



Appendix: Data from FCCC 2010 survey on reporting conditions in Tibet

About the survey:

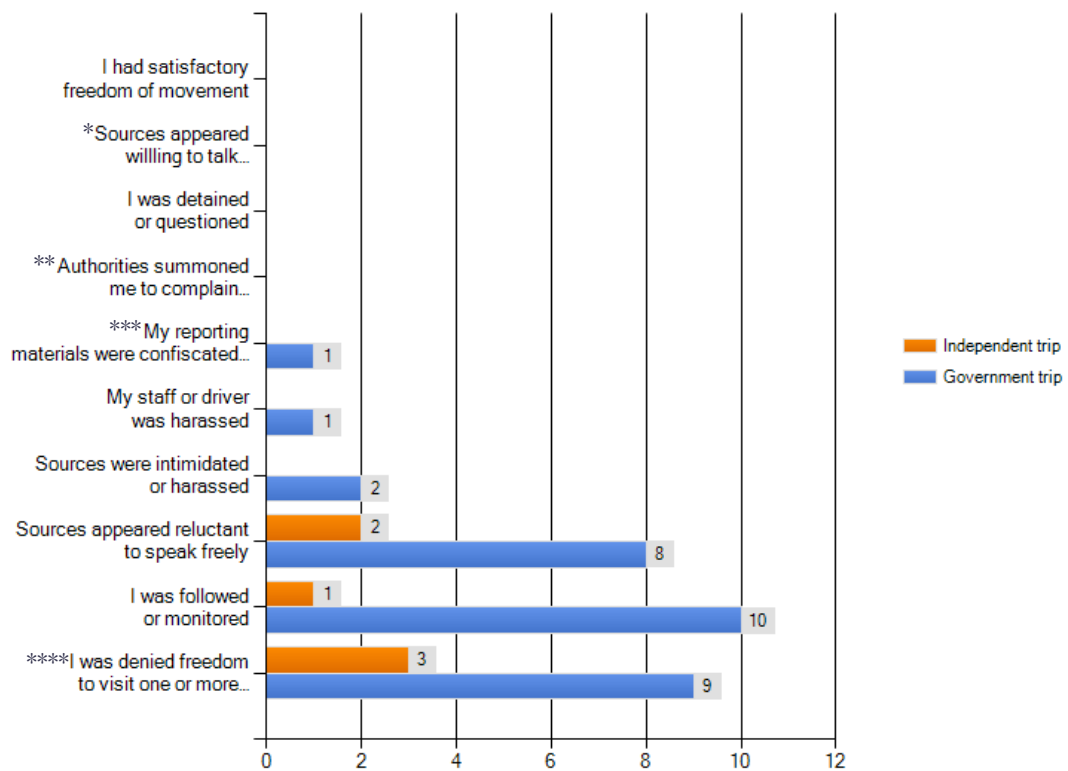
In June 2010 the FCCC sent 241 correspondent members from over 38 countries and regions a link to an online survey. We received 68 responses* from correspondents and bureaus representing 19 countries and regions. Figures indicate absolute number of responses, unless otherwise indicated. When percentages are used, they reflect all respondents to that specific question. Not all respondents answered every question. Data may be used if credit is given to the Foreign Correspondents' Club of China (FCCC).

*Bureaus with multiple FCCC members may have submitted only one response for the bureau.

Reporting Trips

Respondents said their bureaus submitted a total of 76 applications over the past two years to report in the Tibet Autonomous Region, of which 30 were approved. Twenty of the respondents said none of their applications was approved. Of the 35 respondents who applied for independent trips, four had their applications approved. Twenty-one of the respondents said their bureau applied multiple times, some submitting six or more applications. Nine of the respondents who reported in Tibet said officials there were neutral or helpful. Four said they were obstructive. The data below reflects observations by correspondents who traveled to the Tibet Autonomous Region in the past two years, as well as views by all respondents.

What were reporting conditions like in the Tibet Autonomous Region?



This question was answered by 14 correspondents

*Sources appeared willing to talk freely, without fear

**Authorities summoned me to complain about my report

***My reporting materials were confiscated or destroyed

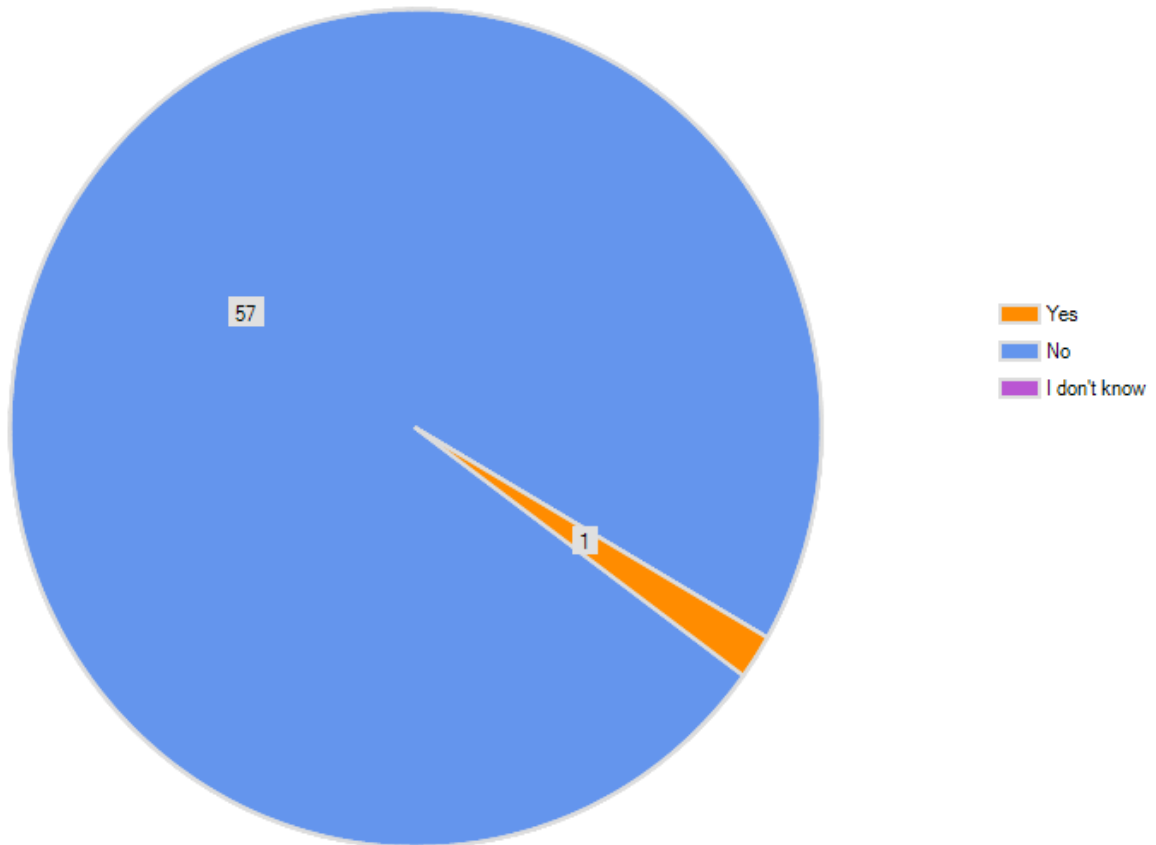
****I was denied freedom to visit one or more locations of my choice

Correspondents' Quotes:

"April 2008 the officials were not obstructive in the sense that they did not stop our filming of monks demonstrating but they were not very helpful either. They simply wanted to proceed with the official itinerary."

"We were invited to participate in a government reporting trip. Officials were very friendly and tried to be helpful, but of course they controlled the agenda and showed us only the bright side of Tibet. Still, it was a useful trip and we were able to meet some useful 'real' people and go to some interesting places. Of course they tried to discourage digging or reporting on sensitive topics like the Dalai Lama and the riots."

Regardless of whether you have reported from the Tibet Autonomous Region, in your opinion are foreign journalists able to report in Tibet in accordance with China's reporting rules allowing freedom to travel and speak to sources who agree to be interviewed?



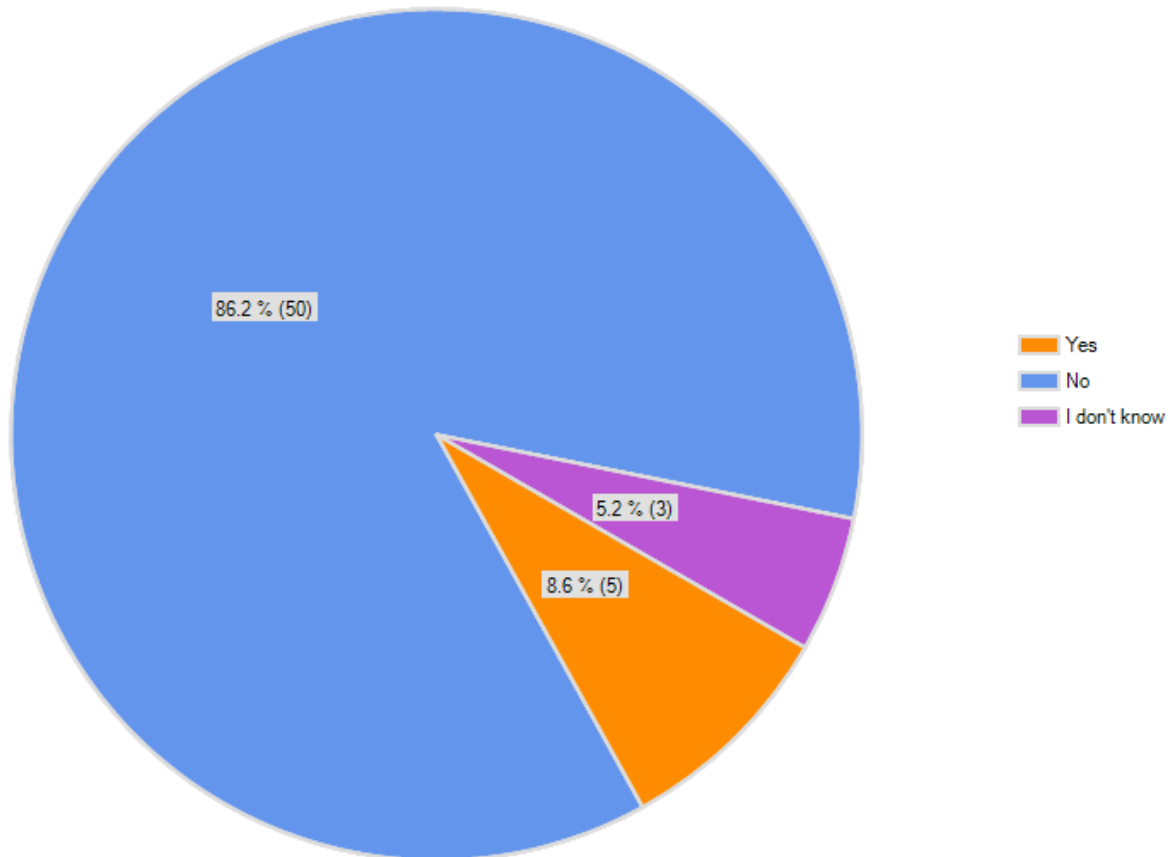
Correspondents' Quotes:

"How can you report objectively and independently from a place you are not allowed to travel to?"

"Potential interviewees are often intimidated, putting journalists in the difficult position of risking the safety of people by simply talking to them."

"If we can't even go, it cannot be called free reporting. Even in the Tibetan areas of Sichuan there's no such thing as free reporting. I was stopped at a military checkpoint just outside Kangding in 2009 trying to travel further west and was sent back because of my journalist visa."

On balance, do you feel it is possible to do accurate and comprehensive reporting ABOUT Tibet?



Correspondents' Quotes:

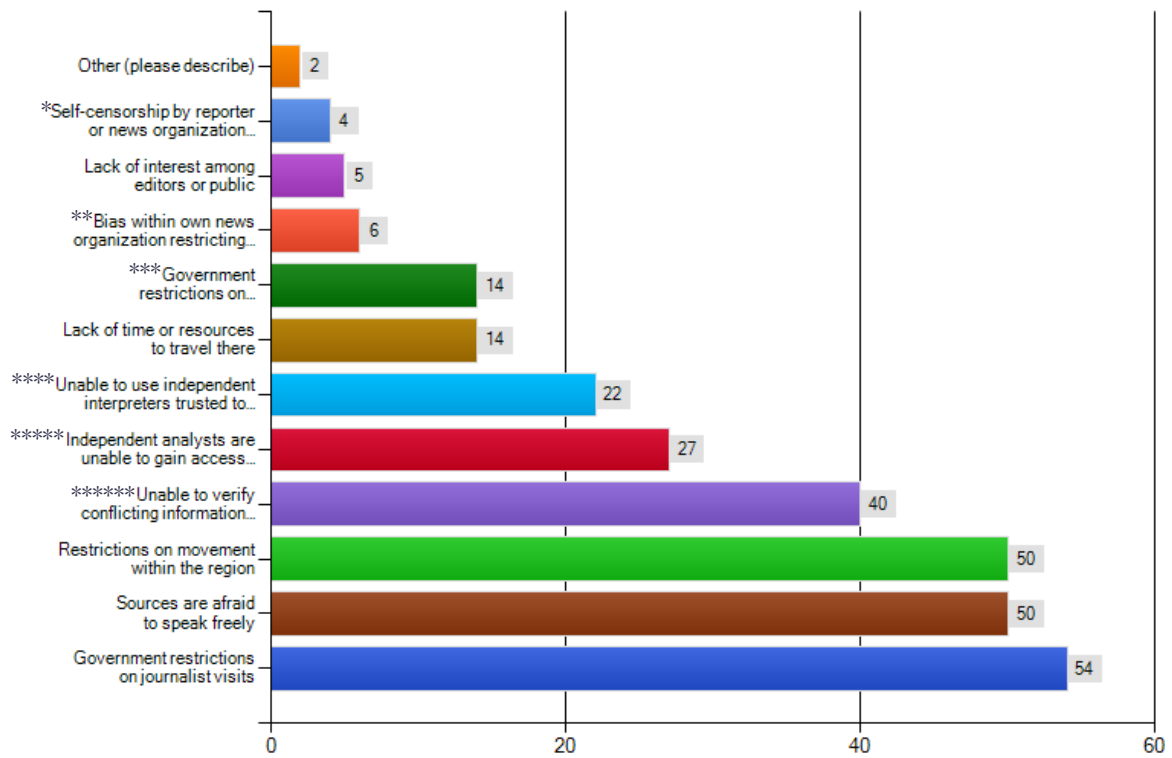
"Knowing it's hard to get in, many people are deterred from going. That leaves us reliant on exiles and government propaganda."

"Well it really depends on your topic doesn't it? In my line of work - general and breaking news - no it is not."

"I think one can still be accurate but not comprehensive."

"We can do reporting on the way the government is trying to show us the Tibet they want us to see, which is also an interesting story."

Which obstacles prevent journalists from doing accurate and comprehensive reporting about Tibet?



This question was answered by 56 correspondents

*Self-censorship by reporter or news organization due to concern over relations with Chinese authorities

**Bias within own news organization restricting coverage of diverse perspectives

***Government restrictions on communications/internet

****Unable to use independent interpreters trusted to keep interview confidential

*****Independent analysts are unable to gain access to adequate information

*****Unable to verify conflicting information from polarized sides

Correspondents' Quotes:

"If sources cannot speak about any subject without fear, it is not possible to do accurate and comprehensive reporting. I have no idea what a majority of Tibetans think, and I doubt anyone else in the world does either."

"Since we cannot even travel there freely or work independently there, it is totally unlike reporting in the rest of China. Any reporting from a trip controlled and manipulated by the officials by nature must be questioned."

"Even when we have 'access' it is generally only access to what they want us to see and report. The fact that we cannot go there independently and set our own agenda means we rarely (legally) obtain realistic or balanced reporting from there."