

**ANALYSIS OF SAFETY SITUATION FOR JOURNALISTS  
AROUND THE WORLD**

Exercise for the course on Infographics and Data Visualization (Knight  
Center)

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## Explanation of the exercise

This exercise is the result of the different exercises I chose previously but was not able to lead to safe harbor. I want to tell about them because thanks to them I learnt that infography is first of all -and before taking the pen in order to sketch or the Adobe Illustrator in order to design-, a time-consuming exercise of investigative reporting.

First, I tried to devote the infography to my own CV (activities, history and progression of my professional life, etc). It looked funny and it would be very practical for me, but then I realized it was egocentric.

Second, I thought of analyzing relationship between the use of drones and the number of civil casualties in war zones. Governments which make an intensive use of drones argue that they improve such a relation, so the number of civil casualties would shrink when using non-tripulated airplanes for combats. I looked for such information, but I ended up discovering that it is really difficult to obtain the ciphers. In fact, it is kind of “question of the million dollars”, and many NGOs are looking for the answer. It seems impossible to obtain the data, which official sources keep at an absolute secrecy, at least according to the unfruitful attempts undergone by organizations much more powerful than me, such as the Bureau for Investigative Journalism (<http://tinyurl.com/an67y68>).

Third, I decided to investigate the decline in the numbers of foreign reporters around the World. It is very difficult, because there is not a universal census. Some countries study this question (like US), and public related data in web pages such as the Labor Census Page. But those data are not offered in Excell, so you cannot really play with them unless you have a lot of free time to jot down every cipher and then compare year by year. I also looked at Spain: there is not (at least as far as I discovered) a census of Spanish journalists abroad (not at least done by the Association of Journalist of Madrid, which I checked). I thought about focusing the infography in the National Pubic Agency of Spain, EFE, because EFE has a web page which shows all its international offices. The problem is that for each office they only consign the director, and not the collaborators, which would have narrowed the results and thus provided a non accurate map. Besides, you cannot check differences among years, so... not very interesting. I also visited the “Communication Agenda” of La Moncloa (the official site of the Spanish Government). They have some data regarding Spanish foreign correspondents in there, but they are incomplete and obviously outdated.

Finally, I decided to deep into the question of journalist safety, which is a common debate nowadays. I wanted to check if it is true that number of victims among “the tribe” is higher than ever before. If this is the worst situation never lived. I used the data offered by Reporters without Borders (RSF). They are public data so you can see most f the information I provide in my exercise in the web page of this NGO. The difference is that they do not offer it altogether, in only one page, but in different ones, so it is quite difficult to compare the data and to have a general regard of the situation. Besides, they do not offer possibilities which I found interesting and which I decided to develop the most, such as: a line graph to check progression of the number of casualties between 2002 and 2012, profiles and pictures of each human casualty, ranking (in bar graph) of most dangerous countries for journalist [to be honest, this is not properly done in my exercise even when I tried hard, and the result shows a perfect “staircase” when it should appear as an imperfect one). In RSF webpage, I missed specially an interactive map where you could see the behavior of each country for each year.

Below you can see the result of my efforts.

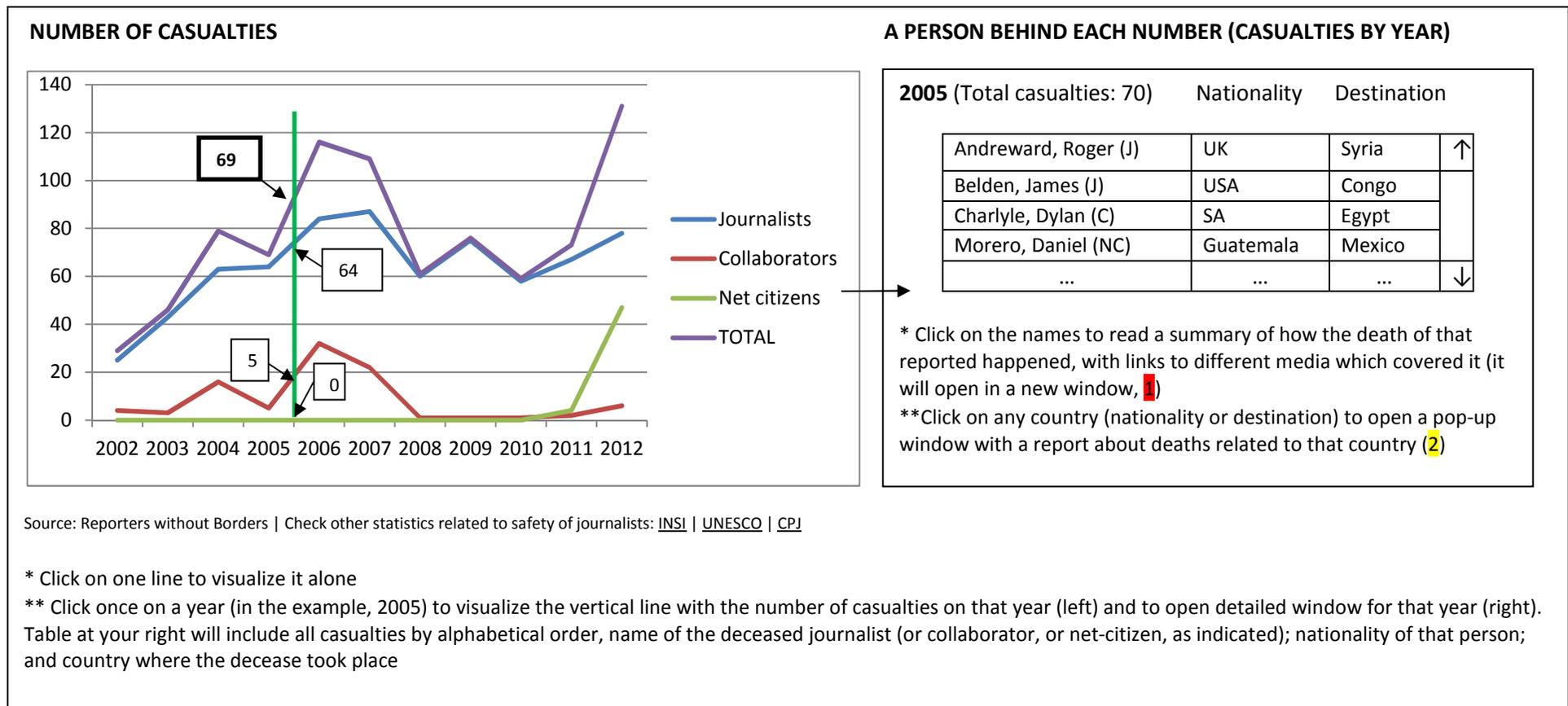
**ALL DATA CONTAINED IN THE EXERCISE SHOULD BE REVIEWED BEFORE PUBLISHING IN A MEDIA. SOME OF THE GRAPHS ARE INCOMPLETE AND SOME LISTS ARE SIMULATIONS**

# IS IT THE WORST OF WORLDS FOR JOURNALISTS?

Is it a more violent world for journalists that it was ten years ago? Or is it only that we have more accurate systems to record reporters' casualties? Data compiled by Reporters without Borders (RSF) suggest that the number of deaths among journalists increased from 2010, but without achieving in 2011 the highest cipher ever, which belongs to 2007.

But many people devoted digital or newspapers columns and TV or radio programs to regret the high number of deaths among members of "the tribe", as if Journalism would be going through the worst of its battles ever. Misunderstanding might lay in the fact that now the sum of total casualties includes the deaths of collaborators and SPECIALY of net citizens, which were not reported in the past (RSF reports about them only since 2011, as well as about imprisoned journalists, collaborators and net citizens).

It is just that now we have "more eyes", and each single death of a person working to give information to the World, be him/her a journalist or a net citizen, can be seen and recognized as what it is: an unforgivable crime.



## FREEDOM OF THE PRESS WORLDWIDE IN 2012



## LA LIBERTÉ DE LA PRESSE DANS LE MONDE EN 2012

- \* Mouse over a country to see a pop-up window with a list of casualties registered in that territory
- \*\* Click on a country A and then click on a country B to visualize a map with only both of them and their data (inside a single table in order to compare). Click on the blue see to go back to the normal map
- \*\*\* Double click on a country to access a RSF specific report about journalism-related casualties on there. It will open in a new window

### 1 DANIEL MORERO (EXAMPLE OF POP-UP PROFILE WINDOWS)

Daniel Morero was born in... and decided to... While he was covering revolts in the conflictive neighborhood of X, he was shot in the...

- NYT (Dec. the 12<sup>th</sup> 2006): "[Journalist from Guatemala dies while covering...](#)"

### 2 FILIPINES (EXAMPLE OF POP-UP COUNTRY WINDOW)

- 1st Dec. 2005 - **George Benaojan** - Bantay Radio
- 20th Nov. 2005 - **Roberto Ramos** - Katapat
- 3th Jul. 2005 - **Rolando "Dodong" Morales** - DXMD
- 10th May 2005 - **Philip Agustin** - Times Recorder

## JOURNALISTS' CASUALTIES IN SPAIN

Choose year  ↓



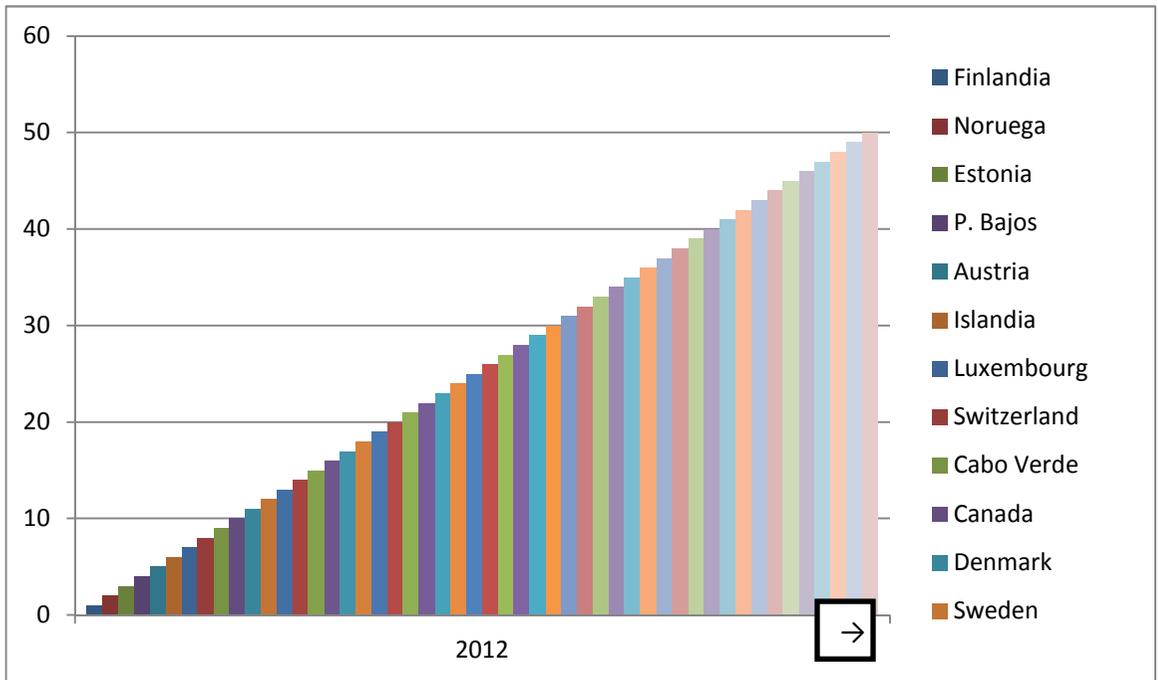
\* Click on the spots to get a profile of the journalist involved in that case

## FACTS ARE SACRED:

- Despite what is often thought, local journalists are almost 7 times more likely to be killed for doing their jobs than foreign journalists (see relation nationality-destination in the box "A person behind each number")

- Is the number of casualties per year directly correlated to the general number of casualties in the conflicts of that year? [Check this correlation graph](#)

**DESTINATION COUNTRIES (FROM FRIENDLY TO UNFRIENDLY TOWARDS JOURNALISTS)**



Source: RSF: RANKING OF THE ENEMIES OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

\* Press → to see next 50 countries on the list

\*\* Press a country to see details about it (2)

\*\*\* Press "2012" to change year

\*\*\* Data to the left shows ciphers related to the chosen year

**RANKING of most violent destinations (with number of victims)**

2012

Eritrea..... X

Corea..... X

Turkmenistán..... X

...

**TALK TO OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ALLOCATED AROUND THE WORLD. THEIR LIST ON TWITTER:**

**PICTURES OF SORROW.** A gallery-tribute to journalists who lost their life around the globe, by year. Click on a given picture to watch scenes of their work and a link to their profile (1).

T. Hetherington      M. Colvin

←      2011      2012      →

**INTERESTED IN JOURNALIST SAFETY? CHECK THE LIST OF PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING SELF-PROTECTION COURSES FOR JOURNALISTS IN CONFLICT ZONES:**

- [INSI](#)
- [DART Center for Trauma](#)
- [University of...](#)

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