

# **Human Rights, Governance, and Development: *Empirics Refuting Convention?***

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**[www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance/](http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance/)**

**Background for the Panel on Human Rights in  
Workshop on ‘Strategic Choices for Education  
Reform’, sponsored by WBI and UNICEF,  
Washington, DC, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Note: This presentation is based on initial empirical research, summarized in a recent article in Development Outreach, and more extensively discussed in an chapter on a volume from the NYU Law School Human Rights Conference. Any data on governance and human rights is subject to margins of error, and thus caution is warranted. Views expressed here, and of course any errors, are the sole responsibility of the author, and the views do not reflect the official position of the World Bank or its Board of Directors.

**Human Rights and Governance:**  
*Initial Empirical Exploration by an ‘outsider’*  
*The Power of Data & Empirical Analysis*

- 1. Empirical ‘Unbundling’ & exploring trends**
- 2. Links across different types of Human Rights:**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> G: Polit/Civil Rights;**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> G: Economic/Development Rights**
- 3. Study links between Human Rights and Governance/Anti-Corruption (*incl. causality*)**
- 4. Unconventional Implications & Questions?**

# **Main Data Sources in initial exploration**

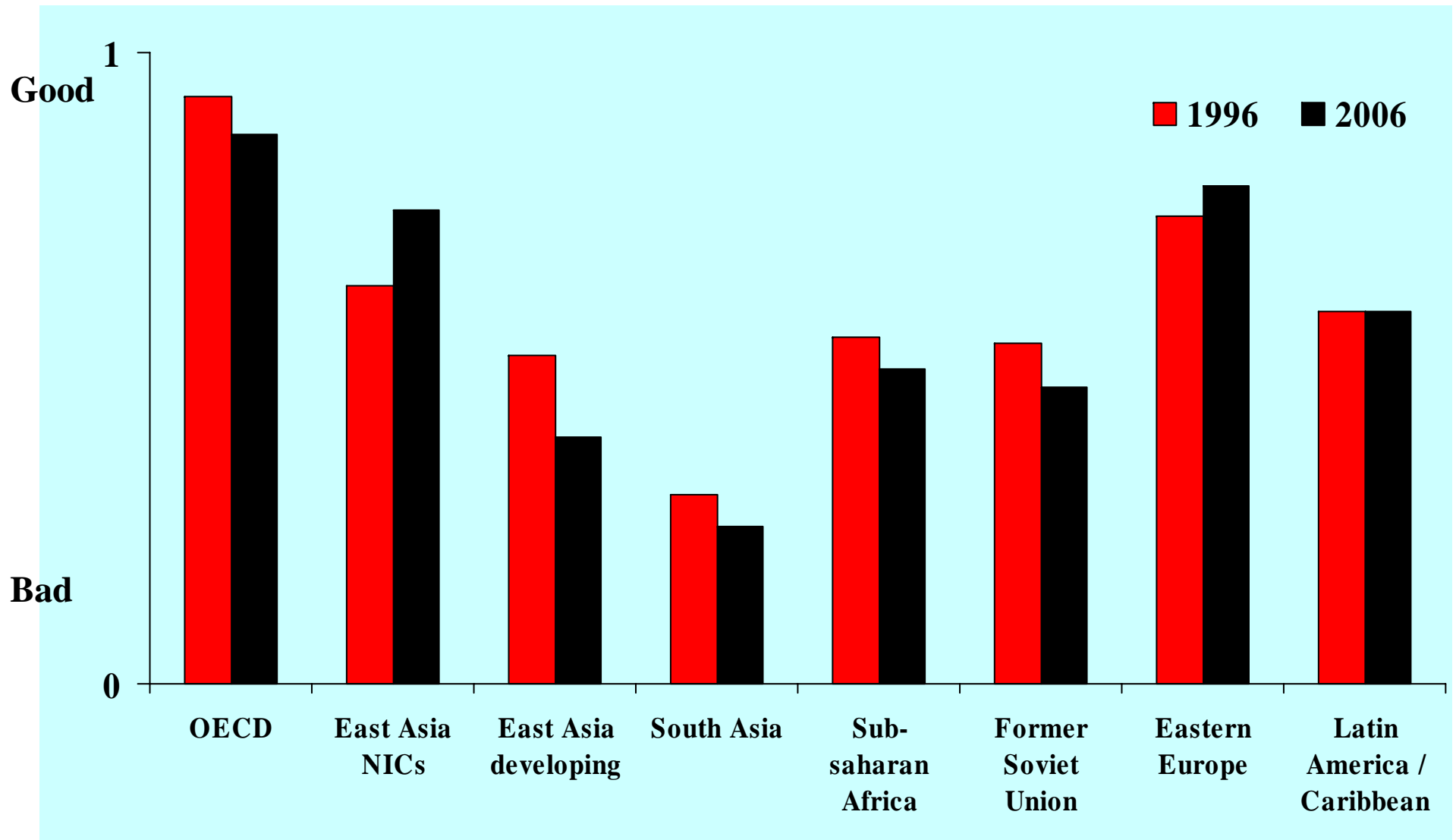
- **‘Macro’ (Aggregate) Dimension**
  - i) SUNY data coding from Amnesty & US State Dept.**
  - ii) WGI Aggregate Governance Indicators (WBI)**
- **‘Micro’, 1-- project: 1500 World Bank projects**
- **‘Micro’, 2 -- firms: worldwide enterprise surveys**
- **‘Micro’, 3 – country-based public officials surveys**

**Move to Economic/Development Rights [2<sup>nd</sup> G] G:**  
*Pendulum swinging away from Political/Civil Rights [1<sup>st</sup> G?]*

- **Has Worldwide progress been substantial and across the board on Political & Civil Rights?**
- **What determines progress on Economic/Development Rights?**

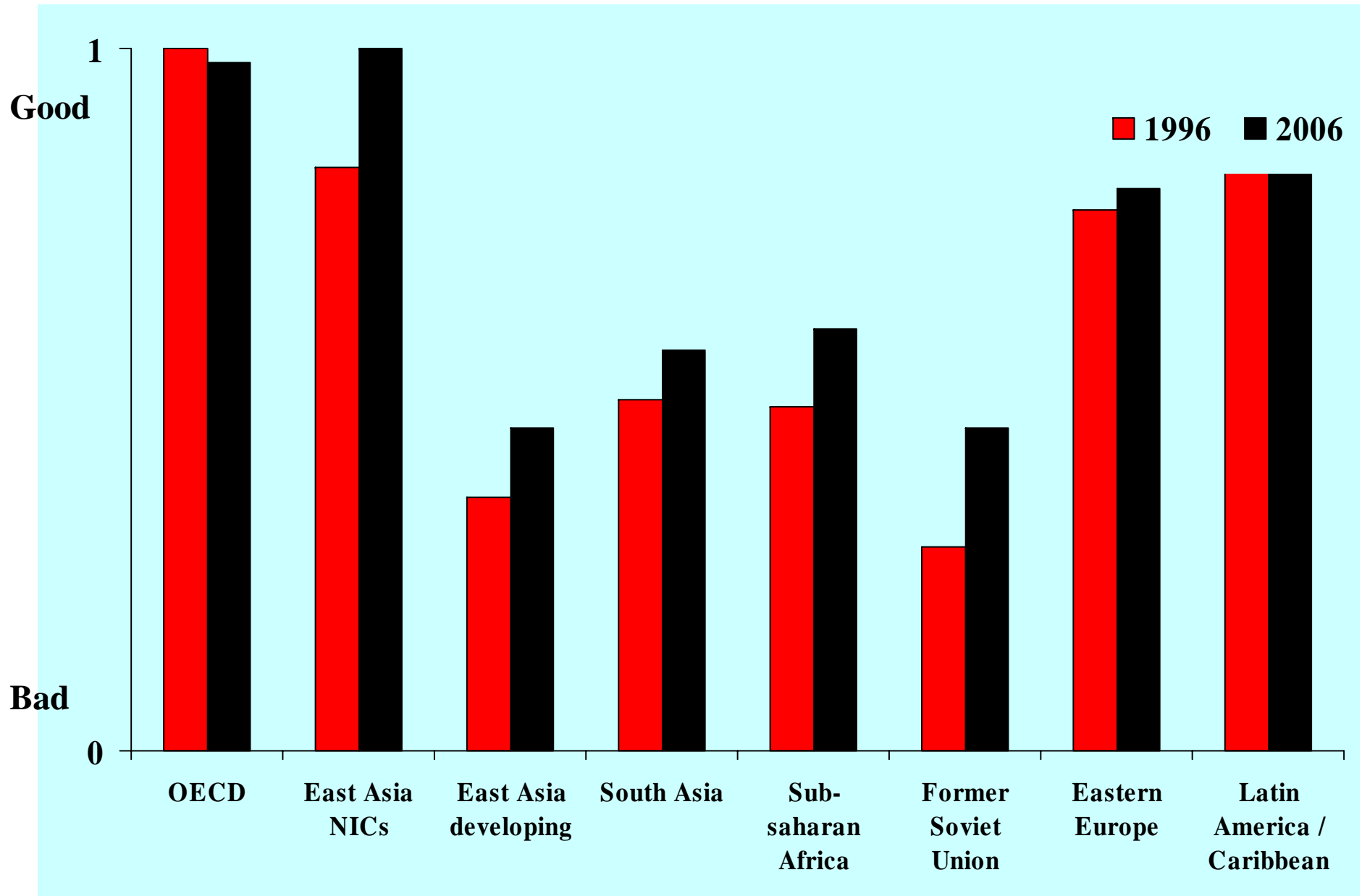
# Human Rights; 1<sup>st</sup>G: Life Protection, 1996-2006

*(Composite of Absence of Killings, Disappearances, Torture, & Imprisonments)*



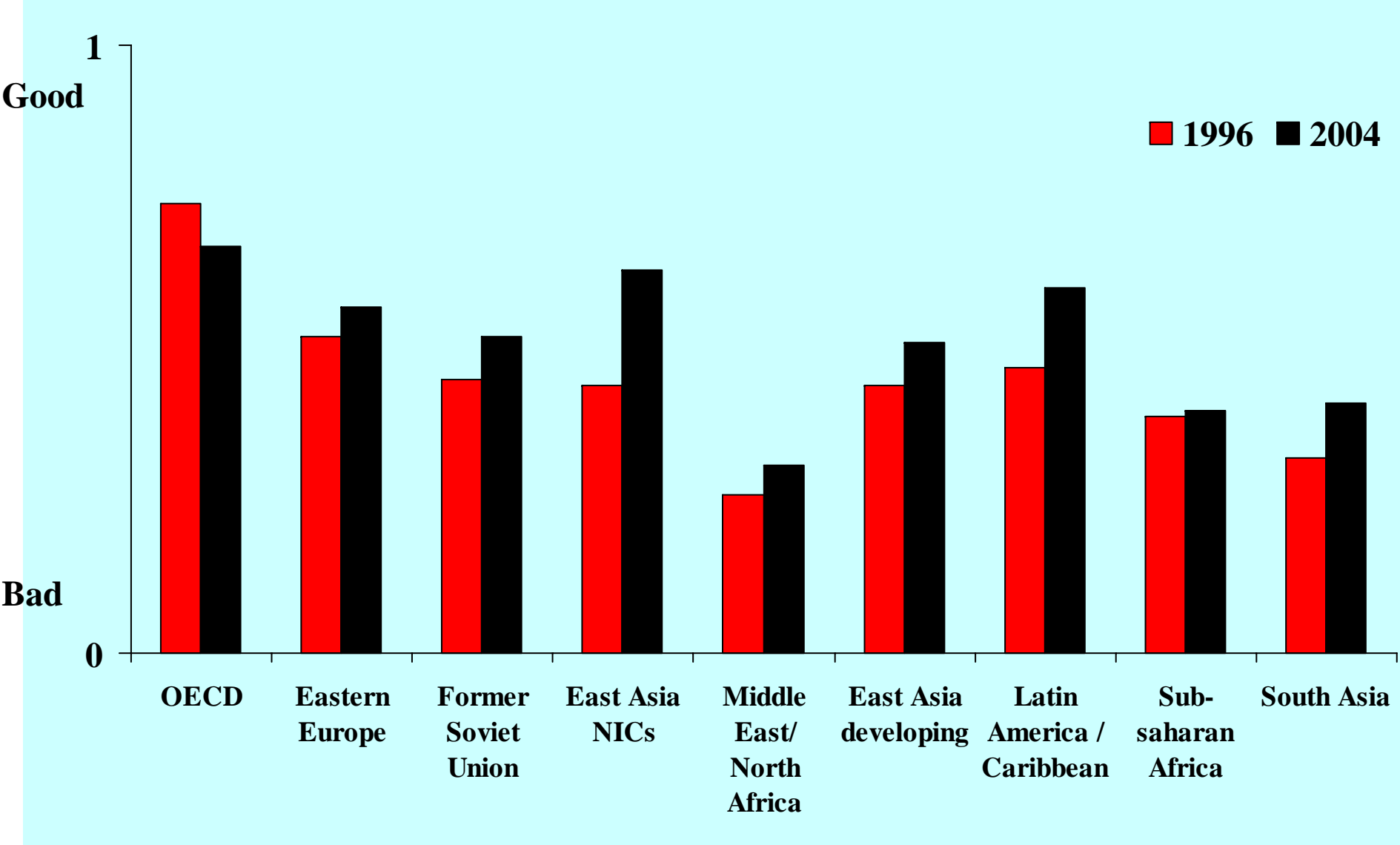
Source: Cingranelli / Richards (CIRI) human rights dataset – <http://www.humanrightsdata.com>. A high value reflects respect for human rights.

# Human Rights; 1<sup>st</sup>G: Political Participation, 1996-2006



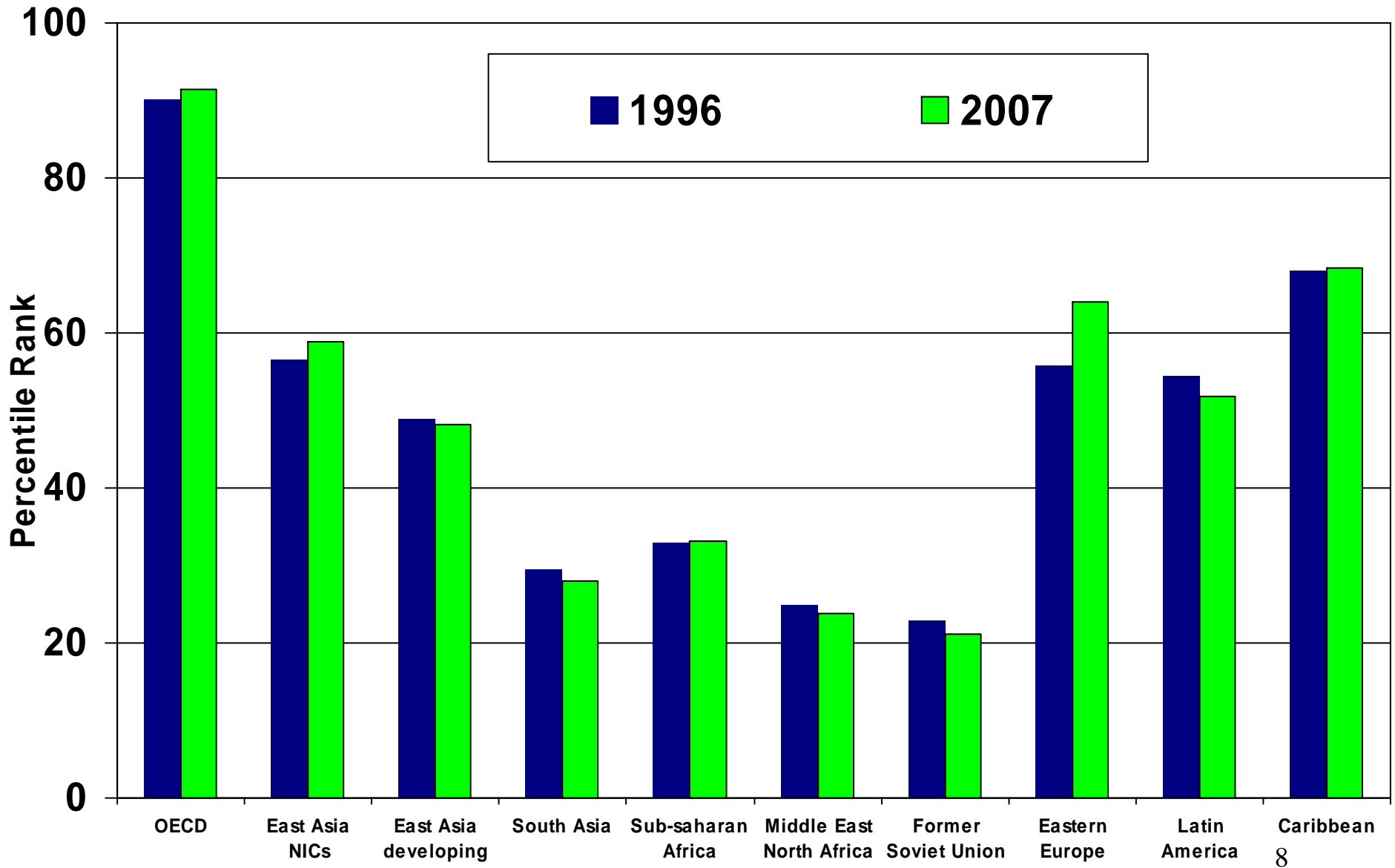
Source: Cingranelli / Richards (CIRI) human rights dataset – <http://www.humanrightsdata.com>. A high value reflects respect for human rights.

# Human Rights; 1<sup>st</sup>GHR: Women's Rights (*Composite of Economic, Social, and Political Rights*)



Source: Cingranelli / Richards (CIRI) human rights dataset – <http://www.humanrightsdata.com>. A high value reflects respect for human rights.

# Voice & Accountability By Regions, 1996-2007



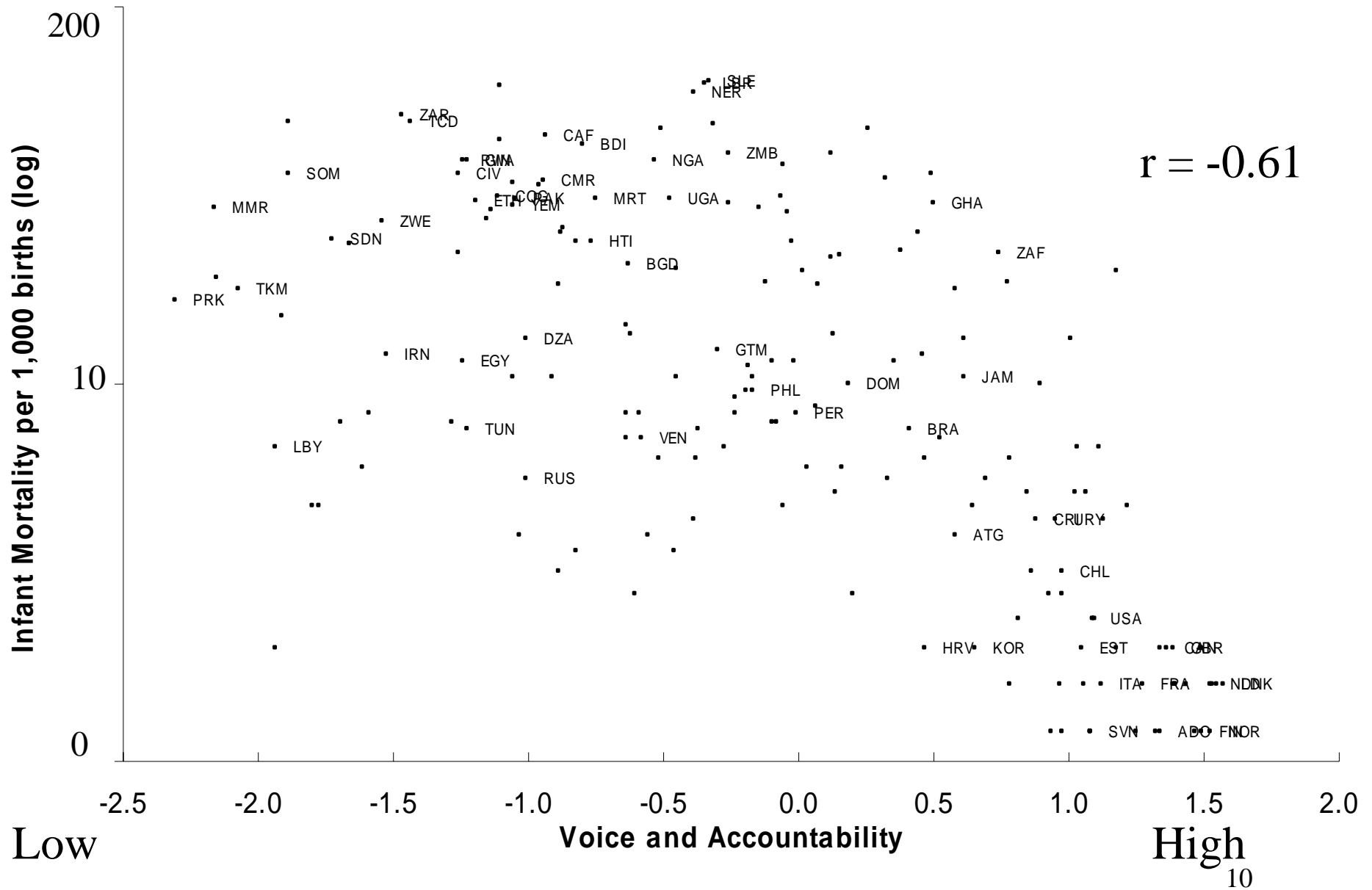
Source for data: 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', by D. Kaufmann, A.Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, June 2008 – [www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org).

## **Do 1<sup>st</sup>GHRs affect 2<sup>nd</sup>GHRs?**

### **Why 1<sup>st</sup>GHR would affect 2<sup>nd</sup> GHRs?**

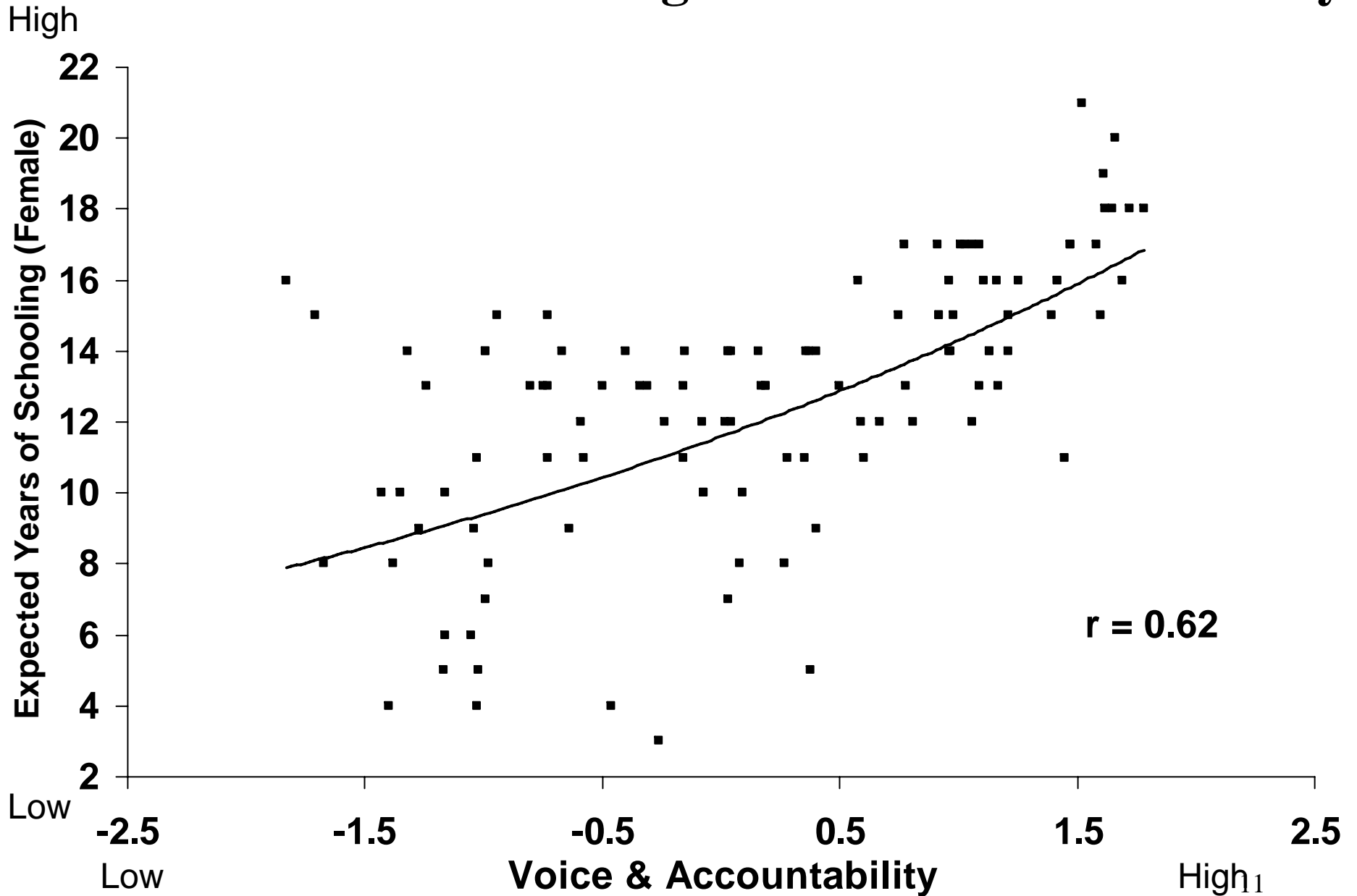
- **2GHRs largely *intermediate or final* development outcomes – vs. more fundamental determinant?**
- **1GHRs affecting 2GHRs directly (A. Sen, etc.)**
- **1GHRs affecting 2GHRs through mediating role of Corruption/Governance/Rule of Law**

# Infant Mortality vs. Voice & Accountability, 2007



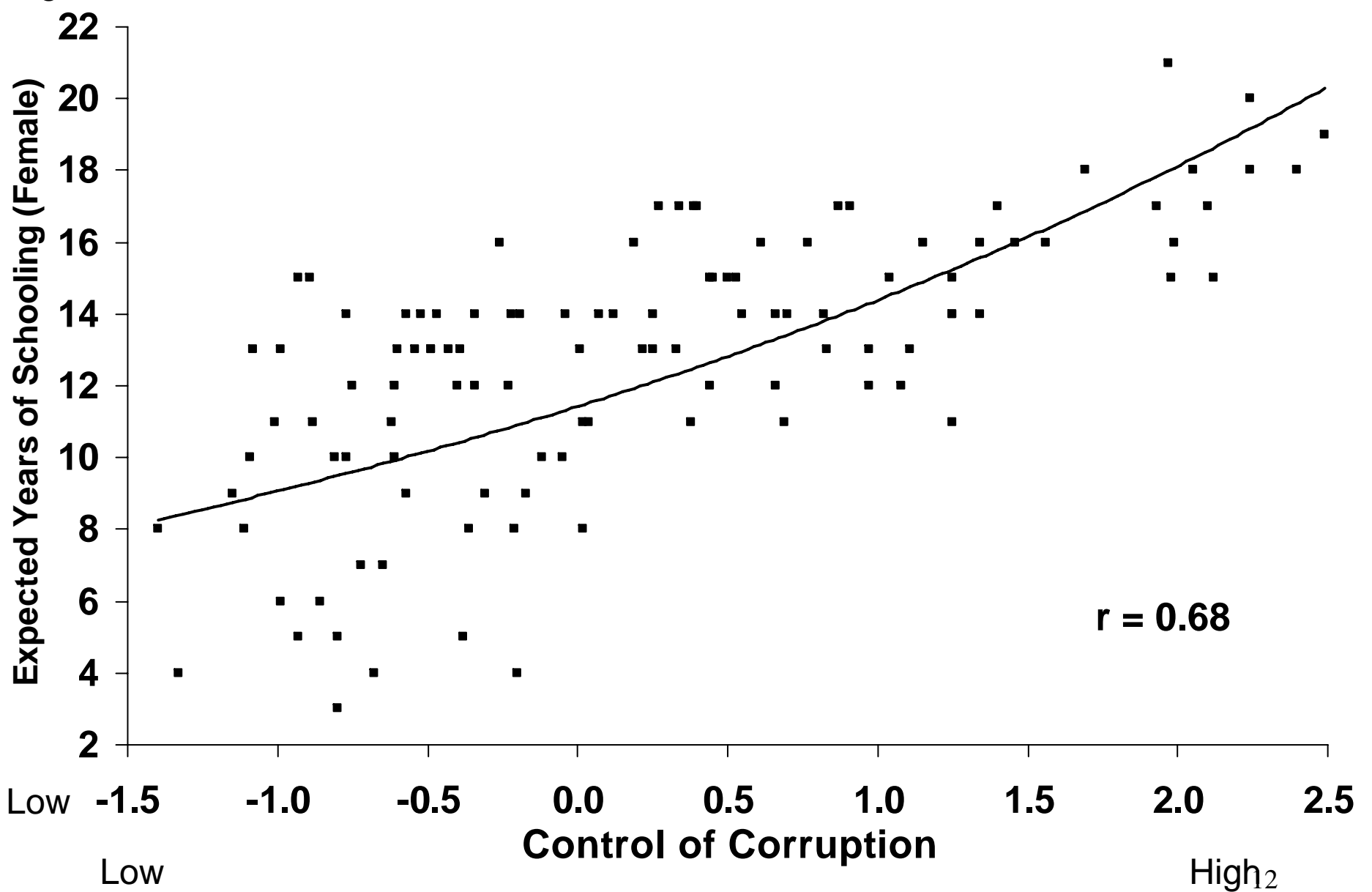
Source for data: WDI 2007 and 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', by D. Kaufmann, A. Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, June 2008, [www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org)

# Female Years of Schooling & Voice & Accountability



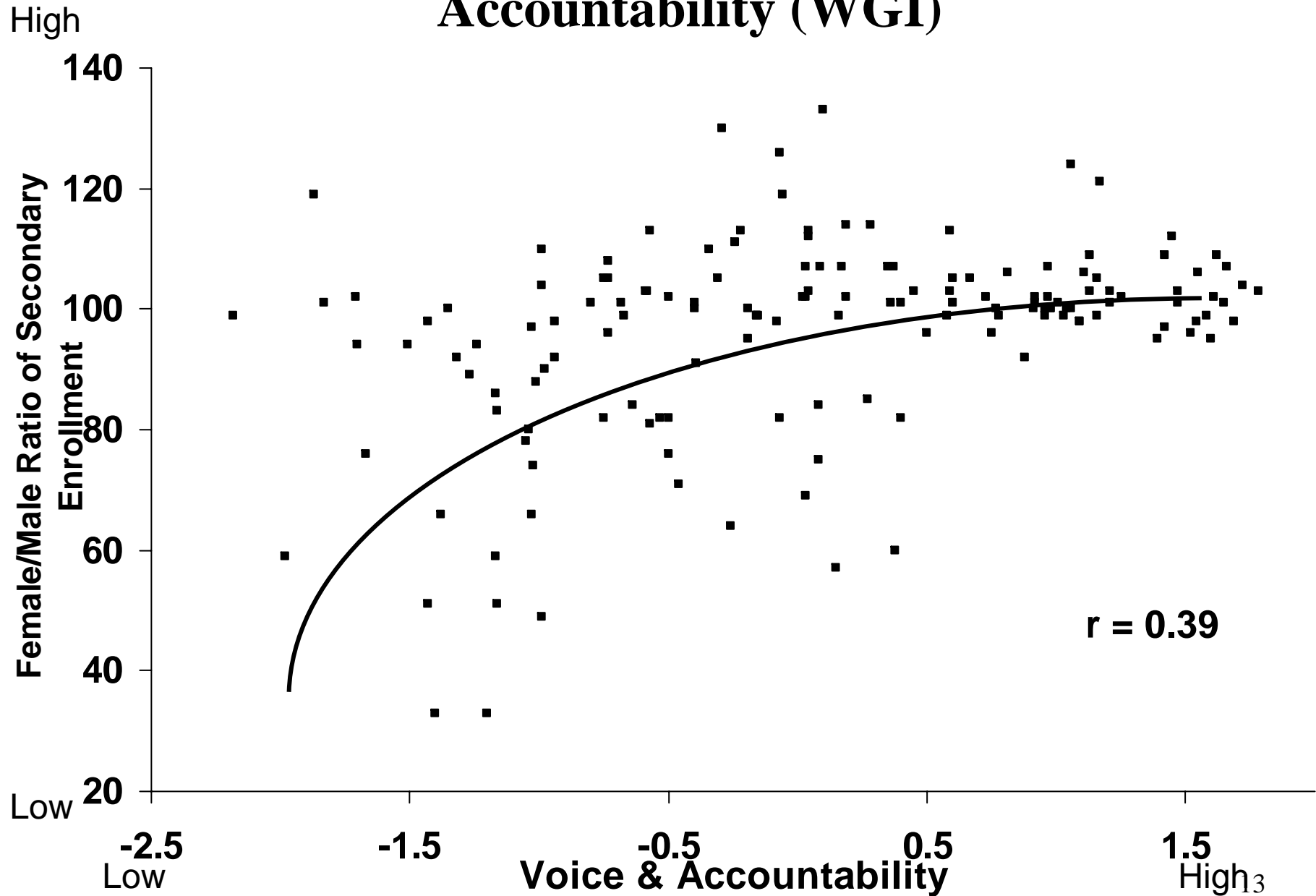
Source for data: WDI 2005 & 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', D. Kaufmann, A. Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, ([www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org));

# Female Years of Schooling & Control of Corruption (WGI)



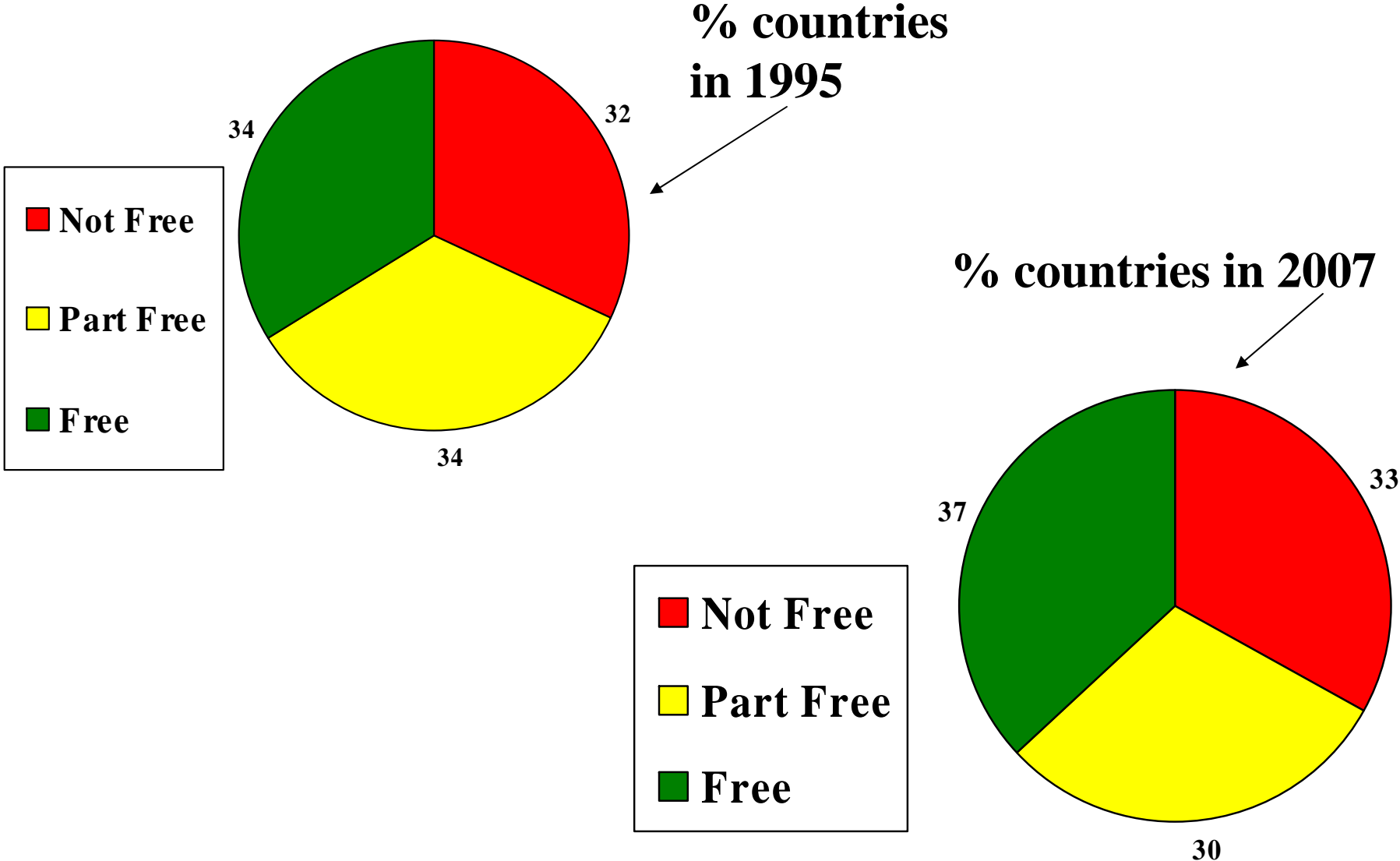
Source for data: WDI 2005 & 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', D. Kaufmann, A. Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, ([www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org));

# Female/Male Ratio of Secondary Enrollment vs. Voice & Accountability (WGI)



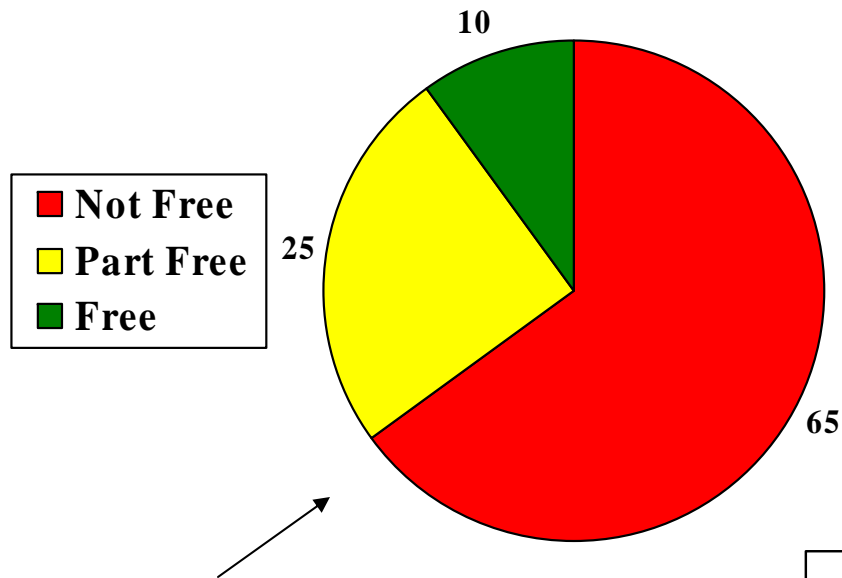
Source for data: WDI 2005 & 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', D. Kaufmann, A. Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, ([www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org));

# Press Freedom in the World, 1995 vs. 2007: *Stagnant?*

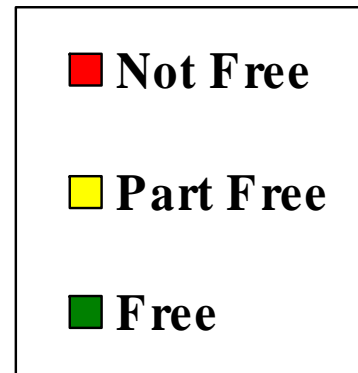


Source: Freedom House. Y axis measures percentage of countries in the region with free press (rating of 30 or below), partly free (ratings between 30 and 60) and not free (rating above 60).<sup>14</sup>

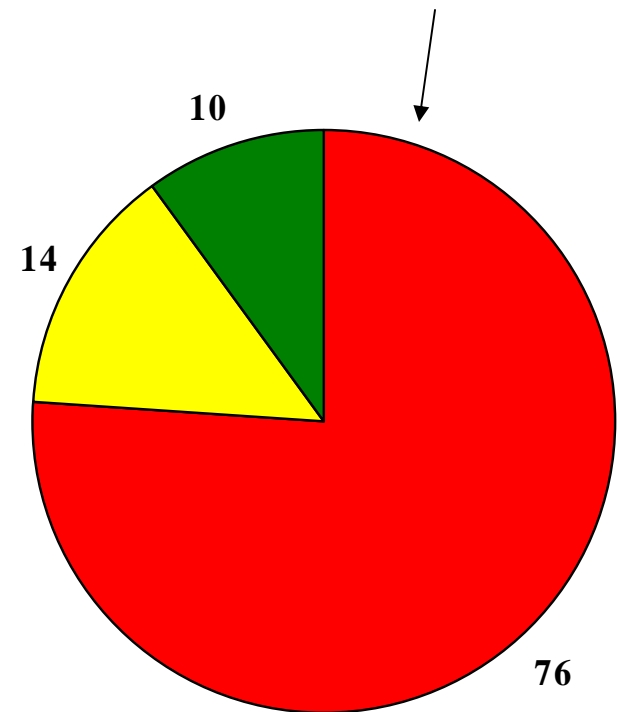
# Press Freedom (FRH) in the Middle East and North Africa 1995 vs. 2007: Deteriorating? [*Freedom House Data*]



**% countries in 1995**

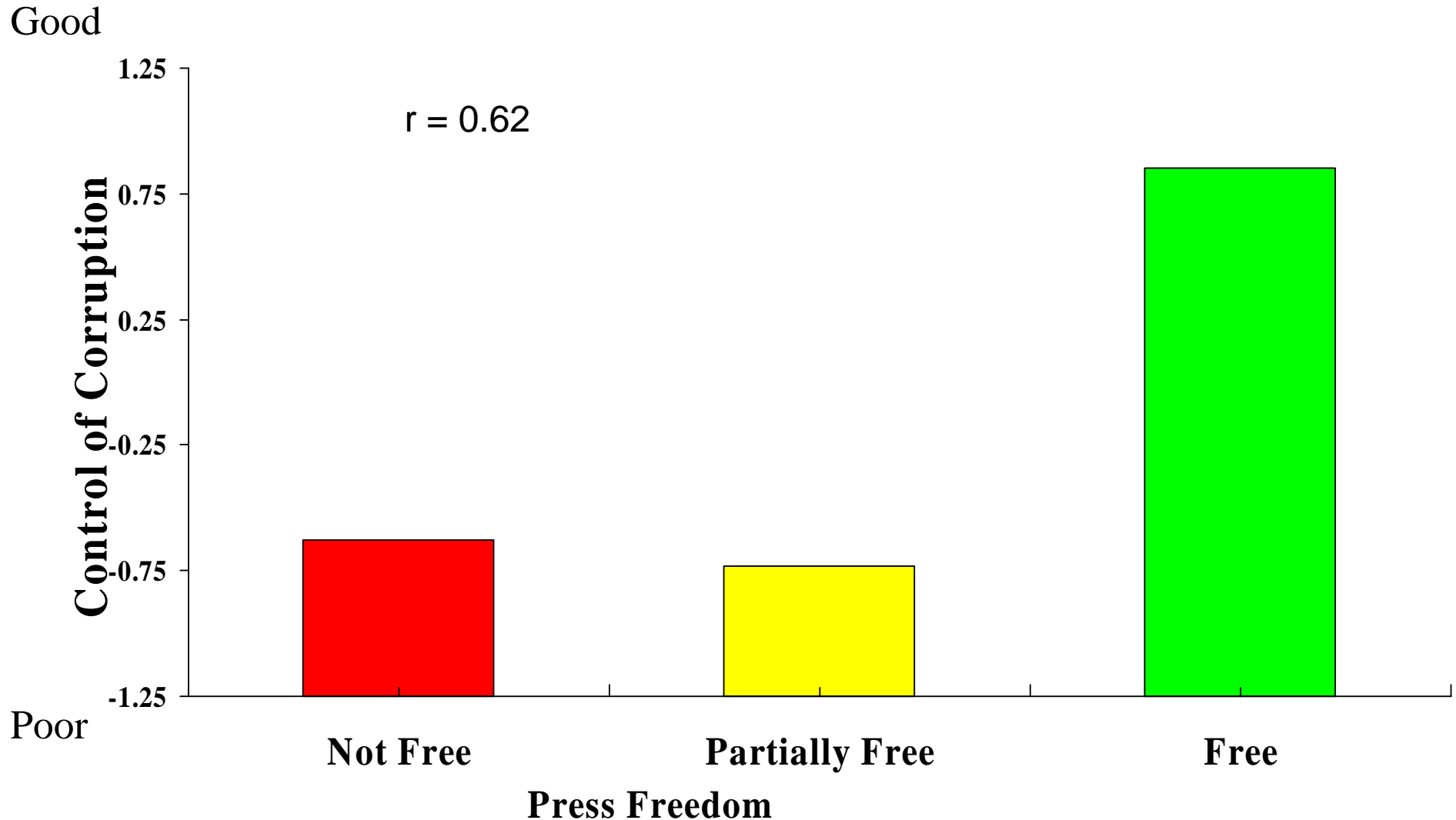


**% countries in 2007**



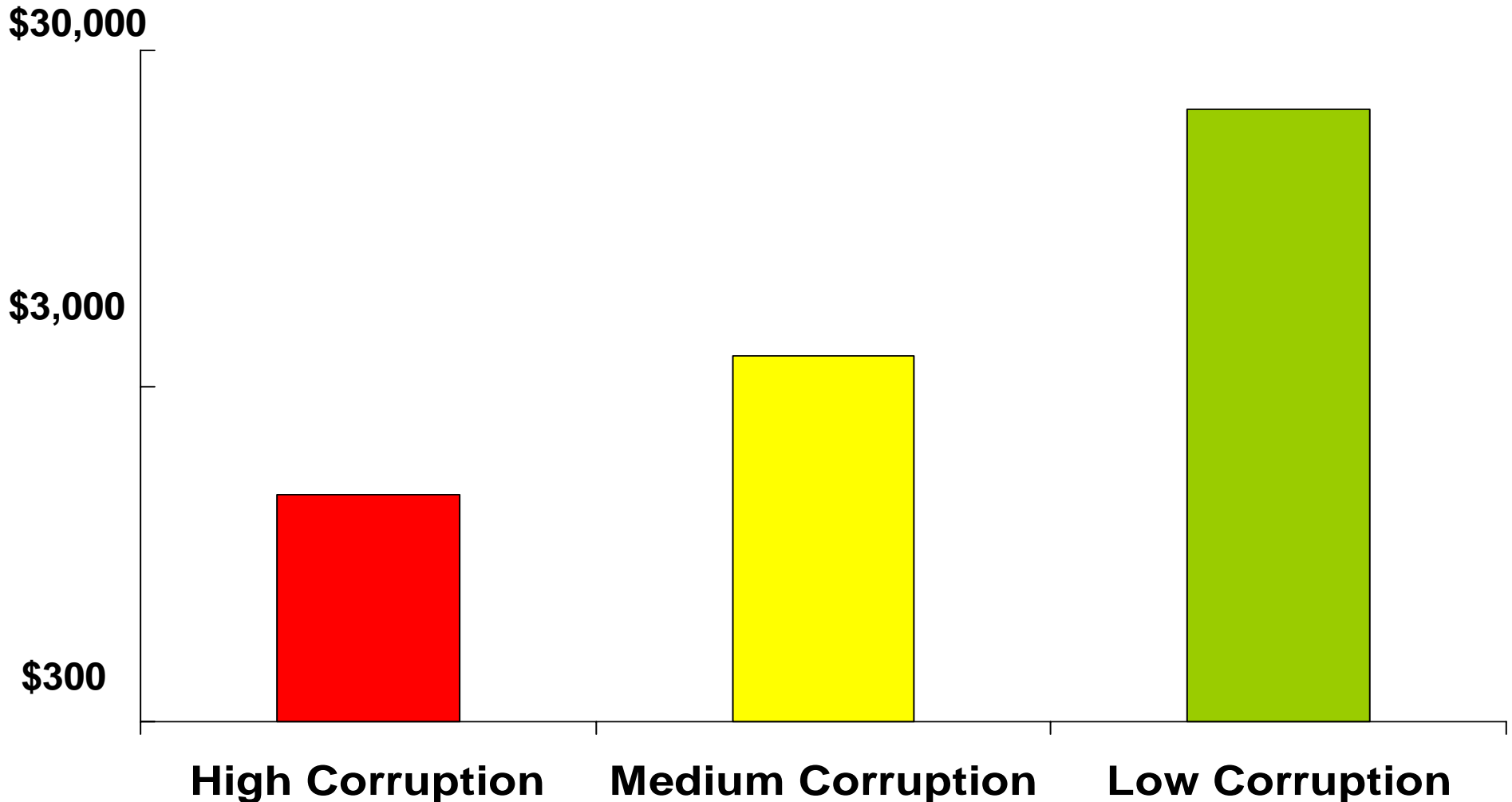
Source: Freedom House. Y axis measures percentage of countries in the region with free press (rating of 30 or below), partly free (ratings between 30 and 60) and not free (rating above 60).

# Control of Corruption vs. Freedom of the Press, 2007



Source for corruption: 'Governance Matters VII: Governance Indicators for 1996-2007', by D. Kaufmann, A. Kraay and M. Mastruzzi, June 2008 – 16  
[www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org). Source for Press Freedom: Freedom House. Terciles divided according to 2007 Press Freedom ratings (192 countries total). Free: 0-30 (39); Partly Free: 31-60 (63); Not Free: 61-100 (90).

# The 300% Development Dividend From Controlling Corruption: Lowering Corruption increases Incomes per capita 3-fold (and not viceversa)



Data Source for calculations: KK 2004. Y-axis measures predicted GDP per capita on the basis of Instrumental Variable (IV) results for each of the 3 categories. Estimations based on various authors' studies, including Kaufmann and Kraay.

# **Micro-Evidence and Research**

- **Main Determinants of effectiveness of World Bank-funded projects?**
  - **Civil Liberties do matter (Isham, Kaufmann and Pritchett, WBEP 1997)**
- **In-depth country case studies:**
  - **Bolivia on Governance and Institutions being the missing link, and on ‘Voice’ matters**

## **This unbundling of Empirical Links Matters**

- PolCivRights [1<sup>st</sup>G] do matter for fulfillment of & EcDevRights [2<sup>nd</sup>G]**
- PolCivRights do matter for the success of Government & World Bank-funded Projects**
- PolCivRights do matter for combatting Corruption and improved Rule of Law**
- Rule of Law/Anti-Corruption do matter for helping fulfill EcDevRights [2<sup>nd</sup>G]**

# 10 Implications – *for debate and discussion*

1. In HRs, Empirics Matter for: *advise, review popular notions (myths), monitoring, checks/balances*
2. Empirical analysis implies Unbundling
3. Progress in PolCivRights [1<sup>st</sup>G] not dramatic
4. PolCivRights are key for EcDevRights [2<sup>nd</sup>G]
5. Rule of Law/Anti-Corruption key mediator between 1<sup>st</sup>G & 2<sup>nd</sup>G issues (*A-C strategy; Judicial reform*)
6. 'Demand Side' of Governance, which are Human Rights is key: Civil Liberties, Press Freedoms, Gender Rights – crucial for Anti-Corruption and for EcDevRights
7. Avoiding 'fig leafing' (*'HR lite': 'we are doing much already'*)
8. We could do more, within 'Articles' (*no political interference*)
9. Education: not ignoring budgets, tradeoffs & quality issues
10. Recognizing importance of broader HRights country environment, how to have impact, w/out 'injection' approach?

# **Data for Analysis, Informed Discussion & Advice; *not for Precise Rankings***

*Any data on Governance, Institutions, and Human Rights are subject to a margin of error. They are not intended for precise country rankings, but to highlight relative strengths and weaknesses and draw analytical and policy lessons. The data and indicators in this presentation do not necessarily reflect official views on rankings by the World Bank or its Board of Directors. Views and errors here are responsibility of the author. This presentation draws from collaboration with Aart Kraay and Massimo Mastruzzi and other colleagues.*

**Further materials & access to interactive data:**

**General:** [www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance](http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance)

**Data:** [www.govindicators.org](http://www.govindicators.org)

**Human Rights & Development:**

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/WBI/EXTWBIGOVANTCOR/0,,contentMDK:20771260~pagePK:64168445~piPK:64168309~theSitePK:1740530,00.html>