

Third report

Sep 2012

Iraq- Kurdistan region

The Monitoring of corruption Issue's coverage in Kurdish Media outlets



Implemented project:

Kurdish Institute for Elections KIE



In cooperation with:

International Media Support (IMS)



Coverage duration: (July 1st – Aug 31th , 2012)

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Kurdish Institute for Elections KIE is a non-governmental and autonomous organization, independent in its functioning and decision-making process. It was founded in 2002 in Iraq. It aims at promoting election education of the citizens and fostering individuals' political participation via the polling systems.



Preamble:

After finishing first and second season of our project of covering the case of gender and human right issues in Kurdish media, our third season begins with investigating some cases of corruption in media with all its forms in the Kurdistan region. The samples are taken in accordance to scientific principles and all archived and documented with us.

Through data and charts, this report displays the concerns of Kurdish media during last July and August 2012, covered by the Kurdish Institute for Election's coverage team and investigated by international trainers. The team was also trained by international trainers to watch and cover all media work like opinion, media's view, news, news-report, analytical report, investigative report, interview and etc.

Among them, only some were taken into consideration by the team such as:

- The piece must have been bound to the politics, economy and corruption cases, as there's a strong correlation among them.
- Prominent figures must have taken part in the cases, summarized in 16 figures from the republic's president to the manager of administrative units (public office), all the political party ranks, private sector figures, civic society figures, media, academicians, clerics and judiciary figures.

The aim of the coverage was only to show the true face of media and their concerns of corruption, which we hope to be a factor of activating and encouraging them covering it better.



Project Objectives

- Identify the extent of media coverage of interest in Corruption issue.
- Encourage media outlets in Kurdistan to play a more positive role in addressing Corruption issue in the region.
- Strengthening the role of civil society organizations in monitoring media outlets coverage of Corruption issue in Kurdistan.
- The capacity building of staffs specialized in monitoring media outlet coverage of Corruption issue.

Project Method

The following methods were adopted in collecting data about Corruption issue coverage in media outlets in Kurdistan:

1. Monitoring forms:

Monitoring forms to observe Press, TV, Radio and electronic media outlets. The main objective of those forms are identifying information about Corruption issue in the news and putting them in a numerical format through a guideline that was prepared specifically for this purpose.

2. the selection of a number of TV, radio and electronic media outlets:

A number of criteria were used in the selection process:

- ✓ The ease of access to the media outlet.
- ✓ The impact of the media on a large base of audience.
- ✓ The heterogeneity of the ownership, language, political orientation, audience and geographical distribution.

PRESS CODING FORM											PAGE _____ OF _____											
DATE										NEWSPAPER			MONITOR									
NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	ACTOR	PICTURE	SERVICE	ACCESS	PHONE	LANGUAGE	GENRE	TOPIC	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	THEME	NOTES	

The covered corruption issues:

In covering corruption, only those cases were taken into account were:

- 1-Political or economic, or involved more than one type of corruption.
- 2-Political, or economic and prominent political figures were involved.
- 3-The cases were only taken in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, nothing out of it was included.

Mechanisms of implementation

First: Preparation stage

Participating staff's at several workshops for:

1. increasing their knowledge and awareness about human right issues.

2. How they can fill out the categories of the monitoring form according to the project method.



Monitors during coverage of corruption issue
July 2, 2012

Second: Implementation stage

1. Recording of three satellite channels and three Radio stations daily with archive.
2. Obtaining of 8 newspapers and 4 websites per a day.
3. Covering 18 media outlets for 2 months (July 1st –Aug 31th, 2012) with the project method.
3. Entering these data that will be registered by data entry.



A view of media outlets coverage

2012/7/15

Third: Reporting Sage

The data entered by the data entry person were analyzed to:

1. Prepare the report at the end of the stage.
2. Conduct a press conference for the media in Kurdistan region in general and those media outlets that were covered in the monitoring process in particular to inform them about the results of the project.



A view of a press conference by the monitor's team
June 26, 2012

Media outlets covered in the project:

SN	Newspapers	Websites	Satellite channels	Radio stations
1	Awene	<i>Khandan</i> , www.xendan.org	NRT TV.	Nawa
2	Hawlati	<i>Sbeyi</i> , www.sbeyi.com	KNN TV.	Nawkho
3	Livin	<i>Peyamner</i> , www.peyamner.com	Zagros TV.	Yakgrtu
4	Rudaw	Komalnews, www.komalnews.net		
5	Kurdistani Nwe			
6	Hawler			
7	Rewan			
8	Zhiyanawa			



First: Analyzing data and conclusion and its influence on corruption generally

SPACE OF THE COVERED MEDIA OUTLETS TYPES

KIE's monitor team has covered eight newspapers, three satellite channels, three radio stations, and four websites. We'll present the covered subjects displayed by those media at that time. The measure for the newspapers is centimeter, satellite and radio stations with seconds and websites with words.

Media outlets \ Types	Editorial, analysis and opinions	News & reports	Interview	Mails from readers	Survey	Cartoon	photo	Announcement	inquiry	Total
Total of newspapers (cm2)	9537	240063	105064	8145	5692	252	255	121	1115	370244
Total of satellite's channels (seconds)	0	178678	2322	0	242	0	0	0	0	181242
Total of radio stations (seconds)	0	60632	0	23	32	0	0	0	0	60687
Total websites (Words)	2020	210972	5326	4952	400	0	6	0	0	223676
Total	11557	690345	112712	13120	6366	252	261	121	1115	835849

THE LEVEL OF CONSIDERING CORRUPTION IN EACH COVERED MEDIA OUTLETS

Media outlets / Themes	Total pieces coverage	space & time of addressed corruption issue	space & time of didn't addressed corruption issue	Total	Rate of space & time of addressed corruption issue
Total of newspapers (cm2)	148	32839	337405	370244	٪39
Total of satellite's channels (seconds)	157	29332	151910	181242	٪35
Total of radio stations (seconds)	148	2917	57770	60687	٪4
Total websites (Words)	199	18071	205605	223676	٪22
Total	609	83159	752689	835849	٪100

The upper table shows the consideration given to corruption by the covered media, as it shows the time and space were the subject has not been taken into consideration.

THE MENTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND CORRUPTION IN MEDIA OUTLETS COVERED BY THE TEAM

After showing the corruption case and how much it was taken into account in the table above, we will try to show if political parties were mentioned while displaying corruption cases or not no matter as a source of corruption or as an variable targeted by the others' corruption.

Media outlets' kinds	space & time of addressed corruption issue	Addressed political parties	Didn't Addressed political parties
Total of newspapers (cm2)	32839	24934	7905
Total of satellite's channels (seconds)	29332	18269	11063
Total of radio stations (seconds)	2917	1093	1824
Total of satellite's channels& Radios (seconds)	32249	19362	12887
Total websites (Words)	18071	7346	10725

COVERAGE OF CORRUPTION CASES IN COVERED MEDIA OUTLETS

Corruption's cases Media outlets' types	Addressed corruption cases													Total - Addressed corruption cases
	Cases of corruption in politics, government and public administration	Cases of corruption in defense and security	Cases of corruption in environment	Cases of corruption in health	Cases of corruption in oil and gas	Cases of corruption in humanitarian assistance	Cases of corruption in education	Cases of corruption in the media	Cases of corruption in religious	The work of government bodies/judiciary/law enforcement agencies against corruption	The role of NGOs and civic society against corruption	The damages caused by corruption	others	
Total of newspapers (cm2)	23299	1031	351	627	4281	0	658	82	0	919	0	420	1171	32839
Total of satellite's channels (seconds)	18714	1547	307	1132	2261	129	403	502	70	2511	0	40	1716	29332
Total of radio stations (seconds)	1929	495	0	173	90	0	0	0	141	0	0	0	89	2917
Total websites (Words)	8847	336	246	659	4402	0	390	432	867	582	209	68	1033	18071
Total	52789	3409	904	5912	11034	129	1451	1016	1078	4012	209	528	4009	83159

NATURE, SCALE AND TYPES OF CORRUPTIONS IN THE COVERED MEDIA OUTLETS

Corruptions Media outlets' types	Corruption's nature				Corruption's scale			types of corruption						
	Administrative Corruption	Political Corruption	Purely pri vate corruption	Total	Grand Corruption	Petty Corruption	Total	Bribery	Nepotism	Fraud	Embezzlement	Extortion	others	Total
Total of newspapers (cm2)	13912	1655	2369	32839	29865	2974	32839	1392	5061	5237	8535	826	11788	32839
Total of satellite's channels (seconds)	10782	1563	2915	29332	24801	4531	29332	1712	3645	4931	2106	70	16868	29332
Total of radio stations (seconds)	2642	90	185	2917	2139	778	2917	363	348	0	162	672	1372	2917
Total websites (Words)	13614	2955	1502	18071	15155	2916	18071	1914	162	412	4171	612	10800	18071
Total	40950	3523	6971	83159	71960	11199	83159	5381	9216	1058	14974	2180	40828	83159



Second: Analyzing data and conclusions of the corruption issue in each media outlets independently

In the first section, the media outlets have been discussed in general about their consideration of corruption. In this section, we'll discuss the same subject but for each media institution independently.

First: Corruption issue in the covered newspapers:

The project monitored 7 newspapers and 1 magazine throughout 2 months of monitoring process. The monitoring didn't occur on the days that the newspaper or magazine was not issued for obvious reasons. The newspapers are issued as follows:

- ❖ Two daily newspapers (Kurdistani Nwe and Hawler).
- ❖ Two weekly newspapers (Awene and Rudaw).
- ❖ One twice a week newspaper (Hawlati).
- ❖ One every 15 days (Rewan).
- ❖ One every 10 days (Lvin magazine).

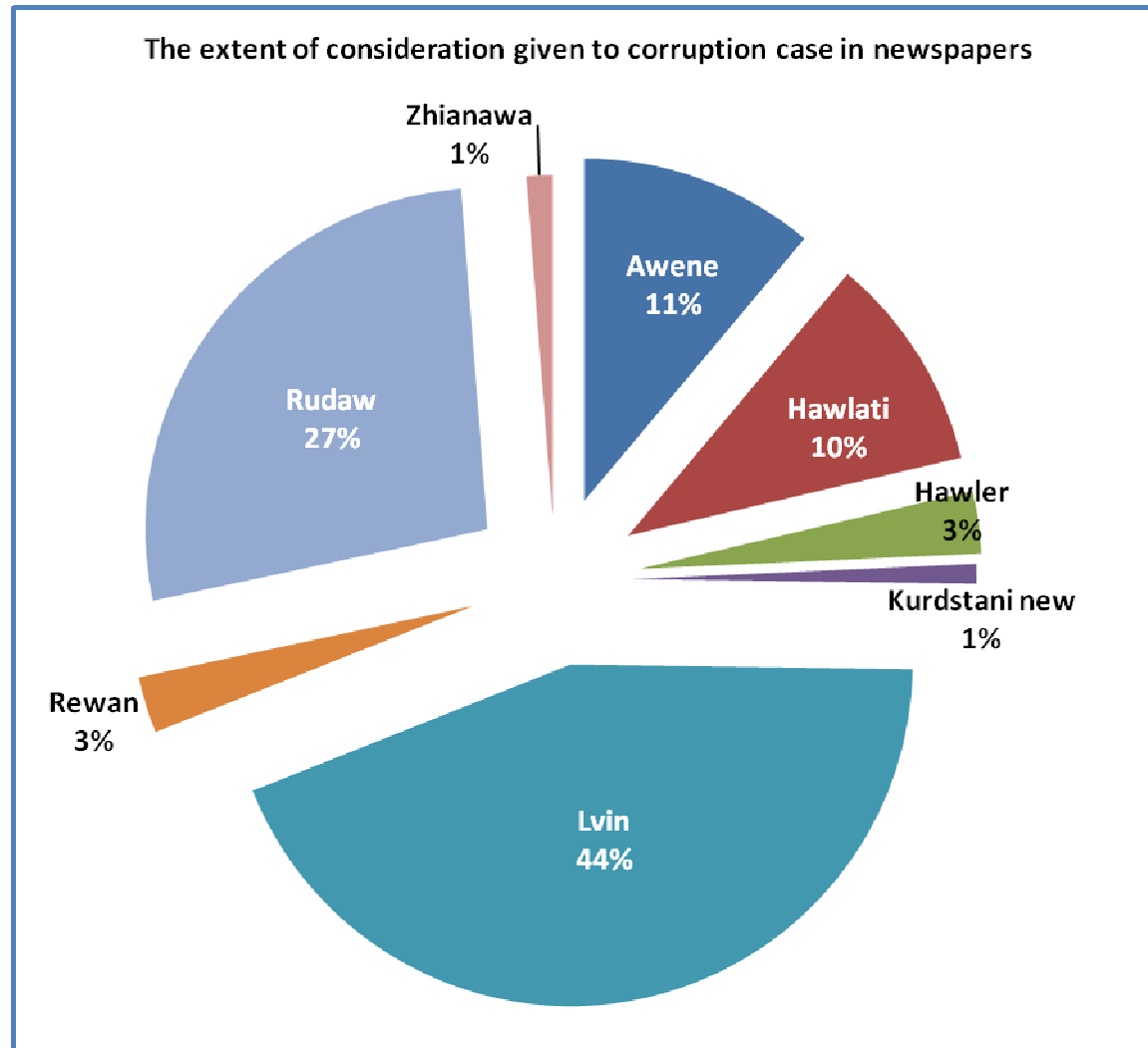
In each newspaper political, economic and corruption case are taken as an element of coverage. For this, all the opinion pieces, newspapers' views, news, news reports, interviews, telegrams, surveys, cartoons, profiles and investigations are taken into account by the teams, but not sports, ads and entertainment news. The daily newspapers news are more than weeklies or monthly thrice, twice or once. We use average to have a sound conclusion.

The extent of consideration given to corruption case in newspapers

Newspapers	Total News Pieces	Between Issues number	Addressed Corruption issue	Didn't addressed Corruption issue	Total	Rate of corruption Issue Coverage
Awene	8	340-333	3555	35627	39182	% 9
Hawlati	26	875-849	3434	37749	41183	٪8.3
Hawler	44	1420-1376	2342	93633	95975	٪2.4
Kurdistani nwe	48	5866-5819	845	111318	112163	٪0.75
Lvin	5	206-202	13531	24511	38042	٪35.5
Rewan	3	260-258	37	1675	1712	٪2.16
Rwdaw	8	225-218	9088	32201	41289	٪22
Zhianawa	6	521-515	7	691	698	٪1
Total	148	—	32839	337405	370244	٪10
Average	18.5	—	4105	42175	26280	٪10



Based on the criteria described above, the data shows that among (370244 cm2) political, economic and corruption topics, only (32839 cm2) addressed to Corruption issue and that consists a (10%) of the total media coverage of the 8 covered newspaper and that is obviously a low coverage rate, in case of (337405 cm2) didn't addressed to Corruption issue and that consists a (90%) of the total media coverage.



Second: Corruption issue in the covered Satellite channels:

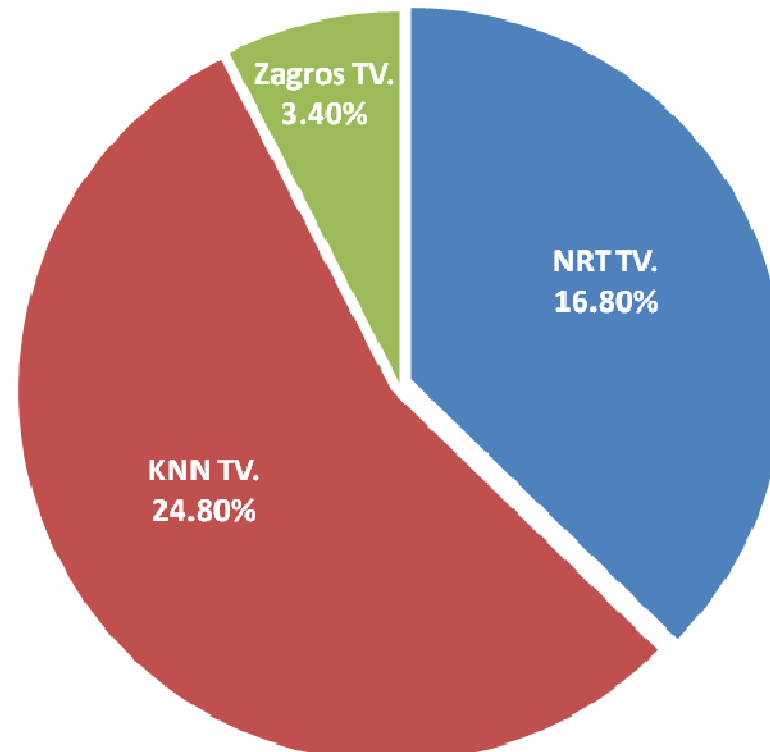
Three Kurdish satellite channels were covered over corruption consideration on the daily basis from 7pm to 10pm. Only one news session was taken into account and covered thereafter. Only local news were covered by the team not sports, ads, photos, forecasts. Measurement of the satellite channels was by seconds, and the results were:

Satellite channels	Total News Pieces	Addressed Corruption issue	Didn't addressed Corruption issue	Total	Rate of corruption Issue Coverage
NRT	52	12164	60088	72252	٪16.80
KNN	52	15744	47800	63544	٪24.80
Zagros	53	1544	43713	45257	٪3.40
Total	157	29452	151601	181053	٪15
Averag	52.3	9817	50534	60351	٪ 15



As shown from the table, among (181053 seconds) covered political, economic and corruption's news, only (29452 seconds) addressed to corruption issue, and that consists a 15% of the total media coverage of the 3 satellite channels. As (151601 seconds) of covered news didn't addressed to corruption issue, It means that 85% covered news of them didn't address to corruption issue comparing to the total media coverage.

Corruption issue in the covered Satellite channels



Third: Corruption issue in the covered Websites

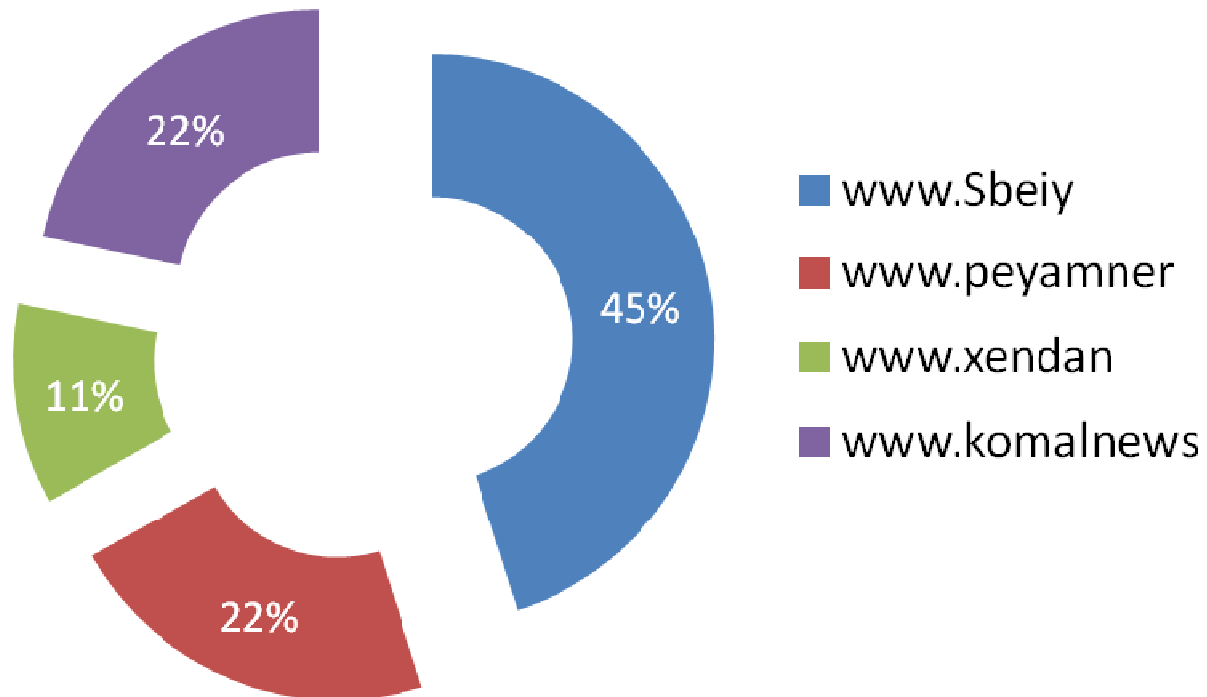
As it is shown from the below table, four Kurdish websites were covered throughout the monitoring process and all daily news have been covered that relate to political, economic and corruption issues. It should be mentioned that none of the sport news, advertisement, photos, caricatures or weather forecasts were monitored in the process, unless present in the news program itself. The measure unit is numbers of words and the results of the data analysis are as follows:

Websites	Total News Pieces	Addressed Corruption issue	Didn't addressed Corruption issue	Total	Rate of corruption Issue Coverage
Sbey	56	5243	28715	33958	%15.44
peyamner	47	6172	76752	82924	%7.443
Khendan	46	1261	31013	32274	%3.907
komalnews	50	5395	67005	72400	%7.452
Total	199	18071	203485	221556	%8.2
Average	49.7	4517	50871	55389	%8.2



As it is clear from the table, among (221556) covered words, only (18071) words addressed or referred to corruption issue, and that consists a (8.2%) of the total media coverage of the 4 websites covered in the monitoring process. It means that (91.8%) words didn't address to corruption issue of the total media coverage.

Corruption issue in the covered websites



Fourth: Corruption issue in the covered Radio stations:

Three Kurdish radio stations were covered throughout the monitoring process daily from 11PM to 14 PM, and entire of that news have been recovered which have relevant with political, economic and corruption issues without of the advertisement, caricatures or weather forecasts, unless present in the news program itself. The results of the data analysis are as follows:

Radio stations	Total News Pieces	Addressed Corruption issue	Didn't addressed Corruption issue	Total	Rate of corruption Issue Coverage
Yakgrtu	50	1393	30597	31990	٪4.35
Nawkho	53	214	10630	10844	٪1.97
Nawa	45	1450	13946	15396	٪9.42
Total	148	3057	55173	58230	٪5.25
Average	49.3	1528	27586	19410	٪5.25



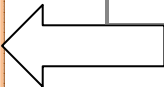
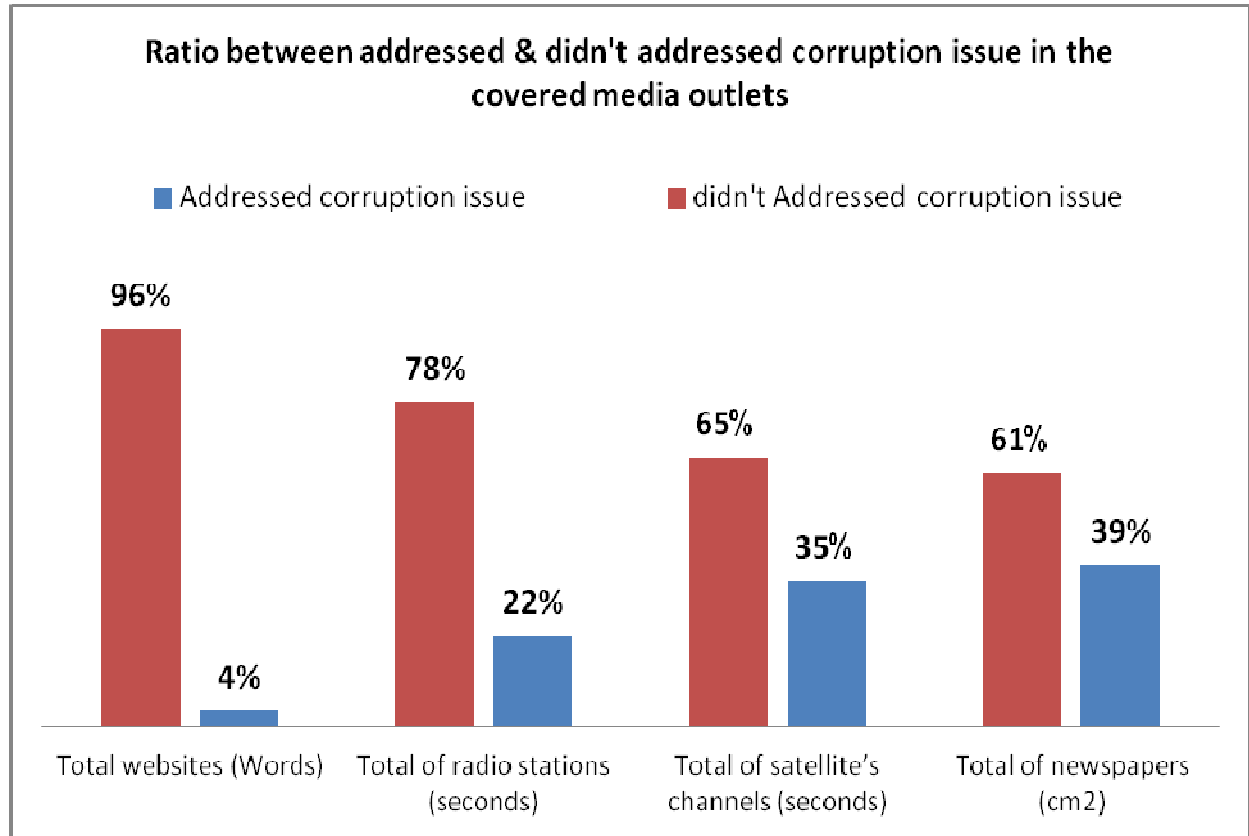
As it is clear from the table, among 58230 covered seconds at the three mentioned radio stations only 3057 addressed or referred to corruption issue, and that consists 5.25% of the total media coverage of the 3 media outlets covered in the monitoring process. It means that 55173seconds that consists of 94.75% didn't address to corruption issue of the total media coverage.

Conclusions:

Given that there are different attributes related to different media outlets, the percentage of media coverage of corruption issue were used as is shown in the following chart:

Responsibility:

Carrying out this report puts an extra burden on the press channel and media workers to take the human rights issue much more seriously. It is the duty of civil society organizations to inform the press in which this report is one of the attempts in that regard.





Project staffs

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- Hallsho Abdulfatah: project coordinator
- Lana Muhammad: Data entry & analyzer

Observer Team

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