Six-Year Winning Streak for World's Happiest Country



By Marnie Hunter, CNN, 20th March 2023 (adapted)

For the sixth year in a row, Finland is the world's happiest country, according to the World Happiness Report.

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The report, based on evaluations from the Gallup World Poll, ranks countries based on various factors, including healthy life expectancy, GDP per capita, social

support, low corruption, community generosity, and individual freedom.

The Nordic countries, such as Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, and Norway, all score very well on these measures.

But since we can't all move to Finland, is there something other societies can learn from these rankings?

It's not just unique to their climate and history, but rather their holistic approach to well-being, looking after each other, and preserving basic human rights.

Israel moves up to No. 4 this year from its No. 9 ranking last year. The Netherlands (No. 5), Switzerland (No. 8), Luxembourg (No. 9) and New Zealand (No. 10) round out the top 10.

Australia (No. 12), Canada (No. 13), Ireland (No. 14), the United States (No. 15) and the United Kingdom (No. 19) all made it into the top 20.

Notably, Lithuania enters the top 20 for the first time, after climbing steadily over the past six years. Other Baltic countries like Estonia (No. 31) and Latvia (No. 41) have also climbed in the rankings.

Countries in those regions have probably normalized that post-1990 transition and are feeling more solid in their new identities.