

The political representation of women & ethnic groups in legislatures around the world

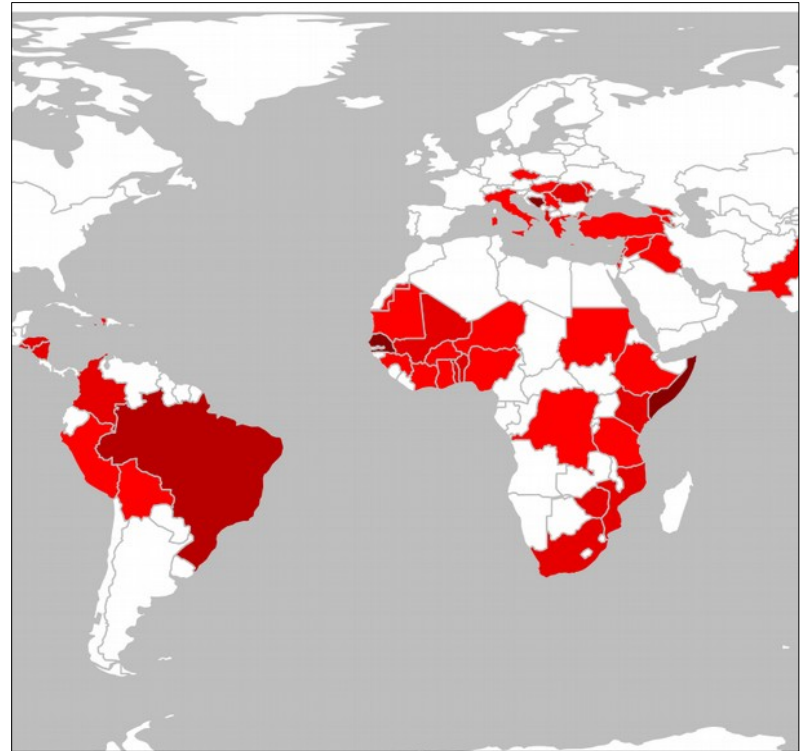
Didier Ruedin

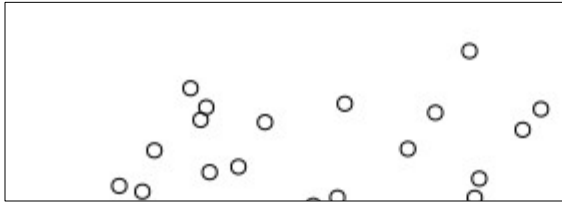
University of the Witwatersrand &

University of Neuchâtel

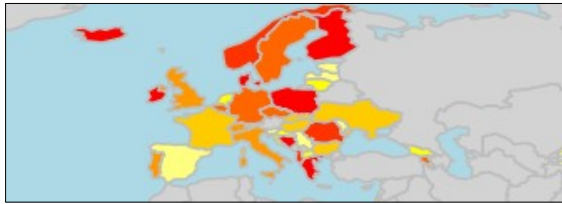
BAGGS

Bamberg, 25 May 2018

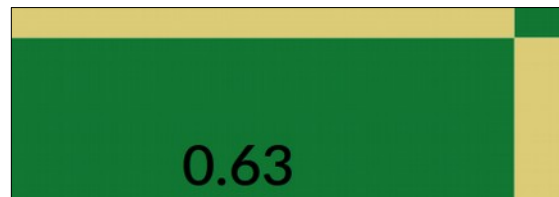




Women

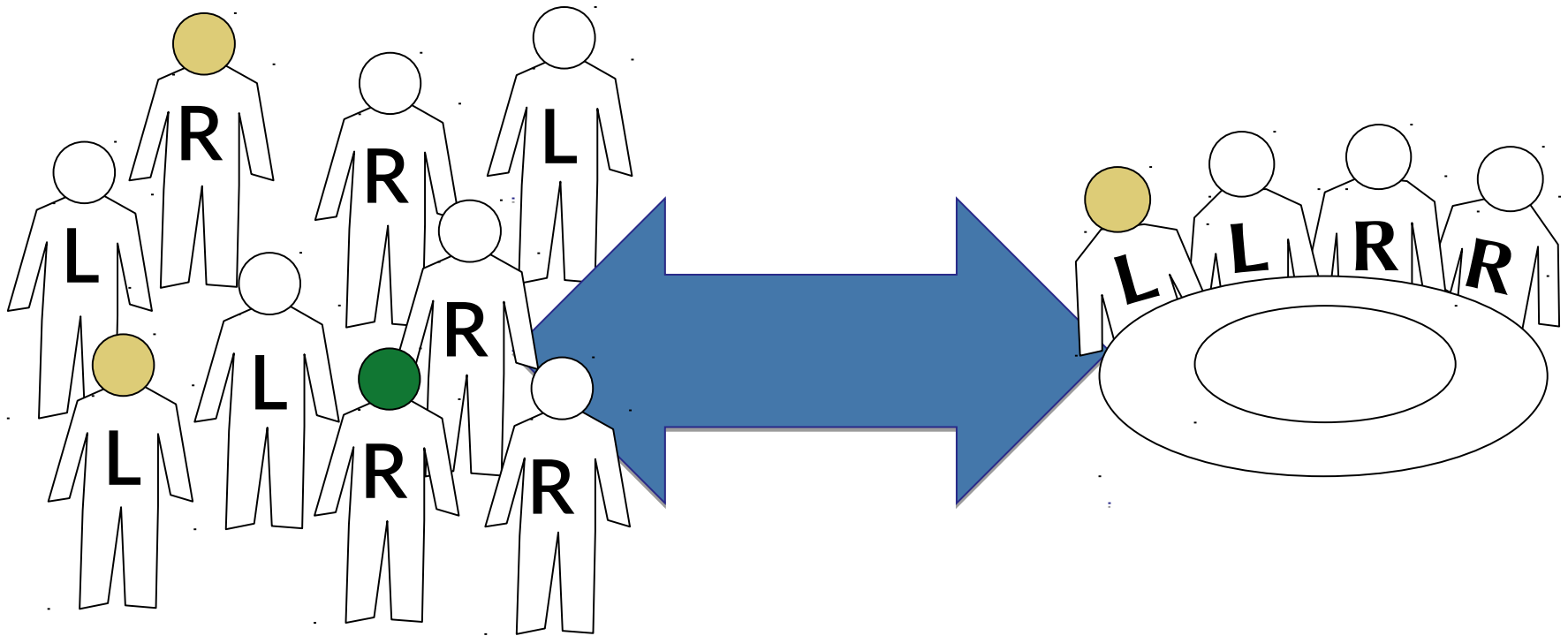


Ethnic groups



Relationship

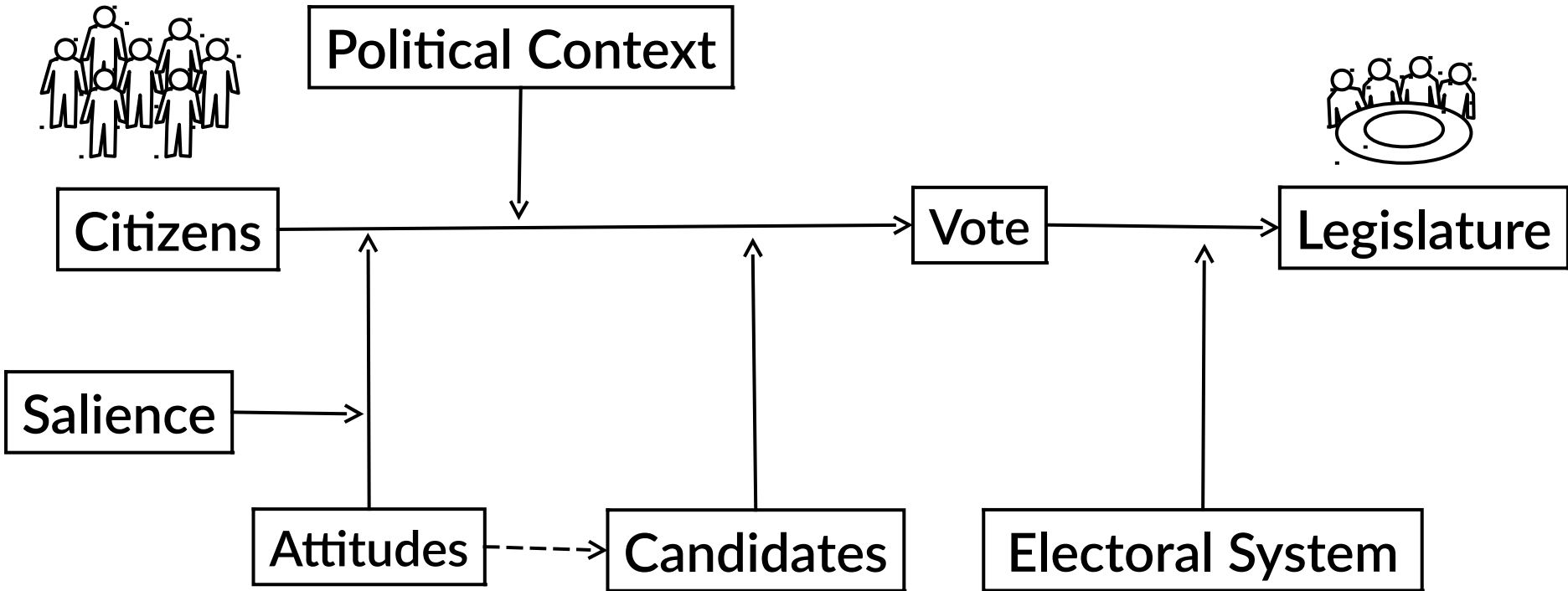
Representation can be descriptive or substantive



There are many reasons to insist on descriptive representation



A framework of descriptive representation



Measuring ethnic representation

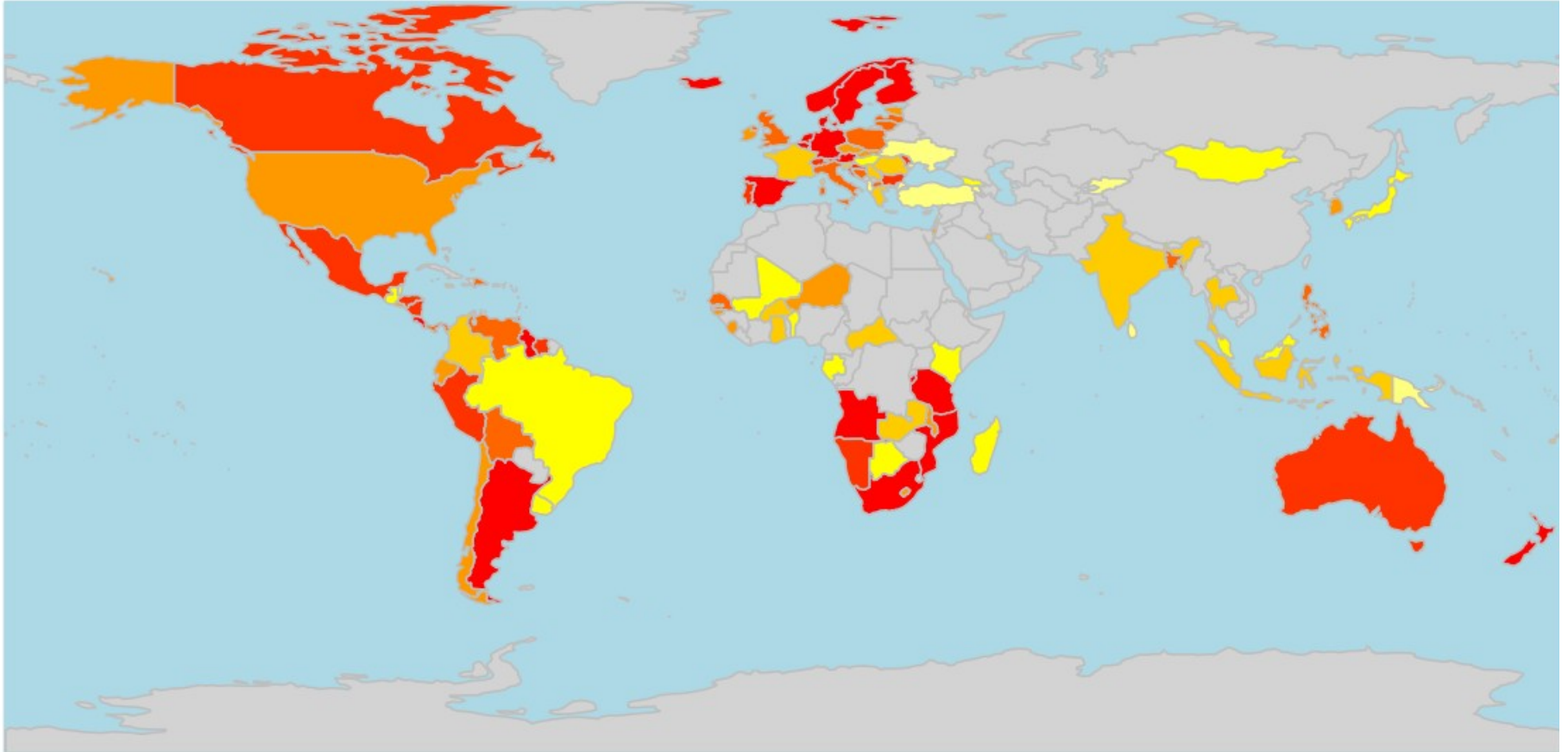
$$ERS = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \Pi_{Z,i} - \Pi_{R,i} \right|$$



Population

Representatives

Women are not equally represented



**Bivariate association for women are
as expected**

PR systems – yes

Party quotas – yes

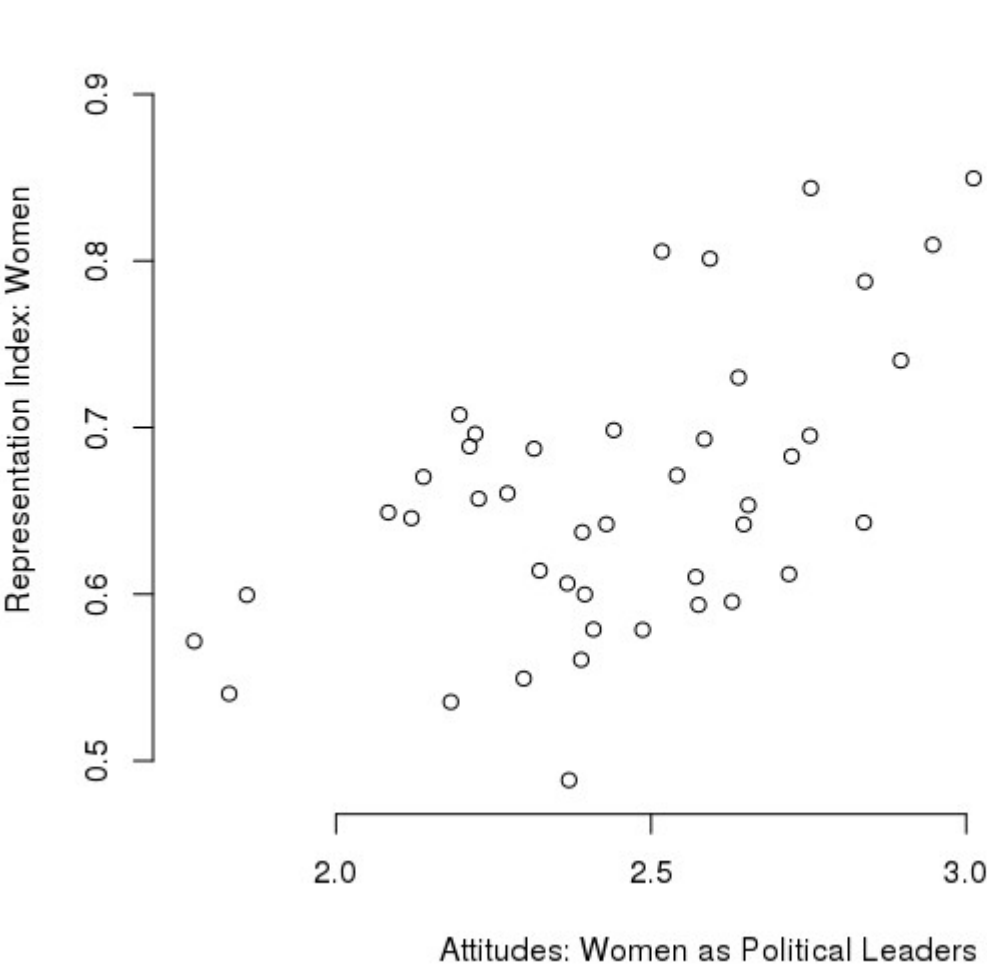
Legislative quotas – yes

Political rights – yes

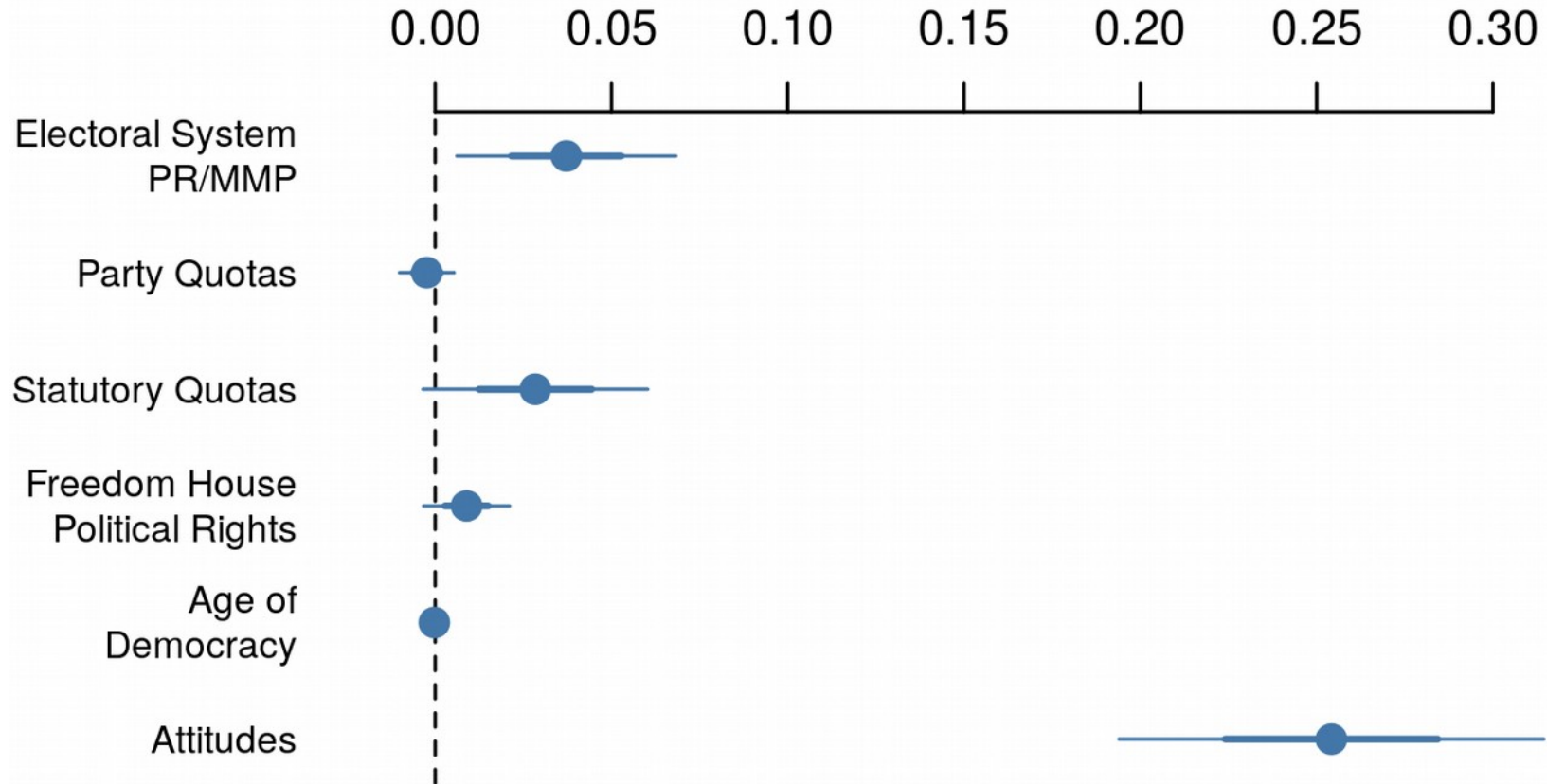
Old democracies – yes

Attitudes – yes

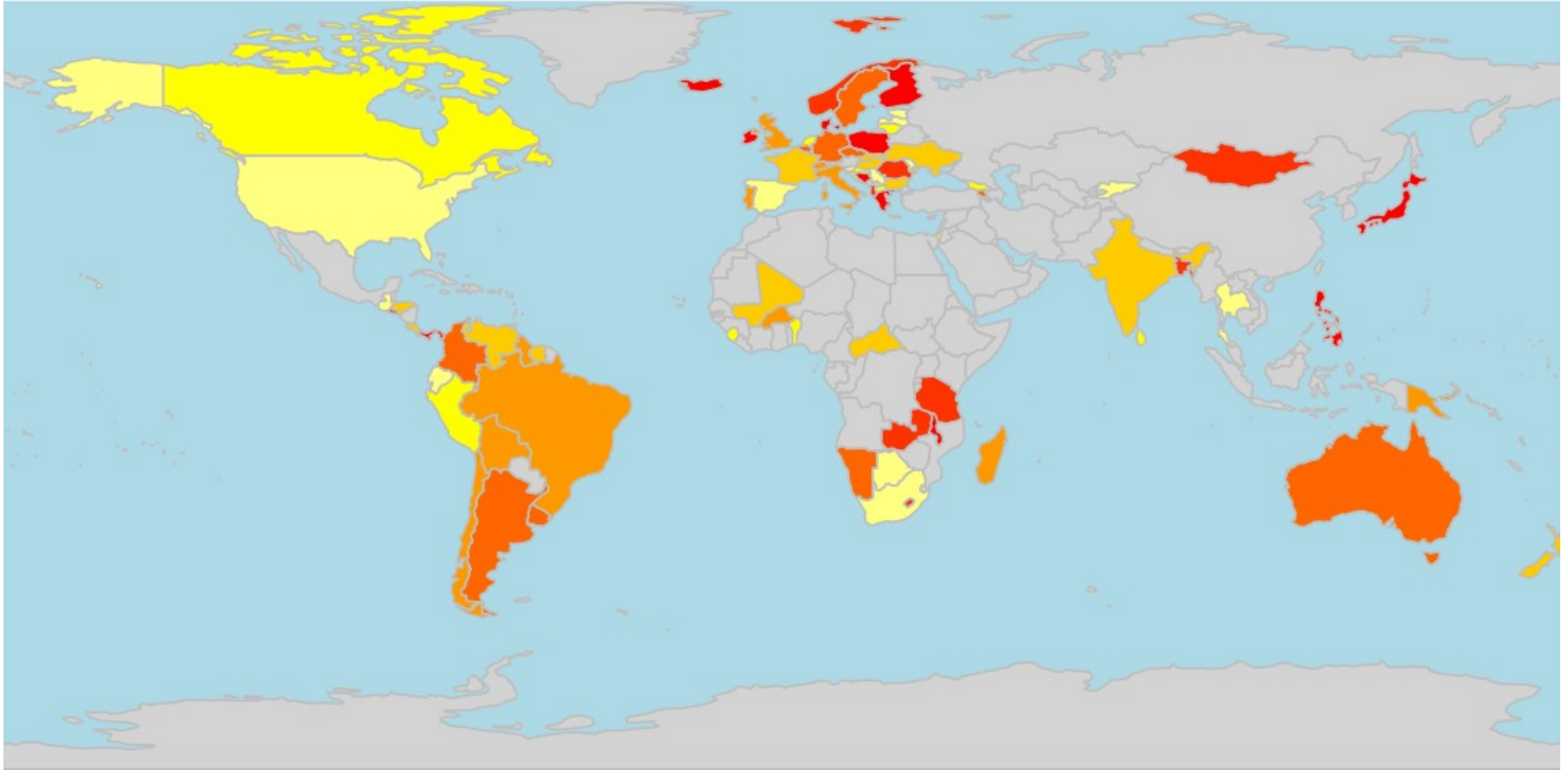
There is a strong correlation between attitudes and the representation of women



Cultural factors seem to dominate the representation of women



Ethnic groups are not equally represented



Bivariate association for ethnic groups are mixed

PR systems – no

Quotas – (yes)

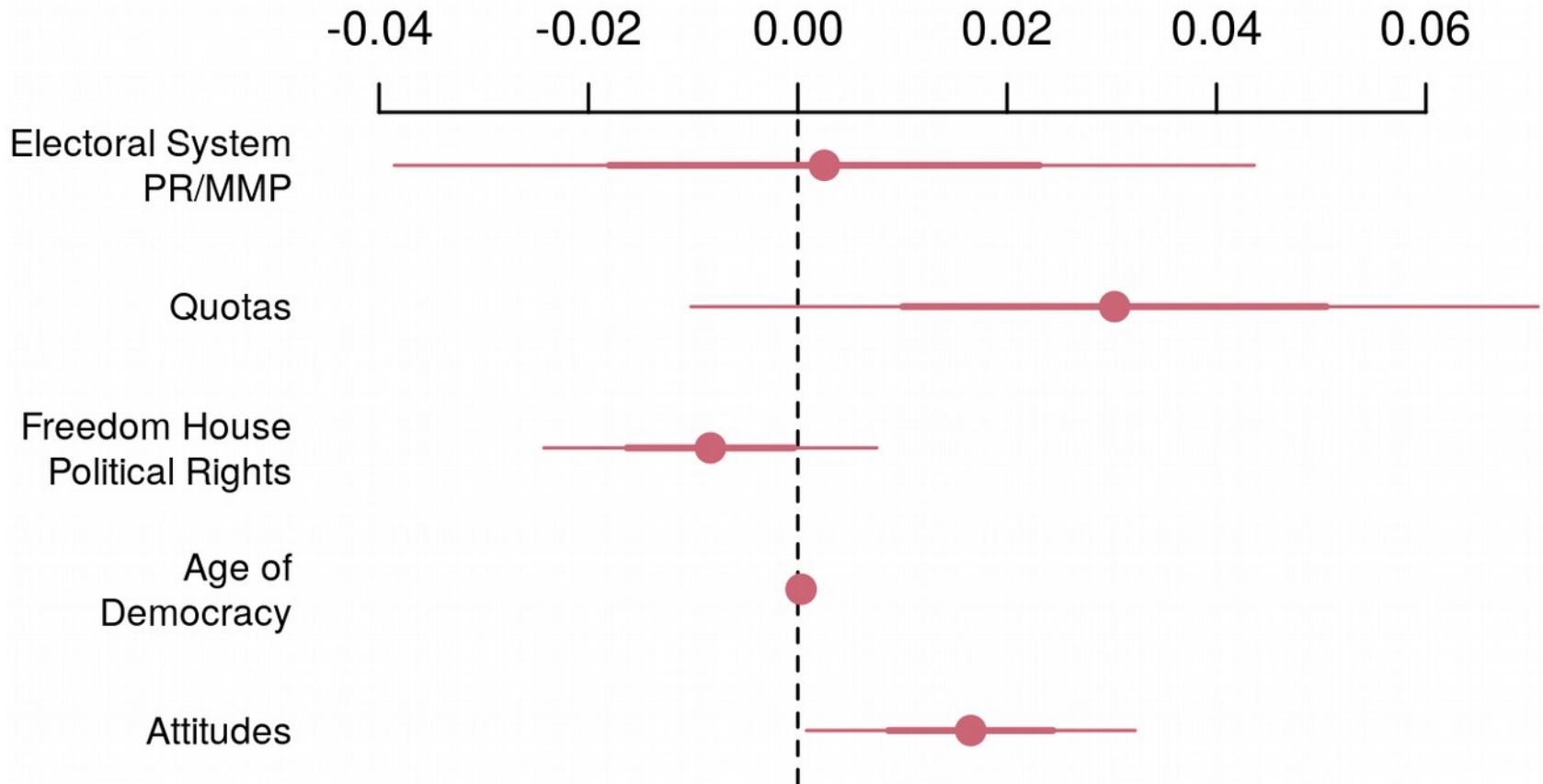
Political rights – no

Old democracies – no

Attitudes – yes

Heterogeneity – yes (control)

Cultural factors seem important for the representation of ethnic groups



First summary

	<i>Women</i>	<i>Ethnic Groups</i>
Electoral System	Yes*	No
Quotas	Yes *	(Yes)
Political Rights	Yes	Yes *
Old Democracy	Yes	No
Attitudes	Yes **	Yes **

** consistently

* in some models, not consistently; bivariate only

Three expectations for the relationship between the two

Positive correlation

Political system

Culture

Negative correlation

Trade-off between including women or ethnic minority groups

Saliency

Importance of social cleavage

Expectation for a direct relationship

High correlation

Substantively different from zero

Sign: positive or negative

Results for a direct relationship

High correlation $\rightarrow r = 0.05$

Substantively different from zero \rightarrow no

Sign: positive or negative

Expectation for salience

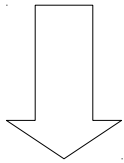
	<i>Heterogeneous</i>	<i>Homogeneous</i>
Women	low	high
Ethnic Groups	high	low

Results in line with (relative) salience

	<i>Heterogeneous</i>	<i>Homogeneous</i>
Women	0.30	0.34
Ethnic Groups	0.63	0.28

In summary, attitudes dominate and salience seems to matter

Limited evidence for institutional factor



but implementation matters

