

Quality of democracy in Moldova compared to other countries

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Video-conference: Presentation of the
Report on current state and development
of democracy in Moldova

Content

1. Why democracy matters
2. Facts about democracy in Moldova compared to other countries
3. About the project

Why democracy?

- Possibility to replace „bad“ government in regular elections
- Open public debate helps to find the best solutions to social and economic problems
- Open public debate and distribution of power prevents from „power abuse“ which is crucial for building social capital (trust) and innovation (realization of human potential)
- Solving problems, cooperation and innovation leads to **higher standard of living**

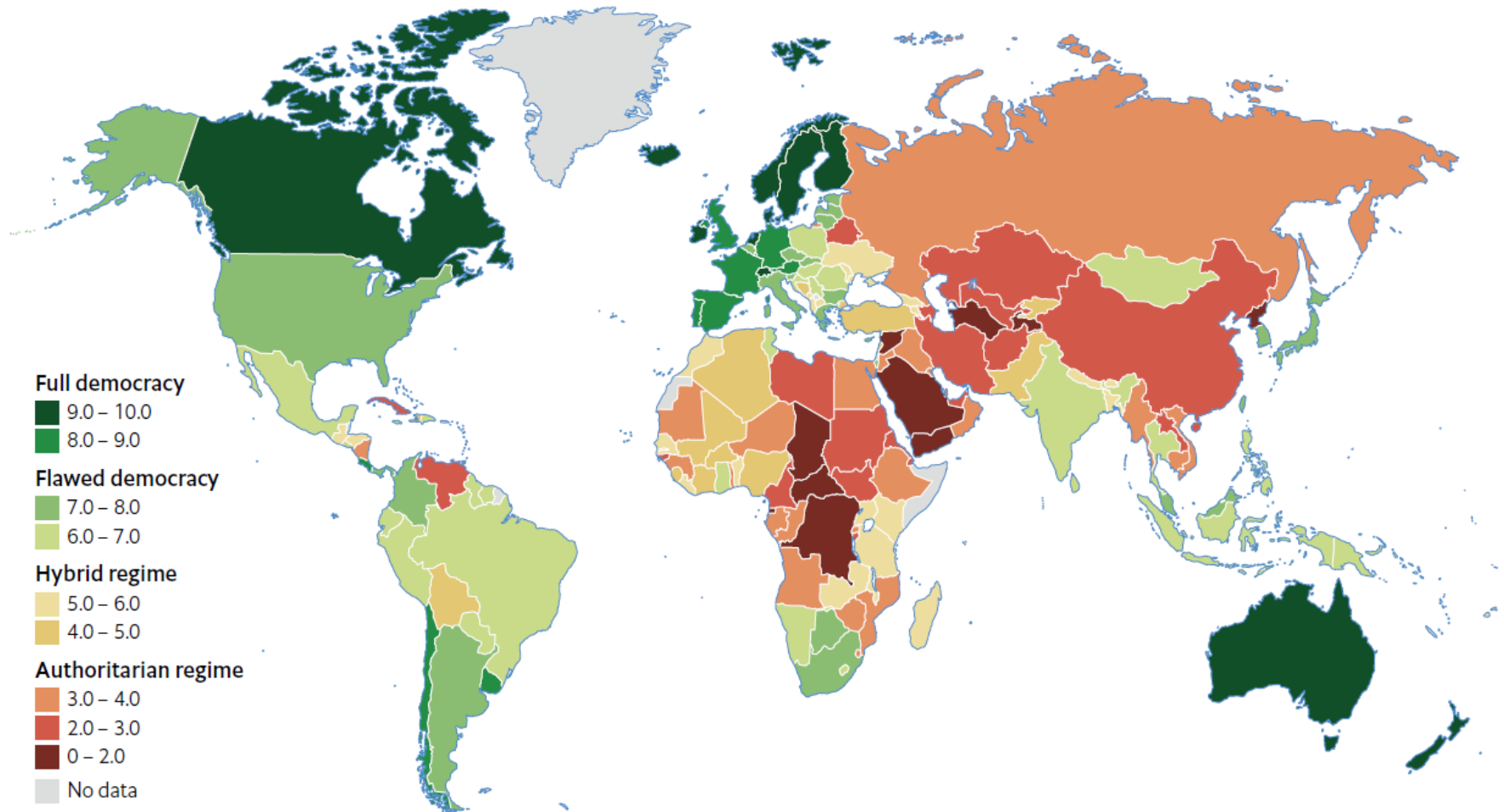
Threats to democracy

- Iron Law of Oligarchy: attempts to power abuse can lead to:
 - State capture, corruption, waste of public money
 - Unjustice, degradation of morality, violence
 - Disruption of free competition, building monopolies
- Populism: popular but harmful measures/rhetoric can lead to:
 - Unsustainable public finances
 - Violation of human rights, attacks on minorities
 - Deterioration of public goods, etc.

Determinants of good democracy

- Well-functioning institutions
 - Fair political competition
 - Checks and balances: Division of power among independent institutions
 - Public oversight: Free media, engaged citizens
- Anchored democratic values
 - Tolerance
 - Human rights, protection of life and dignity
 - Justice, rule of law
 - Freedom, solidarity, etc.

Chart 1: Democracy Index 2019, global map by regime type



Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Source: EIU, Democracy Index 2019

Table 1
Democracy Index 2019, by regime type

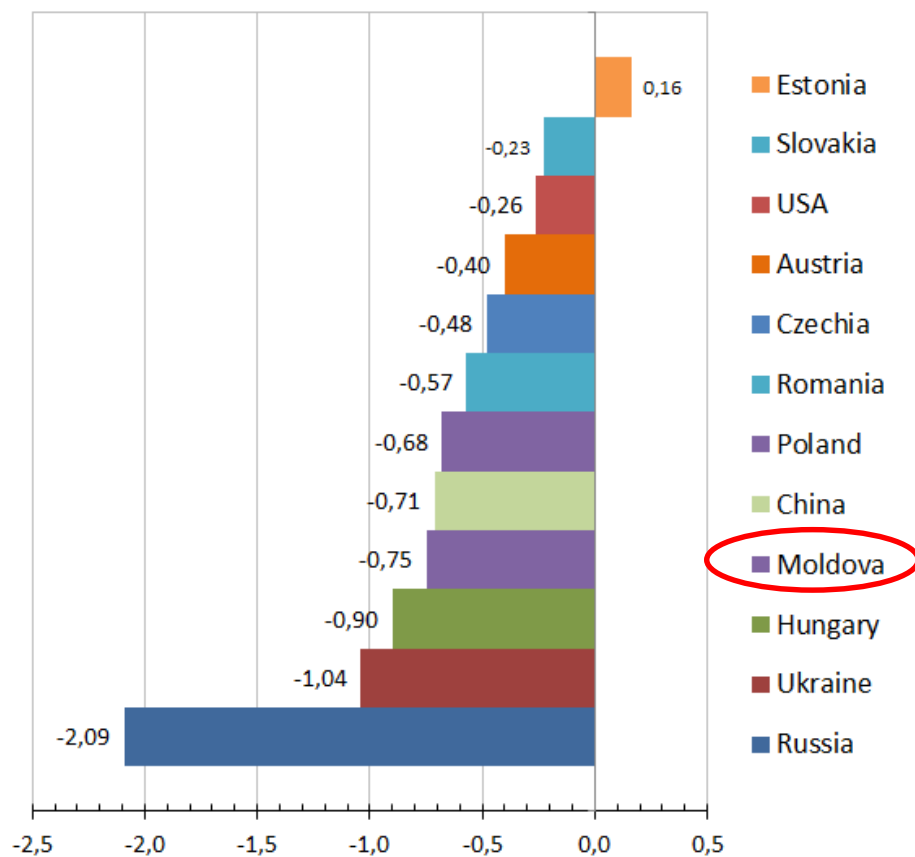
	No. of countries	% of countries	% of world population
Full democracies	22	13.2	5.7
Flawed democracies	54	32.3	42.7
Hybrid regimes	37	22.2	16.0
Authoritarian regimes	54	32.3	35.6

Note. "World" population refers to the total population of the 167 countries covered by the Index. Since this excludes only micro states, this is nearly equal to the entire estimated world population.

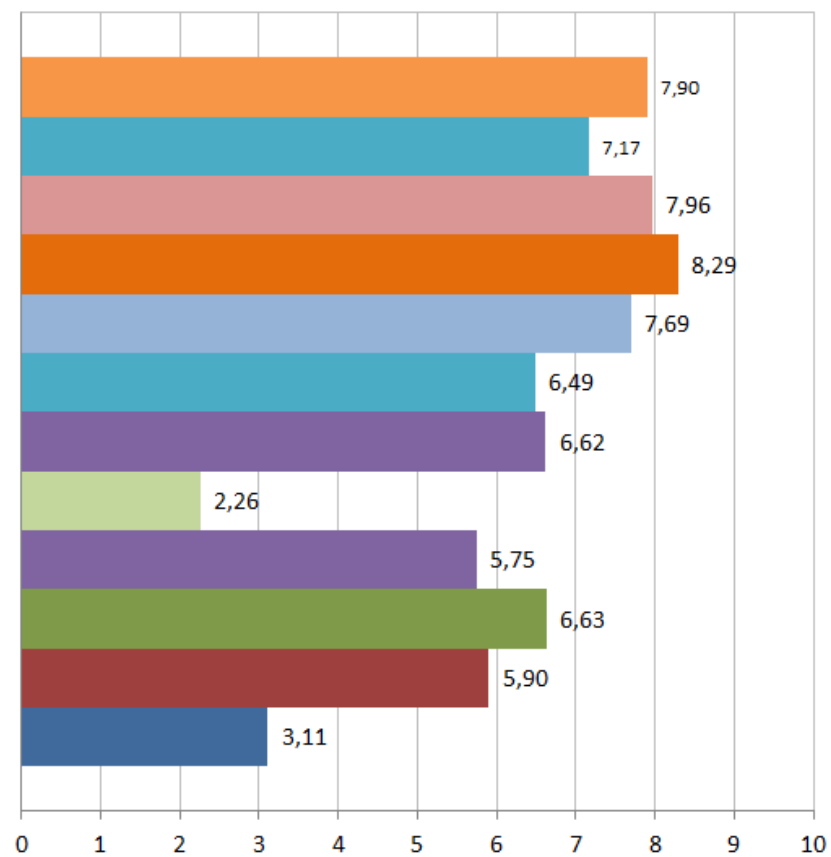
Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Source: EIU, Democracy Index 2019

Change in Democracy Index over 2006-19



Democracy Index in 2019

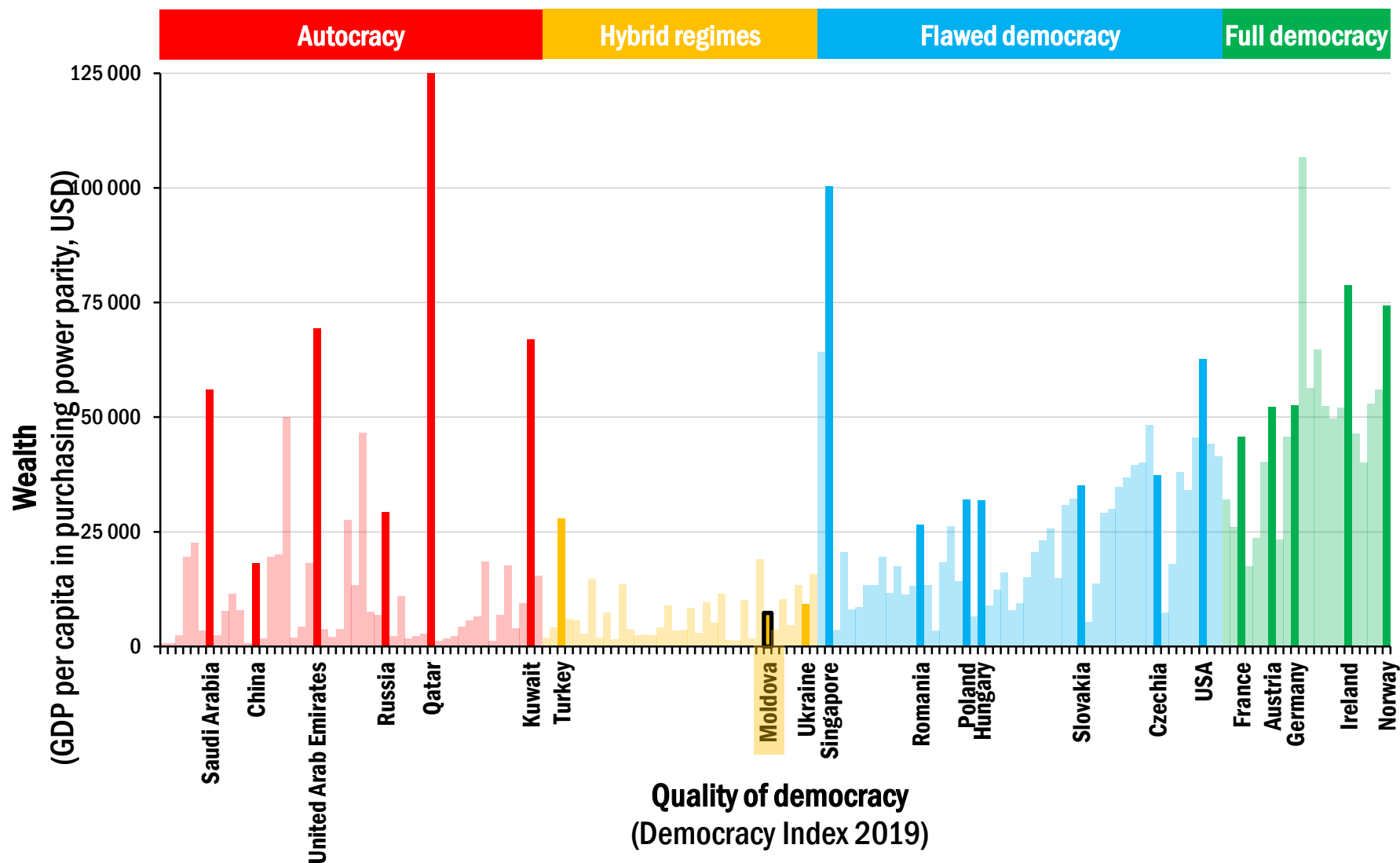


Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit, assessment on a scale 0-10, where 0 means no democracy and 10 means the best democracy

What they assess

1. Electoral system (MD: 6.58) – free and fair elections, political system, etc.
2. Functioning of government (**MD: 4.64**) – checks and balances, corruption, trust to government and political parties, etc.
3. Political participation (MD: 6.11) – electoral participation, active membership in political organizations, engagement of citizens in public affairs
4. Political culture (**MD: 4.38**) – public meaning of democracy and its links to public order, economy, etc.
5. Civil liberties (MD: 7.06) – freedom of media, rule of law, independence of judiciary, protection of private property and human rights, etc.

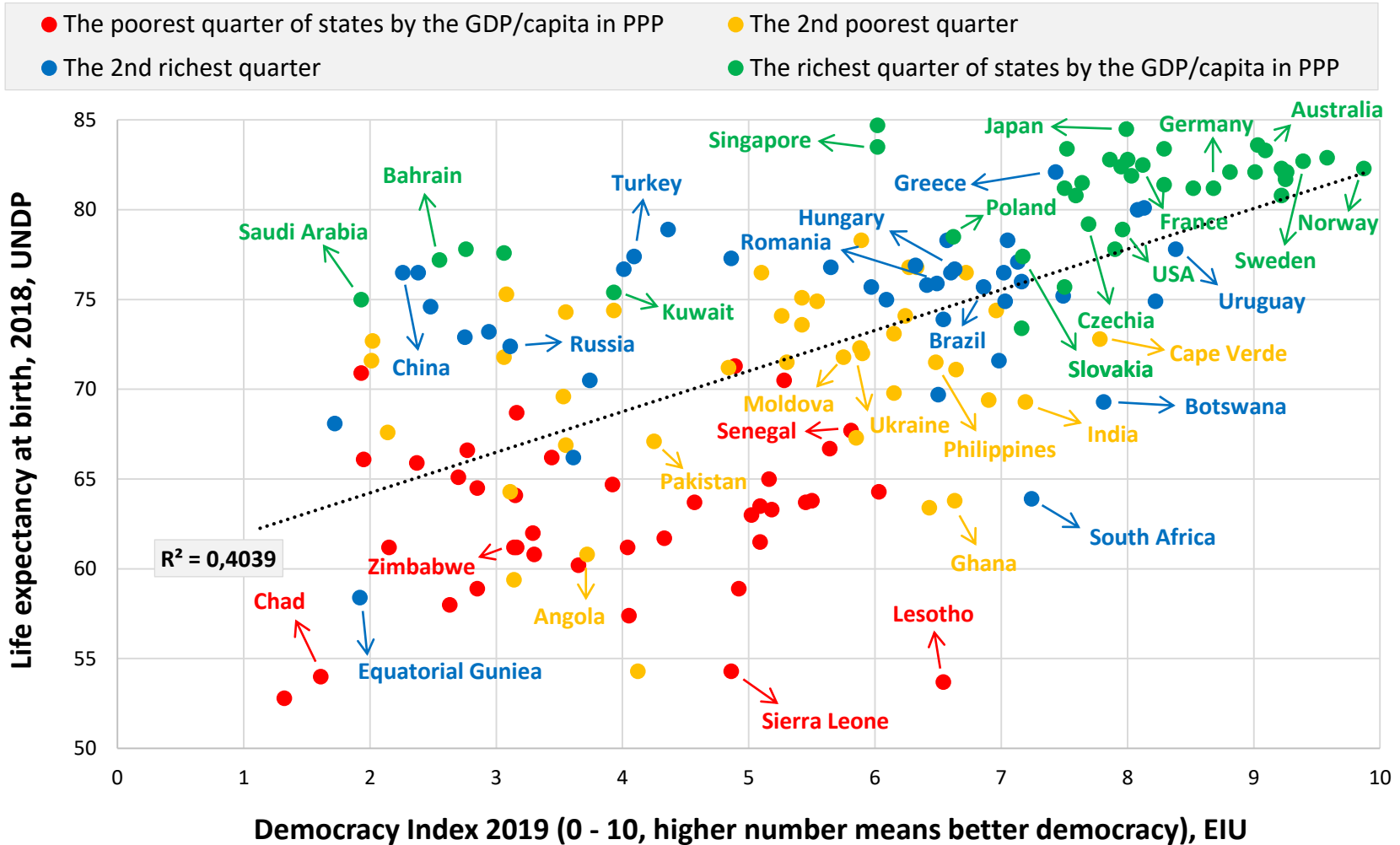
Link between wealth and quality of democracy



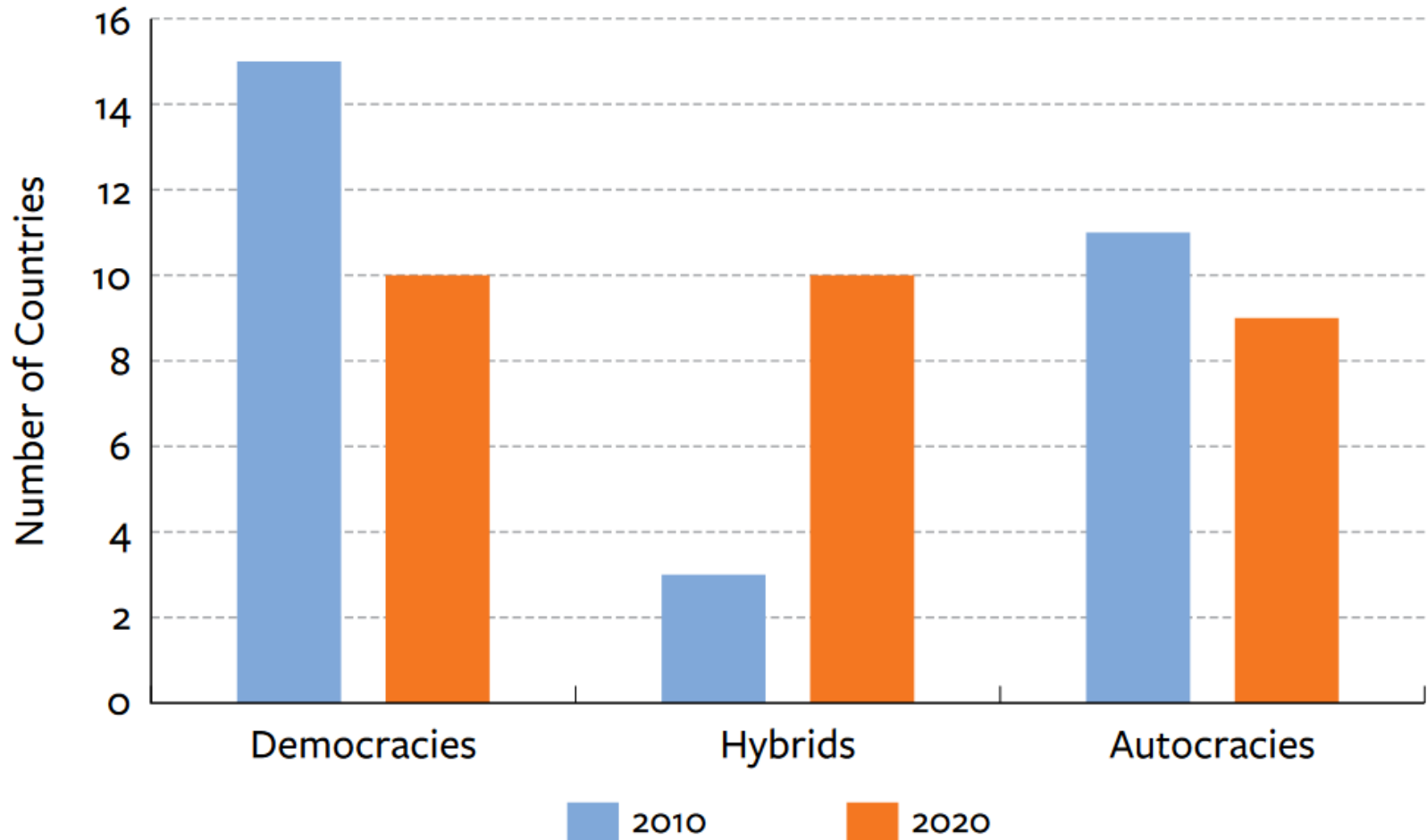
Source: INEKO, 2020; underlying data: EIU - Democracy Index 2019; IMF - GDP per capita in purchasing power parity, 2018

DEMOCRACY DELIVERS!

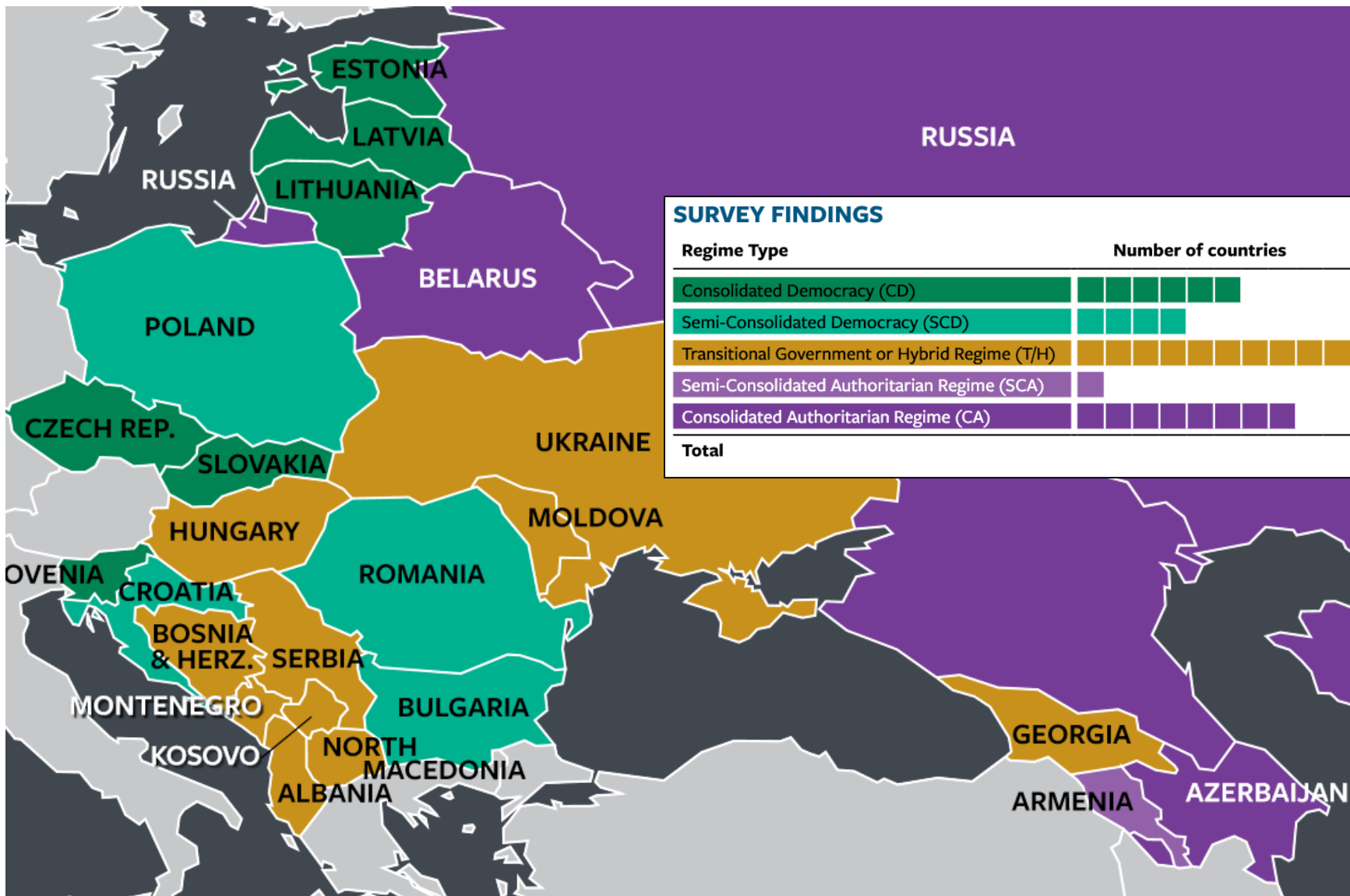
The most democratic countries in the world are also the richest and people there enjoy the longest lives



Freedom House rating



Source: Nations in Transit 2020, Freedom House



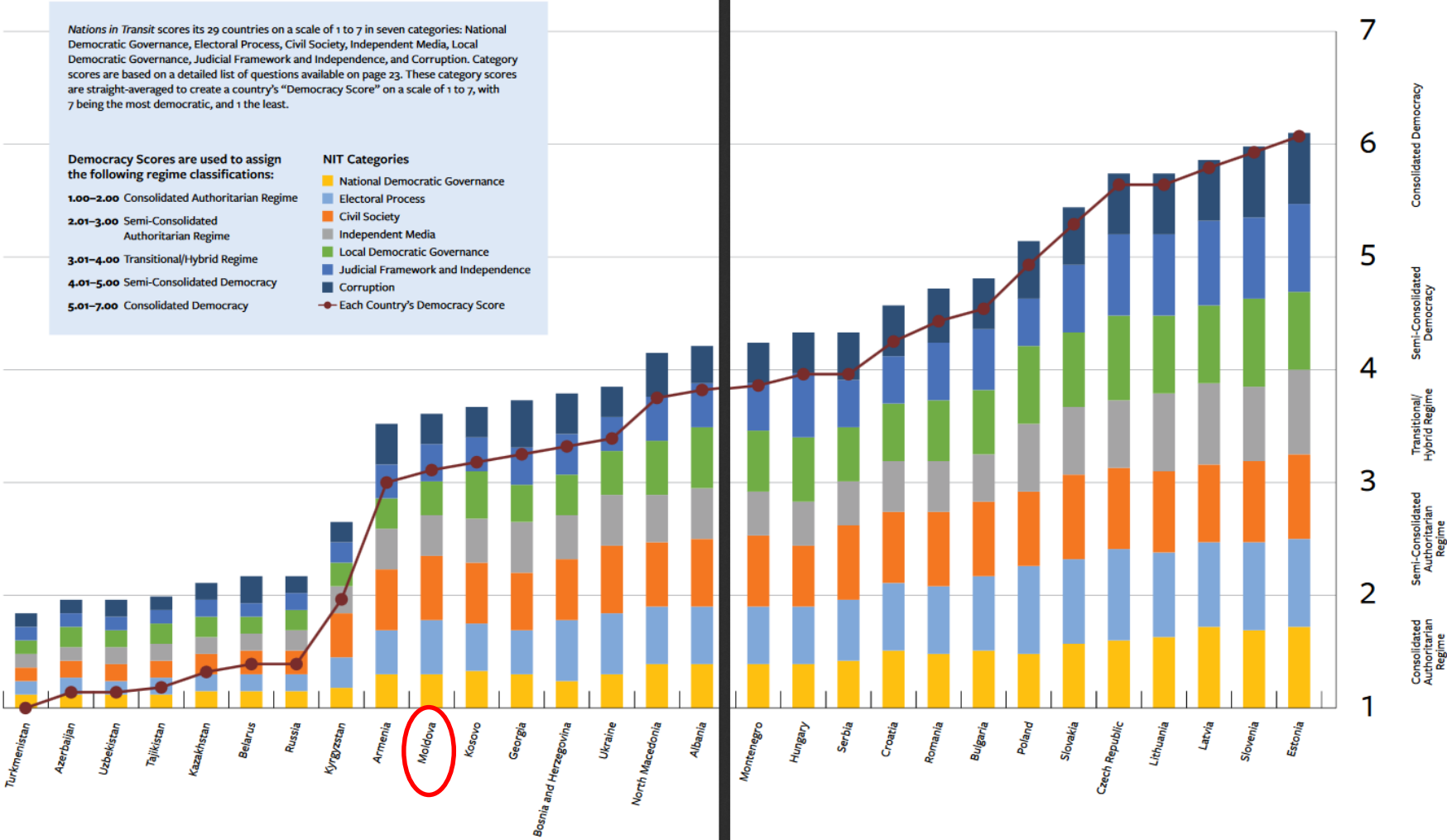
What they assess

1. Electoral process
2. Civil society
3. Independent media
4. National democratic governance
5. Judicial framework and independence
6. Local democratic governance
7. Corruption

Detailed methodology:

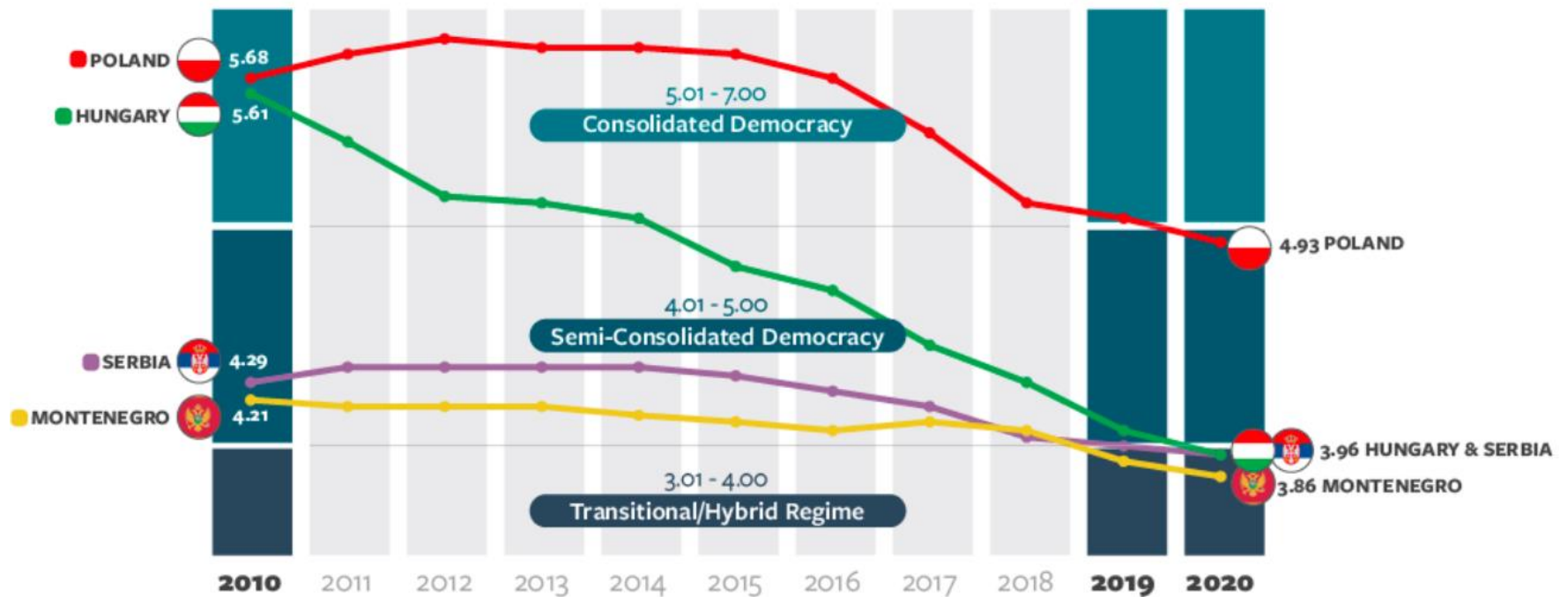
<https://freedomhouse.org/reports/nations-transit/nations-transit-methodology>

NATIONS IN TRANSIT 2020 SCORES



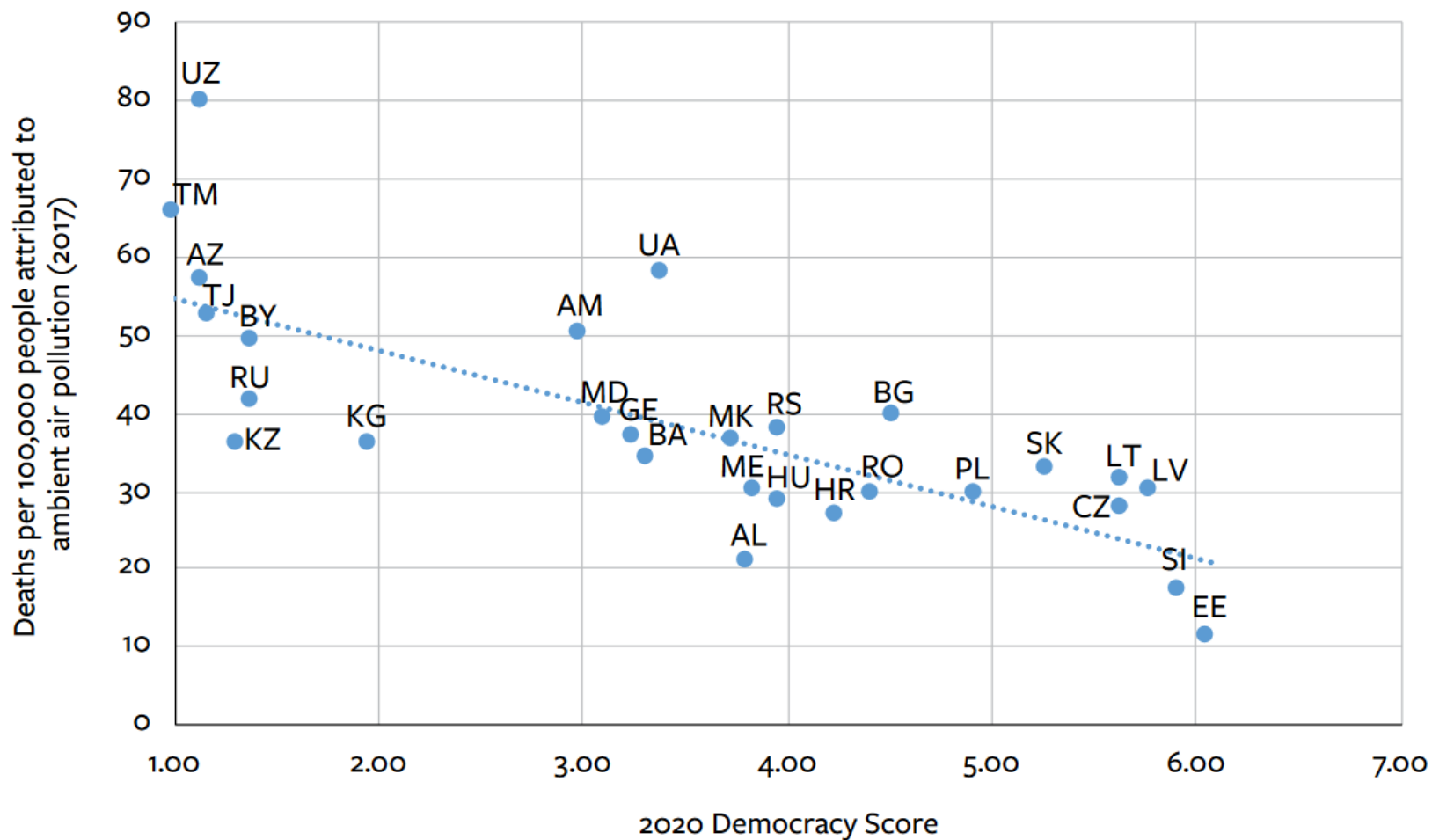
Leading the Democratic Decline

The breakdown of the democratic consensus has been most visible in Central Europe and the Balkans, which experienced the greatest gains after the end of the Cold War.



Source: Nations in Transit 2020, Freedom House

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND MORTALITY FROM AIR POLLUTION



Source: "Global Burden of Disease Study 2017," Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, WA, USA

Source: Nations in Transit 2020, Freedom House

About the project

- Title: Supporting democracy, independence and transparency of key public institutions in Moldova
- Duration: October 2019 – March 2021
- Implemented by: INEKO in partnership with IDIS „Viitorul“
- Funded by: The Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic (SlovakAid)
- Follow-up on previous projects running since October 2015

Project goals

- Goal: **To improve democracy in Moldova**, to reduce risk of “state capture” and “power abuse”
- Objectives:
 - To support public debate about current state of democracy in Moldova
 - To strengthen the independence of key regulatory and judiciary institutions in Moldova
 - To increase transparency and support implementation of anti-corruption measures in state-owned companies and local governments in Moldova
- Transferring know-how from projects implemented in Slovakia

Key outputs

- Report on current state and development of democracy in Moldova
- Report on independence of key public institutions in Moldova
- Updating transparency and financial health ratings of:
 - Public enterprises: <http://companies.viitorul.org/>
 - Local governments (cities and regions):
<http://localbudgets.viitorul.org/> and
<http://localtransparency.viitorul.org/>
- Electronic monthly newsletters

What is next?

- **10/2020: Conference in Chisinau:**
 - Publishing Report on independence of key public institutions
 - Updating financial data of local governments:
<http://localbudgets.viitorul.org/>
- Electronic monthly newsletters
- At least 10 lectures for students about democracy
- Study visits to at least 10 public enterprises and local governments
- **03/2021: Conference in Chisinau:**
 - Updating transparency and financial health ratings of public enterprises: <http://companies.viitorul.org/>

Thank you for your attention!

<http://www.ineko.sk/projekty/supporting-democracy-independence-and-transparency-of-key-public-institutions-in-moldova>