



# Human Freedom Index

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# Why Human Freedom

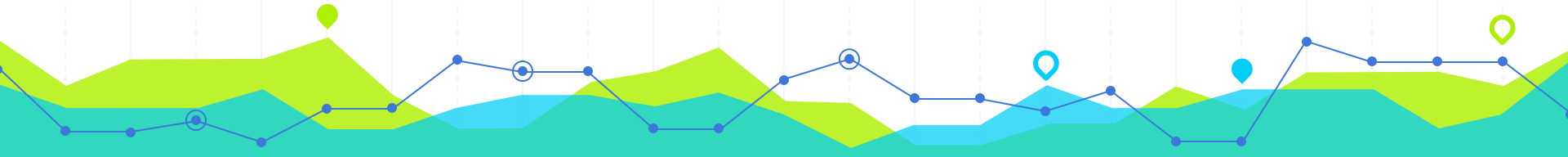


- ◉ Critical to society; human development, etc
- ◉ Recent globalization has shown modernization does not always mean greater human freedom
- ◉ Necessary to observe how freedom varies and changes across societies!

## High Level Goals



- ◉ Isolate relationships between freedom and various social and economic factors
- ◉ Comprehensively understand how different types of freedoms relate
- ◉ Examine how and if personal and economic liberties rely on each other



# Human Freedom Index Dataset



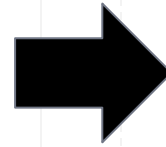
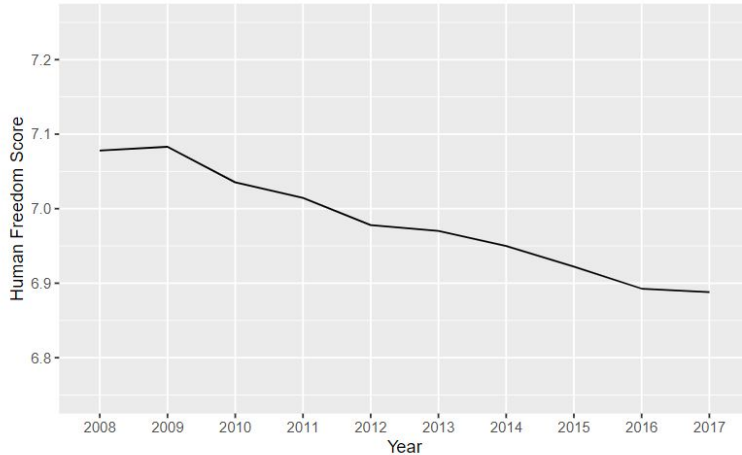
- Data includes levels of freedom around the world determined through many indicators weighted differently.
- 1620 Observations (162 countries, 10 years)
- 120 Variables
- Freedom Index on a scale of 0 to 10 (10 represents most freedom)



# Research Question and Visualizations

***What are the relationships between freedom and other social and economic factors and how do different facets of freedom interact with each other?***

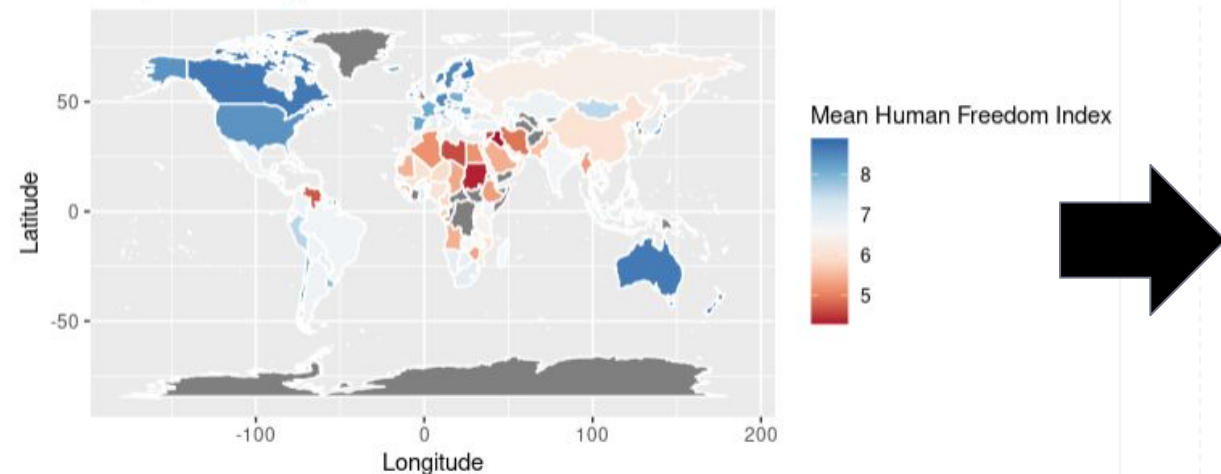
Graph 1: Overall Human Freedom on the Decline  
2008 to 2017



- Calculated mean human freedom score and plotted it
- Evident that Human Freedom has been declining overall in the past decade

# Visualizations Continued

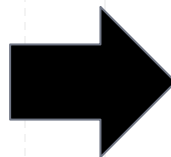
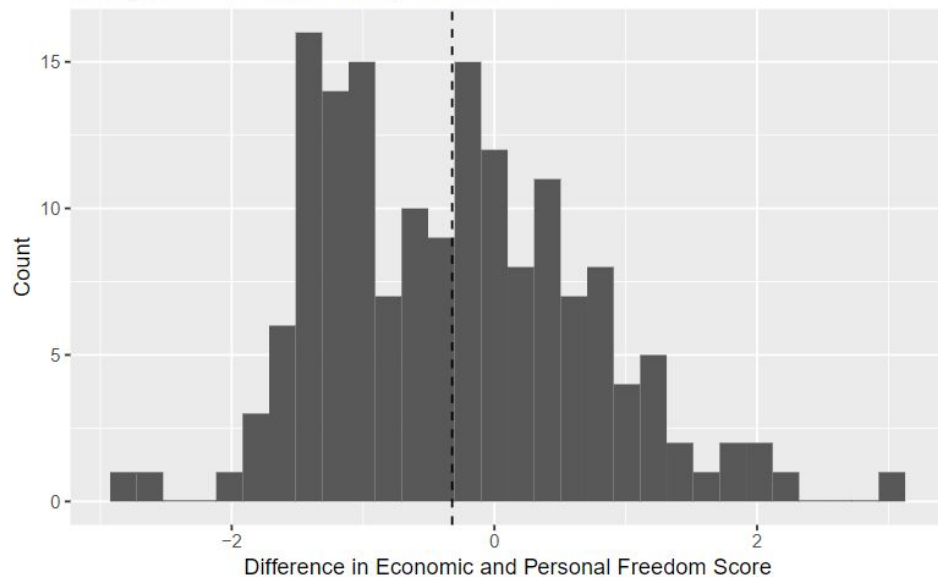
Graph 2: Average Freedom Around the World



- ◉ Developed countries had higher overall freedom scores
- ◉ Developing countries in Africa are a contrast: lower overall freedom scores

# Visualizations Continued

Graph 3: Mean Difference in Economic and Personal Freedom Score < 0  
Average Diffs from 2008 to 2017, 162 Countries

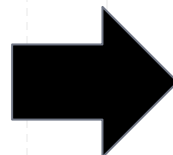
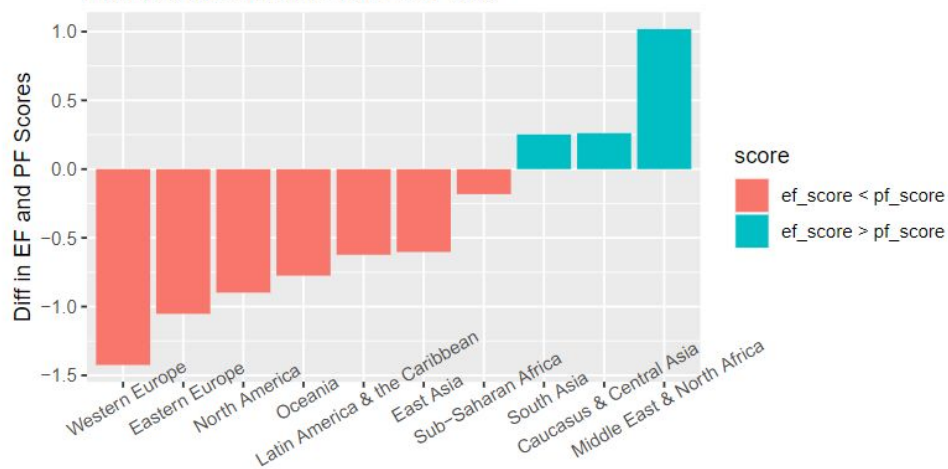


Differs from the initial thought that increase in economic freedom *always* indicates increase in personal freedom

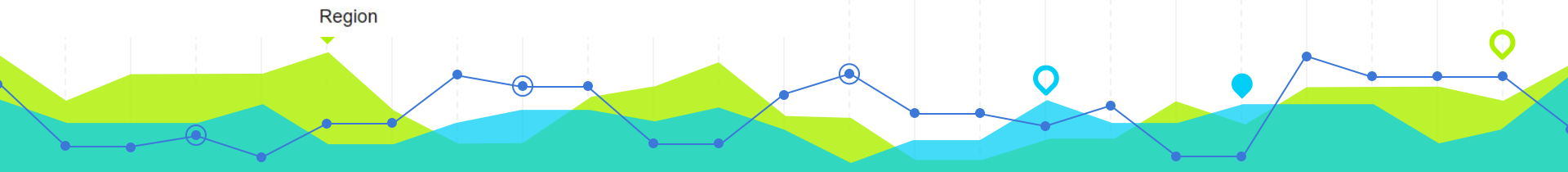
# Visualizations Continued

Graph 4: Personal Freedom Lagging Behind  
Economic Freedom in Developing Countries

Data from 162 countries from 2008–2017



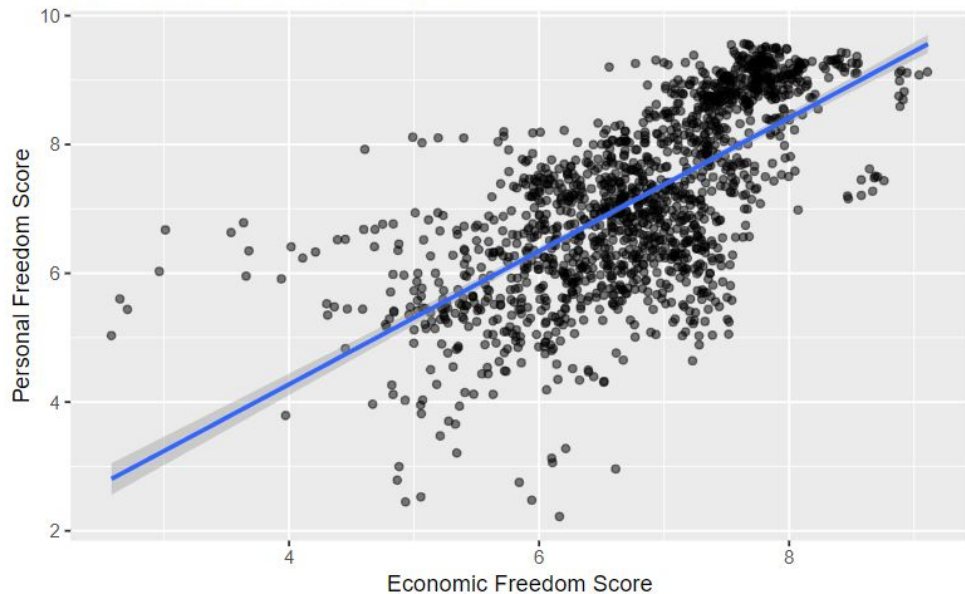
Economic freedom slightly higher than personal freedom in developing countries (especially the Middle East and North Africa)



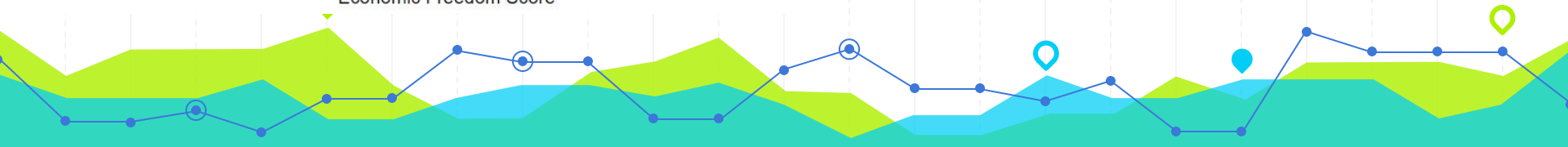


# Visualizations Continued

Graph 5: Positive Correlation Between Economic and Personal Freedom  
Data from 162 countries from 2008–2017



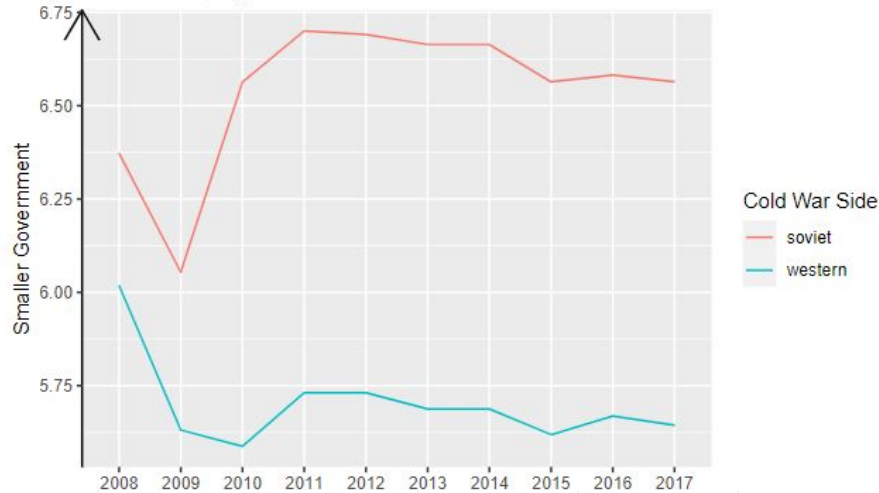
- Moderate to strong positive correlation between economic and personal freedom score
- Greater upper bound for personal freedom score than economic freedom score



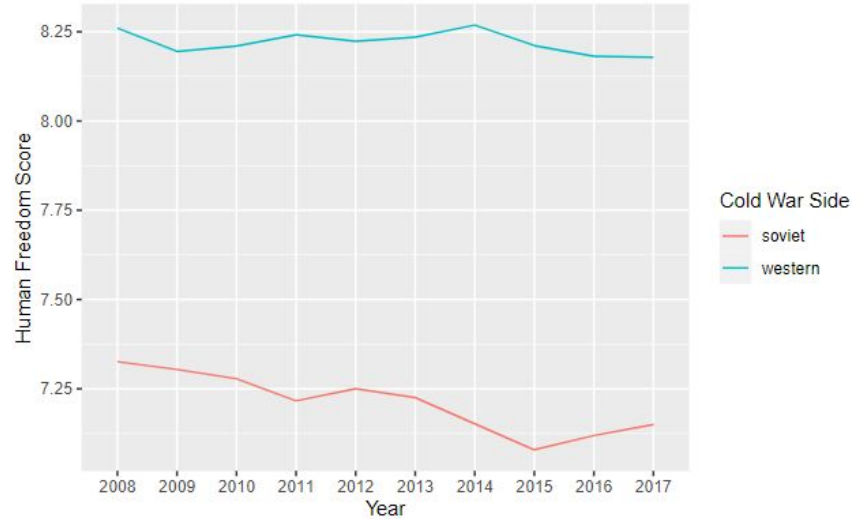
# Visualizations Continued

Graph 6: Post-Soviet Countries Have Smaller Governments Than Western Countries

2008 to 2017, Higher Score = Smaller Government



Graph 7: Post-Soviet Countries Less Free Than Western Countries 2008 to 2017

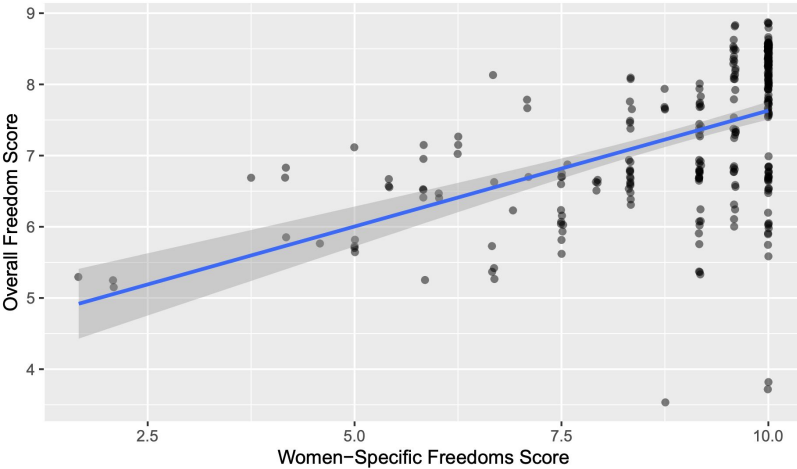


- ◉ Former Soviet countries' governments have been decreasing in size while the opposite has been occurring for Western governments
- ◉ Smaller governments do not help indicate greater overall human freedom

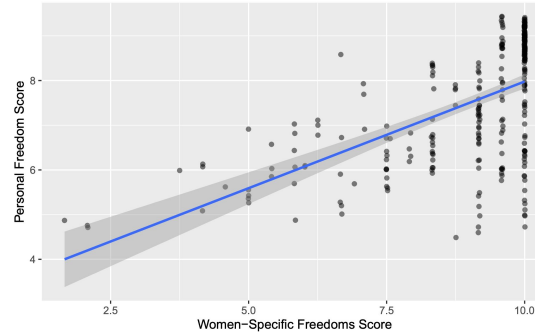
# Visualizations Continued

Graph 8: Positive Correlation Between Women-Specific and Overall Freedom

Data from 162 countries from 2008–2017

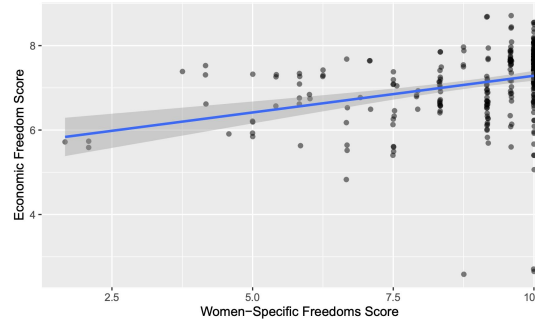


Graph 9b: Positive Correlation Between Women-Specific and Personal Freedom



Graph 9a: Positive Correlation Between Women-Specific and Economic Freedom

Correlation less strong than overall HFI

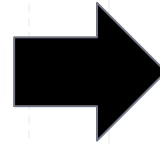
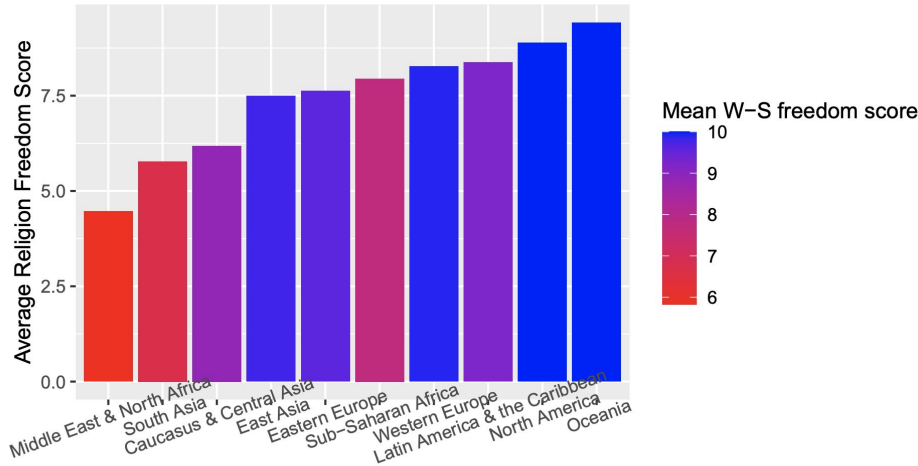


- Moderate, linear, positive correlation between women-specific freedoms and overall human freedom
- There is a difference in the correlation between women-specific freedom to personal freedom and women-specific freedom to economic freedom

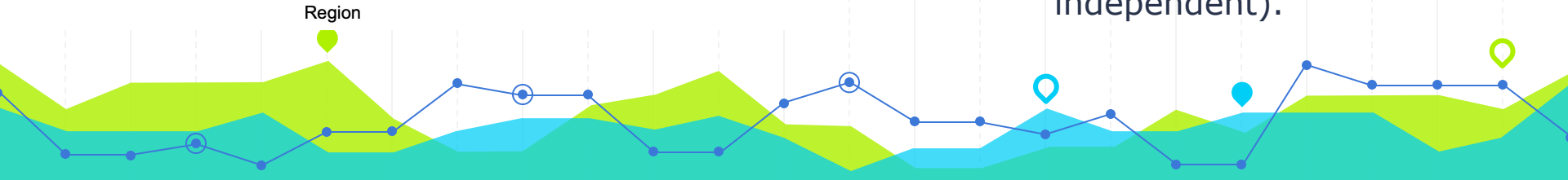
# Visualizations Continued

Graph 10: General increase in mean W-S score with higher religious freedom score

Sub-Saharan Africa does not fit trend



- Regions with higher religious freedom score tend to have higher women-specific freedom score, and vice versa
- There is a relationship between a country's women's freedom score being above or below average, and its religious freedom score being above or below average (not independent).



## Conclusions (Key Takeaways)

- Mean overall freedom has declined globally from 2008 to 2018
- Difference in the relationship between government size and overall freedom depending on a country's Cold War status
- Economic freedom scores tend to be lower than personal freedom scores around the world
- Difference in the correlation between women-specific freedom to personal freedom and women-specific freedom to economic freedom; regions with higher religious freedom have higher women-specific freedom
- There exists a relationship between a country's women's freedom score being above or below average and its religious freedom score being above or below average.

