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Media Analysis of the G8 and the 2012 Camp David Summit

Department of Media Studies | G8 Research Group | June 2013

An analysis of media coverage of the G8 and its member states immediately before, during and after the 2012 G8 Summit in Camp David on May 18-19, 2012.

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PART I: INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Tejas Parasher

This report summarizes media coverage of the G8 and its member states immediately before, during and after the 2012 G8 Summit in Camp David on May 18-19, 2012. Concentrating on a two month time period from April 1 to June 1, 2012 (inclusive), this report analyzes the leading daily media outlets of each G8 country to explore the nature of their coverage of the G8 and G8-related issues. For each country's media, we explore whether the G8 and the Camp David Summit were portrayed negatively or positively, which countries and issues received the most coverage and which sources were used for information about the G8.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

An average of three major daily newspapers were chosen for each G8 country to provide a snapshot of the national media landscape. Newspapers were selected based on circulation of both print and digital editions, political influence and diversity of political orientation. The following newspapers were selected for analysis:

G8 Country	Newspapers
United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> • <i>New York Times</i> • <i>Washington Post</i>
United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Guardian</i> • <i>The Financial Times</i> • <i>The Daily Telegraph</i>
Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Globe and Mail</i> • <i>Toronto Star</i> • <i>National Post</i>
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Le Monde</i> • <i>Libération</i> • <i>Le Figaro</i>
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Die Welt</i> • <i>Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung</i> • <i>Süddeutsche Zeitung</i>
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Corriere della Sera</i> • <i>La Stampa</i> • <i>La Repubblica</i>
Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yomiuri Shimbun</i> • <i>Mainichi Shimbun</i>
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rossiyskaya Gazeta</i> • <i>Daily Vedomosti</i> • <i>Nezavisimaya Gazeta</i>

Through close monitoring of newspaper websites and Boolean searches of the Factiva Dow Jones Database, news articles and editorials pertaining to the G8 and the Camp David Summit were collected from each of these publications. The online analysis tool SurveyMonkey was then used to analyze the content of collected articles. Articles were analyzed to determine which countries, issues and leaders were receiving attention and which sources were being cited as authoritative. A separate dataset was compiled for each G8 country.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Tejas Parasher

General Findings

There was considerable variation in how the G8 and the Camp David Summit were portrayed across different countries' media. Nevertheless, we can identify certain points of convergence. First, the United States featured prominently in all coverage of the G8. On average, over 50% of G8-related articles in every media outlet discussed the role of the US. Discussion focused on both the United States' hosting of the Camp David Summit and on its central role in the formulation of G8 policies. Each country's media also covered the actions of their own national leaders and representatives in the G8 and the Camp David Summit quite extensively.

A major focus of all media outlets was on the interactions between the G8 and non-G8 countries. On average, the most frequently mentioned non-G8 countries were Greece, Spain, Syria Iran and North Korea. Greece and Spain were discussed in relation to the Eurozone debt crisis, Syria was discussed in relation to its ongoing conflict and Iran and North Korea were discussed in relation to issues of nuclear non-proliferation.

The world economy and regional security (including nuclear non-proliferation) were the most discussed issues in all media outlets. This is unsurprising, given that these were two areas of major concern for the international community in the lead-up to the 2012 Camp David Summit. The world economy had been salient due to the ongoing Eurozone debt crisis and disagreements about austerity measures and fiscal policy amongst EU and G8 member states. Regional security had been a major focus of the international community during April and May 2012 because of the escalation of conflict in Syria and tensions around nuclear non-proliferation in Iran and North Korea. In addition, due to the May 2012 drought in Africa's Sahel Region and the G8's promise to renew food security commitments at the L'Aquila Summit in 2009, food security and development were also major areas of focus in media coverage of the Camp David Summit.

Finally, most media outlets relied on government representatives from G8 member states for information about the 2012 Summit. Due to the summit being held in Camp David, media access was restricted to a select group of correspondents. Most media outlets therefore had to turn to government representatives and official press statements for information about the summit.

Conclusions

Based on content analysis of all collected articles, we arrived at the following conclusions about media coverage of the G8 and the Camp David Summit between April 1 and June 1, 2012:

(1) Media organizations framed issues discussed at the Camp David Summit with concern for their relevance to national interests.

The world economy, regional security and food security were major areas of focus in media coverage of the G8 Summit. However, the way in which each of these issues was covered varied from country to country. **In each country's media, issues were covered in ways that linked them directly to national concerns and interests.** For example, the Japanese media discussed regional security almost exclusively in the context of North Korean nuclear capabilities and the security situation in East Asia. For the American, British and Canadian media, regional security was more focused on the ongoing NATO operation in Afghanistan as well as the consequences of the Syrian conflict for the broader Middle East. A number of articles in the American media also discussed the consequences that security policies framed during the Camp David Summit might have for the United States' presidential election in November 2012. Similarly, coverage of economic affairs differed in the French media—which focused primarily on how President Hollande's new economic agenda would influence the French position on the Eurozone crisis—from the German media—which focused primarily on the consequences of the Eurozone crisis for Germany's domestic economic policies.

This finding supports recent scholarship on the agenda-setting frameworks of media outlets with respect to transnational issues and events.¹ Our conclusion is resonant with the general argument made in this scholarship that relevance to national interest is a major determinant in the way media organizations present global affairs to a national audience.

(2) Media organizations relied upon government representatives as primary sources for the Camp David Summit.

On March 5 2012, the White House announced that the G8 Summit would be moved from Chicago to Camp David. This announcement caught many protestors and civil society groups by surprise. They expressed concern that they would not be able to engage as directly with the summit in Camp David as they would have in Chicago.² As a result, the Camp David Summit saw a significantly lower number of on-site protests and civil society activity than previous G8 summits.³

¹ See Eytan Gilboa, "The CNN Effect: The Search for a Communication Theory of International Relations," *Political Communication* 22 (1): 27-44; Tsan-Kuo Chang and Jae-Won Lee, "Factors Affecting Gatekeepers' Selection of Foreign News: A National Survey of Newspaper Editors," *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* 69 (3): 554-561; and Kai Hafez, "International News Coverage and the Problems of Media Globalization: In Search of a 'New' Global-Local Nexus," *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research* 12 (1): 47-62.

² Kristen Mack, Hal Dardick and David Heinzmann. "G-8 gone but will protestors still show?" *Chicago Tribune*. March 5 2012. http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-03-05/news/chi-g8-move-stuns-some-chicago-organizers-20120305_1_chicago-g-8-nato-summit-nato-meeting. Accessed December 12 2012.

³ See G8 Research Group Department of Civil Society Studies, *Report on Civil Society and the 2012 G8 Camp David Summit* (Toronto: Munk School of Global Affairs, 2012). <http://g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Final-Civil-Society-Camp-David-.pdf>. Accessed April 3 2013.

Our research suggests that the relatively fewer number of non-government representatives at the Camp David Summit had significant consequences for media coverage. Government representatives and official press releases were almost the only primary sources available to media organizations. There was little mention of protestors in any of the collected articles. Media organizations did not have the opportunity to interact directly with protestors or civil society. Coverage of the 2012 Camp David Summit was thus heavily dependent upon information provided by government sources and the G8 itself. This had two main consequences for media coverage. First, very few of the primary sources cited were critical of the G8. The overwhelming majority of articles portrayed the G8 in a neutral light. Secondly, the focus of media coverage was exclusively on G8 policies. Issues around the G8's interactions with protestors, NGOs and civil society groups were rarely discussed.

PART II: COUNTRY REPORTS

UNITED STATES

Jamie Kim

Newspapers Used

For an analysis of American media, three major publications were chosen: *The Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. In terms of overall political orientation, the *New York Times* is liberal, *The Wall Street Journal* is centre-left (though often conservative in its coverage of economic affairs) and the *Washington Post* is conservative (especially in its international reporting).

Coverage of the G8 and the 2012 Camp David Summit

Out of 74 total articles related to the G8 between April 1 and June 1 2012, 43.2% were from the *Washington Post*, 41.9% from the *New York Times* and 14.9% from *The Wall Street Journal*. 45.1% of all articles portrayed the G8 positively and 36.6% negatively. 16.9% of articles were factual news pieces that remained neutral about the effectiveness of the G8.

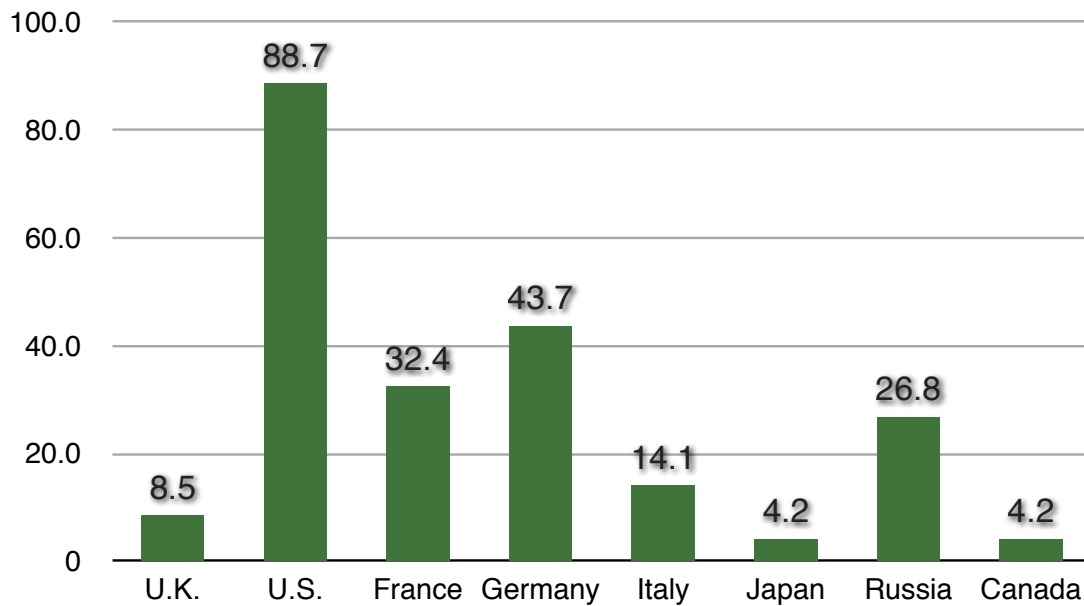
Only 8.6% of the articles across the three newspapers mentioned summit protestors. The overwhelming majority of these articles (94.3%) were news pieces that discussed protests occurring around Camp David or in Chicago (related to the NATO Summit). Most of the articles did not editorialize about the protests or the protestors.

Overall, the American media covered the G8 and the Camp David Summit in a mostly positive light. The Summit was portrayed as an effective, multilateral forum to address pressing global issues such as the Eurozone crisis and nuclear non-proliferation.

G8 Countries Covered

The United States was the most prominent country across all three newspapers. 88.7% of articles related to the G8 discussed the role of the US. Germany was the second most common country, mentioned in 43.7% of articles. France and Russia were discussed in 32.4% and 26.8% of articles, respectively.

The overwhelming prominence of the United States across the three newspapers indicates that the American media was primarily interested in the G8 and the Camp David Summit as they related to national concerns. Issues pertaining to other G8 countries, such as Germany's role in the Eurozone crisis, France's new leadership under President François Hollande and Russia's role in the ongoing Syrian conflict, were discussed in relation to their effects on US policies and American membership in the G8.

Figure 1: G8 countries covered in US media, April 1 – June 1, 2012

Non-G8 Countries Covered

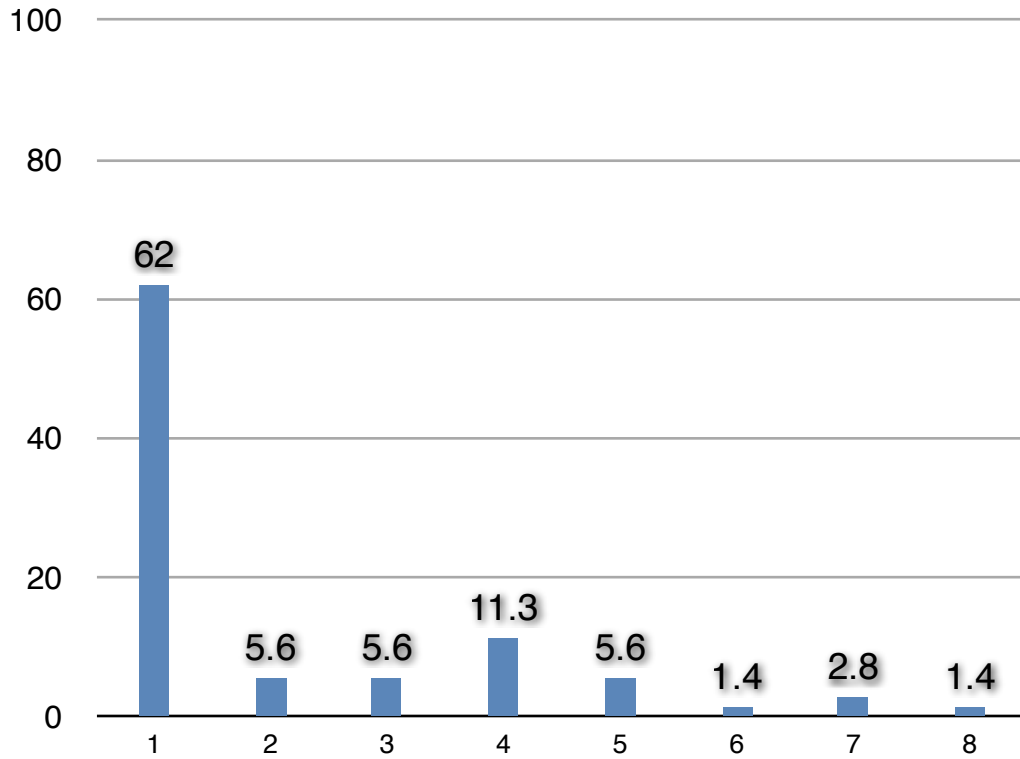
Non-G8 countries were mentioned in 68.9% of collected articles. Greece and Spain were discussed in conjunction with the Eurozone crisis. Syria, Afghanistan and Libya were discussed in conjunction with issues of regional security and NATO military operations. Finally, North Korea and Iran were discussed in conjunction with nuclear non-proliferation. That a majority of articles discussed non-G8 countries indicates that the American media was interested in the Camp David Summit as a forum to discuss comprehensive global issues, rather than just the concerns of member states.

Issues Covered

The world economy and regional security were the two main issues discussed in US media. 62% of articles mentioned the world economy—and specifically the Eurozone crisis—as a major concern for the G8. In 11.3% of articles, regional security was portrayed as an issue of pressing concern. Discussions about regional security were split evenly across the three newspapers between a focus on conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan and Libya and a focus on nuclear non-proliferation in relation to Iran and North Korea.

Interestingly, development and food security, which were a major focus of the Camp David Summit, were each discussed in only 5.6% of articles.

Figure 2: G8-related issues covered in US media, April 1 – June 1 2012



Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Sourcing Trends

Figure 3: Sources cited by G8-related articles in US media, April 1 – June 1 2012

Primary Source	Percentage of Articles
Academics	4.3
Civil society representatives	7.1
Natl. govt. representatives	8.1
Intl. govt. representatives	4.1
None	78.6

UNITED KINGDOM

Ryan Kelpin

Newspapers Used

Three British newspapers were selected for an analysis of the UK media's coverage of the G8: *The Guardian*, *The Financial Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*. These three newspapers were chosen due to their high circulation numbers (in both print and digital editions) and their important roles in the British public sphere. Combining the reach of both digital and print platforms, these three publications are some of the most widely read and influential media sources in the English-speaking world.⁴ In terms of overall political orientation, *The Guardian* is liberal, *The Telegraph* is centre-left and *The Financial Times* is fairly conservative.

Coverage of the G8 and the 2012 Camp David Summit

The Guardian published the majority of G8-related articles between April 1 and June 1, 2012. There were a total of 14 G8-related articles in *The Guardian* during this period—or 51.9% of all collected data. 25.9% of G8-related articles (a total of 7 articles) were in *The Telegraph* and 22.2% (a total of 6) in *The Financial Times*. Across all three newspapers, the vast majority of articles (92.6%) were focused directly on the Camp David Summit and the issues being discussed at the meeting. Due to their heavily news-oriented focus, most articles did not take editorial stances on the relative effectiveness of the G8 in making or following through with commitments. 77.8% of articles were neutral in their coverage of the G8 and the Camp David Summit.

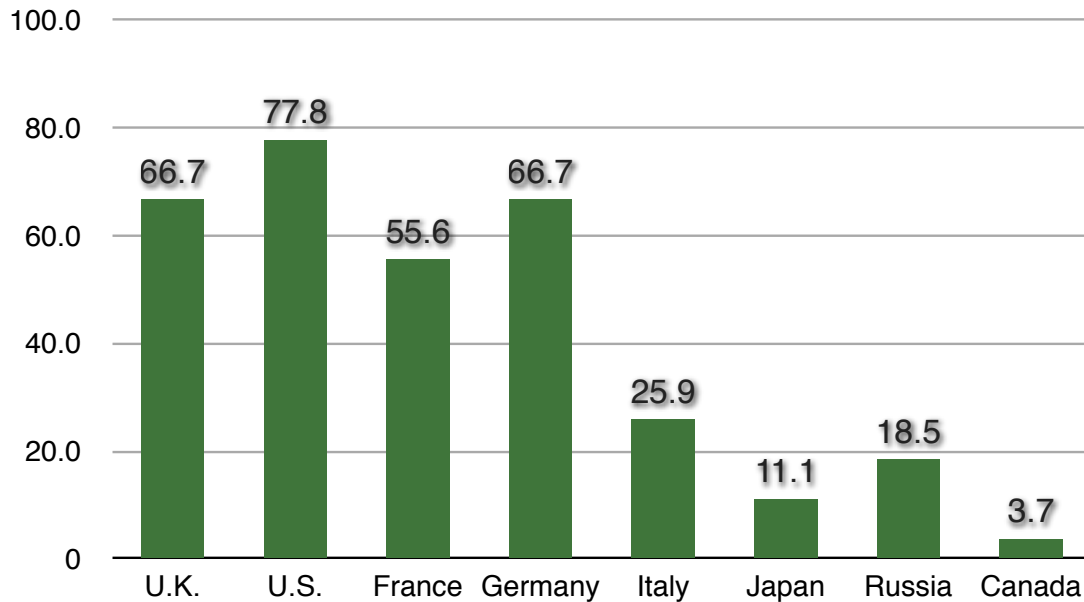
Not a single article in any of the three newspapers made reference to protests or protestors in conjunction with the G8.

G8 Countries Covered

The US, the UK, France and Germany were the most frequently mentioned countries across all three newspapers. The US was mentioned in 77.8% of articles, the UK in 66.7%, France in 55.6% and Germany in 66.7%.

Given that the 2012 G8 Summit was held in the United States, the overwhelming media focus on the US is unsurprising. In addition, the focus on France was linked to the election of President François Hollande in the days immediately preceding the G8 Summit. The British media was preoccupied with anticipating what President Hollande's stances and policy suggestions would be in his first major international summit (most articles which mentioned France also directly mentioned President Hollande). Finally, Germany received prominent coverage due its important role in the Eurozone debt crisis. Most articles which discussed Germany's role during the Camp David Summit also directly mentioned the Eurozone crisis.

⁴ See Kantar Media, *Measuring News Consumption and Attitudes: Annex 5 to Ofcom's Advice to the Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport*. London: June 2012. <http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/measuring-plurality/statement/Annex5.pdf>. Accessed April 16 2013.

Figure 4: G8 Countries Covered in U.K. Media, April 1 – June 1 2012

Non-G8 Countries Covered

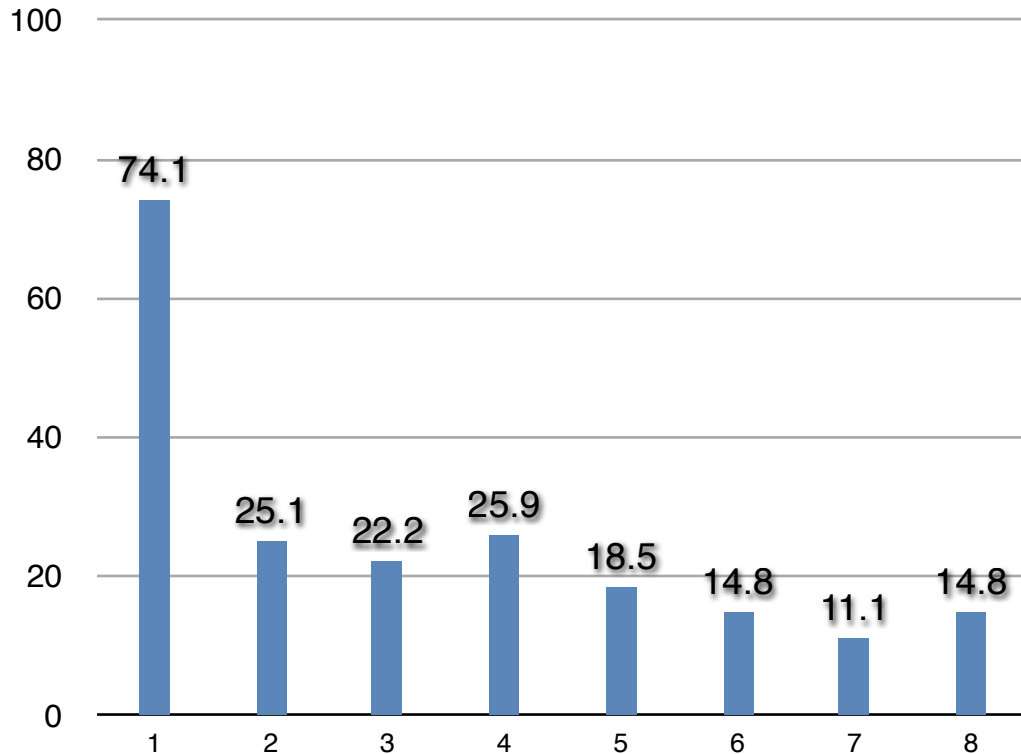
The non-G8 countries which received the most media coverage were Greece (mentioned in 70.4% of articles), Syria (18.5%), China (14.8%), Tanzania (14.8%), Spain (11.1%) and India (7.4%). Brazil, South Africa, Mexico, Iran, North Korea, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Ghana were all mentioned in one article each (or 3.7% of the collected data).

Greece was a major focus due to the Eurozone crisis. All of the 70.4% of articles which mentioned Greece did so in conjunction with the debt crisis in the EU. Coverage of Syria focused on the diplomatic dimensions of its ongoing conflict, especially in relation to Russia (a G8 member state) and China (a non-G8 state). Finally, Tanzania and Ethiopia were mentioned in articles regarding food security and African development.

Issues Covered

The world economy was the most salient issue in the UK media between April and June 2012, mentioned in 74.1% of all G8-related articles. Food security and regional security were the two other main issues covered. Each of them was mentioned in 25.9% of surveyed articles. Climate change, global health and outreach were the least-covered policy issues. Climate change was referenced in only 14.8% of all articles, global health in 11.1% and outreach in 14.8%.

Figure 5: G8-related issues covered in UK media, April 1 – June 1, 2012



Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Issues related to the world economy—especially as they pertained to the Eurozone and Greek debt crises—therefore dominated media coverage of G8-related issues. All of the 74.1% of articles which discussed economic issues made explicit reference to the Eurozone crisis.

Food security was mentioned primarily due to the central role the issue played on the agenda of the G8 during the Camp David Summit. At Camp David, G8 member states (along with select invited African states) committed to the *New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition*, which built on commitments made during the 2009 L'Aquila Summit.⁵

Finally, regional security was mentioned primarily in conjunction with the ongoing conflict in Syria. 18.5% of articles made direct reference to the Syrian conflict. These articles mainly discussed whether the G8 would be able to come to an agreement amongst its own member-states and work with other relevant states (especially China) in order to prevent the escalation of conflict.

⁵ See Office of Global Food Security, *G8 Action on Food Security and Nutrition*. May 18 2012. <http://www.state.gov/s/globalfoodsecurity/190282.htm>. Accessed October 25 2012.

Sourcing Trends*Figure 6: Sources cited by G8-related articles in UK media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	18.5
Civil society representatives	11.1
Natl. govt. representatives	11.1
Intl. govt. representatives	11.1
Other (Private sector/banking officials)	14.8
None	48.1

CANADA

Jennifer Commisso

Newspapers Used

For an analysis of Canadian media, three major publications were chosen: the *Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail* and the *National Post*. In terms of overall political orientation, the *Toronto Star* is considered fairly liberal, *The Globe and Mail* fairly centrist and the *National Post* fairly conservative.

Coverage of the G8 and the Camp David Summit

The Globe and Mail had the highest number of G8-related articles between April 1 and June 1 2012, at 45.5%. The *Toronto Star* had 36.4% of G8-related articles and the *National Post* had 18.2%.

A majority of articles across all three newspapers (63.6% of collected articles) portrayed the G8 and the 2012 Camp David Summit in a negative light. The G8 was portrayed as riven with internal dissent and disagreement amongst member states and slow in responding to emergencies such as the Eurozone crisis and Iranian nuclear capabilities. Most of the other articles covering the G8 portrayed it neutrally. Only 9.1% of total media coverage in the selected timeframe portrayed the G8 in a positive light, praising its ability to find multilateral solutions to the Eurozone crisis.

90% of all articles directly mentioned protests and protestors in relation to the G8. The majority of these articles (75%) were neutral in their portrayal of protestors in both the area around Camp David or in Chicago.

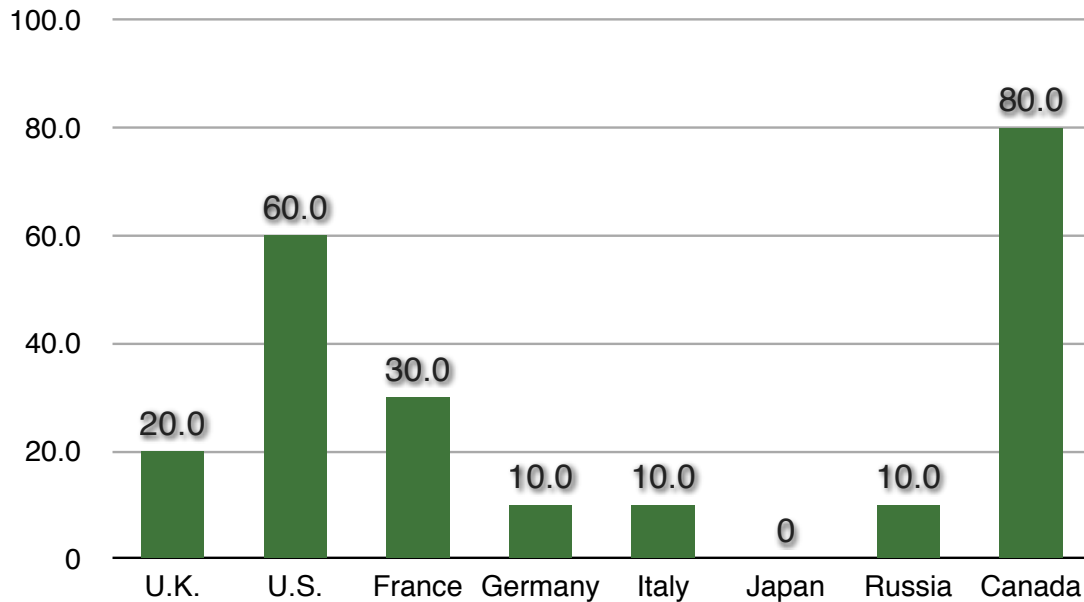
G8 Countries Covered

Canada was the most discussed G8 country in all three newspapers. 80% of all articles were directly concerned with either Canada's role in the G8 or the implications of G8 policies for Canadian citizens. The United States was a major focus of 60% of articles, and France was a major focus of 30% of articles.

The United States was discussed in conjunction with its hosting of the 2012 Camp David Summit. France was discussed in relation to how the election of President Hollande three days before the G8 Summit could change the country's policies in the G8.

Overall, Canadian media coverage of the Camp David Summit was primarily concerned with how the G8 related to Canada's national interests and concerns.

Figure 7: G8 Countries Covered in Canadian Media, April 1 – June 1 2012



Non-G8 Countries Covered

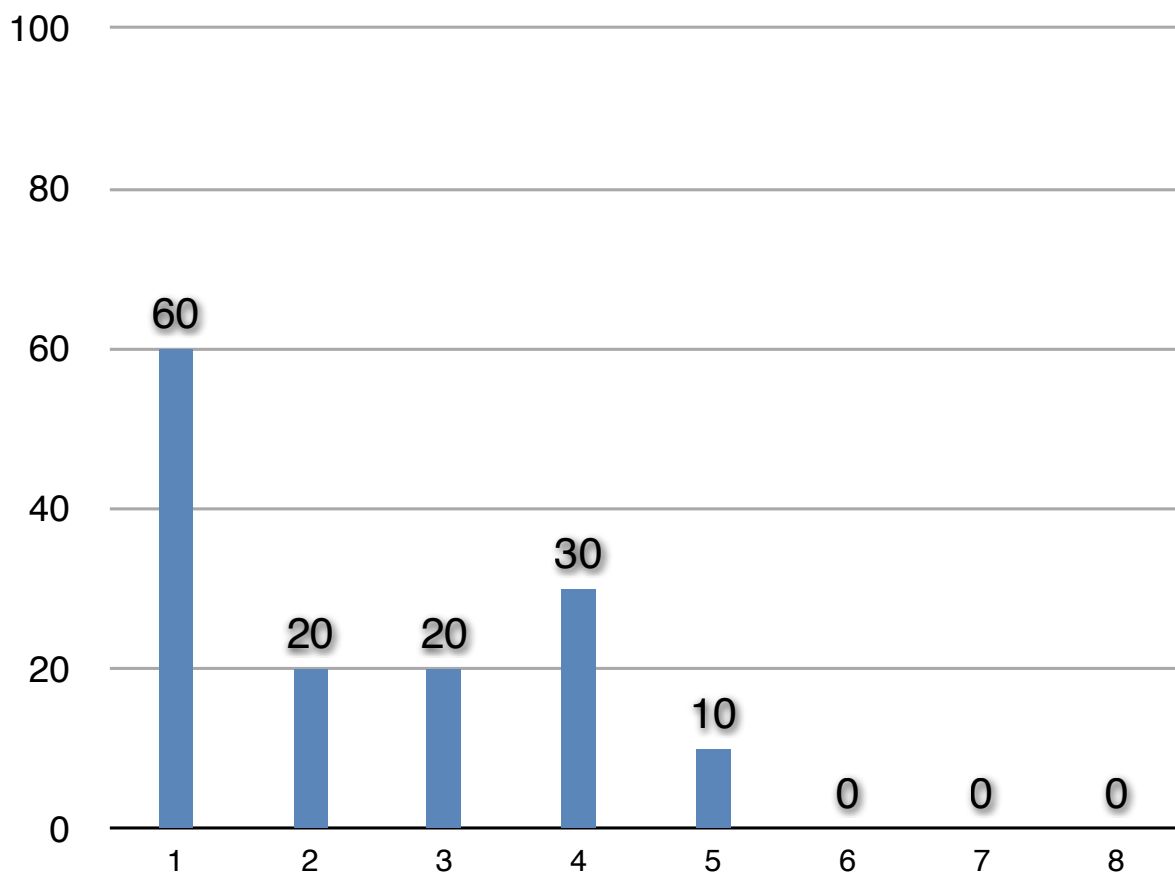
Non-G8 countries that received coverage in the three newspapers included Greece, Spain, Libya and Mali. Greece and Spain were mentioned in the context of the Eurozone debt crisis. Many of the articles were critical of the G8's perceived ineffectiveness in dealing with the economic situations in Greece and Spain.

Libya was mentioned in the context of the NATO operation and the implications of the country's instability for the broader Middle East. One editorial in *The Globe and Mail* specifically mentioned Mali and the Sahel Region of Africa. The editorial was critical of the G8's approach to the severe drought in the Sahel Region, arguing that the G8's inability to deliver short-term relief could contribute to further political instability in the region.⁶

Issues Covered

The world economy was the predominant issue in Canadian media, covered in 60% of all collected articles. Specifically, the *Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail* and the *National Post* all focused on the Eurozone crisis and Canada's efforts to contribute to economic solutions for Greece and Spain. Regional security and development were the next most common topics, covered in 30% and 20% of articles, respectively. 20% of articles also made direct reference to the issue of food security, which was a major focus of the Camp David Summit through the *New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition* and the renewal of commitments made at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit.

⁶ "Short term relief matters most in the Sahel." *The Globe and Mail*. May 22 2012. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/commentary/editorials/short-term-relief-matters-most-in-the-sahel/article4204017/>. Accessed December 12 2012.

Figure 8: G8-related issues covered in Canadian media, April 1 – June 1, 2012**Legend**

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
 5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Sources Cited*Figure 9: Sources cited by G8-related articles in Canadian media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

Primary Source	Percentage of Articles
Academics	36.4
Civil society representatives	9.1
Natl. govt. representatives	27.3
Intl. govt. representatives	0.0
None	48.1

FRANCE

Ceecee Lu

Newspapers Used

Three French newspapers were selected for an analysis of French media coverage of the G8: *Libération*, *Le Figaro* and *Le Monde*. In terms of political orientation, *Libération* and *Le Monde* are liberal publications, while *Le Figaro* is generally conservative.

Coverage of the G8 and the Camp David Summit

There were 21 G8-related articles published in total between April 1, 2012 and June 1 2012 by the three French dailies. *Le Figaro* published the greatest number of articles (47.6% of all collected articles). *Libération* published 38.1%, while *Le Monde* published 14.3% of total articles. The overwhelming majority of articles (95.2%) were news reports that did not take either a positive or negative editorial stance on the G8 and the Camp David Summit.

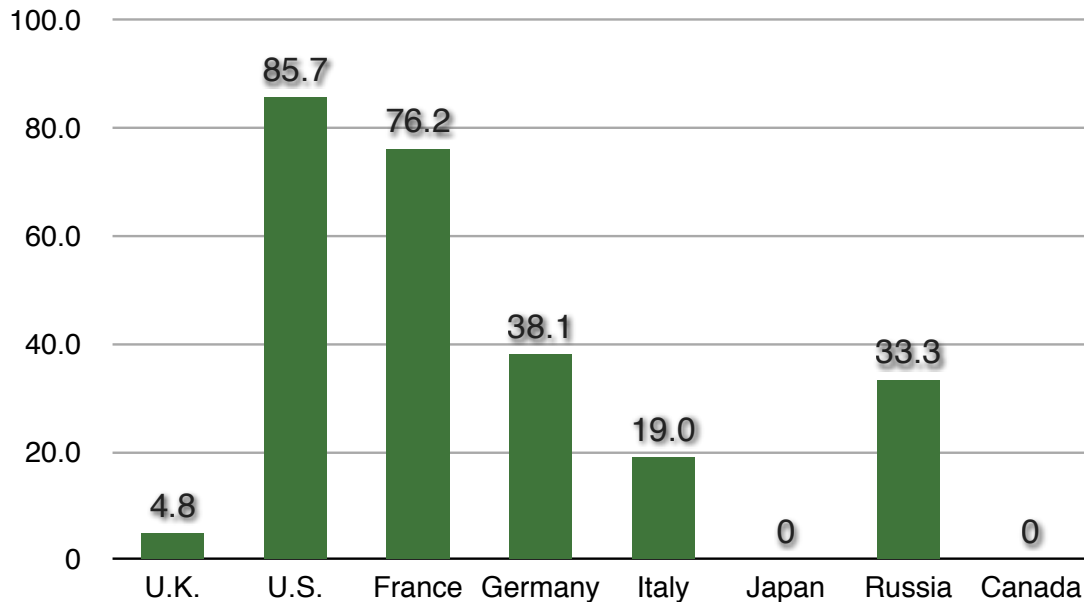
Not a single article in any of the three publications made reference to protests or protestors in conjunction with the Summit.

G8 Countries Covered

The two most prominently discussed countries in all three newspapers were the United States and France. 85.6% of articles mentioned the United States, and 76.2% of articles mentioned France.

All three newspapers focused on the interactions between the Obama administration and President Hollande. President Hollande had been elected into office on May 15, 2012, three days before the start of the Camp David Summit. Most articles which discussed France and/or the US highlighted the diplomatic significance of the Summit as the first meeting of President Obama and President Hollande. One issue of particular concern was the possibility of bilateral relationships between the US and France's new leadership.

Following France and the US, Germany and Russia were mentioned third and fourth most frequently, respectively. Germany was mentioned in 38.1% of total articles and Russia was mentioned in 33.3% of total articles. In both cases, coverage focused on the individual leaders of the two countries. Most articles which discussed Germany focused on disagreements between Chancellor Angela Merkel and President Hollande over the Eurozone crisis. Articles which discussed Russia focused on President Vladimir Putin's decision to not attend the Camp David Summit.

Figure 10: G8 countries covered in French media, April 1- June 1 2012

Non-G8 Countries Covered

Non-G8 states were present in 95.2% of all G8-related articles. The most frequently mentioned countries were Afghanistan (in 57.1% of articles), Syria (in 52.4% of articles), Iran (in 52.4% of articles) and Greece (in 47.6% of articles).

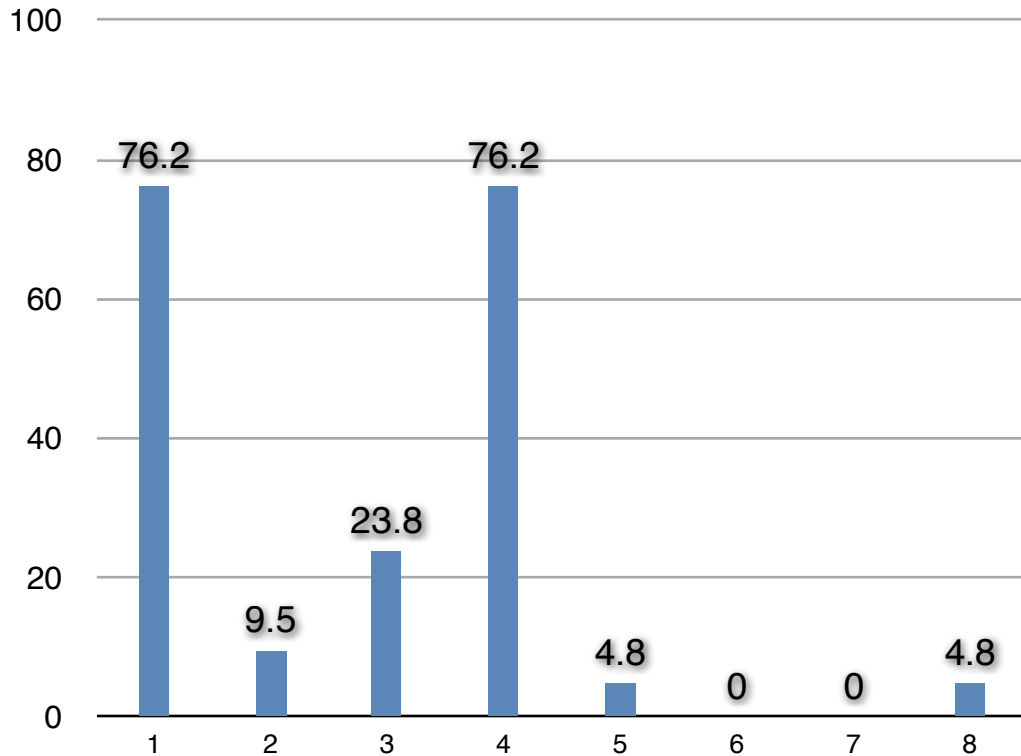
Afghanistan was discussed in relation to the ongoing NATO operation, Syria in relation to its internal conflict as well as the disagreements in the international community about how best to address it, Iran in relation to issues of nuclear non-proliferation and Greece in relation to the Eurozone crisis.

The large number of G8-related articles which mentioned non-G8 countries indicates that the French media considered the Camp David Summit to be relevant for far more than just the G8's member states.

Issues Covered

Discussions about the world economy and regional security drew the most attention from French media. Both issues were mentioned in 76.2% of collected articles. Development and food security, especially in relation to African states, were the second and third most mentioned issues, discussed in 23.8% and 9.5% of all articles, respectively.

Figure 11: G8-related issues covered in French media, April 1 – June 1, 2012



Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
 5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Articles focusing on the world economy were primarily concerned with the Eurozone crisis. They discussed the Eurozone crisis in relation to disagreements between President Hollande and Chancellor Merkel and to the United States' possible role in helping alleviate the crisis. Discussions about regional security focused on the ongoing NATO operation in Afghanistan, the instability being caused across the Middle East due to the Syrian conflict and on issues of nuclear non-proliferation involving the United States and Iran. 52.4% of articles which discussed regional security made direct reference to the issue of nuclear non-proliferation. Both development and food security were discussed primarily in conjunction with the *New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition* to which the G8 committed during the Camp David Summit.

Sourcing Trends*Figure 12: Sources cited by G8-related articles in French media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	19.0
Civil society representatives	9.5
Natl. govt. representatives	33.3
Intl. govt. representatives	7.0
None	23.8

GERMANY

Amanda Coletta and Vitali Selivanov

Newspapers Used

Three German newspapers were selected for an analysis of media coverage of the G8 in Germany: *Die Welt*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)* and *Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ)*. In terms of overall political orientation, *SZ* is fairly liberal, *Die Welt* is centre-left and *FAZ* is conservative (particularly in its international reporting).

Coverage of the G8 and the 2012 Camp David Summit

Between April 1 and June 1, 2012, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, and *Die Welt* published a total of 57 articles related to the G8 and the Camp David Summit. *Die Welt* published the majority of these articles (35.1%). *FAZ* published 33.3% of the articles and *SZ* published 31.6%.

Of the 57 articles collected, 53 or 93.0% directly mentioned the Camp David Summit. The portrayal of the G8 in the articles was mostly neutral (75.4%), but when opinion was offered on the summit, it was generally negative. 22.8% of articles portrayed the G8 and the summit negatively. Only 1.8% of the articles portrayed the G8 positively.

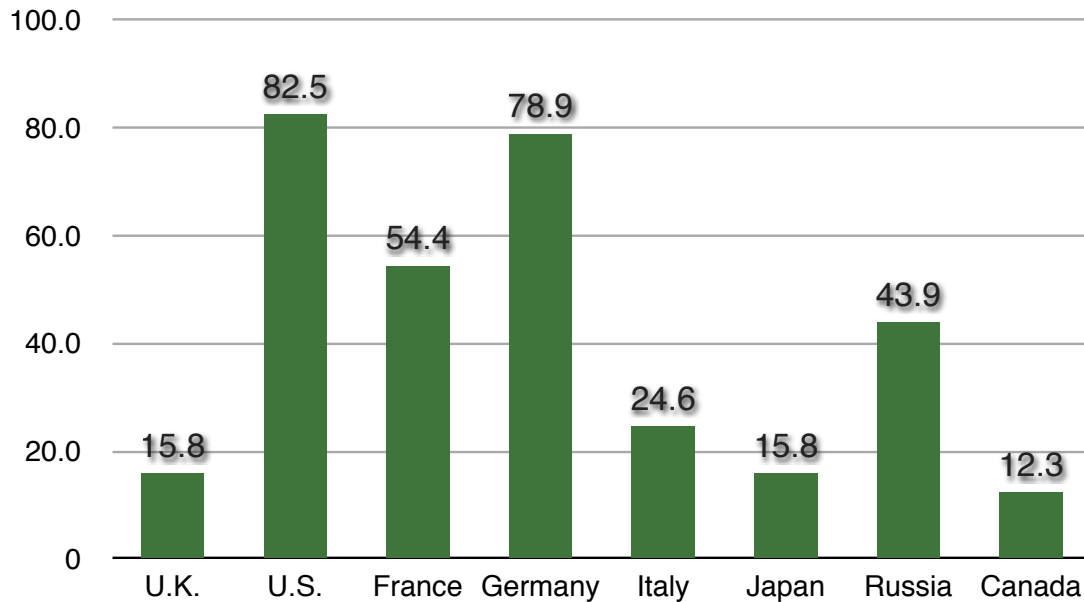
Only 3 (5.3%) of the articles mentioned G8 summit protestors. The portrayal of the summit protestors was generally positive, praising the innovative methods that they used to draw attention to their concerns.

G8 Countries Covered

The United States was the country covered most prominently by German newspapers, mentioned in 82.5% of articles. Germany was mentioned in 78.9% of articles. France and Russia were the second and third most discussed countries, respectively. France was mentioned in 54.4% of the articles and Russia was covered in 43.9% of articles. Canada was the least discussed G8 member state, appearing in only 12.3% of all articles.

While the very fact of the G8 summit being held in the United States would explain the prominence of that country in German newspapers, the November 2012 US Presidential Election intensified the coverage. Many articles discussing the United States made direct reference to its upcoming election. Media coverage of France during the G8 Summit was mostly in relation to the changes in French-German diplomatic relations with the election of President François Hollande three days before the Summit. As some commentators noted, President Hollande's election brought an end to the diplomatic rapport between President Nicolas Sarkozy and Chancellor Angela Merkel, complicating relations over austerity measures and the Eurozone crisis. Finally, coverage of Russia was primarily related to President Vladimir Putin's decision to not attend the Camp David Summit. This decision was widely covered and heavily criticized in all three German newspapers.

Figure 13: G8 countries covered in German media, April 1 – June 1, 2012



Non-G8 Countries Covered

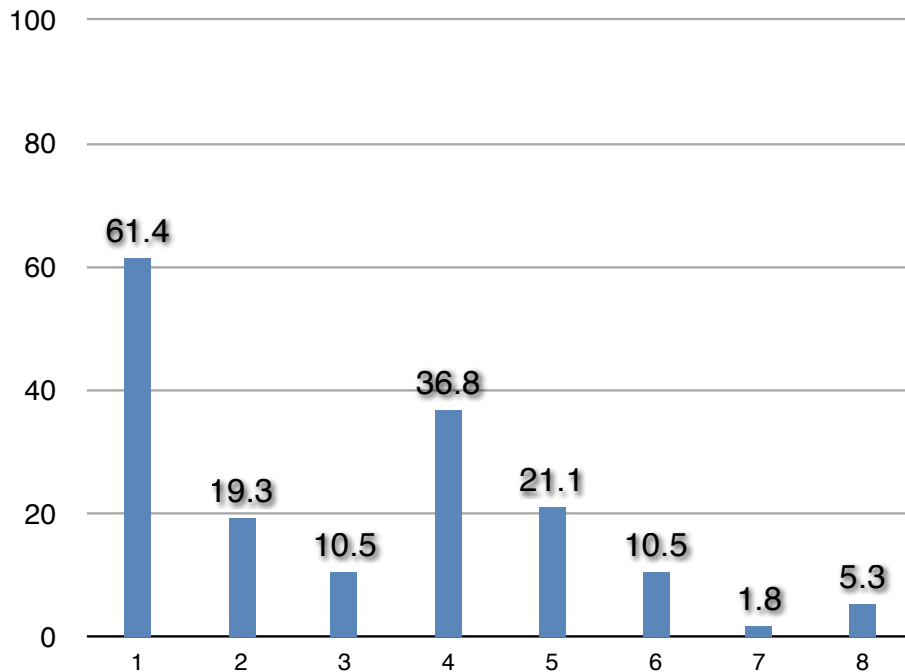
Greece was the non-G8 country that received the most coverage in German newspapers. Greece was discussed in 31.6% of G8-related articles. Iran was also covered a great deal, appearing in 24.6% of articles. Afghanistan was mentioned in 10.5% of the articles, while Syria was covered in 7.0% of articles.

Greece was discussed in conjunction with the ongoing Eurozone debt crisis. Most articles, especially in *SZ* and *FZ*, were critical of the G8's ability to effectively deal with the crisis. Iran was discussed primarily in relation to issues of nuclear non-proliferation. The first nuclear talks held in over a year in April 2012 between Iran and the permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany ensured that Iran would feature a great deal in German coverage of the summit, especially since talks were scheduled to continue in the month following the summit. Finally, an escalation in the Syrian crisis in the days before the summit⁷ and disagreement between NATO members on when to withdraw troops from Afghanistan might account for why these two non-G8 countries also received substantial press coverage.

⁷ See Oliver Holmes and Mariam Karouny. "Syria suicide bombers kill 55, ceasefire in tatters." *Reuters*. May 10 2012. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/10/us-syria-idUSBRE84700020120510>. Accessed January 17 2013.

Issues Covered

Figure 14: G8-related issues covered in German media, April 1 – June 1 2012



Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

The world economy was the major issue discussed in German newspaper articles related to the G8 Summit. 61.4% of articles focused on economic issues, especially as they related to the Eurozone crisis.

Regional security was the second most prominent issue mentioned in German newspapers, appearing in 36.8% of articles compiled. Non-proliferation was mentioned in 29.8% of the articles, followed by terrorism, which appeared in 21.1% of articles and food security, the focus of 19.3% of German articles.

Non-proliferation was a major issue, not only because of nuclear talks between Iran and some of the G8 countries in the weeks prior to the summit, but also because of the testing of a new missile in North Korea on April 12. Regional security and terrorism were mentioned often as the summit overlapped with the development of an increasingly more precarious situation in Syria. The G8's plan to introduce a new initiative to increase food security through \$3 billion of private aid funding and to reaffirm the commitments made at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit meant that food security also featured prominently in German coverage of the G8.

Sourcing Trends*Figure 15: Sources cited by G8-related articles in German media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	0.0
Civil society representatives	5.3
Natl. govt. representatives	0.0
Intl. govt. representatives	10.5
Other (celebrity activists)	1.8
None	86.0

ITALY

Fabio Ponti

Newspapers Used

Three newspapers were selected for an analysis of Italian media coverage of the G8: *La Stampa*, *Corriere della Serra* and *La Repubblica*. In terms of political orientation, both *La Stampa* and *La Repubblica* are centre-left. *Corriere della Serra* is fairly conservative in its international coverage and centre-left in its coverage of domestic affairs.

Coverage of the G8 and the Camp David Summit

There were 33 G8-related articles published in total between April 1 2012 and June 1 2012 by the three Italian dailies. *Corriere della Serra* published the greatest number of articles (48.5% of all collected articles). *La Repubblica* published 27.3% of G8-related articles and *La Stampa* published 24.2%.

A significant number of articles (26.7% of all collected articles) portrayed the G8 in a negative light. The Camp David Summit was criticized for the perceived lack of agreement amongst its member states about how to tackle the Eurozone crisis. Only 10.0% of articles made positive comments about the G8. 43.3% of articles were news pieces that portrayed the G8 and the Camp David Summit neutrally.

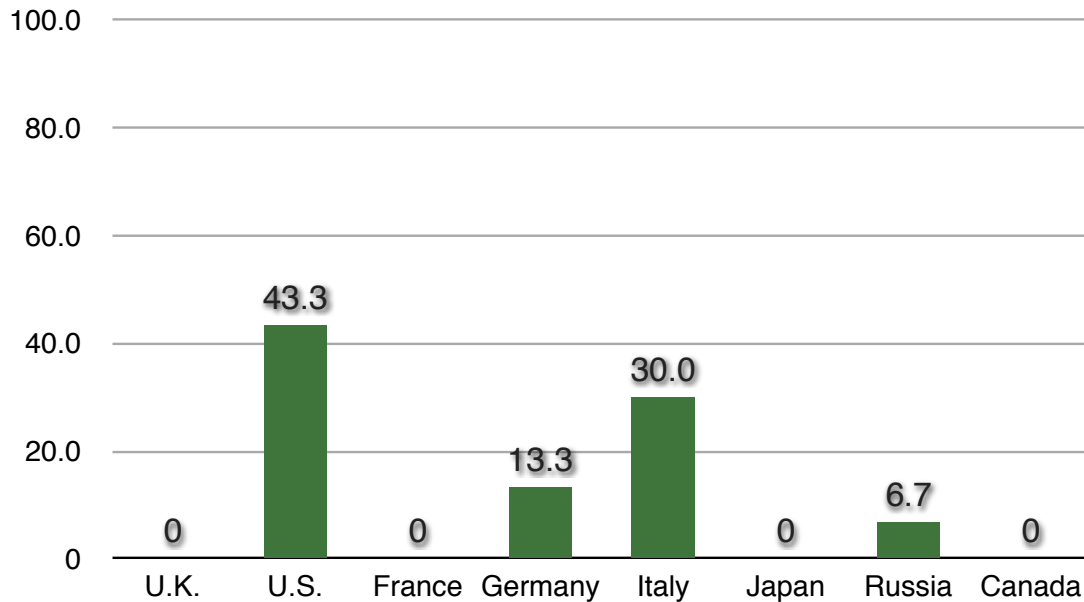
96.7% of collected articles made no mention of protests or protestors in relation to the G8. Protestors were mentioned in passing in only one article, in relation to the NATO Summit in Chicago which followed the G8 Summit in Camp David.

G8 Countries Covered

The two most prominently discussed countries in all three newspapers were the United States and Italy. 43.3% of articles discussed the role of the United States at the G8 Summit. 30.0% of articles discussed Italy. Germany and Russia were mentioned third and fourth most frequently, respectively. Germany was mentioned in 13.7% of total articles and Russia was mentioned in 6.7% of total articles.

In their coverage of the Camp David Summit, all three newspapers focused on the actions of individual leaders. The perceived close relationship between President Obama and President Mario Monti regarding economic affairs was the focus of a number of articles. Most articles which discussed Germany focused on disagreements between Chancellor Angela Merkel and other European heads of state over the Eurozone crisis. Articles which discussed Russia focused on President Vladimir Putin's decision to not attend the Camp David Summit.

Figure 16: G8 countries covered in Italian media, April 1- June 1 2012



Non-G8 Countries Covered

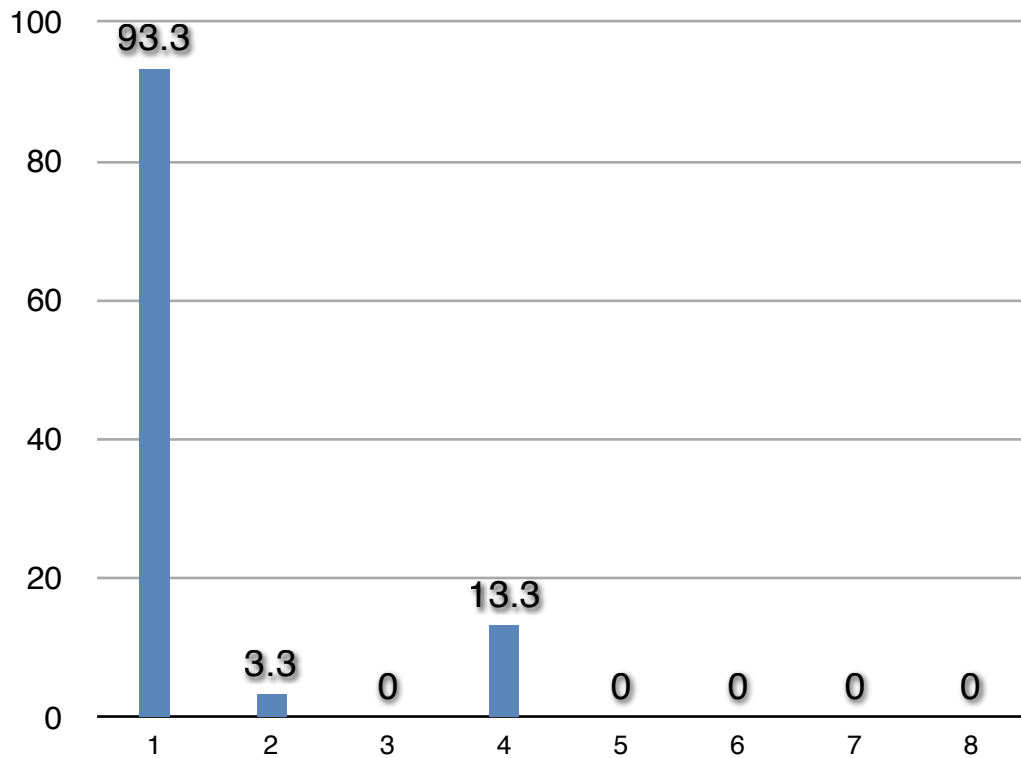
90.0% of all articles covered the economic situation in Greece and discussed its consequences for the G8's policymaking. Around 33% of the articles which discussed Greece also mentioned Spain and Ireland. All of these countries were discussed exclusively in relation to the Eurozone crisis.

China, Brazil and India were mentioned in passing in 6.7%, 6.7% and 3.3% of articles, respectively. These countries were discussed in relation to how, as BRICS members, they were responding to G8 commitments made at the Camp David Summit.

Issues Covered

The 2012 Camp David G8 Summit was covered by the Italian media with overwhelming attention on the world economy, specifically the Eurozone crisis. 93.3% of articles were focused on the world economy. 91% of articles discussed the Camp David Summit with reference to the economic crises in Greece, Spain and Ireland.

Regional security was mentioned in 13.3% of articles and food security was mentioned in 3.3%. Regional security was discussed in relation to the ongoing NATO operation in Afghanistan. Food security was discussed in relation to the *New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition* passed at the Camp David Summit. However, both these issues received only passing mention in the Italian media. There was almost complete focus on the Eurozone crisis.

Figure 17: G8-related issues covered in Italian media, April 1 – June 1 2012**Legend**

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
 5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Sourcing Trends*Figure 18: Sources cited by G8-related articles in Italian media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	6.7
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	73.3
Intl. govt. representatives	3.3
None	14.5

JAPAN

Subin Kweon and Ge Shi

Newspapers Used

For an analysis of Japanese media, two major publications were chosen: *Yomiuri Shimbun* and *Mainichi Shimbun*. In terms of political orientation, *Yomiuri Shimbun* is known to be conservative while *Mainichi Shimbun* is considered relatively more liberal. *Asahi Shimbun*, one of Japan's other major daily newspapers, was not included within our analysis. Since 2001, *Asahi Shimbun* has received the majority of its international news articles from the *International Herald Tribune*. As such, its coverage of the Camp David Summit cannot be considered accurately reflective of the Japanese media.

Coverage of G8 and the Camp David Summit

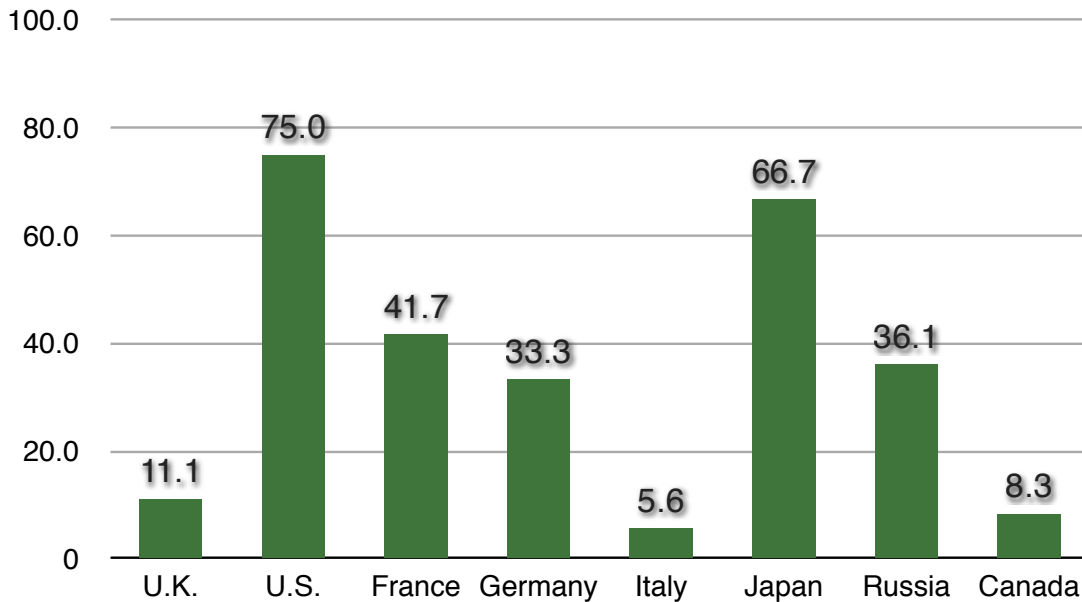
The majority of G8-related articles in the Japanese media between April 1 and June 1, 2012 were news pieces. 88.9% of articles therefore portrayed the G8 and the Camp David Summit neutrally. 8.3% of articles (a total of only 3 articles) were editorial pieces that portrayed the G8 negatively. These editorials were critical of the G8's perceived failure to deal effectively with regional security crises in North Korea and Syria.

No articles in either *Mainichi Shimbun* or *Yomiuri Shimbun* mentioned protests or protestors in relation to the G8.

G8 Countries Covered

Japan was the most frequently discussed G8 country. 50% of collected articles focused on the effects of G8 policies upon Japan and on Japan's diplomatic relations with other G8 member states. The US was the second most frequently discussed country, appearing in about 30.6% of articles. The US was discussed in conjunction with its hosting of the Camp David Summit as well as its leadership role in dealing with economic, development and security issues.

Both Russia and France were featured in 2.8% of collected articles each. Russia was discussed in conjunction with its disagreements with other G8 member states over the Syrian conflict. Discussion of France revolved around how the election of President Hollande might lead to changes in the country's policymaking in the G8.

Figure 19: G8 countries covered in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012

Non-G8 Countries Covered

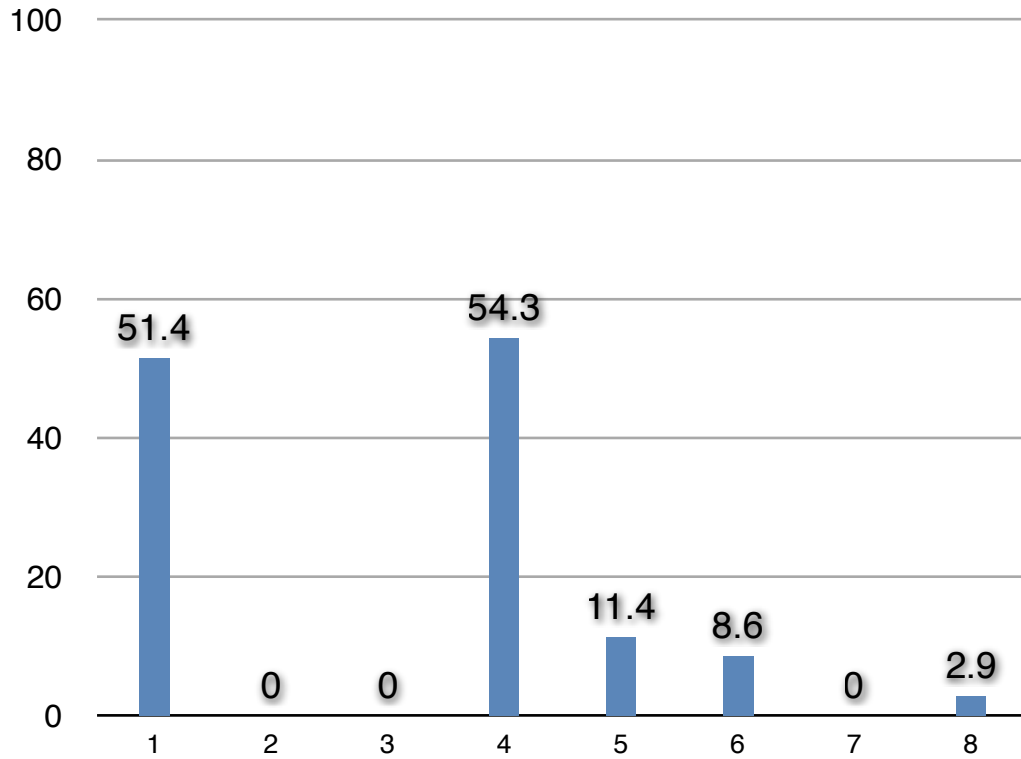
The non-G8 countries that were featured most prominently in Japanese media were North Korea, Syria and Greece. North Korea was discussed in 50% of all collected articles in relation to nuclear non-proliferation. Articles discussing North Korea also mentioned China and South Korea as important diplomatic partners in the G8's attempts to take appropriate action on the security situation in East Asia. Greece was discussed in 33.3% of articles in relation to the Eurozone crisis, and Syria was discussed in 16.7% of articles in relation to its ongoing conflict.

Issues Covered

Regional security was the predominant issue in the Japanese media, appearing in 54.3% of all articles. The majority of regional security issues were associated with North Korean nuclear capabilities. 65% of articles which referenced the East Asian security situation also directly mentioned nuclear non-proliferation as a central concern for the G8. Three editorials were critical of the G8's perceived lack of effectiveness in dealing with the North Korean situation. A smaller number of articles about regional made reference to the Syrian conflict.

Like the media of other G8 countries, the Japanese media also focused on the world economy—especially the Eurozone crisis—in its coverage of the Camp David Summit. Even though the world economy was not the predominant issue in either of the two newspapers, it appeared in 51.4% of all articles related to the G8.

Figure 20: G8-related issues covered in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012



Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

Sourcing Trends

Figure 21: Sources cited by G8-related articles in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012

Primary Source	Percentage of Articles
Academics	2.9
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	78.1
Intl. govt. representatives	8.3
None	10.7

RUSSIA

Albina Tyker

Newspapers Used

For an analysis of Russian media, three major daily newspapers were chosen: *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* and the *Daily Vedomosti*. In terms of political orientation and independence, *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* is the official organ of the Russian government and is generally conservative. *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* (“the independent newspaper”) is also fairly conservative, especially in its coverage of international affairs. The *Daily Vedomosti*, owned by Finland’s Sanoma Media Group, is the most independent and liberal of the three publications.

Coverage of G8 and the Camp David Summit

Nezavisimaya Gazeta published the most number of G8-related pieces between April 1 and June 1 2012, at 42.9% of collected articles. *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* and the *Daily Vedomosti* both had 28.6% of the total G8-related articles each. The majority of articles (90.5%) portrayed the G8 and the Camp David Summit in a neutral light.

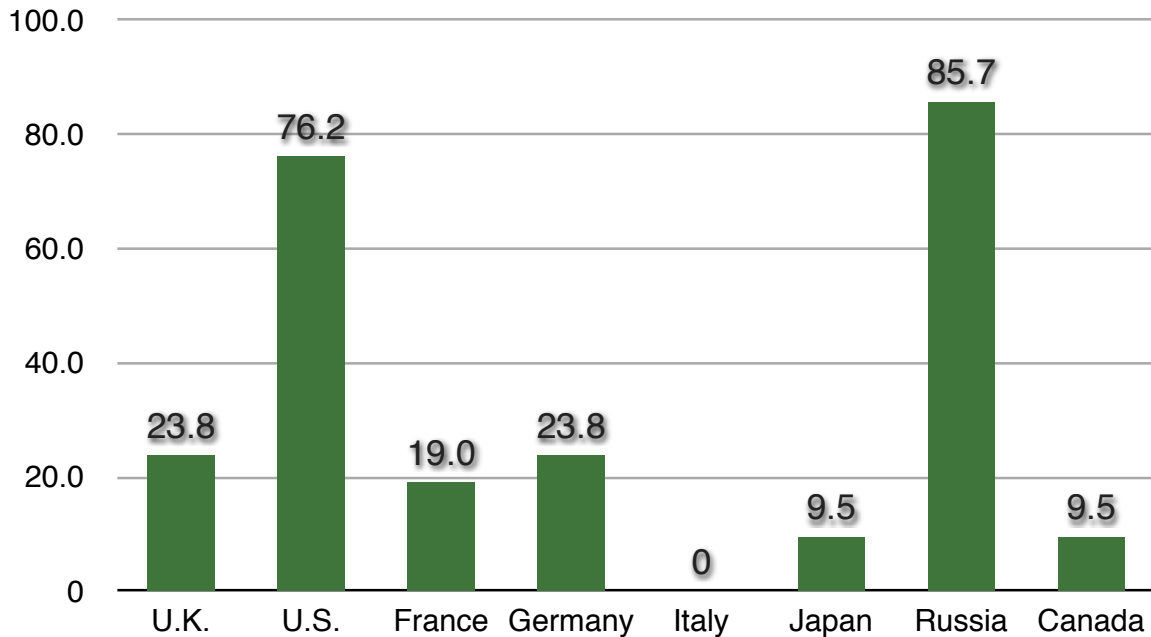
No articles in any of the three Russian newspapers made reference to protests or protestors in relation to the G8.

G8 Countries Covered

Russia and the United States were the most prominently discussed countries across all three newspapers, covered in 85.7% and 76.2% of G8-related articles, respectively. 28.6% of articles also discussed Germany and 23.8% of articles discussed the United Kingdom. France was mentioned in 19.0% of articles and Canada and Japan in 9.5% of articles each.

Like the media of other G8 countries, the Russian media focused on the United States primarily in relation to its hosting of the Camp David Summit. President Vladimir Putin’s decision to not attend the G8 Summit was also a major focus of many articles. A number of articles discussed the consequences that President Putin’s absence from the G8 summit might have for Russian interests. France, Germany and the UK were largely referenced in discussions about the Eurozone crisis.

Figure 22: G8 countries covered in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012



Non-G8 Countries Covered

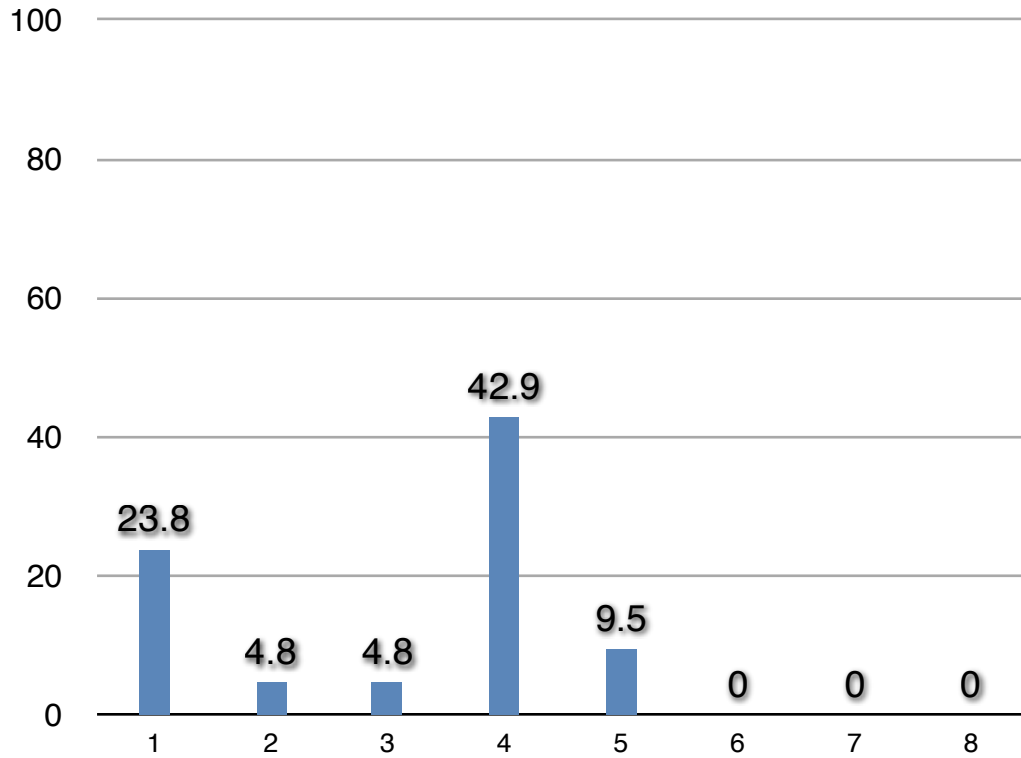
Syria, Iran, North Korea and China were the most frequently discussed non-G8 countries. Around 33% of all articles made reference to the ongoing conflict in Syria. Many of the articles which discussed the Syrian conflict also mentioned China. China's position on Syria was mentioned in 28.6% of all G8-related pieces. Without ever taking an editorial stance, the three newspapers described how the G8 was attempting to deal with China and Russia's continuing support for Syrian state sovereignty.

North Korea and Iran were both mentioned in 28.6% of articles each. The two countries were usually mentioned together, in discussions of nuclear non-proliferation. In addition, only 9.5% of articles in the three Russian newspapers discussed Greece or its relation to the Eurozone crisis. The Russian media therefore covered the G8's attempts to tackle the Greek debt crisis far less than the media of other G8 countries.

Finally, one article in *Nazavisimaya Gazeta* mentioned Ethiopia and Tanzania in relation to the food security commitments made at the Camp David Summit.

Issues

The issue of regional security dominated the Russian media's coverage of the G8 Summit. 42.9% of articles across the three newspapers were focused on regional security. Almost all the articles discussing regional security did so in relation to the ongoing conflict in Syria. 33.3% of articles made direct reference to the related issue of nuclear non-proliferation (especially involving Iran and North Korea) and 9.5% of articles discussed the effects of terrorism and transnational organized crime on regional security in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Figure 23: G8-related issues covered in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
 5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

The Russian media showed a comparatively lesser focus on economic issues in its coverage of the Camp David Summit. Only 23.8% of articles discussed the world economy in relation to the G8. The Eurozone crisis was directly referenced in only 14.2% of all articles.

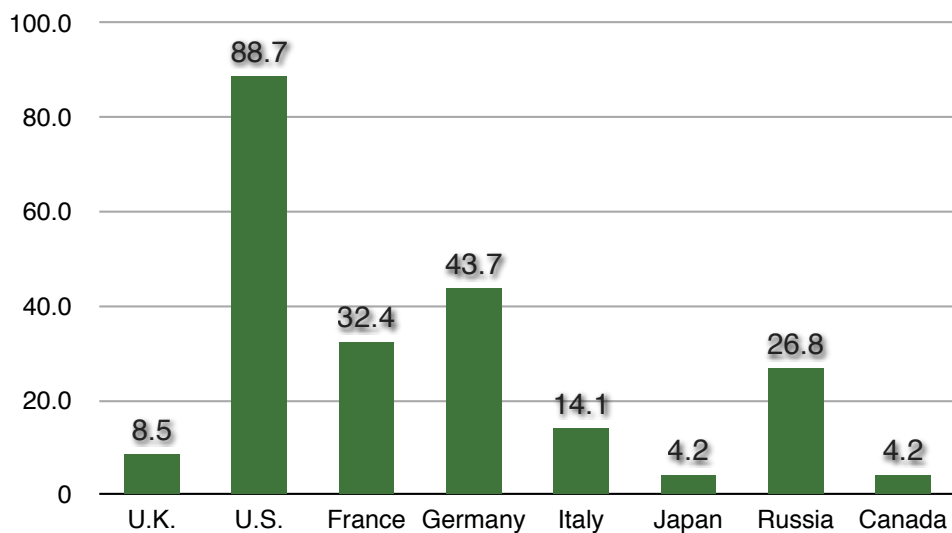
Sourcing Trends*Figure 24: Sources cited by G8-related articles in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	23.8
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	38.1
Intl. govt. representatives	19.0
None	47.6

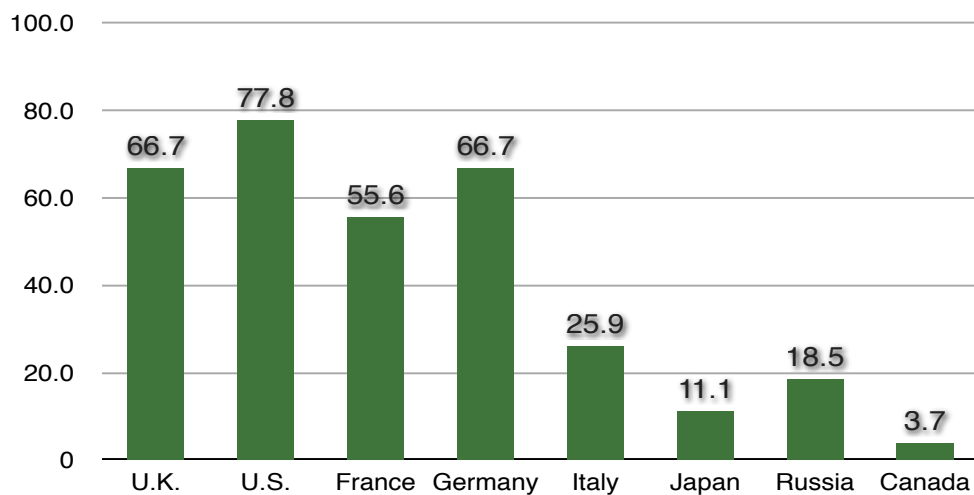
PART III: APPENDIX

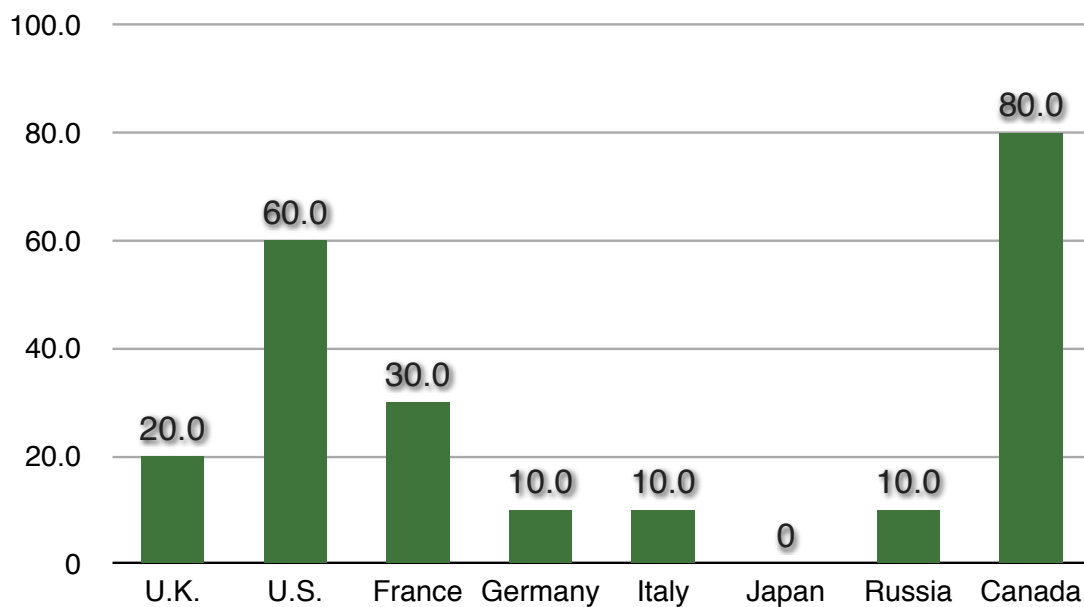
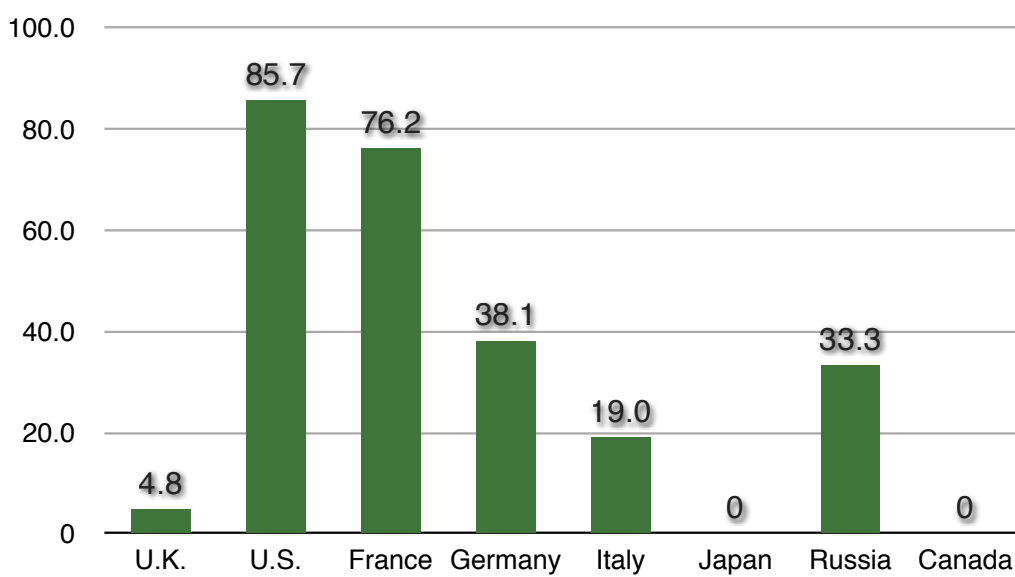
G8 COUNTRIES COVERED

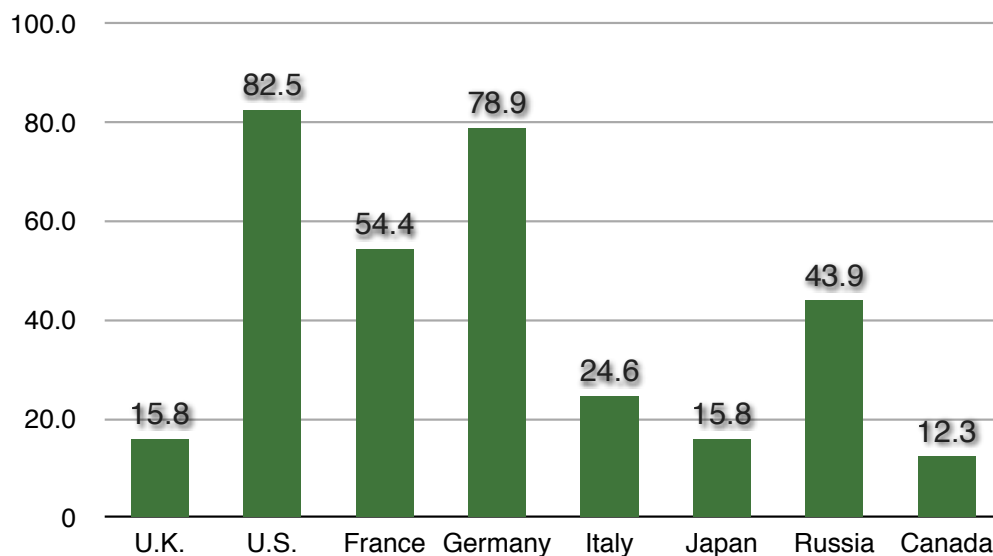
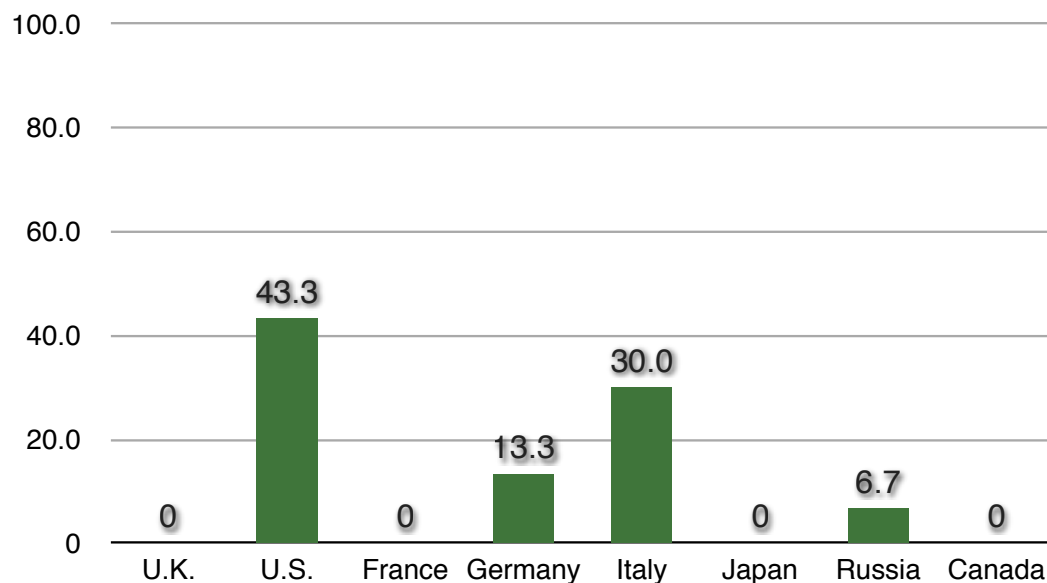
G8 countries covered in US media, April 1 – June 1, 2012

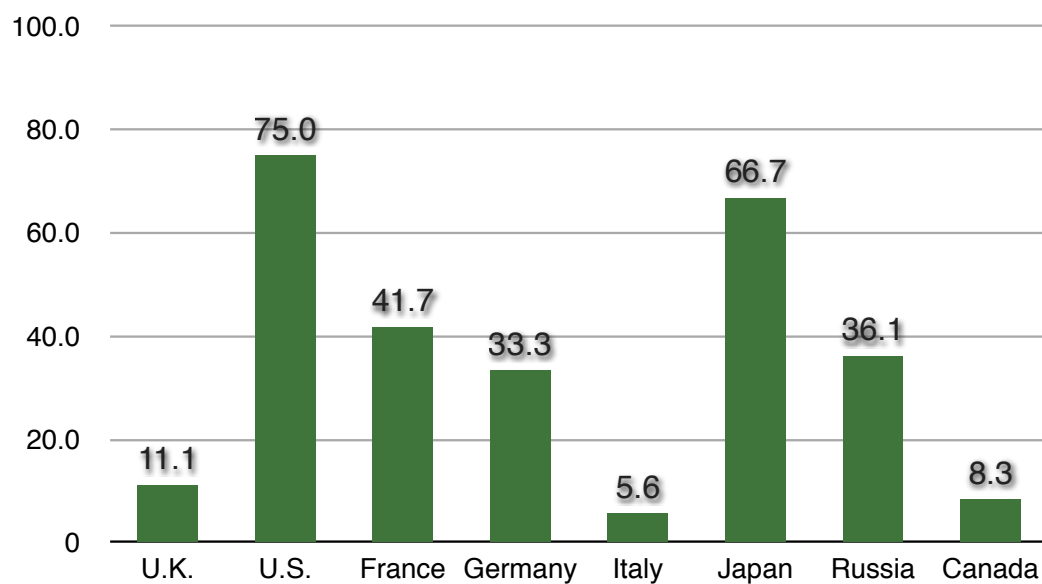
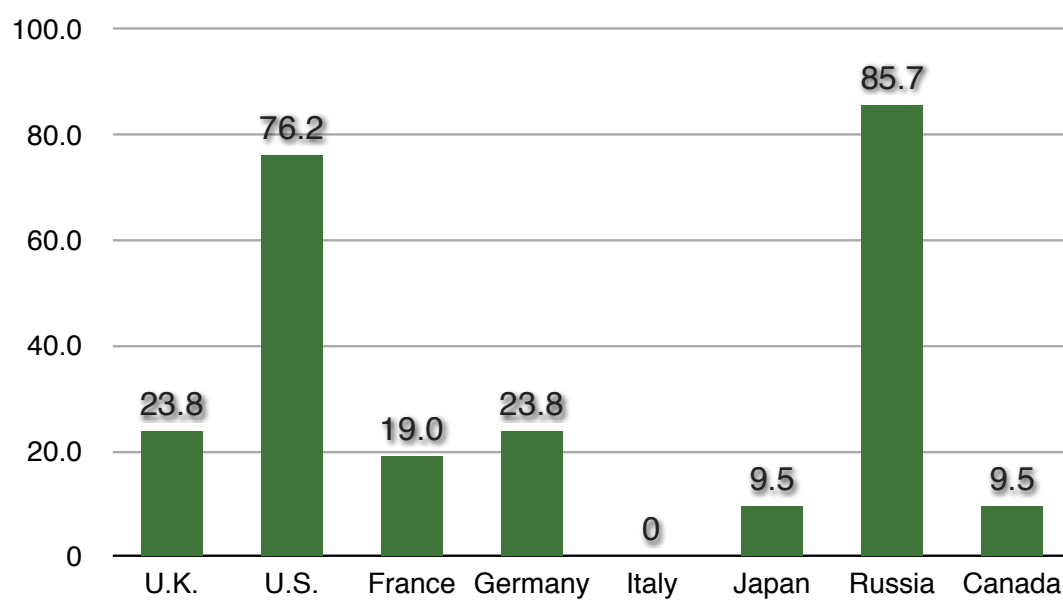


G8 Countries Covered in U.K. Media, April 1 – June 1 2012



G8 Countries Covered in Canadian Media, April 1 – June 1 2012*G8 countries covered in French media, April 1- June 1 2012*

G8 countries covered in German media, April 1 – June 1, 2012*G8 countries covered in Italian media, April 1- June 1 2012*

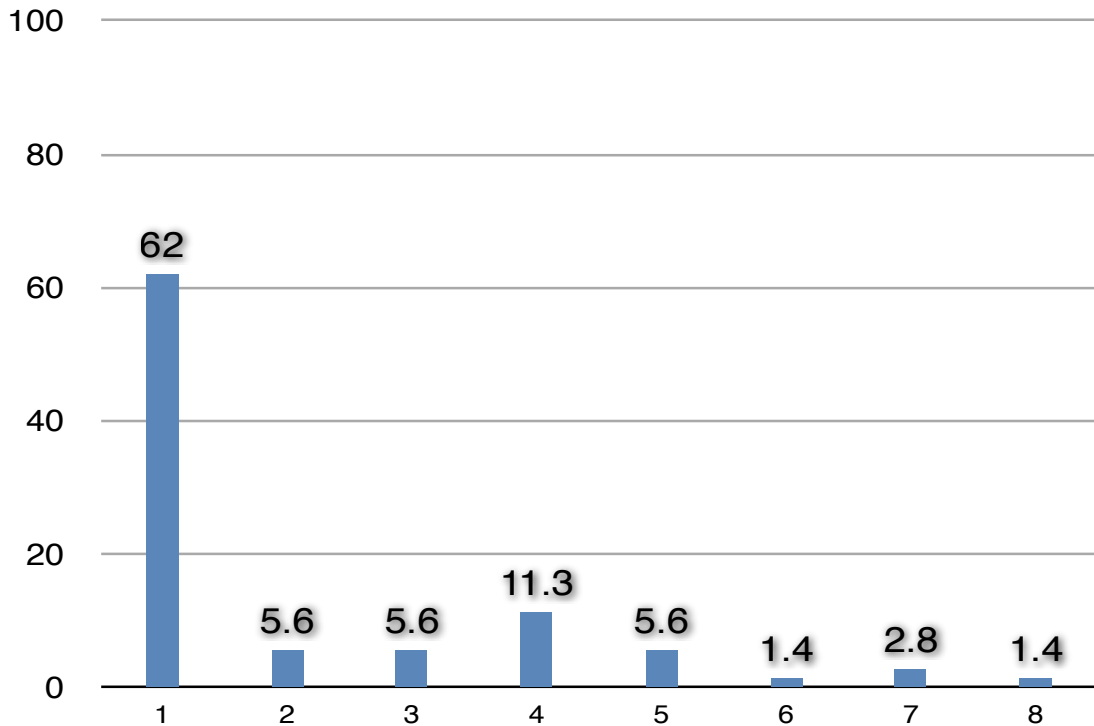
G8 countries covered in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012*G8 countries covered in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

G8-RELATED ISSUES COVERED

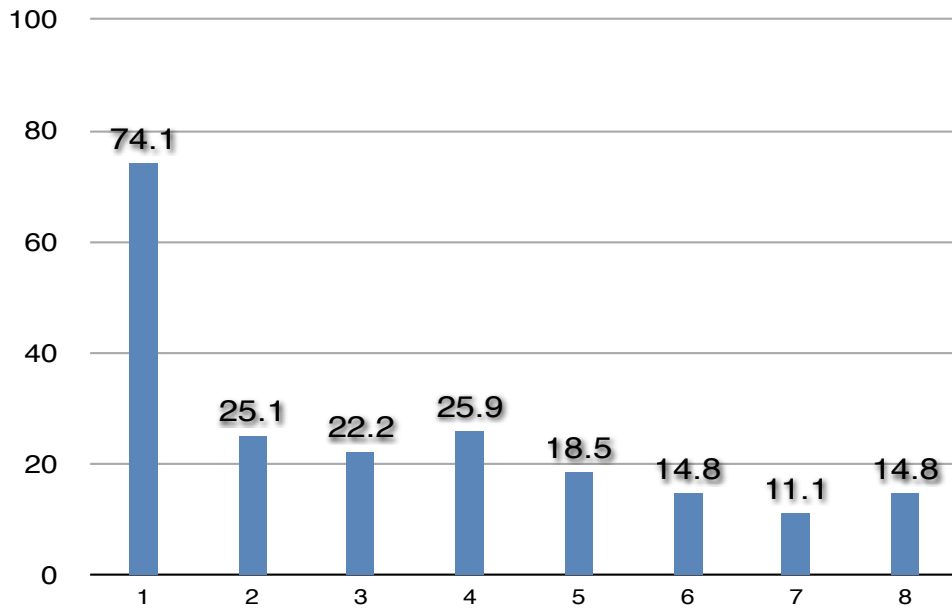
Legend

1 = World Economy 2 = Food Security 3 = Development 4 = Regional Security
5 = Terrorism 6 = Climate Change 7 = Global Health 8 = Outreach

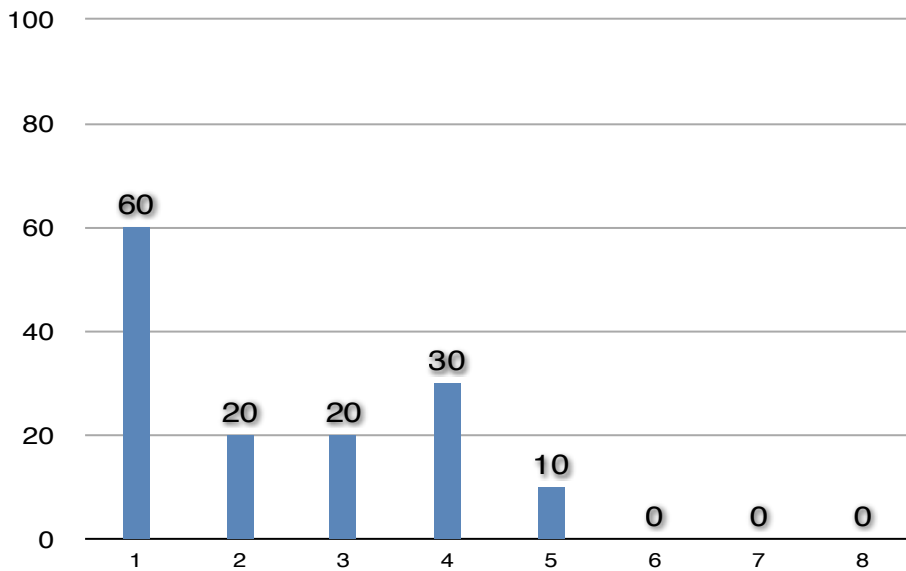
G8-related issues covered in US media, April 1 – June 1 2012

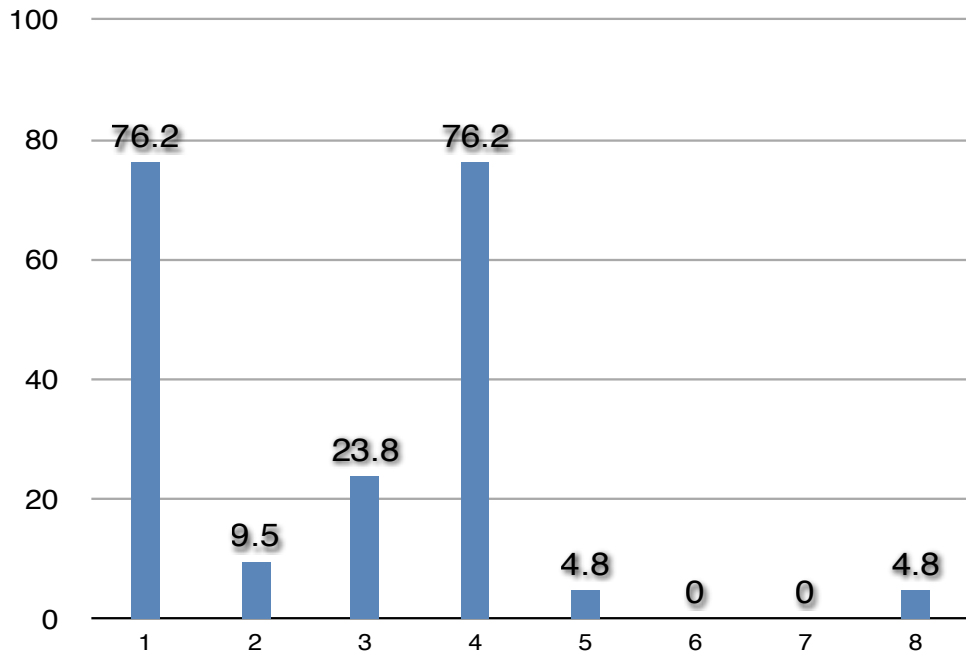
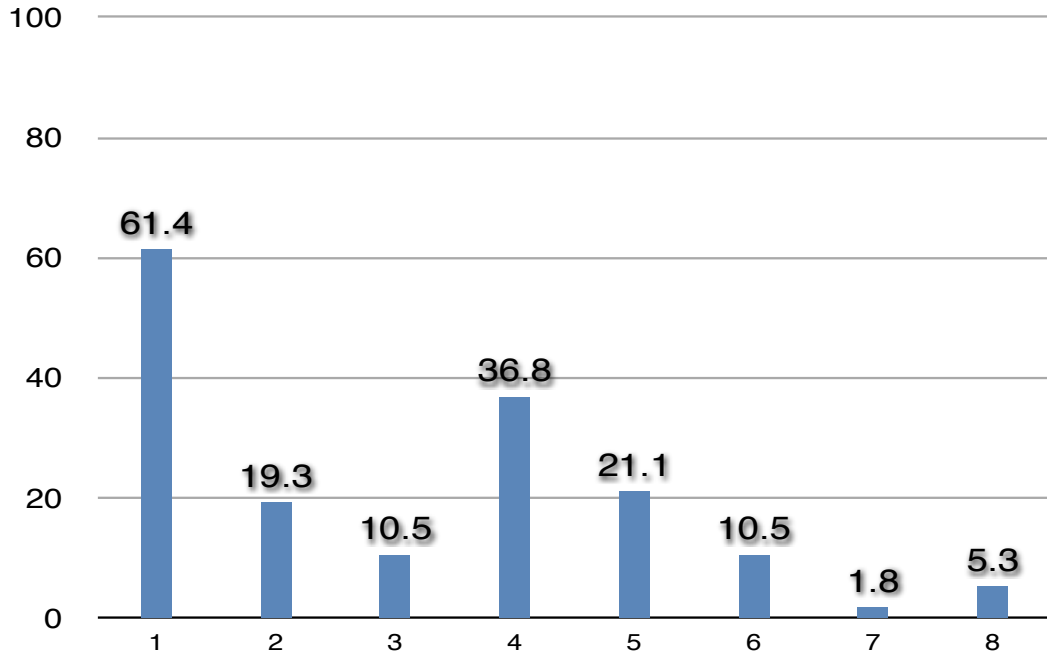


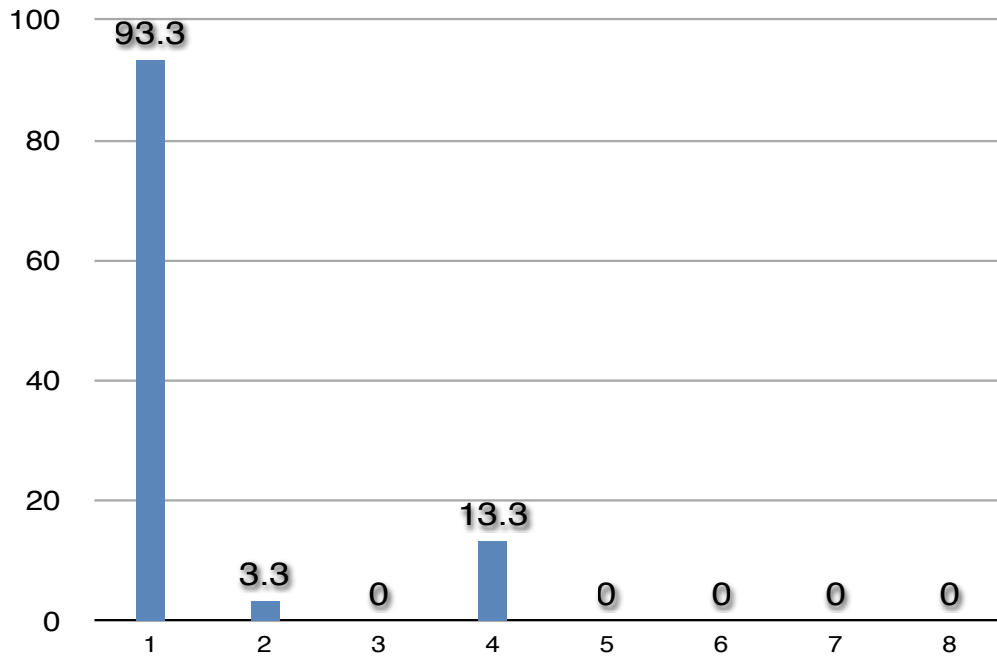
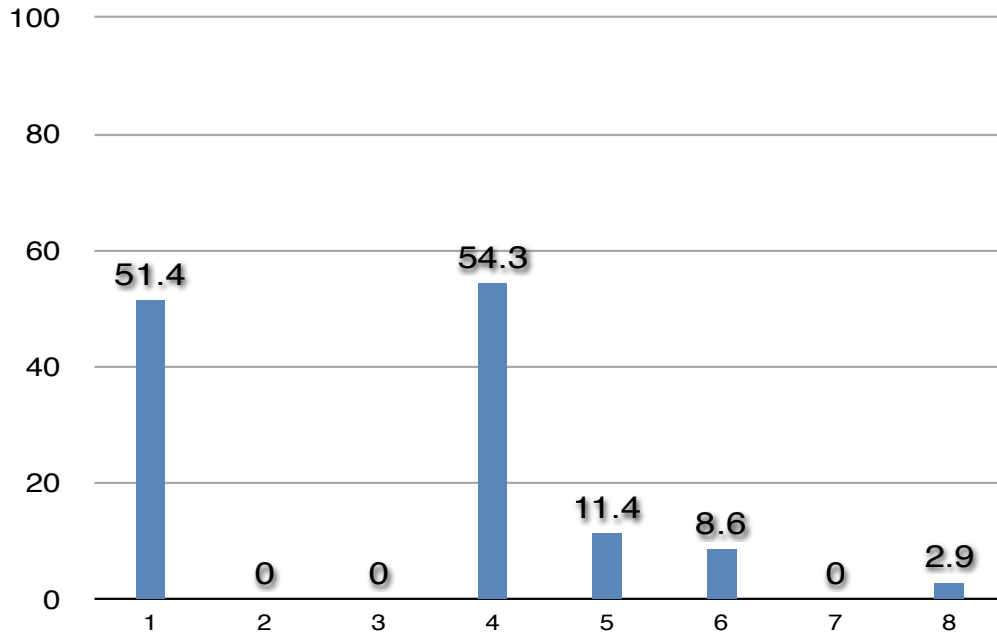
G8-related issues covered in UK media, April 1 – June 1, 2012

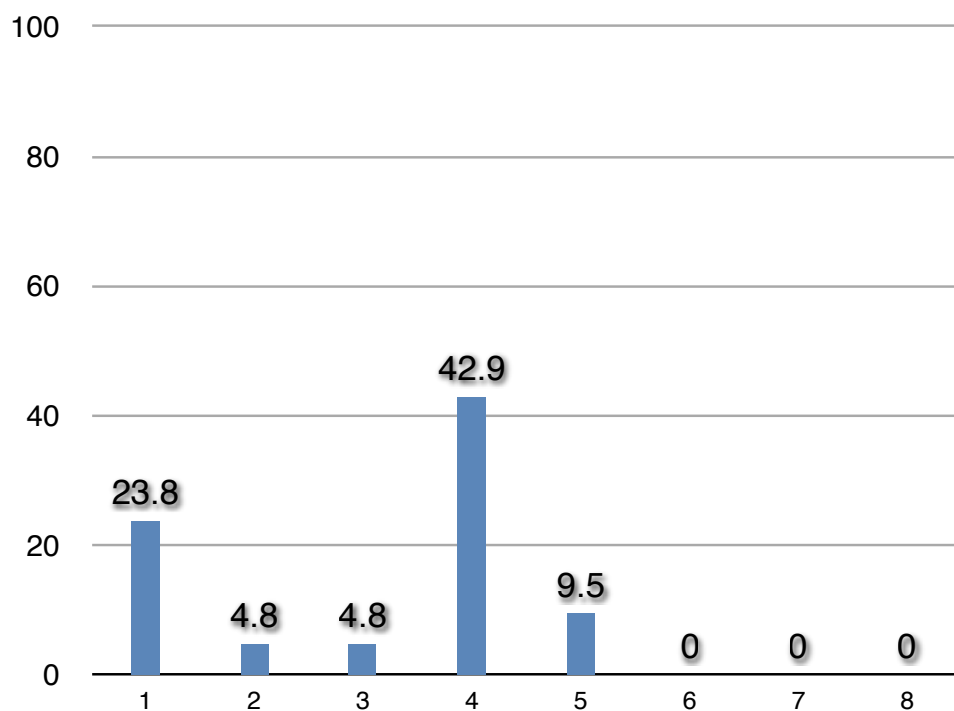


G8-related issues covered in Canadian media, April 1 – June 1, 2012



G8-related issues covered in French media, April 1 – June 1, 2012*Figure 14: G8-related issues covered in German media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

G8-related issues covered in Italian media, April 1 – June 1 2012*Figure 20: G8-related issues covered in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012*

G8-related issues covered in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012

SOURCES CITED

Sources cited by G8-related articles in US media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	4.3
Civil society representatives	7.1
Natl. govt. representatives	8.1
Intl. govt. representatives	4.1
None	78.6

Sources cited by G8-related articles in UK media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	18.5
Civil society representatives	11.1
Natl. govt. representatives	11.1
Intl. govt. representatives	11.1
Other (Private sector/banking officials)	14.8
None	48.1

Sources cited by G8-related articles in Canadian media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	36.4
Civil society representatives	9.1
Natl. govt. representatives	27.3
Intl. govt. representatives	0.0
None	48.1

Sources cited by G8-related articles in French media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	19.0
Civil society representatives	9.5
Natl. govt. representatives	33.3
Intl. govt. representatives	7.0
None	23.8

Sources cited by G8-related articles in German media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	0.0
Civil society representatives	5.3
Natl. govt. representatives	0.0
Intl. govt. representatives	10.5
Other (celebrity activists)	1.8
None	86.0

Sources cited by G8-related articles in Italian media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	6.7
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	73.3
Intl. govt. representatives	3.3
None	14.5

Sources cited by G8-related articles in Japanese media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	2.9
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	78.1
Intl. govt. representatives	8.3
None	10.7

Sources cited by G8-related articles in Russian media, April 1 – June 1 2012

<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Percentage of Articles</i>
Academics	23.8
Civil society representatives	0.0
Natl. govt. representatives	38.1
Intl. govt. representatives	19.0
None	47.6