

# FAMILY TIES AND FORMATION OF GENERALIZED TRUST

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# Motivation

According to Putnam et al. (1994) social capital «refers to features of social organization, such as trust, norms and networks, that can improve the efficiency of society by facilitating coordinated actions».

Putnam (Putnam, 2001, p. 22) draws a line between «bonding» and «bridging» social capital.

- «*bonding*» or exclusive social capital is «inward looking and tend to reinforce exclusive identities and homogeneous groups»
- «*bridging*» or inclusive social capital «outward looking and encompass people across diverse social cleavages»

# Motivation

## Possible relations between «bonding» and «bridging» social capital

Positive

Positive relations with  
ingroups may be  
extended to outgroups

Hardin, 2002

Negative

Strong ingroup ties  
prevent interactions  
with outgroups

Banfield, 1958  
Fukuyama, 1995,  
Yamagishi, 2011

Neutral

Ingroup preference  
does not produce  
outgroup hate

Allport, 1954  
Brewer, 1999

# Motivation

## «Bonding» ties and generalized trust

Authors	Sample	Bonding SC	Relations
Alesina and Giulino	Polled dataset of 6 WVS waves	Family values	<b>Negative</b>
Growiec and Growiec	WVS 4	Family values	Insignificant
Oorshot et al.	EVS 1999-2000	Socializing with family	<b>Negative</b>
Kääriäinen and Lehtonen	ISSP 2001, 21 European countries	Socializing with parents, siblings, children and close friends	Insignificant
Oorshot et al.	EVS 1999-2000	Socializing with friends	<b>Positive</b>
Newton and Zmerli	WVS 5	Index of particularized trust (family, neighbors, known people )	<b>Positive</b>
Delhey and Welzel	WVS 5	Index of ingroup trust (family, neighbors, known people )	<b>Positive</b>

## Possible explanations

- The mediation influence of social context (economic, institutional, cultural, ethnic etc.)
- Different sets of independent variables
- Different ways of measurement of «bonding» ties

# Motivation

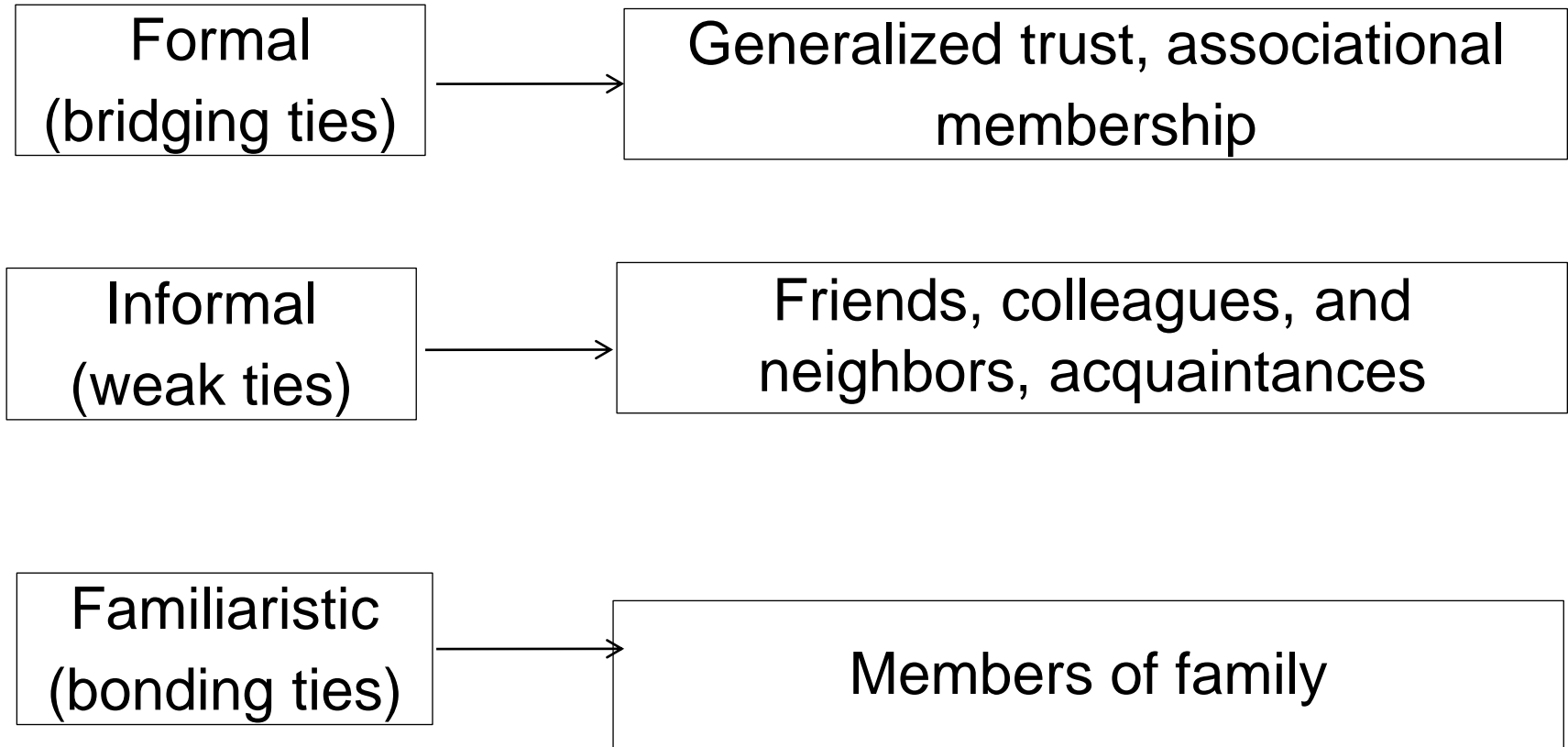
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## Possible solutions

- Differentiate family from the circle of known people beyond family and treat these concepts separately
- Take into account the moderation effect of social context

# Types of social capital (Pichler and Wallace, 2007)





# Is influence of familiaristic social capital negative?

- Family is a primary ingroup. According to Allport (1954) and Brewer (1999) ingroup love does not necessarily produce outgroup hate.
- Hate may emerge under the conditions of:
  - Competition over scant resources;
  - Social cleavages
  - Collectivist culture (Brewer, 1999)

# Hypothesis

- H1: In societies with low level of economic development the influence of family ties on generalized trust should be negative while in rich countries family ties has no impact on generalized trust.
- H2: In highly fragmented societies family ties has negative impact on generalized trust while in more homogeneous countries family does not affect generalized trust.
- H3: In collectivistic countries family ties decrease the level of generalized trust while in individualistic societies their impact is insignificant.

# Indicators of social capital in WVS 5 & 6

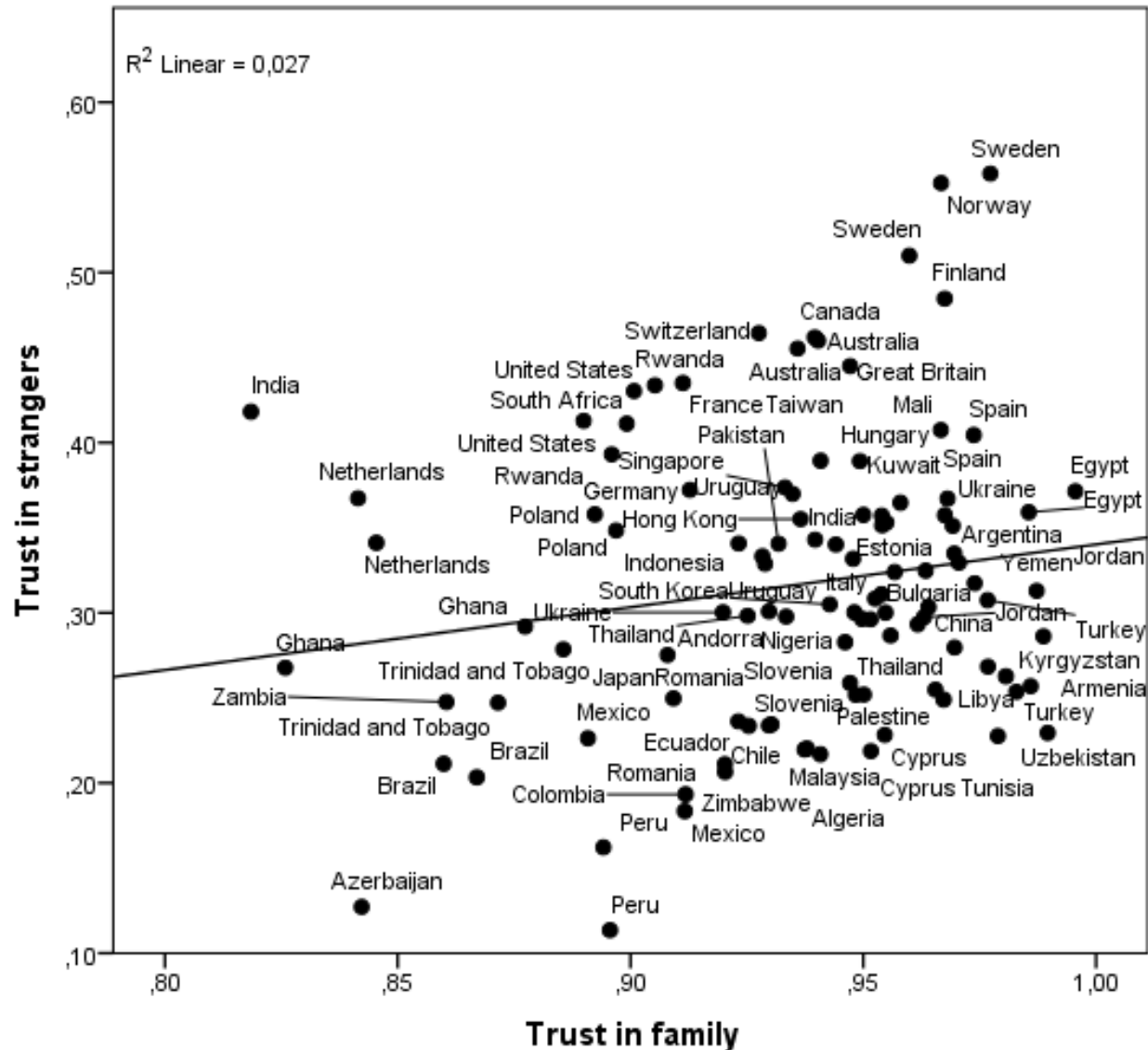
	Structural	Relational	Cognitive*
Definition	Connections between actors	Personal relations	Shared representations and meanings
Familiaristic SC	Living with parents	Trust in family, Importance of family	-
Informal SC	-	Importance of friends, Trust in people known personally	-

\*Nahapiet & Ghoshtal, 1998

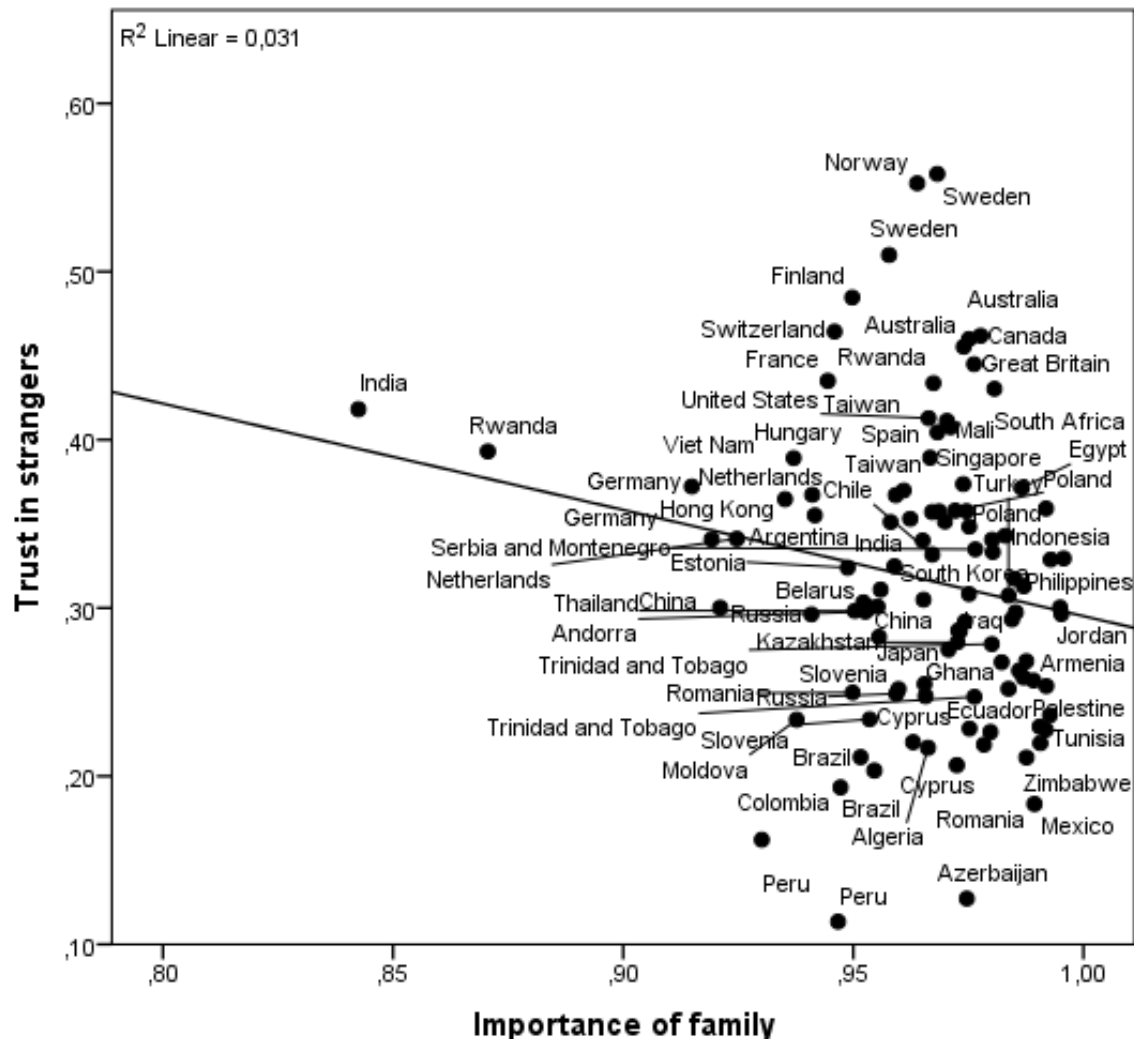
# Methods and steps of analysis

- Data. The 5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> wave of the World Values Survey. Bahrein, Lebanon and Qatar are excluded
- Main dependent variable: trust in people one meets for the first time
- Control variables: age, gender, education, subjective well-being, financial satisfaction, membership in civic associations, emancipative values, confidence in different institutions, religiosity
- Variables at the country-level: GDP PPP, Gini, ethnic fractionalization index (Alesina et al., 2003), Schwartz values
- Method: multilevel regression modeling with interaction effects

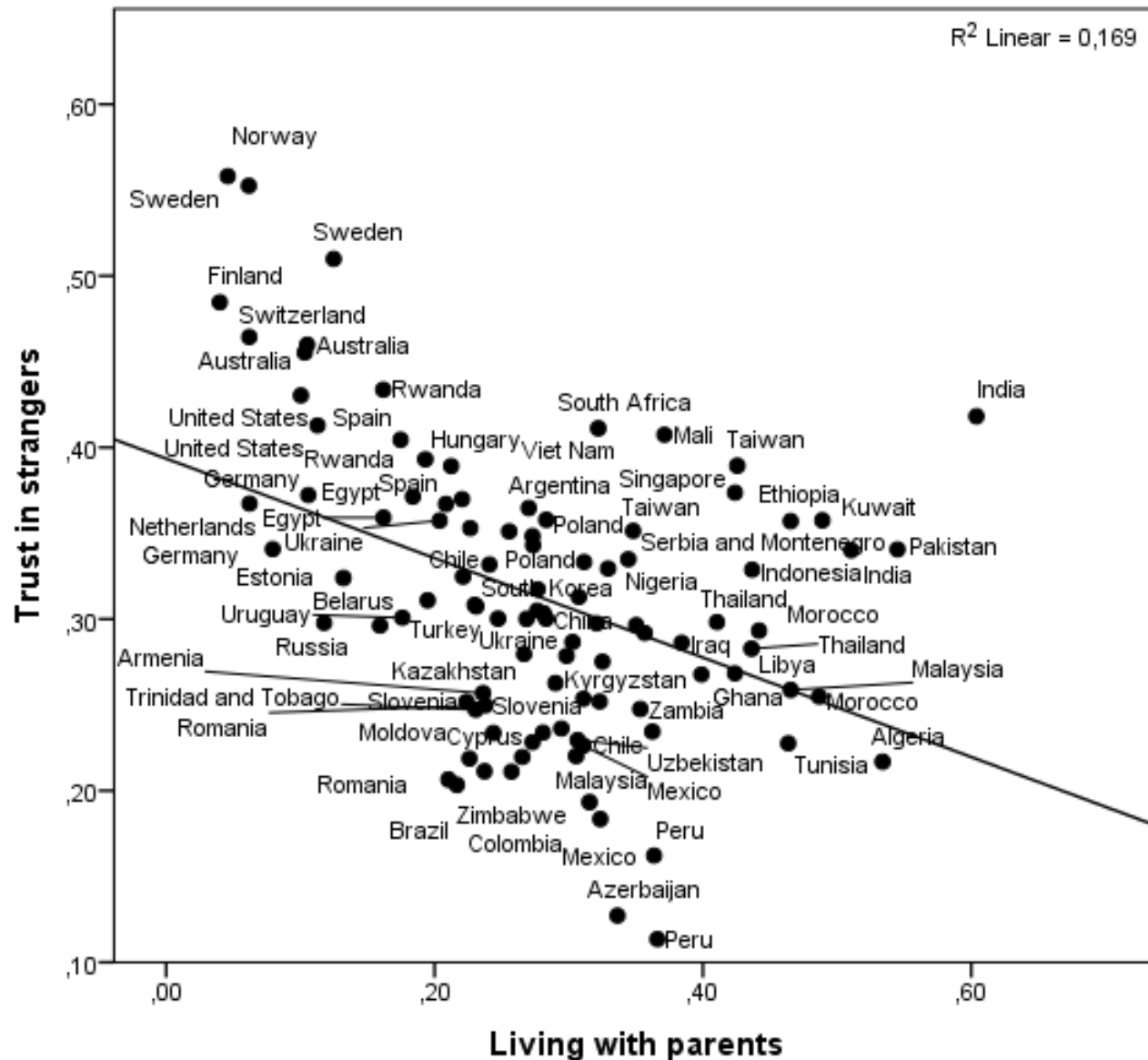
# Trust in strangers and trust in family



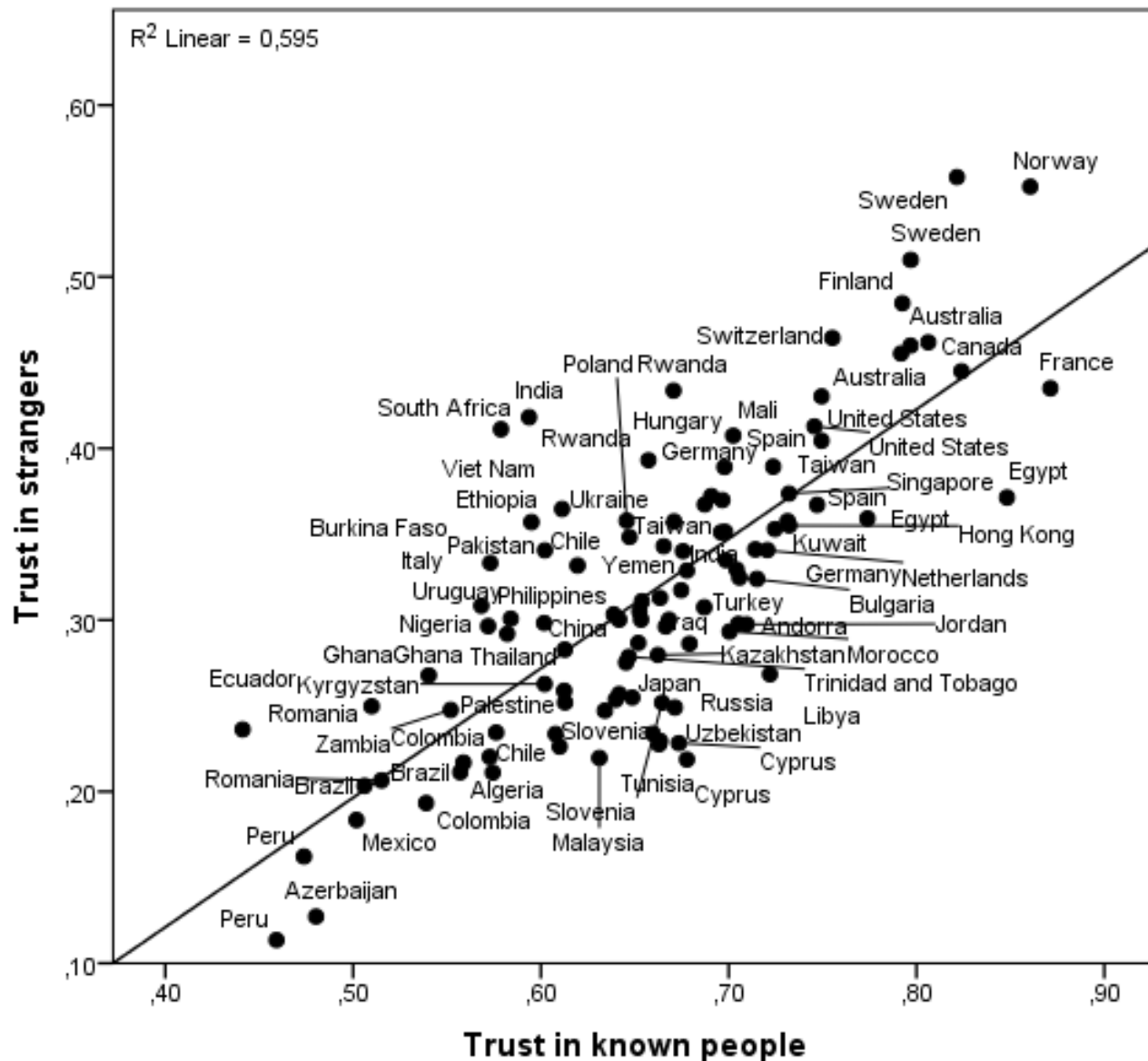
# Trust in strangers and importance of family



# Trust in strangers and living with parents

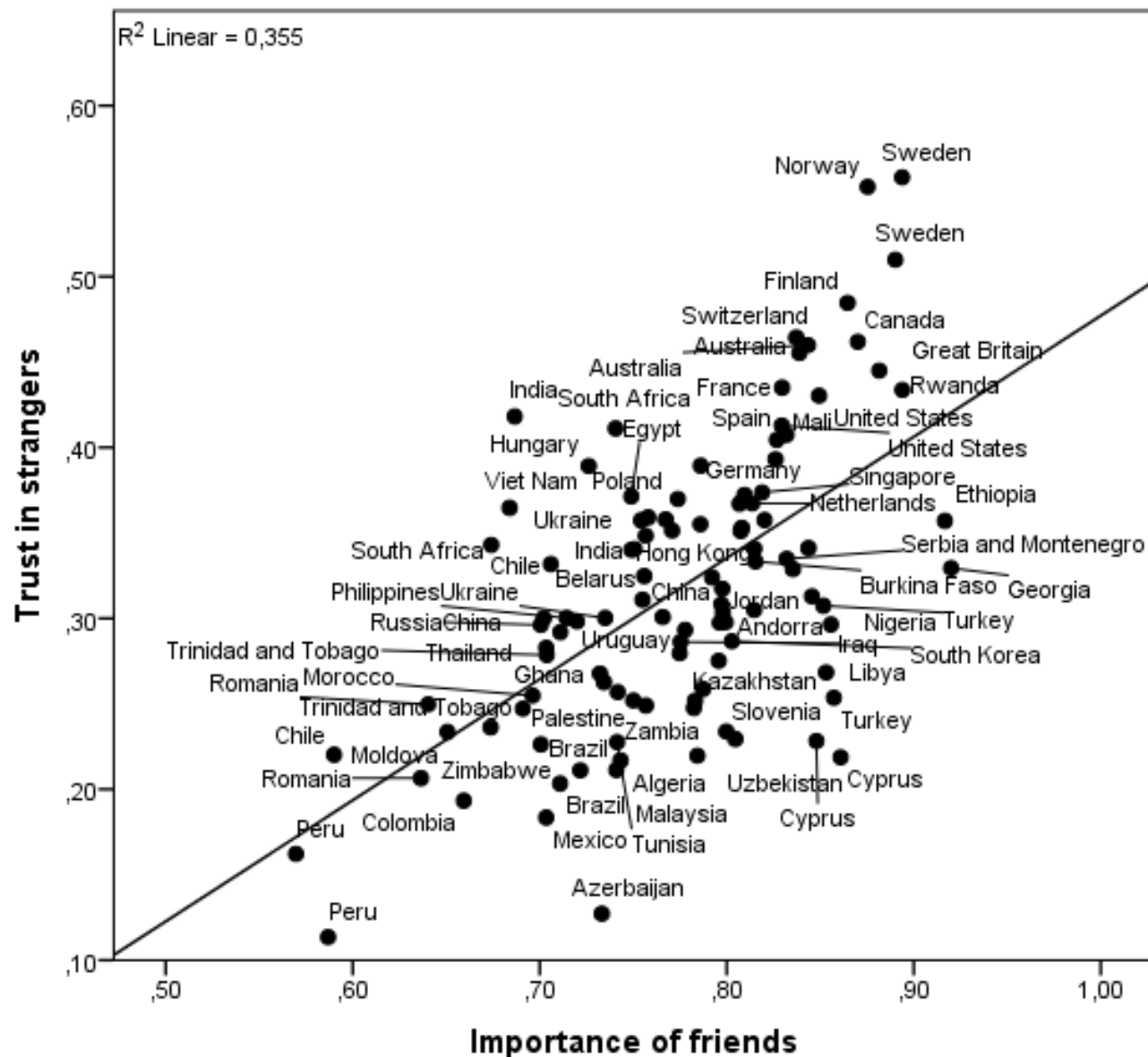


# Trust in strangers and trust in known people

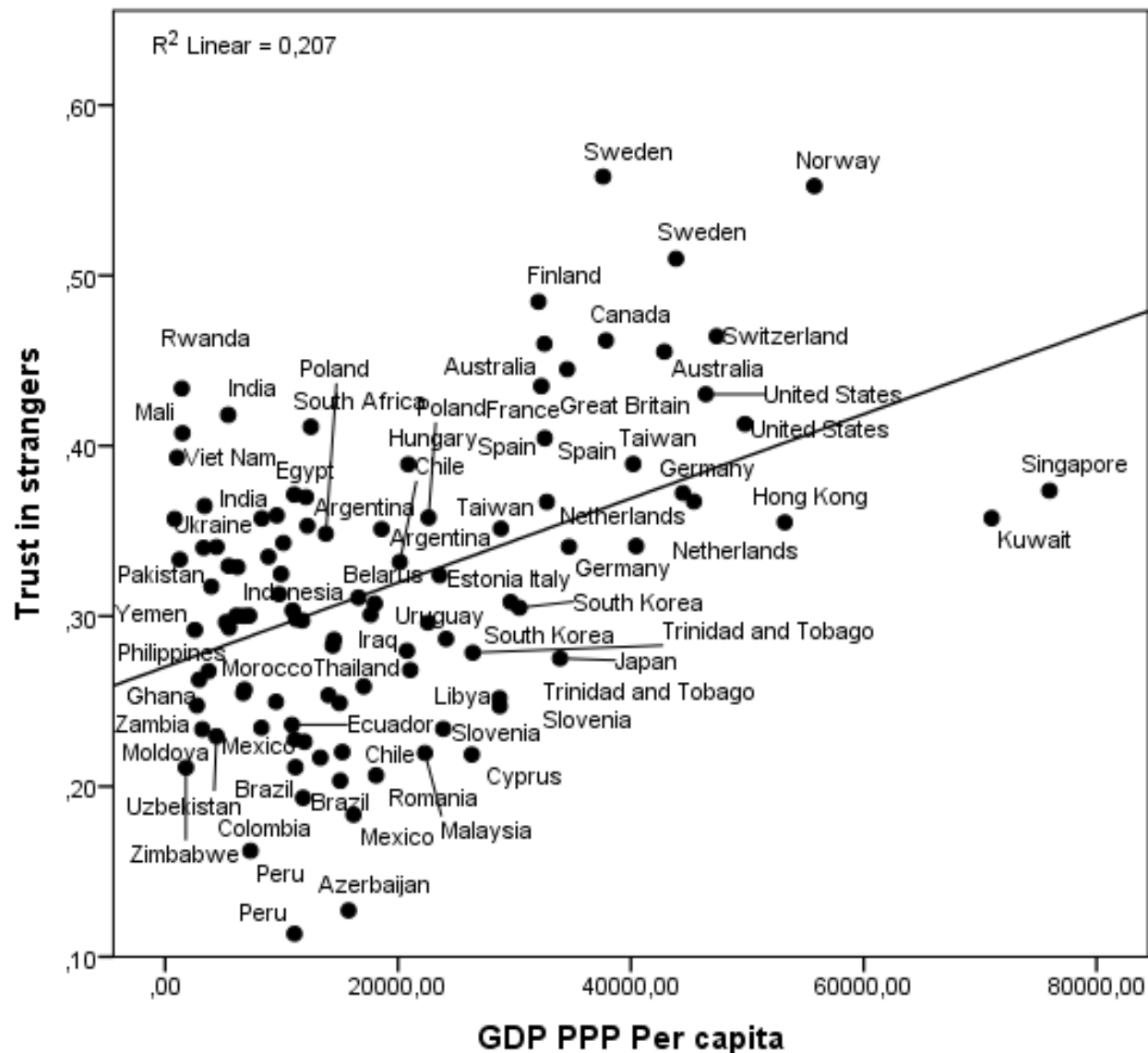




# Trust in strangers and importance of friends



# Trust in strangers and GDP PPP



# Multilevel models without control variables

	Lowest level of GDP (Ethiopia)	Highest level of GDP (Singapore)
Trust in family	Positive	Positive
Importance of family	Insignificant	Insignificant
Living with parents	Insignificant	Negative
Trust in known people	Positive	Positive
Importance of friends	Positive	Positive

# Multilevel models with control variables

	Lowest level of GDP (Ethiopia)	Highest level of GDP (Singapore)
Intercept	0.06*	-0.11
GDP	-0.30**	-0.30**
Trust in family		
Intercept	-0.05**	0.01*
GDP	0.25**	0.25**
Importance of family		
Intercept	-0.04**	-0.07***
GDP	-0.06	-0.06
Living with parents		
Intercept	0.01	-0.05***
GDP	-0.10**	-0.10**
Trust in known		
Intercept	0.30***	0.30***
GDP	0.05	0.05
Importance of friends		
Intercept	0.04***	0.11***
GDP	0.12*	0.12*

**Thank you for your attention**

This report was presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> LCSR International Workshop “Social and Cultural Changes in Cross-National Perspective: Subjective Well-being, Trust, Social capital and Values”, which will be held within the XVI April International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development.

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[www.lcsr.hse.ru/en/seminar2015](http://www.lcsr.hse.ru/en/seminar2015)

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