

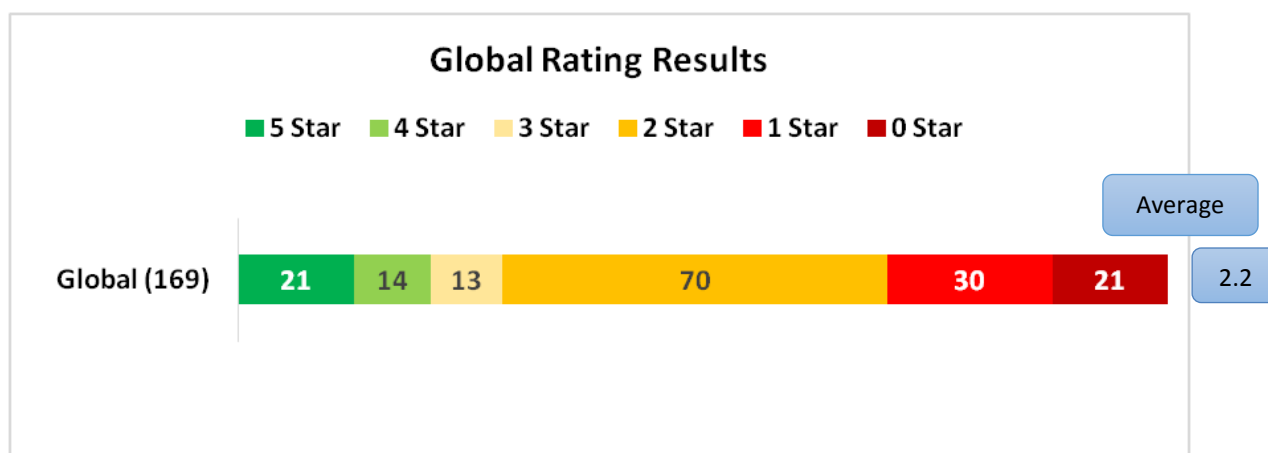
PRESS RELEASE

Only one in three think tanks is transparent about its funding, survey shows

Transparify, Washington DC, 07 May 2014

www.transparify.org

Only one in three think tanks is transparent about its funding sources, a survey published today shows. Out of 169 think tanks assessed by the Transparify initiative in the first global study of its kind, only 21 are highly transparent, disclosing the exact sums they receive from each donor (five stars). A further 14 think tanks are broadly transparent, providing comprehensive but less detailed financial information (four stars). The remaining 134 institutions disclose little or no information on who funds them.



“Think tanks can play a positive role producing independent, in-depth policy research to inform politicians, media and the public,” said Dr Hans Gutbrod, Executive Director of Transparify. “As key players in democratic politics, they have a responsibility to be transparent about their operations. Encouragingly, our survey shows that think tanks themselves are increasingly sharing this view.”

Transparify’s data, which covers 47 countries, shows that the number of transparent think tanks increased by 40% in early 2014. “The number of transparent think tanks looks likely to double in the course of this year,” Dr Hans Gutbrod explained. “More and more think tanks are realizing that transparency is a great way of bolstering the credibility of their research and policy advice.”

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Note to editors: The report and the full data set covering the results of all 169 think tanks across 47 countries are available at www.transparify.org