



COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPE

New research

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Presentation outline

Introduction

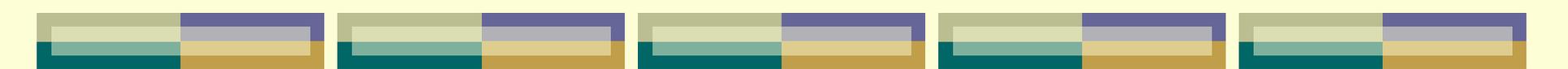
- Objective and Research Question
- Theoretical background

Research Methodology

- Data and Sample
- Methods
- Hypotheses

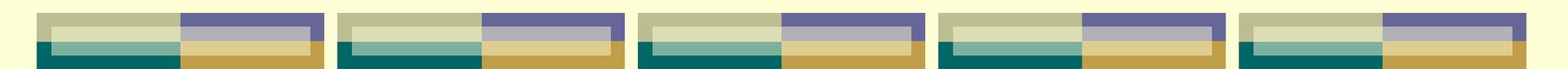
Steps of project realization





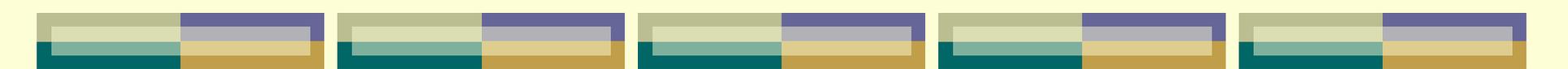
Introduction

- **Objective.** The proposed project is aimed to analyze the profile of civic engagement in Europe (volume, type, actors) and its factors.
 - **Key Questions.** What factors define the civic engagement in European countries? How is it connected with self-expression values?
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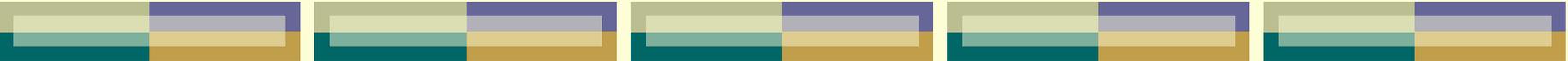
Civic engagement – theoretical background

- Essentiality for democracy (Page, 1996), factor of civil society development (Putnam, 2000).
 - Part of social capital in the meaning of social bounds development and embeddedness (Bourdieu, 1985; Coleman, 1988; Scott, Zukin, 2002).
 - Social engagement is nowadays strengthened by the access to Internet (Norris, 2001).
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Civic engagement: conceptualization

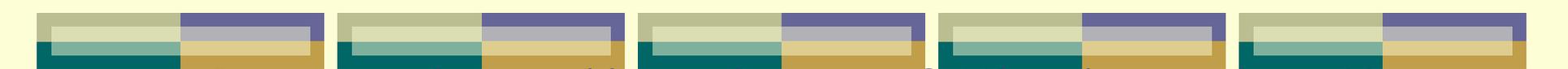
- Giving and volunteering as forms of social engagement (Jones, 2006).
 - Accent on political matters, e.g. Civic Engagement in OECD Better Life Index: voter turnout and trust in government.
 - Accents on value of political talk as the dimension of civic engagement (Carpini, Cook, Jacobs, 2004).
 - Various dimensions in Civic Engagement Index (Gallup studies): money donation, time volunteering and helping a stranger;
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Operationalization

- Civic engagement is operationalized as belonging and acting in frame of any community addressing the issues of public concern.

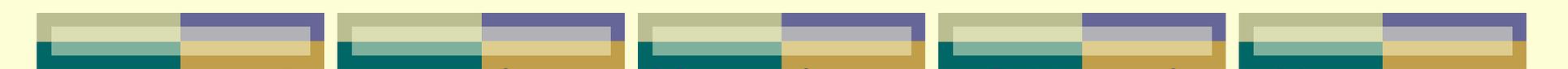




Operationalization of “belonging” dimension of civic engagement, EVS (2008)

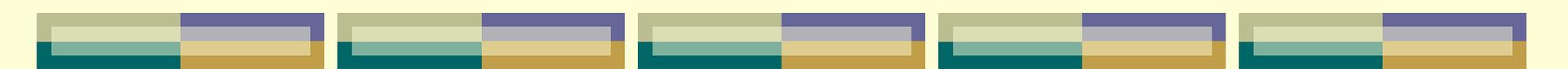
Please look carefully at the following list of voluntary organizations and activities and say which, if any, do you belong to?

- Social welfare services for elderly, handicapped or deprived people (v10); religious or church organisations(v11);
 - Education, arts, music or cultural activities (v12); trade unions (v13);
 - political parties or groups (v14); local community action on issues like poverty,
 - employment, housing, racial equality (v15);
 - third world development or human rights (v16); Conservation, the environment, ecology, animal rights (v17);
 - professional associations (v18); youth work (v19);
 - sports or recreation (v20); women’s groups (v21);
 - peace movement (v22); voluntary organisations concerned with health (v23); other groups (v24)
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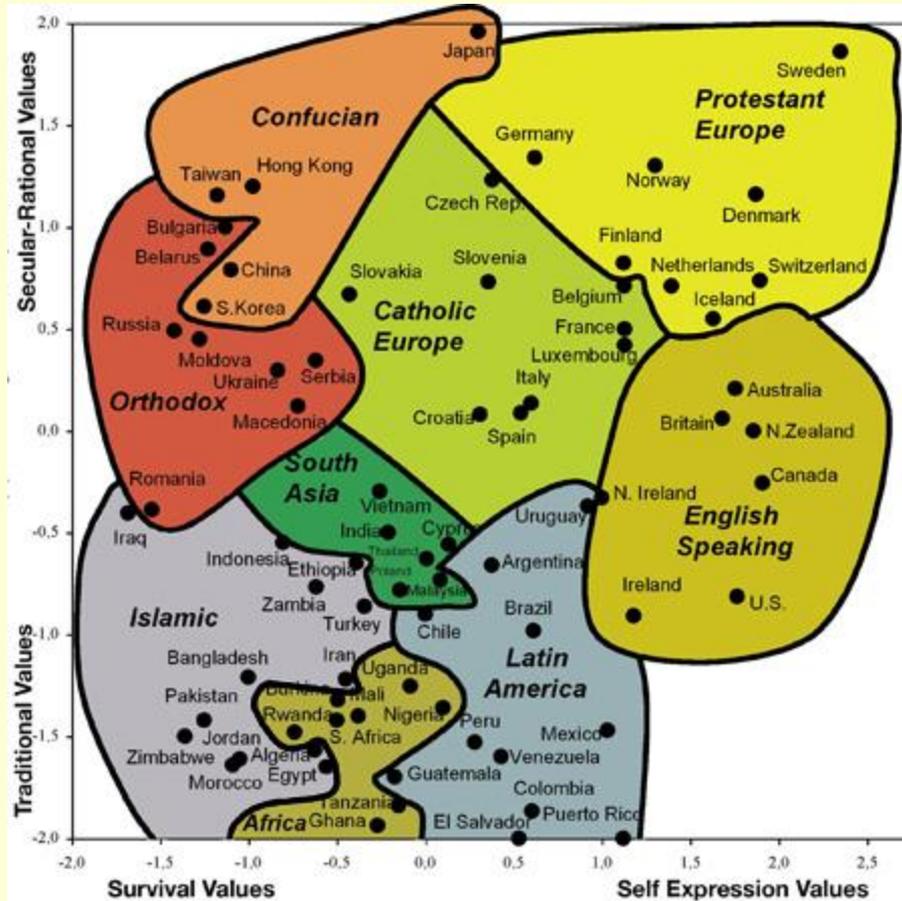
Operationalization of “acting” dimension of civic engagement, EVS (2008)

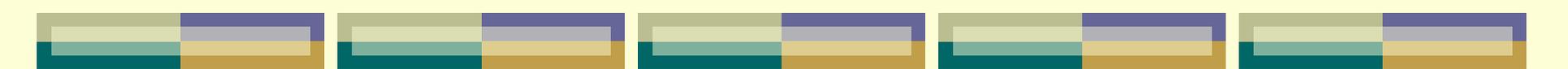
- When you get together with your friends, would you say you discuss political matters frequently, occasionally or never? (V7)
 - Which, if any, are you currently doing unpaid voluntary work for? (v28-v42)
 - Involvement and readiness to be involved in political actions: signing a petition (v187), joining boycotts (v188), attending lawful demonstrations (v189), joining unofficial strikes (v190), occupying buildings/factories (v191).
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Research Methodology

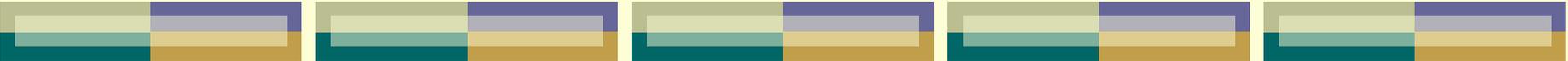
- **Data. Main source** - European Values Study database (2008). Supplementary sources: European Social Survey database, existing indexes and statistics.
 - **Sample.** First step - 8 countries chosen from 4 different clusters on Inglehart-Welzel cultural map: Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, Spain, Ireland, Great Britain, Norway and Sweden. Further step – inclusion of all countries covered by EVS (4th wave – 47 countries/regions).
 - **Units of analysis:** country (1 step), individuals
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Hypotheses

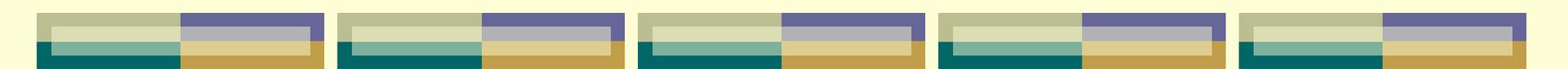
- 1) Civic engagement in countries with typically “self-expression” values is more “inclusive” (meaning popularity and variety of forms) comparing with civic engagement in countries with typically “survival” values.
 - Sub-hypotheses (for 1 step):
 - Civic engagement is similar in Belarus, Ukraine, being unpopular and least various comparing to other countries.
 - Civic engagement is the most pronounced in Norway and Sweden comparing to other countries.
 - Civic engagement in Poland and Spain has more similar features with that in Belarus and Ukraine; at the same time civic engagement in Ireland, Britain tends more to Norway, Sweden.
 - 2) Actors of civic engagement across the countries of Europe are the holders of post-materialistic values and have similar demographic profiles.
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Methods

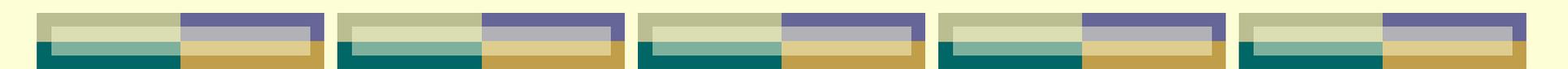
- ANOVA, Correlation analysis
- Regression analysis





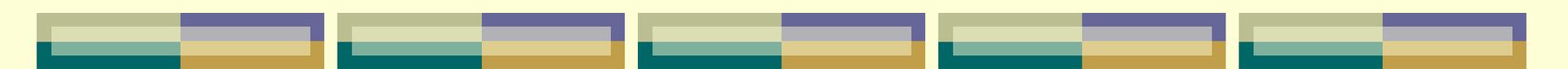
Control variables

- Demography variables: V89 (employment), V302 (sex), age_r2 (age), V336_r (educational level), V353_r (income household), V370 (size of town)
 - Do you belong to a religious denomination? Which one? (v105, v106)
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Self-expression Values Factors (Inglehart, Welzel, 2005)

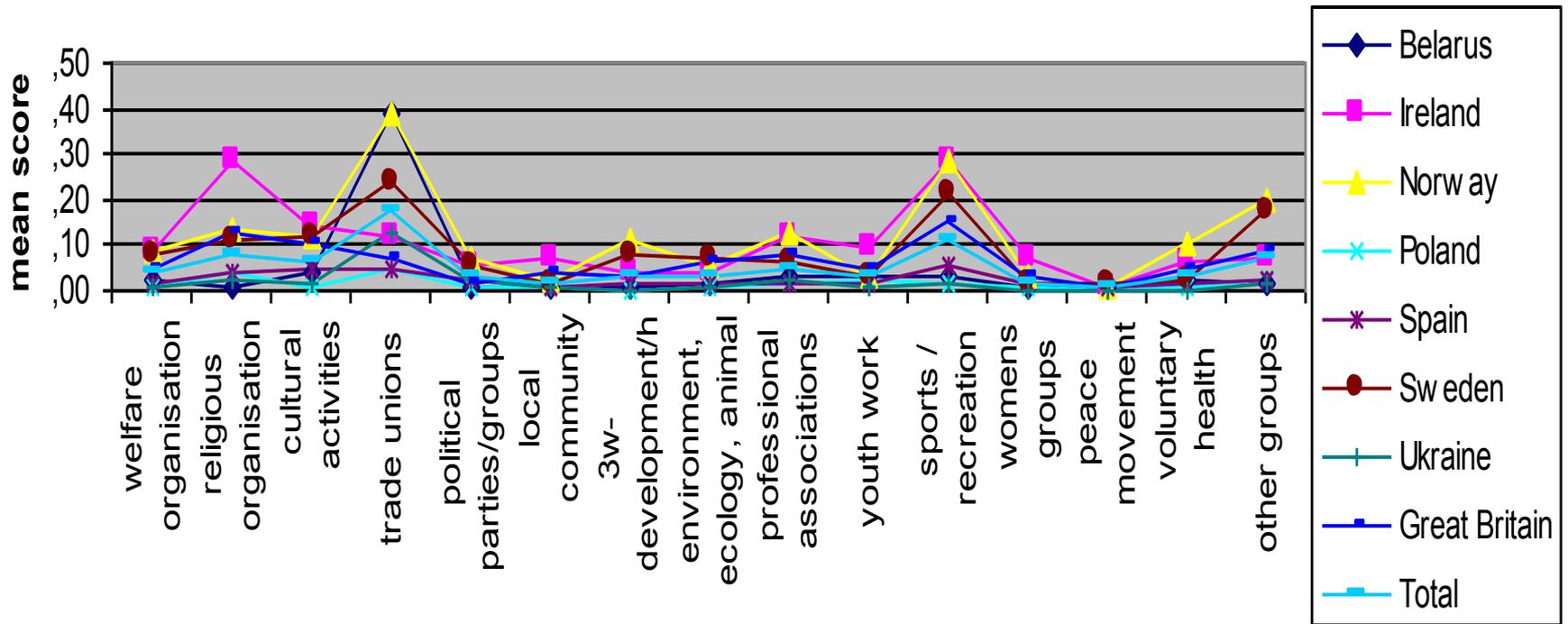
- Respondent gives priority to self-expression and quality of life over economic and physical security
 - Respondent describes self as very happy
 - Homosexuality is sometimes justifiable
 - Respondent has signed or would sign a petition
 - Respondent does not think one has to be very careful about trusting people
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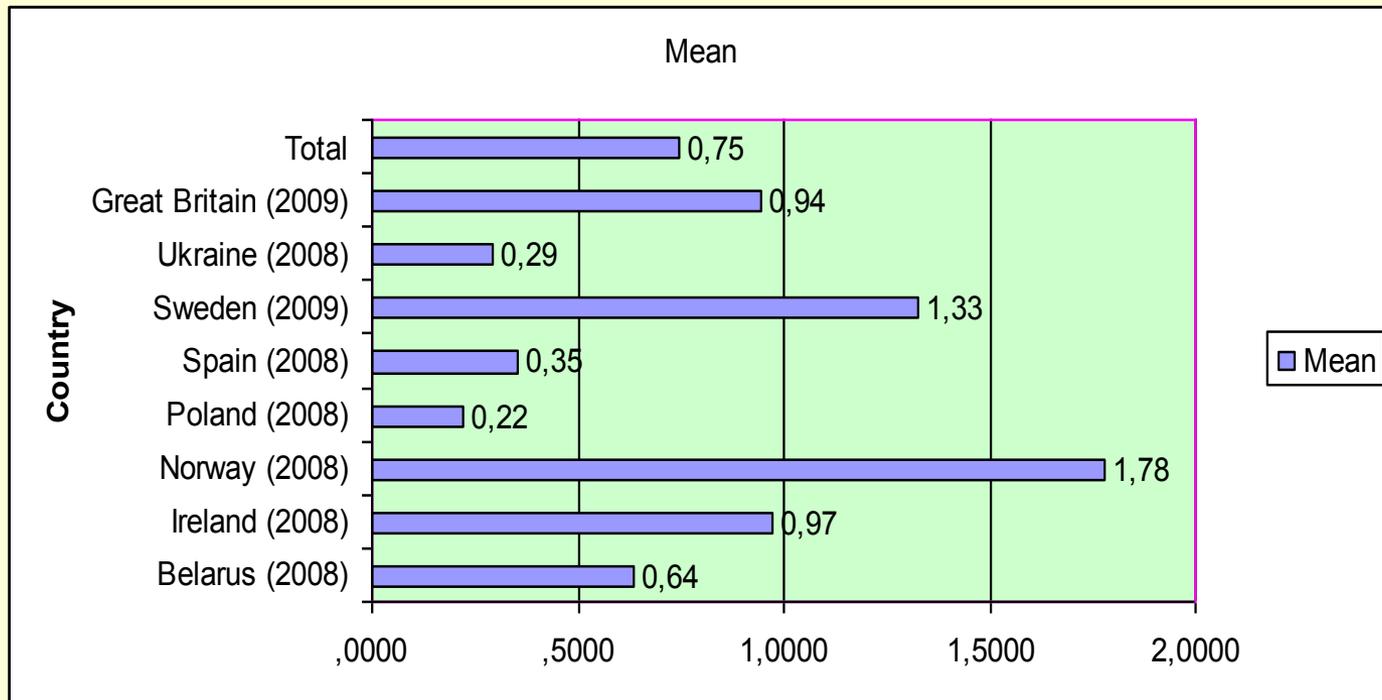
Steps of Project Realization

- Conceptualization stage
 - EVS data analysis: constructing index of civic engagement; analysis of demographic profiles of civically engaged people
 - Cross-country comparative analysis of civic engagement, hypothesis testing. Explanation of obtained results.
 - Widening the scope (47 countries) and inclusion of time variable into the research
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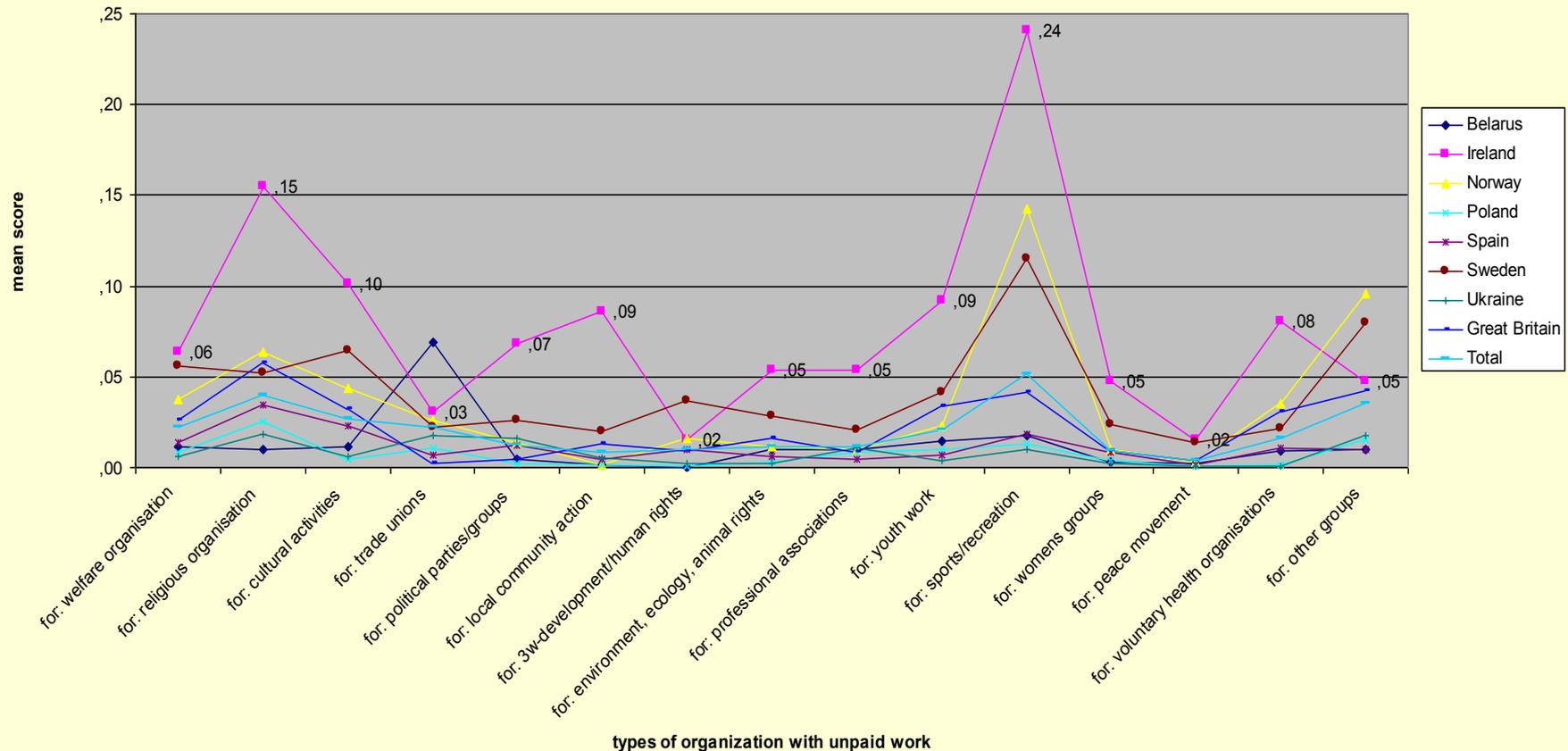
Distribution of mean in types of "belonging" component, EVS (2008)



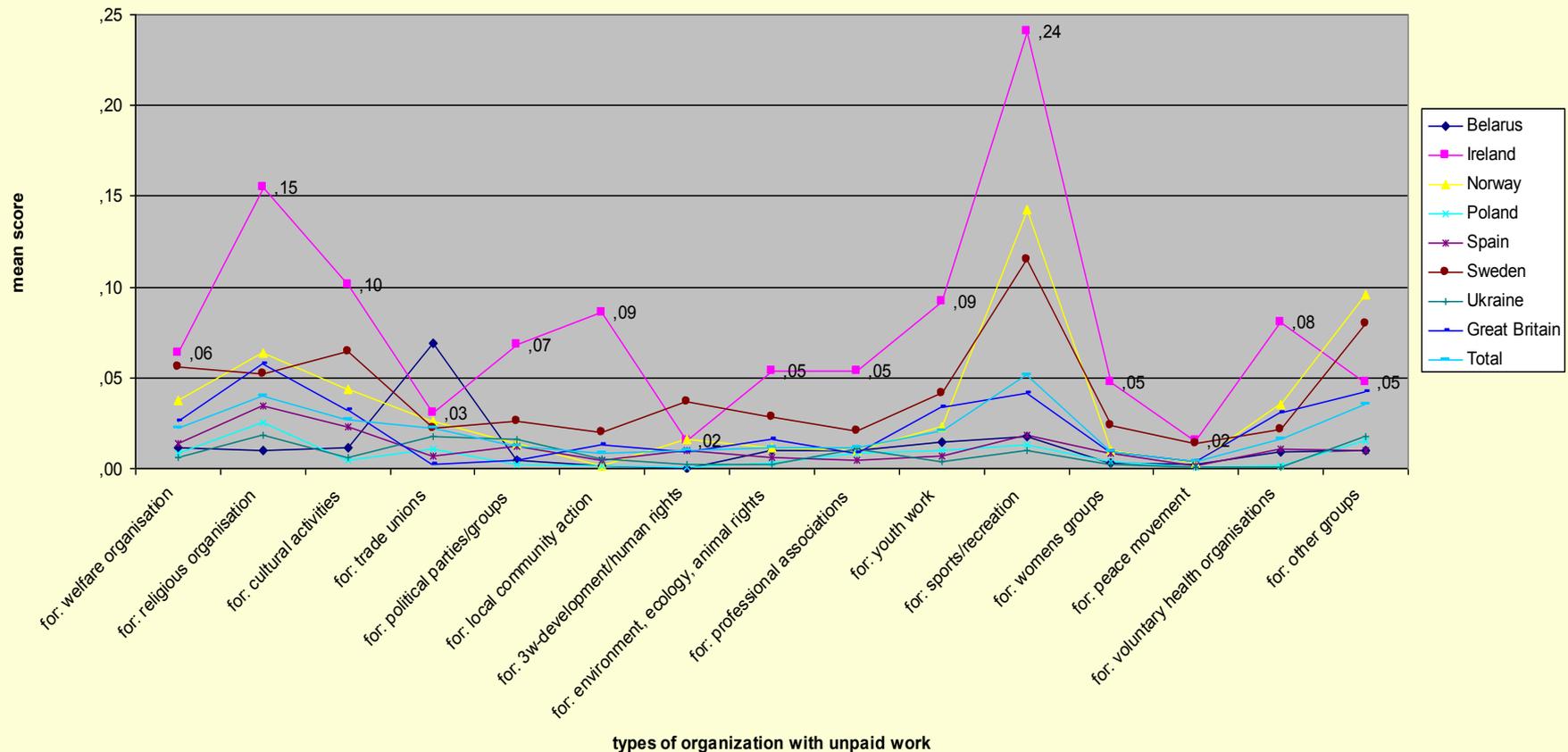
Distribution of mean in “belonging” component of civic engagement, EVS (2008)



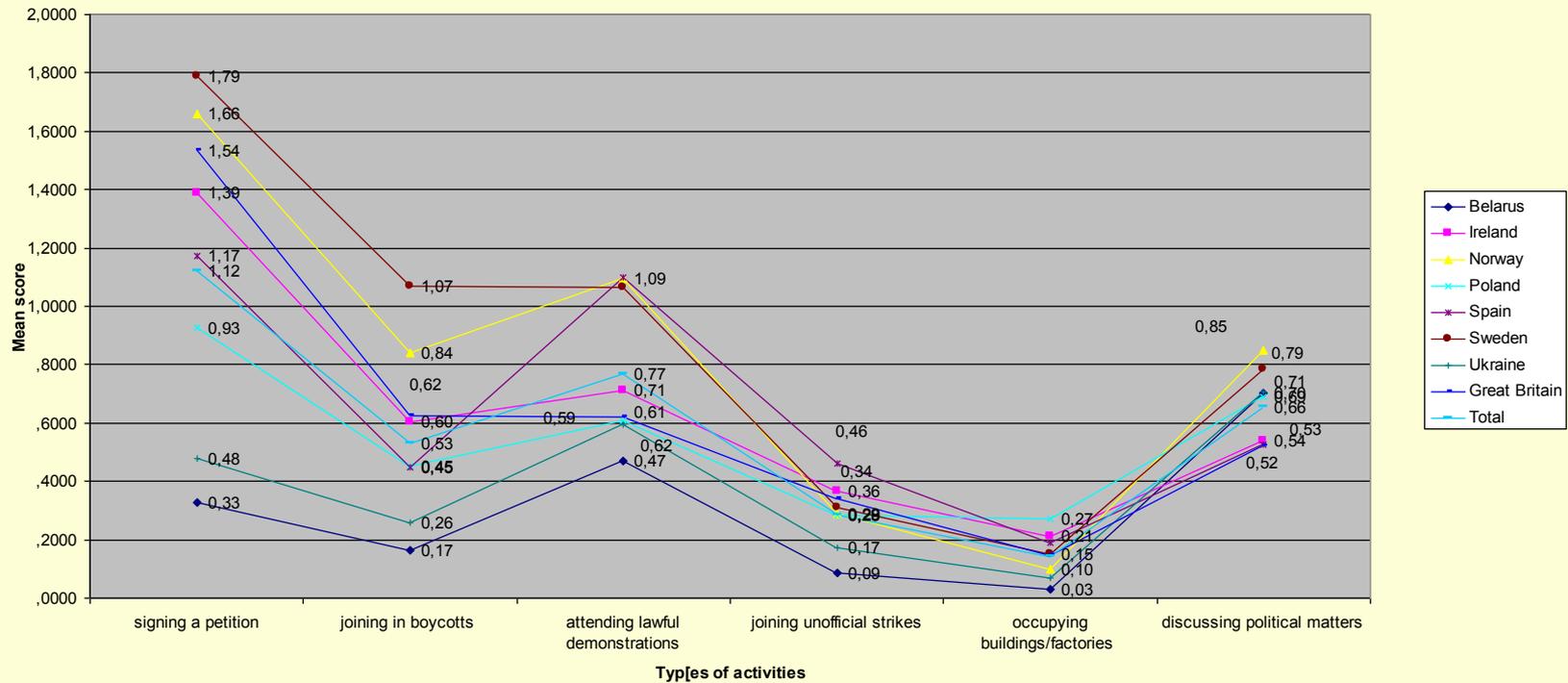
Distribution of mean in types of “acting” component-1, EVS (2008)



Distribution of mean in types of “acting” component-1, EVS (2008)



Distribution of mean in types of “acting” component-2, EVS (2008)





● Thank you for your attention!

