

Cross Country Performance in Social Integration of older migrants

A European Perspective

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- Successful integration of immigrants is a major concern of European public policies (*European Commission, 2010, 2009*)
- « Healthy Ageing » Policy: Promotion of social integration for elderly people so as to reduce social exclusion
- Literature provides two measures of social integration that are related to social capital:
 - Generalized trust
 - Participation in social activities
- Immigrants report a lower social trust and tend to participate less in social activities than natives

- **What are the determinants of migrant social integration?**

- **Individual characteristics:**

- Disadvantaged social et economic situation in the host country
- Social distance between migrants and natives due to a reduced length of stay in the host country

Two potential effects of the length of stay:

1. Increase immigrant social participation
2. Increase immigrant trust

→ Immigrants are more familiar with formal and informal institutions with an increased length of stay

- Institutional characteristics:

Social heterogeneity

- Reduction of social participation opportunities
- Preference for social homogeneity: individuals prefer to interact with similar individuals

Corruption and inequalities

- Social integration is weaker in non-egalitarian and corrupted societies
- The social environment is not receptive: decreases the cooperation and reduce opportunities for participation

Welfare state regime

- Substitute to civil society: fosters social isolation (“Crowding out”)
- Complementary to civil society: favors social integration (“Crowding in”)

- **Objectives:**

- Study the influence of length of stay on immigrant social participation and social trust

- ↳ Reduction in the social distance (Akerlof, 1995)

- Analyse the effect of institutional characteristics to explain differences in migrants social integration of across European countries

- **Data:**

- **SHARE** (The Survey on Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe) - (Vague 2)

- Micro-data : individual aged of 50 and +

- International : 14 European countries

- 31 852 individuals

- **OCDE & Transparency International**

1. Participation in social activities

1 = if individual is engaged in collective activities (association, sport club, etc.)

0 otherwise

2. Interpersonal trust

1 = if trust score > 5 (measured on a scale from 0 to 10, the highest score being equal to 10)

0 otherwise

Cross-Country Composition of Social Capital

Country	Social participation	Trust
Austria	0,389	0,490
Germany	0,470	0,467
Sweden	0,699	0,660
Netherlands	0,626	0,672
Spain	0,235	0,534
Italy	0,248	0,395
France	0,488	0,332
Denmark	0,671	0,776
Greece	0,431	0,360
Switzerland	0,607	0,638
Belgium	0,554	0,462
Czechia	0,345	0,501
Poland	0,183	0,392
Ireland	0,619	0,624
Total	0,401	0,458

1. Individual determinants (SHARE)

- Migration related variables:

Migratory status: natives versus migrants (8,1%)

Age at immigration: year of migration –year of birth ($x = 22$ years old)

- Demographics

- Socio-economics conditions

2. Institutional determinants (OECD and International Transparency)

- Annual growth rate of GDP

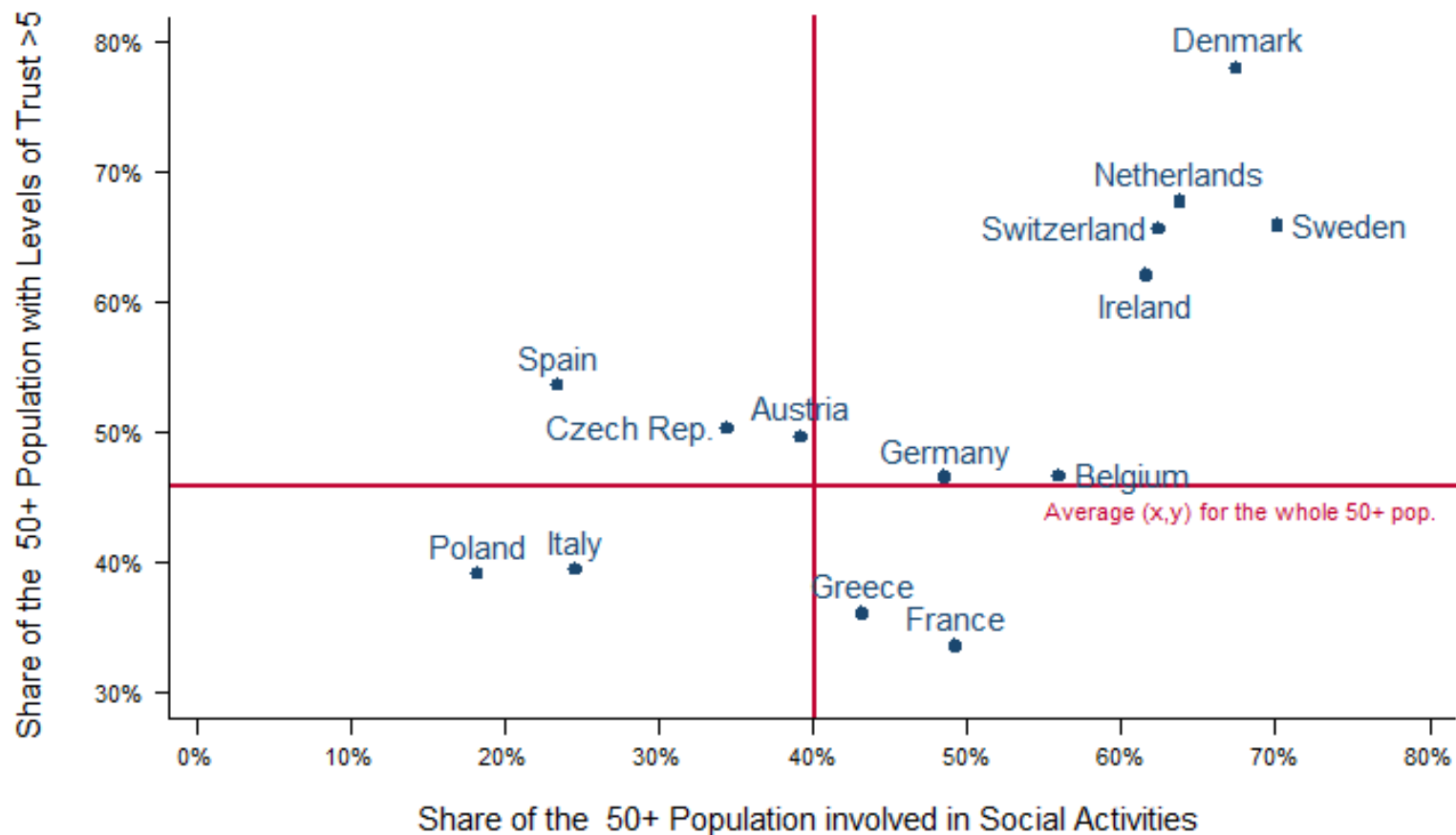
- GINI coefficient

- Corruption Perceived Index

- Linguistic, Religious and Ethnic fractionalisation indexes

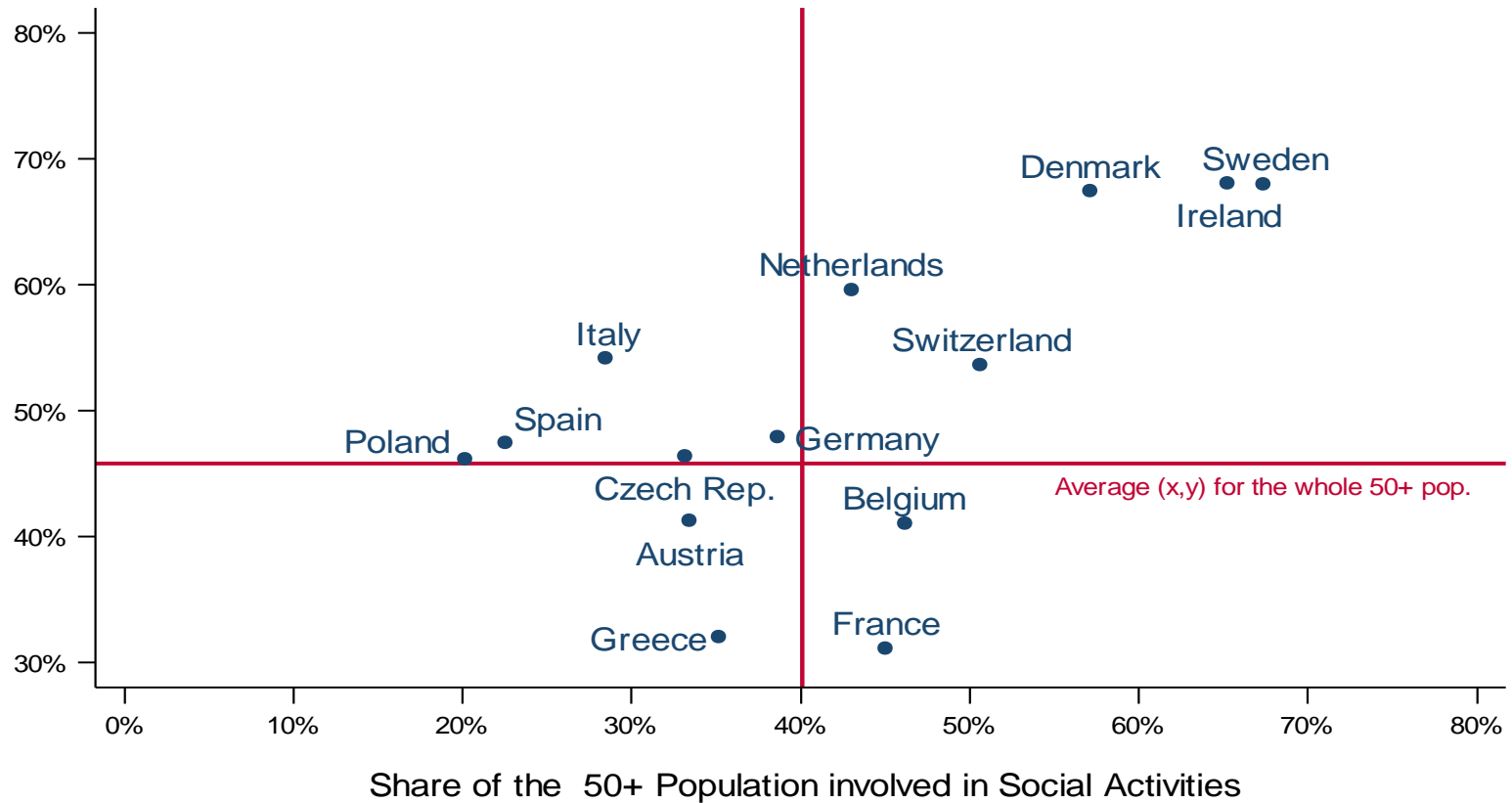
- Total public spending as % of GDP

Fig.1.1. Profile of Social Capital Among *Natives Only*



Note: Weighted Statistics (average weights for Ireland)

Fig.1.2. Profile of Social Capital Among *Migrants Only*



Note: Weighted Statistics (average weights for Ireland)

1. Individual determinants:

y_{ki}^* : social integration of individual i

$$M1 : y_{ki}^* = \alpha_k N_i + \mu_k A_i + X_i \beta_k + \sum_{j=1}^{13} \gamma_k d_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ki}$$

Effect of age at migration (A_i)

$$M2 : y_{ki}^* = \alpha_k N_i + \sum_{j=1}^{13} \mu_{kj} (d_j \times A_{ij}) + X_i \beta_k + \varepsilon_{ki}$$

Effect of age at migration accross countries = speed of integration

2. Institutional determinants:

μ_{kj} : Heterogeneity between countries regarding speed of social integration

$$M3 : \mu_{kj} = a_k + b_k Z_j + e_k$$

Effect of macro characteristics (Z_j)

Results (M1 – 1st level)

Individual Determinants of Social Capital

Dependant var.	MODEL 1			
	Social Participation		Generalised Trust	
Indep. var.	Coef.	Robust S.E.	Coef.	Robust S.E.
Socio-Demo.				
Migrant				
Non-migrant (Native)	-0,031	0,052	0.115**	0,051
Age at migration	-0.011***	0,002	0,001	0,002
Age (years)	-0.015***	0,001	0,001	0,001
Gender (1=man)	0,02	0,015	-0.026*	0,015
Married or couple (1=yes)	-0.063***	0,018	0.044**	0,018
Education				
Primary	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.
Secondary	0.199***	0,019	0.136***	0,018
Tertiary	0.464***	0,021	0.318***	0,02
Employment status				
Occupied	-0.130***	0,021	0.098***	0,02
Other	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.
Self-assessed Health				
Excellent or very good	0.202***	0,018	0.220***	0,017
Other	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.
Rho	0,107	0,01		
Obs.		31853		

Source: SHARE wave2 (release 2.3.0). Legend: * p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.010

Results (M2 – 1st level)

Individual Determinants of Social Capital

Dependant var.	MODEL 2			
	Social Participation		Generalised Trust	
Indep. var.	Coef.	Robust S.E.	Coef.	Robust S.E.
Migration				
Non-migrant (Native)	-0,007	0,104	0.269***	0,104
Interaction terms				
Age at migration X FR-France	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.	Ref.
Age at migration X AT-Austria	-0.015***	0,002	0,004	0,004
Age at migration X DE-Germany	-0.011***	0,002	0,004	0,003
Age at migration X SE-Sweden	0.014***	0,002	0.016***	0,004
Age at migration X NL-Netherlands	-0.003*	0,002	0.017***	0,003
Age at migration X ES-Spain	-0.024***	0,002	-0,002	0,003
Age at migration X IT-Italy	-0.010***	0,002	0.013***	0,003
Age at migration X DK-Denmrk	0,001	0,002	0.013***	0,004
Age at migration X GR-Greece	-0.027***	0,002	-0,002	0,004
Age at migration X SW-Switzerland	-0,001	0,002	0.009**	0,004
Age at migration X BE-Belgium	-0,002	0,002	0,003	0,004
Age at migration X CZ-Czech Rep.	-0.014***	0,003	0.020***	0,005
Age at migration X PL-Poland	-0.025***	0,005	0.032***	0,007
Age at migration X IE-Ireland	-0,002	0,002	0.011***	0,003
Constant	0,183	0,255	-0.791***	0,17
Rho	0.160***	0,03		
Obs.	31852			

Source: SHARE wave2 (release 2.3.0). Legend: * p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.010

Cross-country Determinants of "Speed of Integration"

Dependant var. Indep. var.	MODEL 4			
	Social Participation		Generalised Trust	
	Coef.	R ²	Coef.	R ²
GINI Index	-0.190***	0,463	0,031	0,018
GDP per capita	0,000	0,005	0,002	0,123
Social Expenditures	0,001	0,144	-0,001	0,060
Corruption Index	-0.040***	0,499	-0,014	0,087
Ethnic Fractionalization	-0,007	0,010	-0,015	0,075
Language Fractionalization	0,012	0,037	-0,005	0,011
Religious Fractionalization	0,000	0,000	-0,001	0,000
Obs.	14		14	

→ Highly significant effect of the Gini coefficient and the corruption index in the social participation equation

Fig.3.1. Speed of Social Integration and Income Inequality
 (Social Participation equation)

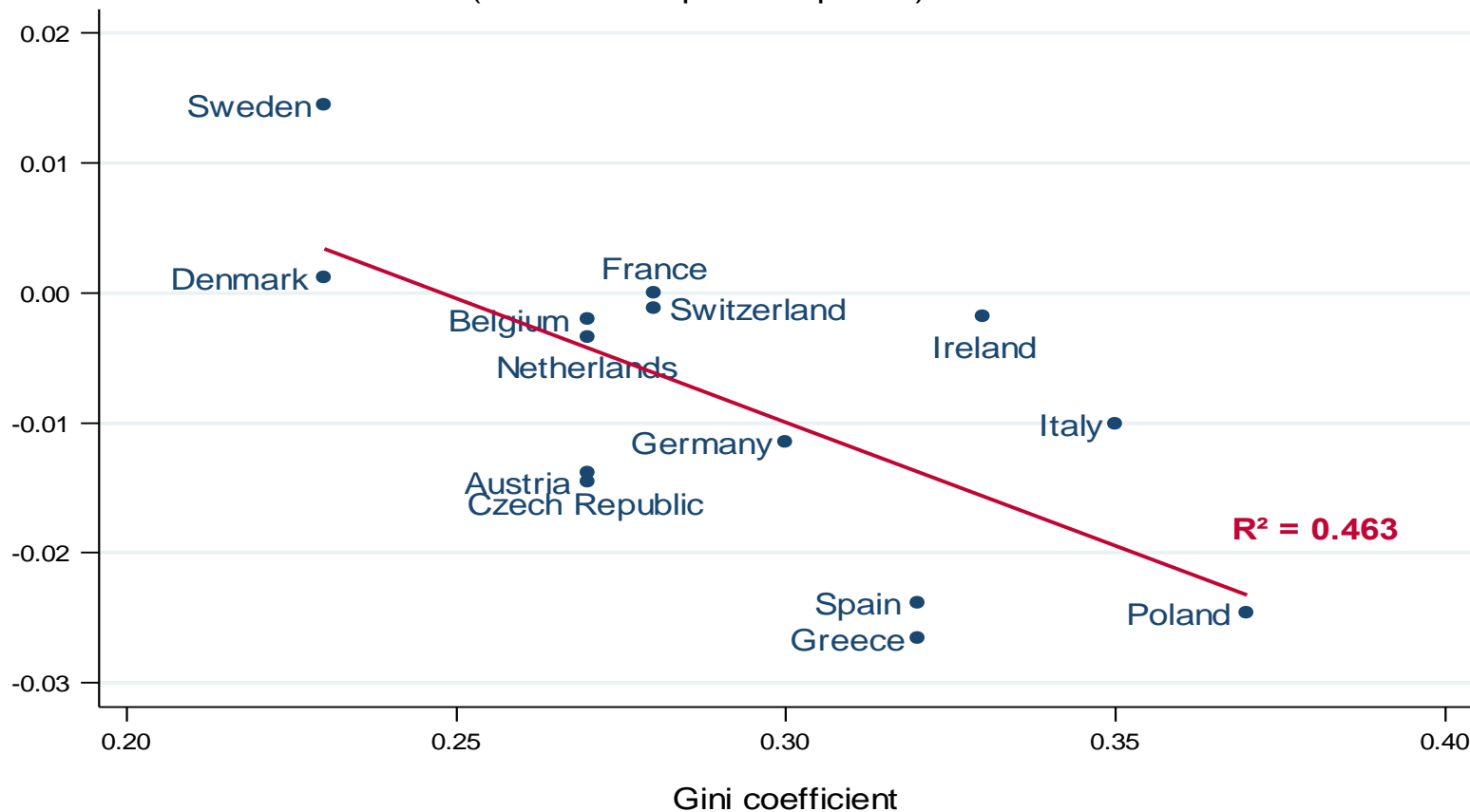
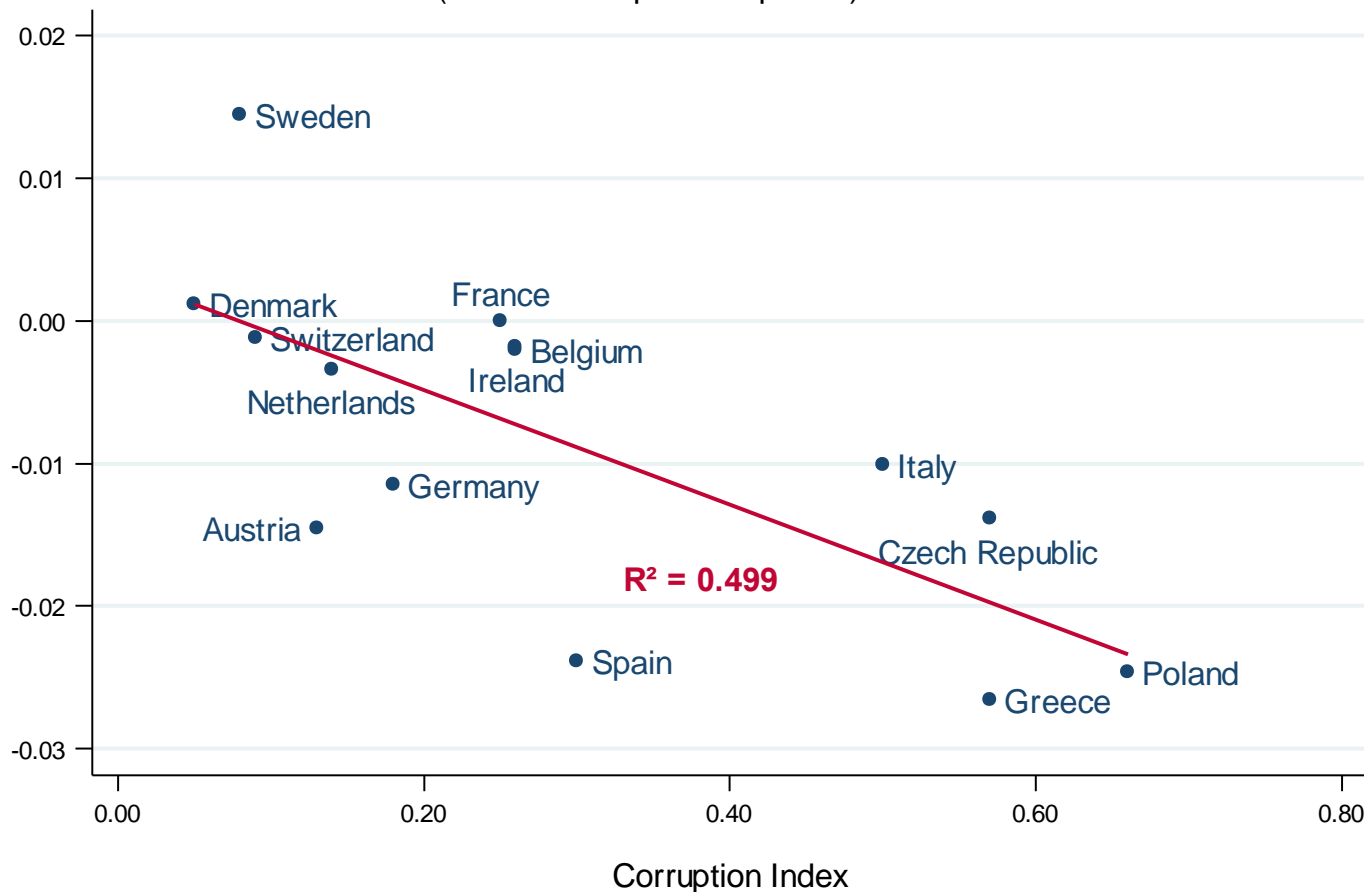


Fig.3.2. Speed of Social Integration and Perceived Corruption

(Social Participation equation)



1. Immigrant social integration takes time

The difference in social participation between migrants and natives reduced with an increased length of stay

2. Migrant integration is faster in some countries than others

- In countries where inequalities and corruption are low
- Reduction in income inequalities and corruption can foster immigrant social integration

↳ The social absorption of migrant is more important in countries with low levels of inequalities and corruption

3. Limits due to the size of the sample and the endogeneity of social capital

Thanks for your attention

Macroeconomic Series

Country	Gini ^(a)	GDP per capita ^(a)	Social exp. as %GDP ^(a)	CI ^(b)	Ethnic fract. ^(c)	Linguistic fract. ^(c)	Religious fract. ^(c)
Austria	0,27	2,46	27,36	0,130	0,107	0,152	0,415
Germany	0,30	0,75	27,23	0,180	0,168	0,164	0,657
Sweden	0,23	3,16	29,08	0,080	0,060	0,197	0,234
Netherlands	0,27	2,05	20,71	0,140	0,105	0,514	0,722
Spain	0,32	3,61	21,41	0,300	0,416	0,413	0,451
Italy	0,35	0,66	24,98	0,500	0,115	0,115	0,303
France	0,28	1,90	28,97	0,250	0,103	0,122	0,403
Denmark	0,23	2,45	27,21	0,050	0,082	0,105	0,233
Greece	0,32	2,28	20,96	0,570	0,158	0,030	0,153
Switzerland	0,28	2,64	20,19	0,090	0,531	0,544	0,608
Belgium	0,27	1,71	26,45	0,260	0,555	0,541	0,213
Czechia	0,27	6,32	19,53	0,570	0,322	0,323	0,659
Poland	0,37	3,62	21,28	0,660	0,118	0,047	0,171
Ireland	0,33	6,02	15,76	0,260	0,121	0,031	0,155
Total	0,29	2,83	23,65	0,364	0,210	0,236	0,384

Source: (a) OECD. (b) http://www.anderson.ucla.edu/faculty_pages/romain.wacziarg/papersum.html. CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts; coded here between 0 (highly clean) to 1 (highly corrupt). (c) Alesina et al. (2003).