

Social Development or Social Crisis: Modernization Theory versus World-Systems Analysis

Final Report
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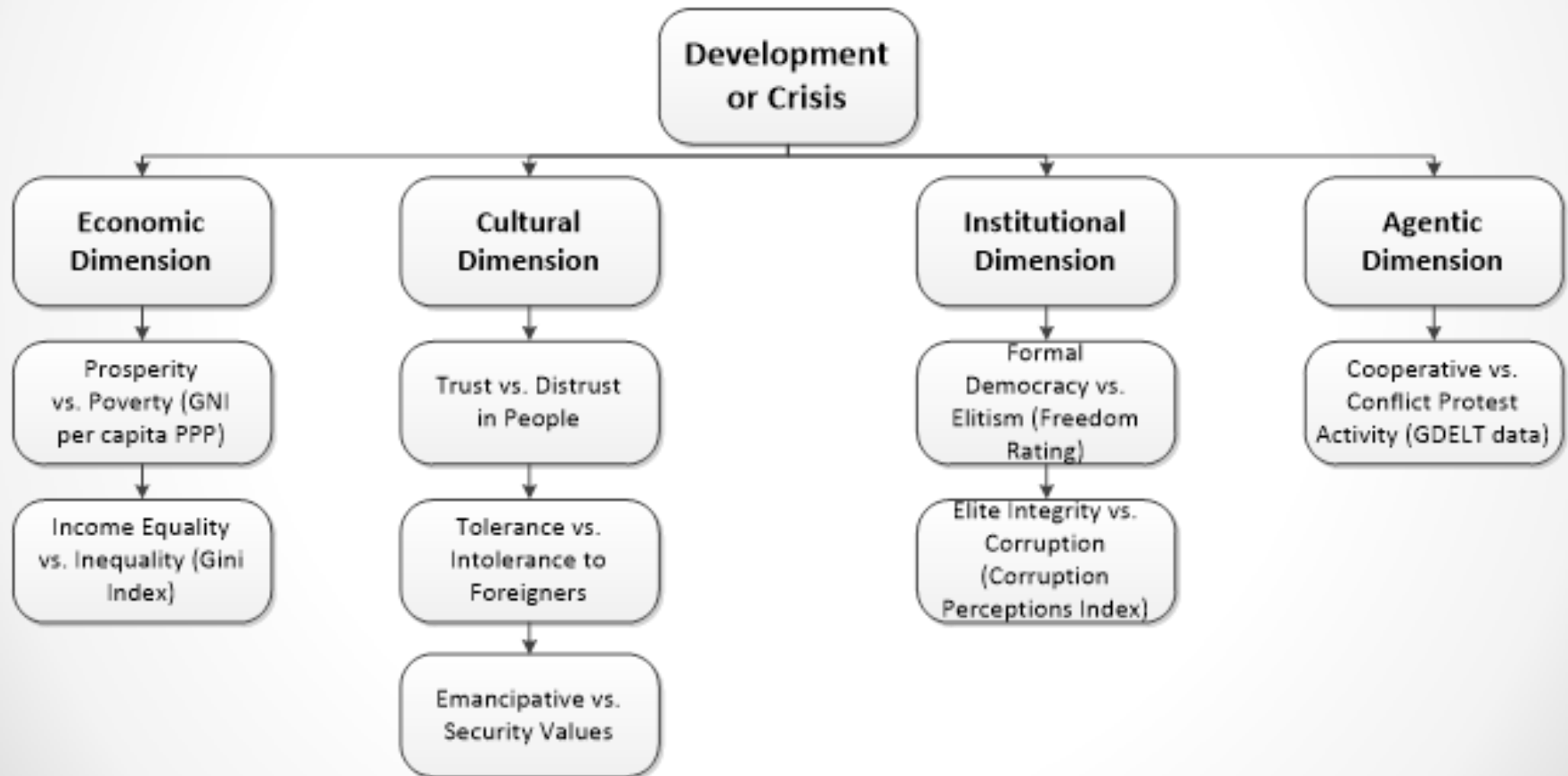
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Introduction

- The dynamics of the modern world is described and explained in different ways, and the two opposing interpretations are suggested by modernization theory and world-systems analysis.
- **Modernization** theorists claim that socioeconomic development is spreading over the world.
- **World-system** theorists views the current historical phase as a crisis, with corresponding economic, political, and ideological outcomes.
- **Social development** denotes macrosocial outcomes of human development: socioeconomic modernization, the rise of self-expression values, and democratization.
- **Social crisis** is defined as economic, political, and social systemic transition, manifested in an increase of inequalities, conflicts, and security concerns.
- Thereby, the data analysis will settle the theoretical dispute about the social change in the modern global world.

Measurement Design

- The indicators of social development versus social crisis include:



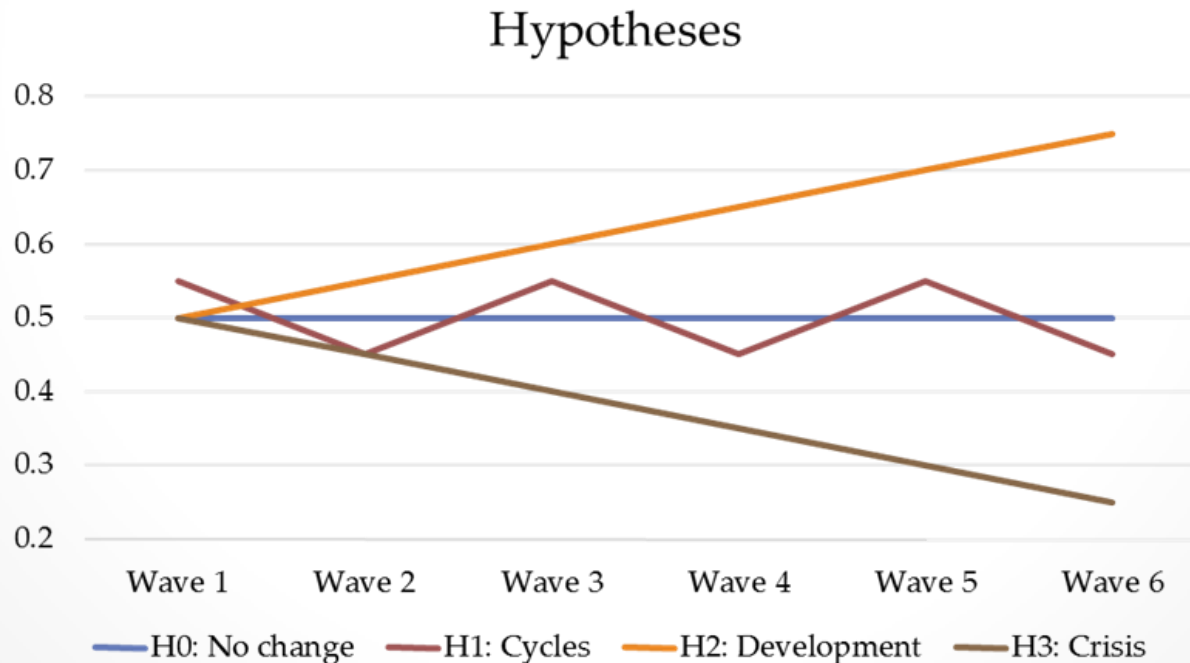
Countries Chosen

- For all the relevant indicators and for 3-6 waves 8 countries satisfy our requirements: Chile, China, South Korea, Mexico, Peru, Spain, Turkey, and the United States.

Waves/Countries	Zone	Type	1995-1996	1999-2001	2005-2007	2010-2012
<i>Chile</i>	<i>Semiperiphery</i>	<i>Developing</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>China</i>	<i>Periphery</i>	<i>Low-income</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2012</i>
<i>South Korea</i>	<i>Semiperiphery</i>	<i>Developing</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>
<i>Mexico</i>	<i>Semiperiphery</i>	<i>Developing</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2012</i>
<i>Peru</i>	<i>Periphery</i>	<i>Low-income</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2012</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>Semiperiphery</i>	<i>Post-industrial</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>Turkey</i>	<i>Semiperiphery</i>	<i>Developing</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>United States</i>	<i>Core</i>	<i>Post-industrial</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2011</i>

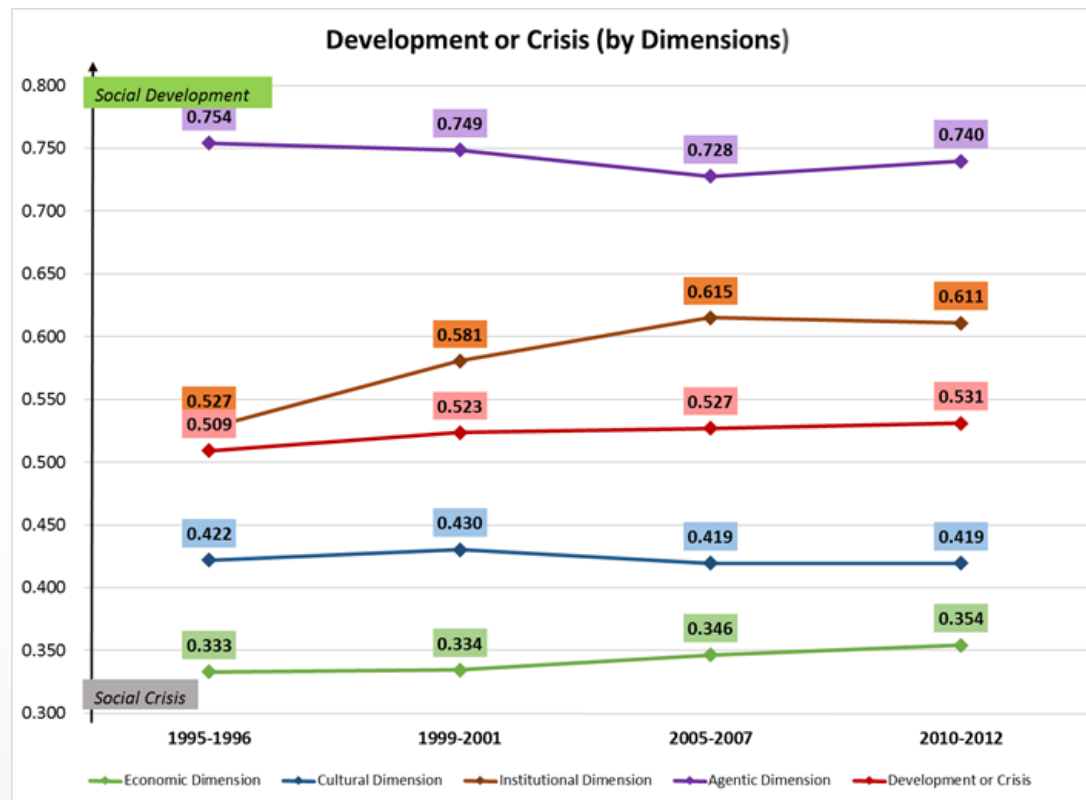
Research Hypotheses

- **H0:** There is no substantial social change, so **both** theories **are wrong**.
- **H1:** There are cyclical alternations of social development and social crisis phases, so **both** theories **are correct**.
- **H2:** There is a marked social development so **modernization theory is correct**.
- **H3:** There is a pronounced social crisis, so **world-systems analysis is correct**.



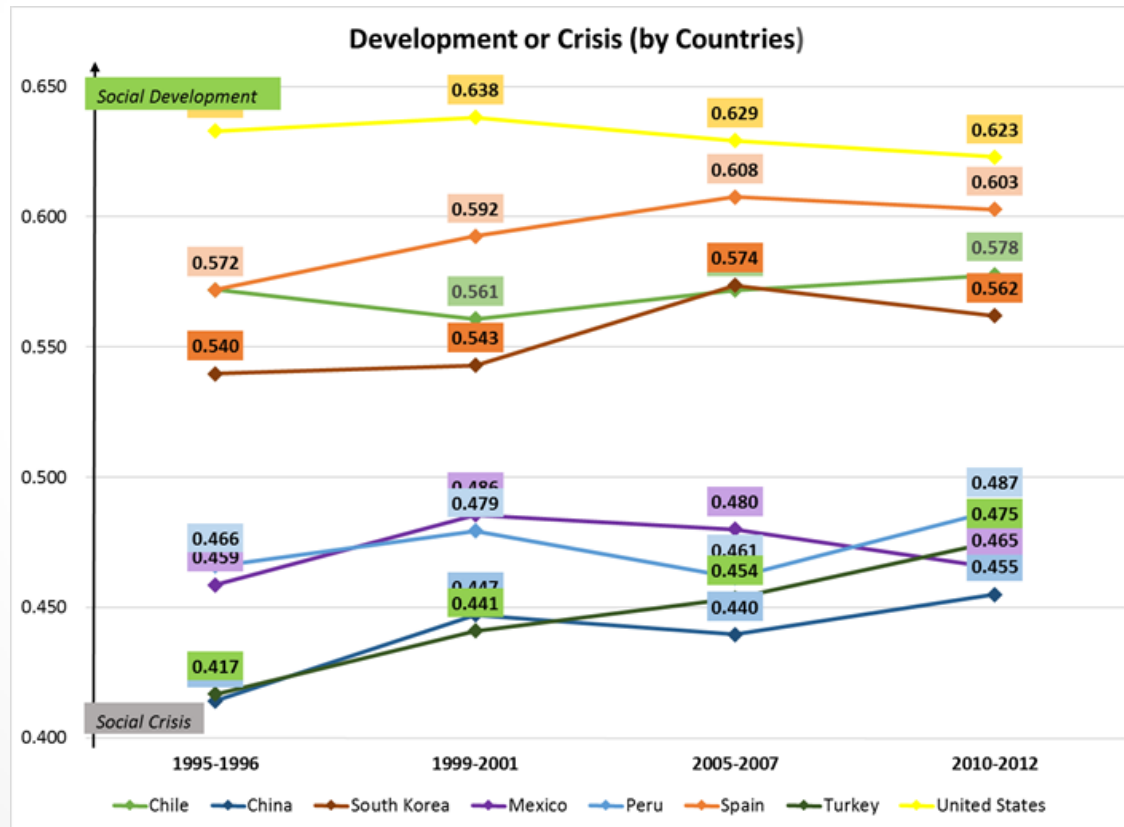
Findings 1: Social Change by Dimensions

- Cultural and institutional dimensions do not signal any significant change
- Some social development is in economic dimension (a rise of prosperity and equality combined)
- Social crisis in agentic dimension (a decline of cooperative and a rise of conflict protest activities)
- No statistically significant global shift towards neither social development, nor social crisis



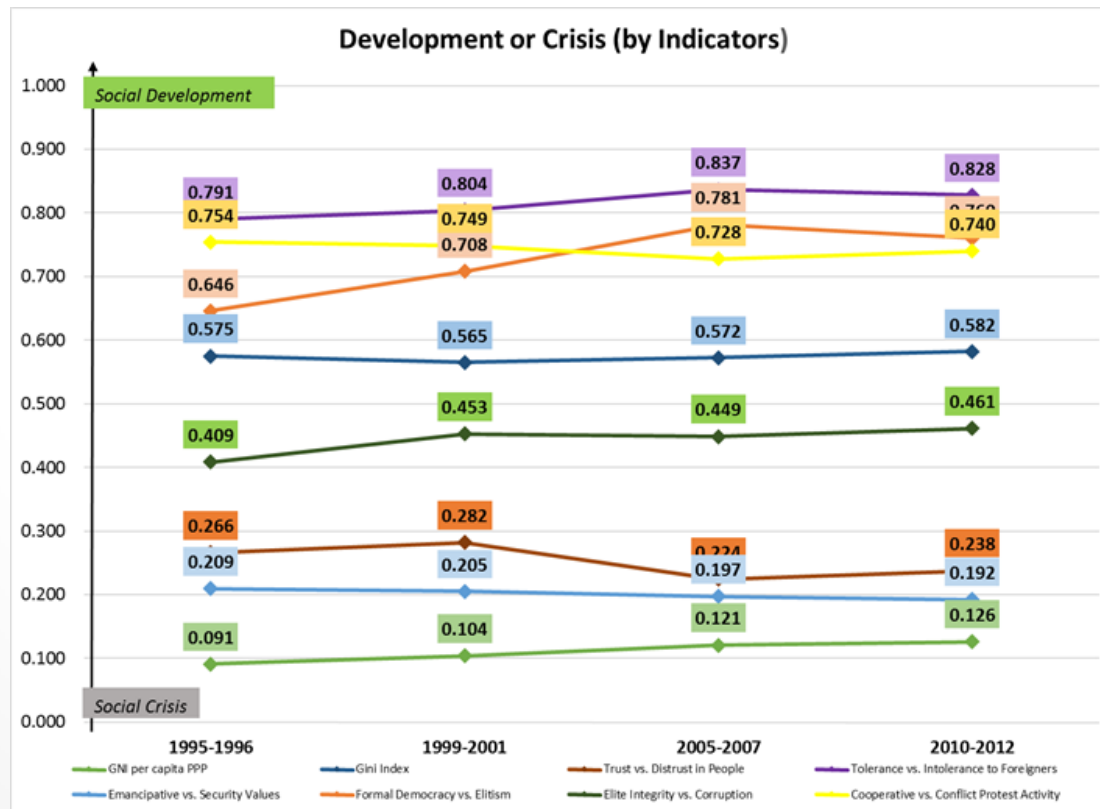
Findings 2: Overall Social Change by Countries

- Statistically significant social development over the 15-year period:
- Net social development in China (by 4.09%) and in Turkey (by 5.85%),
- A temporary social development in South Korea in 2001 (by 3.07%)



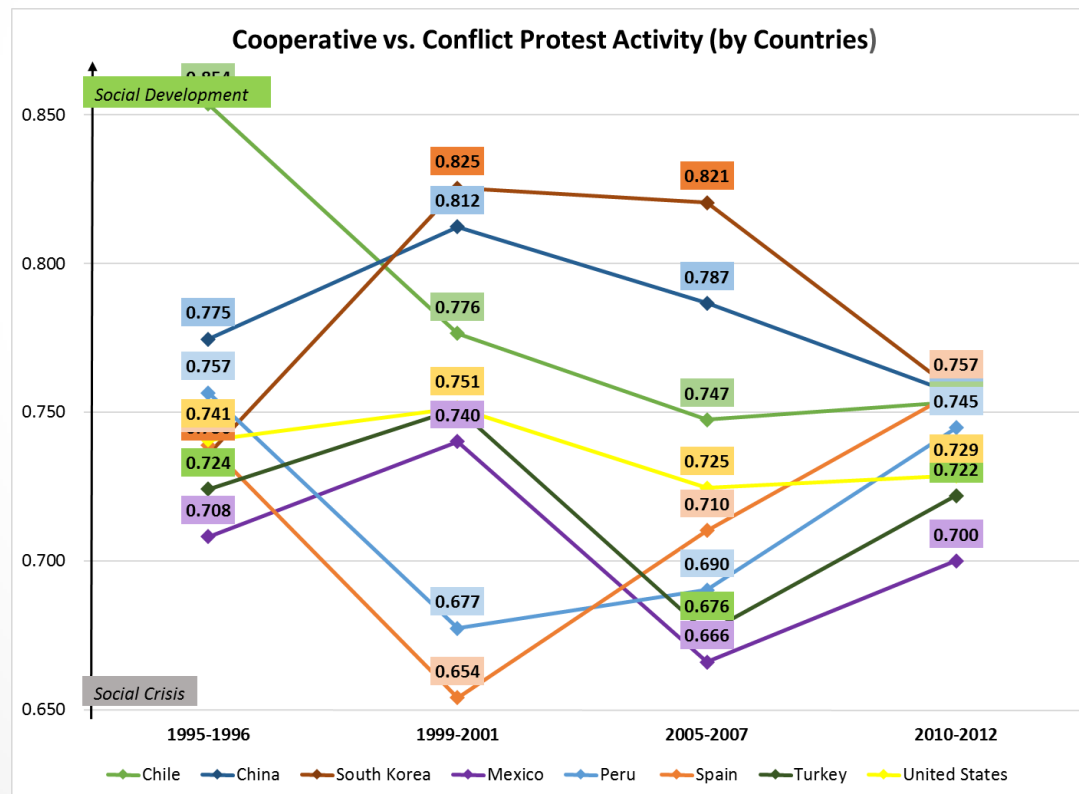
Findings 3: Social Change by Indicators

- Both GNI per capita PPP and GINI Index demonstrate a rise between each wave and cumulatively
- Emancipative values had a net decline by 1.68% - towards security issues
- Formal democracy yielded a net increase of 11.46%
- Conflict protests from the 3rd to the 5th wave gained a cumulative 1.42% rise in conflict protest activities



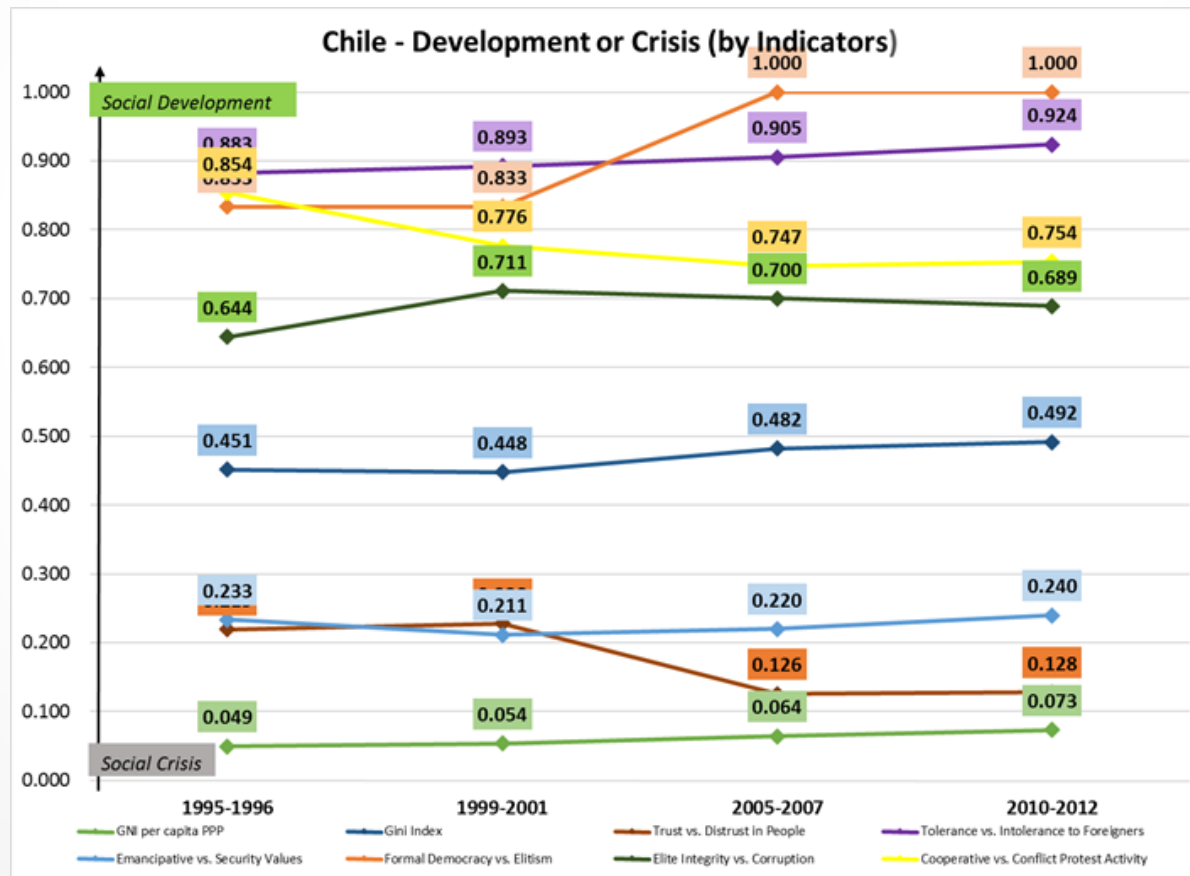
Findings 4: Indicators by Countries (Protests)

- Protest activities are rather volatile
- While South Korea and Spain show a shift towards cooperative protests
- The majority of the countries shift to a prevalence of conflict protest activities



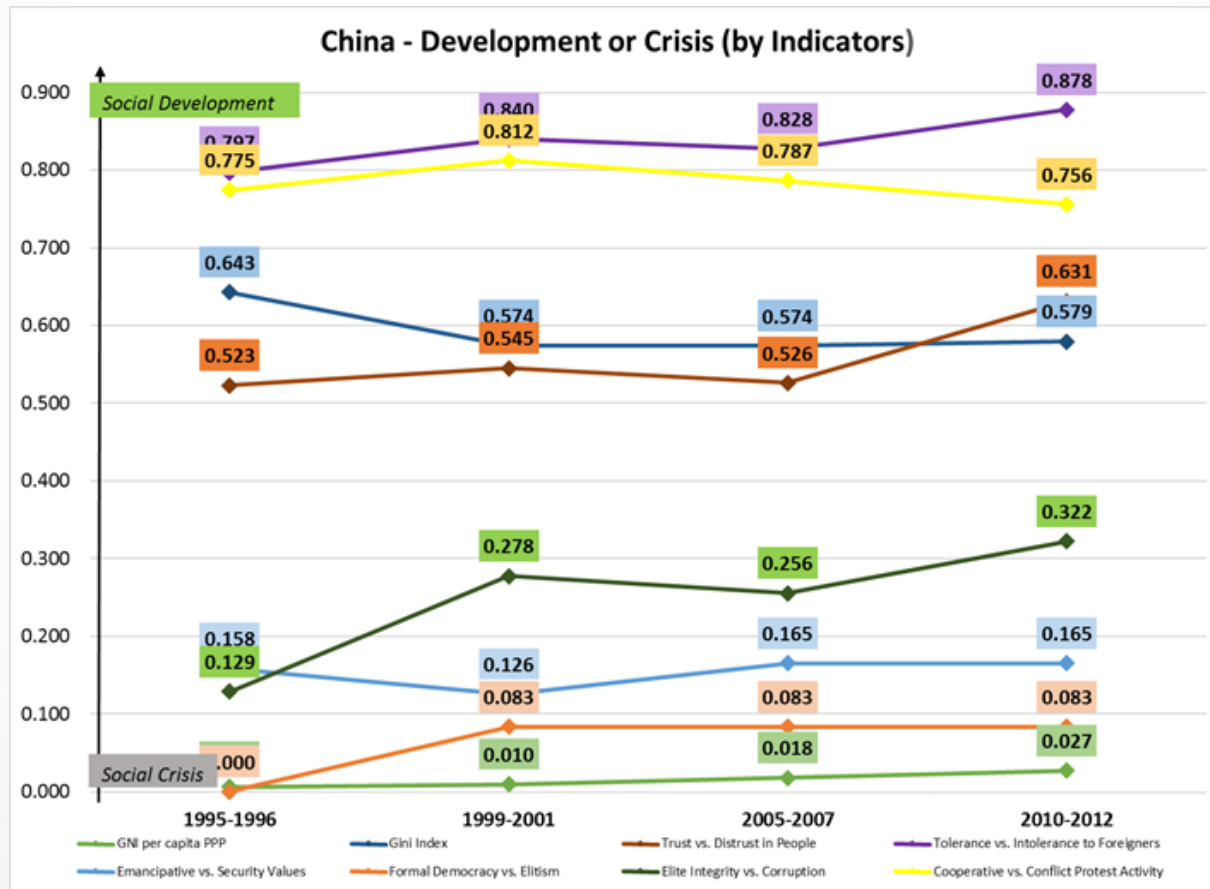
Findings 5: Indicators by Countries (Chile)

- Chile is more wealthy, equal, tolerant, democratic, but people protest in a more conflict way



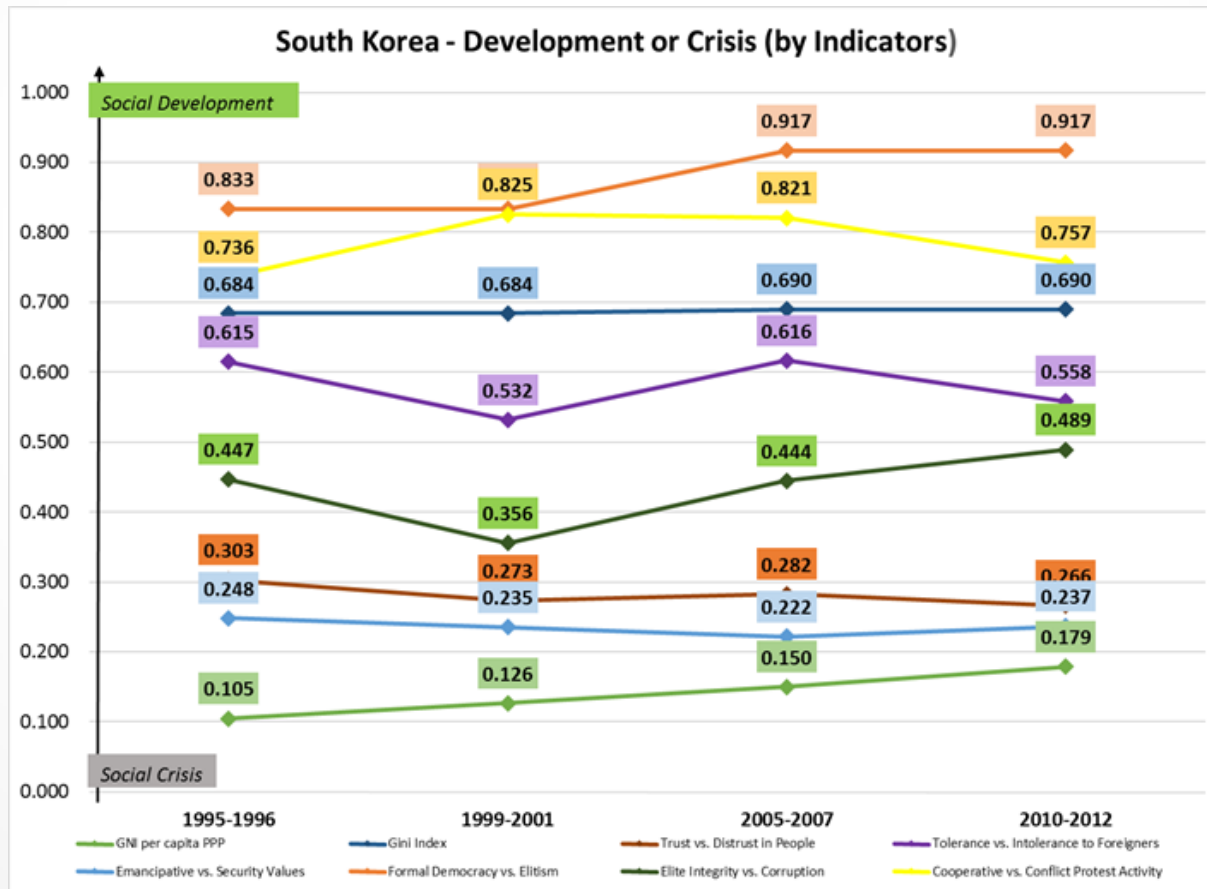
Findings 6: Indicators by Countries (China)

- China is becoming more economically well-off, but unequal, more trusting, tolerant, democratic, but conflictingly protesting



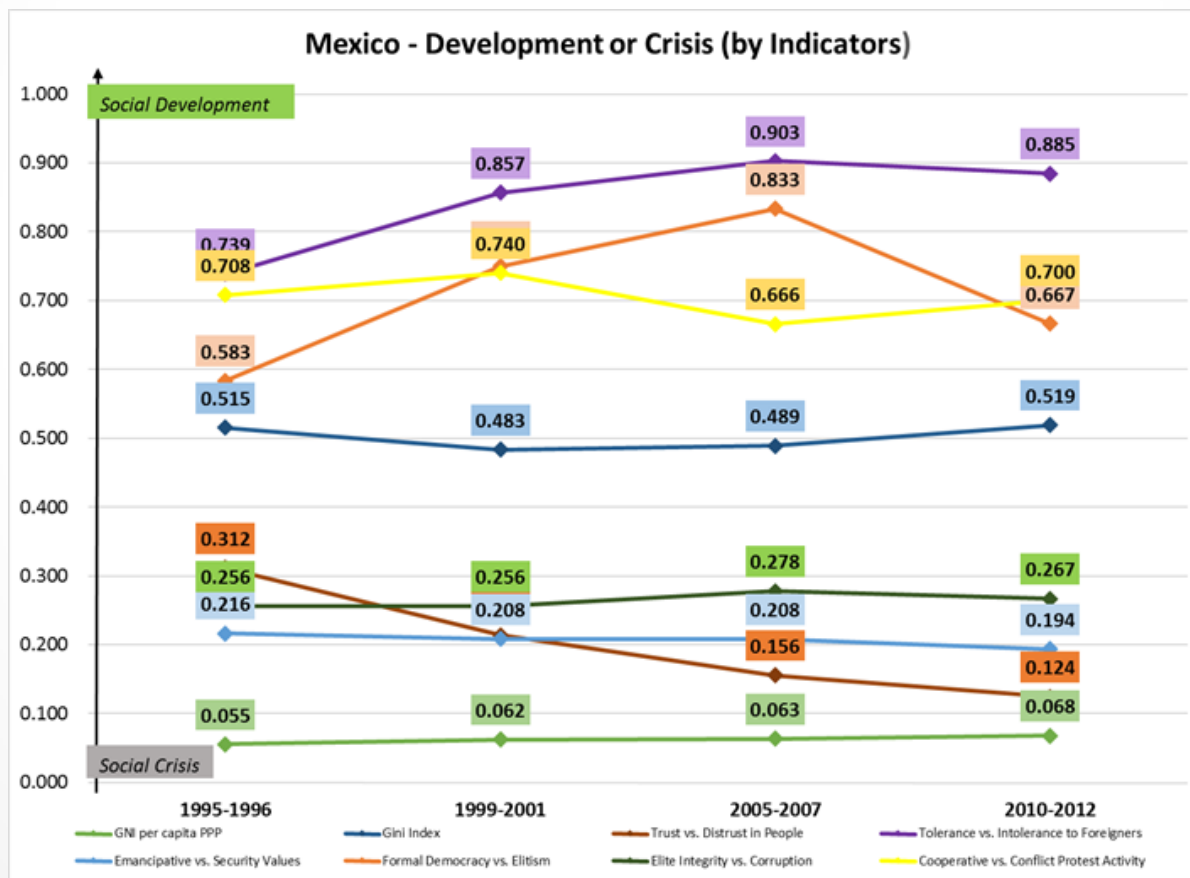
Findings 7: Indicators by Countries (South Korea)

- South Korea is more wealthy, equal, democratic, cooperative in protests, but more concerned with security issues



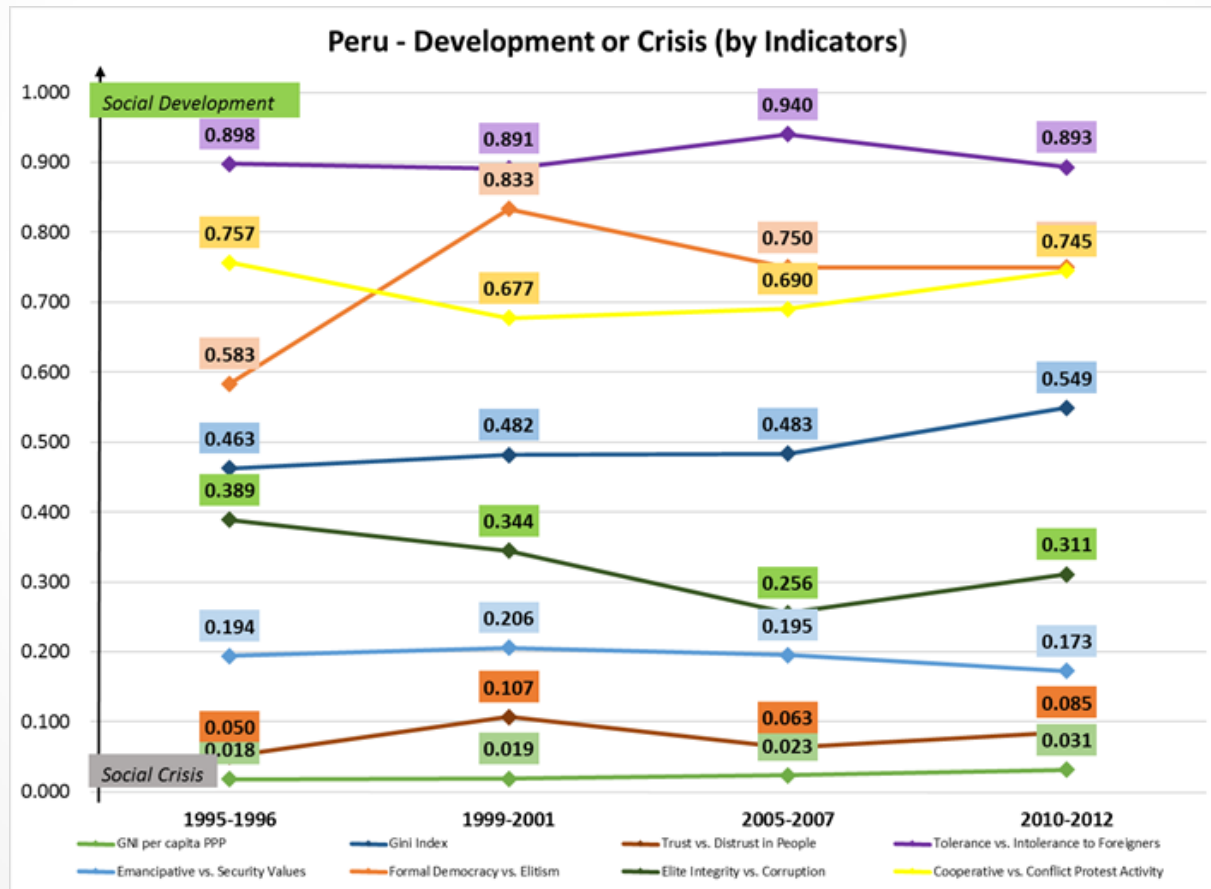
Findings 8: Indicators by Countries (Mexico)

- Mexico has become more prosperous, equal, tolerant, democratic, but distrustful and conflict in protests



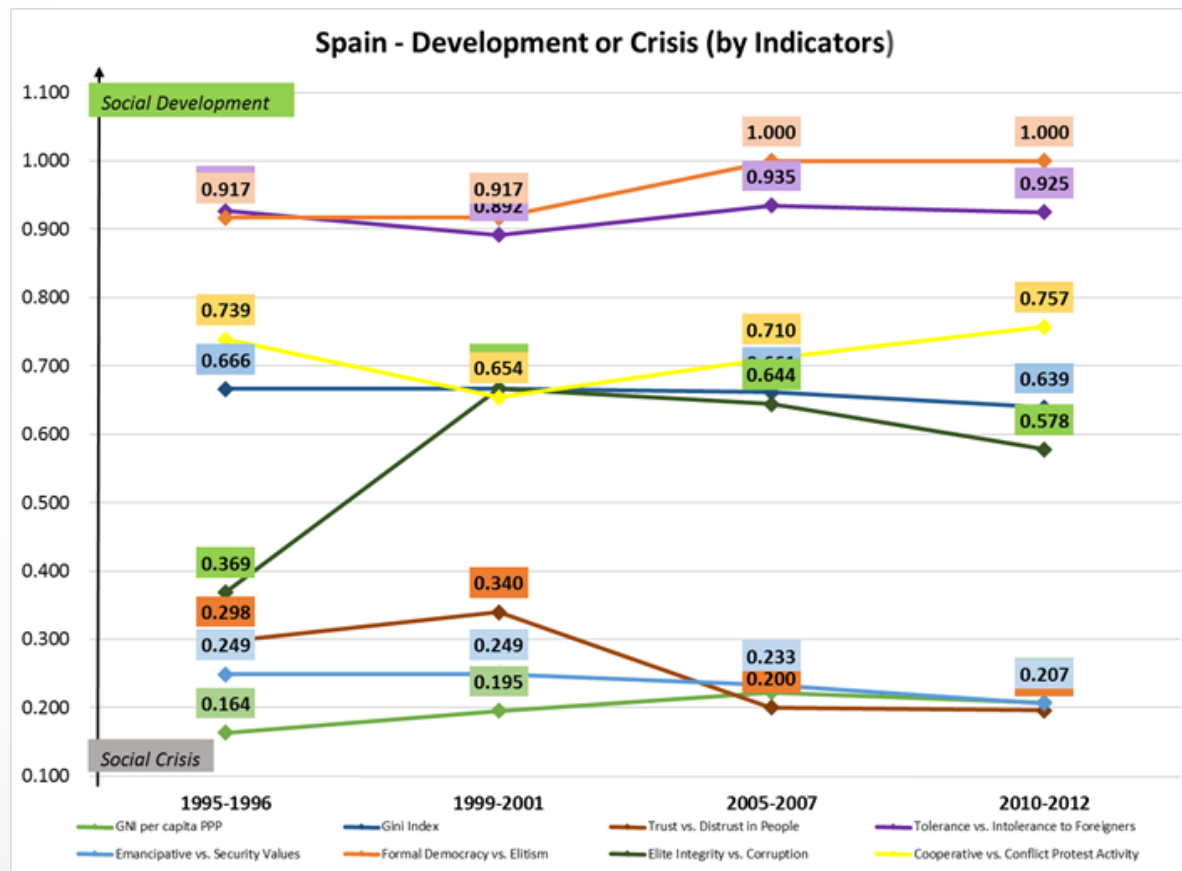
Findings 9: Indicators by Countries (Peru)

- Peru is more wealthy, equal, democratic, but experiencing a rise of security values and conflict protests



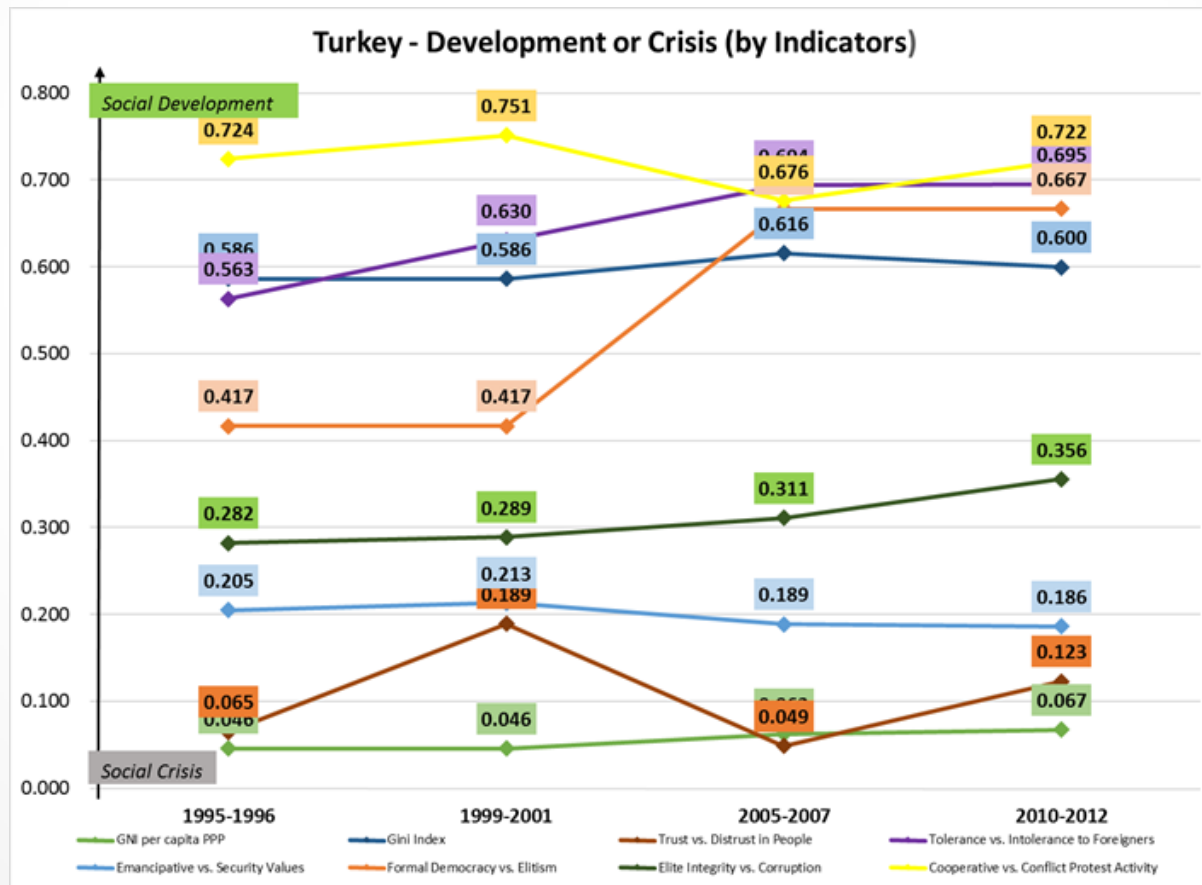
Findings 10: Indicators by Countries (Spain)

- Spain is more well-off, democratic, cooperative in conflicts, but more unequal, distrustful, and concerned with security



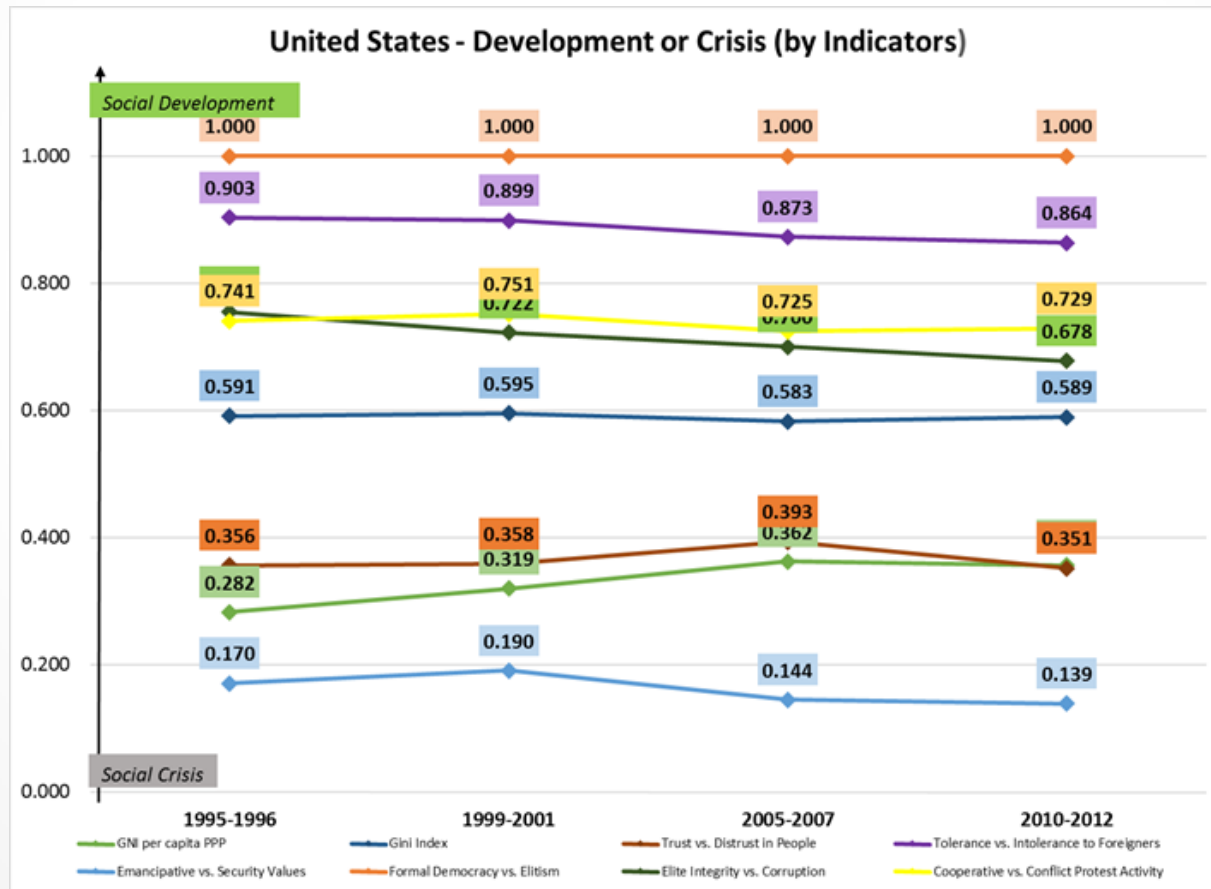
Findings 11: Indicators by Countries (Turkey)

- Turkey is more prosperous, equal, trusting, tolerant, democratic, but concerned with security and protesting in a conflict way



Findings 12: Indicators by Countries (USA)

- The United States are more prosperous, but more unequal, distrustful, intolerant, concerned with security and more conflict-oriented



Conclusion

- **Both** modernization theory and world-systems **are wrong** in generic claims of universal patterns of social change: there is neither universal social development nor universal social crisis.
- Still, in particular aspects they are right.
- **Both** theories **are correct** about cyclic change in *cultural and agentic* dimensions.
- **Modernization theory is correct** about social development: in economic dimension, including *prosperity and equality*, and partially in institutional dimension, specifically in *formal democracy*.
- **World-systems analysis is correct** about social crisis: partially in cultural dimension, manifested in the rise of *security values* and fully in agentic dimension, due to the rise of *conflict-type protests*.
- There is a potential for *theoretical synthesis*, especially regarding cycles, inequality, democracy, and protests.

Thank you for your attention!

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<https://lcsr.hse.ru/en/seminar2016>

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