

## Press subjugation and perceived corruption

“Earthquakes don’t kill people but collapsing buildings do”. Corrupt practises in construction are a cause of earthquake destruction of buildings and the consequent deaths of inhabitants, users and neighbours. This chart illustrates a close correlation in some earthquake-prone countries between high corruption and high press subjugation.

An independent media is essential for the successful eradication of corruption: “Corruption thrives in secrecy and withers in the light” and consequent public shaming of its perpetrators will cause corrupt practises to diminish. Investigative journalism exposes corrupt behaviour and supports people themselves in taking responsibility against the actions of their politicians. This cannot happen without a free press which is why corrupt governments will seek to control the media in their countries.

Lowest rates of corruption are in countries with low media control, as exemplified by the USA and Japan. Not all countries with high media control have correspondingly high corruption but the highest rates of corruption do occur in countries with highest control over their media, as shown by Tajikistan, Russia and Pakistan.

Information relevant to the chart:

### Top 10 Earthquake disasters for the period 1900 to 2010 by numbers killed:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No Killed</u>	<u>AMALGAMATION</u>
China	242,000	China
Haiti	222,570	Haiti
China	200,000	Indonesia
China	180,000	Japan
Indonesia	165,708	<del>Soviet Union</del> Russia + <i>Independent States:</i>
Japan	143,000	Italy Georgia
Soviet Union	110,000	Pakistan Kazakhstan
China	87,476	India Tajikistan
Italy	75,000	Guatemala
Pakistan	<u>73,338</u>	Peru
		U S A
		Chile
		Turkey
		<del>Taiwan</del> <i>inconsistent sources</i>

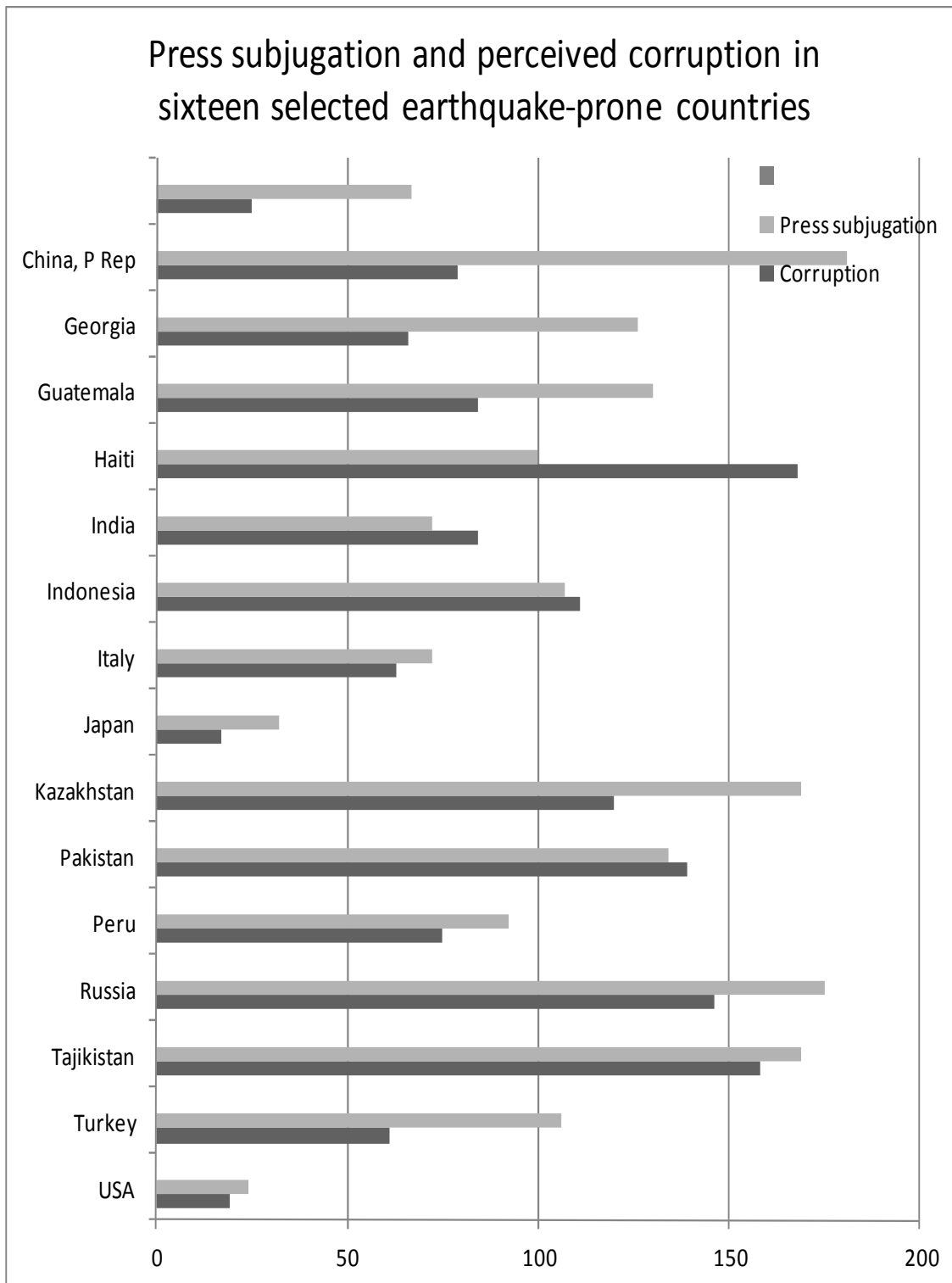
### Top 10 Earthquake disasters for the period 1900 to 2010 by total affected people:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No Total Affected</u>
China	45,976,596
India	20,003,766
India	6,321,812
Pakistan	5,128,000
China	5,077,795
Guatemala	4,993,000
Haiti	3,700,000
Peru	3,216,240
Indonesia	3,177,923
China	<u>3,020,004</u>

### Top 10 most important Earthquake disasters for the period 1900 to 2010 by economic damage:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Damage (000 US\$)</u>
Japan	100,000,000
China	85,000,000
United States	30,000,000
Chile	30,000,000
Japan	28,000,000
Italy	20,000,000
Turkey	20,000,000
Taiwan	14,100,000
Soviet Union	14,000,000
Japan	<u>12,500,000</u>

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Disappeared country name: **Chile**

October 2010

**Sources and notes:**

**Earthquake-prone countries:** EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, Universite catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium [http://www.emdat.be/result-disaster-profiles?disgroup=natural&period=1900%242010&dis\\_type=Earthquake+%28seismic+activity%29&Submit=Display+Disaster+Profile](http://www.emdat.be/result-disaster-profiles?disgroup=natural&period=1900%242010&dis_type=Earthquake+%28seismic+activity%29&Submit=Display+Disaster+Profile) Countries listed are those appearing in the Top 10 earthquake disasters for the period 1900 to 2010 by numbers killed, numbers affected and damage costs, amalgamated with Russia and earthquake-prone Independent States in place of the Soviet Union.

**Press subjugation:** <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=560&year=2010> "Subjugation" is used in place of "freedom" for compatibility scale for perceived corruption.

**Perceived corruption:** [http://www.transparency.org/policy\\_research/surveys\\_indices/cpi/2009/cpi\\_2009\\_table](http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi/2009/cpi_2009_table)