Course: Configuring the world: a political economic approach
Assignment 2: Configuring the world 2
Name: Klaas Joris Schut
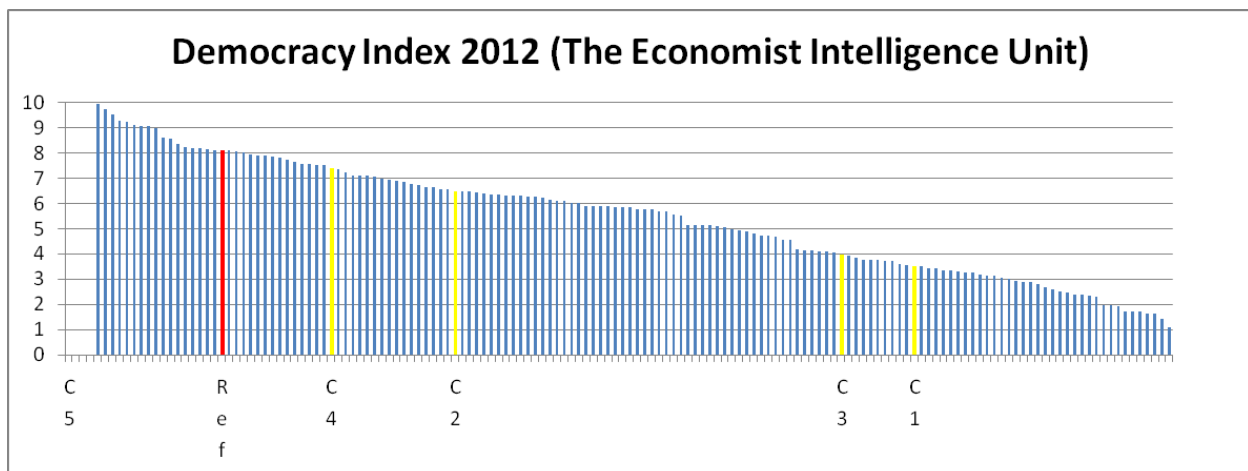
Region: Caribbean

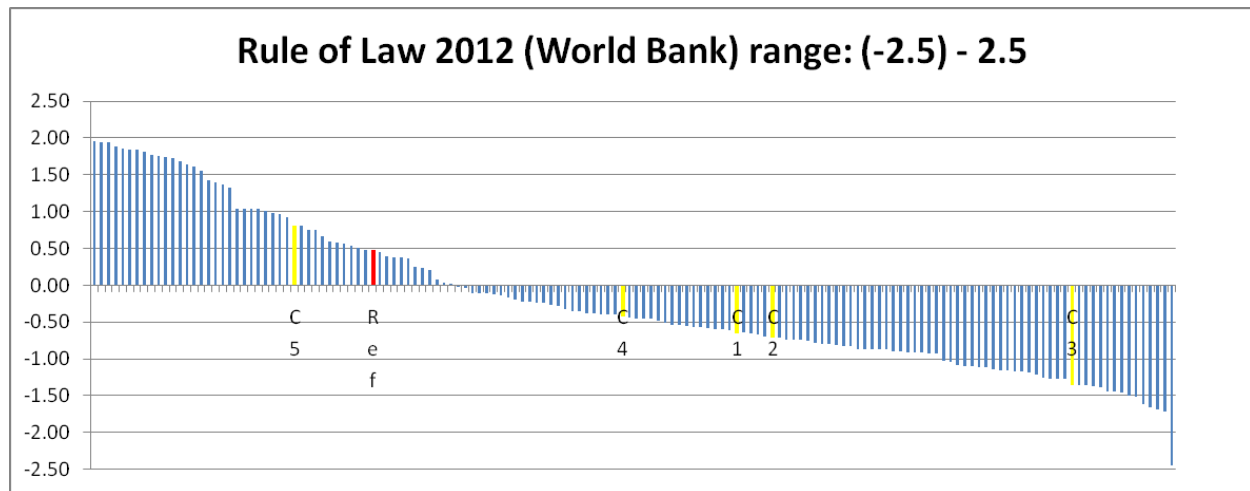**Reference country**: Costa Rica (Central America)

Coding

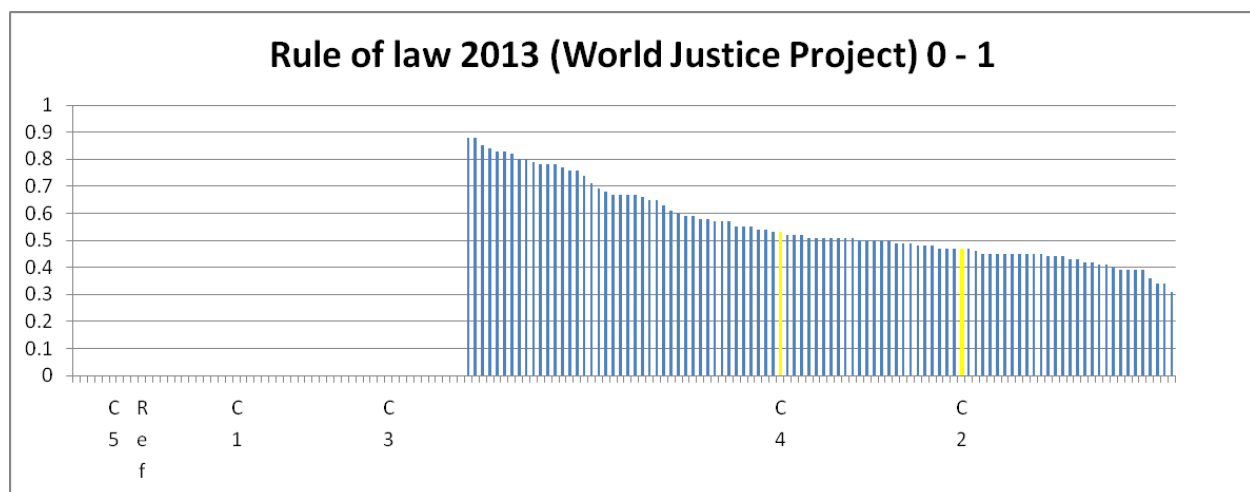| Country	Coding in the graphs	Coloring in the graph
Cuba	C1	Yellow
Dominican Republic	C2	Yellow
Haiti	C3	Yellow
Jamaica	C4	Yellow
Puerto Rico	C5	Yellow
Costa Rica	Ref	Red

Democracy index 2012 (the economist)

 The graph shows a linear decline in democracy. As with regard to the selected region the countries within it are either in the middle of the first half (democratic) (Jamaica and Dominican Republic) or in the middle of the lower half (less democracy) (Haiti and Cuba). All countries are below the reference country. An explanation for the difference in ranking within the chosen region can partly be explained by the existence of a dictator (Jean-Claude Duvalier in Haiti) in the past or a political system that is place other than democracy (Cuba).

Rule of Law (World Bank)

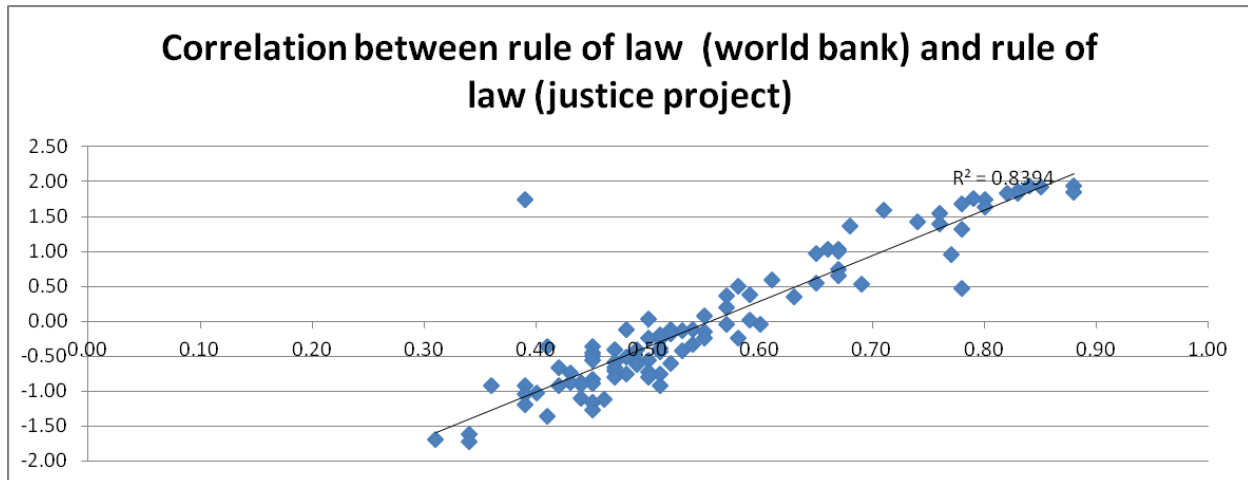Rule of Law 2012 (World Bank) range: (-2.5) - 2.5

The graph shows a linear decline in rule of law when it comes doing business. As with regard to the selected region the countries follow a similar patter as with the democracy index. All countries (with the exception of C5 which is missing in the democracy index) are below the reference country and follow a similar rank order within the region (with C1 doing ranked slightly higher relatively).

Rule of Law (Justice project)

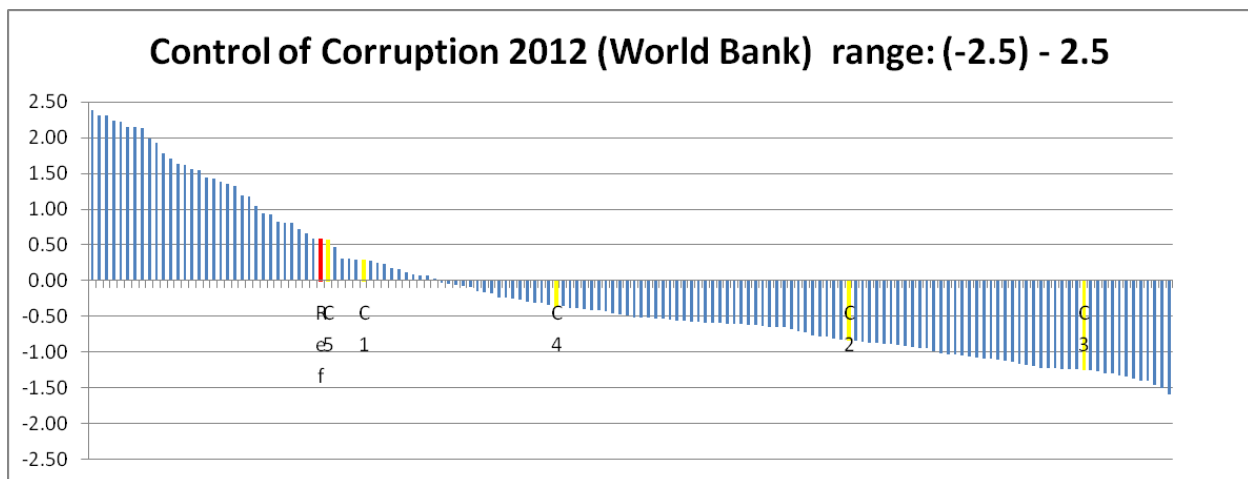Rule of law 2013 (World Justice Project) 0 - 1

A similar ranking as with the World Bank rule of Law can be seen in the rule of law ranking based on the data from the Justice project. Even though the indicator has a different focus (human rights vs business rights) the ranking for the countries in the chosen region is more or less stable with C4 close the middle of both indicators and C2 in near the lowest 25%. This would suggest a strong correlation between the two rankings. Testing this for all the complete case (excluding the samples where the data of one of the indicators was missing) gave a strong correlation (R^2=0.8394) which could suggest a strong relation between the two indicators. Interesting to note here (even though it is not part of the selected region) is

Bangladesh which is performs expectantly well on the world bank index based on the data from the justice project.
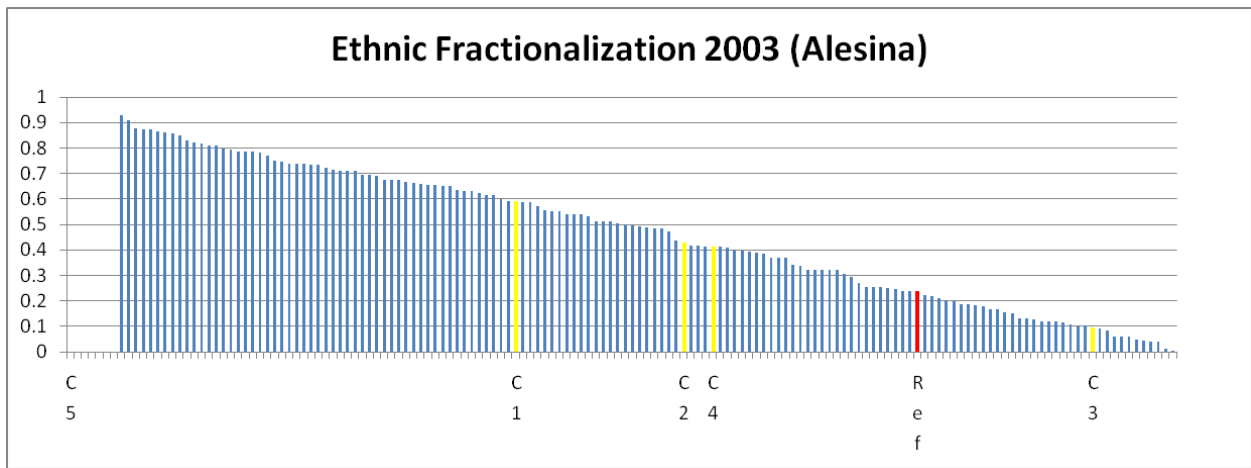

Correlation between rule of law (world bank) and rule of law (justice project)

$R^2 = 0.8394$

Control of corruption

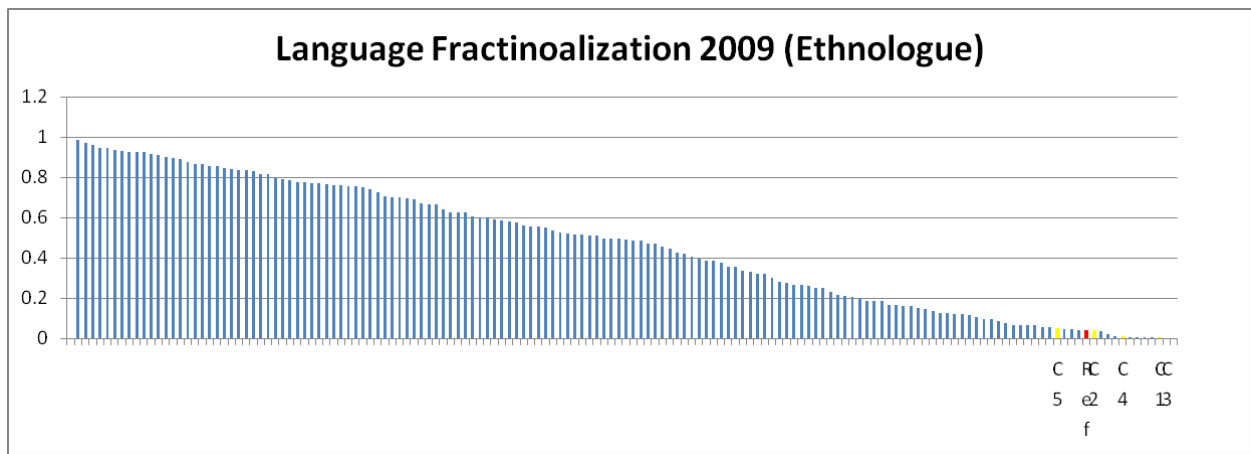**Control of Corruption 2012 (World Bank) range: (-2.5) - 2.5**

Most of the countries in the chosen region perform poorly on the control of corruption index. All except for C5 and C1 score a negative value on this indicator meaning corruption is prevalent in these countries. The reference country does slightly better than the best country from the selected region (C5) but still does not achieve a very high score.
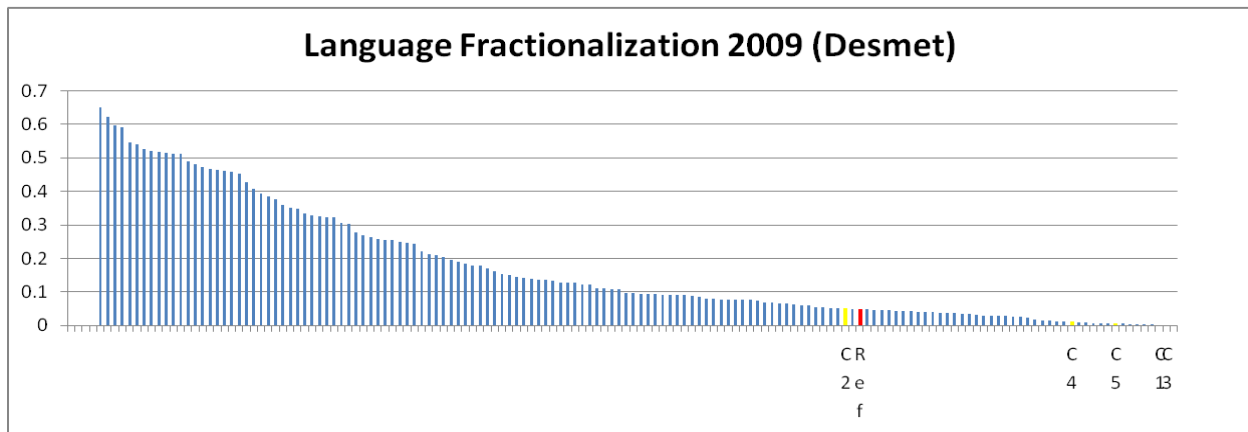
Ethnic fractionalization
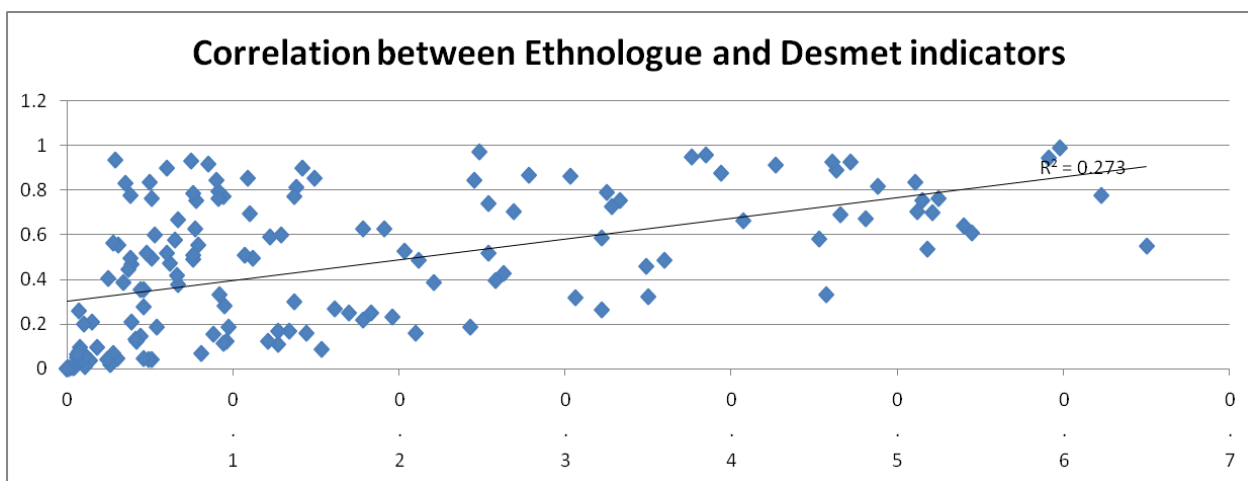

Ethnic Fractionalization 2003 (Alesina)

Ethnic fractionalization appears to be relatively low in both the selected region and the reference country. With the exception of C1, all countries score lower than 0.5 on the Alesina index for ethic fractionalization. Part of this can be explained by the slave trade which was present in this region for a long period. As a result of this the ethnicity of the local population will have likely have decreased over time, yet will never be again homogeneous.

Language fractionalization

Language Fractinoalization 2009 (Ethnologue)
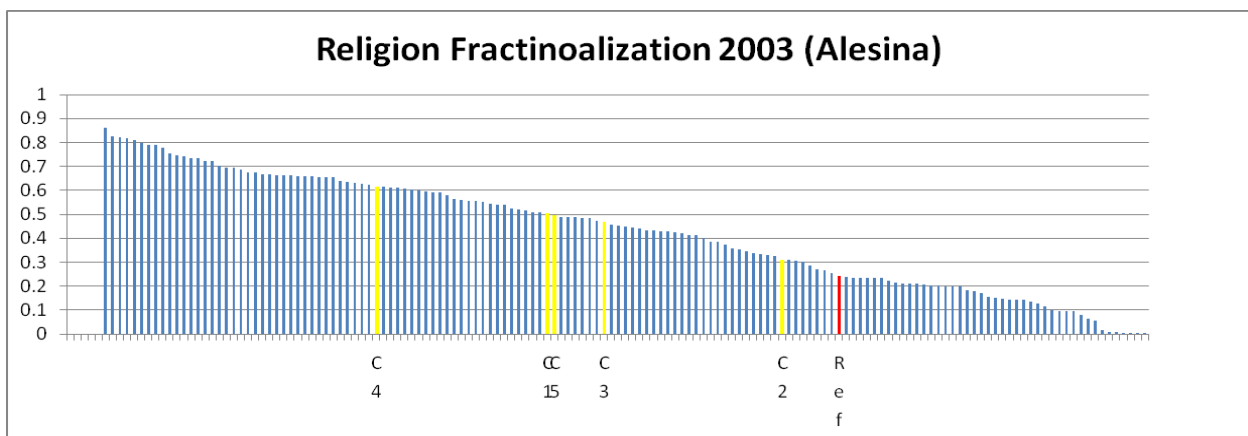
Language Fractionalization 2009 (Desmet)

Fractionalization of language is relatively similar when looking at either the Ethnologue or Desmet indices. Even tho the former takes into account more different languages, the effects on the ranking of the countries in the chosen region is not highly affected. However, when looked at the whole population only a very limited correlation (R^2=0.273) can be found.
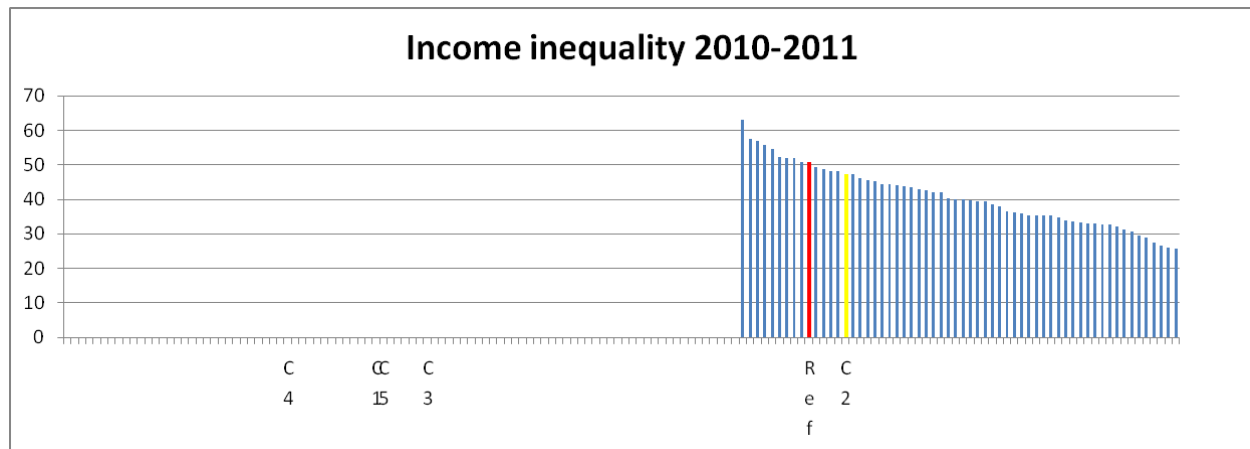

Correlation between Ethnologue and Desmet indicators

$R^2 = 0.273$

Religion fractionalization (Alesina)

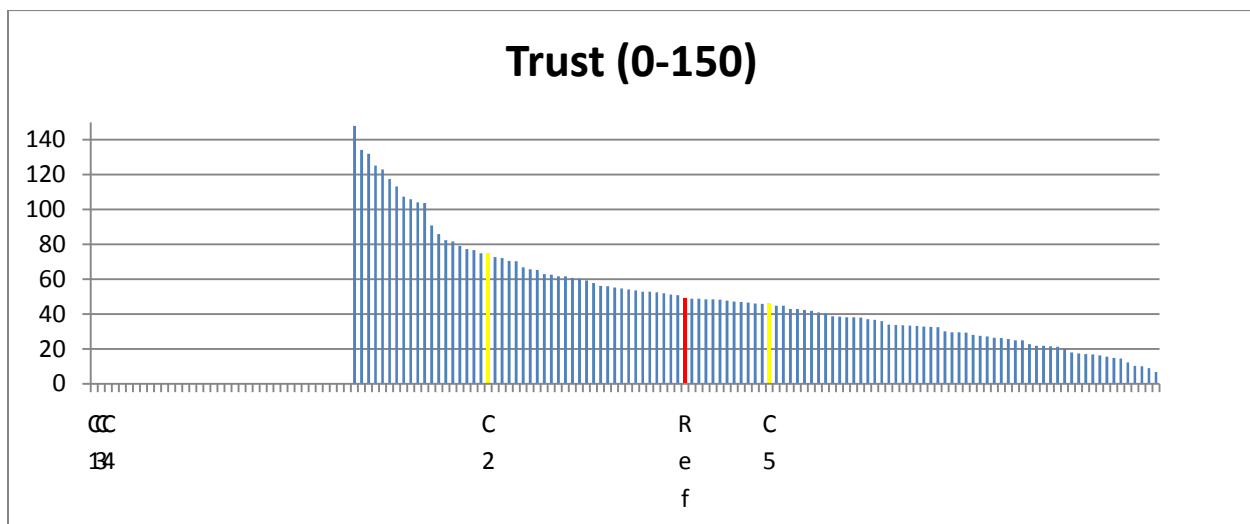Religion Fractinoalization 2003 (Alesina)

Fractionalization of the chosen is somewhere in the middle of the overall ranking. Interesting is to see the close relatedness between C1 and C5. This relatedness can be partly explained by these countries having been colonized by the same nation (Spain) for a long time, during which Catholicism was introduced in these countries.

Income inequality (Gallup)

Data on this index is unavailable for most counties. However the country that is included from the selected does fairly well when it comes to income inequality. Furthermore, this is similar tho the level of inequality as the reference country.

Trust

For 3 of the 5 countries in the chosen region data is missing on this indicator. The remaining two indicators are either located in the middle of the first half (C2) or just below the middle (C5). The reference country can be found around the middle. It is interesting to see the distribution of the trust index following a power law type distribution. This means that in few countries is high and trust is (relatively) low in most countries. Also the fact C2 is one of the countries with a relatively high trust

levels is interesting to note. This is interesting as this country does not score very high on either indicators for rule of law or democracy.