

# PRESS RELEASE:

## New study suggests gains in transparency around the globe

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More think tanks are embracing transparency globally, according to a new study released today. Transparify, a non-profit initiative based in Georgia (Caucasus), has rated nearly 100 think tanks as highly or broadly transparent on their levels of financial disclosure, nearly five times the number of transparent institutions in 2013.

Dr. Hans Gutbrod, Transparify's Executive Director, stated, "The expansion of transparent think tanks over the last five years shows that financial transparency is becoming the norm among high quality institutions the world over."

The study suggests that there are highly transparent institutions in over 20 countries on all six continents. "Our work demonstrates that top transparency performers can be found in places as far apart as the United States, Ecuador, South Africa, and Ukraine. Clearly, transparency is a feasible option in a wide variety of contexts," according to Dr. Gutbrod.

The study concludes that for transparency to become institutionalized, donors need to encourage financial transparency. Dr. Till Bruckner, Transparify's Advocacy Manager, stated, "Major donors need to ask the think tanks they finance to disclose where their funding comes from. Only through a systemic solution that targets the point of application for research funding will the think tank sector be sustainably transparent."

**Note to editors:** The full report is posted on [www.transparify.org](http://www.transparify.org). Background information on debates and concerns related to think tank transparency can be found on our blog, and in our bibliographies accessible at <http://www.transparify.org/publications-main/>. Transparify's previous reports have been covered by the [New York Times](#), [Washington Post](#), and [Financial Times](#), among others.

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