**Data Module Instructions**

In this next section, you will be given a scenario, which presents you with a specific motivation for choosing, visualizing, and presenting data in a specific way. Your goal will be to choose an indicator that shows off your country in the best light. This exercise will allow you to investigate and compare data together in order to decide which indicator presents your country most advantageously regarding an aspect of governance. By being placed in a situation where you are incentivized to cherry-pick through data, you will learn how easily data can be manipulated to tell different stories. After this exercise, we hope you will look at data visualizations and comparative statistics with a new sense of understanding, and be able to question the motivations and intentions behind the data that might be painting a specific picture.

You will make a line graph in R showing a governance trend in your country over a period of 5 years. Then, you will prepare a short presentation where you will show how your country is improving and why your data is reliable. In this section, you will ask the following questions:

1) How can we examine specific data in R?

2) How do we create a simple line graph using ggplot in R?

3) How can the cherry-picking of data happen?

For the following exercise, read each scenario thoroughly. Then, use R or Excel to import the Governance Chapter data set. Examine each indicator carefully and decide which one is best to use for your scenario. (Remember, some indicators are composite indicators, which means they are made up of several other indicators also in the data set that were combined into one variable. You can choose either the more basic indicators or a composite indicator.) You will find the basic information about the indicator you chose and create a simple line graph showing the trajectory of your country.

Then, plan a short presentation where you present your data and best argument to the class. After you finish the presentation, discuss: What led you to pick one indicator over another? What critiques might data-savvy nay-sayers voice about why your presentation? How would you respond?