

VH VON HUMBOLDT

GLOBAL PERSONAL FREEDOM INDEX



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Preface

The right of liberty means man's right to individual action, individual choice, individual initiative and individual property. All those liberties are summarized by the concept of **personal freedom**.

FPE advocates that personal freedom is a key not only for a peaceful and respectful society but also to the economic progress of nations. FPE has a several branches of studies to try evidence this fact, from simulation, to entropic calculations. It's important to measure personal freedom of nations to analyze its impact on society and economy.

We agree that several libertarian organizations, foundations and think tanks have done excellent works, papers and indexes studying freedom, but mostly from with an excessive emphasis on the economic freedoms.

FPE advocates that to achieve a healthy and prosper society scholars and institutions need to see freedom as a whole, not only including just economic freedom but also several parts of life that are also fundamental for humanity, such as sex, liberty over the body, consumption, speech, among others.

That's why we have created the Global Personal Freedom Index.

Overview

Personal Freedom Index (L_p) is a 0-100 scale index where 0 would represent a society with no freedom and 100 a society with ideal level of freedom.

L_p is a combination of different sub-indexes divided by category.

$$L_p = 3 \times L_u + 2 \times L_b + 2 \times L_e + 2 \times L_s + L_c$$

Where L_u represents Basic Freedoms or Universal Rights, L_b represents Freedom over own's body, L_e represents Economic Freedom, L_s represents Relation and sexual Freedom and L_c represents Consumption Freedom.

The Sub-indexes

Basic Freedoms [Lu]

This sub-index indicates basic or universal rights

$$L_u = \frac{L_{mo} + L_{sd} + L_{re} + L_{de} + L_{sp}}{5}$$



Freedom of movement [Lmo]

L_{mo} : liberty to move freely inside or outside the country regardless the sex of person

It only has tree states "full freedom" awarded with 10, "partial freedom" awarded with 5 and "no freedom" awarded with 0 of two subjects "Freedom of Domestic Movement" and "Women's Freedom of Movement".

$$L_{mo} = \frac{L_{do} + L_{wm}}{2}$$

Source: cato.org



Freedom of self-defense [Lsd]

Lsd: measures the right of *self-defense* or the right for persons to use reasonable force or defensive force, for the purpose of defending one's own life or the lives of others.

The sub-index considers that legal civilian firearms arsenals by averaged rate of civilian ownership by 100 people compared with the world's average [WA] is proportional to the level of freedom of gun ownership and self-defense.

Averaged rate of civilian ownership by 100 people $> \frac{WA}{3}$ is awarded with a 2.5

Averaged rate of civilian ownership by 100 people $> \frac{WA}{2}$ is awarded with a 5

Averaged rate of civilian ownership by 100 people $> WA \times 2$ is awarded with a 7.5

Averaged rate of civilian ownership by 100 people $> WA \times 3$ is awarded with a 10

Source: smallarmssurvey.org, gunpolicy.org, Wikipedia.org



Religious freedom [Lre]

Lre: measures the freedom of an individual or community, in public or private, to manifest religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance. It also includes the freedom to change one's religion or belief.

Freedom is rewarded with a fixed average between the Religious freedom subindex from Cato Institute and a the vale of the world report of the International Coalition for Religious Freedom (in base 10)

Source: cato.org, religiousfreedom.com



Demonstration and meeting freedom [Lde]

Lde: measures the freedom and individual right or ability of people to come together and collectively express, promote, pursue, and defend their ideas.

Freedom is rewarded with the same scale and values than the Human Freedom Index from Cato Institute at the item “Freedom of assembly and demonstration” (Scale 0-10)

Source: cato.org



Freedom of Speech [Lsp]

Lsp: measures people freedom to display opinions and ideas without government retaliation or censorship, or societal sanction. It includes any act of seeking, receiving and imparting information or ideas, regardless of the medium used.

Freedom is rewarded with a modification of the “World Press Freedom Index” (WPFI) from “Reporters Without Frontiers”

$$Lsp = \frac{100 - WPFI}{10}$$

Source: rsf.org

Liberty over your own body [Lb]

This sub-index indicates the freedom regard the right to control one's *own body*.

$$Lb = \frac{Lab + Leu}{2}$$



Abortion freedom [Lab]

Lab: freedom to perform or engage an abortion or ending of pregnancy by removing a fetus or embryo before it can survive outside the uterus

This factor has two states illegal and legal in five different cumulative options: to Save the Woman's Life, to Preserve Physical health, to Preserve mental health, Socioeconomic grounds, Without restriction as to reason

Legality of each item is awarded with 2.5 points each, illegality is awarded with 0 points

Sources: <http://www.worldabortionlaws.com/>
<http://www.reproductiverights.org>



Euthanasia Freedom [Leu]

The Leu Index measures the regulation of Termination of Life on Request and Assisted Suicide, the criteria is the patient must be suffering unbearable pain, their illness must be incurable, and the demand must be made in "full consciousness" by the patient. Legality is awarded with 10 points, assisted suicide is awarded with 7.5 points, other mixed assisted dying policies are awarded with 5 points.

Sources: Wikipedia, assistedsuicide.org

Economic Freedom [Le]

This sub-index indicates the ability of members of a society to undertake economic actions such as use a money, do business, trade and labor without government interference. It is defined as follows:

$$Le = \frac{Lfi + ROLr \times Lbu + ROLr \times Ltra + ROLr \times Lla + Lmp}{5}$$



Fiscal Freedom [Lfi]

We define the Fiscal Freedom Index, L_{fiscal} , as the total government expenditures, in order to measure this index; it takes into account the federal expenditures plus states plus local expenditures.

$$L_{fiscal} = \frac{\text{Total Government Expenditures}}{GDP} \times 100$$

Source:

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2016/02/weodata/index.aspx>



Freedom to Starting a Business [Lbu]

This topic measures the paid-in minimum capital requirement, number of procedures, time and cost for a small- to medium-sized limited liability company to start up and formally operate. The index $L_{business}$ is defined as follows:

$$L_{business} = \frac{I_{Procedures} + I_{Time} + I_{Cost} + I_{Min\ Capital}}{4}$$

Source: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploretopics/starting-a-business>



Freedom to Trade [Ltr]

Freedom to trade index, L_{trade} , is provided by *Doing Business*, it records the time and cost associated with the logistical process of exporting and importing goods, measures the time and cost (excluding tariffs) associated with three sets of procedures—documentary compliance, border compliance and domestic transport—within the overall process of exporting or importing a shipment of goods.

Source: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploretopics/trading-across-borders>

Labor Freedom [Lla]

The Labor Freedom Index Llabor, measures the restriction to define the price and conditions in a labor contract, it is defined as follows:

$$Lla = \frac{I_{fixedterm} + I_{minimumwage} + I_{unemployment} + I_{insurance}}{4}$$

Where the first term measures the restriction of choice the labor contract term, the second term measures the restriction of the minimum price of the contract, the fourth term measures the cost of the unemployment protection scheme and the last term measures the mandatory health protection scheme.

Source: <http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploretopics/labor-market-regulation>

Liberty of Money [Lmp]

This topic measures the purchasing power of money controlled by central banks, we use the inflation CPI index of the WorldBank, if there is not central bank, this index is equal to 100, because there is a scheme of free banking.

$$Lmoney = \begin{cases} 100 & \text{if there is not Central Bank} \\ CPI & \text{if there is Central Bank} \end{cases}$$

Source: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/FP.CPI.TOTL.ZG>

Rule of Law [ROLr]

Derived from internationally accepted standards, the World Justice Project's definition of the rule of law is a system in which the following four universal principles are upheld:

The government and its officials and agents as well as individuals and private entities are accountable under the law.

The laws are clear, publicized, stable, and just; are applied evenly; and protect fundamental rights, including the security of persons and property and certain core human rights.

The process by which the laws are enacted, administered, and enforced is accessible, fair, and efficient.

Justice is delivered timely by competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who are of sufficient number, have adequate resources, and reflect the makeup of the communities they serve.

We applied a transformation of the index as follows:

$$ROLr = \frac{ROL}{ROLmax}$$

ROL is the index measured by the World Justice Project, and ROLmax is the maximum of the index.

Source: <http://worldjusticeproject.org>

Relationship and sexual freedom [Ls]

This sub-index indicates the freedom (or lack of interference of the estate) in sexual matters and human relations or interactions.

$$Ls = \frac{Lsq + Lpr + Lad}{3}$$



Sexual preference freedom [Lsq]

Lsp: liberty to have sexual relations with people of the same sex

It only has two states of one subject. Legality is awarded with 10 points, illegality is awarded with 0 points.

Source: International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association



Prostitution Freedom [Lpr]

Lpr: freedom to perform or engage sexual intercourse for money and freedom to do a voluntary association formed and organized to carry on a business based on prostitution

This factor has three states illegal, legal and partially legal on three different subjects: Prostitution, Brothel Ownership and Pimping.

$$Lp = \frac{L_{prostitution} + L_{brothelownership} + L_{pimping}}{3}$$

Legality of each item is awarded with 10 points, limited legality is awarded with 5 points, illegality is awarded with 0 points

Source: <http://prostitution.procon.org/>



Adultery freedom [Lad]

Lad: liberty to have sexual relations outside marriage.

It only has two states of one subject. Legality is awarded with 10 points, illegality is awarded with 0 points to 3 points depending in the punishment..

Source: Amnesty International / Reuters

Consumption Freedom [Lco]

This sub-index indicates the freedom to produce, commerce and consume goods (Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs).

$$Lc = \frac{L_{to} + L_{al} + L_{dr}}{3}$$



Freedom to consume tobacco [Lto]

Lto: freedom to consume tobacco

Tobacco is globally permitted, but the FPE interprets taxation as an indirect prohibition.

$$L_{to} = Tobacco\ Legality + \frac{Tobacco\ Legality \times (100 - \%Total\ tax)}{100}$$

Tobacco legality awarded with 5 points

Source: World Health Organization / <http://www.who.int/>



Freedom to consume alcohol [Lal]

Lal: freedom to consume alcohol without government retaliation or censorship, or societal sanction

Alcohol is not globally permitted, but also in this case the FPE interprets taxation as an indirect prohibition.

$$L_{al} = Alcohol\ Legality + \frac{Alcohol\ Legality \times (100 - \%Total\ tax)}{100}$$

Alcohol legality awarded with 5 points

Source: World Health Organization / <http://www.who.int/>



Freedom to consume drugs [Ldr]

Ldr: freedom to consume drugs without government retaliation or censorship, or societal sanction

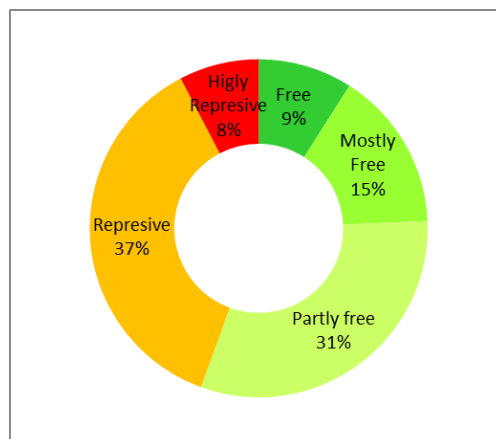
Freedom is rewarded with the same scale and values than FreeExistence Index from Worldwide Drug Freedom (Scale 0-10)

Source: freeexistence.org

The Global Personal Freedom Index

#	Country	PFI	Status	#	Country	PFI	Status	#	Country	PFI	Status
1	Netherlands	86,96	Free	51	Namibia	56,64	Partly free	101	Tanzania	45,27	Repressive
2	Canada	86,14	Free	52	Belarus	56,45	Partly free	102	Sri Lanka	44,91	Repressive
3	Switzerland	84,80	Free	53	Chile	56,33	Partly free	103	Senegal	44,45	Repressive
4	Germany	83,42	Free	54	South Korea	56,12	Partly free	104	Bolivia	44,39	Repressive
5	Belgium	83,24	Free	55	Malta	55,91	Partly free	105	Malaysia	43,75	Repressive
6	Luxembourg	80,67	Free	56	Ghana	55,85	Partly free	106	Vietnam	43,53	Repressive
7	United States	80,08	Free	57	Guyana	55,46	Partly free	107	Algeria	43,32	Repressive
8	Denmark	78,92	Free	58	Peru	55,10	Partly free	108	Fiji	43,11	Repressive
9	Uruguay	78,90	Free	59	Panama	55,07	Partly free	109	Chad	43,00	Repressive
10	Hong Kong	77,87	Free	60	Argentina	54,97	Partly free	110	Dominican	42,96	Repressive
11	Australia	77,37	Free	61	Brazil	54,87	Partly free	111	Jordan	42,48	Repressive
12	New Zealand	76,05	Free	62	Albania	54,86	Partly free	112	Zimbabwe	42,23	Repressive
13	Sweden	74,32	Free	63	Bahrain	54,71	Partly free	113	Philippines	41,94	Repressive
14	Norway	73,09	Mostly Free	64	Romania	54,33	Partly free	114	Lebanon	41,17	Repressive
15	Austria	71,17	Mostly Free	65	Turkey	54,09	Partly free	115	Haiti	40,85	Repressive
16	France	70,78	Mostly Free	66	Mongolia	54,04	Partly free	116	Uganda	40,44	Repressive
17	Spain	70,69	Mostly Free	67	Guatemala	53,22	Partly free	117	Kuwait	40,39	Repressive
18	Colombia	70,15	Mostly Free	68	Ecuador	53,21	Partly free	118	Central Afri	39,88	Repressive
19	United Kingdom	69,55	Mostly Free	69	Jamaica	52,91	Partly free	119	Trinidad and	39,84	Repressive
20	Estonia	69,43	Mostly Free	70	El Salvador	51,94	Partly free	120	Guinea	39,37	Repressive
21	Portugal	69,39	Mostly Free	71	Kazakhstan	51,85	Partly free	121	Burundi	38,89	Repressive
22	Italy	68,91	Mostly Free	72	Armenia	51,60	Partly free	122	Guinea-Biss	38,78	Repressive
23	Finland	68,53	Mostly Free	73	Thailand	51,60	Partly free	123	Ethiopia	38,52	Repressive
24	Iceland	68,36	Mostly Free	74	Seychelles	50,78	Partly free	124	United Arab	37,98	Repressive
25	Cabo Verde	68,17	Mostly Free	75	India	50,69	Partly free	125	Uzbekistan	37,89	Repressive
26	Ireland	67,19	Mostly Free	76	Paraguay	50,52	Partly free	126	Liberia	37,58	Repressive
27	Greece	66,95	Mostly Free	77	Benin	50,22	Partly free	127	China	37,23	Repressive
28	Serbia	66,02	Mostly Free	78	Zambia	49,73	Partly free	128	Cuba	37,00	Repressive
29	Japan	65,96	Mostly Free	79	Russia	49,56	Partly free	129	Sierra Leon	36,90	Repressive
30	Czech Republic	65,89	Mostly Free	80	Nicaragua	48,88	Partly free	130	Cambodia	36,60	Repressive
31	Israel	63,51	Mostly Free	81	Azerbaijan	48,62	Repressive	131	Oman	36,24	Repressive
32	Montenegro	62,34	Mostly Free	82	Lesotho	48,52	Repressive	132	Bangladesh	36,20	Repressive
33	South Africa	61,98	Mostly Free	83	Burkina Faso	48,48	Repressive	133	Tajikistan	35,42	Repressive
34	Hungary	61,93	Mostly Free	84	Papua New Guinea	47,93	Repressive	134	Equatorial C	35,33	Highly Repressive
35	Slovak Rep.	61,69	Mostly Free	85	Malawi	47,89	Repressive	135	Angola	33,74	Highly Repressive
36	Mexico	60,98	Partly free	86	Morocco	47,43	Repressive	136	Nigeria	33,02	Highly Repressive
37	Croatia	60,40	Partly free	87	Tunisia	47,39	Repressive	137	Rwanda	32,60	Highly Repressive
38	Latvia	60,23	Partly free	88	Madagascar	47,07	Repressive	138	Libya	32,43	Highly Repressive
39	Costa Rica	60,22	Partly free	89	Honduras	46,90	Repressive	139	Qatar	32,26	Highly Repressive
40	Moldova	60,13	Partly free	90	Gabon	46,78	Repressive	140	Egypt	27,43	Highly Repressive
41	Slovenia	60,07	Partly free	91	Bhutan	46,71	Repressive	141	Pakistan	27,42	Highly Repressive
42	Georgia	59,88	Partly free	92	Barbados	46,18	Repressive	142	Saudi Arabi	26,97	Highly Repressive
43	Lithuania	59,78	Partly free	93	Venezuela	46,00	Repressive	143	Afghanistan	23,23	Highly Repressive
44	Ukraine	58,30	Partly free	94	Belize	45,89	Repressive	144	Iran	23,19	Highly Repressive
45	Singapore	58,26	Partly free	95	Kenya	45,89	Repressive				
46	Cyprus	58,06	Partly free	96	Nepal	45,82	Repressive				
47	Bosnia-Herzegovina	57,92	Partly free	97	Mozambique	45,71	Repressive				
48	Bulgaria	57,90	Partly free	98	Niger	45,49	Repressive				
49	Poland	57,06	Partly free	99	Suriname	45,47	Repressive				
50	Botswana	56,65	Partly free	100	Cameroon	45,41	Repressive				

Status	Countries
Free	13
Mostly Free	22
Partly free	45
Repressive	53
Highly Repressive	11

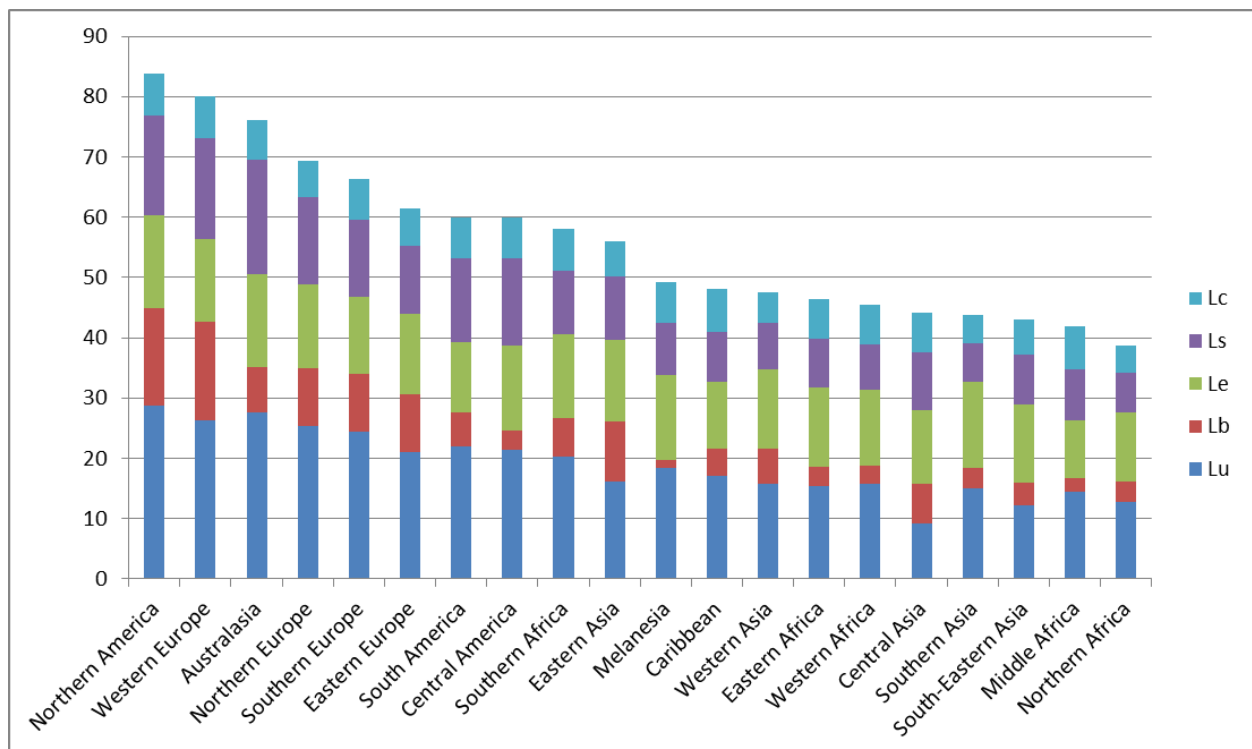


Index by Subregion

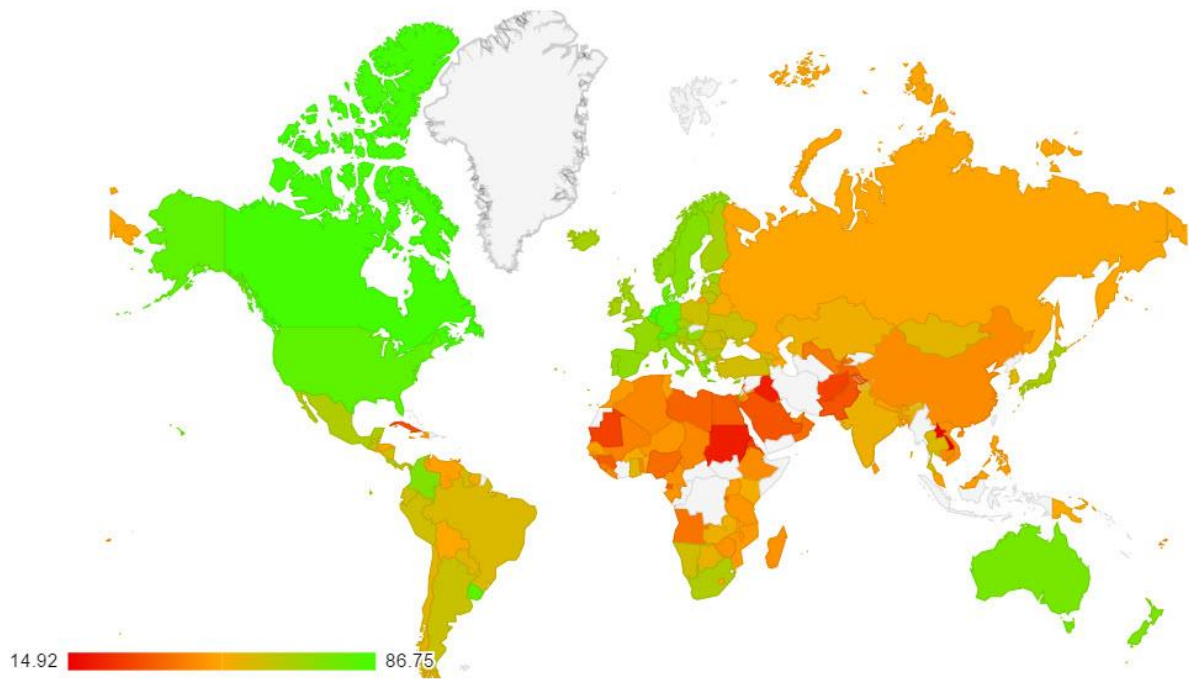
Subregion	PFI
Northern America	83,80
Western Europe	80,14
Australasia	76,13
Northern Europe	69,37
Southern Europe	66,31
Eastern Europe	60,98
South America	60,02
Central America	59,97
Southern Africa	58,02
Eastern Asia	56,00
Melanesia	49,27
Caribbean	48,09
Western Asia	47,54
Eastern Africa	46,42
Western Africa	45,41
Central Asia	44,14
Southern Asia	43,76
South-Eastern Asia	43,05
Middle Africa	42,54
Northern Africa	38,80
Total general	54,41

Index by Continent

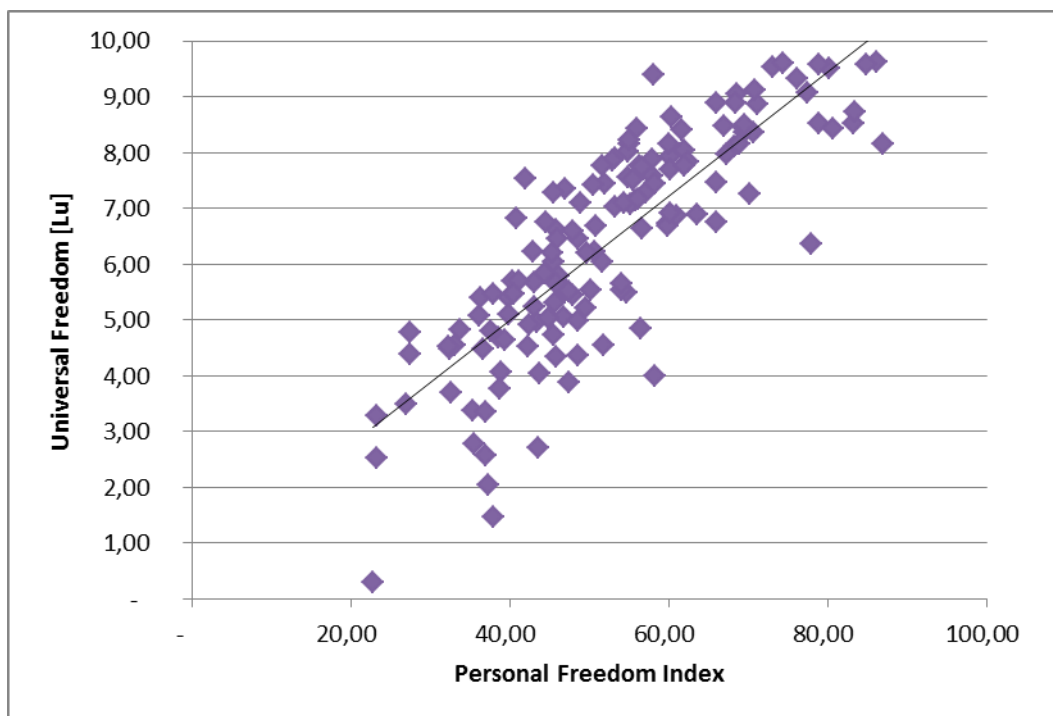
Continent	PFI
Europe	68,52
Oceania	62,70
Americas	59,56
Asia	46,42
Africa	45,65
Total general	54,41

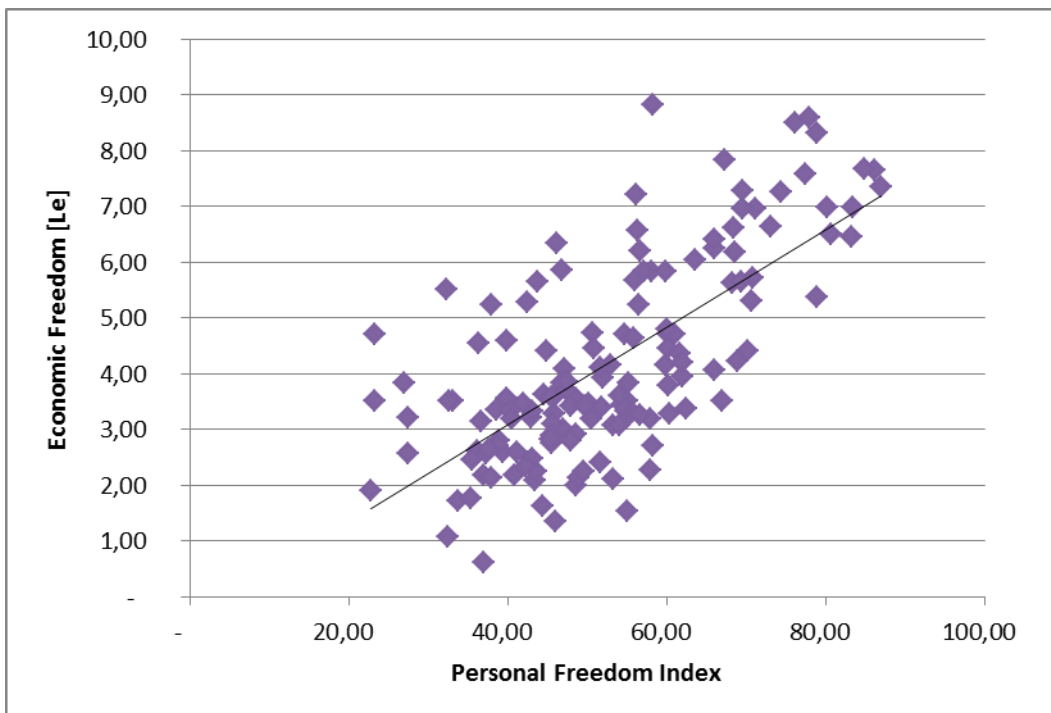
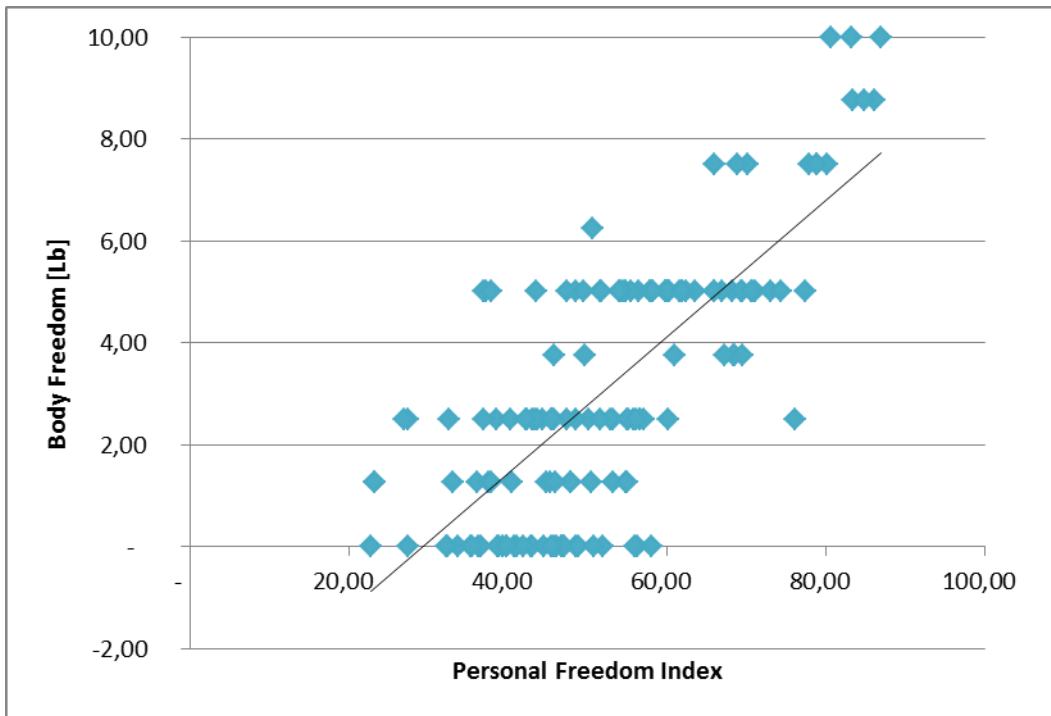


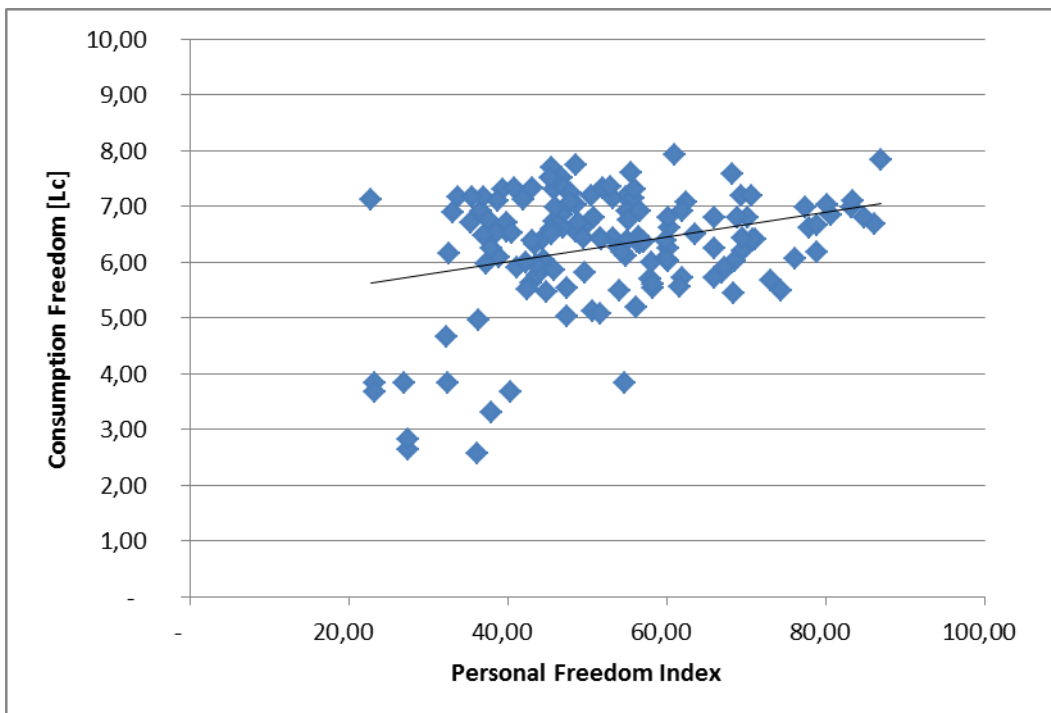
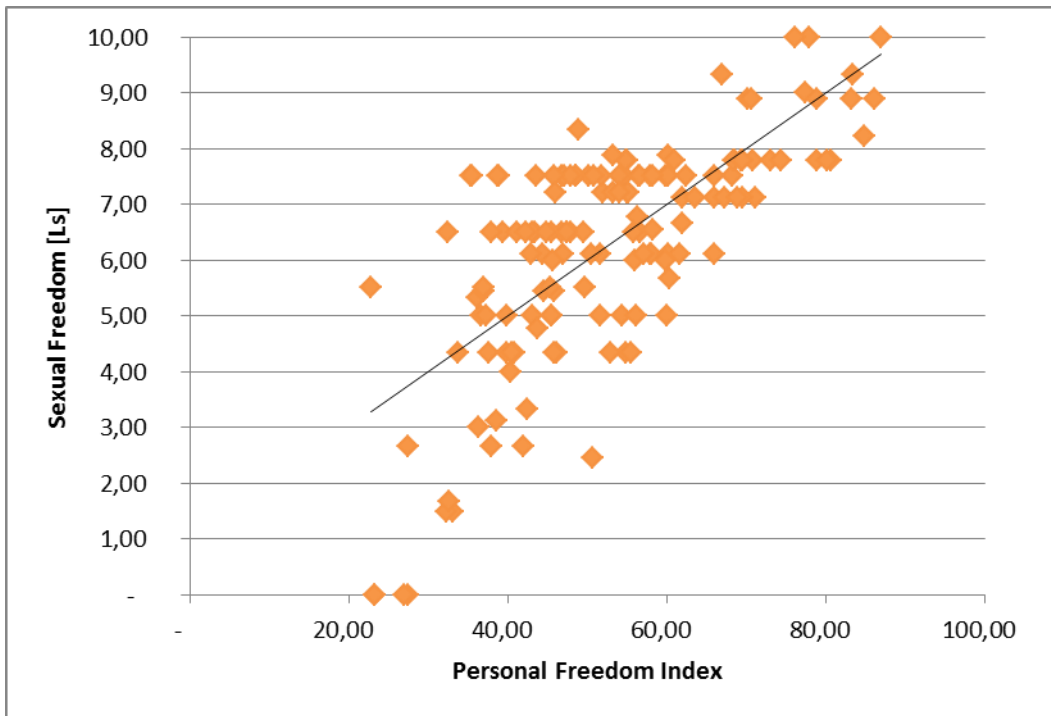
Personal Freedom INDEX MAP



Correlations between sub-indexes

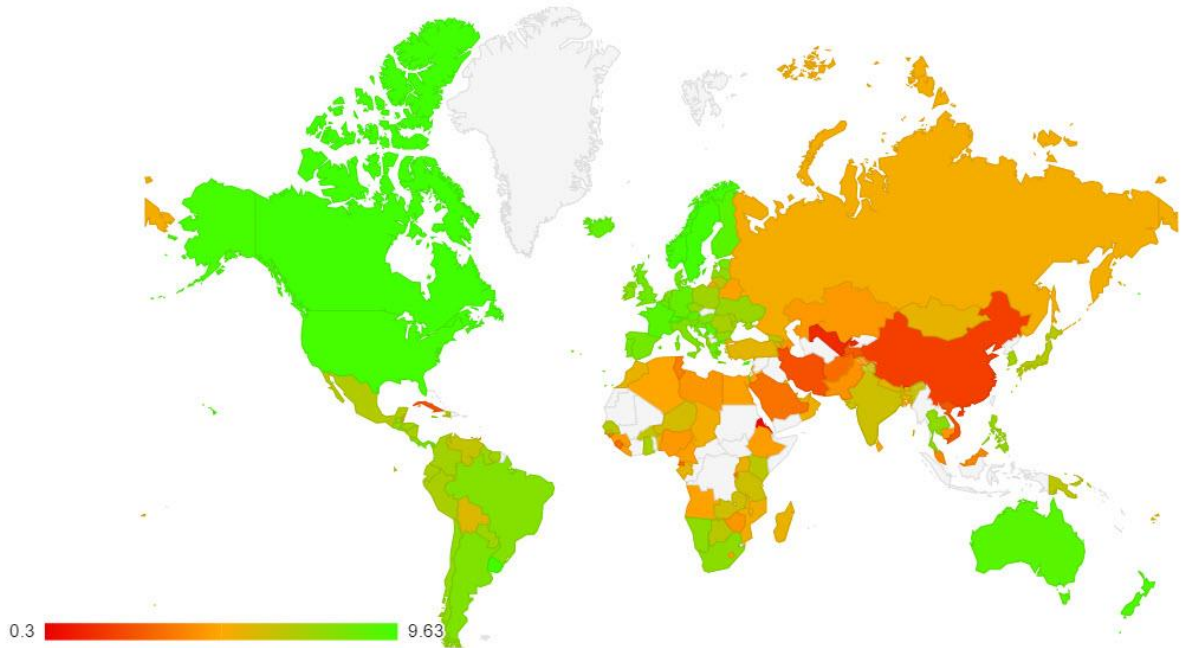




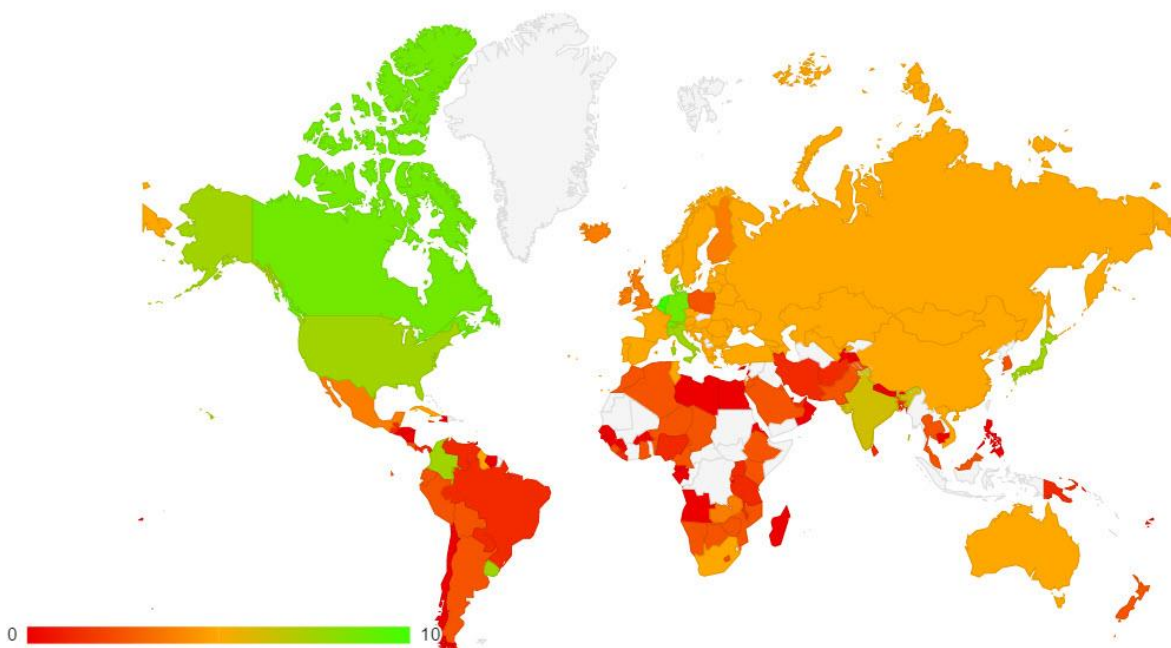


Maps by subindex

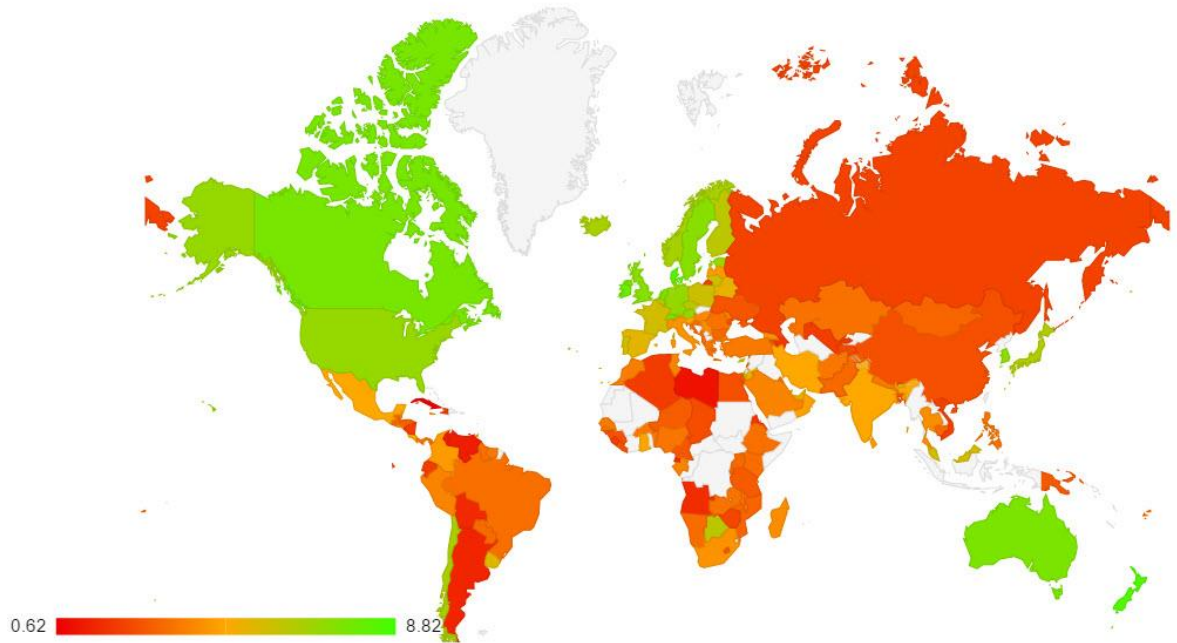
Universal Freedom



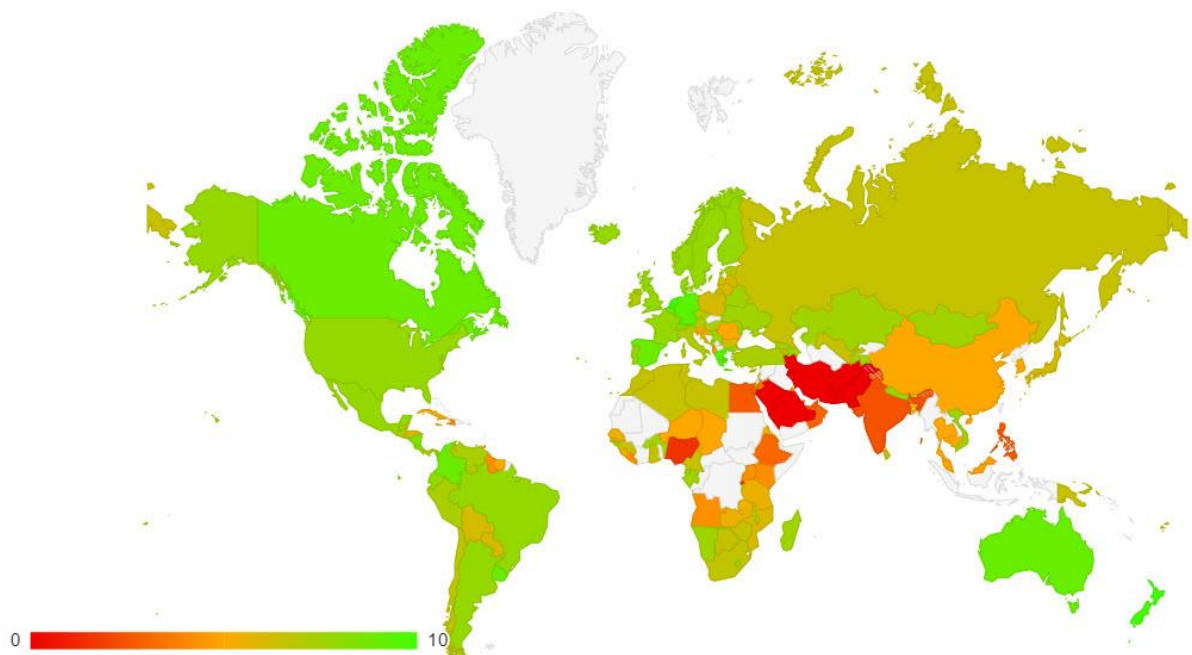
Body Freedom



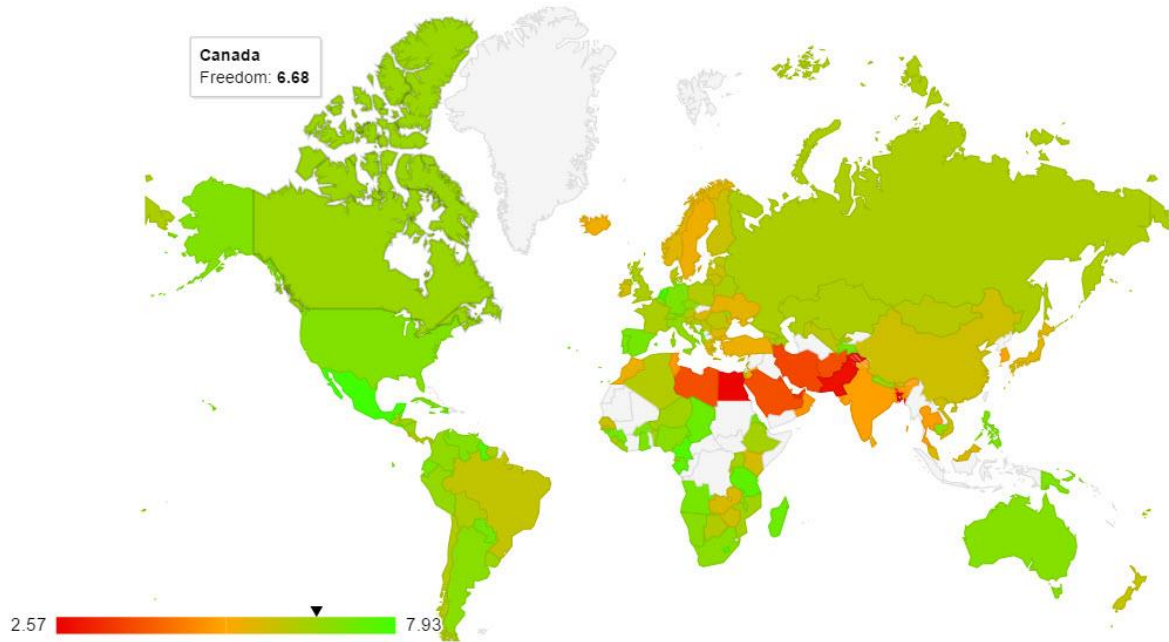
Economic Freedom



Sexual Freedom

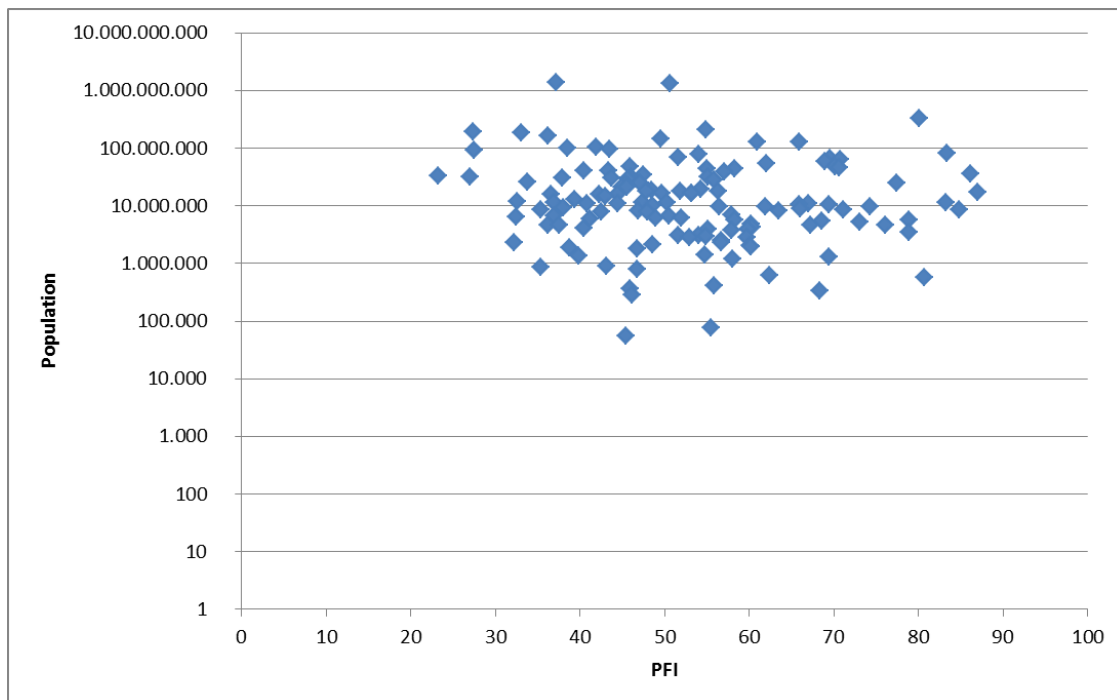


Consumption Freedom



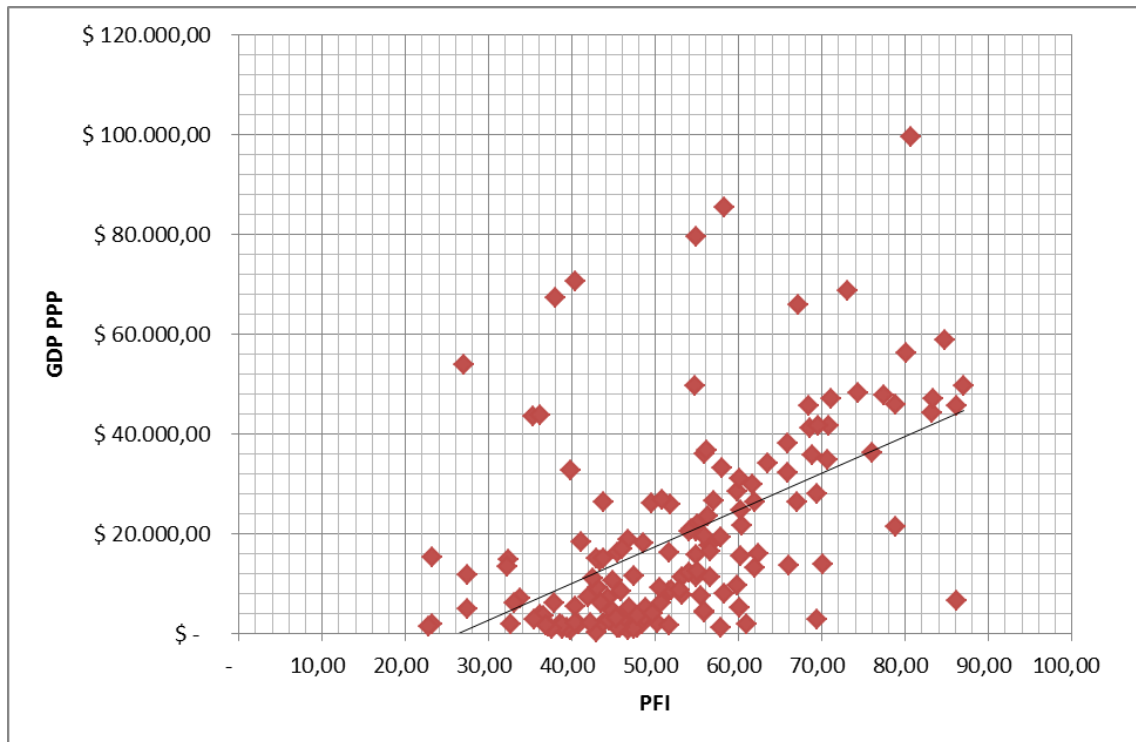
Comparative Analysis

Personal Freedom Index vs population

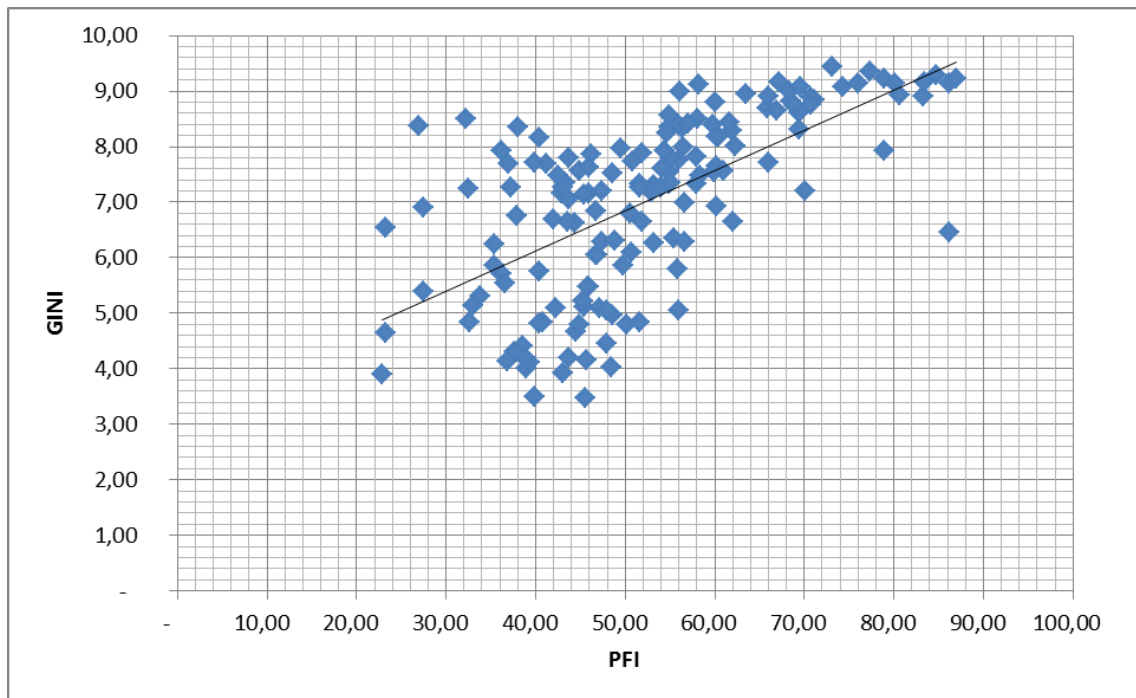


Evident no correlation ($R^2=0.0016$)

Personal Freedom Index vs GDP PPP



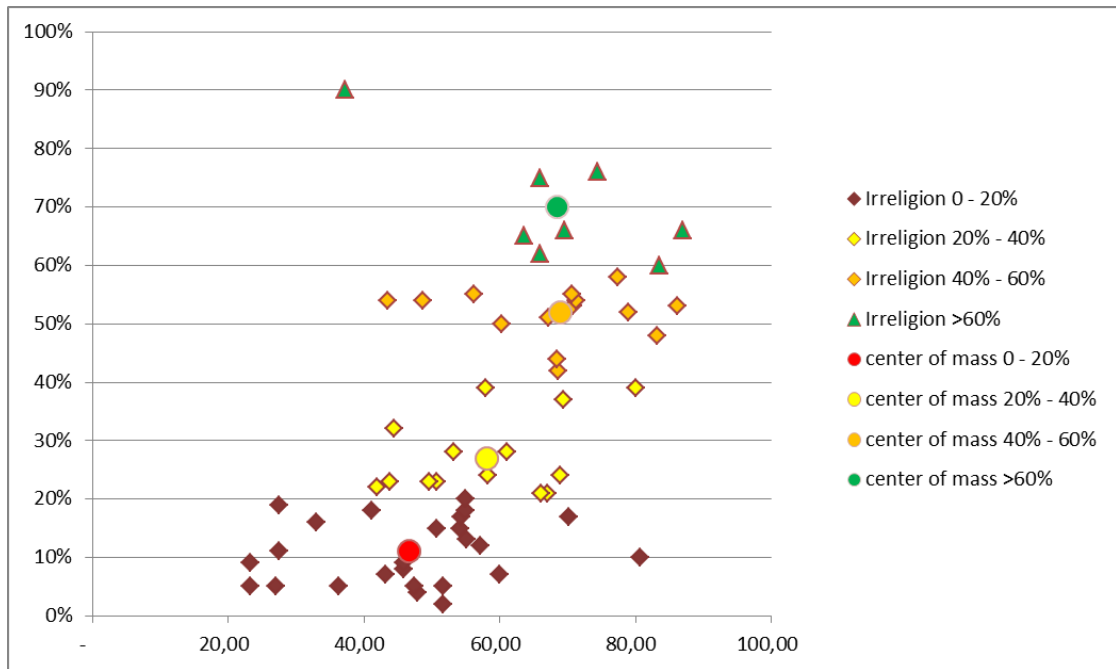
Personal Freedom Index vs GINI



Possible correlation

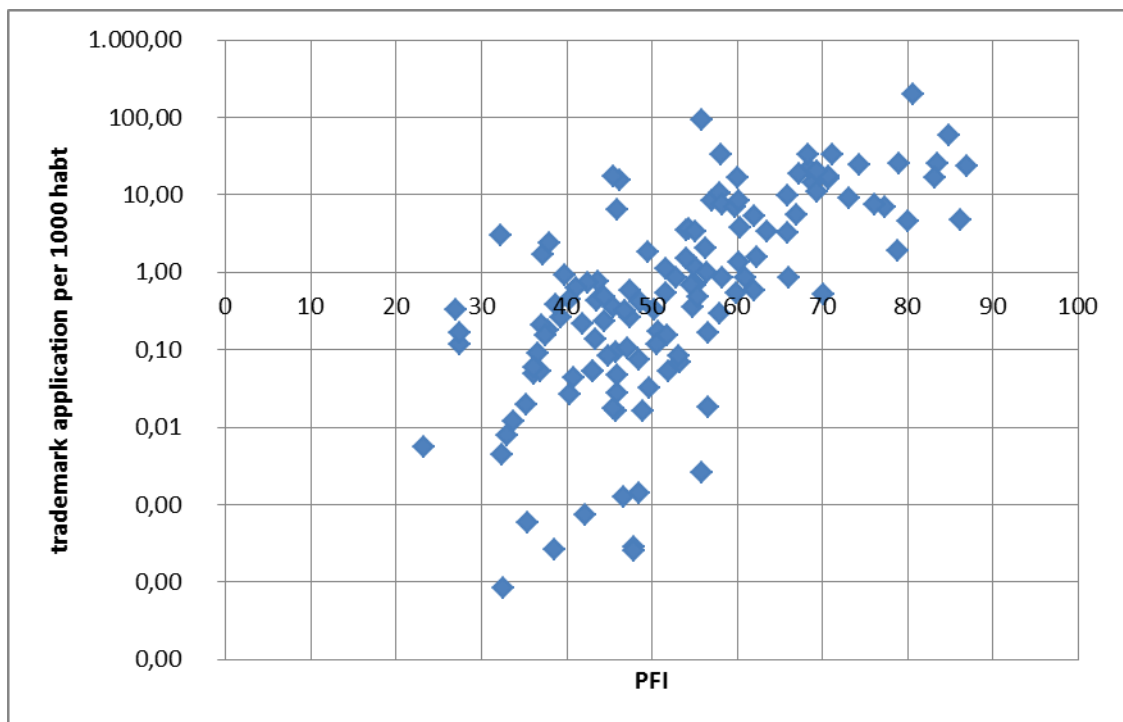
Personal Freedom Index vs Irreligion

Irreligion: % of agnostic population + % of atheist population



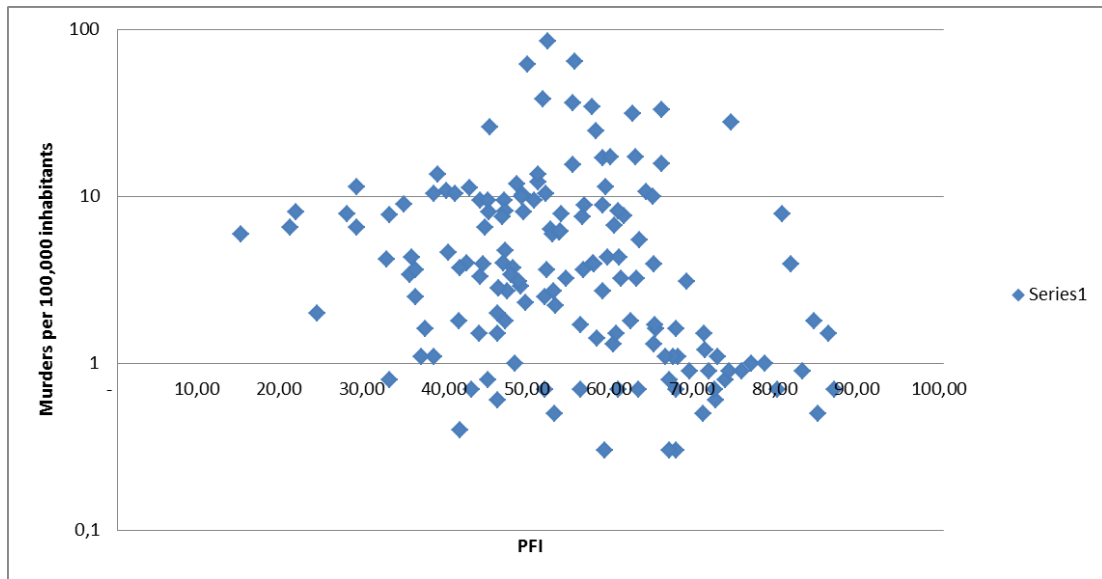
Possible correlation

Personal Freedom Index vs trademark applications



Possible correlation

Personal Freedom Index vs Crime Rate (UNODC)



Evident no correlation $R^2 = 0,0052$