

# FREEDOM HOUSE



SIXTY YEARS OF PROMOTING DEMOCRACY



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## Message From The Chairman

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, were an affront to human decency and an assault on freedom. These monstrous acts drove home to Americans the sad reality that we live in a dangerous world in which evil is a constant presence.

But the menace of terrorism is not only—or even primarily—a threat to Americans. All around the world, extremist ideologies, sometimes masking themselves in the language of religious faith, have targeted innocent civilians and committed numerous atrocities leading to the loss of millions of lives.

One of the main lessons of September 11th is that political extremism thrives in an environment of political repression. Indeed, the best antidote to the appeal of terrorism is the creation of more open and tolerant societies rooted in democratic practices and respect for basic civil rights.

For sixty years that has been the mission and message of Freedom House, a nonpartisan organization founded by Eleanor Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie, and other leading centrists, liberals, and conservatives.

I am honored to serve as the chairman of Freedom House. It is a unique organization in which liberals and conservatives, representatives of business and labor, and the policy community find common ground on behalf of the noble cause of expanding democracy and freedom.

Freedom House is doing cutting edge work to monitor the ebb and flow of democracy and freedom through its annual comparative surveys. We are active on key human rights and religious freedom issues in such repressive settings as Cuba, China, North Korea, Sudan, and Uzbekistan. And we are working with and providing assistance to human rights,

press freedom, and democracy advocates in Latin America, North Africa, Central Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and sub-Saharan Africa.

Freedom House is engaged in human rights issues at the United Nations and is playing a leading role in pressing for the establishment of a Community of Democracies, an effort launched by governments to encourage and deepen democratic reform and respect for basic rights around the world.

Through research reports, articles, op-eds, media appearances, fact-finding missions, and cooperation with counterpart organizations worldwide, Freedom House works to ensure broad-based support for a world in which human rights are secured in an environment of political freedom, transparency and democratic accountability.

Because we are a small and nonbureaucratic organization, Freedom House is able to respond quickly to emerging challenges. One such challenge has been posed by the events of September 11th and the need to develop intelligent and informed policy responses.

Although America was the target of the September 11th attacks, extremists and terrorists have menaced scores of other societies, including many in the Islamic world, for decades. The death toll in places like Sudan, Algeria, Afghanistan, and in the Iran-Iraq conflict suggests that Muslims suffer substantially from the terror unleashed by those who falsely claim they are speaking in behalf of religious values. This is why Freedom House is actively developing programs of cooperation with democratic and human rights groups in such important settings as Chechnya, Morocco, Algeria, and Uzbekistan. This is also why we are participating in programs that promote dialogue with Muslim and Arab scholars, civic activists, and journalists.

Battling the scourge of terrorism demands solidarity, determination, and patience. It will require international cooperation and international understanding. And it will necessitate balancing the requirements and principles of a free society with measures to protect security and effectively combat violent and dangerous enemies.

I believe that Freedom House's origins in the struggle against fascism in the 1940s, its work against Communist totalitarianism in the 1950s and 1960s, its support for emerging human rights movements around the world in the 1970s, and its embrace of democratic civic movements in the 1980s, 1990s and beyond, make us well equipped to play a critical role in the coming years.

I hope that as you read this report on our recent work, you will agree that Freedom House's mission is important, that our work is effective and focused on critical issues, and that we are deserving of your participation and support.



*Bill Richardson*

Bill Richardson  
Chairman  
Freedom House





## Message From The President & Executive Director

As Freedom House marked its sixtieth anniversary in the fall of 2001, the United States and the international community were rocked by terrible acts of terrorism that reminded us how dangerous a world we live in. Though shocking, the terror attacks and subsequent efforts to eradicate the scourge of terrorism have given renewed purpose to Freedom House's mission and mandate. Indeed, our work on behalf of the global expansion of democracy has rarely been more essential.

Since its founding in 1941 by Wendell Willkie, Eleanor Roosevelt and other American leaders, Freedom House has been an important voice for freedom and democracy. With a nonpartisan board of former government leaders, scholars, labor leaders, and journalists, Freedom House has a worldwide reputation as an advocate of democratic values, an unbiased monitor of political and civil liberties around the world, and an effective implementer of programs that promote democracy.

Throughout 2001, Freedom House remained active on a variety of fronts, expanding its programs into new areas of the world. Among the most notable accomplishments of 2001:

- In Algeria, Freedom House trained legal professionals and journalists in effective human rights advocacy and reporting, and sponsored study tours and training programs for key governmental figures and non-governmental proponents of judicial reform.
- In Central and Eastern Europe, Freedom House implemented the Regional Networking Project (RNP), which addresses challenges by providing civic groups and think tanks with grants, training opportunities, on-site assistance, and information forums to foster cross-border exchange on critical reform issues facing the region.
- Freedom House continued to facilitate its exchange programs, which enable participants from Central and Eastern Europe and North Africa to take part in professional internships with media outlets, civic and human rights groups, and government offices throughout the United States.
- In Uzbekistan, Freedom House began working to assist human rights defenders, exposing them to lessons learned by counterparts in such places as Russia and Serbia, and providing in-country training in monitoring, reporting, and information technology.
- In Ukraine, Freedom House worked to assist political and economic reformers by linking them with counterparts in Poland and other countries that have implemented successful reforms.
- In Belarus, Freedom House initiated a program to assist democratic civic groups in developing a nationwide voter mobilization campaign in the weeks leading up to controversial national elections.
- In Mexico, Freedom House launched legal mediation programs to empower those who cannot otherwise afford legal representation.
- In Macedonia, Freedom House funding allowed the Bulgaria-based Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) and Macedonia's Euro-Balkan Institute to join forces in putting an end to conflict in Macedonia.

Freedom House also made a difference in research and advocacy, publishing signature annual global surveys on political and civil liberties, press freedom, and, for the first time, religious freedom worldwide. The findings of *Freedom in the World*, *Nations in Transit*, and the surveys on press and religious freedom have generated widespread media coverage and prompted discussion within the governments, civil society, and media of established democracies and transitional societies. Most significantly, Freedom House analyses of repressive regimes have brought the scorn of those in power and given encouragement to those struggling for reform.

In 2001, Freedom House was an energetic advocate for a larger U.S. and international commitment to expand and strengthen democracy around the world. In addition to meeting with key administration officials, Freedom House actively engaged in the planning of the second nongovernmental forum of the Community of Democracies, a global conference of civil society leaders, political activists,

scholars, and current and former government leaders in dialogue on critical challenges facing the expansion of democracy. The forum is scheduled to take place in the fall of 2002 in Seoul, Korea.

Freedom House also enjoys Special Consultative Status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council and sends a delegation to the annual meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva to raise attention to the most repressive regimes.

Freedom House is always searching for new ways to promote democracy, spark debate, and bring international attention to causes that need it most. As at the time of its founding sixty years ago, on the eve of America's entry into the Second World War, Freedom House is on the front line for freedom's sake. Although the world is remarkably freer than it was in 1941, daily headlines make clear there is much work yet to be done. Freedom House is ready.



*Adrian Karatnycky*

Adrian Karatnycky  
President  
Freedom House



*Jennifer Windsor*

Jennifer Windsor  
Executive Director  
Freedom House

## Supporting Democratic Reform

Freedom House is at the center of efforts to support civic reform movements in repressive and conflict-ridden settings. Our programs, which provide such movements with technical and material assistance, include training and research fellowships, exchange programs, collaboration with independent media, support for civic organizations and public policy institutes, and interaction with groups that monitor and promote economic reform and human rights. Through this array of activities Freedom House helps strengthen democratic institutions and leadership in key settings around the world.

### Harnessing Civic Power

#### Belarus

In Belarus, the last repressive Communist holdout of the former Soviet Union, Freedom House initiated a program to assist local NGOs in the development of a nationwide voter mobilization campaign. Despite the flawed and unfair elections on September 9, 2001, which kept authoritarian President Aleksandr Lukashenka in power, the civic campaign contributed to an overall voter turnout of more than 84 percent and to approximately 40 percent voter support for the united opposition candidate. Significantly, the campaign created new coalitions among NGOs and laid the groundwork for future grassroots efforts. In the future, Freedom House will continue to support civil society in Belarus through grants and exchanges between Belarusian activists and their counterparts in Central and Eastern Europe.

#### Cuban Democracy Project

In Cuba, where democracy remains elusive, Freedom House remained committed in its support of activists. Freedom House's Cuban Democracy Project aims to develop a cadre of Cuban leaders and formative organizations that will prepare the way for a democratic transition. The program strengthens the capacity of democratic activists and organizations by providing training and education, material support, and personal links to former democracy activists in Central and Eastern Europe and Latin America. In 2001 the project continued to increase the networking capabilities of pro-democracy organizations in Cuba, helping them exchange information more efficiently.

#### Partnership for Reform in Ukraine (PRU)

Freedom House's Kyiv office works to ensure the viability of civil society in this transitional country. The Partnership for Reform in Ukraine (PRU) program is a three-year initiative to strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of public policy institutes in Ukraine. PRU provides financial support, training, networking, and on-site technical support to think tanks and public affairs NGOs that work to advance the country's democratic and free market reforms.

In 2001 the PRU program provided funding to the Center for European and International Studies, a Ukrainian think tank, to conduct the Second International Conference on "Ukraine's European Choice: Internal Transformations and Search for a New Foreign Policy and Security Role." This conference brought together some of the region's best academics, journalists, and foreign policy decision-makers to discuss Ukraine's European policy and European integration. The conference has become an important means of involving civil society in the foreign policy process and has received significant media coverage.

## Defending Human Rights and Safeguarding Justice

Freedom House's Rule of Law Initiative/Global Human Rights Training and Support (RIGHTS) Consortium, created in 1999, responds to emerging rule of law and human rights challenges worldwide with a flexible array of program tools tailored to indigenous conditions. The Consortium is composed of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and the American Bar Association (ABA), with Freedom House as the lead organization. The RIGHTS program was active in several countries throughout 2001, spearheading Freedom House's efforts to defend human rights and safeguard justice.

#### Mexico

With the election of Vicente Fox and the effective return of meaningful democracy to Mexico, the RIGHTS program spearheaded a drive in 2001 to strengthen alternative dispute resolution (ADR) programs throughout the country. ADR can greatly increase access to justice for citizens who otherwise cannot afford legal representation, and can help reduce case backlog and better streamline the judicial system. RIGHTS is providing an integrated program of local and U.S.-based assistance in a country that is moving rapidly to expand democratic practices and strengthen human rights.

#### Morocco

Limited political openings in Morocco have emboldened reform-oriented local human rights organizations. Morocco has a vibrant human rights community, with many organizations possessing significant expertise and capacity. Major human rights violations, however, persist, and human rights NGOs have expressed an interest in extending their outreach and increasing their capacity to monitor and report on violations. In September 2001 Freedom House launched a train-

ing and technical assistance program to build the capacity of Moroccan human rights organizations and introduce methodologies in monitoring, documentation, and reporting. From its new office in Rabat, Freedom House is conducting a series of training workshops and providing targeted technical assistance.

#### Algeria

In Algeria, brutal attacks on civilians by armed groups and the ongoing struggle between government forces and radical Islamist groups claims an estimated 200 lives each month. Through the RIGHTS Consortium Freedom House is working with NGOs and independent media to ensure accurate human rights reporting, and with legal professionals to promote justice sector reforms. The project combines U.S.-based internships and study tours with on-site training of journalists, lawyers, judges, and human rights activists.



Freedom House-sponsored media rights training program in Algiers  
Photo courtesy of: Dart Thalman



## Supporting Democratic Reform Continued...

### East Timor

The struggle toward independence and the establishment of a vibrant democracy in East Timor involves more than institution building; it requires reconciliation with the past. In 2001 the RIGHTS Program supported investigations into past human rights atrocities on this small island in the Indonesian archipelago. Freedom House helped indigenous human rights organizations strengthen their monitoring, legal aid, and human rights education programs. Freedom House connected lawyers, judges, police, NGO leaders, and women's rights activists in the capital Dili with local groups to organize community-based conferences on the country's new justice system. Freedom House also helped support the understaffed United Nations' Office of Serious Crimes by providing a subgrant to the Coalition for International Justice to deploy experts in investigating and prosecuting war crimes.



Freedom House-sponsored training session for East Timorese women's rights  
Photo by: Myftar Doci

### Uzbekistan

After a brief period that seemed to promise more political openness in the late Soviet and early post-Soviet period, Uzbekistan now ranks as one of the former USSR's most repressive regimes. Although Uzbekistan's laws and constitution enumerate a number of civil liberties, the government of Uzbekistan often cites "state stability" concerns to violate those rights. Local human rights defenders play a critical role in promoting the rule of law, but have faced numerous obstacles in their monitoring, reporting, and advocacy work. Through the RIGHTS Consortium Freedom House supports Uzbek human rights groups to help strengthen organizational structures and substantive knowledge and skills, provide motivation and strategic vision in addressing current obstacles, and map out strategies for improving the local operating context for human rights defenders and human rights protections.



Uzbek human rights defenders on a Freedom House-sponsored trip to Belgrade  
Photo courtesy of: Andy Colburn

## Building Democracy Through Cross-Border Linkages

For decades Freedom House has worked with civic groups to promote democratic change in such diverse settings as Africa, Asia, and Central and Eastern Europe. Now Freedom House is building on that work by helping successful democratic movements share their tactics and experiences in other authoritarian settings. Freedom House is proud of its recent record of support for successful civic movements in Serbia and Croatia, where democratic reformers succeeded in defeating corrupt or authoritarian governments. The coalition-building and civic mobilization tactics of these movements serve as important models for successful civic-driven reform and nonviolent democratic change.

### The NGO Regional Networking Project (Budapest)

Many of Freedom House's regional programs in Central and Eastern Europe are supported through its NGO Regional Networking Project, which encourages cross-border collaboration and partnerships between Central and Eastern European NGOs. Through a targeted subgrant program – supplemented by cross-border exchanges, U.S.-based training, and American volunteers – this program has helped establish short-term and long-term partnerships of NGOs throughout Central and Eastern Europe. These partnerships encourage civic activism, contribute to a sustainable NGO sector, and directly impact policies in key areas such as regional stability, governmental reform, and human rights. Freedom House cross-border efforts have expanded to include portions of the NIS, including Ukraine, Belarus, and a pilot program in Russia.

In 2001 Freedom House's Budapest office organized a major conference in Belgrade, titled "Transition from Challenges to Opportunities." The event brought together governmental delegations from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, and Yugoslavia to study methods by which to navigate political transitions. The conference substantially contributed to rebuilding cross-border relations severed during Yugoslavia's decade of isolation.

### Poland-America-Ukraine Cooperation Initiative (PAUCI)

Drawing on Poland's highly successful transition to democracy and an open market economy, Freedom House's PAUCI program is designed to stimulate similar changes in Ukraine. A trilateral initiative including the United States, the program continued in 2001 to strengthen the cooperative relationship between Ukraine and Poland, and to take advantage of acquired expertise and lessons learned in Poland's successful transition. PAUCI provided financial support to a variety of organizations to promote cross-border partnerships that implement projects in three priority areas: small business development, local governance, and macroeconomic policy.

In 2001 the PAUCI program sponsored a cross-border project between the NewBizNet Business Support Center in Lviv and the Cracow Regional Development Agency to exchange the experiences of the two cities in promoting investment and economic development. As a result of the project city authorities and local agencies in Lviv launched new efforts to attract foreign investors, increasing total foreign investments 30 percent over year 2000 levels. The NewBizNet Center is also working with the mayor of Lviv to set up a fund for the restoration of the city, modeled after a similar fund in Cracow that annually finances \$7 million in restoration work.

## Supporting Democratic Reform Continued...

### Building Democracy in Serbia

Having emerged from a decade of war, repression, and isolation, Yugoslavia is among the last countries in Eastern Europe to begin its political, economic, and social transition in earnest. Beginning in September 1999 Freedom House stepped up its efforts to promote democratic reform and change in Serbia. A grant program provides support for public education and awareness activities, civic mobilization, and regional initiatives that transfer expertise and create networks among democratic activists in Serbia and elsewhere in Central and Eastern Europe.

Since Serbia's democratic revolution in 2000 Freedom House has continued to support pro-reform forces such as the Otpor student movement. From its new office in Belgrade Freedom House staff manage more than 200 projects promoting Serbia's internal reforms and regional reintegration. The program supports grants to Serbian NGOs as well as enables Serbian government officials and NGO activists to learn best practices from their counterparts in the transition countries of Central and Eastern Europe.



People power on display in Belgrade  
Photo by: G-17

In 2001 Freedom House sponsored a one-year initiative that gathered expert teams from Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia to promote a free trade and free regime zone encompassing all three countries. The expert teams' recommendations on visa and trade regimes have been well received by all three presidents as well as policy makers. The initiative not only has stimulated high-level policy discussions but has also received significant press coverage.

### Tapping U.S. Expertise

#### The Visiting Fellows Program (VFP)

A flagship Freedom House initiative, the Visiting Fellows Program provides young leaders from emerging democracies with the opportunity to work in the United States, side-by-side with their American counterparts in media, government, civil society, and business, in six- to ten- week internships. The program is intended to equip reformist forces in the region with the experience needed to develop the infrastructure upon which a democratic society can be built. Launched in 1990, the program has thus far sponsored over 650 of the region's most promising leaders. Included among the program's alumni are government ministers, mayors, prominent civic leaders, and editors-in-chief of leading media outlets throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

In 2001 Freedom House sponsored 63 individuals from Albania, Algeria, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Yugoslavia through the Visiting Fellows Program and other U.S.-based training initiatives.



Winter 2001 Freedom House Visiting Fellows  
Photo by: Mattox Photography

### American Volunteers for International Development (AVID)

AVID advances the political, economic, and social transition of emerging democracies by transferring "how-to" technical and managerial skills to the region's indigenous media, government, and NGOs. Qualified American professionals participate in long-term, on-site voluntary positions in a wide range of countries. Since 1992 over 150 AVID volunteers have been placed throughout Central Europe and the former USSR. Czech President Vaclav Havel is honorary chairman of the AVID program.

In 2001 Freedom House dispatched twelve volunteers to Albania, Bosnia, Romania, Ukraine, and Yugoslavia.





## Monitoring Freedom

### Freedom in the World

Produced by teams of regional experts and human rights specialists, Freedom House surveys are the product of rigorous methodologies developed by preeminent experts in the fields of political science, economics, human rights, and press freedom. They stand at the core of our efforts to monitor freedom. Freedom House also occasionally undertakes special investigative missions and issues special reports on key struggles for human liberty and fundamental attacks on basic freedoms.

"With forthright analysis Freedom in the World lays bare the state of political rights and civil liberties around the world. It provides a candid assessment of how far nations have come in realizing fundamental human rights for their citizens, and how far they must go."

--Daniel P. Moynihan, former United States Senator.

Published as a comprehensive monograph since 1978, the flagship Freedom House survey *Freedom in the World* is the only existing annual global comparative assessment of political rights and civil liberties. Its ratings and narrative reports on 192 countries assist policymakers, the media, and international organizations in monitoring trends and tracking the ebb and flow of democracy, political rights, and civil liberties. Press accounts of the survey findings appear annually in hundreds of influential newspapers and magazines in the United States and abroad, and form the basis of numerous radio and television reports.



Freedom in the World survey findings press conference  
Photo by: Michael Goldfarb

The latest study, *Freedom in the World 2000-2001*, released in May 2001, found that a decade-long trend of positive, incremental gains for freedom continued in 2000, most notably in Mexico and Yugoslavia. Significantly, the study found that in the 1990s the economies of Free countries grew at an average annual rate 70 percent higher than the average for Not Free states.

#### According to the survey:

- Eighty-six countries, representing 2.5 billion people (or 40.7 percent of the world's population -- the highest proportion in the survey's history), are rated Free.
- Fifty-nine countries, representing 1.4 billion people (23.8 percent), are considered Partly Free.
- Forty-seven countries, representing 2.2 billion people (35.5 percent), fall into the Not Free category.
- There are 120 electoral democracies in the world today, representing 63 percent of the world's states, or 59.6 percent of the globe's population.

### Nations in Transit

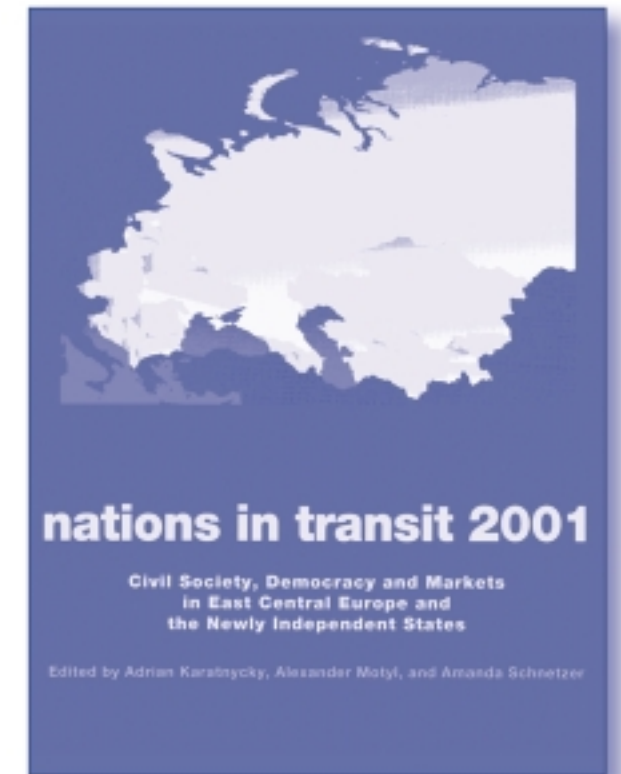
*Nations in Transit* is a detailed annual research report that provides benchmarks for evaluating democracy-building and economic change in the 27 European and formerly Soviet countries. *Nations in Transit* assists policymakers in assessing the impact of U.S.-funded democracy and governance programs in the region.

The findings of *Nations in Transit 2001* suggested a worrisome drift toward authoritarianism in the non-Baltic countries of the former Soviet Union, pointing to the growing threat of a new demarcation line between Europe and Eurasia. Despite the bleak landscape, the report showed that the collapse of strongman regimes in Croatia and Yugoslavia during 2001 offers hope that similar systems in the former Soviet Union can reach the path of dramatic political and economic change.

The findings demonstrate the continued need for Freedom House programs in Central and Eastern Europe, making clear that the transition to democracy requires consistent engagement and assistance.

"An essential tool for those concerned with the future of democratizing East Central Europe and the newly independent states of the Soviet Union...comprehensive and reliable."

--Zbigniew Brzezinski, former National Security Advisor to President Carter.





## Monitoring Freedom Continued...

### Survey of Press Freedom

The annual *Survey of Press Freedom* is a comprehensive examination of press liberty in every country in the world. Focusing on print and broadcast media and the Internet, the survey reflects the degree to which countries permit the free flow of information.

The April 2001 review, titled "How Free? The Web & the Press", found that press freedom registered overall gains throughout the world in 2000. Despite this positive trend, however, freedom of expression was dealt a severe blow in a number of large and geopolitically important countries, such



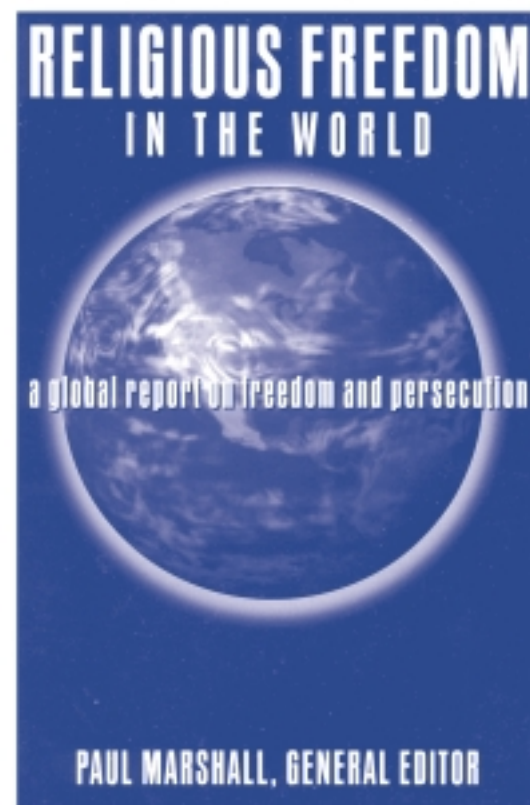
as Russia, where the state took over an independent television network and a number of independent newspapers. Serious crackdowns on independent journalists and media outlets covering the war in Chechnya were also causes of concern.

For the first time the Survey included Internet freedom ratings. It was discovered that Internet freedom exceeds levels of press freedom in most countries, including some closed societies governed by censorious regimes. For some states, especially China and some nations of the Middle East, the Internet poses an inherent dilemma: allow greater Internet use for commerce, or restrict its use to protect religious, cultural, or political values? As the Internet continues its dramatic expansion Freedom House will continue to assess its impact on freedom of expression worldwide.

### Religious Freedom in the World

In late 2000 Freedom House published its first survey covering religious freedom. Produced by our Center for Religious Freedom, *Religious Freedom in the World* is the only survey that ranks countries using criteria that evaluate the freedom of all religious groups. The survey includes comprehensive country reports and graphs, and uses a methodology similar to the one used in other Freedom House publications. It is the product of a collaborative effort of over sixty multidisciplinary and multireligious scholars from the U.S. and abroad.

Covering nearly 90 percent of the world's population, *Religious Freedom in the World* finds that only 25 percent of those surveyed live under conditions providing broad religious freedom. Thirty-nine percent live under partly free conditions, where the ability to practice one's faith is constrained, while the balance, 36 percent, lives in conditions in which religious freedoms are fundamentally violated.



The Center also published *Massacre at the Millennium: A Report on the Murder of 21 Christians in Al-Kosheh, Egypt, in January 2000 and the Failure of Justice*. The Center's Paul Marshall and Joseph Assad traveled to Egypt to document the largest massacre of Egypt's Coptic Christians in several decades and to interview survivors. The report was widely distributed, including at the 57th session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in April 2001.



## Advocating Democracy and Human Rights

Since its founding in 1941 Freedom House has played a decisive role in framing the issues related to democracy, civil society, and economic freedom. Today, through public events, opinion pieces in the nation's leading newspapers, and high-level meetings with administration officials, legislators, and policymakers, Freedom House continues to advocate effective international engagement and a U.S. foreign policy that places a high priority on the promotion and expansion of democracy and fundamental rights throughout the world.

Throughout 2001 Freedom House board and senior staff members raised the broad democracy agenda through a series of meetings with key U.S. administration officials, including Vice President Dick Cheney, National Security Council Senior Director for Democracy Elliott Abrams, Undersecretary for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, Undersecretary for Political Affairs Mark Grossman, and USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios. Freedom House urged that the promotion of democracy be a major foreign policy priority of the new administration.

In addition, Freedom House staff appeared before Congressional committees throughout the year to offer expertise on human rights situations in several countries. For example, in May 2001 Freedom House president Adrian Karatnycky testified before the Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe to provide insight into the Ukrainian political crisis that unfolded in the wake of the murder of journalist Heorihy Gongadze. Freedom House also held a press conference for Gongadze's widow, Myroslava Gongadze, providing her a platform from which to press the Ukrainian government for a thorough investigation into her husband's death.

In March, Center for Religious Freedom director Nina Shea was appointed by President Bush as a public delegate for the United States to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, where she drafted and delivered official U.S. statements on religious persecution in specific countries. The Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives also appointed Ms. Shea to a second two-year term to the governmental U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

### The Center for Religious Freedom

Freedom House's Center for Religious Freedom aims to stop religious repression worldwide by documenting, analyzing, and publicizing religious persecution; mobilizing public support in defense of those imprisoned, tortured, or killed for religious reasons; and persuading policy- and opinion-makers to elevate religious freedom concerns in U.S. foreign policy. The Center's work acquired renewed salience after September 11, 2001.

Throughout 2001 the Center sponsored investigative field missions and issued reports and press releases on religious persecution in Sudan, Egypt, Nigeria, Indonesia, China, Vietnam, North Korea, and other countries. In late 2000 it published the only comparative survey of religious freedom in the world. Excerpts from the survey were reprinted in a 20-page article in the magazine *American Teacher* as a classroom resource for 800,000 K-12 public school teachers, making it the principal public school resource on international religious freedom.

### Sudan

With the U.S. Committee on Refugees, the Center co-produced a documentary in early 2001 on the routine bombing of civilian targets in southern Sudan by the Sudanese government.

The Center is at the forefront in building and sustaining a national grass-roots coalition to stop the mass murder of religious minorities in southern Sudan by the radical Islamic regime in Khartoum. Throughout the year the Center sponsored regular coalition meetings on Sudanese policy and maintained an extensive Web site, e-mail network, and weekly fax-sheet.

Notable achievements in U.S. policy towards Sudan were made during the year, including the rejection of Sudan's bid for membership in the UN Security Council and the appointment of former Senator John Danforth as the Bush administration's special envoy to Sudan.



Injured Sudanese child  
Photo by: James Nichols, Gallery 650

### Nigeria

The Center conducted a fact-finding mission to Nigeria in spring 2001 to assess the harsh effects of Islamic sharia law spreading throughout the country, and its attendant violence.

### Vietnam

In 2001 the Center issued a special report on religious persecution of the Montagnards and other Christian tribal minorities in Vietnam after obtaining secret Vietnamese government documents that outline a detailed plan of persecution. The report generated widespread media attention and was released to coincide with Secretary of State Colin Powell's visit to Vietnam in June. Center staff also met with American and Vietnamese ambassadors and Vietnamese foreign ministry officials about religious persecution and religious prisoner cases, including Father Li, a Catholic priest who was sentenced to a 15-year prison term after submitting testimony to a U.S. Congressional committee.

### Middle East

The Center advocated on behalf of jailed Egyptian human rights activist Saad Eddin Ibrahim, a democracy advocate and Muslim defender of Egypt's oft-persecuted Coptic minority who was sentenced to a seven-year prison term after a show trial in Cairo. Center staff held press conferences and drafted letters of protest for members of Congress on his behalf. Ibrahim was a co-recipient of the Center's Religious Freedom Award in late 1999.

In the fall of 2001, the Center sponsored a series of meetings on the Middle East with Senator Sam Brownback, the ranking Republican member of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on the Near East and South Asia, as well as



## Advocating Democracy and Human Rights Continued...

noted regional and policy experts. The events were intended to stimulate thinking on a medium-term U.S. policy to promote religious tolerance and democratic civil society in Afghanistan and throughout the Muslim world.

### China

The Center for Religious Freedom monitored and publicized continuing religious persecution in China and led a press conference with dozens of members of Congress in July. In October, Center director Nina Shea participated in the newly instituted official human rights dialogue between Washington and Beijing.

The Center presented its 2001 Religious Freedom Award to five Chinese religious rights defenders, including representatives of Catholics, Protestants, Tibetan Buddhists, Uigur Muslims, and Falun Gong.



Lisa Davis, head of Freedom House's delegation to the UN Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva  
Photo by: Joseph Assad

### Freedom House and the United Nations

At the annual meetings of the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNHCR) in Geneva in April, Freedom House representatives urged governments to scrutinize and pressure the world's worst human rights violators.

Such dynamic advocacy does not go unchallenged. In 2001 Freedom House's UN accreditation faced continued attack and criticism from China, Sudan, and Cuba. These countries have lodged complaints against Freedom House in response to its speaking out against their human rights records at the UNHCR and in public briefings in the United States.

In early 2001 Freedom House trustees Mark Palmer and Jeane Kirkpatrick testified before the House subcommittee on International Affairs on Freedom House's UN status and the ramifications of the loss of the U.S. seat on the UNHCR. In the wake of the U.S. setback, through newspaper columns



Paul Marshall (left) of Freedom House's Center for Religious Freedom, testifies before the House International Relations Committee  
Photo by: Laura Barrett

and television and radio appearances, Freedom House began to advocate the creation of a democracy caucus at the United Nations to counter the growing influence of repressive regimes in UN bodies.

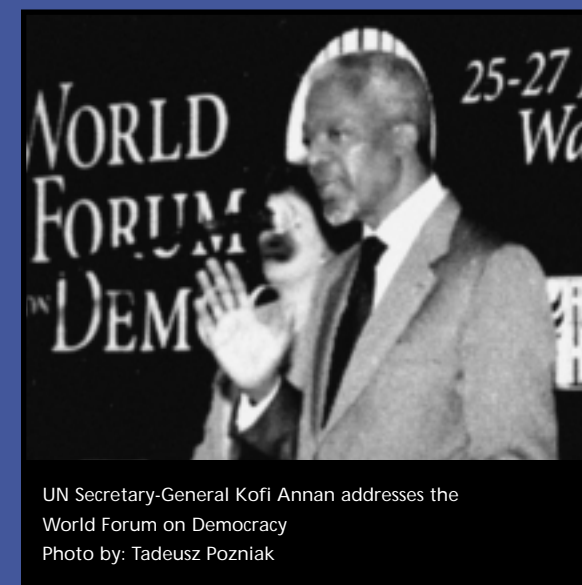
At year's end, Freedom House announced the establishment of a UN Task Force in collaboration with the Council on Foreign Relations. The Task Force will examine the sources of hostility to the United States and the United Nations and will recommend steps that can be taken to strengthen U.S. leadership in the organization.

### The Community of Democracies and the Nongovernmental Forum

Freedom House representatives were active in encouraging support from the new administration for the Community of Democracies (COD) and a parallel nongovernmental forum in Seoul, Korea, in November 2002.

The World Forum on Democracy (WFD), the first nongovernmental forum, took place in Warsaw in June 2000, in conjunction with the first COD meeting, a gathering of more than 100 foreign ministers who agreed to work together to promote and strengthen democracy. At the WFD, policy experts, civic leaders, and other representatives of the private sector and civil society from across the globe gathered to assess the challenges created by democracy's expansion. Freedom House was a lead organizer of the first WFD and is now working with other leading NGOs to facilitate the Seoul meeting.

Freedom House advocates the creation of democracy caucuses in the United Nations and other international bodies—key goals that were spelled out in the final declarations of both the WFD and the COD conferences.



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan addresses the World Forum on Democracy  
Photo by: Tadeusz Pozniak



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# Opening the Doors to Freedom

## Financial Reports / Combined Balance Sheet

Assets (Year ended June 30, 2001)

## Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,819,009
Receivables	473,715
Prepaid expenses	23,778

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,316,502</b>
-----------------------------	------------------

Investments	3,289,167
Furniture and equipment	63,771
Security deposits	54,226

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,723,666</b>
---------------------	---------------------

Liabilities and Net Assets (Year ended June 30, 2001)

## Current Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 183,435
Capital lease obligation – current position	3,354
Refundable advances	991,534
Deferred rent – current position	29,532

<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,207,855</b>
----------------------------------	------------------

## Long-Term Liabilities

Deferred rent	155,063
Deposits payable	25,681
Capital lease obligation	2,506

<b>Total Long-term Liabilities</b>	<b>183,250</b>
------------------------------------	----------------

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,391,105</b>
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## Net Assets

Unrestricted	4,240,894
Temporarily restricted	91,667

<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,332,561</b>
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<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,723,666</b>
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## Combined Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Revenue And Support ( Year ended June 30, 2001 )

Grants and Contributions .....	\$ 7,966,697
In-kind Contributions .....	2,130,807
Investment Income .....	658,117
Other Income .....	185,642

<b>Total Revenue and Support .....</b>	<b>10,941,323</b>
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Expenses ( Year ended June 30, 2001 )

Program Services .....	9,792,635
------------------------	-----------

Supporting Services:

Management and general .....	193,436
Fundraising .....	62,998

<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>10,049,059</b>
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<b>Change In Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$ 892,264</b>
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## Financial Reports Continued...

Freedom House FY01 Activities

### Supporting Democratic Change

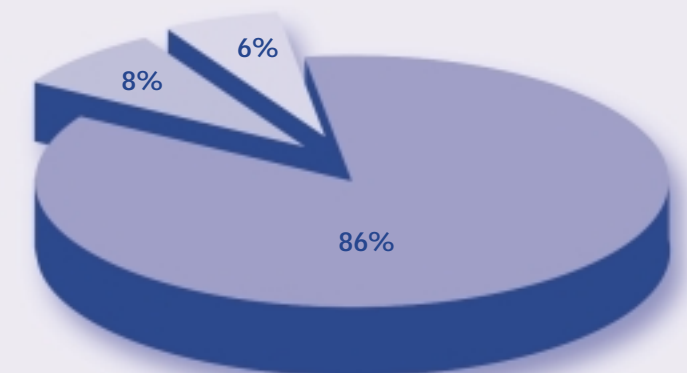
- Romania Government Transition Support Program
- Partnership for Reform in Ukraine
- Regional Networking Project
- Cuban Democracy Project
- Latvia Naturalization Program
- Rule of Law Initiative / Global Human Rights Training and Support
- Strengthening Rule of Law and Human Rights in Algeria
- East Timor Human Rights Support Program
- Uzbekistan Human Rights Defender Support Project
- Building Democracy in Serbia
- Poland America Ukraine Cooperative Initiative
- Building Democracy in Belarus
- Reintegration & Leadership Development in Serbia
- Bosnia Herzegovina Business and Local Governance and Selection Program
- Civil Society Program in Serbia
- Slovak Government Transition Support Program
- The Visiting Fellows Program
- The American Volunteers for International Development Program

### Monitoring Freedom

- Nations In Transit
- Freedom in the World
- Survey of Press Freedom

### Advocating for Democracy and Human Rights

- Center for Religious Freedom
- World Forum on Democracy
- American Committee for Peace in Chechnya



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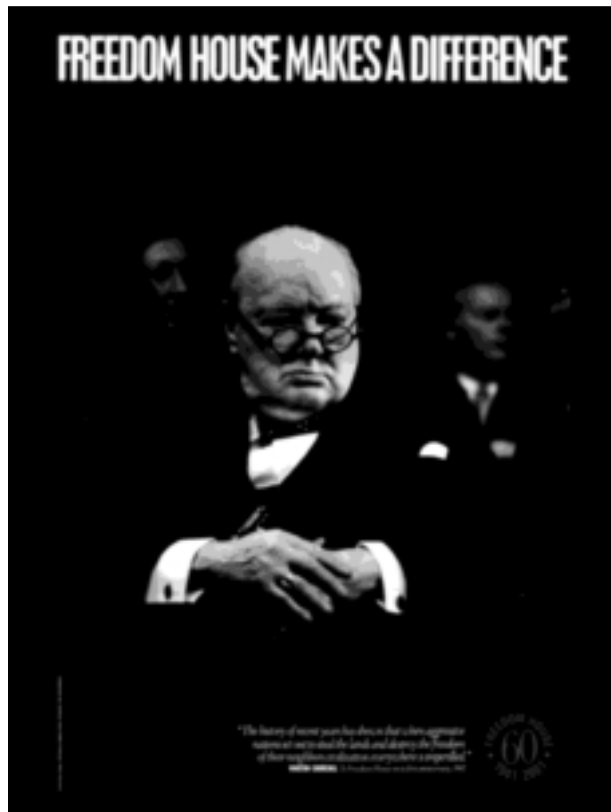
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