

# **Cultural Values and the Index of Enabling Policy Environment for HIV Prevention Among People Who Inject Drugs in the European Region**

Peter Meylakhs, LCSR, HSE (SPb)  
pmeylakhs@hse.ru

Alexandra Makeeva, LCSR, HSE (SPb)  
amakeeva@hse.ru

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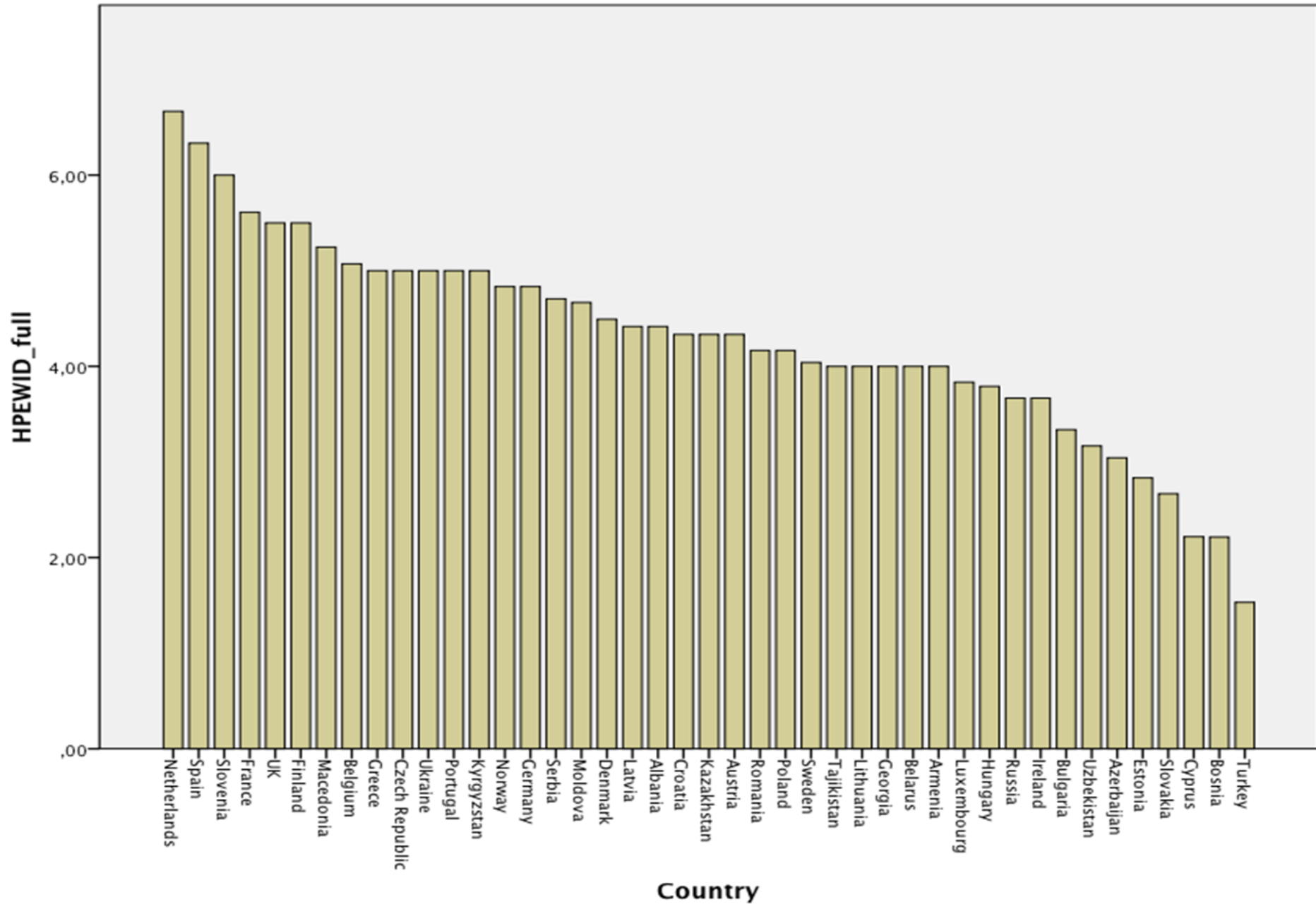
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# The Index of Enabling Policy Environment for HIV Prevention Among People Who Inject Drugs in the European Region

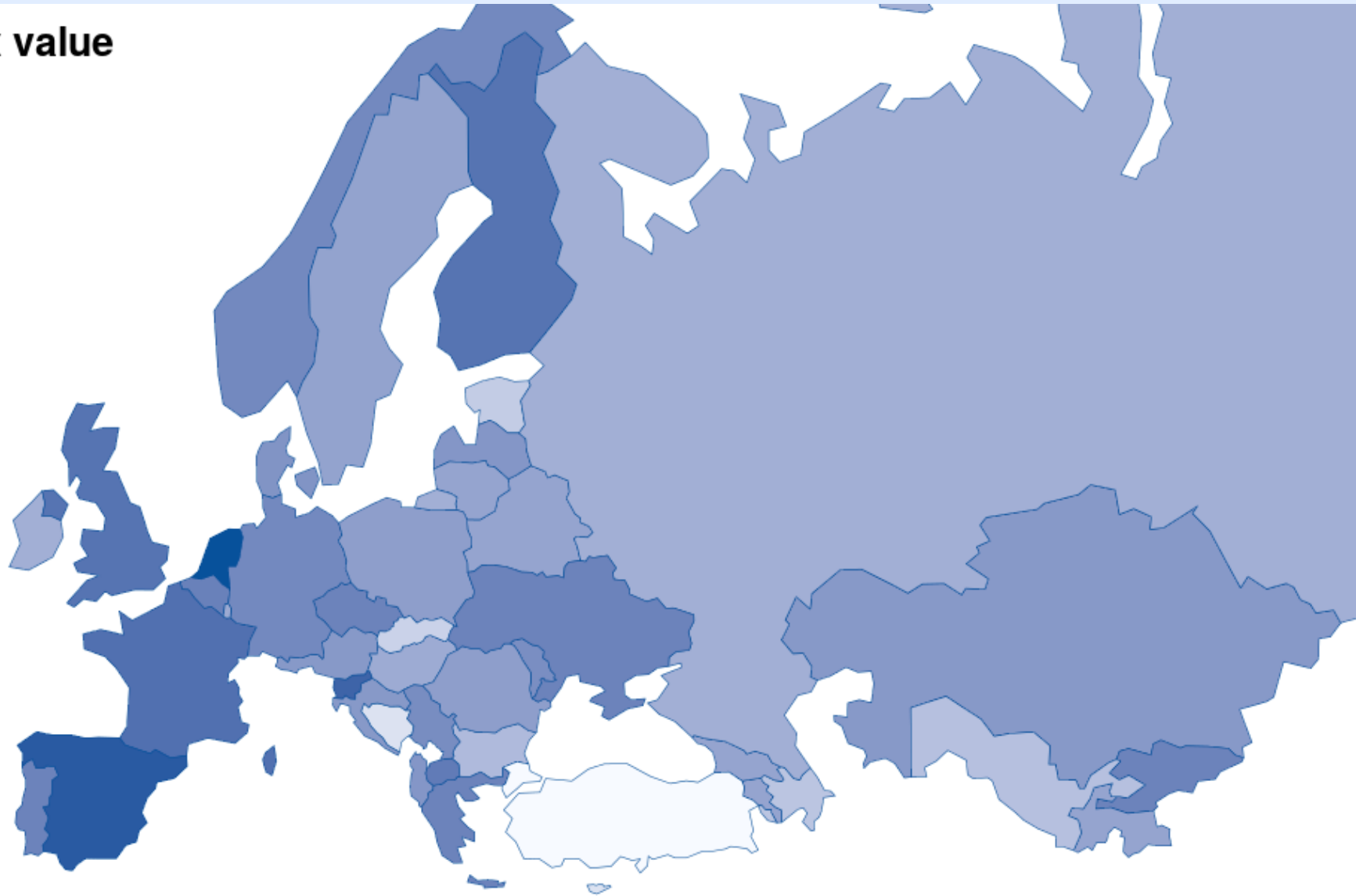
- Number of syringes distributed in a country during one year per one PWID
- Number of opiates substitution treatment program clients per 100 PWID
- Number of PWID who received ART per 100 HIV-positive PWID
- Country's laws for possession of drugs for personal use
- Explicit mention of harm reduction in national-level HIV/AIDS strategy
- Presence in a country of a national self-organization of drug users
- Conduction of studies on HIV prevalence or behavioral studies

## HIV Policy environment for PWID in the European Region



# Index distribution by country

Index value



# Background

- Revised modernization theory has rarely been applied to studies of deviance, and, to our knowledge, never been applied to studies of people who inject drugs (PWID), and drug and HIV policy environments
- We seek to fill in this gap in knowledge and to show, how cultural values of the countries belonging to the European region (by WHO definition) are related with HIV policy environments for PWID
- We also want to examine how HIV policy environments for PWID are related with important structural characteristics of the European region societies, such as democracy, inequality and economic development

# Previous research on Modernization theory and deviance

Gerhards (2010) show that countries with low levels of self-expressionist values are less tolerant towards homosexuality

Similarly (Stack et al., 2010) find the same relationship with respect to prostitution

Finally, the results of Cao and Zhao (2012) support the hypothesis that residents from nations with higher levels of human development and with higher self-expressionist scores are more tolerant of soft drug use than residents in nations with lower human development levels and self-expressionist scores

Rothwell (2009), and Rothwell and Hawdon (2008) based on Max Weber's idea of ever-increasing rationalization of societies report that rational values are related to more tolerant attitudes toward drugs

## Previous research (cont'd)

A number of researchers advanced a thesis that a country's level of democratization is a determinant of government commitment to fighting HIV (e.g. Natrass 2006, Dionne 2011)

Higher levels of socio-economic inequality may lead to disagreements over how scarce resources should be allocated and potentially diminish the effectiveness of response to HIV epidemic (Barnett, 2002)

# Hypotheses based on Modernization theory

**1a.** The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID is positively correlated with self-expressionist culture index

**1b.** Those countries that are more tolerant towards “drug addicts” and “people who have AIDS” – (var. 36 and var. 38 in WVS wave 6 accordingly) will have higher value of the index

**1c.** The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID is positively correlated with human development index and emancipative values index

**2.** The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID is positively correlated with secular-rational culture index



# Hypotheses on inequality and democracy

- 3.** The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID will be reversely related with country inequality index measured by Giny coefficient
- 4.** The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID will be positively correlated with democracy scores

# Hypotheses on economic development and health expenditure

5. The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID will be positively correlated with GDP per capita
6. The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID will be positively correlated with the share of health expenditure in GDP
7. The index of enabling policy environment for HIV prevention among PWID will be positively correlated with expenditure on HIV prevention per capita

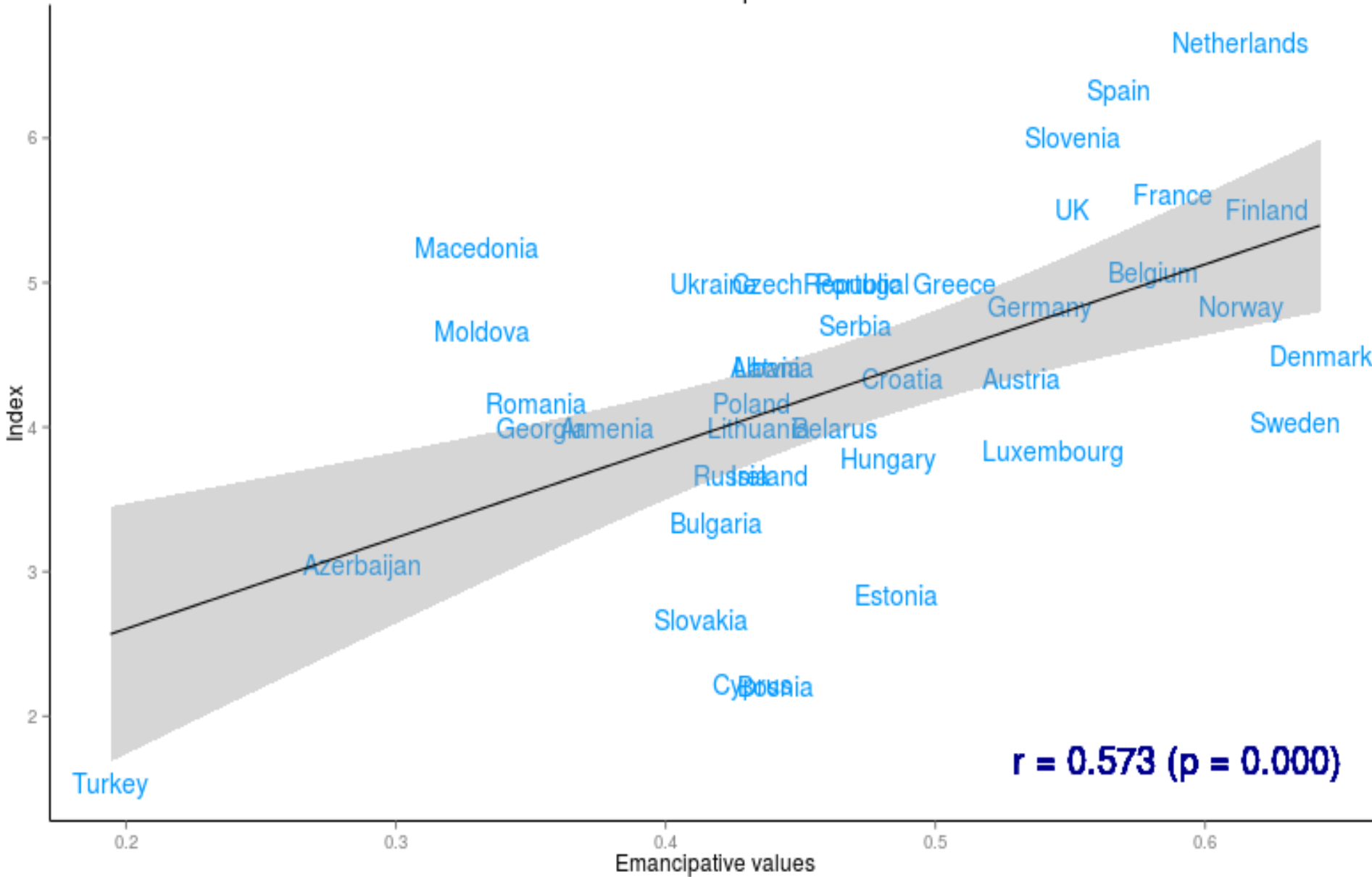
# Methods

- Parametric correlation analysis  
(Pearson correlation)
- Non-parametric correlation analysis  
(Spearman correlation)

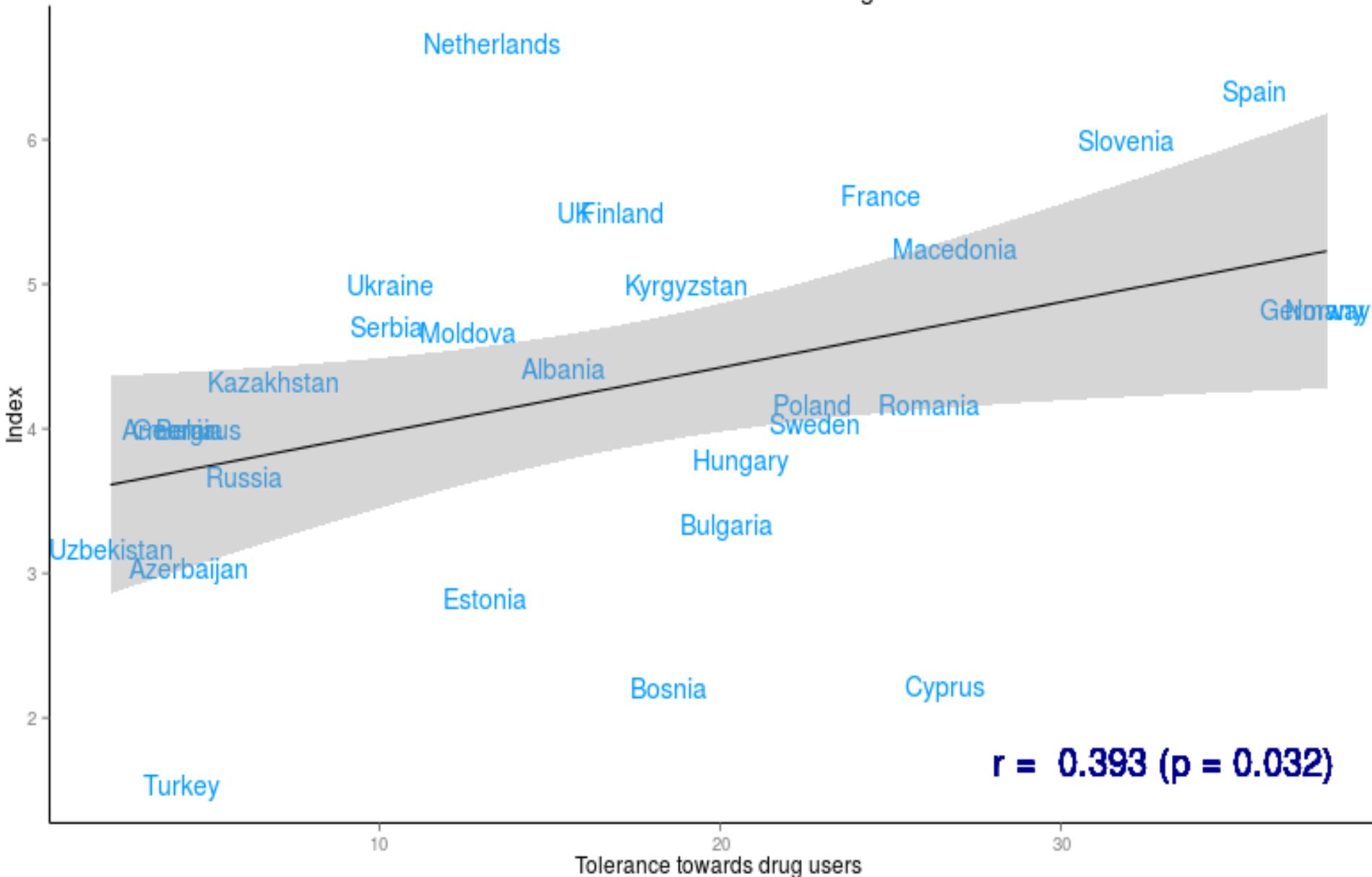
# Data sources

- WVS (4, 5, 6)
- Worldbank
- Who.int
- Hdr.undp.org
- Freedomhouse.org

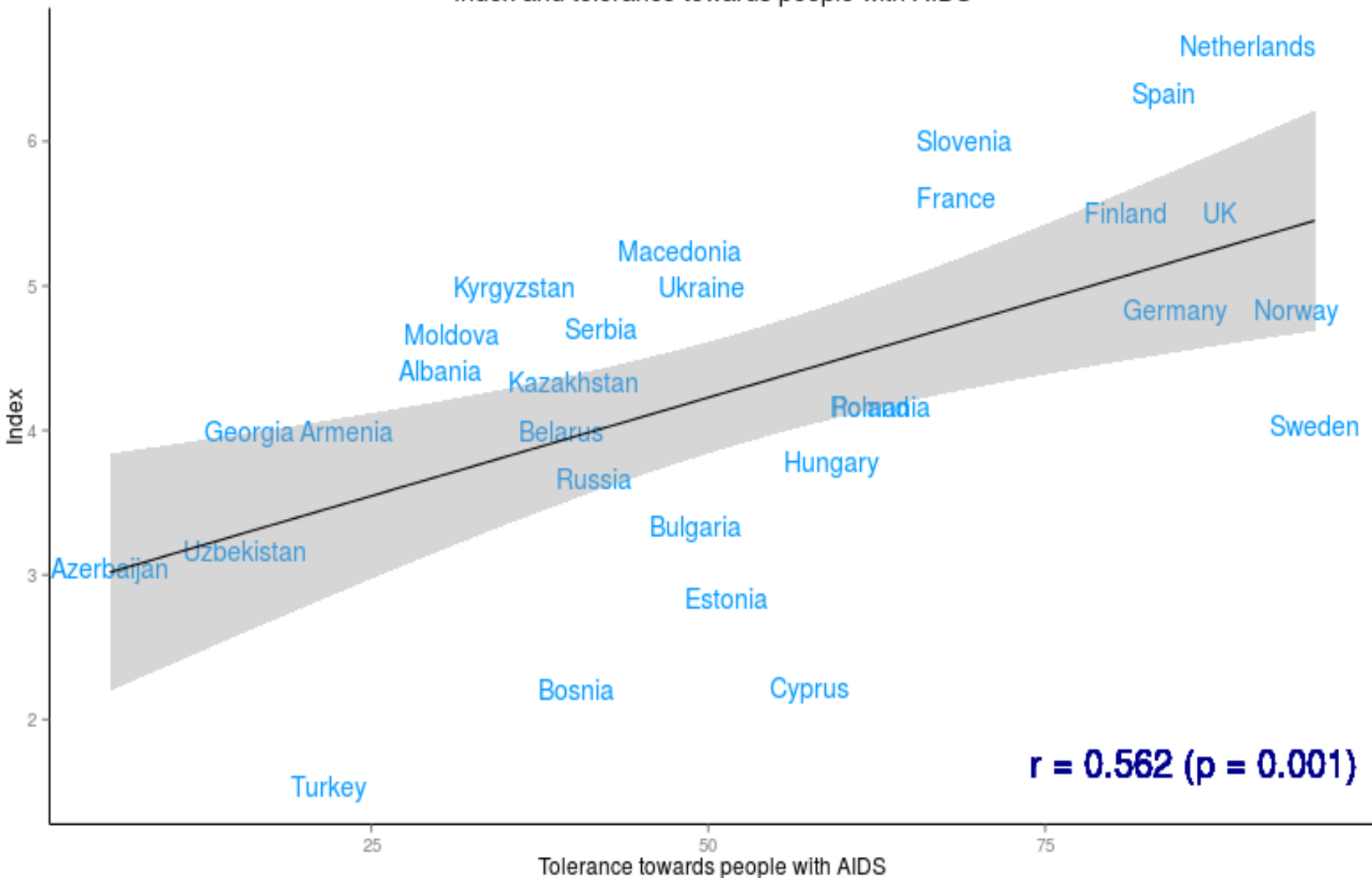
Index and emancipative values



### Index and tolerance towards drug users



### Index and tolerance towards people with AIDS



# Correlation between the Index and self-expression values

- **Rho = 0.415**
- *P-value = 0.008*

# Correlation between the Index and Human development Index

- **Rho = 0.344**
- *P-value = 0.024*

# Correlation between the Index and Giny coefficient

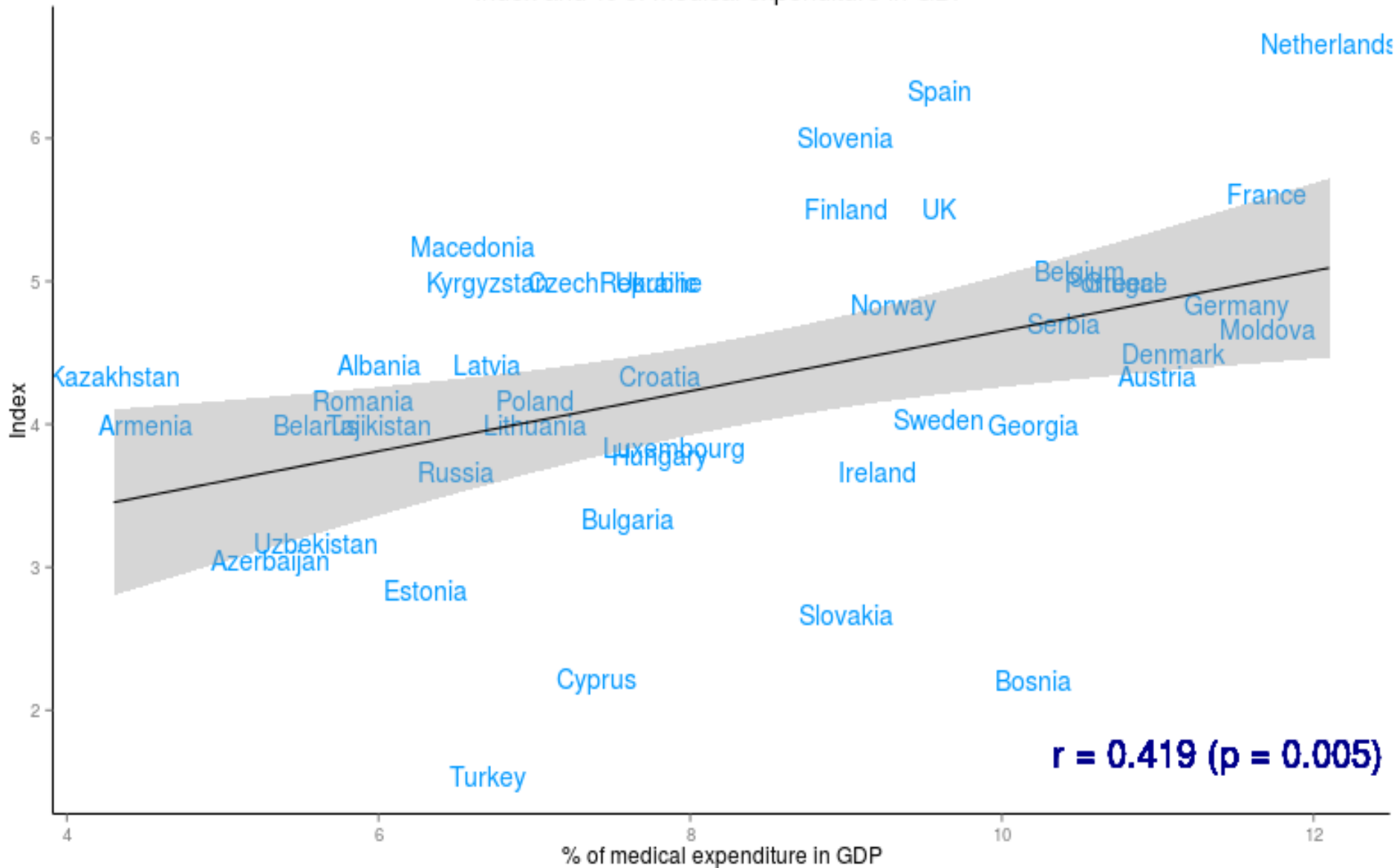
- **Rho = -- 0.309**
- ***P-value = 0.043***



# Correlation between the Index and GDP

- **Rho = 0.287**
- *P-value = 0.062*

Index and % of medical expenditure in GDP



# Correlation between the Index and expenditure on HIV prevention per capita

- **Rho = 0.363**
- *P-value = 0.041*

# Conclusion

Index is positively correlated with

- ✓ Self-expression and emancipative values
- ✓ Tolerance towards drug users and people who have AIDS
- ✓ Human Development Index
- ✓ Volume of health and HIV prevention expenditure

Index is negatively correlated with

- ✓ Level of inequality

# We failed to confirm that index is related with:

- Secular-rational values
  - $r = 0.208$
  - *P-value = 0.199*
- The level of democracy
  - $r = -0.290$
  - *P-value = 0.891*

# Correlations and its significance

	Index	DU tolerance	AIDS tolerance	HIV prevention expenditure	sec_rat_values	self_exp_values	HDI	EV	Giny	Med% GDP	Incarceration	DS
Index	1	0.393	0.562	0.363	0.208	0.415	0.344	0.573	-0.309	0.419	-0.323	-0.290
DU tolerance	0.032	1	0.731	-0.021	0.225	0.532	0.588	0.515	-0.403	0.409	-0.631	-0.695
AIDS tolerance	0.001	0.000	1	0.120	0.439	0.781	0.912	0.851	-0.443	0.531	-0.581	-0.706
HIV prevention expenditure	0.041	0.926	0.596	1	0.393	0.311	0.259	0.363	-0.030	0.276	-0.113	-0.085
sec_rat_values	0.199	0.251	0.019	0.031	1	0.152	0.378	0.529	-0.376	0.128	-0.197	-0.130
self_exp_values	0.008	0.004	0.000	0.095	0.349	1	0.816	0.773	-0.401	0.663	-0.681	-0.361
HDI	0.024	0.001	0.000	0.152	0.016	0.000	1	0.802	-0.524	0.570	-0.540	-0.714
EV	0.000	0.006	0.000	0.053	0.001	0.000	0.000	1	-0.537	0.545	-0.634	-0.288
Giny	0.043	0.027	0.000	0.870	0.017	0.010	0.000	0.000	1	-0.261	0.345	0.176
Med% GDP	0.005	0.025	0.003	0.126	0.431	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.091	1	-0.540	-0.678
Incarceration	0.034	0.000	0.001	0.539	0.223	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.024	0.000	1	0.232
DS	0.891	0.001	0.001	0.746	0.564	0.099	0.000	0.206	0.399	0.000	0.265	1

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