

Patterns of Gender Egalitarianism in 47 European Countries (evidence from the EVS data)

New project

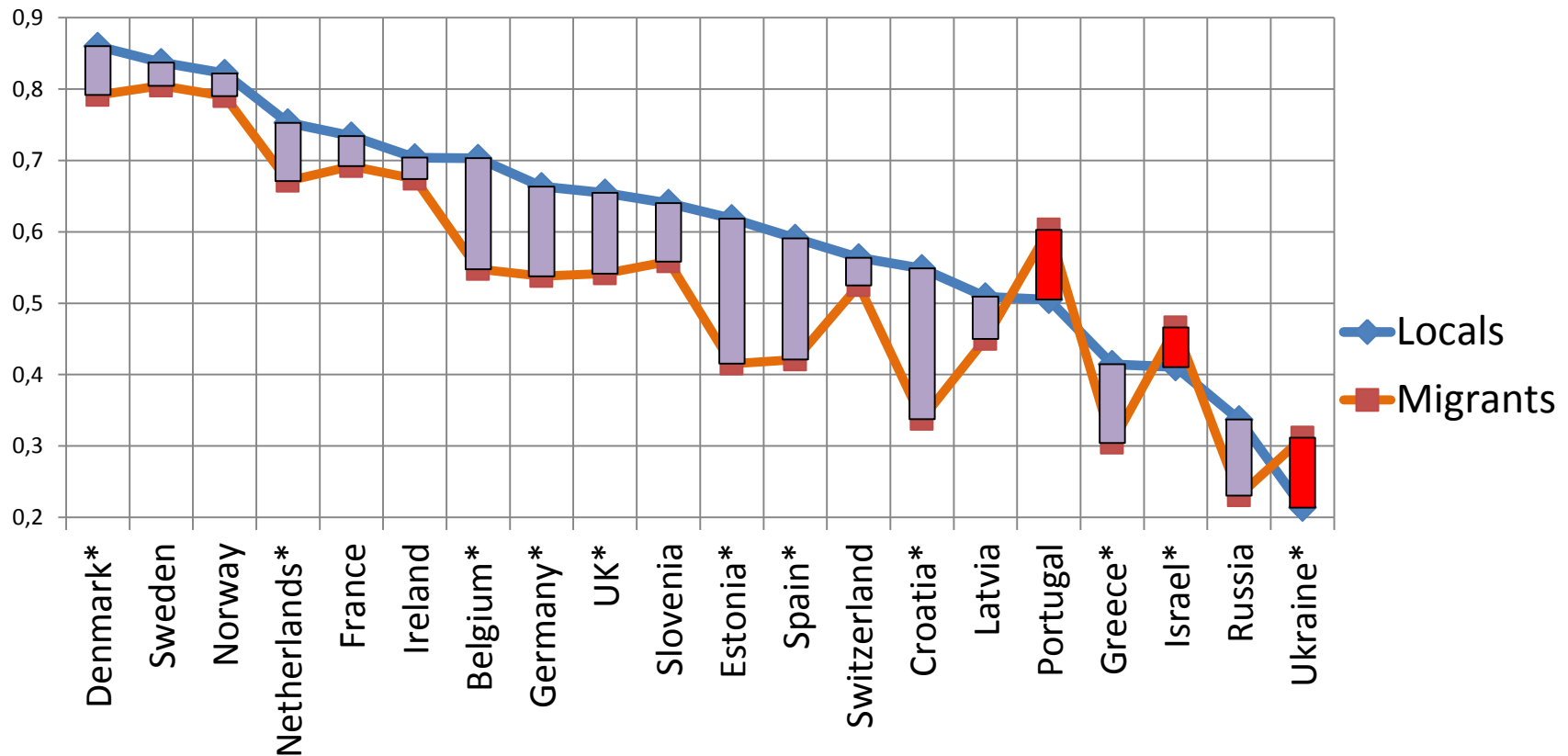
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The main findings from the previous research

- **Age** (young) and **education** (higher) have the strongest positive effects for gender egalitarianism
- Migrants are a little more conservative gender-wise than local population.
- **Degree of religiosity** is a stronger predictor of gender inequality support than denomination.
- Effect of Islam is a bit stronger than effect of migration per se. Islam has medium-size robust anti-egalitarian effect in gender issues.
- European **countries differ** significantly in their support of gender equality among both local and migrant population.

Gender egalitarianism in Europe (locals and migrants). ESS, 4th wave



Research Question

What are the structural and institutional reasons for the European countries to differ that much in their gender egalitarianism patterns?

Theoretical explanations

- Economic approach.

Certain contradictions, such as oil – rich Arab countries (+ “oil curse” discourse)

- Institutional and legal barriers (quotas, elections)
- Culture in a broad sense (values, practices, level of modernization) (R.Inglehart and P.Norris, “The Rising Tide”, 2003)
- Religious legacy, patriarchal values (C.Welzel & A.Alexander)
- Consciousness (feminist approach, e.g. P.Gurin)

- Gender equality and egalitarian attitudes correlate with transition from survival to self-expression values
- A theoretical question is, whether some major turmoil or calamity would have a long-term effect on these values in transition societies (can be checked on Yugoslavia & former Soviet Union countries). How long does it take to recover?

Hypotheses - individual level

- Gender (female)
- Age (young)
- Education (higher)
- Degree of religiosity (non-religious)
- Migrant background (denomination)

Hypotheses - country level

- Cultural zone (Scandinavian, Catholic, Protestant, Post-Soviet, Islamic)
- GDP per capita (affluence)
- Gini index
- HDI
- Level of democracy (Polity IV)
- Percentage of migrants

These would explain a large proportion of variance, but not the outliers

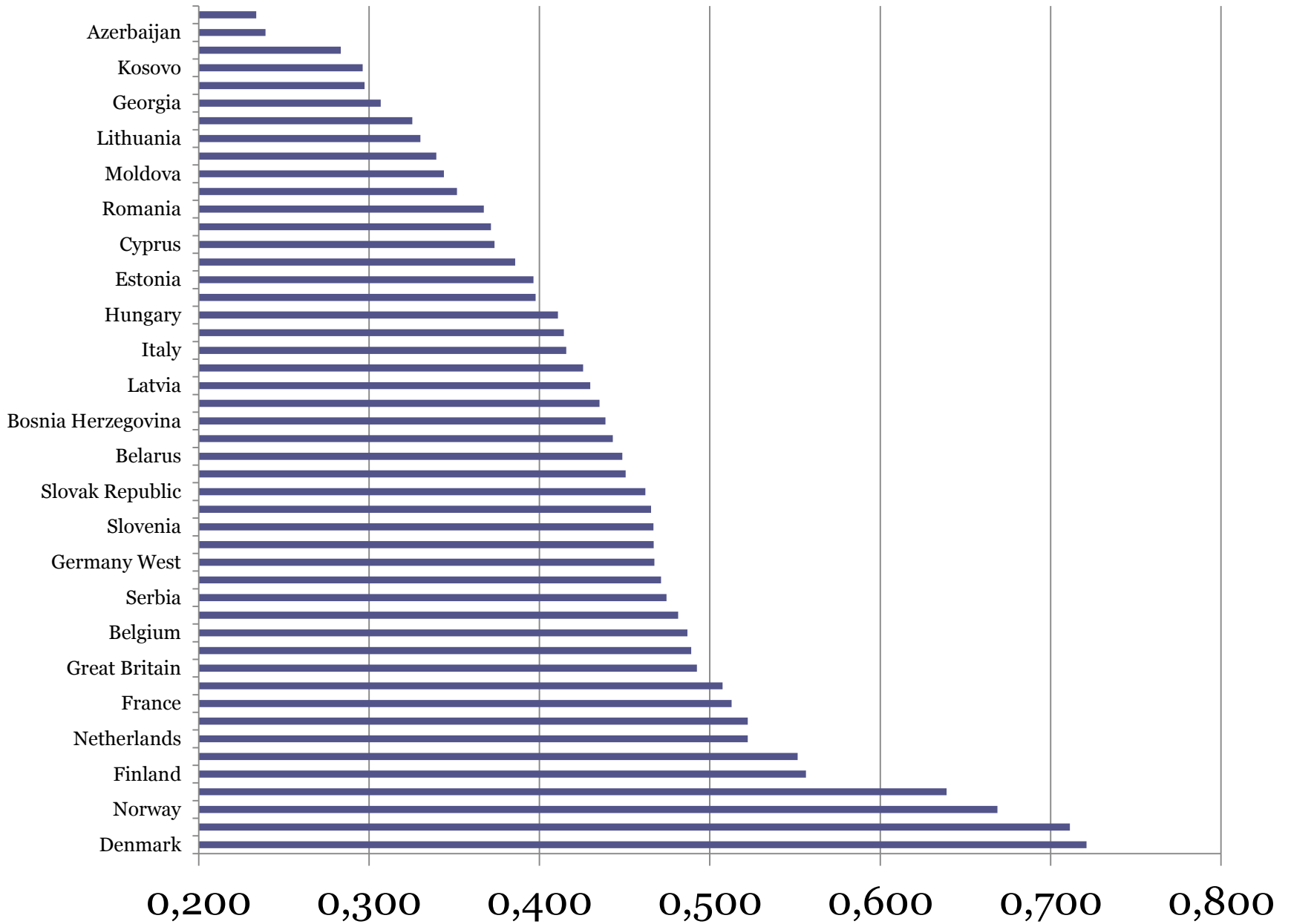
Data and Methods

- Only Europe, EVS 2008
- 47 countries with split-ups
- Multilevel research design

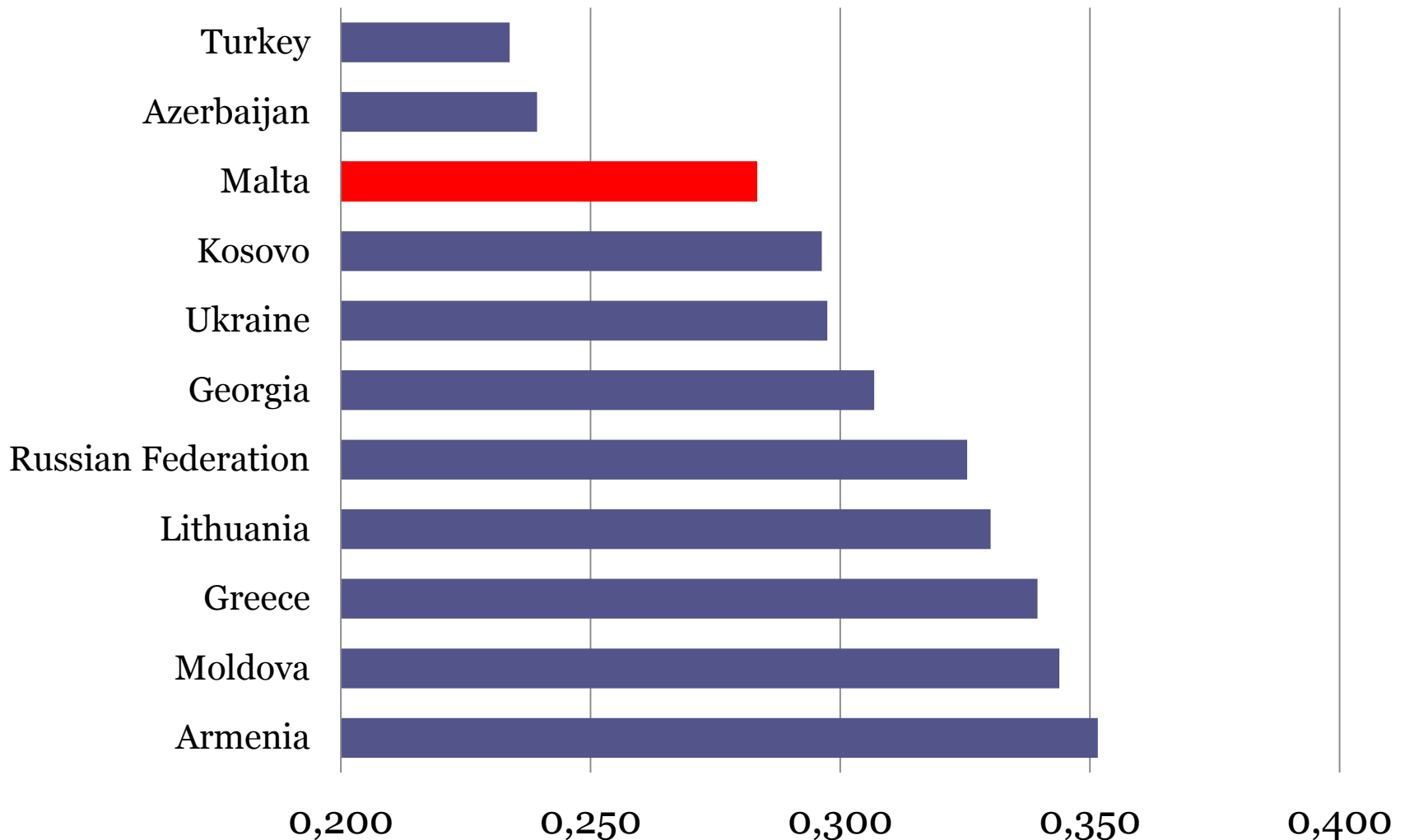
Gender egalitarianism (DV)

- Pre-school child suffers with working mother
- Women really want home and children
- Being a housewife is as fulfilling as having a paid job

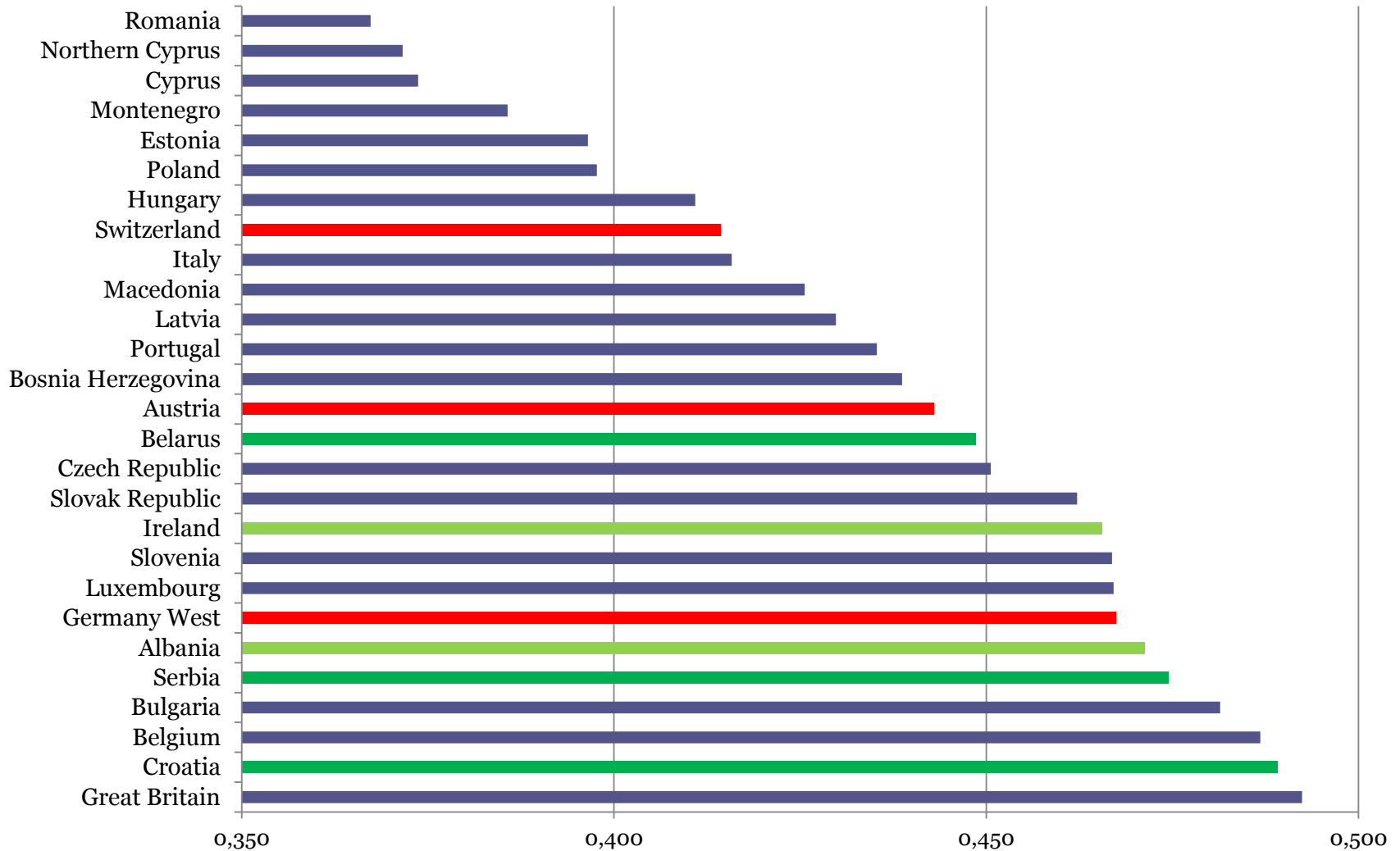
(All inverse)



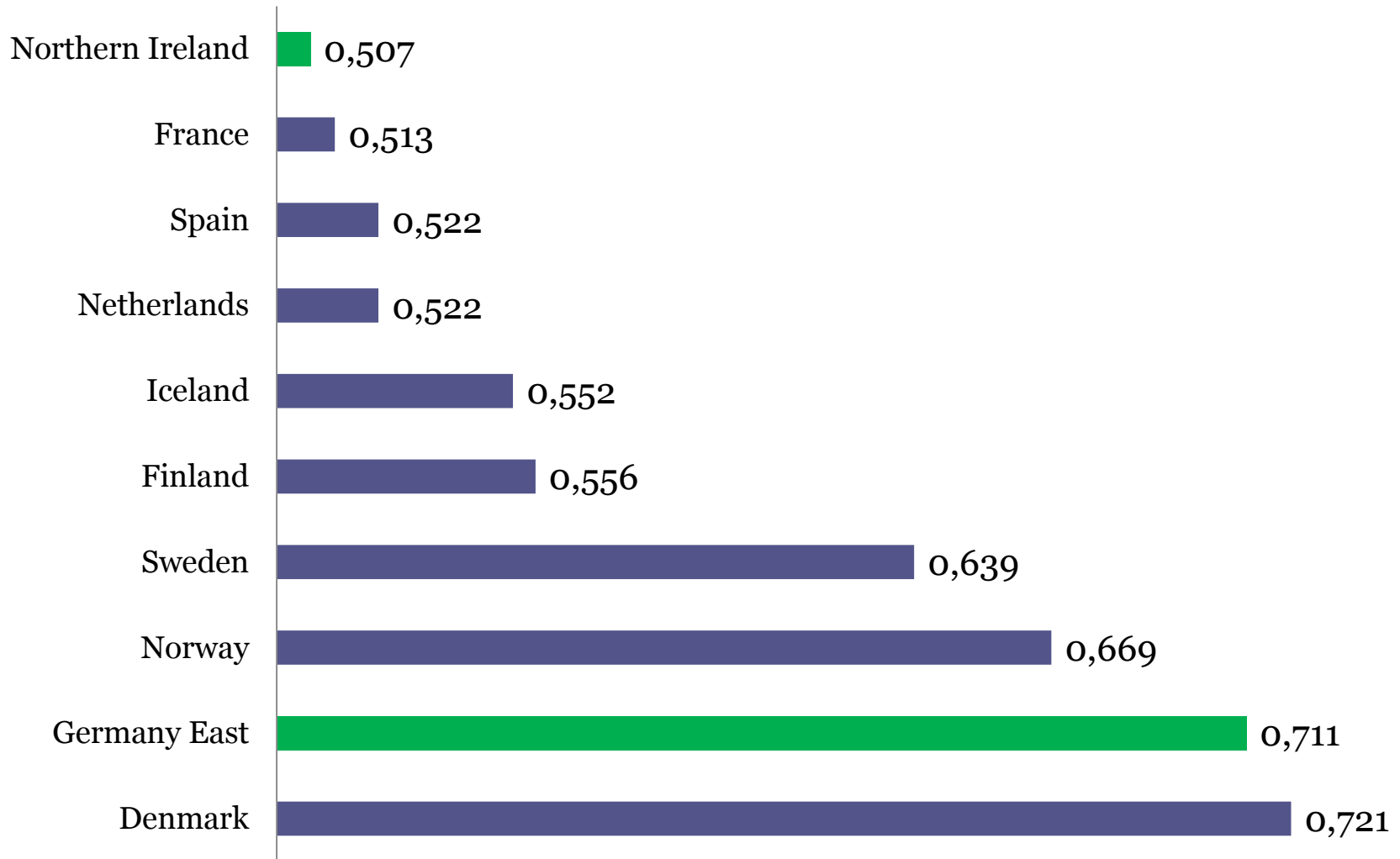
The most conservative states in Europe (mean from 0.2 to 0.35)



The middle part (mean from 0.35 to 0.5)




The most gender egalitarian societies



- Some of the country trends are counter-intuitive, and these deviations from theoretical expectations haven't been discussed in the literature yet.

The questions

- Switzerland, Austria and West Germany are too low
- Former Yugoslavia (except for Kosovo) is more liberal than expected
- No mechanism revealed for post-Soviet countries to be that low on this index



Thanks a lot for your attention,
comments and suggestions