

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PROPERTY RIGHTS ALLIANCE

Property Rights Alliance (PRA), in collaboration with our international partners, is proud to present the fifth edition of the International Property Rights Index (IPRI).

With regard to private property rights, PRA has and continues to subscribe to the notion that the protection of both physical and intellectual property is equally important in nature. Individual freedom, economic expansion and job creation depend on securing property rights. Patents, trademarks and copyrights provide inventors and great thinkers with the ability to be rightly rewarded for their innovations. Likewise, land rights provide empowerment through ownership, allowing citizens to utilize and prosper from their investment. Economic growth only occurs when property, in all forms, is respected and protected.

As property rights continue to face challenges around the world, we hope this study will be a useful tool for policymakers, think tanks, academics, and investors by highlighting the importance of property rights as a key building block for economic growth.

We would like to thank all of the partners and other contributors for all of the hard work that they put into the development of the 2011 IPRI. Additionally, I would like to thank the author of this year's index, Kyle Jackson, for his time and dedication to the success of this project.

We would also like to give a special thank you to Hernando de Soto whose commitment to furthering the cause for property rights has inspired PRA's Hernando de Soto Fellowship program. His vision has helped make the 2011 IPRI possible.

Best regards,



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Executive Director of the Property Rights Alliance  
Washington, DC