

# NGO Happiness Analysis

Berlin, 02-08-2023

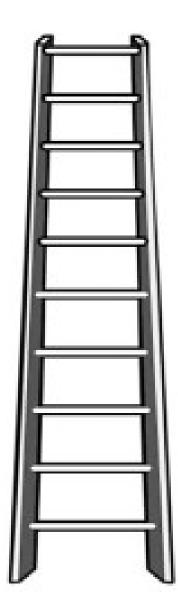
Alina Rudakova





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### What is World Happiness Report about?

- The World Happiness Report is a publication of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.
- It reflects a worldwide demand for more attention to happiness and well-being as criteria for government policy.

# How to measure happiness?



Step 1: Collecting data from the Gallup World Poll surveys (Cantril ladder)

Step 2: Variables (sub-bars) measured to show the extent to which each variable contribute to making life evaluations higher in each country than in Dystopia\*.

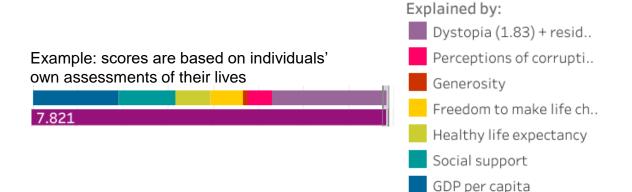
Average Life Evaluation

Present

In 5 years

#### Sub-bars are:

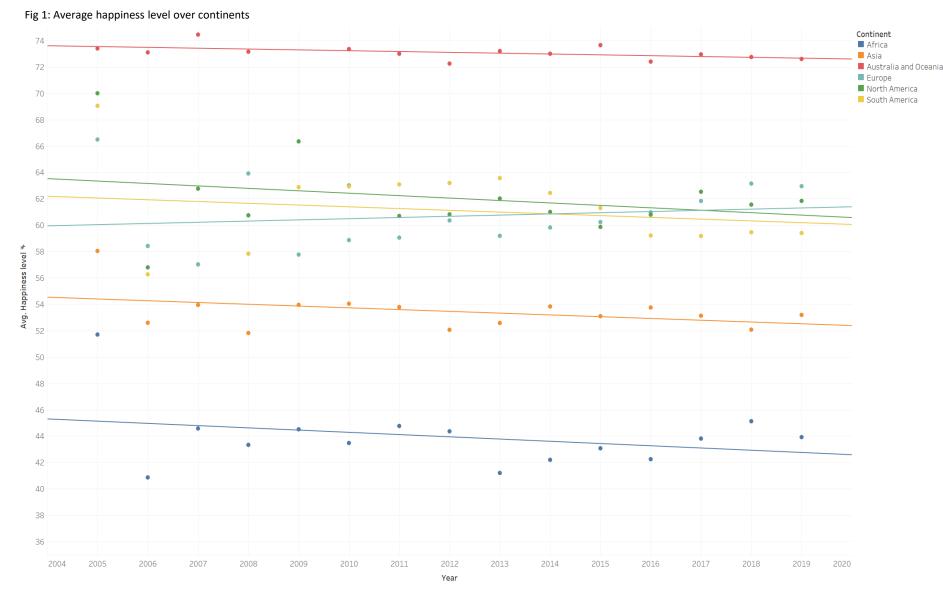
- levels of GDP,
- life expectancy,
- generosity,
- social support,
- freedom to make life choices,
- perceptions of corruption



<sup>\*</sup>Dystopia is a hypothetical country with values equal to the world's lowest national averages for each factor



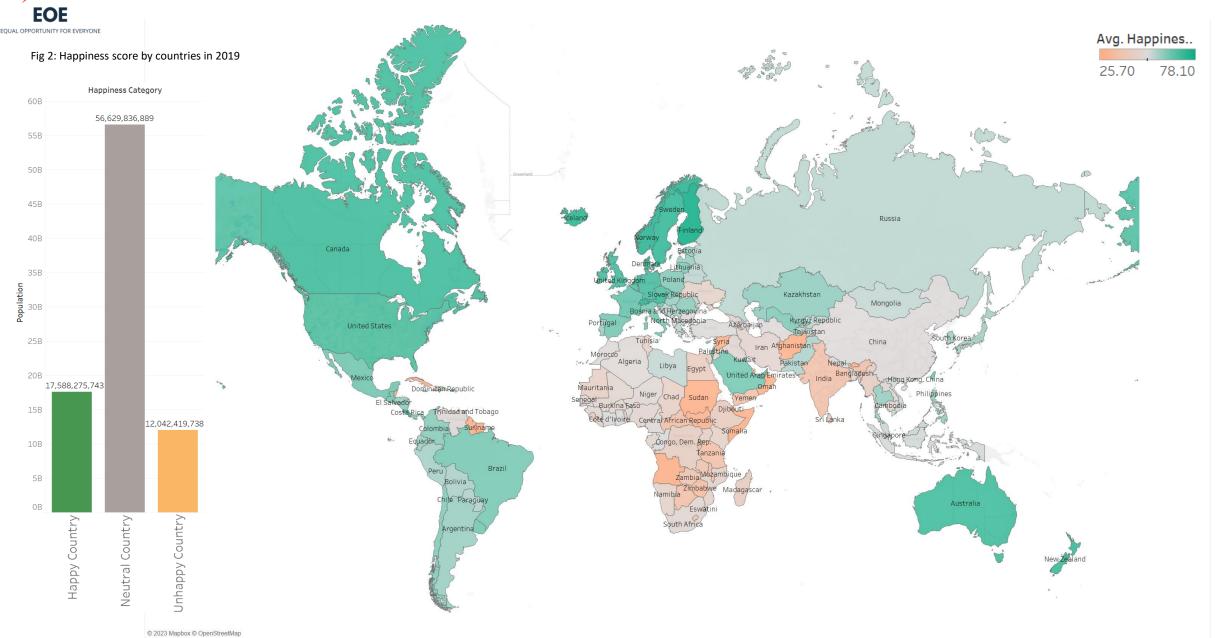
# The distribution of the Happiness score across continents



- Continent with Maximum Average Happiness:
   Australia and Oceania.
- •Countries on the continent: 14 Presented in statistics: 2
- Average Happiness level in Australia and Oceania: 73/100
- Continent with Minimal Average Happiness: Africa.
- •Countries on the continent: 54 Presented in statistics: 43
- Average Happiness level in **Africa**: 43/100
- There is a trend towards a decrease in the level of happiness on all continents except Europe.



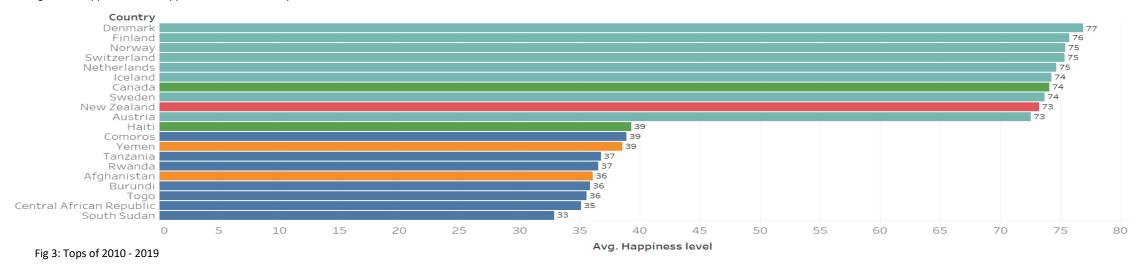
# The distribution of the Happiness score across countries





# Top 10 happiest and unhappiest countries

Fig 3: The happiest and unhappiest countries for the period 2005 - 2019



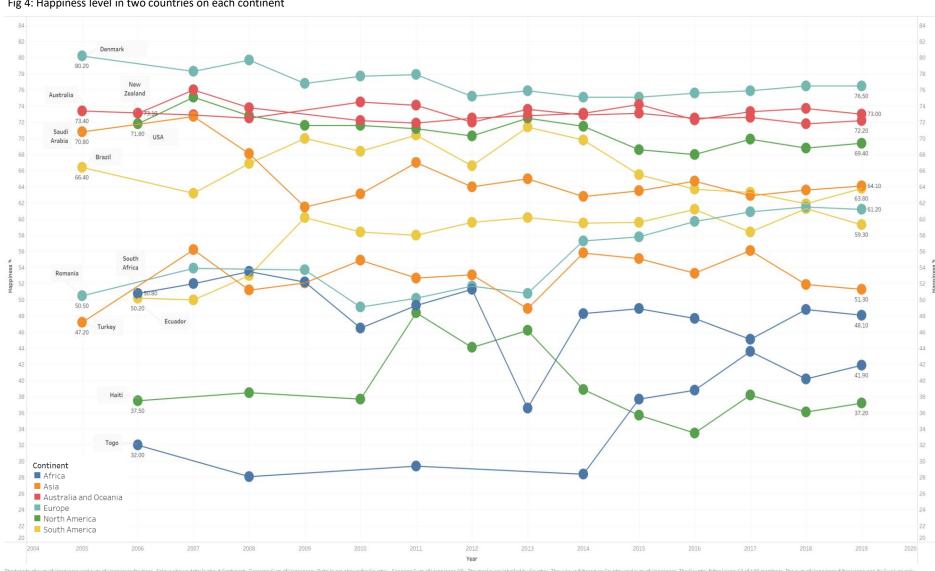


- The unhappiest countries are in Africa
- Almost all happiest counties located in Europe
- Most of the happiest countries are in the northern part of the world (which means that the «cold climate factor» doesn't really affect the level of happiness).
- Scandinavians shows the best result
- In 2022 Finland is on top again



# **Change of Happiness level through the years 2005-2019**

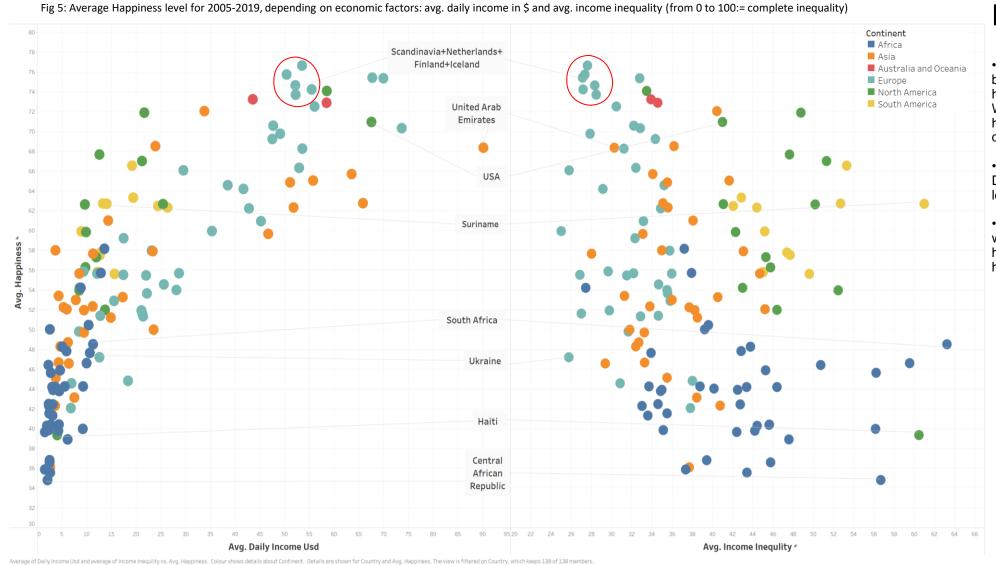
Fig 4: Happiness level in two countries on each continent



- The most stable countries in terms of happiness are Australia and New Zealand
- Happiness level in Denmark is slightly decreasing over time, even though it's still the leader
- Financial crisis in USA in 2007-2008 didn't decrease the happiness level dramatically
- •The sharp decline in happiness level in South Africa may be linked to the "The Marikana Massacre" - the killing of miners by the South African Police Service on 16 August 2012 during a six-week strike.
- \* "Marikana" has become infamous as possibly the most violent demonstration in post-apartheid South Africa, thereby pointing to political strife, growing social and economic inequality and, possibly, the beginning of the decline of South Africa's famous mining industry
- · Controversial insight: Happiness level in Haiti raised in 2010, despite a large-scale earthquake occurred January 12, 2010. It was estimated that nearly one-third of the country's total population were affected. Of these, over one million were left homeless.



# Correlation of Happiness level and economic indicators such as: average daily income (in \$) and average income inequality (Gini coefficient)



# **Brief summary:**

• There is **quite noticeable correlation** between daily income and the level of happiness.

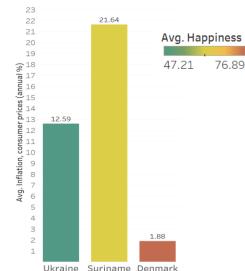
Whereas the relationship between happiness and income inequality is not quite clear.

#### • Example: Ukraine

Despite very low income inequality, the level of happiness is below average.

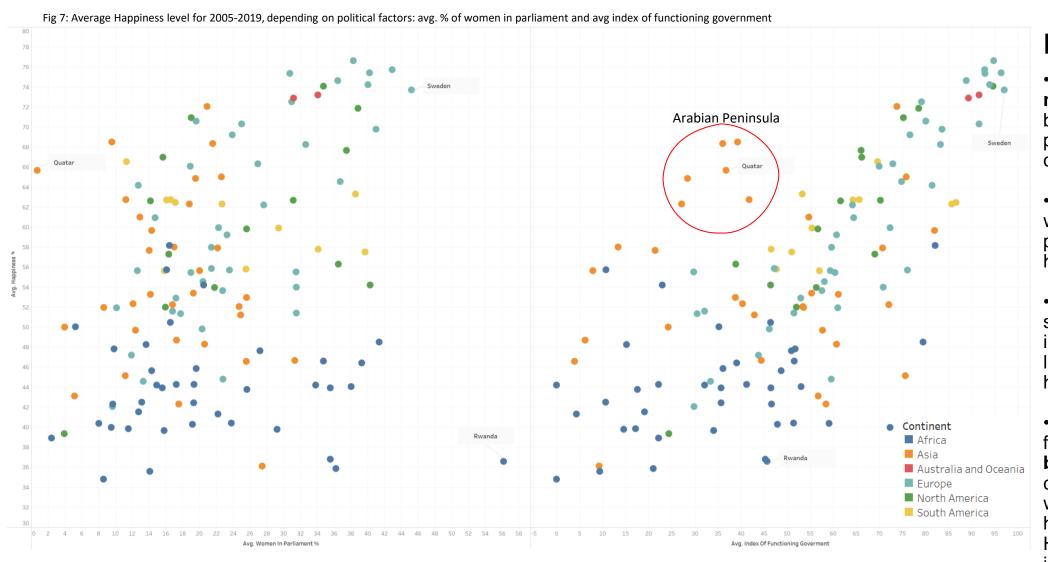
• Interesting insight: Suriname, where income inequality is almost the highest, daily income is less than 15\$, however people are still relatively happy

Fig 6: Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)





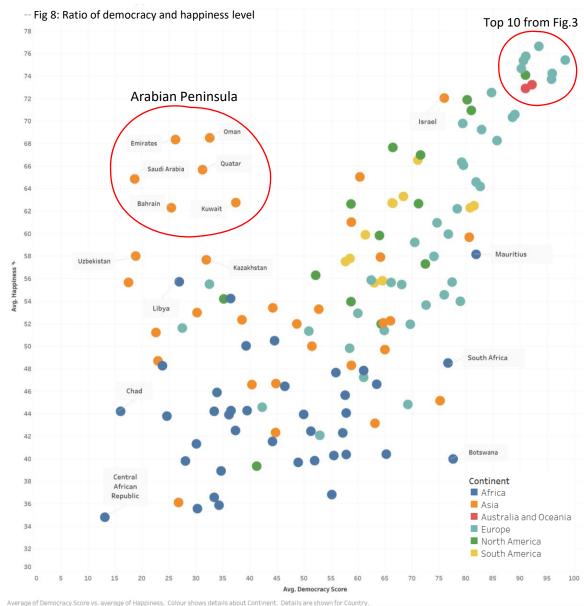
# Correlation of Happiness level and political indicators such as: average % of women in parliament and average index of functioning government



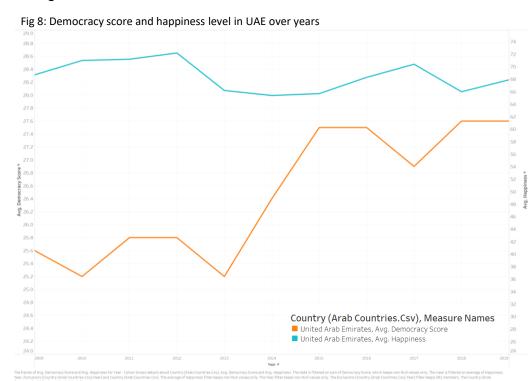
- •There is **no noticeable correlation**between % of women in
  parliament and the level
  of happiness.
- Rwanda is an outlier, with more women in power but very low happiness level
- Qatar is on the other side – it has no women in parliament at all, but level of happiness is high
- When index of functioning government **below 60**, it doesn't correlate signifyingly with the level of happiness.
  However, it might have impact as it grows



## **Correlation of Happiness level and democracy score**

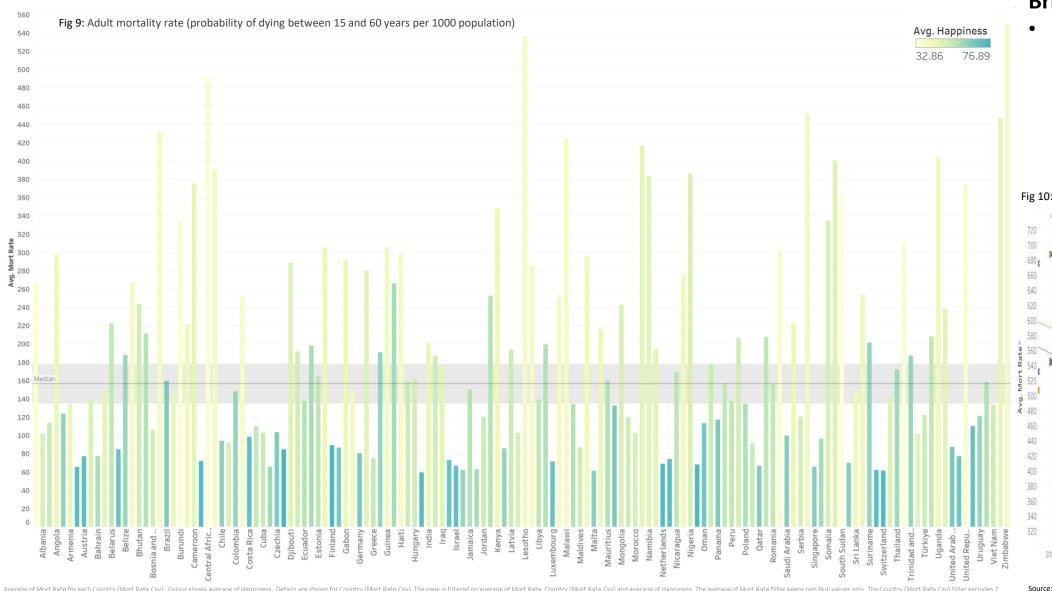


- The correlation between democracy score and happiness level is quite high, however it also depends on cultural background.
- For European and South American countries, the level of democracy plays more important role in the perception of happiness than for Asian and African countries.
- Arabian Peninsula is an outlier, having low democracy score and good happiness level. That may be explained by historical and cultural backg round. Those are constitutional monarchies where the role of monarch is high.





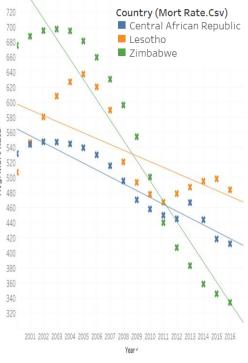
# Happiness level and adult mortality rate



# **Brief summary:**

 Adult mortality rate in happiest countries is below median and average level

Fig 10: Adult mortality in 3 countries over years



Source: Adult mortality rate (probability of dying between 15 and 60 years per 1000 population) (who.int)

Average of Mort Rate (Country (Mort Rate, Csv), The view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Country (Mort Rate, Csv), The view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv). The view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv) and view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv). The view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv) and view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv). The view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv) and view is filtered on average of Mort Rate, Csv). The v



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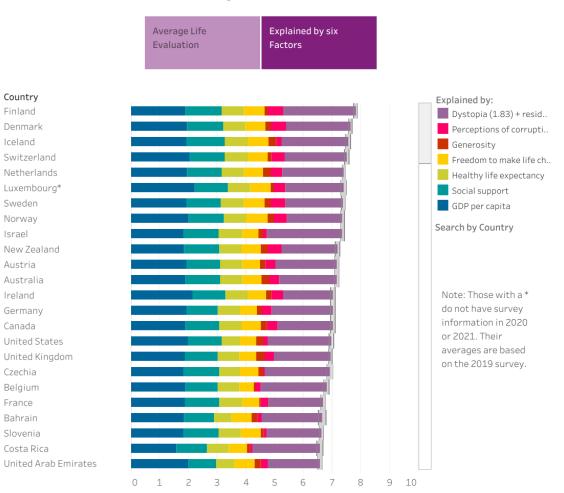
### What could be improved in data collection

Source: https://worldhappiness.report/

#### World Happiness Report 2022

Figure 2.1 Ranking of Happiness based on a three-year-average 2019-2021

#### Average Life Evaluation



Explained by Factors/Variables

# My humble recommendation:

1. Currently the typical annual sample for each country is 1,000 people.

**Recommendation:** sample should be proportional to countries' population

(population in 2022: San Marino – 33 700; China 1.45 billion)

2. No clear link between level of suicides and happiness score been established. Probably voices of unhappy and depressed people are not presented.

**Recommendation:** general mental health of population should be considered (with the assistance of local Ministries of Health).

3. In some highly religious cultures the role of religion is as important as economic and political factors.

**Recommendation:** Besides presented 6 sub-bars, the influence of religion could be also taken into account.

# Thank you for your attention!

