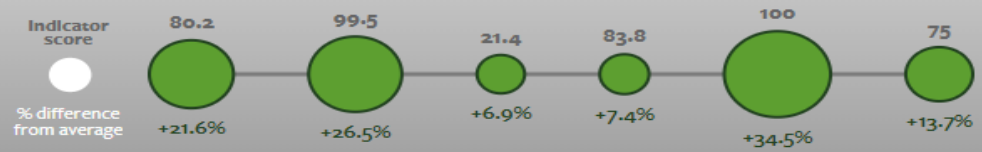
**Challenges (1)**

- 21.4 Gross domestic product per capita (US\$ PPP)

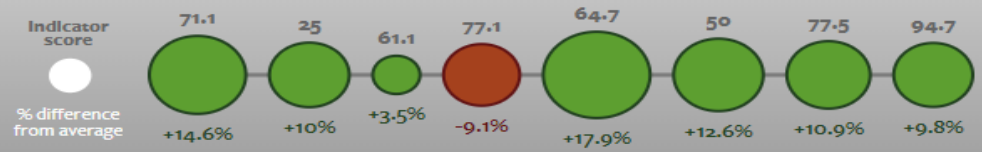
Slovakia vs. all Index countries



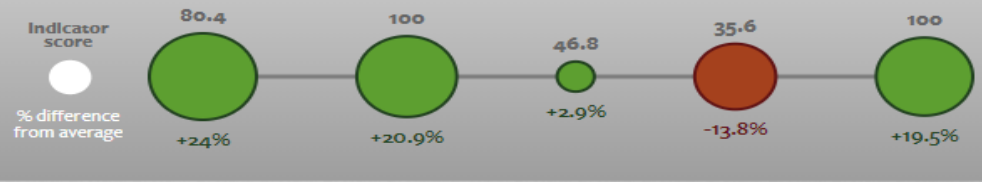
**¥\$€** **32** category rank  
**AFFORDABILITY**  
73.6 category score



**🍳** **34** category rank  
**AVAILABILITY**  
67.8 category score



**🍏** **43** category rank  
**QUALITY AND SAFETY**  
67.2 category score



- ▶ significant quality differences in the same products sold in Slovakia and Austria
  - ▶ for several years there has been speculation
  - ▶ same trademark and same packaging
  - ▶ different ingredients
- ▶ East-West divide



# Examples

- ▶ Coca-Cola
  - ▶ significant differences in taste
  - ▶ Sweet in Austria (sugar), mildly sweet in Slovakia (syrup)
- ▶ “iglo” fish fingers
  - ▶ 8,8% more fish meat in Austria
- ▶ Tea bags
  - ▶ Slovakia - paper sachets
  - ▶ Austria - aluminium sachets
- ▶ Emmental cheese
  - ▶ In Slovakia, it lacks taste, structure and colour

The Coca-Cola logo is displayed in its classic red script font with a white outline.The iglo logo features the word "iglo" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a red and yellow gradient background that resembles a teardrop or a flame.

Thank you for your  
attention!