

Nationalism and Economic Attitudes: Individual Profiles in Cross-Cultural Comparative Perspective

Marharyta Fabrykant

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Outline:

- **Rationale and background**
- **Preliminary descriptive statistics**
- **Hypotheses.**
- **Methods and measurements.**

Why Put Them Together?

Economic Attitudes

- Underlying everyday decisions
- Derived from competing and often incompatible interests
- Diverse views (not necessarily) precede left/right identity
- As rational as can be

Nationalism

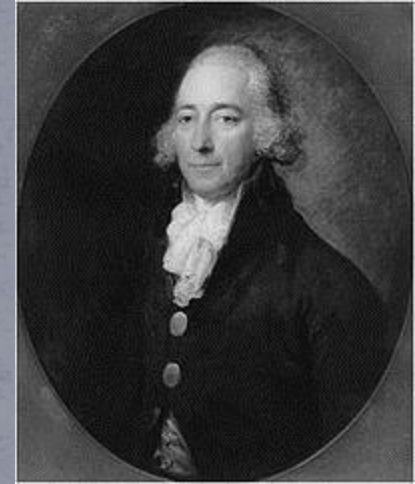
- “Banal” except in times of direct relevance (Billig, 1995; Wimmer, 2012)
- Shared and unifying, a imaginary compensation against inequality (Solt, 2011)
- National identity (not necessarily) precedes specific views.
- Eliciting a strong emotional response, often apparently irrational

Left-Right Dychotomy

- Nationalism supposedly right-wing and conservative... but what are conservative economic attitudes in different countries?
- Nationalism as a tool of collective mobilization (working for the sake of the nation, making sacrifices...) - but nationalists can reject certain economic attitudes as “alien” and prevail over economic rationality.
- Nationalism as a universal tool of wooing mass sympathies.

Who Said It and When?

- “A people without the feeling of **national pride** and public **duty** must be a people without energy and without enjoyments.”
- “It is a choice of high **national responsibility**, we have a **national duty** to keep our people alive...we will succeed to live as equal peers with **dignity and pride.**”



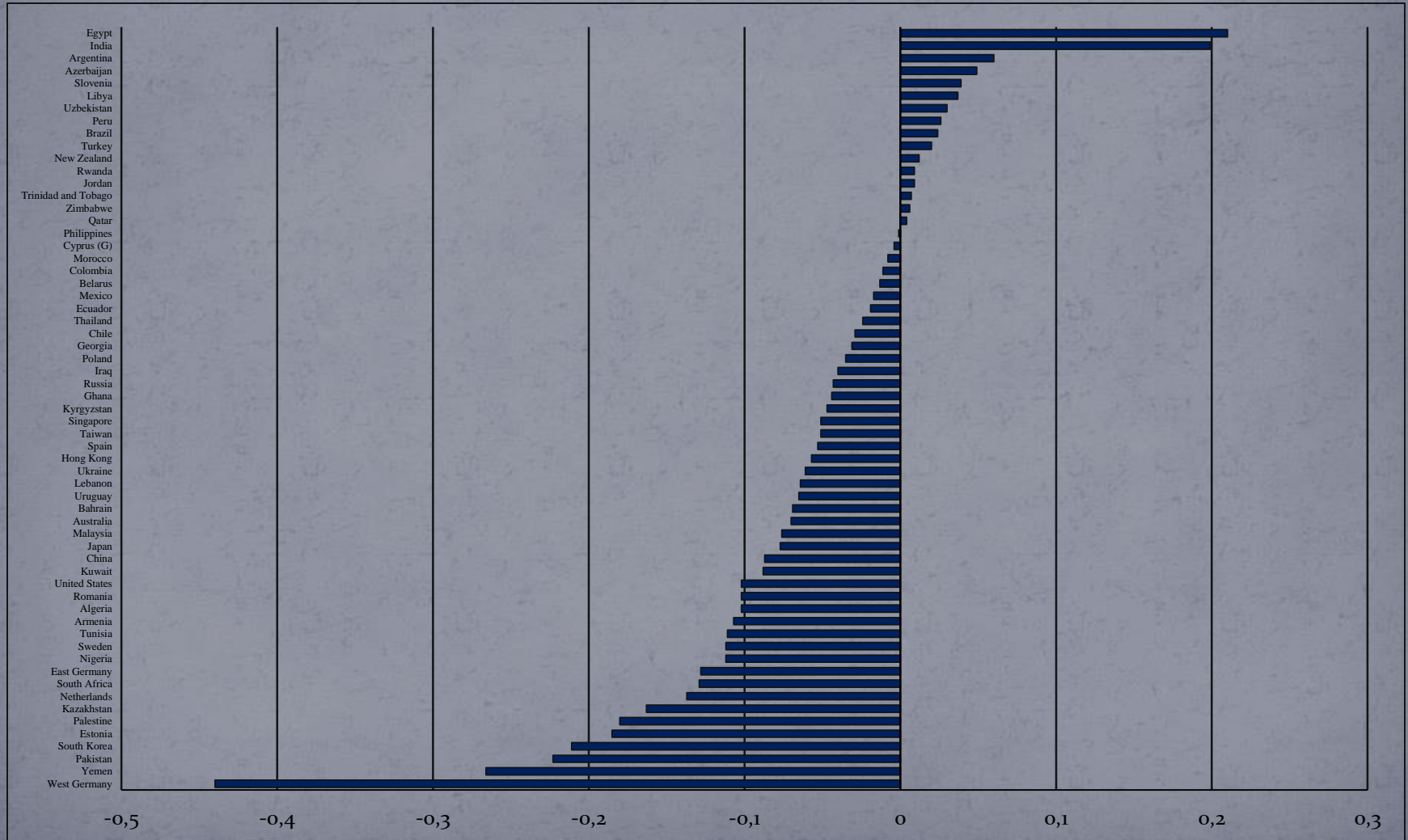
Measures of Nationalism

1. **National pride.** “How proud are you of your nationality?” – “Very proud”, “quite proud”, “not very proud”, “not at all proud”.
2. **National identity.** “I see myself as a part of my [country] nation” – “strongly agree”, “agree”, “disagree”, “strongly disagree”.

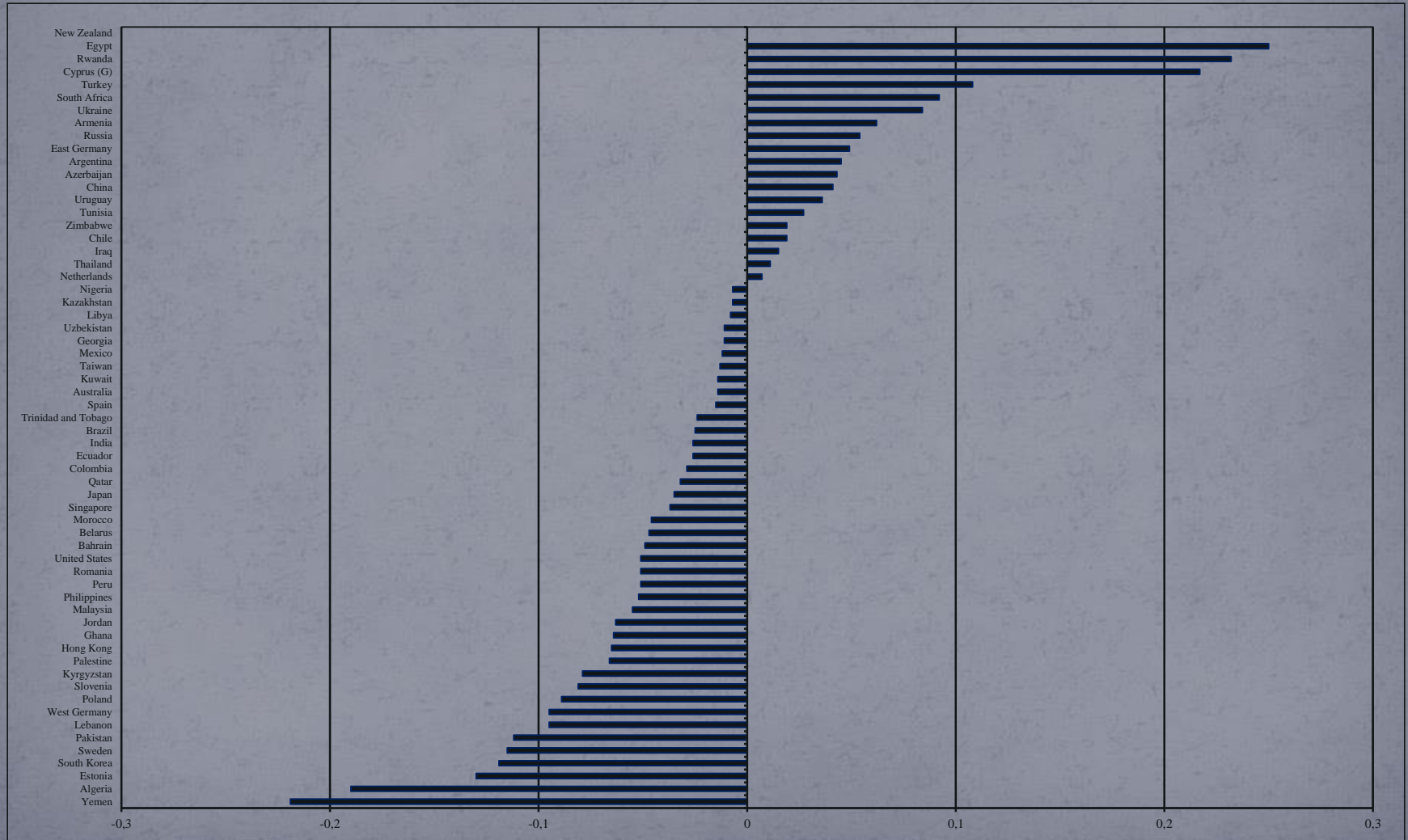
Measures of Economic Attitudes

- 1) **“Income equality”**: a ten-point scale from 1 – “incomes should be made more equal” to 10 – “we need larger income differences as incentives for individual effort”. Here lower scores correspond to left-wing, and higher scores, to classical liberal positions.
- 2) **“Private versus state ownership of business”**: a ten-point scale from 1 – “Private ownership of business and industry should be increased” to 10 – “Government ownership of business and industry should be increased”. Here lower scores correspond to etatist, and higher scores, to classical liberal positions.
- 3) **“Government responsibility”**: a ten-point scale from 1 – “the government should take more responsibility to ensure that everyone is provided for” to 10 – “people should provide for themselves”. Here lower scores correspond simultaneously to left-wing and etatist, and higher scores, to classical liberal positions.
- 4) **“Wealth accumulation”**: a ten-point scale from 1 – “People can only get rich at the expense of others” to 10 – “Wealth can grow so there’s enough for everyone”. Here lower scores correspond to left-wing, and higher scores, to classical liberal positions”.

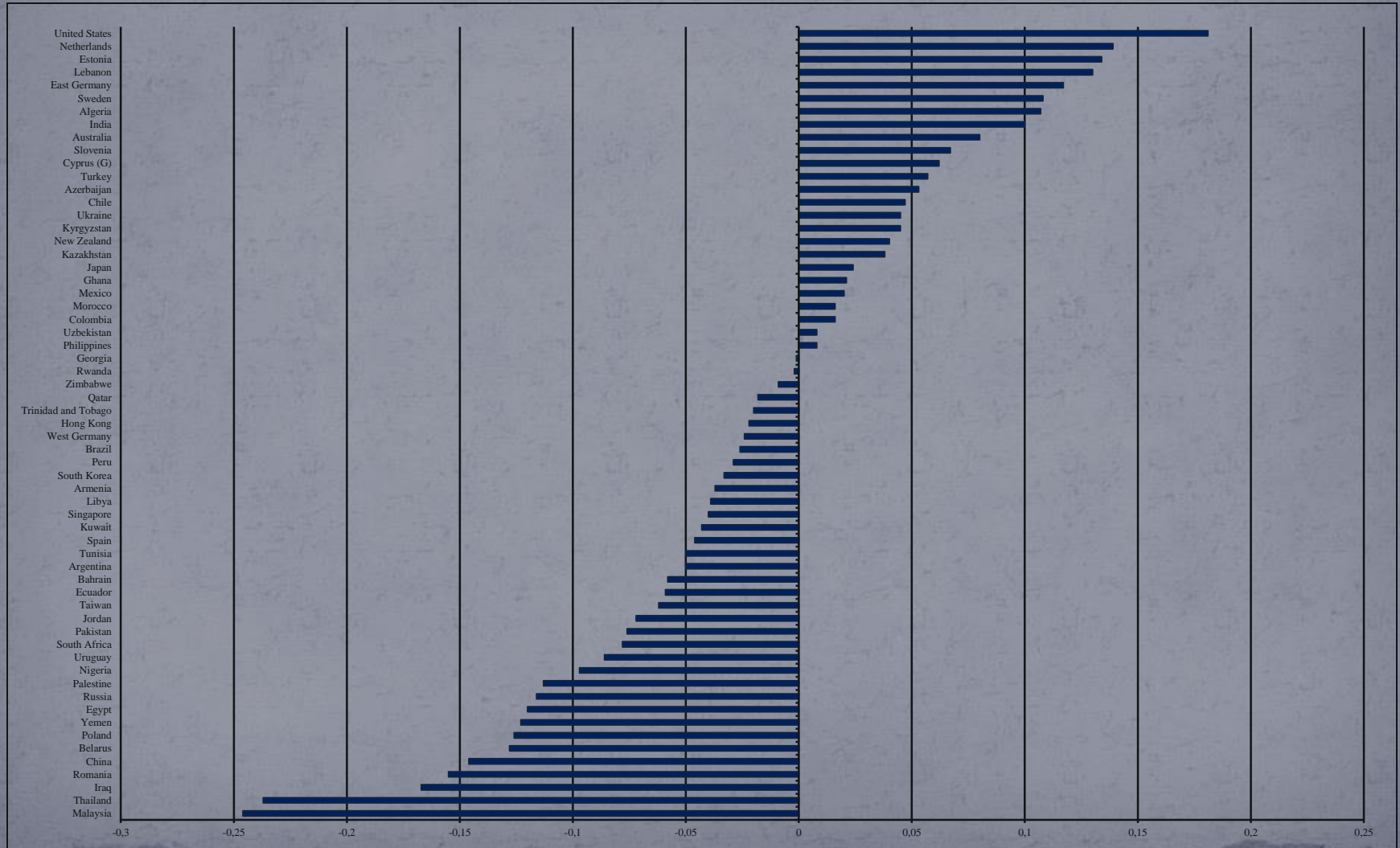
National Pride with Income Equality



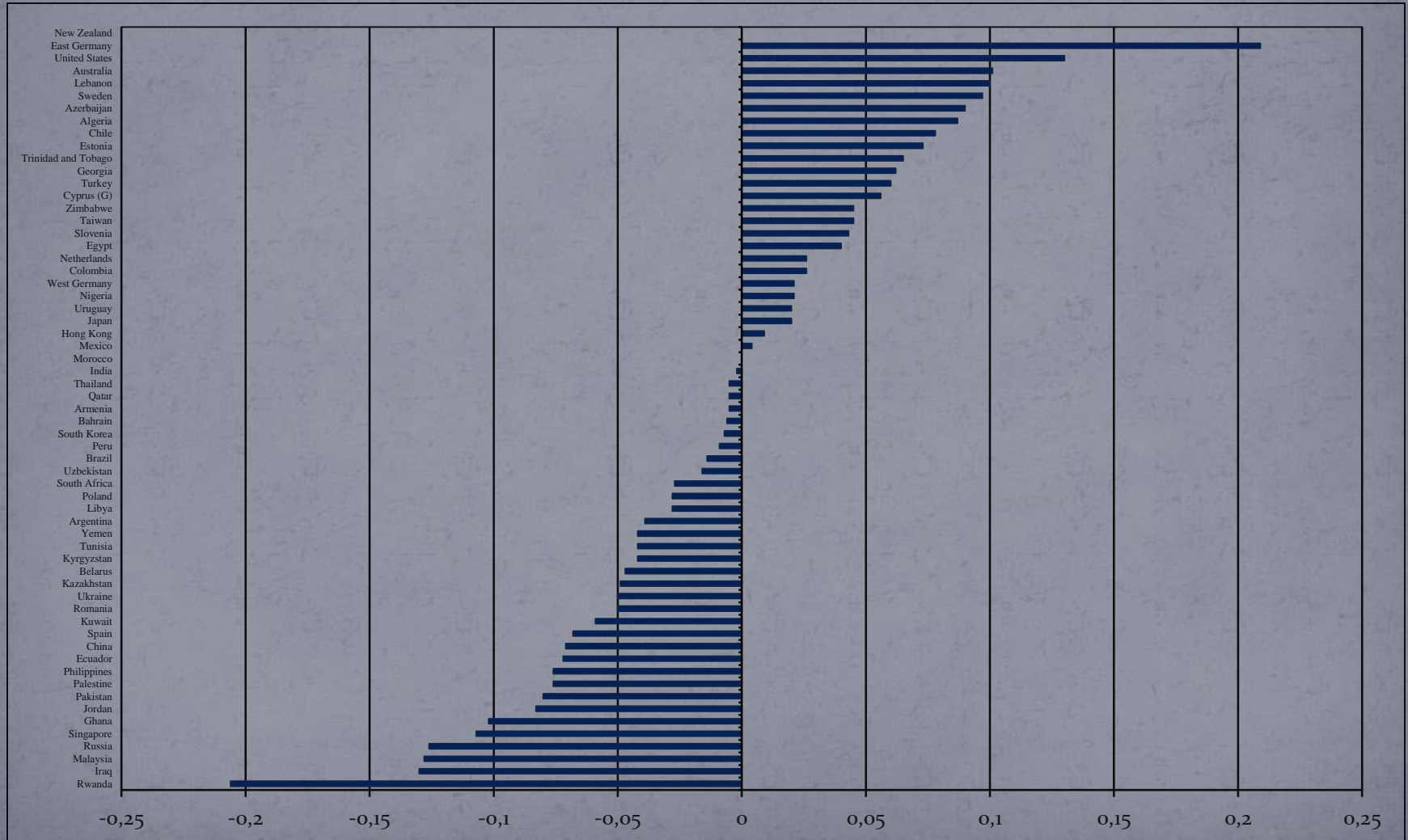
National Identity with Income Equality



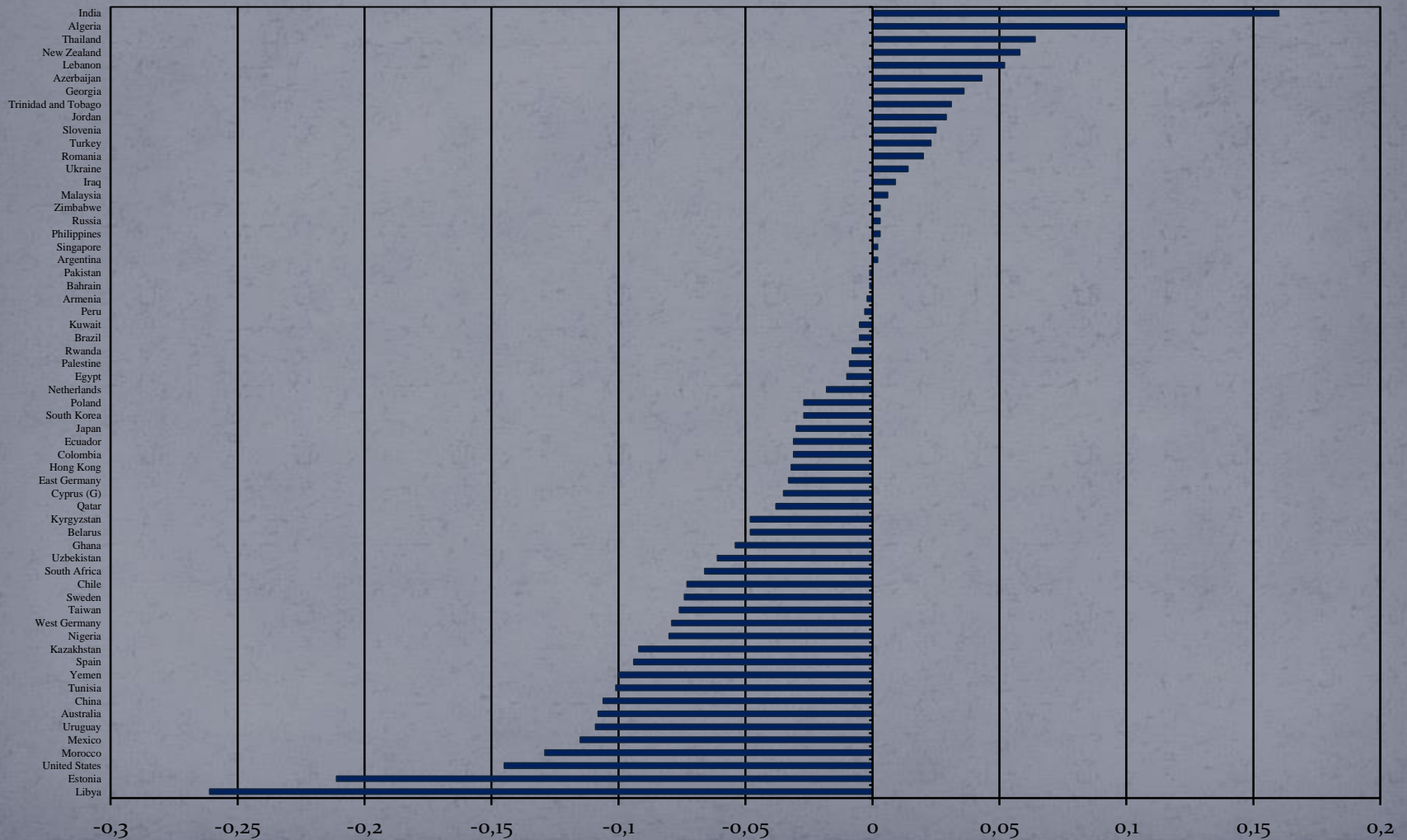
National Pride with Private Ownership



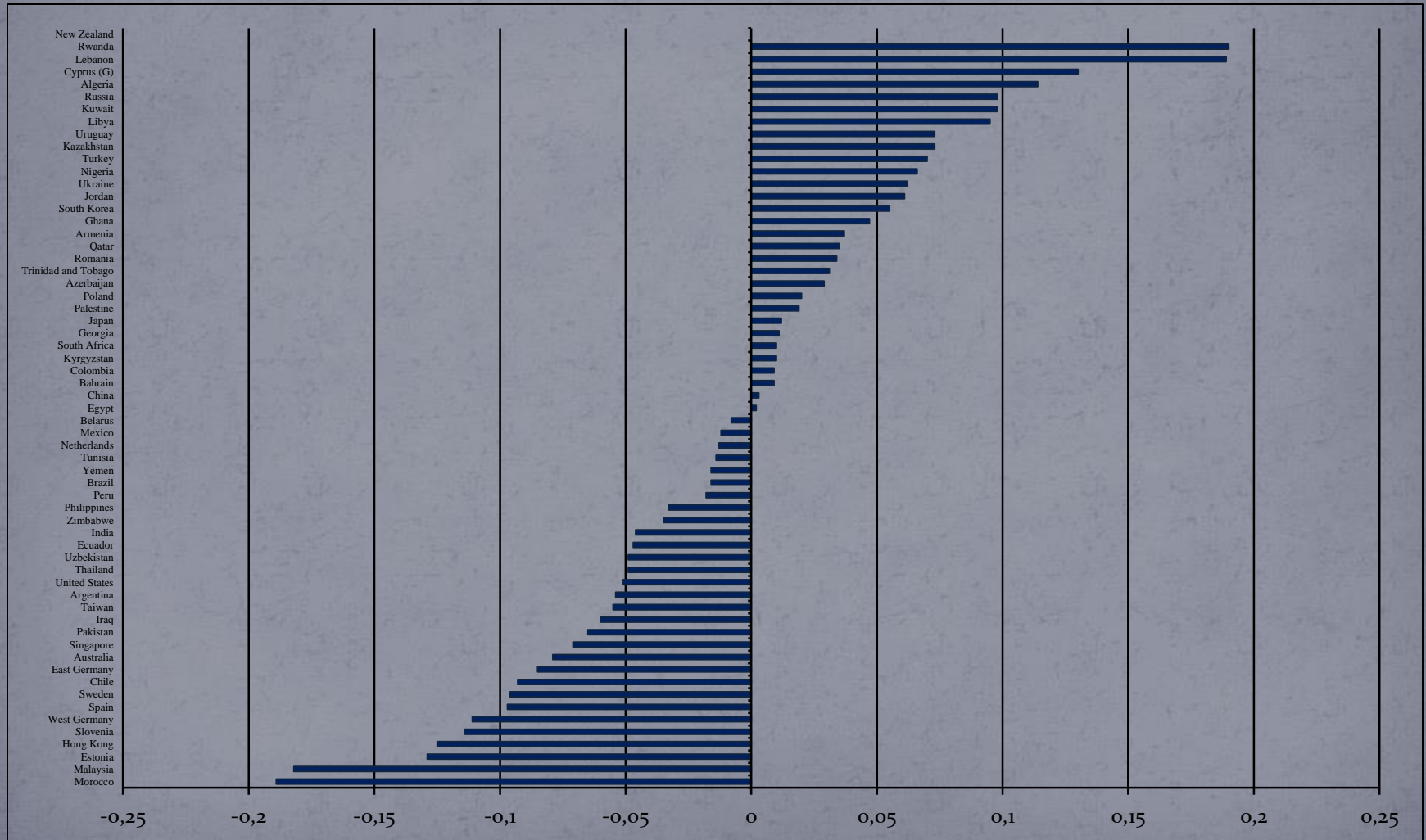
National Identity with Private Ownership



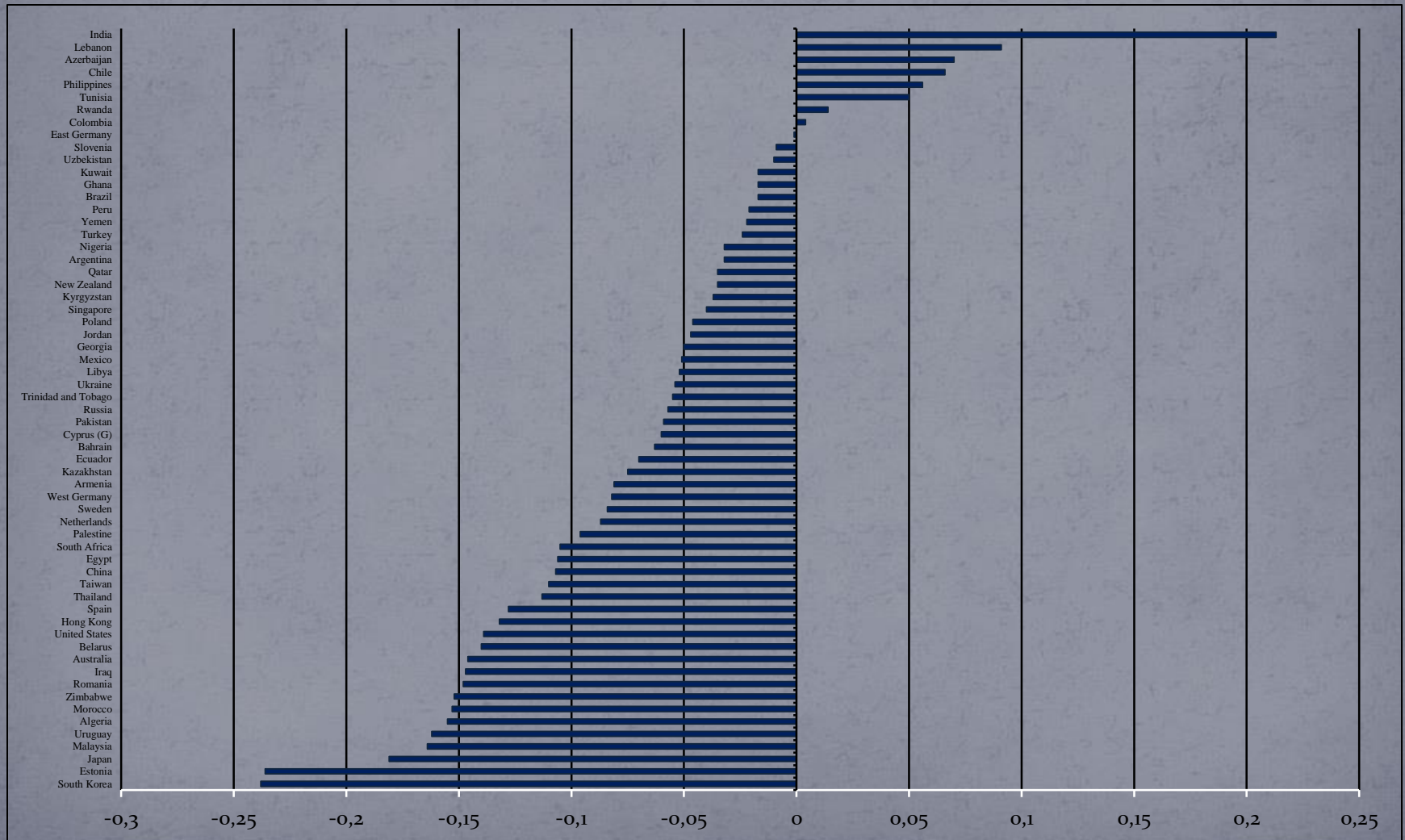
National Pride with Government Responsibility



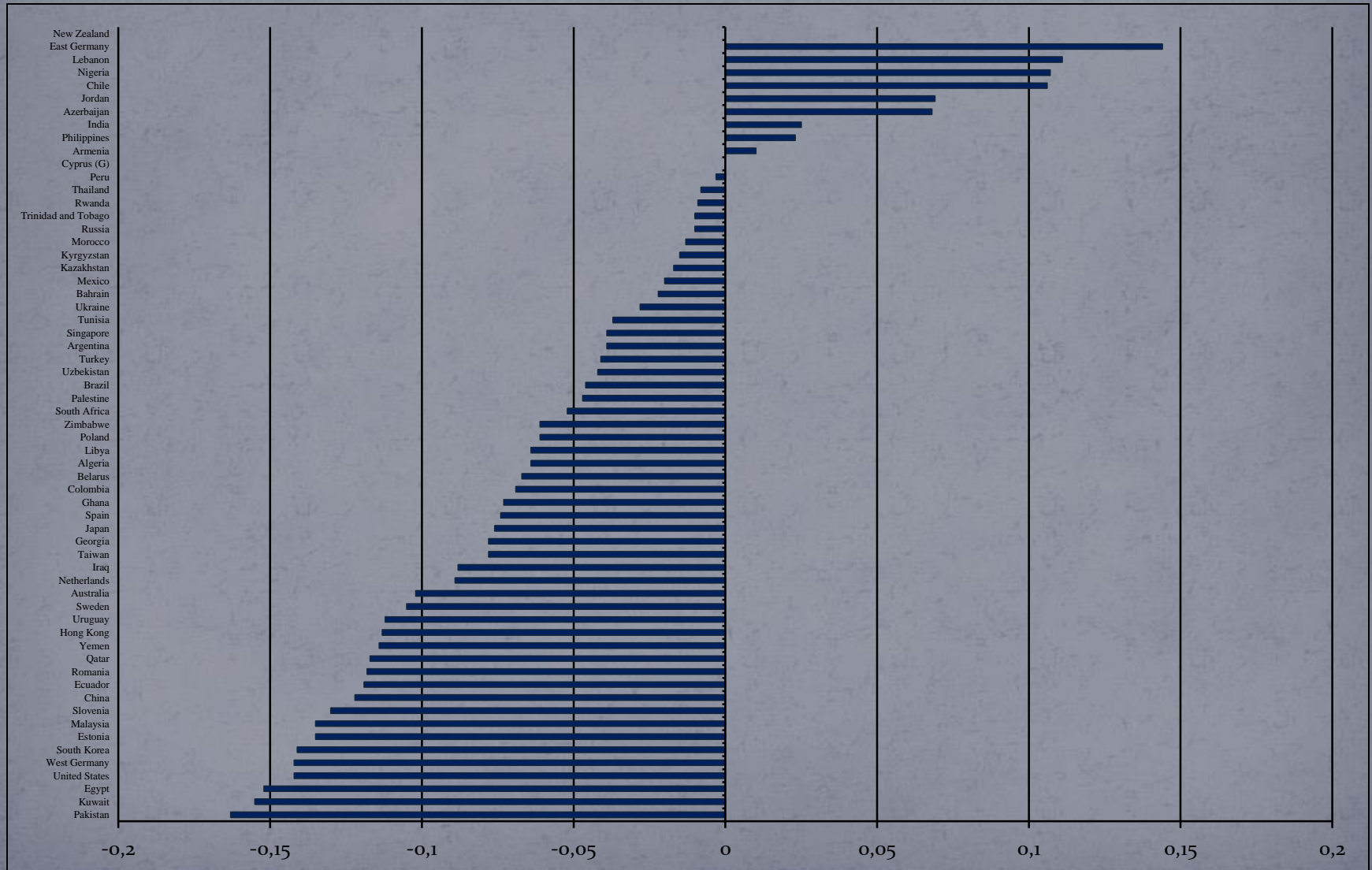
National Identity with Government Responsibility



National Pride with Wealth Accumulation



National Identity with Wealth Accumulation



Hypotheses (1)

H1. Individuals with higher levels of nationalism are more likely to hold stronger, more extreme and more consistent (more strongly interrelated) views on the economy.

Hypotheses (2)

H2. Nationalism with classical liberal economic attitudes prevail in the countries with the highest per capita GDP especially in Anglo-Saxon countries. Nationalists with etatist views prevail in the continental Western Europe. Nationalists with a combination of etatist and classical liberal attitudes prevail in the most rapidly modernizing countries (with the fastest GDP per capita growth over the last two decades). Nationalists with a combination of etatist and left-wing views prevail in post-Socialist countries, especially those with lower GDP per capita. Left-wing nationalists prevail in Latin American and African countries.

Hypotheses (3)

H3. Nationalists with a type of economic attitudes typical for their countries are most frequent among elder males with relatively low education level and relatively high subjective social status and life satisfaction.

Roadmap:

- 1) Latent class analysis on the six variables to discover the individual profiles to test H1.
- 2) A series of multilevel multinomial regressions (separately for each group of countries with equivalent LCA outcomes)with country-level and individual level variables to test H2 and H3.

**Thank you for your
attention!**

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