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Map of Freedom 2008

On the cover Freedom Fighter British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was an early supporter of Freedom House's work to promote freedom in the world. Courtesy Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge, United Kingdom, reproduced with permission of Curtis Brown Ltd, London on behalf of the Broadwater Collection. Cedar Revolution The assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in 2005 sparked demonstrations that ended the Syrian military occupation of Lebanon.



Ukrainians Stand Up for Democracy: Nationwide protests by thousands of Ukrainians led to a repeat vote after the country's flawed presidential run-off election in 2004.



2008 – 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

"Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

Fundamental Freedoms Eleanor Roosevelt, the first honorary co-chair of Freedom House, reads the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which she helped draft.





Investing in Youth After the Cedar Revolution began in 2005, Freedom House offered training workshops to help young leaders continue their campaign for democratic reform in Lebanon.

# Today, more than two billion people are not free

Barred from participating in the government that has power over their lives, they cannot speak their opinions freely or worship as they choose. In countries where human dignity is not respected, dictators keep individuals from exercising individual rights, render free speech speechless and make servants of those the state is supposed to serve.

Since its founding in 1941, Freedom House has been on the front lines of the struggle for freedom. Freedom House is a clear, forthright and nonpartisan voice for democracy. We champion policies that will expand freedom, both in the U.S. and abroad. We advance freedom's reach by working with local democracy advocates living under dictatorships and tyrannies. And we monitor, measure and explain freedom's condition through studies, reports and articles.

The attainment of freedom ultimately depends on the actions of dedicated men and women who are committed to the transformation of their societies. But experience also demonstrates that outside support can play a critical role in the struggle for democratic rights.

#### **1941** Freedom House was founded by a group of prominent individuals, with Eleanor Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie serving as the organization's first honorary co-chairpersons.

### 1947

UN General Assembly adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was drafted under the leadership of Freedom House honorary chairwoman Eleanor Roosevelt

## Our Work

Freedom House translates the values of freedom into a strong tangible impact by combining analysis, advocacy and action. Guided by a nonpartisan, diverse board of trustees, Freedom House has forged an innovative model to promote the expansion of democracy and human rights around the world.

## Analysis

The foundation of Freedom House's work is its analysis. We evaluate the components of freedom and leverage our analytical work to strengthen our advocacy and action efforts.

Freedom House's rigorous research methodology used to monitor global freedom has earned us a reputation as the leading source of information on the state of freedom worldwide.

## Advocacy

Freedom House is a leading advocate for freedom. We give voice to the voiceless and press the United States and other governments to support the courageous men and women working to fight tyranny, eliminate injustice and build honest

and responsive governments in their own communities.

## Action

Working directly with democratic reformers on the front lines in their own countries, Freedom House acts as a catalyst for freedom by providing training and support for monitoring and documenting human rights abuses,

increasing the free flow of information, and mobilizing citizens to improve their societies.

Voting International human rights groups criticized the Russian military's heavy involvement in the 2005 parliamentary elections in Chechnya, the first vote since separatist uprisings in 1999.



### 1952

Leo Cherne, an officer of Freedom House, debates Senator Joe McCarthy on "Town Meeting on the Air," a popular radio forum, on how to deal with the communist threat. **1958** Eleanor Roosevelt presents Freedom House's Freedom Award to the *Arkansas Gazette* for reporting desegregation efforts.







Facing the Future As the North Caucasus struggles with conflict and instability, the American Committee for Peace ir the Caucasus at Freedom House helps local human rights groups inform the international community about grave human rights violations and security threats in the region.

# Analysis

Over the past several decades, Freedom House has created standard-setting publications that serve as critical resources for policy analysts—both governmental and nongovernmental—and are valuable tools in support of the work of human rights and civic activists worldwide. Freedom House analyses have been integrated into some of the world's most formative decision-making bodies, shaping the direction and the momentum of the dialogue on freedom and human rights.



**Gender Gap** Women's Rights in the Middle East and North Africa, a Freedom House publication, details the unequal status of women in 16 countries and one territory.

### Freedom in the World

Since 1972, the Freedom in the World survey has been Freedom House's flagship publication. Providing an annual evaluation of the state of global freedom, the survey rates countries according to a range of indicators within the broad categories of political rights and civil liberties. Freedom House's research and ratings process is widely respected as an objective, comparative analysis of the state of essential individual freedoms around the world.

### Freedom of the Press

A free and independent media is a fundamental guardian of democracy, ensuring government accountability and promoting the free flow of information within a society. This publication tracks trends in media freedom around the world, ranking the level of press freedom in each country.

### 1958

Freedom House issues a statement asserting that McCarthyism has created an "atmosphere of fear and uncertainty" that damages free expression in the U.S.

### 1961

Willy Brandt, mayor of blockaded Berlin, receives the Freedom Award for his resistance to Nazism and Communism.





**Online Advocacy** Rima Al-Rakhawi, a Palestinian human rights activist, works at Freedom House's Washington headquarters on the "Blue Umbrella," an online community of freedom advocates in the Middle East.

### Additional Surveys and Special Reports

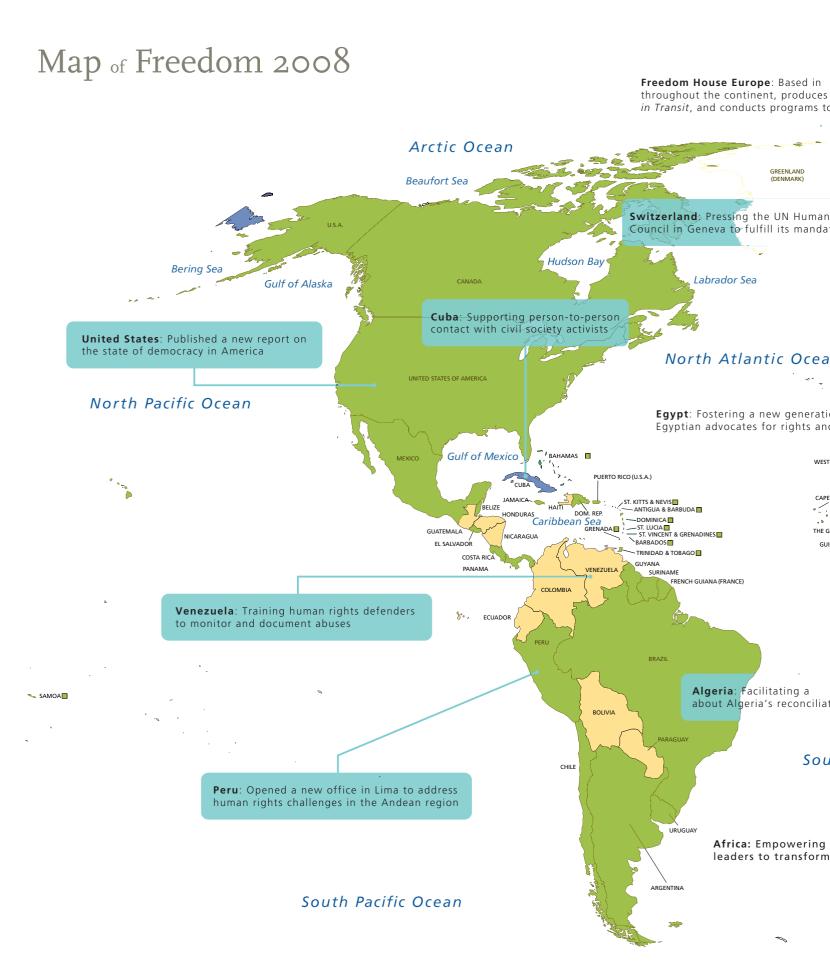
Examining more specific elements of democratic growth, Freedom House produces two additional annual surveys. *Nations in Transit* monitors progress and setbacks in democratization in the former communist world of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, while *Countries at the Crossroads* examines government performance in 60 key countries worldwide. Freedom House also issues periodic, region-specific assessments and special reports, including *Today's American: How Free*?, an in-depth examination of the state of freedom in the post 9/11 United States.

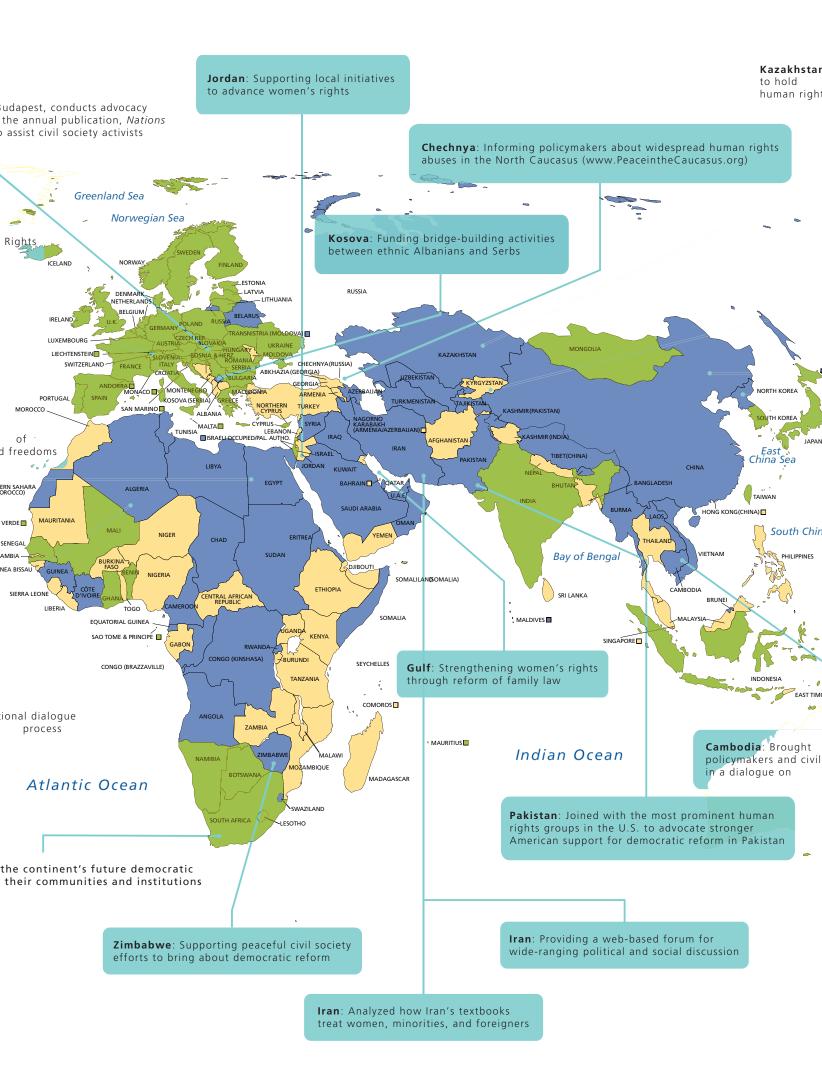


**First Time Voter** A woman clutches her voter card on the way to a polling site in the Democratic Republic of Congo. *Courtesy IFES/Gabrielle Bardall* 

### 1967

Freedom House convenes 14 top Asian scholars to discuss issues related to U.S. military involvement in Vietnam. The report is seen as "a clear call for moderation," and reportedly helped persuade President Lyndon B. Johnson to reduce forces in Vietnam.





: Working with local NGOs ernment accountable on ts standards

**Kyrgyzstan**: Supporting press freedom in Kyrgyzstan by assisting the country's only independent printing press

China: Urged President Bush to meet with dissidents when he visits for the 2008 Olympics

### North Pacific Ocean

North Korea: Published two major reports documenting crimes against humanity in North Korea



The Map of Freedom reflects the findings of Freedom House's *Freedom in the World 2008* survey, which rates the level of political rights and civil liberties in 193 countries and 15 related and disputed territories during 2007. Based on these ratings, countries are divided into three categories: **Free, Partly Free,** and **Not Free.** 

A **Free country** is one where there is broad scope for open political competition, a climate of respect for civil liberties, significant independent civic life, and independent media.

**Partly Free countries** are characterized by some restrictions on political rights and civil liberties, often in a context of corruption, weak rule of law, ethnic strife, or civil war.

A **Not Free country** is one where basic political rights are absent, and basic civil liberties are widely and systematically denied.

#### Survey Findings\*

Freedom Status	Country Breakdown	Population
FREE	90 (47%)	3.03 (46%)
PARTLY FREE	60 (31%)	1.19 (18%)
NOT FREE	43 (22%)	2.39 (36%)
TOTAL	193 (100%)	6.61 (100%)

\*Breakdown (in billions)



Freedom to Choose Women in the Democratic Republic of Congo queue for their first multiparty elections in more than 40 years. Courtesy IFES/Gabrielle Bardall

Advocacy

7 8

### Supporting Freedom's Frontline Defenders

As one of the world's leading advocates for freedom, Freedom House remains firmly committed to sustaining its momentum. To this end, we press the United States and other governments to support freedom's front line defenders – the courageous men and women who work to give voice to the powerless, bring awareness to injustice, and build honest and responsive governments. Our advocacy draws on our research: we identify the critical challenges to freedom, then mobilize government and nongovernmental forces to respond, amplifying the message of those fighting tyranny on the front lines.

### Addressing the Global Crackdown on Freedom

In an effort to stifle opposition voices, a number of governments—most recently Russia, Venezuela, and Iran—have taken major steps to limit the actions of domestic civil society activists and restrict citizens' freedom to associate. Often accomplished through legalistic means, such as requiring lengthy registration processes for NGOs, the restrictions also cut down on the ability of international organizations and governments to assist civil society within these countries. Freedom House is focused on bringing international attention and action to counter this disturbing trend.

**1970** First issue released of *Freedom at Issue* (later renamed *Freedom Review*), a bi-monthly magazine including discussions of public policy questions related to freedom.

#### **1972** First p

First publication of the Map of Freedom, and the annual survey which later becomes *Freedom in the World*.

Spotlight on Intergovernmental Bodies

While many of the world's intergovernmental bodies, such as the UN Human Rights Council and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE, were convened with the explicit purpose of advancing human rights in practice and principle, they are increasingly unable to do so. Instead, many are under direct assault by repressive governments that seek to weaken these bodies' effectiveness and thus lessen public scrutiny of their own regimes. Through articles, events, and one-on-one meetings, Freedom House brings global attention to these bodies' actions, raising awareness of the need to safeguard them from interference by authoritarian governments.

### Democracy at Home

Though the majority of our efforts are targeted at repressive regimes, Freedom House is convinced that the support of the United States is crucial to the spread of democracy worldwide. Advocating for an ongoing American commitment to the promotion of freedom around the globe, Freedom House analyzes the government's budget, issues press releases urging the U.S. to hold dictators to account, and retains strong relationships with prominent policymakers. To ensure that the U.S. remains a role model, Freedom House has published a new survey devoted solely to examining the state of freedom in America, *Today's American: How Free*?

Leadership Freedom House's Board Member Calvin Sims, an award-winning New York Times journalist, presents his new documentary, "Struggle for the Soul of Islam: Inside Indonesia."

> **1979** First publication of *Freedom of the Press*, a global survey of media independence produced by Freedom House.

### 1981

Freedom House trustees urge increased funding for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, continuing Freedom House's support for international broadcasting.



Riding for Rights The National Forum for Youth and Culture in Jordan organized a bicycle ride in conjunction with a parliamentary petition that demanded more laws to protect women.

# Action

Freedom House distinguishes itself from other human rights organizations by doing more than monitoring and reporting abuses. Freedom House acts as a catalyst for freedom by providing nonviolent civic activists, youth groups, think tanks, journalists and human rights defenders with the resources they need to advance freedom in their countries.

### Defending Human Rights and Safeguarding Justice

Freedom House has developed programs that support human rights defenders throughout the world. In Kyrgyzstan, for example, Freedom House helped to establish the Voice of Freedom, a nationally-registered nongovernmental organization that coordinates the efforts of human rights defenders from across the country. The organization provides these activists with resources and information, and assists them in forming vital networks with like-minded advocates throughout the country, the region, and the world.



**Equal Opportunity** Freedom House brings together advocates and officials from around the world to share strategies for advancing women's rights.

1991

The Dalai Lama receives the Freedom Award, continuing Freedom House's support for Tibetan freedom begun in the 1980s when Freedom House facilitated the Dalai Lama's first trip to the U.S. 2000

First Community of Democracies meeting held in Warsaw, Poland. Freedom House cosponsors the nongovernmental forum with the Stefan Batory Foundation.



Fresh Perspectives Human rights and civil society activists discuss reform in the Middle East with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice as part of Freedom House's New Generation of Advocates program.

### Facilitating the Free Flow of Information

Freedom House trains journalists from around the world and provides resources to facilitate public access to information. We provide support to Iran's beleaguered pro-democracy reformers and human rights defenders by connecting them, via the internet, to resources and counterparts worldwide. Gozaar, a monthly, bilingual online magazine, serves as an interactive, inclusive space for the discussion of democracy and human rights in Iran.

### Supporting Democratic Civil Society

In an effort to support young democracy advocates for peaceful change from North Africa and the Middle East, Freedom House conducts an exchange program that provides short-term professional fellowships in the U.S. and Europe. In addition to assisting these young journalists, lawyers and civil society advocates in developing stronger skills and professional networks, Freedom House has convened an International Solidarity Committee linking these young activists with prominent individuals in the U.S. and Europe.

### Working for the Future

Freedom House helps young leaders in and out of government to develop the expertise and vision they will need to transform their societies. As part of its African Initiative, Freedom House organizes workshops throughout Africa providing young professionals from government and civil society with skills grounded in ethical principles that enable them to lead with integrity.

2002-2004

Freedom House expands global operations, opening offices in Central Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America.

### in

**2008** Freedom House publishes *Today's American: How Free?*, examining the state of freedom in the U.S. today.





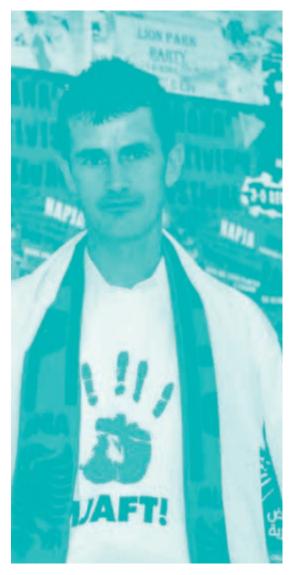
## For more information visit www.freedomhouse.org

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Please send your donation to: Freedom House 1301 Connecticut Ave., NW, Fl. 6 Washington, DC 20036

Donate now at www.freedomhouse.org.





**Global Link** Gozaar, Freedom House's web-based Persian-English journal, provides young Iranians with a monthly forum for discussing democracy and human rights.



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Freedom House is an independent non-governmental organization that supports the expansion of freedom in the world. Freedom is possible only in democratic political systems in which the governments are accountable to their own people; the rule of law prevails; and freedoms of expression, association, belief and respect for the rights of minorities and

women are guaranteed. We support nonviolent civic initiatives in societies where freedom is denied or under threat and we stand in opposition to ideas and forces that challenge the right of all people to be free. Freedom House functions as a catalyst for freedom, democracy, and the rule of law through its analysis, advocacy, and action.



### Dear Friends,

We present this report to provide you with a clear picture of what Freedom House has accomplished in 2007, much of which would not be possible without the help of supporters like you.

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize and express our appreciation for the kindness and generosity of the many individuals, foundations and corporations who have supported our work.

We have come a long way since our founding in 1941. When we first began publishing *Freedom in the World* in 1972, only 40 countries were classified as free. That number has more than doubled over the past 36 years, and today 90 countries, representing 46 percent of the global population, are classified as free. However, freedom is still under threat around the globe. The two billion people who are still denied fundamental freedoms need our help.

As a Freedom House supporter you help us achieve our goals; you enable us to work directly with democratic reformers in their own countries, to strengthen civil society, to defend human rights and to facilitate the free flow of information and ideas. You also help us keep our administrative costs to a minimum. Every dollar saved is a dollar we can apply to our programs and research. That is why individual support through our Annual Fund is so important.

As we celebrate the 6oth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, its words ring true more than ever; "Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." Your support helps us make - and keep - this sentiment a reality, and for that we offer our heartfelt appreciation.

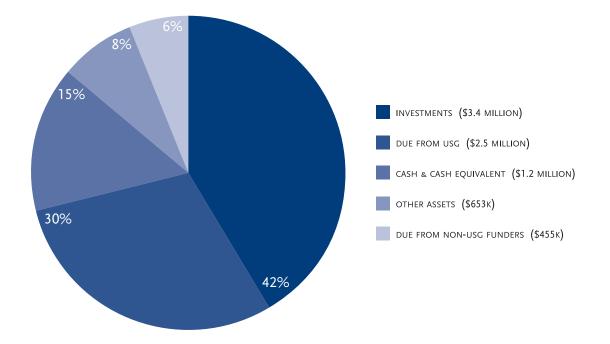
Sincerely,

Peter Ackerman Chairman, Board of Trustees

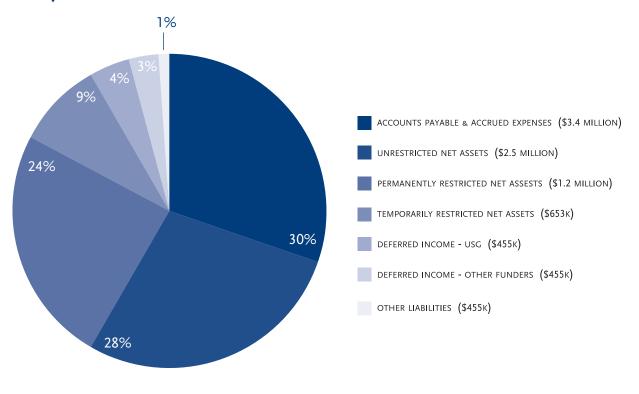
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Jennifer Windsor

## 2007 Total Assets – \$8.21 million

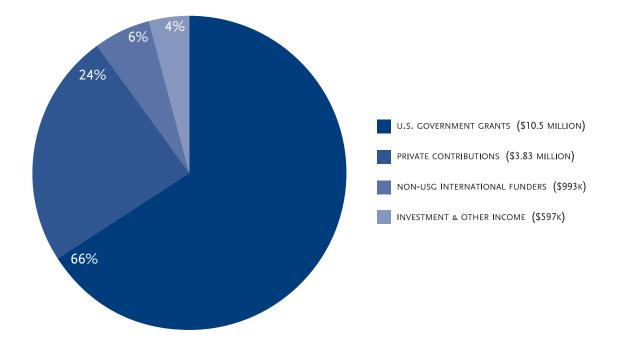


2007 Liabilities & Net Assets – \$8.21 million

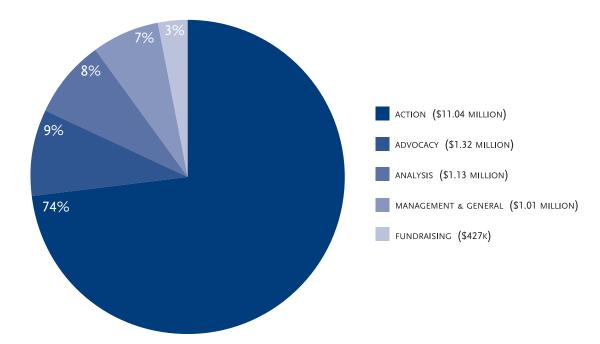


FISCAL YEAR 2007 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2007 Income (by source) – Total \$15.9 million



2007 Expenses (by function) – Total \$14.9 million



FREEDOM HOUSE FY2007 BALANCE SHEET

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