

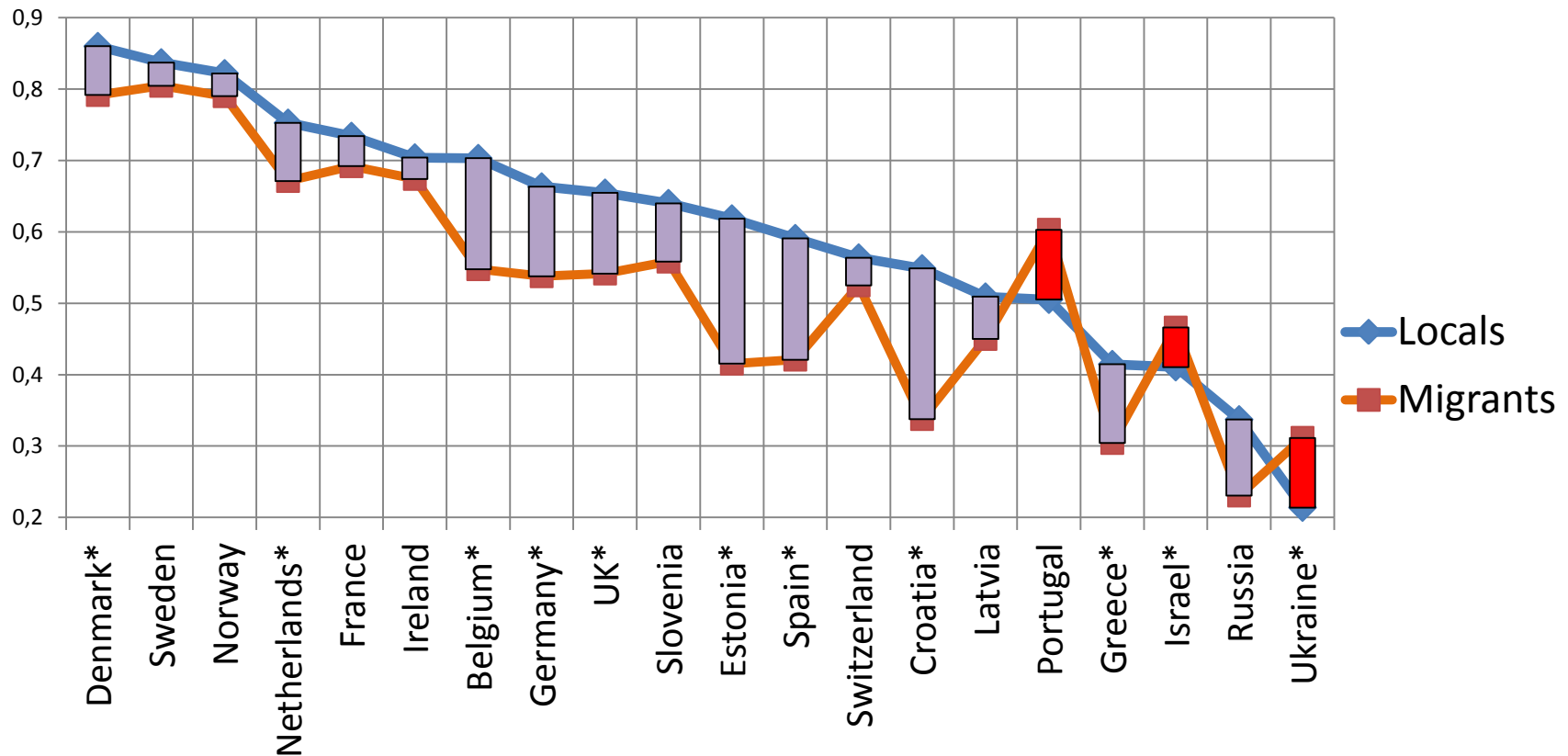
# Patterns of Gender Inequality in 47 European Countries (evidence from the EVS data)

## Progress Report I

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# Gender egalitarianism in Europe (locals and migrants). ESS, 4<sup>th</sup> wave



# 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 the 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.

# Research Question

What are the structural and cultural 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) e.g. V.Moghadam (not Islam by itself, but social structure of Muslim societies)
- 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)

# Modernization Theory

- 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?

# Religious denomination

- Women are represented in political domain since 1920s in Protestant societies, and since 1950s in Catholic
- Islam is proven to be a medium-size robust negative predictor for gender egalitarianism, controlling for other things
- Orthodox Christianity has a strong effect on gender inequality

# Hypotheses - individual level

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



# Hypotheses - country level

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

# Data and Methods

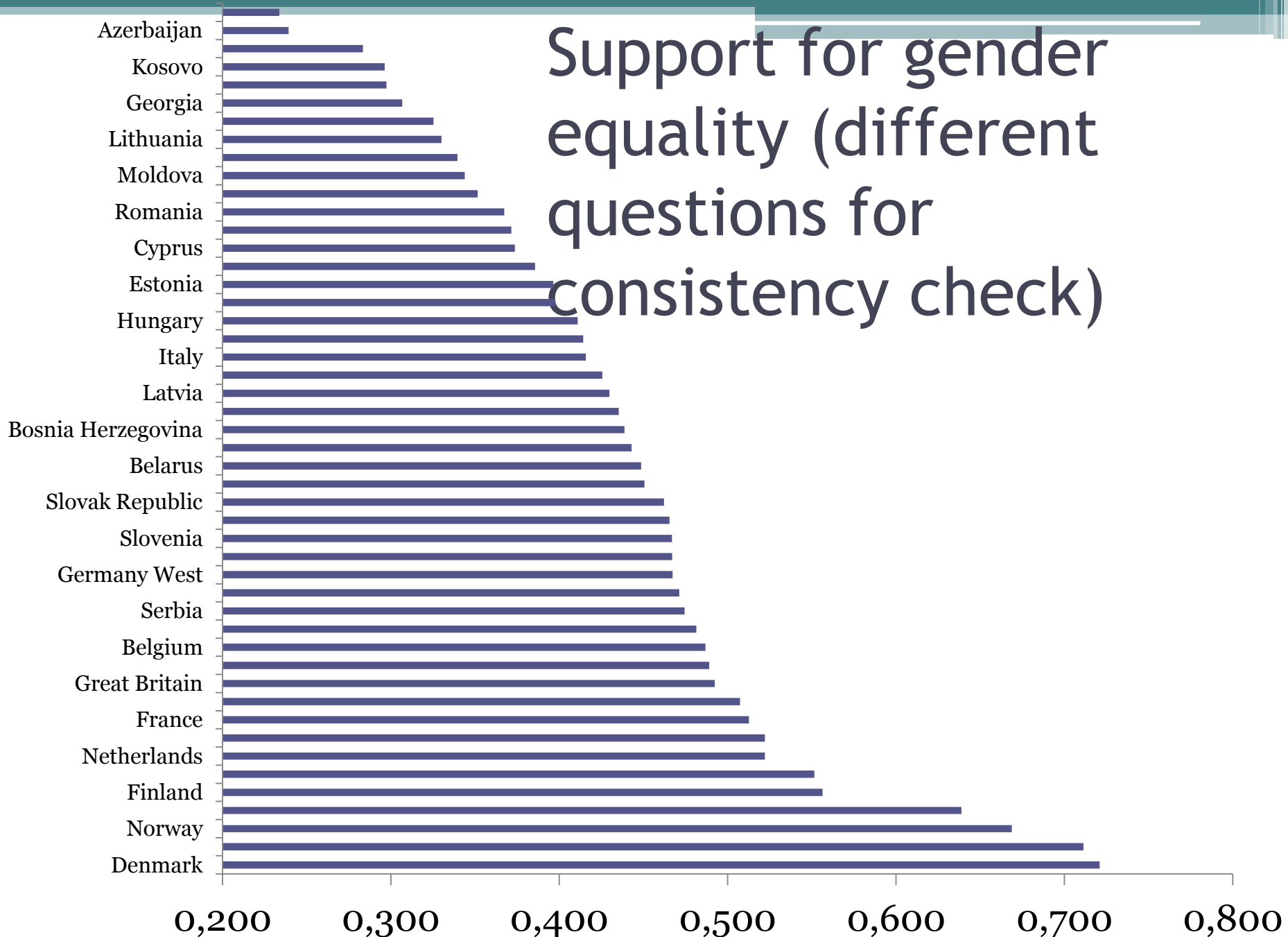
- Only Europe, EVS 2008
- 47 countries with split-ups
- Multilevel research design

# Patriarchal values (DV)

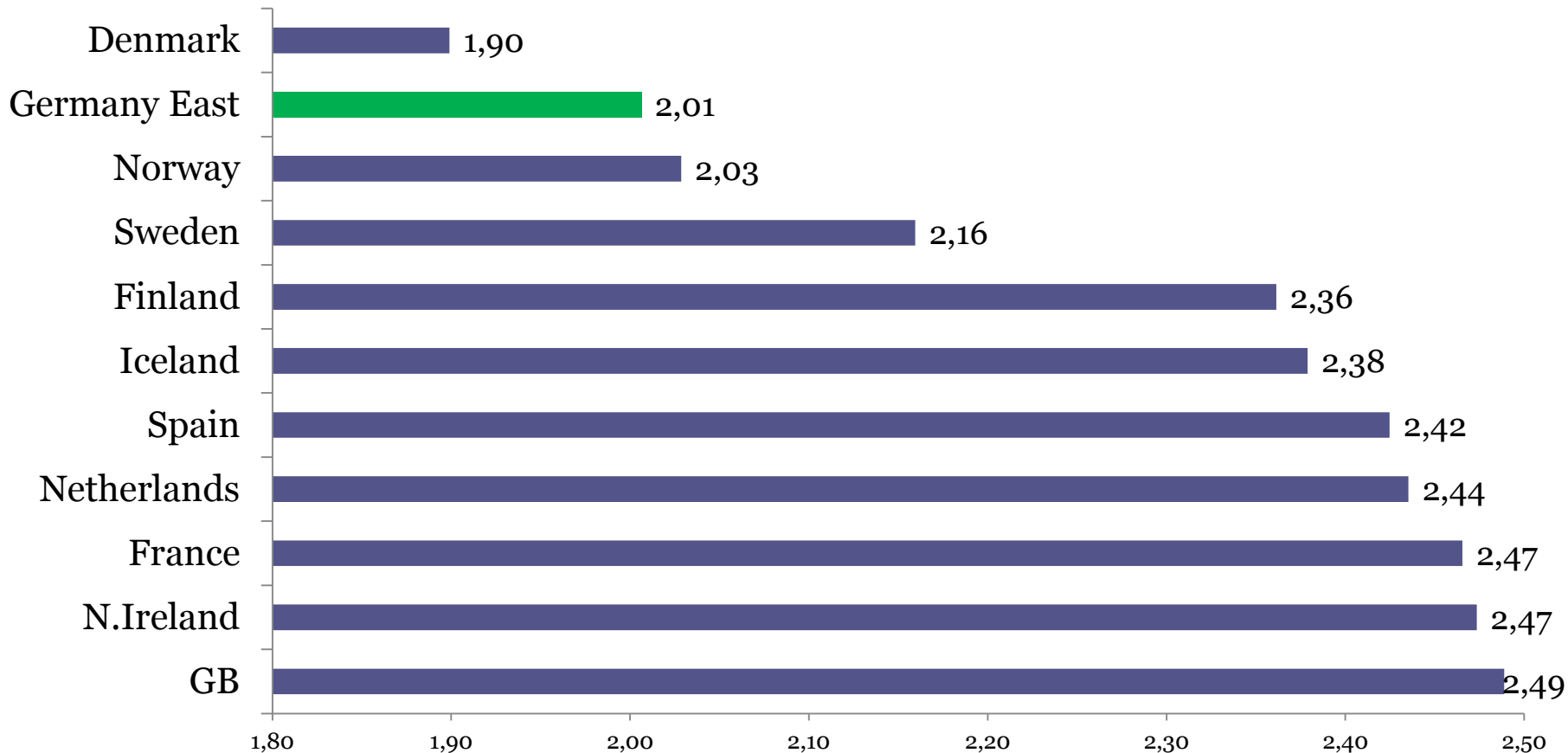
- Pre-school child suffers with working mother
- Women really want home and children
- Being a housewife is as fulfilling as having a paid job

(All Likert scales)

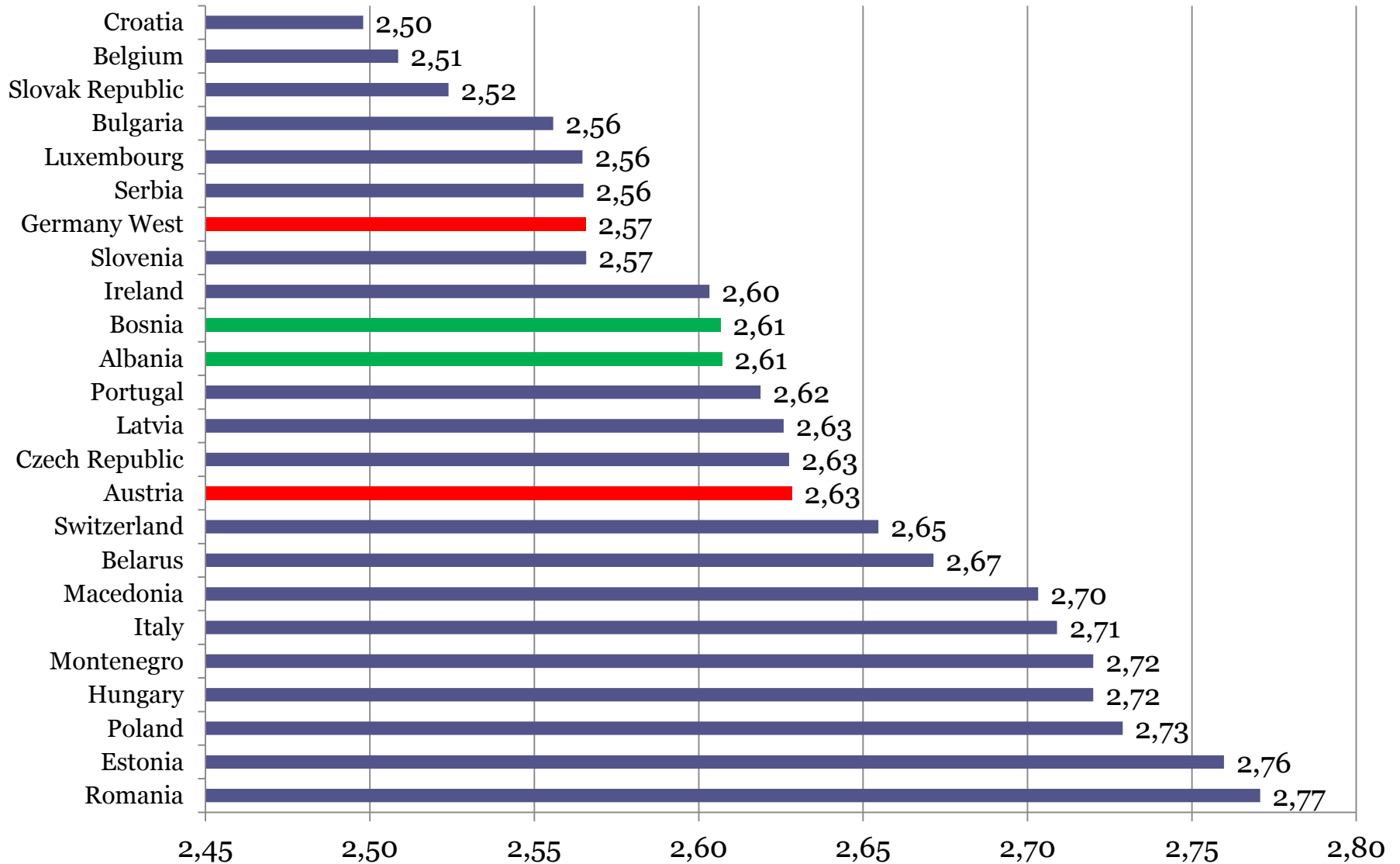
# Support for gender equality (different questions for consistency check)



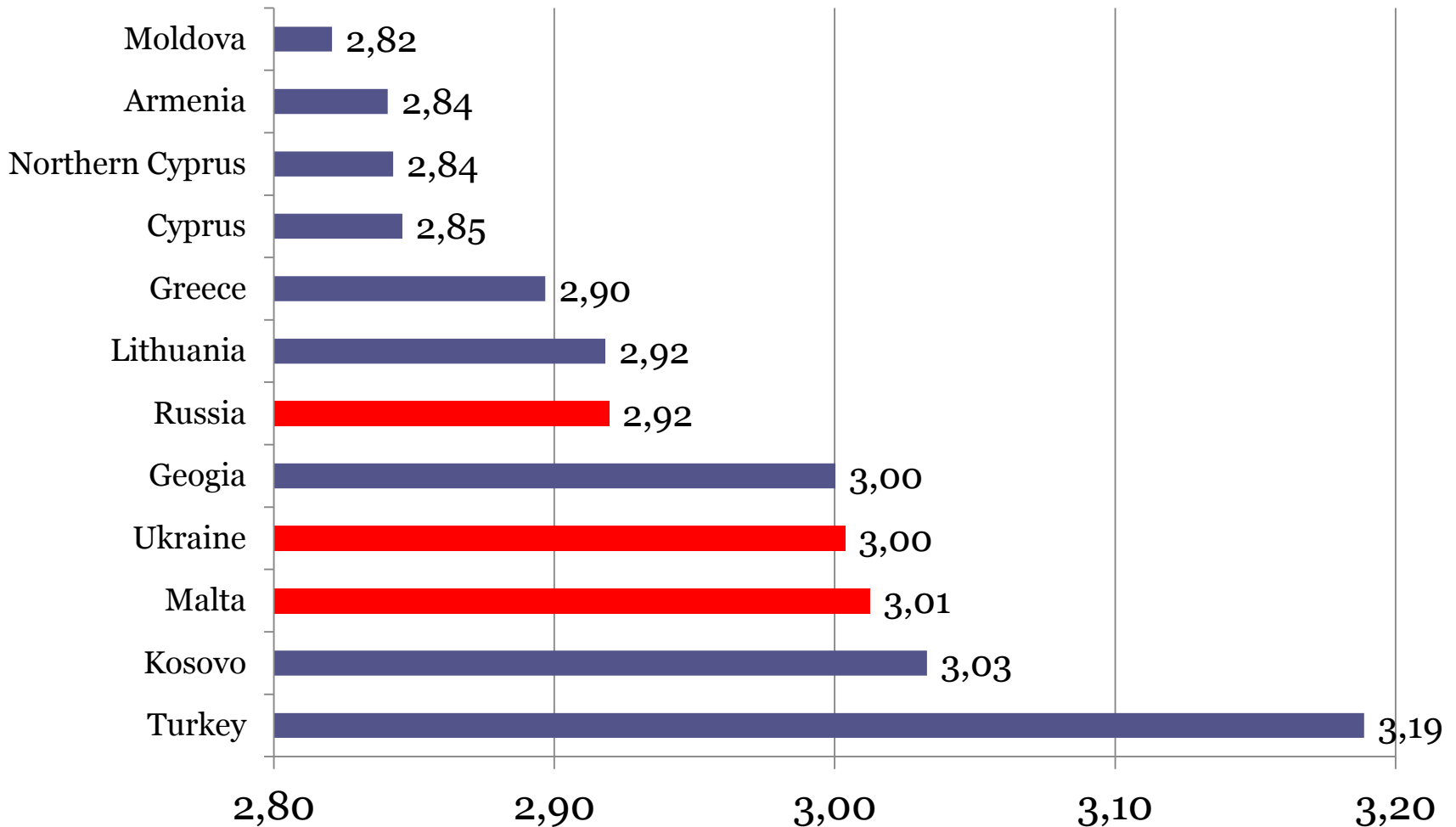
# Countries with the least support for patriarchal values



# Intermediate position



# The most patriarchal societies of Europe



- 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

# Intraclass correlation

- About 17% of variance is explained on the second level

# Non-significant first level predictors

- Islam (or religious denomination)
- Income
- Occupation
- Marital status
- Number of children

# Non-significant second level predictors

- HDI
- GDP per capita
- Gini index
- Gender inequality index
- Polity IV
- Labor participation
- Length of paid maternity leave
- Percentage of women at executive positions
- Proportion of unemployed women to men
- Post-Communist
- Civil liberties index (by Freedom House)

# Cultural zones

- Cultural Zones are significant only before entering variables on percentage of women in parliament and on equality of wages. Then they have the following order:
- Islamic – Orthodox – Catholic - Protestant
- Post-Communism is never significant in any combinations
- Freedom House Index of Democracy has a small effect on the threshold of significance

# Model Results

Fixed effects:

|             | Estimate   | Std. Error | t value |
|-------------|------------|------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 3.0757946  | 0.1094268  | 28.108  |
| gender2     | -0.1249814 | 0.0113144  | -11.046 |
| age         | 0.0029929  | 0.0004061  | 7.370   |
| educ2       | -0.0934666 | 0.0097004  | -9.635  |
| educ3       | -0.2287650 | 0.0093319  | -24.514 |
| educ4       | -0.3611837 | 0.0123122  | -29.335 |
| godimp      | 0.0307785  | 0.0023069  | 13.342  |
| migrant2    | 0.0553010  | 0.0097669  | 5.662   |
| wagewtom    | -0.5071799 | 0.1541415  | -3.290  |
| par1wom     | -0.0101490 | 0.0020534  | -4.943  |

REML criterion at convergence: 95216.81

Random effects:

| Groups    | Name        | Variance  | Std.Dev.  | Corr  |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| country   | (Intercept) | 6.757e-22 | 2.600e-11 |       |
|           | gender2     | 4.720e-03 | 6.870e-02 | -0.89 |
| country.1 | (Intercept) | 3.323e-02 | 1.823e-01 |       |
|           | age         | 6.505e-06 | 2.550e-03 | -0.77 |
| country.2 | (Intercept) | 2.020e-02 | 1.421e-01 |       |
|           | godimp      | 2.036e-04 | 1.427e-02 | -0.77 |
| Residual  |             | 3.309e-01 | 5.753e-01 |       |

Number of obs: 54670, groups: country, 47

# Randomizing a slope for age

Age coefficients are different from the major trend in

- Eastern Germany
- Turkey
- Romania
- Latvia
- Bulgaria.


In those countries younger people are more conservative gender – wise than the older generations.



# Randomizing a slope for gender

The largest effect of gender on patriarchal attitudes is found in

- Belgium
- Finland
- France
- Luxembourg
- the Netherlands
- Norway
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Germany West
- Germany East



Thanks a lot for your attention,  
comments and suggestions