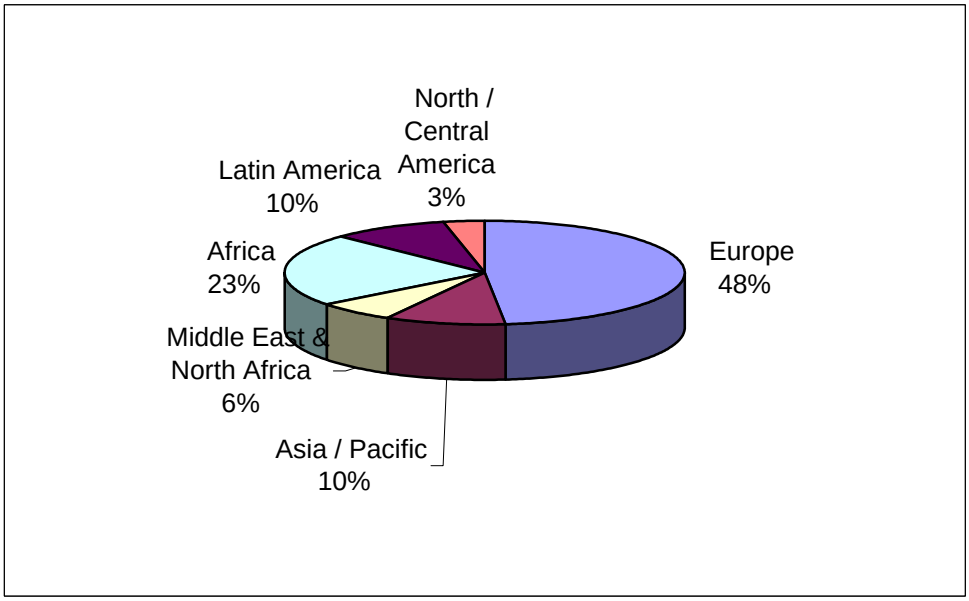
Terrorism risk map

Key messages and risk rating changes at 30 March

Rating change summary

Country risk rating changes (2005 vs 2004)	36
Downgrades (i..e the risk is judged as ***higher***)	31
Upgrades (i.e. the risk is judged as ***lower***)	5



Key messages

- Significant downgrades: Germany, Australia, Netherlands, Belgium, South Korea, Denmark, Portugal, Poland, Nigeria.
- The Netherlands downgrade reflects the growing tensions between the extreme elements of the Dutch Muslim population and the liberal establishment. The murder of filmmaker Theo Van Gogh in 2004 underlined and reinforced this.
- Many downgrades reflect the country's participation in the US-led Iraq coalition (e.g. Australia, Poland, Estonia). Al-Qaida and other international terrorists might choose to launch terrorist attacks in these countries on this basis.
- Some downgrades reflect recent incidents, e.g. in Qatar, where Islamic extremists staged a suicide attack against UK expatriates in March 2005; and Egypt, where Islamic extremists attacked hotels in the Sinai peninsula in 2004.
- Some downgrades reflect local changes. The situation in Nepal has worsened significantly, for example.
- The map has added six countries to the list where Islamic extremism is a specific threat: Switzerland, Denmark, Poland, Djibouti, Chad and Libya.