

# INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM: A GLOBAL IMPACT



**Exposing  
Abuses of Power**



**Promoting  
Accountability**



**Fighting  
Corruption**



**Fostering  
Transparency**



**Strengthening  
Democracy**

**“There are few other things that you could do that are more fruitful for democracy. It is like the water supply”**

David Leigh,  
*The Guardian*

Investigative journalism is in-depth, systematic reporting on issues often hidden from public view.

## UNDER ATTACK

Investigative reporters face:



LEGAL THREATS • PHYSICAL THREATS •  
CORRUPT OWNERS • HOSTILE PUBLISHERS •  
LACK OF RESOURCES • LACK OF FUNDING

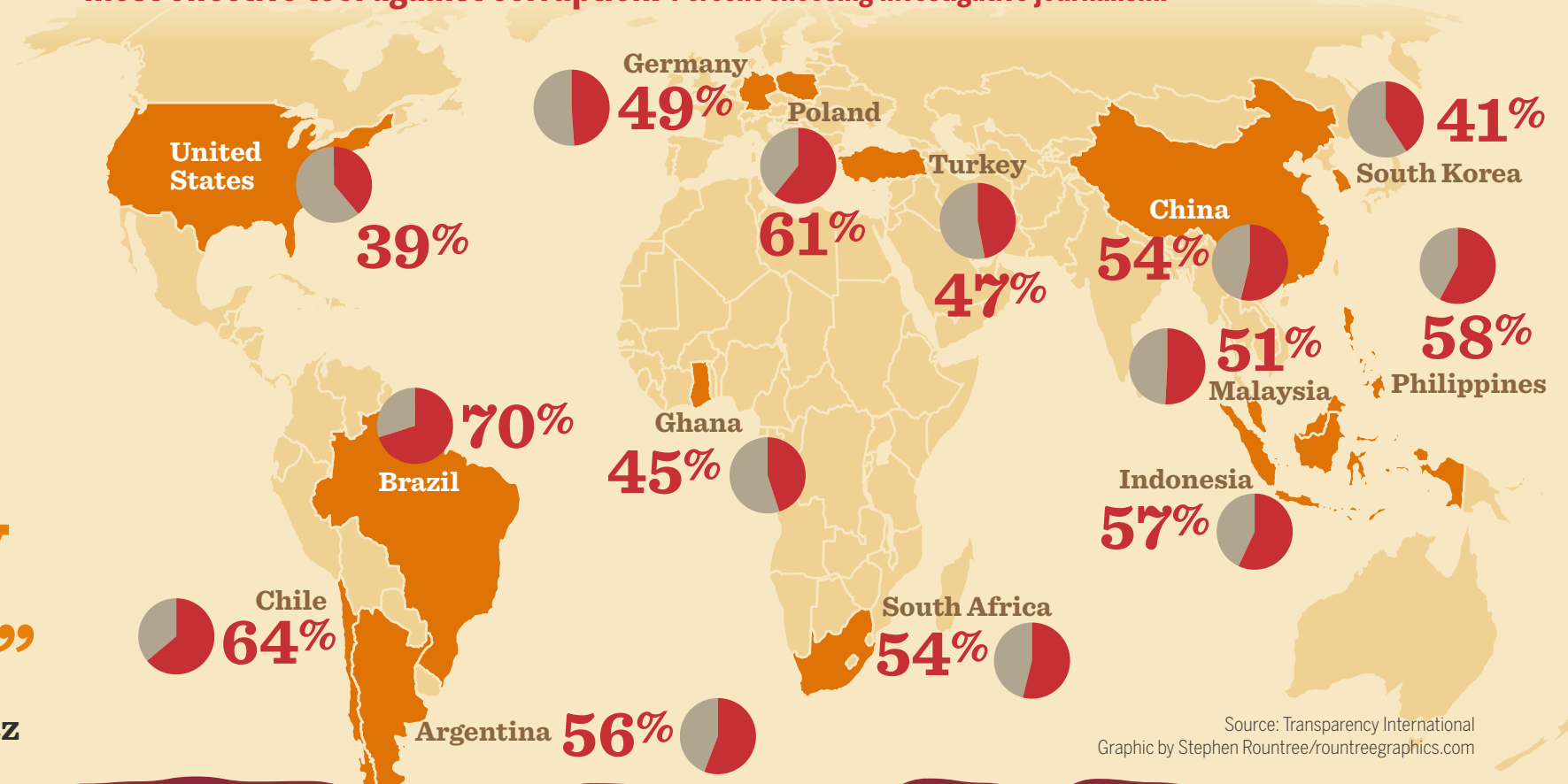


**“Investigative journalism is absolutely essential.”**

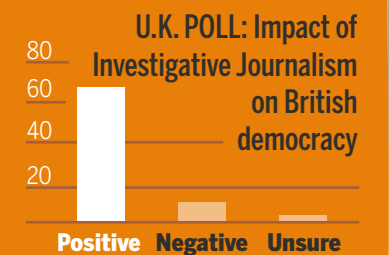


Nobel Prize winning economist **Joseph Stiglitz**

In 20 of 30 countries surveyed, business people ranked investigative journalism the most effective tool against corruption. Percent choosing investigative journalism:



Source: Transparency International  
Graphic by Stephen Rountree/roundtreegraphics.com



U.S. POLL: Percent who say news media can be effective watchdogs, holding leaders accountable



BUSINESS POLL: What is the most effective anti-corruption measure?



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Global Investigative Journalism Network

## Impacts

**Watergate (U.S.) - 1972-73**  
Watergate scandal  
**Result: Nixon resigns, 48 convictions, government reforms**



**Investigating Estrada (Philippines) - 2000**  
Exposé of Philippine President's corruption  
**Result: Estrada impeached, convicted**



**BAE (U.K.) - 2003-2010**  
Reports of global payoffs by BAE  
**Result: \$400 million fine, new U.K. Bribery Act**



**Why Frere's Babies Die (South Africa) - 2007**  
Newborns dying from negligence  
**Result: hospital reforms, budget increase**



**Officials' Tax Evasion (Pakistan) - 2011-12**  
Exposé that 70% of MPs paid no tax.  
**Result: Tax rolls made public, compliance sets record**



For more case studies, see <http://impact.gijn.org>.