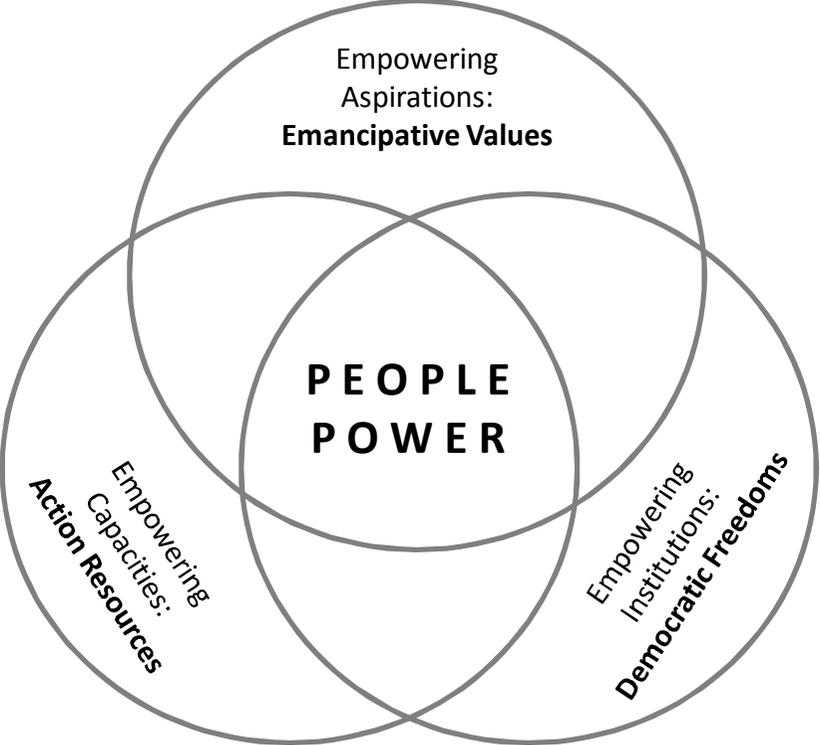


HUMAN EMPOWERMENT:

A Framework to Analyse Social and Political Change

Christian Welzel
(cwelzel@gmail.com)



The Central Theorem of Human Empowerment: The Utility Principle of Freedoms

Without exception, everything that exists—including culture—underlies **evolution** as a reality-coping process.



Evolution favors empowering features that increase **reality control**.



The favoring of reality control incurs an **evolutionary advantage** on utility-realizing capacities.



Since utility-realizing capacities grow with the potential to master freedoms, there is a **Utility Principle of Freedoms** .



Evolution shaped the human mind as the most powerful device to realize utility by establishing an **elastic quest for freedoms**.



The elastic quest for freedoms operates via a sequence of four mechanisms:

- 1. Valuation Mechanism:** The mind recognizes which freedoms have utility under given constraints and values these freedoms.
- 2. Activation Mechanism:** Values establish a drive to act so as to assert and exercise the valued freedoms.
- 3. Satisfaction Mechanism:** Successfully asserted and exercised freedoms yield inner satisfaction for such a self-aware being as humans.

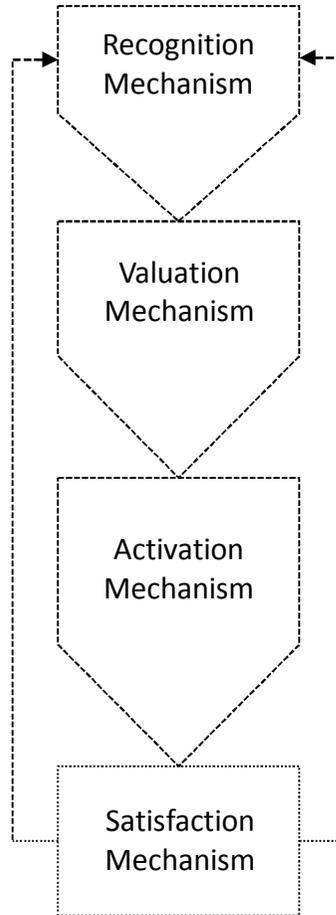
The satisfaction mechanism makes the quest for freedoms **self-regulatory**. This keeps the quest elastic to external constraints.



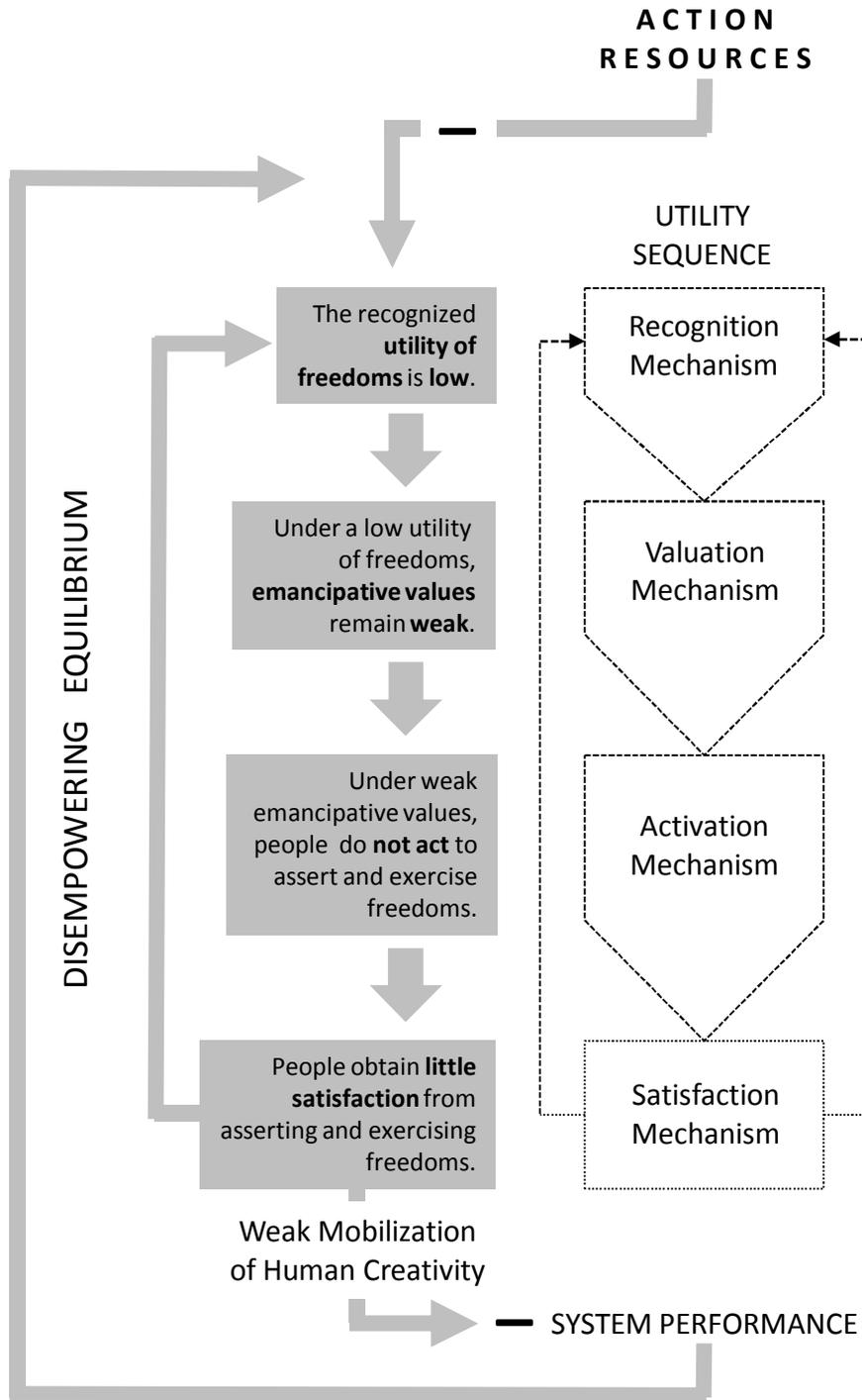
4. Transcending Mechanism : this mechanism makes the quest for freedoms a **socially joined quest** that is pursued in unison with equals.

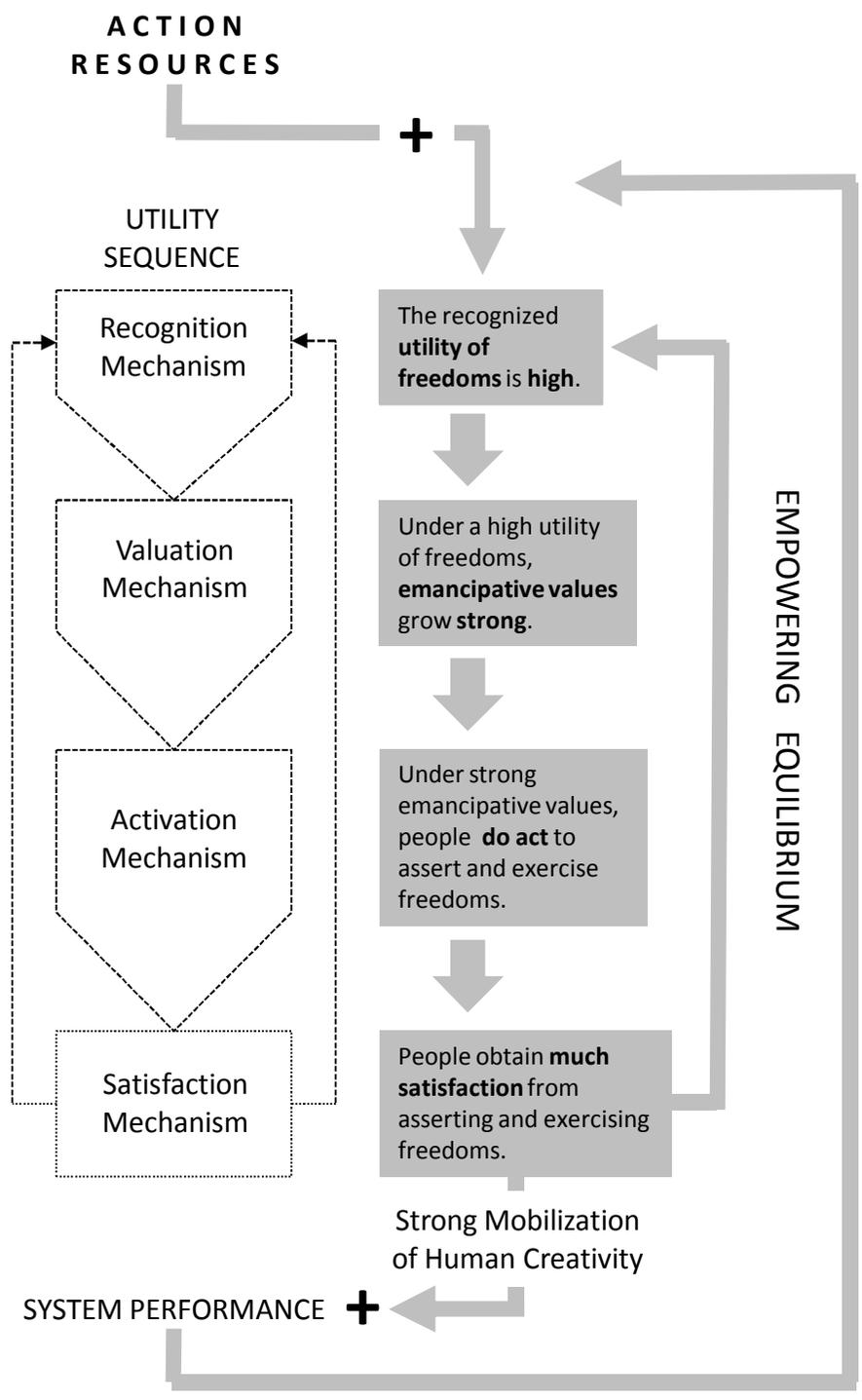
**ACTION
RESOURCES**

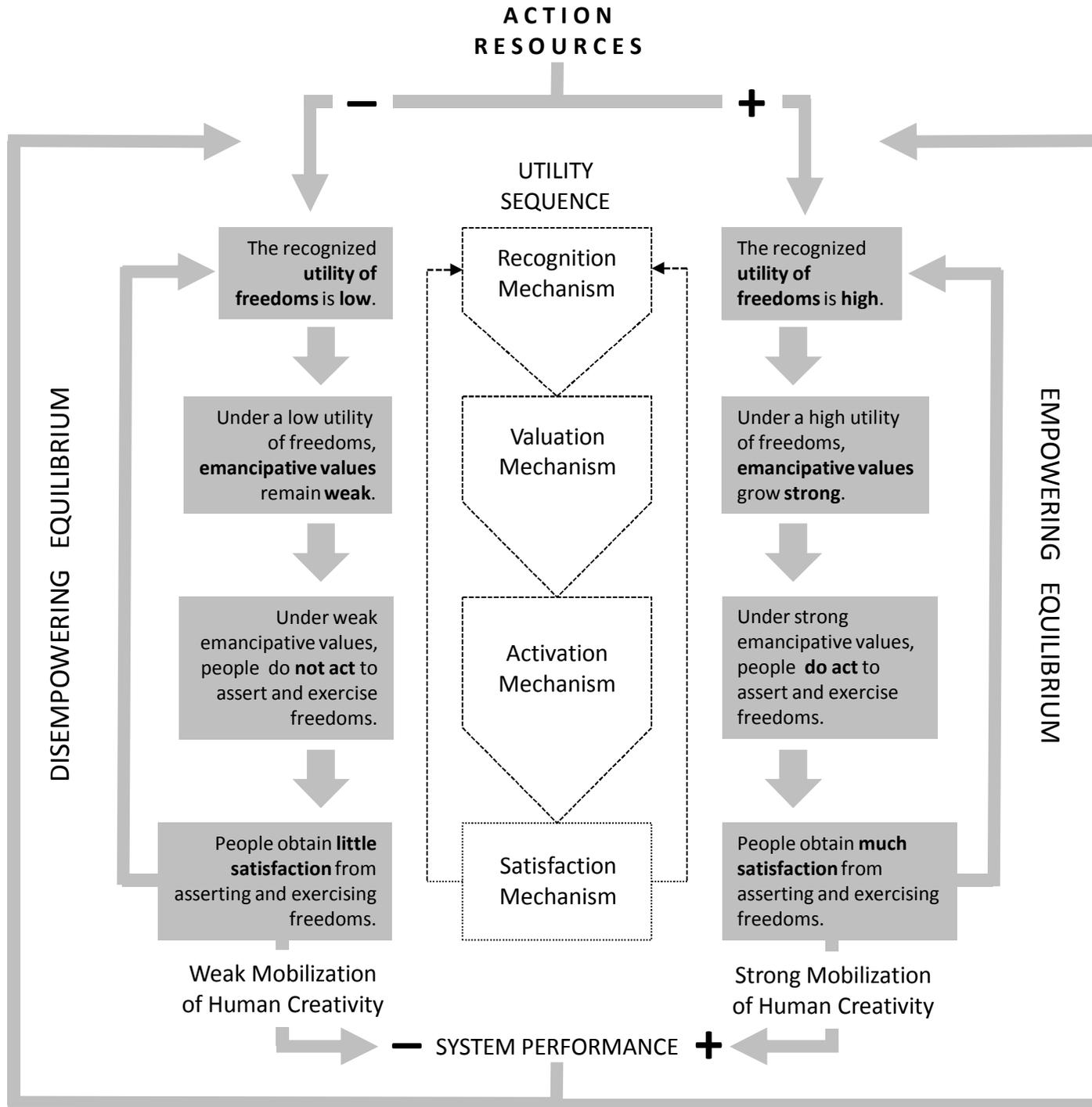
UTILITY
SEQUENCE

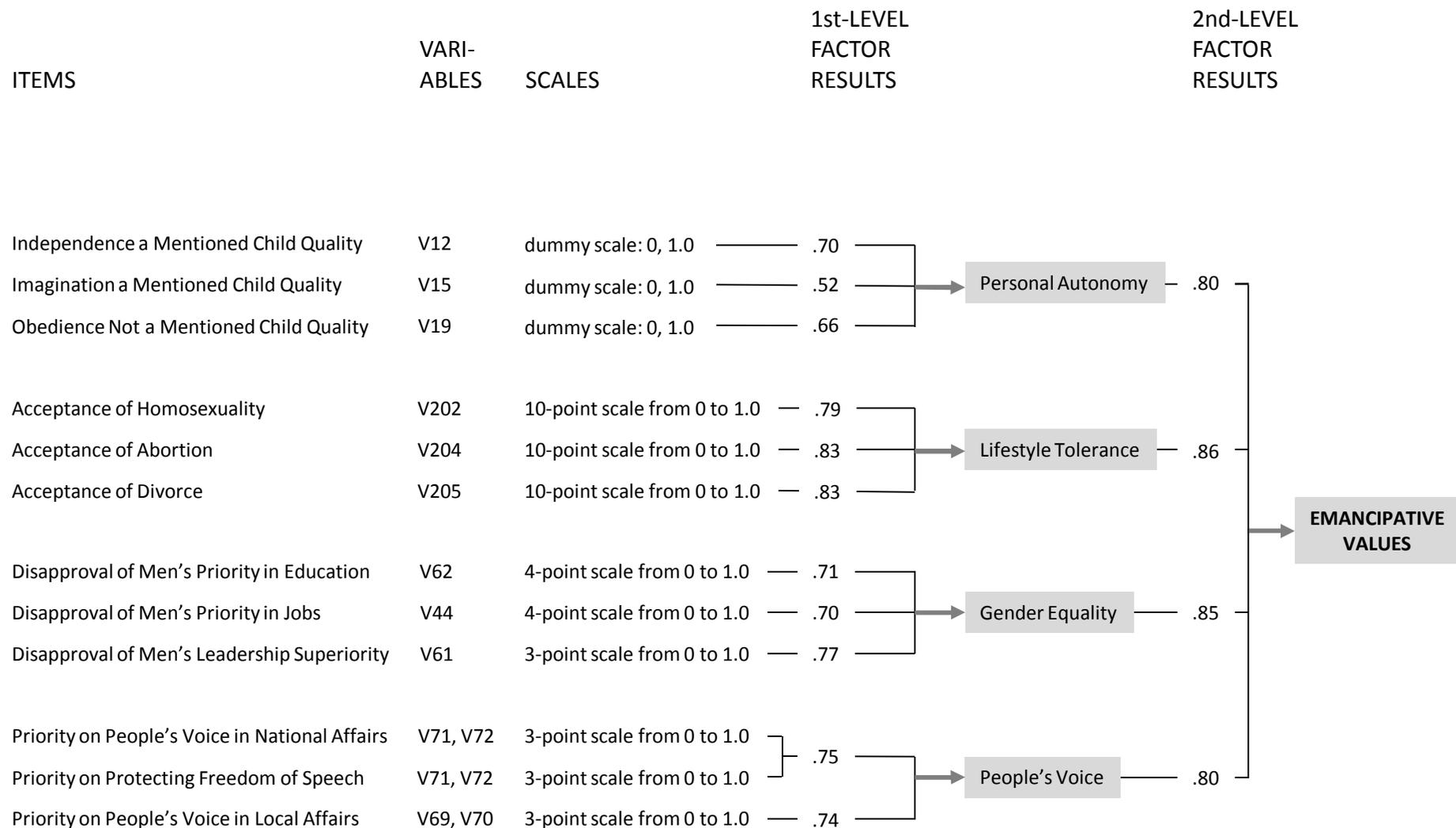


**SYSTEM
PERFORMANCE**

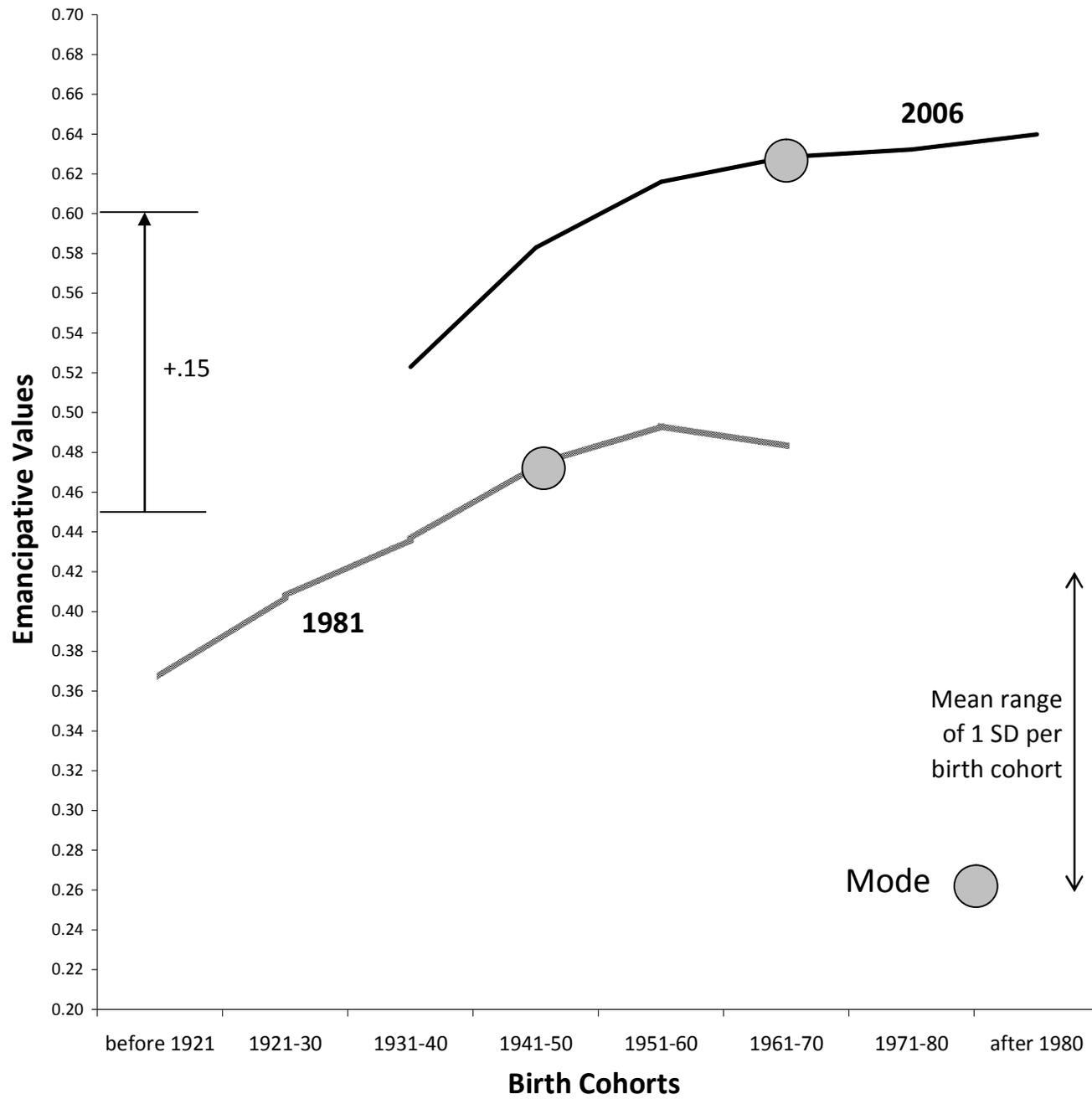


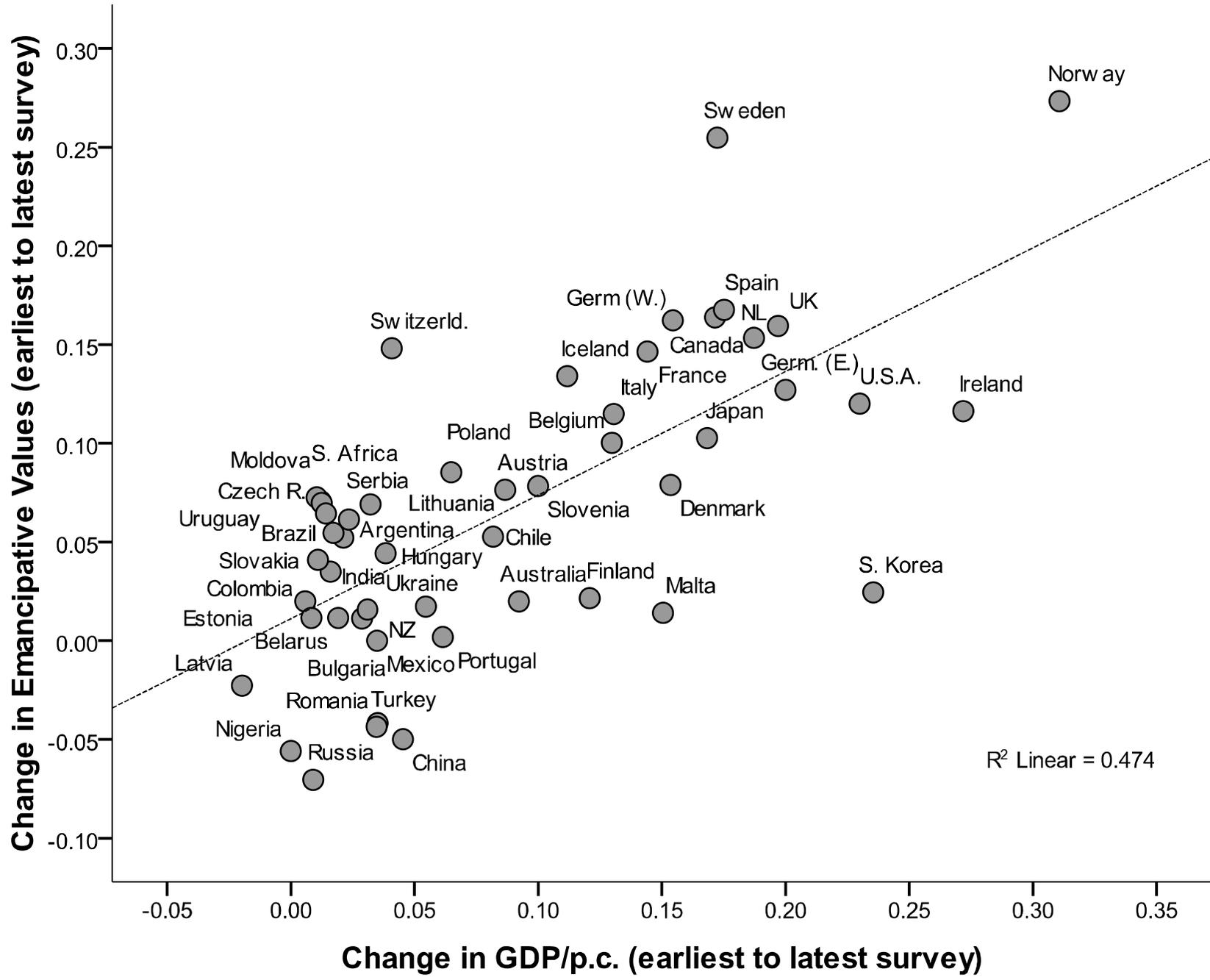






Note: Results are from a hierarchical factor analysis over the country-pooled Individual-level dataset of WVS III-V (N : 147,927 respondents in 80 societies), under pairwise deletion of missing data. First-level factor analysis over 16 items with 'direct oblimin'-rotation ($\delta = .25$) creates a 5-dimensional solution under the Kaiser-criterion, with a KMO of .83. Second-level factor analysis over four of the extracted five factors from the first-level analysis produces a one-dimensional solution under the Kaiser-criterion, with a KMO of .81. Cronbach's alpha for the twelve base items of emancipative values is .67. Cronbach's alpha for the four subindices is .53.





A Dynamic Model of Reciprocal Equations with SUR:

We model each element of HE at time t_2 as a function of:

- (a) its level at time t_1 , and
- (b) change in the other two elements from time t_1 to time t_2 .

In formal language:

$$EMA_{t_2} = b_0 + b_1 * EMA_{t_1} + \mathbf{b_2} * \Delta \mathbf{GDP}_{t_2-t_1} + b_3 * \Delta DEM_{t_2-t_1} + \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

$$DEM_{t_2} = b_0 + b_1 * DEM_{t_1} + b_2 * \Delta GDP_{t_2-t_1} + \mathbf{b_3} * \Delta \mathbf{EMA}_{t_2-t_1} + \varepsilon \quad (2)$$

$$GDP_{t_2} = b_0 + b_1 * GDP_{t_1} + b_2 * \Delta DEM_{t_2-t_1} + \mathbf{b_3} * \Delta \mathbf{EMA}_{t_2-t_1} + \varepsilon \quad (3)$$

| PREDICTORS: | DEPENDENT VARIABLES: | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Emancipative Values at t_2 | | Democratic Rights at t_2 | | Per capita GDP at t_2 | |
| | Model 1-1 ^{a)} | Model 1-2 ^{b)} | Model 2-1 ^{a)} | Model 2-2 ^{b)} | Model 3-1 ^{a)} | Model 3-2 ^{b)} |
| Intercept | .01 (0.2) ^{n.s.} | .03 (1.5) ^{n.s.} | .59 (11.5) ^{***} | .25 (7.5) ^{***} | .03 (1.4) ^{n.s.} | .01 (1.6) ^{n.s.} |
| Dependent Variable at t_1 | .97 (9.4) ^{***} | .93 (21.6) ^{***} | .38 (4.6) ^{***} | .74 (15.2) ^{***} | 1.00 (12.0) ^{***} | 1.10 (52.8) ^{***} |
| Δ Per capita GDP _{t_2-1} | .83 (9.8) ^{***} | .77 (7.6) ^{***} | -.13 (-0.4) ^{n.s.} | -.39 (-1.1) ^{n.s.} | | |
| Δ Democratic Rights _{t_2-1} | -.01 (-0.2) ^{n.s.} | .03 (1.2) ^{n.s.} | | | -.04 (-0.9) ^{n.s.} | -.05 (-2.7) ^{**} |
| Δ Emancipative Values _{t_2-1} | | | .66 (1.8) [*] | .61 (2.3) ^{**} | .95 (8.2) ^{***} | .38 (6.1) ^{***} |
| Adj. R ² | .70 | .82 | .53 | .73 | .87 | .96 |
| N | 49 | 127 | 49 | 127 | 49 | 127 |

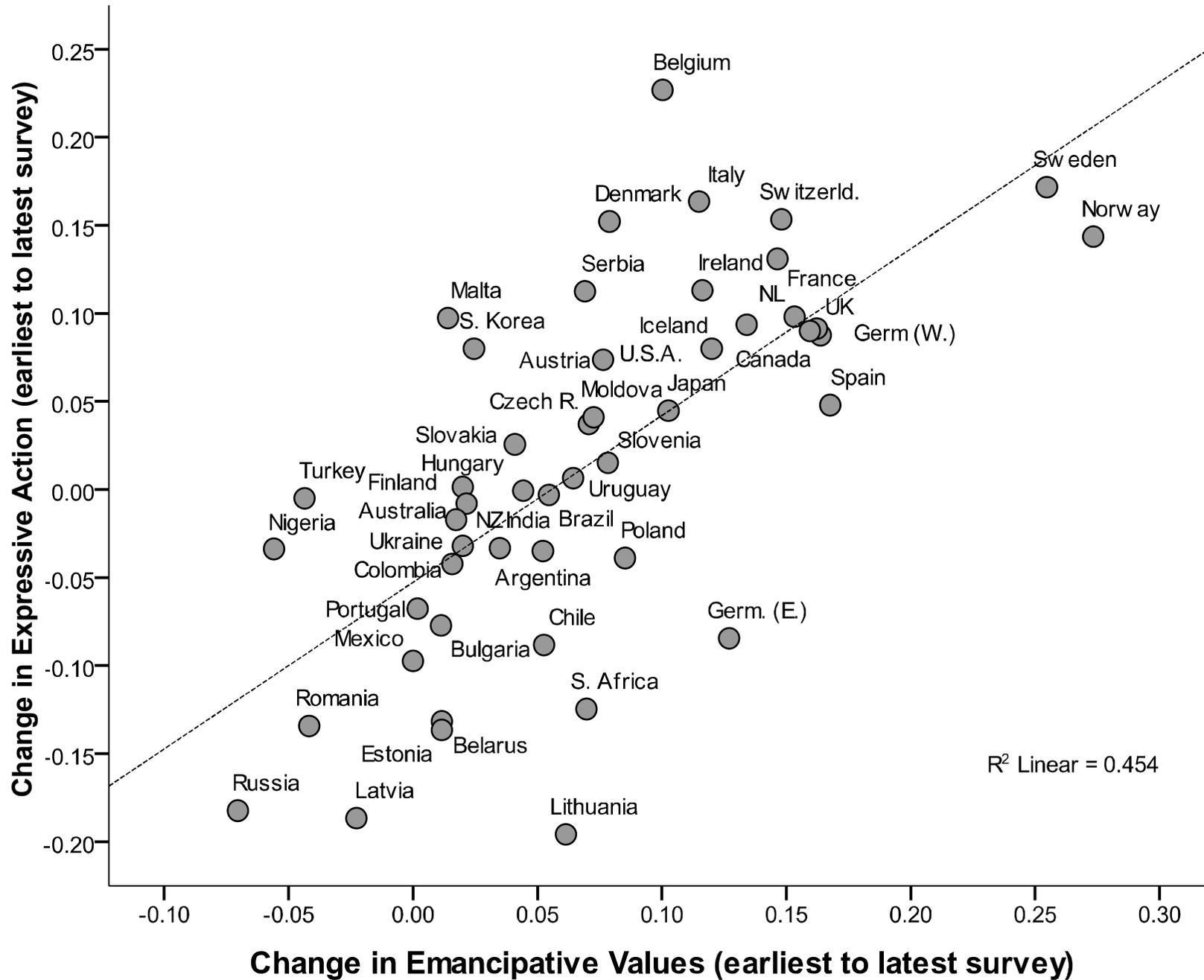
Notes: Δ -variables measure change from an earlier survey at time t_1 to a later survey at time t_2 (see notes ^{a)} and ^{b)} below). Models 1-1, 2-1, and 3-1 include each society only once, so there can be no serial correlation. Models 1-2, 2-2, and 3-2 include the same society in repeated observations, yet Durbin Watson coefficients are close to 2.0, indicating no serial correlation.

All regressions checked for heteroskedasticity (White Test), multicollinearity (variance inflation factors), and influential cases (DFFITs) but none of these problems is revealed by the test statistics.

Significance levels: ^{n.s.} $p \geq .100$, * $p < .100$, ** $p < .050$, *** $p < .005$.

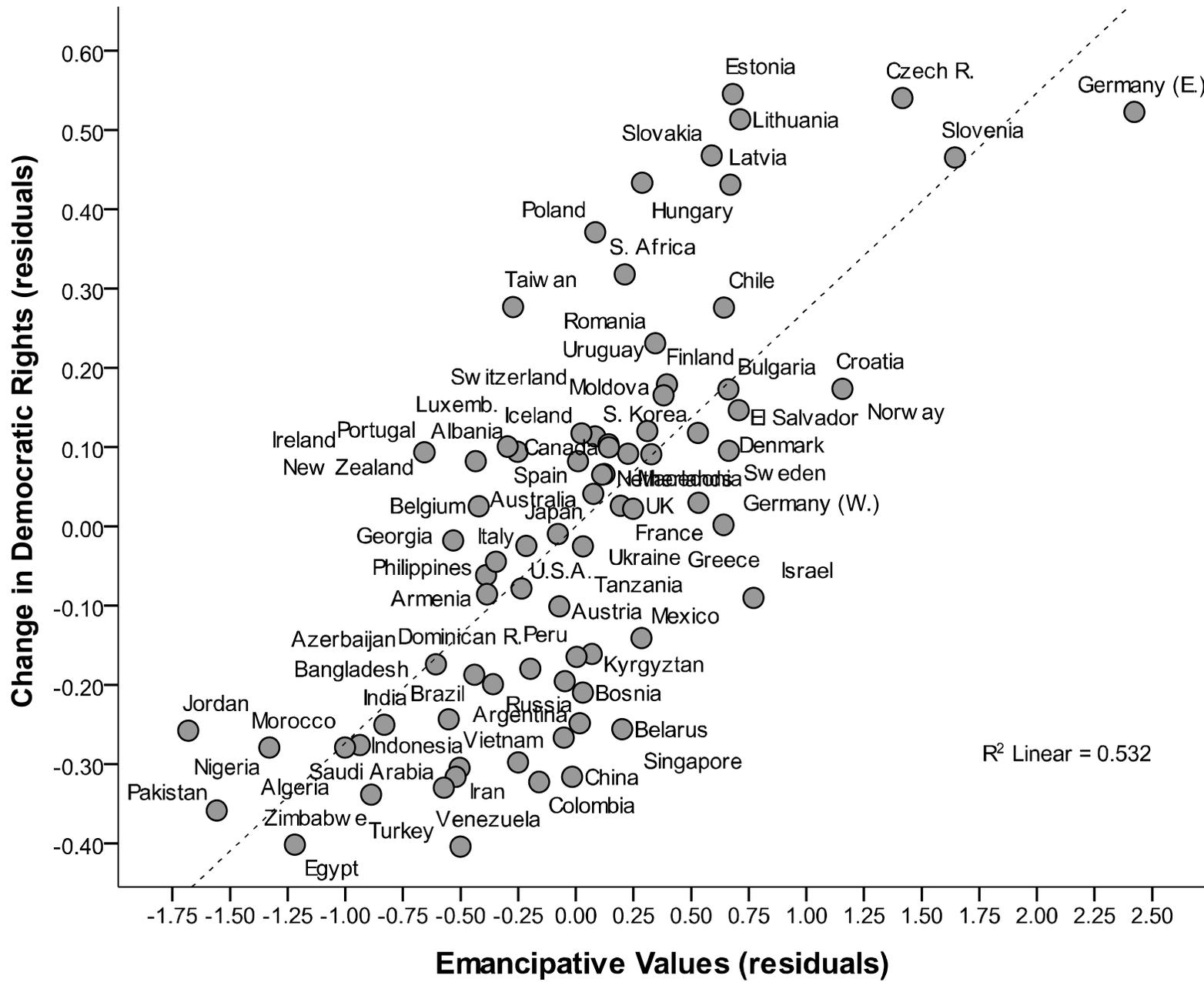
^{a)} Long-term shift models with time t_1 measured 15 to 25 years before time t_2 .

^{b)} Short-term shift models with time t_1 measured 5 to 10 years before time t_2 (time-series-cross-sectional model with panel-corrected standard errors).



| PREDICTORS: | DEPENDENT VARIABLE: Expressive Action at time t_2 |
|---|--|
| Intercept | .08 (1.92) * |
| • Expressive Action at time t_1 | .61 (5.35) *** |
| • Δ Democratic Rights from time t_1 to t_2 | - .10 (-2.17) ** |
| • Δ GDP/p.c. from time t_1 to t_2 | .32 (1.99) * |
| • Δ Emancipative Values from time t_1 to t_2 | .72 (3.96) *** |
| N (number of societies) | 49 |
| Adjusted R^2 | .73 |

Notes: Entries are unstandardized regression coefficients with T-ratios in parentheses. Significance levels: * $p < .10$; ** $p < .01$; *** $p < .001$. Test statistics for heteroskedasticity (White test), multicollinearity (variance inflation factors), and influential cases (dffits) indicate no violation of OLS assumptions.



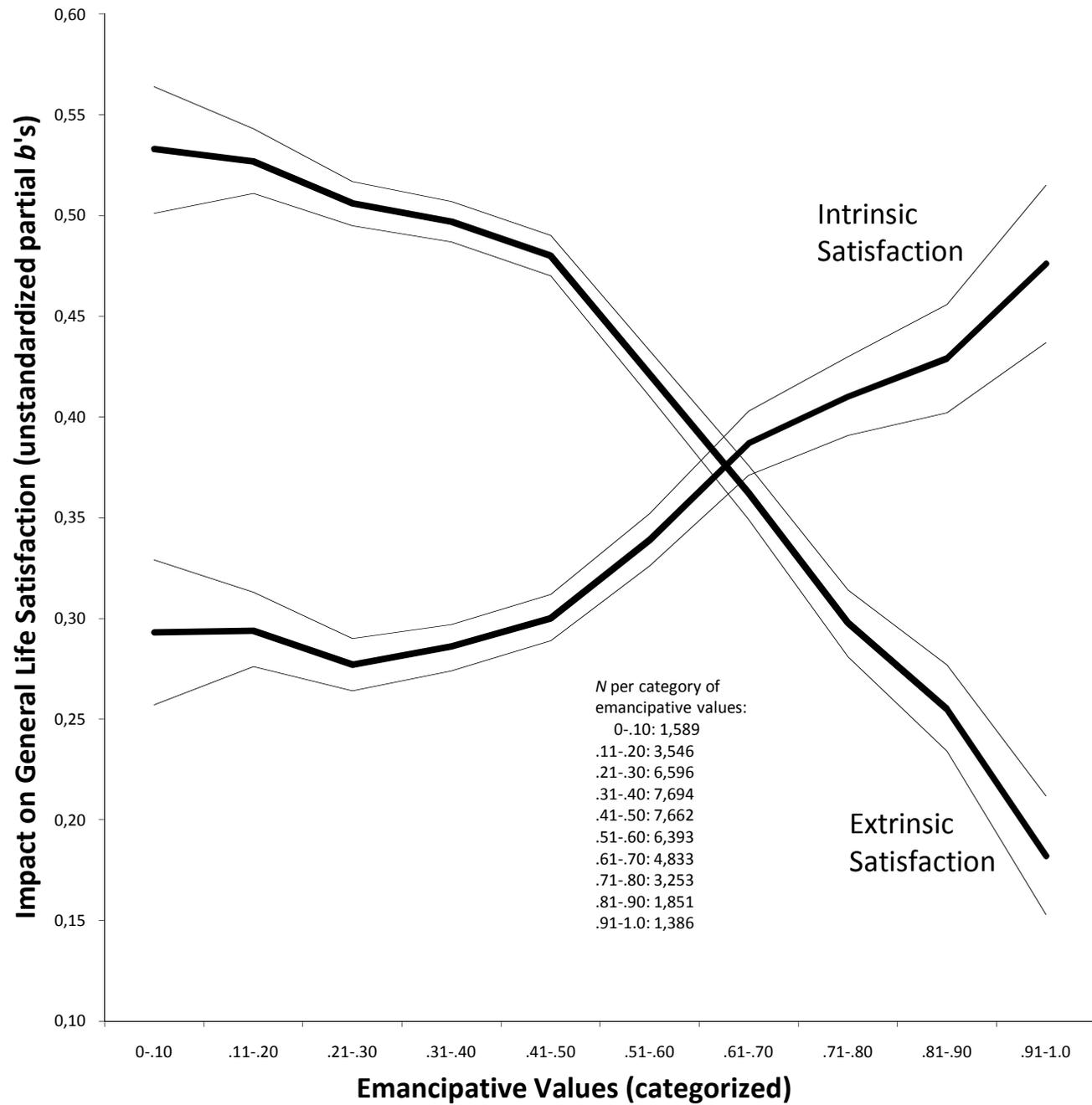


Table 11-1. Ranking and Scores in Human Empowerment

| COUNTRIES: | COMPONENTS of Human Empowerment: | | | OVERALL Human Empowerment: | |
|----------------|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Capabilities Component: Knowledge Development (Rank) | Aspirations Component: Emancipative Values (Rank) | Entitlements Component: Democratic Rights (Rank) | Human Empowerment Index (Rank) | Human Empowerment Index (Score) |
| Sweden | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 | .87 |
| Norway | 5 | 2 | 7 | 2 | .86 |
| Denmark | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | .86 |
| Netherlands | 7 | 5 | 4 | 4 | .84 |
| Finland | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 | .83 |
| Iceland | 16 | 8 | 1 | 6 | .83 |
| Canada | 6 | 7 | 10 | 7 | .82 |
| New Zealand | 11 | 11 | 9 | 8 | .81 |
| U.K. | 8 | 12 | 11 | 9 | .81 |
| Switzerland | 10 | 6 | 15 | 10 | .81 |
| Australia | 9 | 13 | 13 | 11 | .80 |
| Belgium | 12 | 28 | 5 | 12 | .79 |
| Luxemburg | 20 | 20 | 2 | 13 | .78 |
| Austria | 18 | 14 | 19 | 14 | .77 |
| France | 15 | 17 | 17 | 15 | .77 |
| Germany (W.) | 14 | 4 | 29 | 16 | .77 |
| Germany (E.) | 13 | 10 | 28 | 17 | .77 |
| Japan | 17 | 19 | 20 | 18 | .76 |
| Ireland | 19 | 29 | 18 | 19 | .75 |
| U.S.A. | 2 | 18 | 34 | 20 | .74 |
| Slovenia | 26 | 16 | 21 | 21 | .74 |
| Spain | 24 | 21 | 22 | 22 | .73 |
| Italy | 25 | 25 | 23 | 23 | .71 |
| Portugal | 29 | 42 | 12 | 24 | .69 |
| Cyprus | 33 | 33 | 16 | 25 | .68 |
| Czech Republic | 32 | 24 | 30 | 26 | .68 |
| Slovakia | 34 | 39 | 14 | 27 | .67 |
| Estonia | 28 | 35 | 25 | 28 | .67 |
| Hungary | 31 | 41 | 24 | 29 | .66 |
| Uruguay | 40 | 23 | 27 | 30 | .65 |

to be continued ...

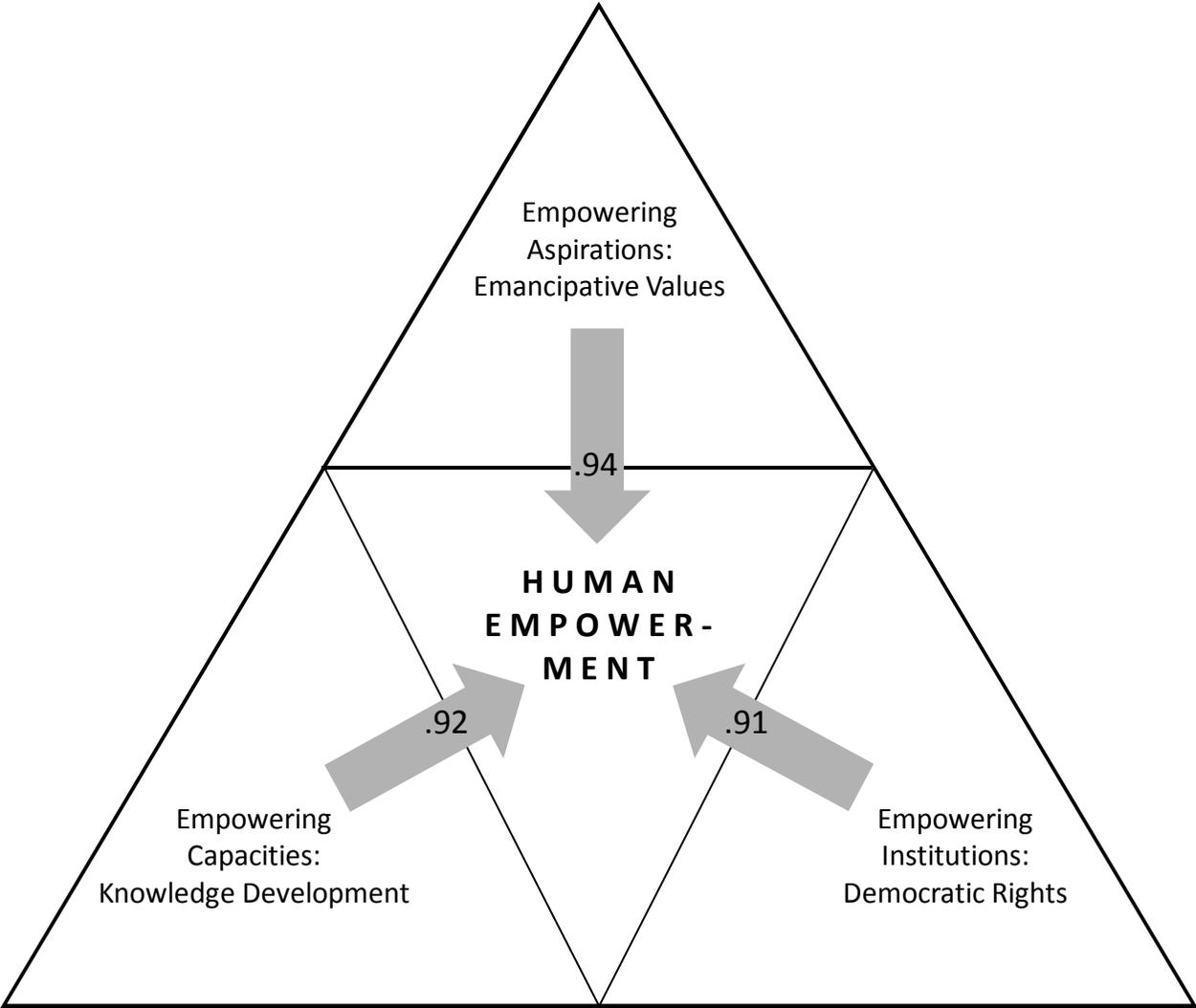
Table 11-1. Continued

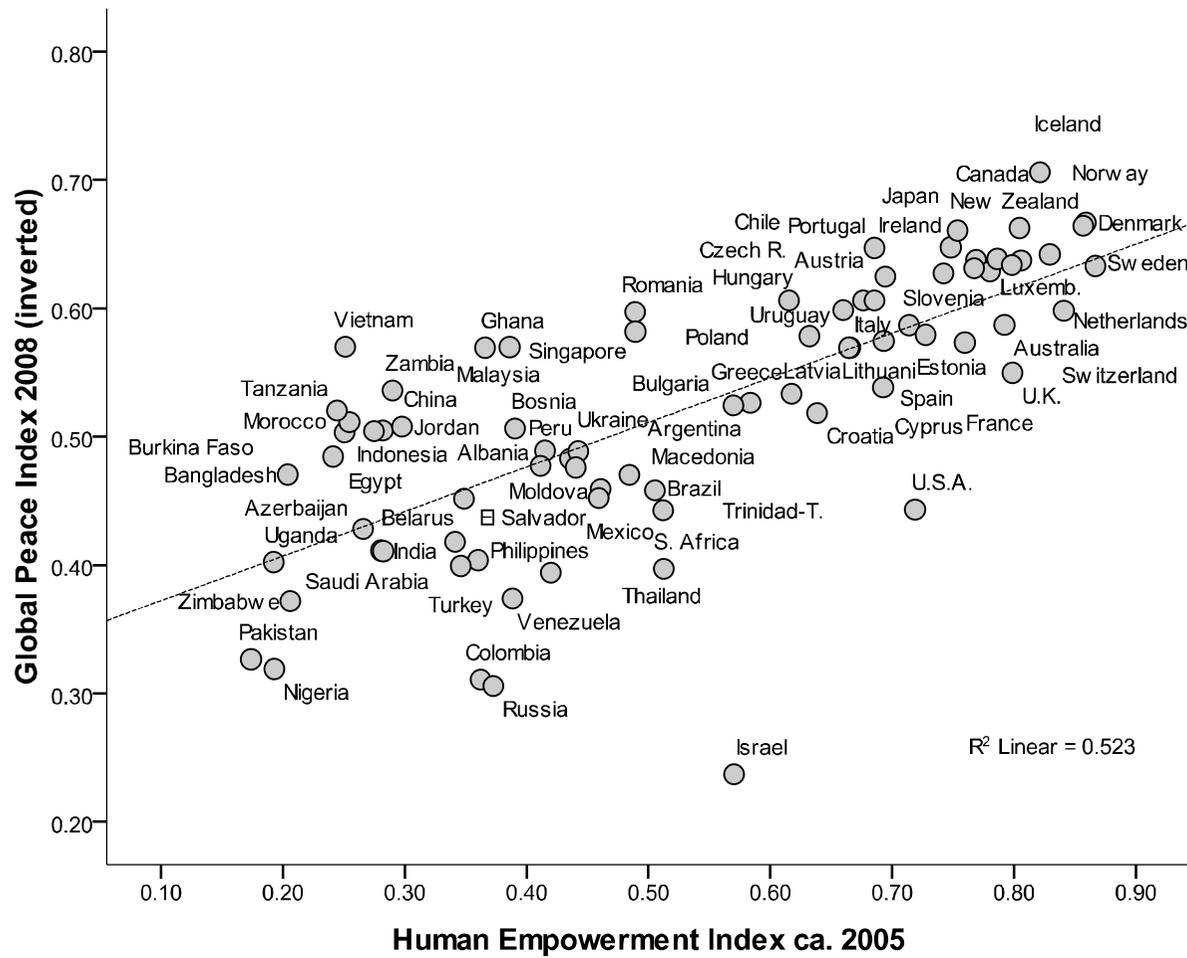
| COUNTRIES: | COMPONENTS of Human Empowerment: | | | OVERALL Human Empowerment: | |
|--------------|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Capabilities Component: Knowledge Development (Rank) | Aspirations Component: Emancipative Values (Rank) | Entitlements Component: Democratic Rights (Rank) | Human Empowerment Index (Rank) | Human Empowerment Index (Score) |
| Croatia | 35 | 26 | 35 | 31 | .63 |
| Taiwan | 21 | 61 | 36 | 32 | .63 |
| Latvia | 44 | 36 | 26 | 33 | .62 |
| S. Korea | 23 | 40 | 37 | 34 | .62 |
| Greece | 30 | 15 | 43 | 35 | .62 |
| Poland | 36 | 53 | 32 | 36 | .62 |
| Lithuania | 45 | 34 | 31 | 37 | .61 |
| Chile | 43 | 32 | 33 | 38 | .61 |
| Argentina | 38 | 27 | 40 | 39 | .59 |
| Israel | 22 | 22 | 52 | 40 | .58 |
| Bulgaria | 37 | 38 | 42 | 41 | .57 |
| South Africa | 41 | 52 | 39 | 42 | .55 |
| Trinidad-T. | 49 | 54 | 41 | 43 | .52 |
| Singapore | 27 | 48 | 62 | 44 | .49 |
| Brazil | 56 | 49 | 45 | 45 | .47 |
| Macedonia | 55 | 45 | 47 | 46 | .47 |
| El Salvador | 67 | 30 | 44 | 47 | .46 |
| Mexico | 51 | 37 | 51 | 48 | .46 |
| Romania | 53 | 47 | 49 | 49 | .46 |
| Peru | 61 | 43 | 50 | 50 | .44 |
| Ukraine | 42 | 59 | 60 | 51 | .44 |
| Dominican R. | 70 | 31 | 48 | 52 | .43 |
| Georgia | 47 | 76 | 54 | 53 | .42 |
| Thailand | 54 | 64 | 56 | 54 | .41 |
| Venezuela | 48 | 46 | 66 | 55 | .40 |
| Moldova | 60 | 60 | 55 | 56 | .40 |
| Albania | 75 | 69 | 46 | 57 | .39 |
| Philippines | 62 | 65 | 59 | 58 | .38 |
| Malaysia | 50 | 57 | 71 | 59 | .37 |
| Armenia | 52 | 70 | 63 | 60 | .37 |

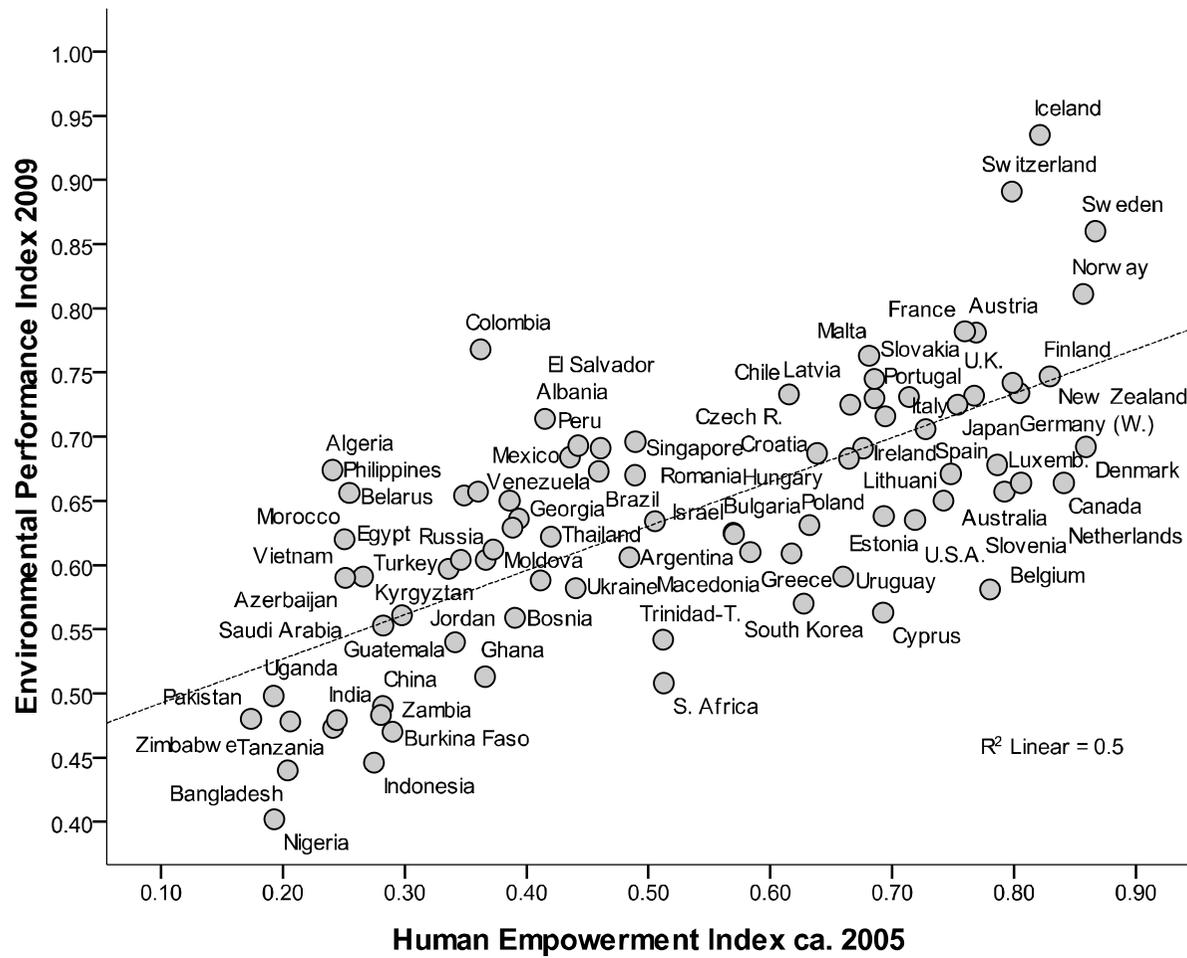
to be continued ...

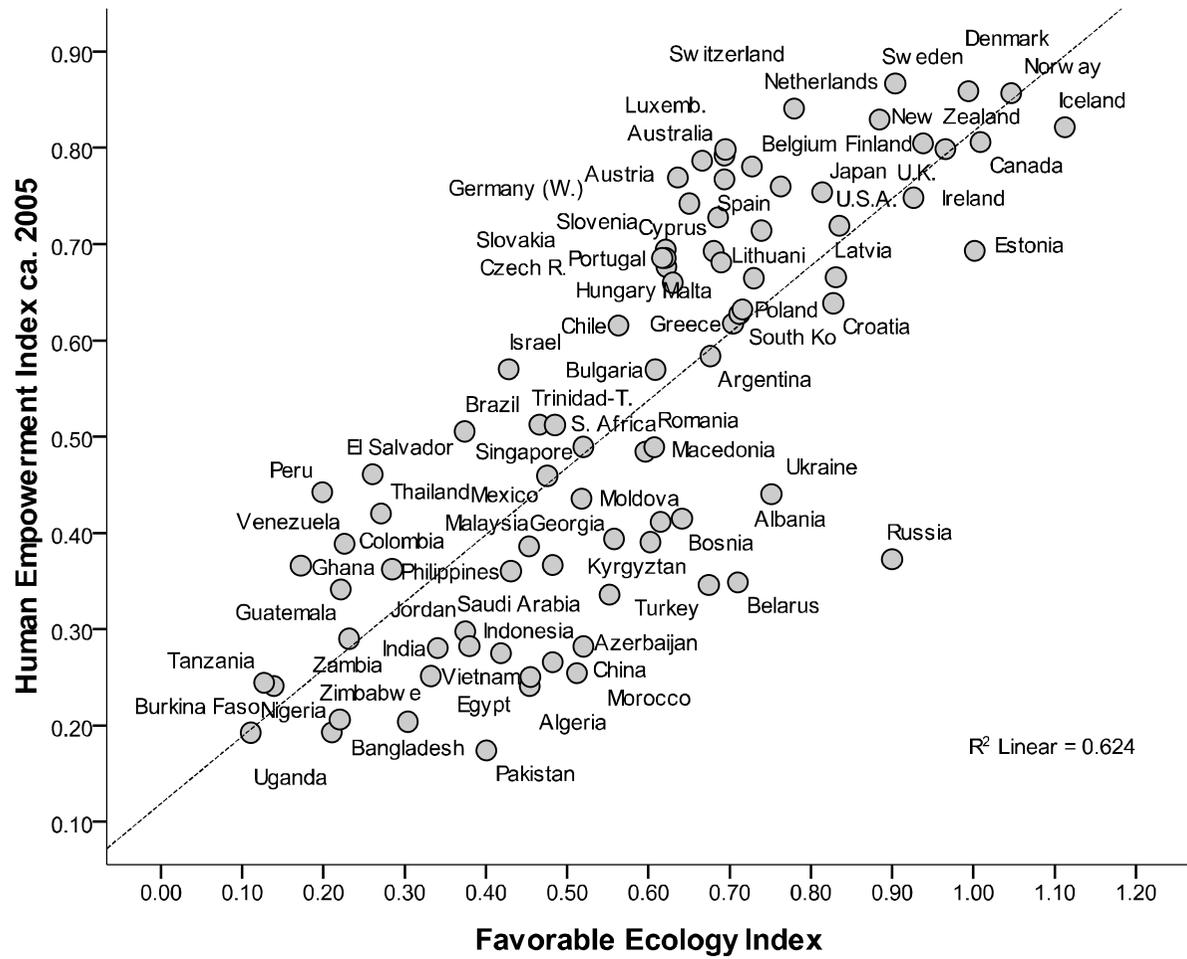
Table 11-1. Continued

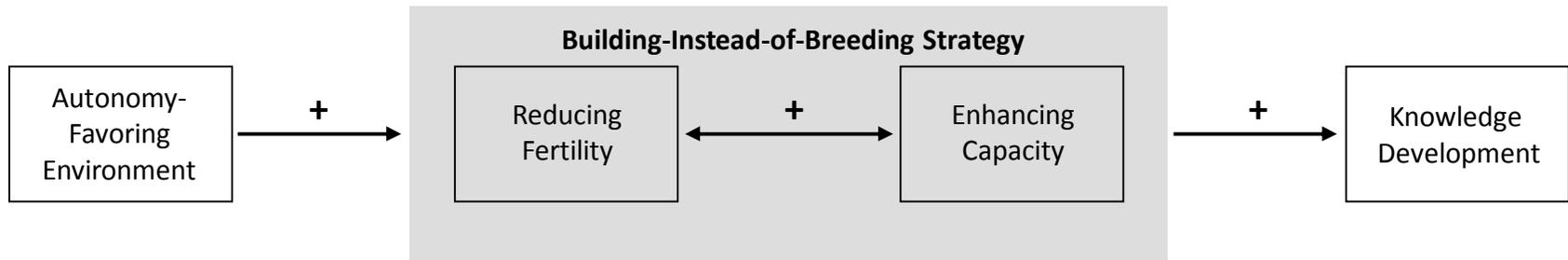
| COUNTRIES: | COMPONENTS of Human Empowerment: | | | OVERALL Human Empowerment: | |
|----------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Capabilities Component: Knowledge Development (Rank) | Aspirations Component: Emancipative Values (Rank) | Entitlements Component: Democratic Rights (Rank) | Human Empowerment Rank | Human Empowerment Index |
| Ghana | 82 | 82 | 38 | 61 | .37 |
| Russia | 39 | 63 | 78 | 62 | .36 |
| Bosnia-Herzeg. | 68 | 56 | 58 | 63 | .36 |
| Colombia | 59 | 50 | 68 | 64 | .36 |
| Guatemala | 77 | 44 | 53 | 65 | .35 |
| Belarus | 46 | 55 | 81 | 66 | .35 |
| Kyrgyz Rep. | 65 | 58 | 67 | 67 | .34 |
| Turkey | 64 | 68 | 69 | 68 | .33 |
| Zambia | 78 | 51 | 61 | 69 | .32 |
| Azerbaijan | 57 | 71 | 79 | 70 | .29 |
| India | 76 | 75 | 65 | 71 | .28 |
| Jordan | 58 | 86 | 73 | 72 | .28 |
| Indonesia | 73 | 73 | 70 | 73 | .27 |
| Saudi Arabia | 63 | 74 | 85 | 74 | .27 |
| Morocco | 72 | 81 | 72 | 75 | .26 |
| Egypt | 66 | 83 | 80 | 76 | .25 |
| Tanzania | 83 | 66 | 64 | 77 | .25 |
| Burkina Faso | 86 | 79 | 57 | 78 | .25 |
| China | 71 | 62 | 86 | 79 | .25 |
| Zimbabwe | 69 | 77 | 84 | 80 | .23 |
| Algeria | 74 | 80 | 77 | 81 | .23 |
| Vietnam | 79 | 51 | 61 | 82 | .22 |
| Bangladesh | 85 | 72 | 74 | 83 | .21 |
| Nigeria | 80 | 84 | 75 | 84 | .20 |
| Uganda | 84 | 78 | 76 | 85 | .19 |
| Pakistan | 81 | 85 | 82 | 86 | .16 |

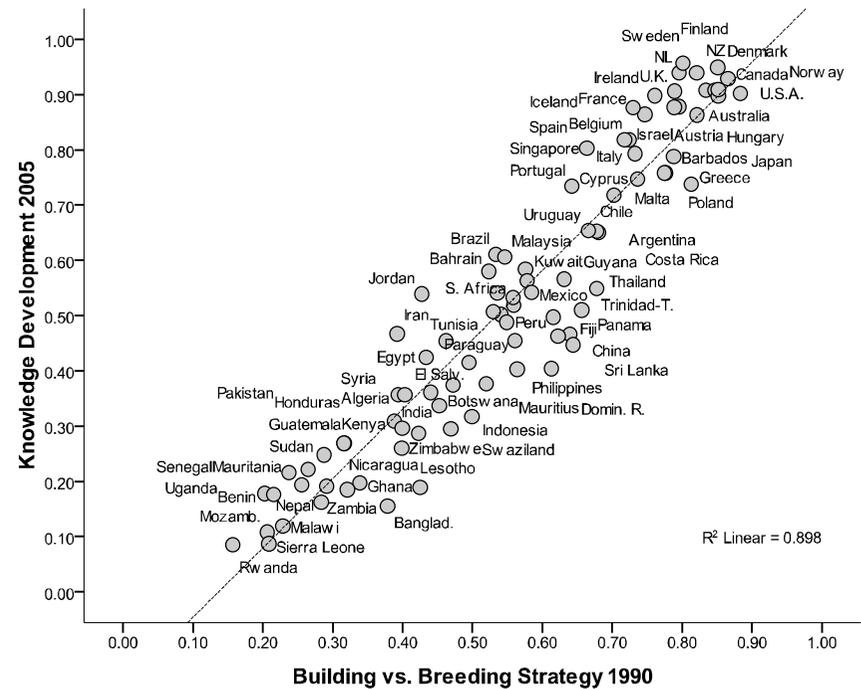
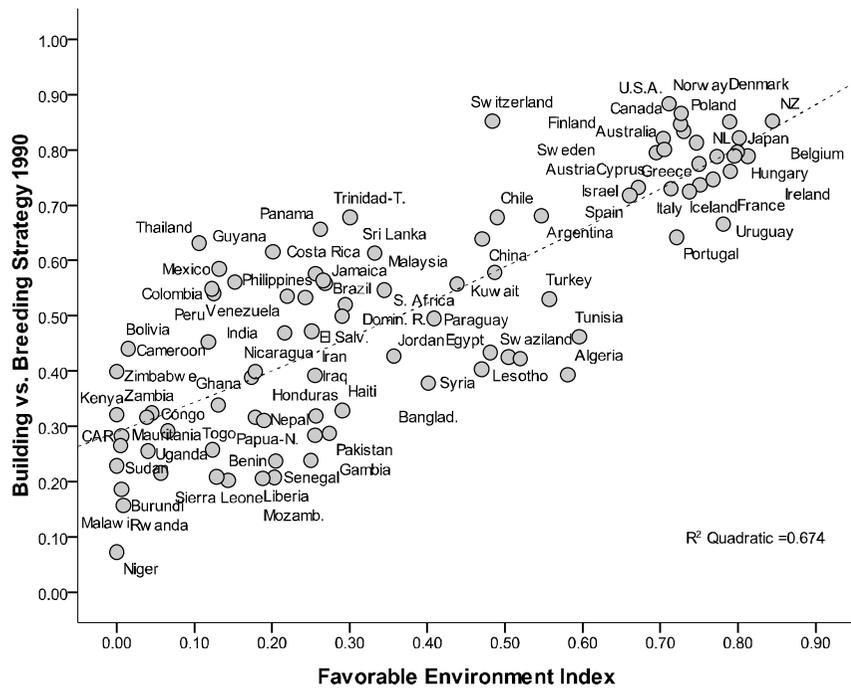


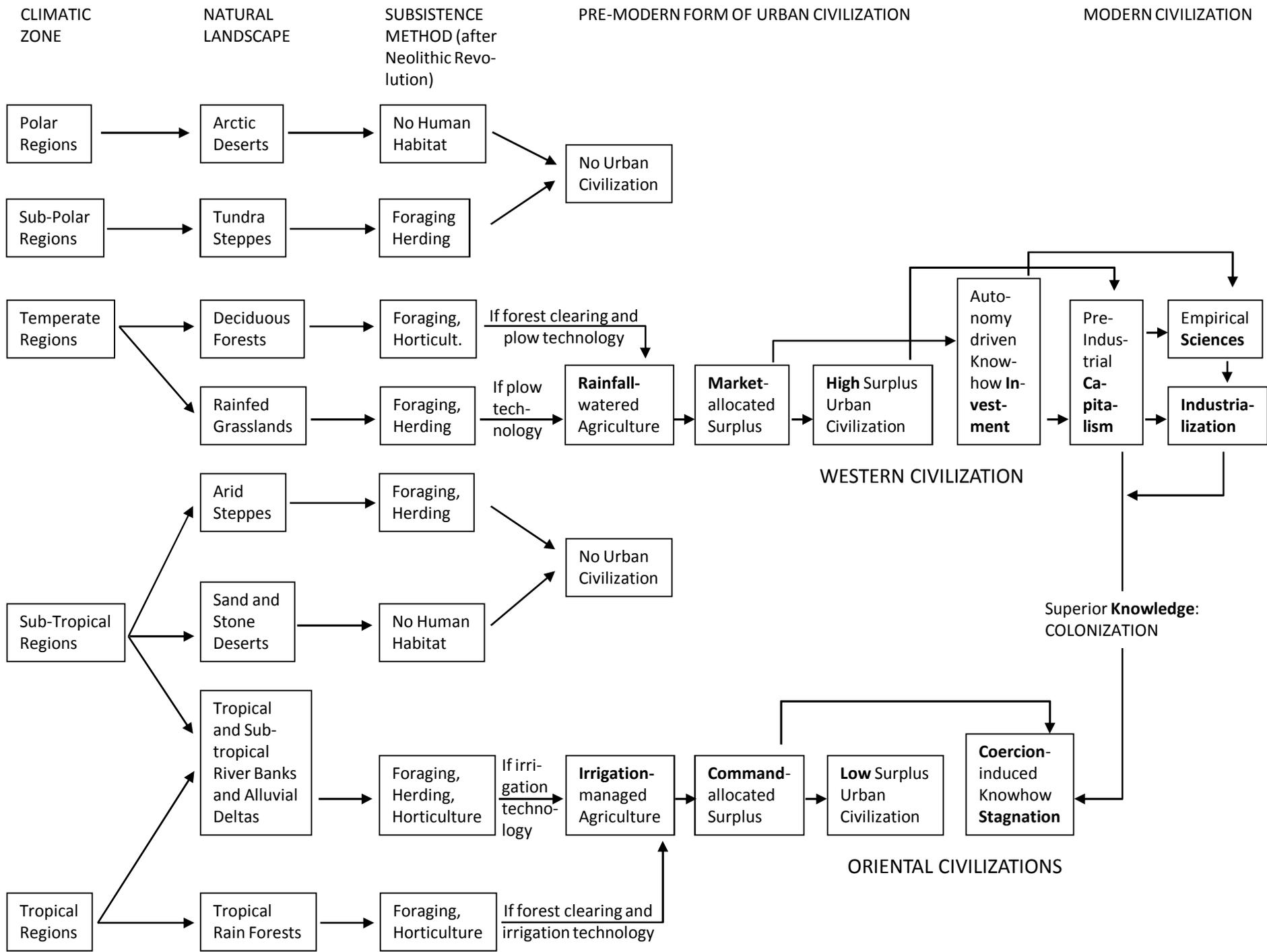












Thanks for listening to a presentation that
could have also been titled the

**THE PROGRESS FORMULA:
An Evolutionary Approach**