

Ethics, Good Practice, Integrity
ISI Mission ‘Excellence in Statistics’

ESCAP STATS CAFE

30. OCTOBER 2023

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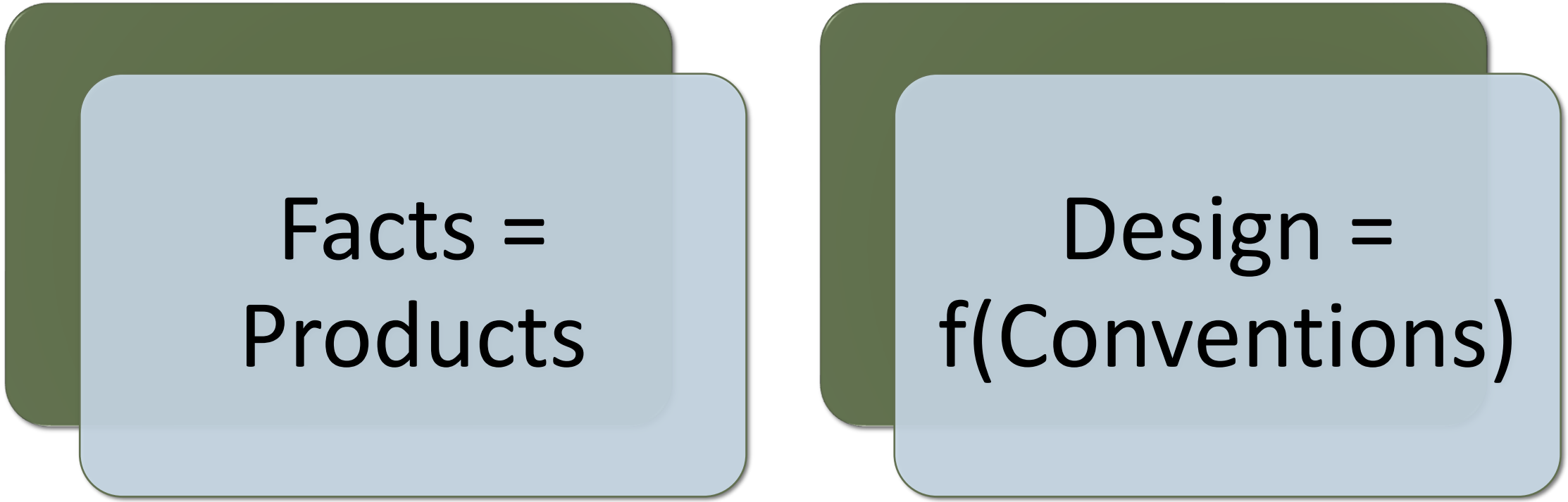
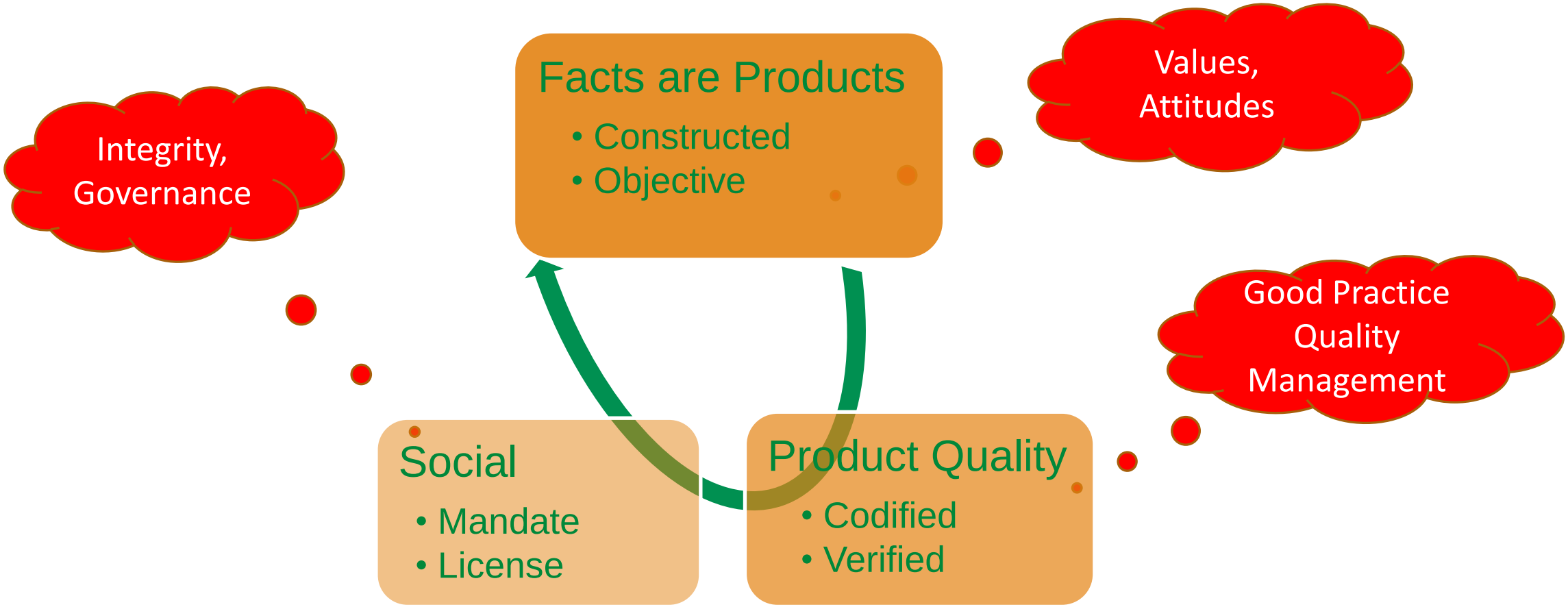
Statistical Information



Ethics and Governance in Statistics



Ethics, Good Practice Principles, e.g.

International Statistical Institute

Statistical Science for a Better World

Home / Declaration on Professional Ethics

Declaration on Professional Ethics

ADOPTED BY THE ISI COUNCIL, 22 & 23 July 2010, Reykjavik, Iceland.

Updated Version endorsed by ISI Executive Committee, 17 February 2023.

https://isi-web.org/declaration-professional-ethics



Recent Challenges

Needs for updated guidance on transparency, uncertainty quantification, reproducibility, quality characteristics, privacy of data

Indigenous data governance

Ethical issues related to the use of AI for statistics or statistics for AI

Problems with the integrity and independence of statistics in various regions and states

Changes in the task and role of public statistics

- Statistics for the public good
- New services (e.g. data steward) in the digital society

Knowledge, dissemination and application of ethical principles and standards in the increasingly diverse landscape of data communities and the developing world

ISI Declaration on Professional Ethics



https://www.isi-web.org/isi-declaration-professional-ethics-0

Responsibility

„Ethical principles inherently reflect the obligations and responsibilities of – as well as the resulting conflicts faced by – statisticians to forces and pressures outside of their own performance, namely to and from:

- *Society*
- *Employers, Clients, and Funders*
- *Colleagues*
- *Subjects*

In carrying out his/her responsibilities, each statistician must be sensitive to the need to ensure that his/her actions are, first, consistent with the best interests of each group and, second, do not favor any group at the expense of any other, or conflict with any of the Principles."

https://isi-web.org/declaration-professional-ethics

ISI Values

https://isi-web.org/declaration-professional-ethics

1. Respect
   - We respect the privacy of others and the promises of confidentiality given to them.
   - …
2. Professionalism
   - The value Professionalism implies Responsibility, Competence and Expert Knowledge, and Informed Judgment.
   - …
3. Truthfulness and Integrity
   - By Truthfulness and Integrity, we mean Independence, Objectivity and Transparency.
   - …

ISI Ethical Principles

https://www.isi-web.org/declaration-professional-ethics

Pursuing Objectivity	Clarifying Obligations and Roles	Assessing Alternatives Impartially	Conflicting Interests
Avoiding Preempted Outcomes	Guarding Privileged Information	Exhibiting Professional Competence	Maintaining Confidence in Statistics
Exposing and Reviewing Methods and Findings	Communicating Ethical Principles	Bearing Responsibility for the Integrity of the Discipline	Protecting the Interests of Subjects

Advisory Board on Ethics

The ISI Advisory Board on Ethics was established in 2010.

Role

The **scope of the work** of the Advisory Board on Ethics is the full range of statistics, including official statistics.

The Role of the Advisory Board is to:

- Provide advice to the Executive Committee or Council of the ISI on how to respond to ethical issues that are brought to its attention by the Committee or Council.
- Assist the Executive Committee or Council with providing advice on ethical issues to individual ISI members or institutional members seeking such advice.
- Recommend the Executive Committee or Council on activities that the ISI should pursue to address emerging ethical issues, especially the promotion of good practices.
- Suggest an appropriate activity for each World Statistics Congress.

Board Objectives

The ABE advises the Executive Committee and Council on relevant ethical issues and recommends or undertakes activities for promoting observance of ethical principles in statistics. The work of the Board is based on the *ISI Declaration on Professional Ethics* and guided by ISI's mission and its relevant objectives:

https://www.isi-web.org/advisory-board-ethics

Advisory Board on Ethics Members

Last Name	First Name	Association	Country
Radermacher	Walter	ISI, IAOS, IASE, TIES	FENStatS
Arrow	Jairo	ISI, IASS	South Africa
Belkindas	Misha	ISI, IAOS	USA/Lithuania
Bilgin	Ayse	ISI, IASE	Australia
Chuwa	Albina	ISI, IAOS	Tanzania
Fung	Hing Wang	ISI, IASS, IAOS	Hong Kong
Habibullah	Saleha	ISI, IASE, IASS	Pakistan
v.Oppeln-Bronikowski	Sibylle	ISI, IAOS	Germany
Rancourt	Eric	ISI, IASS, IAOS	Canada
Stapel-Weber	Silke	ISI, IAOS, IFC	Germany
Suesser	Jan Robert	ISI, IAOS	France
Terán	Teresita Evelina	IASE	Argentina
Tractenberg	Rochelle E.	ISI	USA
Trewin	Dennis	ISI, IASS, IAOS	Australia
Tzavidis	Nikos	ISI, IASS	United Kingdom
Vukovich	Gabriella	ISI, IAOS	Hungary
van Dijk-Timbol	Olivia	ISI (Liaison Officer)	ISI

Activities ISI Ethics Advisory Board

Advise on ethical or integrity issues

Programme of work

- Big data, data sciences, artificial intelligence
- Co-design of statistics and society; Indigenous data governance
- Education, online training courses, promotion of the principles,
- Reflexive components in statistics education, research, conferences etc.
- Improving evidence, global monitoring of integrity

Liaison with other associations (IAOS, IASE, ASA, RSS, IRC, FENStatS, …) and ISI branches (Capacity Building Committee, …)

Activities for the ISI World Statistics Congresses, IAOS Conferences, IASE webinars etc.

ISI statements and letters concerning statistical ethics

The ISI has undertaken action in specific cases. A selection of more recent statements:

El Salvador
Joint statement by ISI and IAOS on El Salvador's decision to dissolve DIGESTYC

Statement on Professional Ethics

Turkey
ISI and IAOS statement on the dismissal of the head of the Turkish Statistical Office

Fiji
Call for Action by the Fiji Government on the Position of its Government Statistician

Greece
ASA, ISI and RSS letter to the Prime Minister of Greece

Good Practice

QUALITY

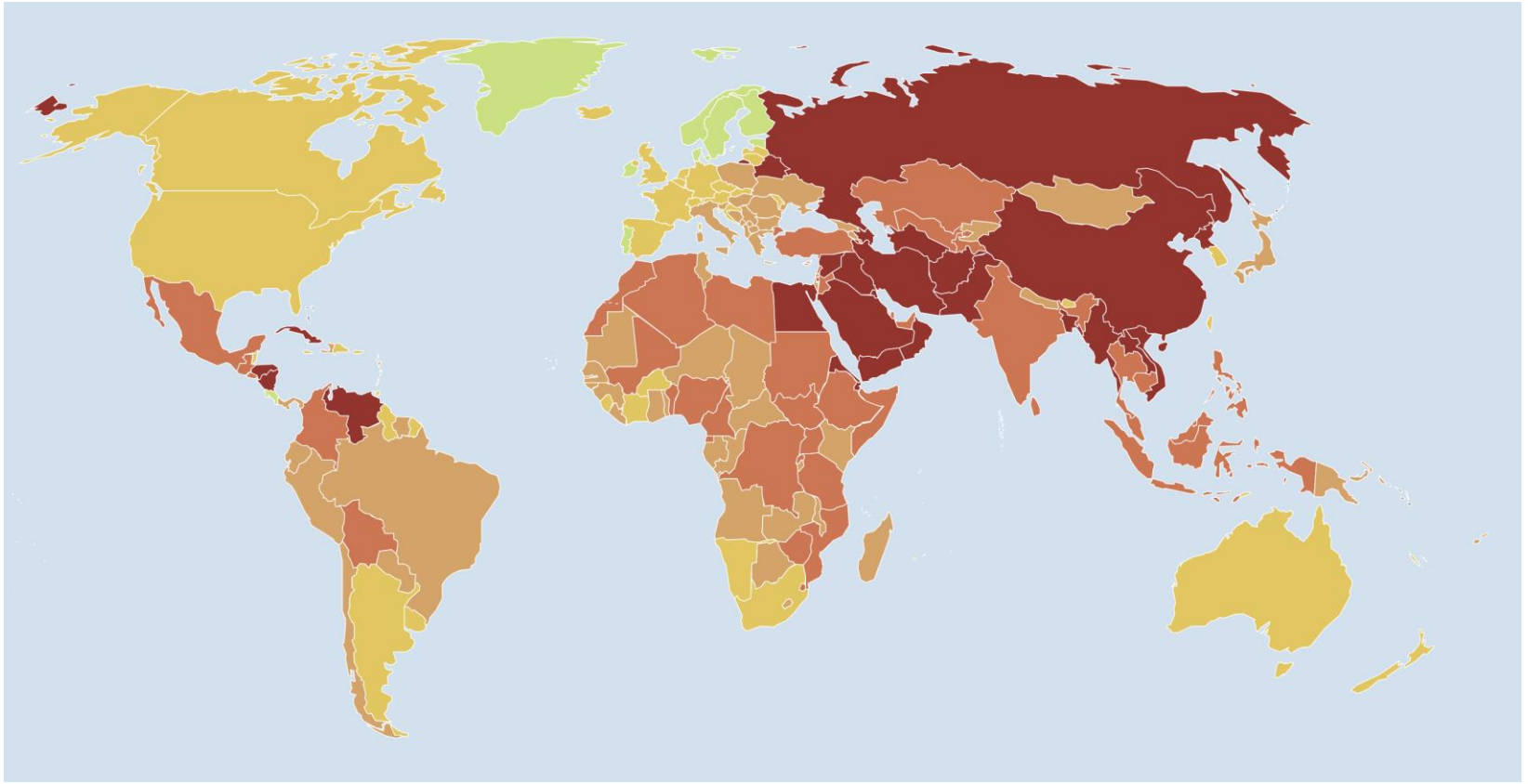
UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS) https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/FP-New-E.pdf

1. Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society …..
2. To retain trust …, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations …
3. … the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards …
4. The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.
5. Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources …
6. Individual data collected … are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.
7. The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.
8. Coordination among statistical agencies within countries …
9. The use by statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods …
10. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation …

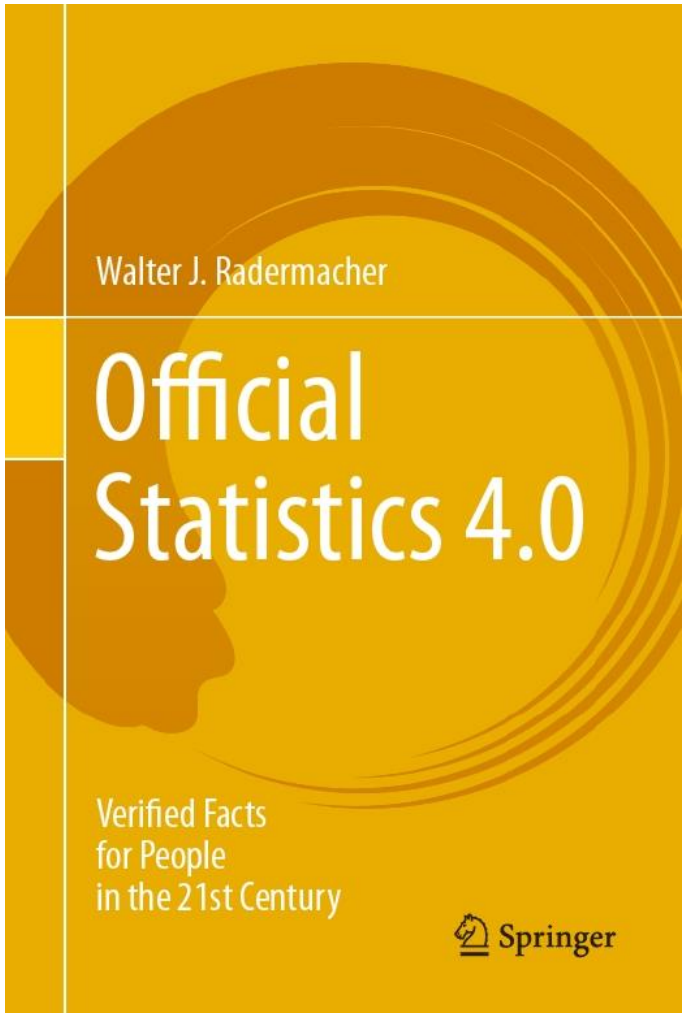
Integrity

SOCIAL MANDATE AND LICENCE

World Press Freedom Index https://rsf.org/en/index



MUCHAS GRACIAS
MUITO OBRIGADO
VIELEN DANK
THANK YOU
MERCI BIEN



https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030314910

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