PROGRAMA ÚNICO DE ESPECIALIZACIONES EN ECONOMÍA

Programa Universitario de Estudios del Desarrollo UNAM

Presentación del curso

Desigualdad, procesos de diferenciación y exclusión social

Dr. Héctor Nájera

En unos minutos comenzamos…

Sobre mi

Dr. Héctor Nájera

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Intereses de investigación:

Medición y análisis de pobreza sobre el enfoque de privación relativa

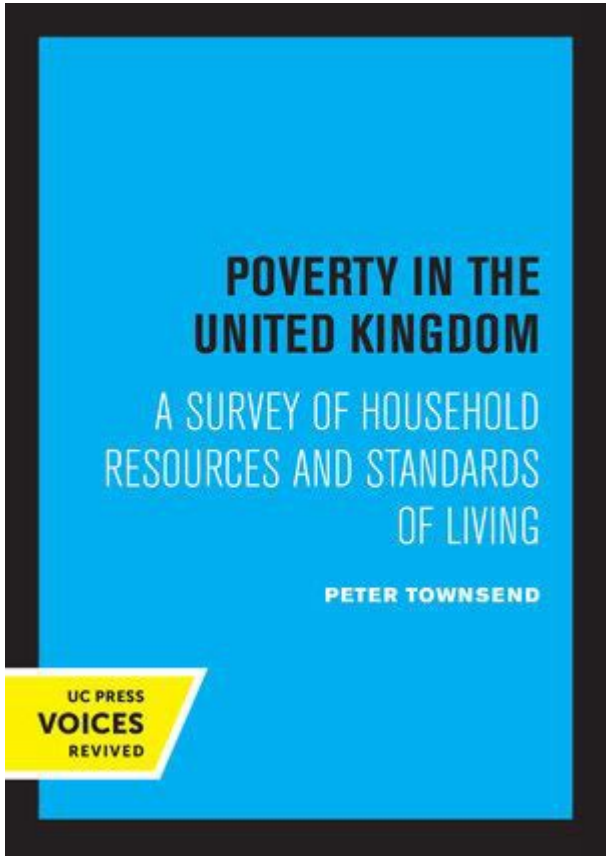
Estadística aplicada a la medición y análisis de pobreza y desigualdad:

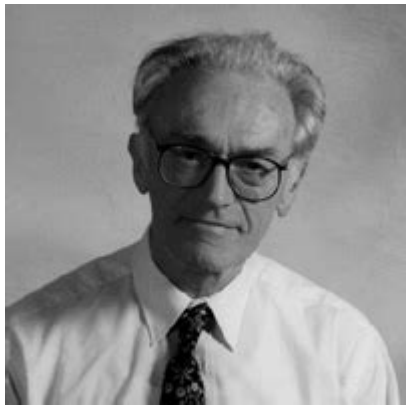
- Ecuaciones estructurales y variables latentes (SEM)*
- Inferencia bayesiana*
- Pobreza y desigualdad*
- Estadística espacial

*Clases de posgrado en economía. UNAM

Sobre mi

Medición y análisis de pobreza sobre el enfoque de privación relativa





Peter Townsend

David Gordon

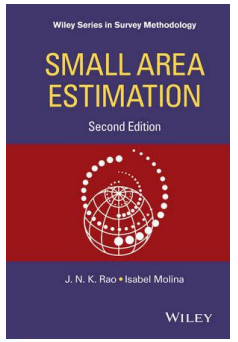
Sobre mi

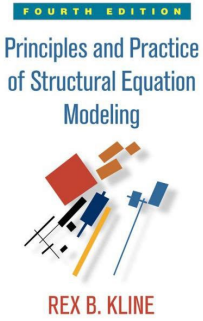
Estadística aplicada a la medición y análisis de pobreza y desigualdad:

Ecuaciones estructurales y variables latentes (SEM)

Inferencia bayesiana

Estadística espacial





Desigualdad, procesos de diferenciación y exclusión social

Cuarta edición

Objetivos del curso

El objetivo principal del curso es establecer los principios bajos los cuales se estudia al objeto "desigualdad". Es decir, se pregunta qué es y cómo estudiar a la desigualdad, la exclusión, la pobreza y los procesos de diferenciación social.

- El curso presenta y discute las teorías en las que descansan conceptos centrales para el análisis del desarrollo social:
  - *Justicia,*
  - *(des)igualdad económica y social,*
  - *pobreza y*
  - *exclusión social.*

- Esta revisión se acompaña de un repaso de los aspectos metodológicos que deben considerarse para el estudio empírico de estos conceptos.

- Además el curso acerca a los estudiantes a la evidencia respecto al estado de la desigualdad, pobreza y exclusión social en México y a nivel internacional.

Objetivos del curso

El objetivo principal del curso es establecer los principios bajos los cuales se estudia al objeto desigualdad, la exclusión, la pobreza y los procesos de diferenciación social.

Es decir, se pregunta qué son y cómo se estudian estos fenómenos bajo diversos enfoques teóricos y metodológicos.

Contenidos del curso

Semana 02: ¿Es la desigualdad un problema?

Semana 03: ¿Cómo se relacionan la desigualdad y la justicia?

Semana 04: Medición económica-social

Semana 05: El concepto de la desigualdad

Semana 06: Desigualdad. Medición y análisis

Semana 07: Desigualdad en México. Estudio empirico

Semana 08: Desigualdad perspectiva internacional. Estudio empírico

Contenidos del curso

Semana 09: El concepto de pobreza

Semana 10: Pobreza. Medición y análisis

Semana 11: Pobreza. Estudio empirico. Mexico.

Semana 12: Pobreza. Estudio empirico. Internacional

Semana 13: Exclusión social. Conceptos

Semana 14: Exclusión social. Medición

Semana 15: Exclusion social. Internacional

Semana 16: Repaso general del curso

Expectativas

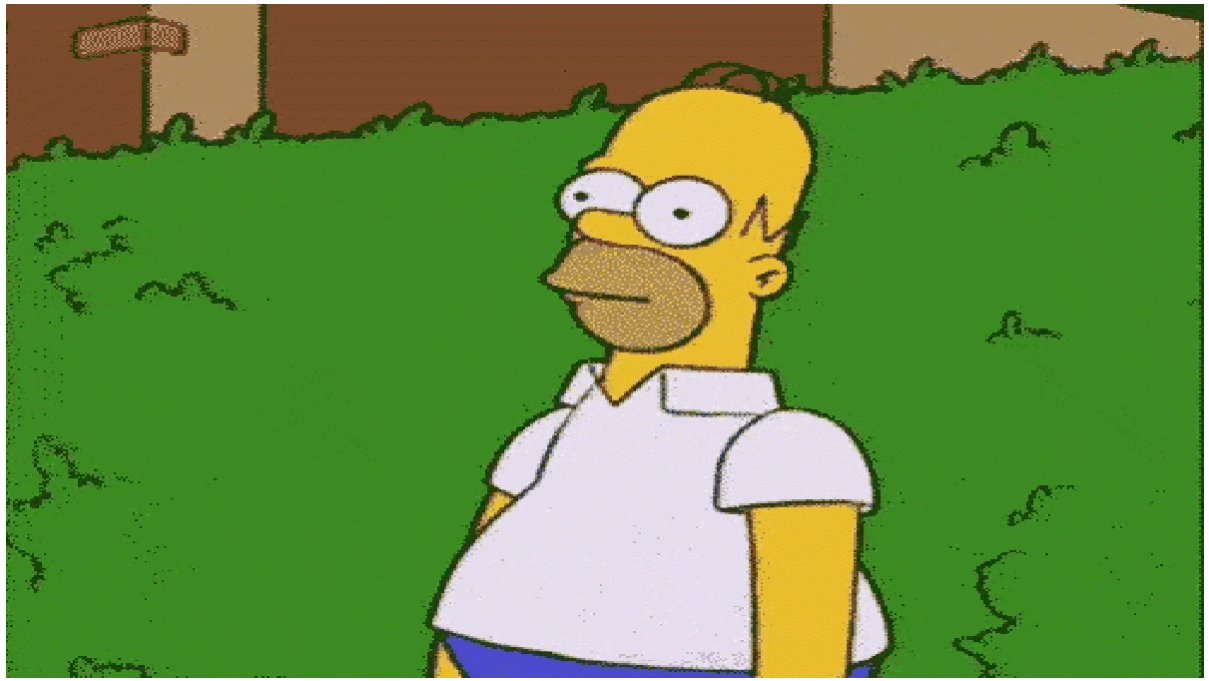
1. Identificar las corrientes teóricas y conceptos relevantes para el análisis de la desigualdad social
2. Evaluar críticamente las fortalezas y debilidades de la evidencia empírica en torno a la desigualdad social
3. Establecer los fundamentos teórico y metodológicos para estudiar los fenómenos de interés del curso
4. Conocer el tipo de trabajo empírico que se realiza en México y a nivel internacional
5. Fortalecer la capacidad analítica de los estudiantes respecto al estudio de la pobreza, desigualdad social y exclusión.

Estrategia de aprendizaje

- Los docentes son los responsables principales de exponer los temas, prepararán una presentación y la subirán en un repositorio para que el grupo pueda descargarla.
- Las presentaciones no son manuales ni notas de clase. Buscan facilitar la exposición y ayudar a establecer algunas conexiones
- Tip: Es major que tomen notas.

- El grupo deberá leer antes de cada sesión por lo menos una lectura.
- *Se tienen programadas un conjunto de actividades para que el grupo las realice en el tiempo de clase.*
- *Estas actividades buscan motivar la discusión y la reflexión por parte del grupo y de manera individual*

Evaluación



60% actividades

40% ejercicio.

¿Es difícil esta clase?

3 Hrs, Viernes, 5-8 pm

Curso de posgrado

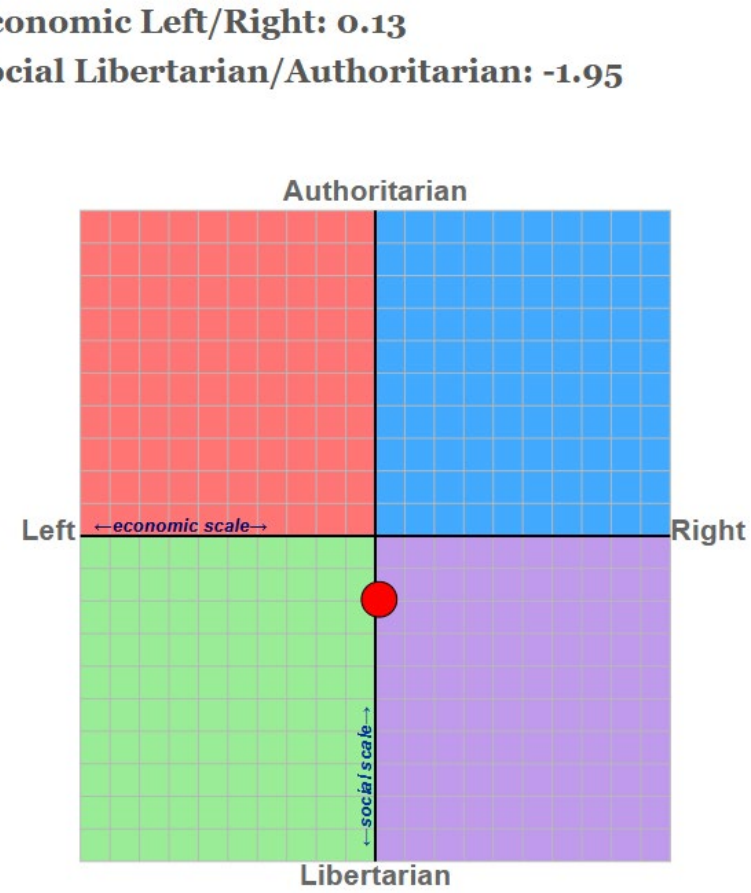
Lecturas en dos idiomas

Temas no tradicionales en economía

Curso a nivel posgrado

Actividad 1

- Ir al sitio: https://www.politicalcompass.org/test/es?page=1
- Hacer el test y guardar el resultado.
- Anotarlo en Google forms



PERSPECTIVA II

¿Por qué estudiamos a la desigualdad?

- Actividad
  - En la hoja 2. Escriba un párrafo con una o varias razones que justifican el estudio de la desigualdad.

¿Por qué debe haber clases/tesis sobre desigualdad?

Preguntas clave del curso

¿Es la desigualdad un objeto científico?

¿Por qué debemos tratarla cómo objeto científico?

¿Cómo tratarla como objeto científico?

Observable y cuantificable

- La desigualdad puede (Hs):
  - verificarse empíricamente
  - cuantificarse
  - realizar comparaciones entre poblaciones y periodos
  - su distribución (estadística) puede existir independientemente de los observadores

Variación sistemática

- La desigualdad (Hs):
  - No sigue un patrón aleatorio, exhibe patrones estructurados que demandan explicación científica
  - Su variabilidad es predecible bajo teorías científicas
  - Existen procesos causales que ameritan definición y explicación

Consecuente para otros resultados

- La desigualdad (Hs):
  - –Sirve como variable independiente con efectos cuantificables
  - –Su estatus como objeto científico se refuerza por su poder explicativo
  - –Explica la variabilidad de otros fenómenos

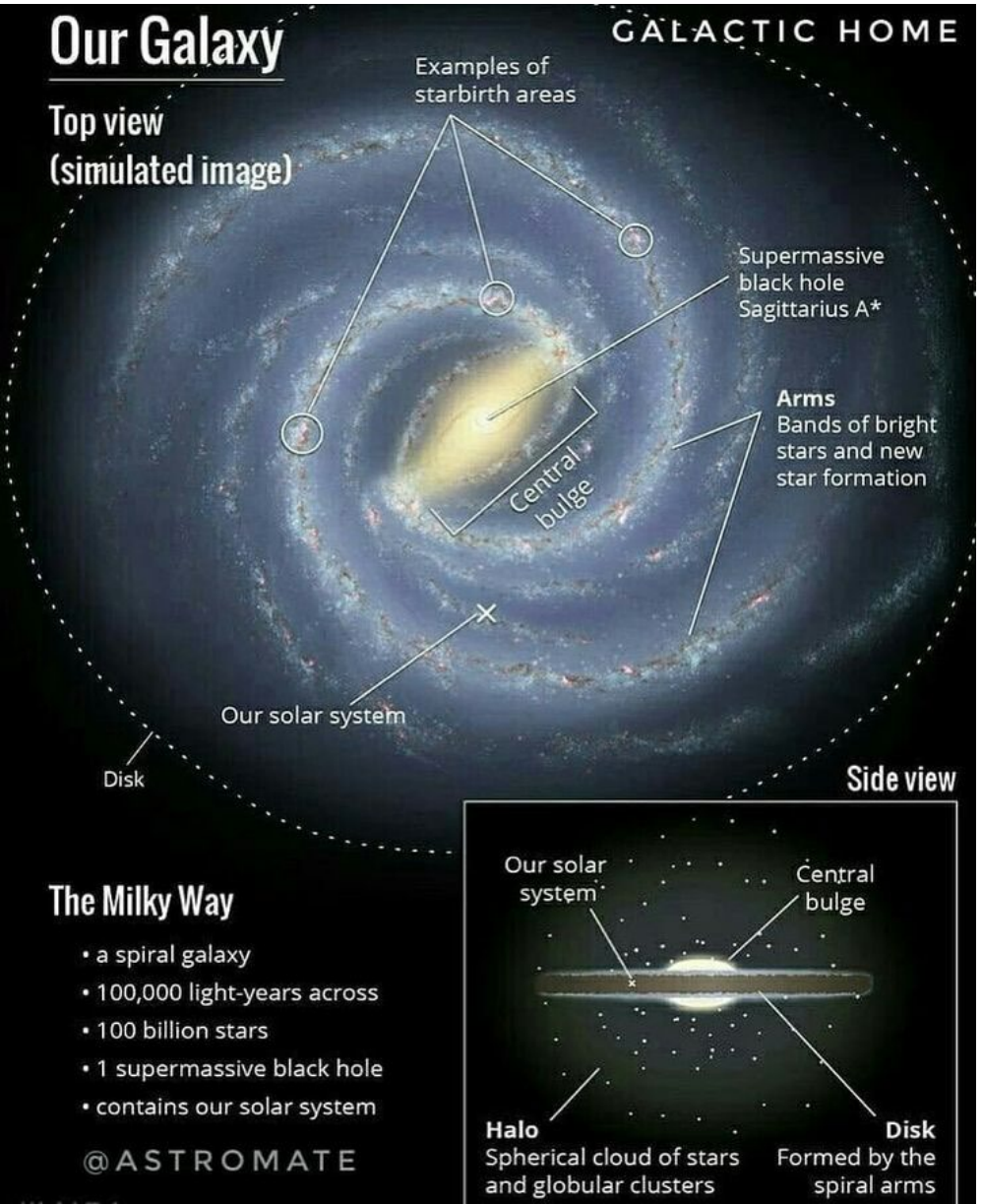
Es falseable

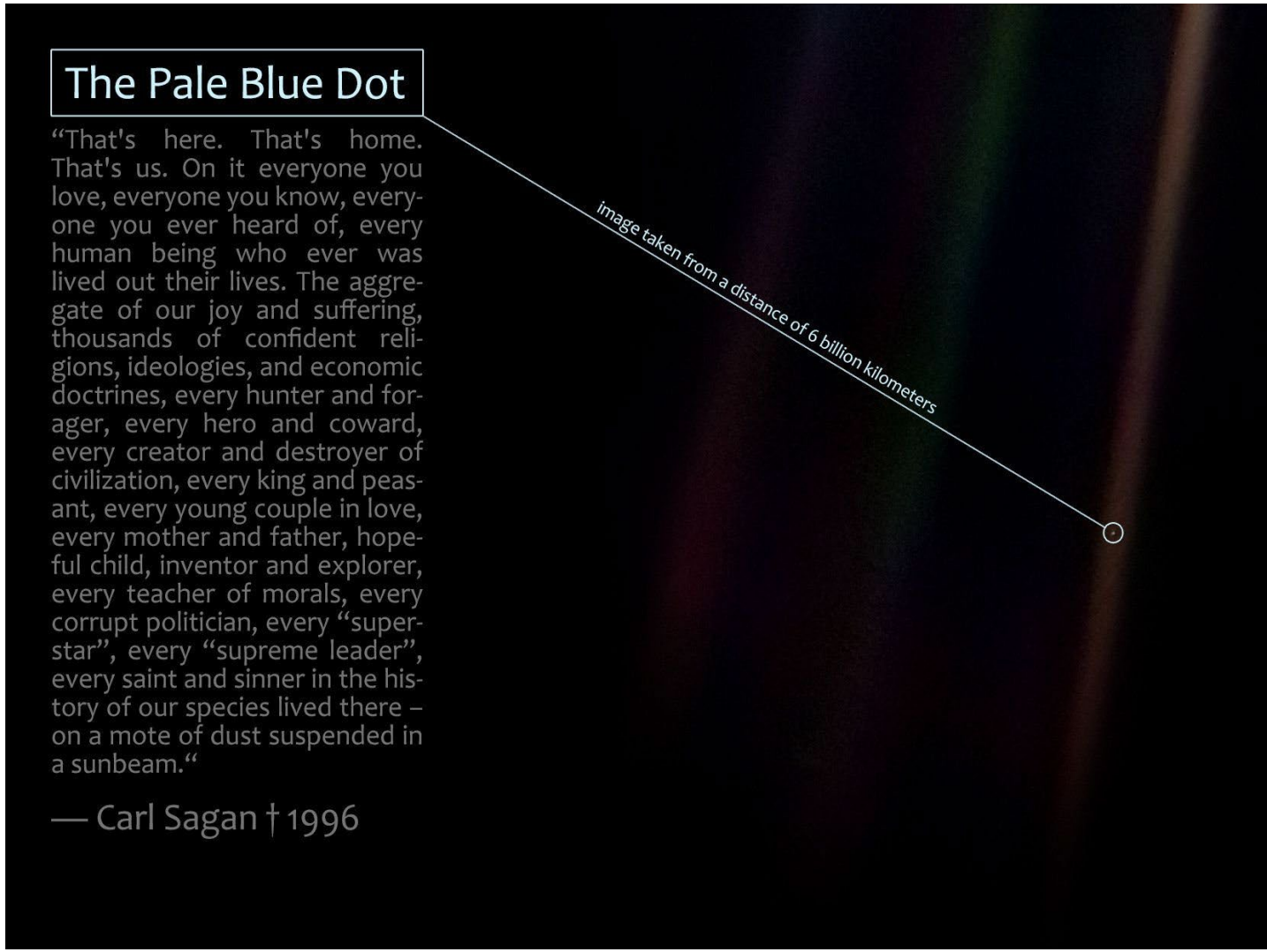
- La desigualdad (Hs):
  - Su estudio genera hipótesis testeables
    - ¿La tributación progresiva reduce la desigualdad?

PERSPECTIVA II

¿Por qué estudiamos a la desigualdad?

“It has been said that astronomy is humbling and caracter-building experience” Carl Sagan


Our Galaxy
GALACTIC HOME
Top view
(simulated image)
Examples of
starbirth areas
Supermassive
black hole
Sagittarius A*
Arms
Bands of bright
stars and new
star formation
Central
bulge
Our solar system
Disk
Side view
Our solar
system
Central
bulge
Halo
Spherical cloud of stars
and globular clusters
Disk
Formed by the
spiral arms
The Milky Way
• a spiral galaxy
• 100,000 light-years across
• 100 billion stars
• 1 supermassive black hole
• contains our solar system
@ASTROMATE


The Pale Blue Dot
“That's here. That's home. That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every “superstar”, every “supreme leader”, every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there – on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.“
— Carl Sagan † 1996
image taken from a distance of 6 billion kilometers

PERSPECTIVA

Cada papá y mamá, y cada persona de la que has escuchado

La suma de nuestras alegrías y sufrimientos

Cada creador y destructor de civilizaciones

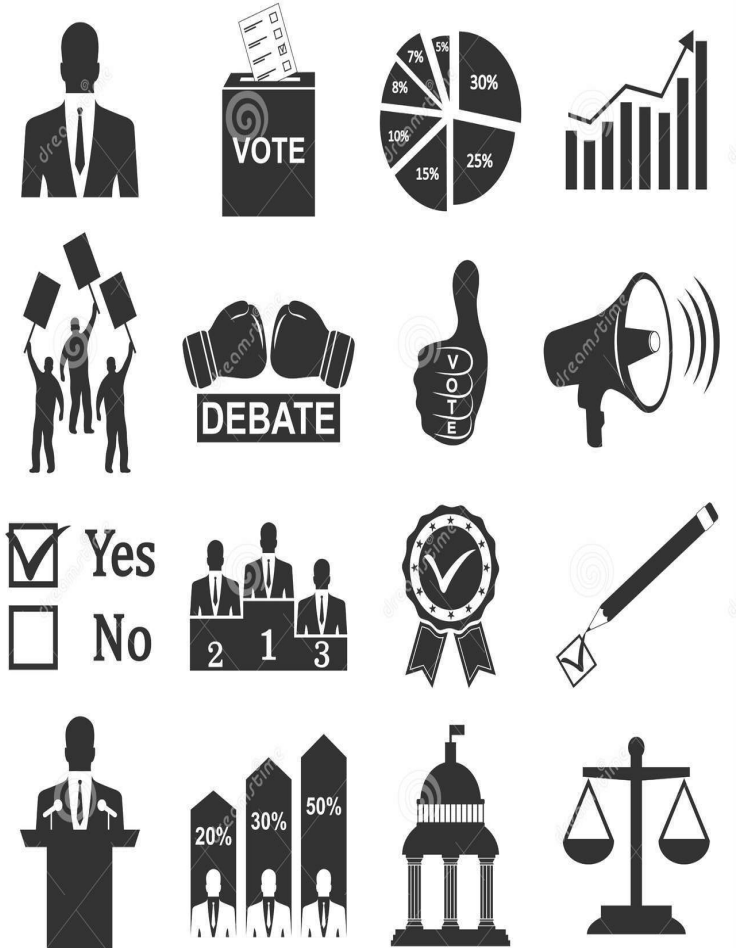
Cada político corrupto, cada "superestrella", cada líder supremo en la historia de nuestra especie ha vivido y muerto aquí.

Los amos momentarios de la fracción de un pequeño punto han vivido aquí

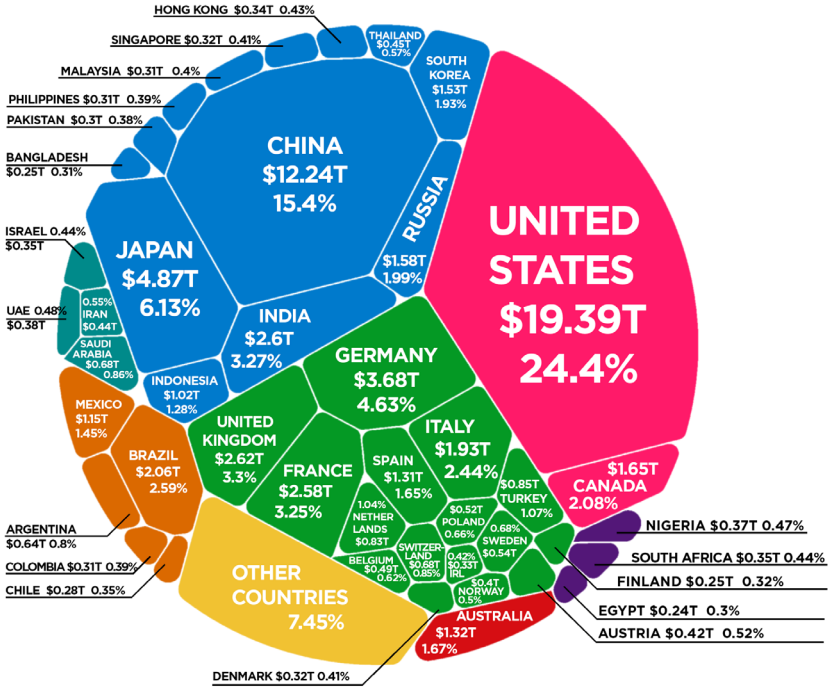
Nuestro sentido de importancia y el delirio de que temenos alguna posición privilegiada en el universo vive ahí.

Solo subraya la responsabilidad que temenos las unas con las otras

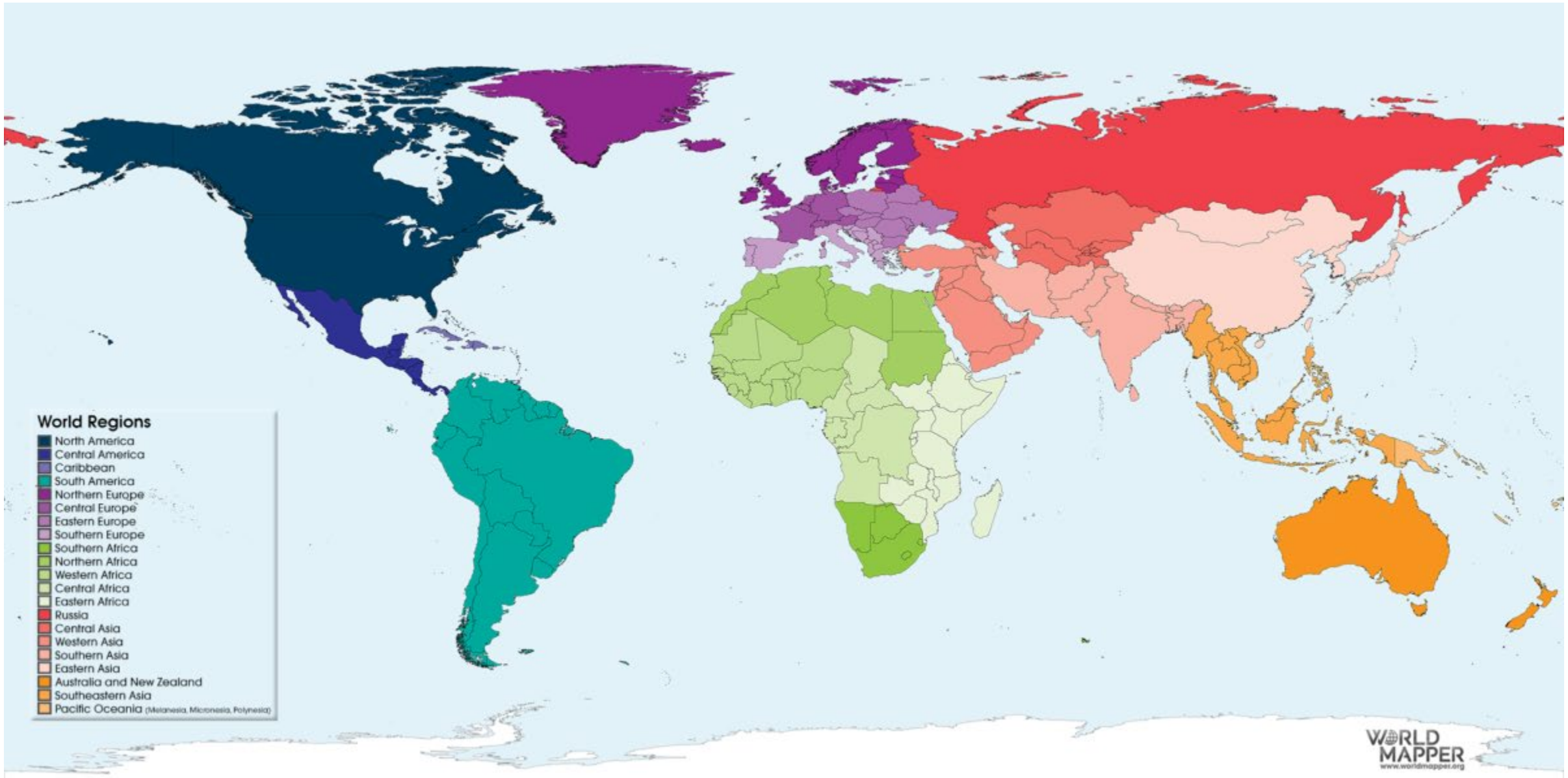
PERSPECTIVA II


VOTE
30%
25%
15%
10%
8%
7%
5%
DEBATE
VOTE
Yes
No
2 1 3
20%
30%
50%

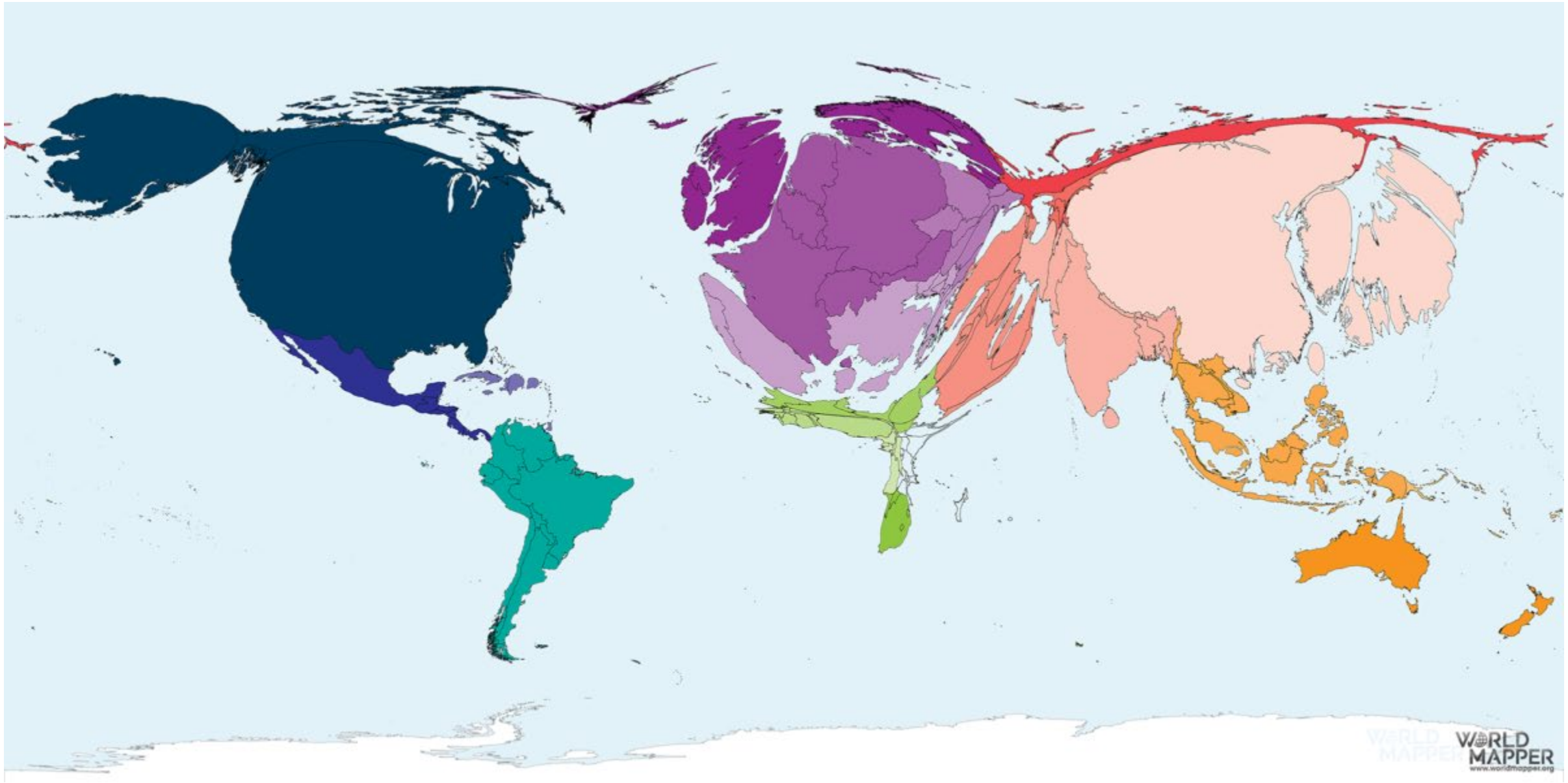

$1.7 TRILLION
$1.7 TRILLION
3.5 BILLION POOREST
RICHEST 85


HONG KONG $0.34T 0.43%
SINGAPORE $0.32T 0.41%
MALAYSIA $0.31T 0.4%
PHILIPPINES $0.31T 0.39%
PAKISTAN $0.3T 0.38%
BANGLADESH $0.25T 0.31%
ISRAEL 0.44% $0.35T
UAE 0.48% $0.38T
THAILAND $0.45T 0.57%
SOUTH KOREA $1.53T 1.93%
CHINA $12.24T 15.4%
RUSSIA $1.58T 1.99%
UNITED STATES $19.39T 24.4%
JAPAN $4.87T 6.13%
INDIA $2.6T 3.27%
0.55% IRAN $0.44T
SAUDI ARABIA $0.68T 0.86%
INDONESIA $1.02T 1.28%
GERMANY $3.68T 4.63%
MEXICO $1.15T 1.45%
BRAZIL $2.06T 2.59%
UNITED KINGDOM $2.62T 3.3%
FRANCE $2.58T 3.25%
ITALY $1.93T 2.44%
SPAIN $1.31T 1.65%
$1.65T CANADA 2.08%
$0.85T TURKEY 1.07%
1.04% NETHER LANDS $0.83T
$0.52T POLAND 0.66%
0.68% SWEDEN $0.54T
SWITZER LAND $0.68T 0.85%
BELGIUM $0.49T 0.62%
0.42% $0.33T IRL
$0.4T NORWAY 0.5%
AUSTRALIA $1.32T 1.67%
ARGENTINA $0.64T 0.8%
COLOMBIA $0.31T 0.39%
CHILE $0.28T 0.35%
OTHER COUNTRIES 7.45%
DENMARK $0.32T 0.41%
NIGERIA $0.37T 0.47%
SOUTH AFRICA $0.35T 0.44%
FINLAND $0.25T 0.32%
EGYPT $0.24T 0.3%
AUSTRIA $0.42T 0.52%

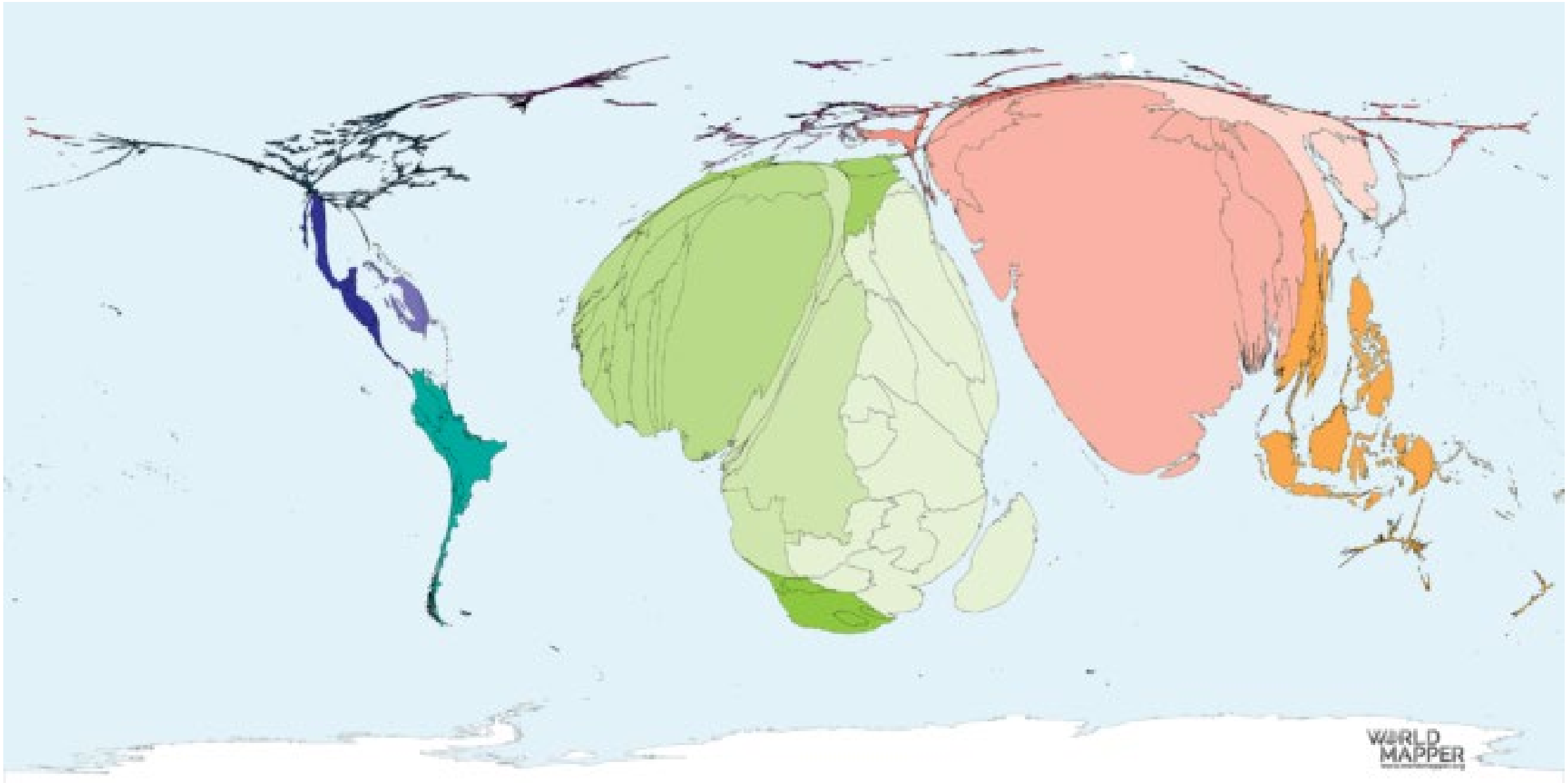
Algunos rasgos de la distribución y uso de recursos a nivel mundial


World Regions
North America
Central America
Caribbean
South America
Northern Europe
Central Europe
Eastern Europe
Southern Europe
Southern Africa
Northern Africa
Western Africa
Central Africa
Eastern Africa
Russia
Central Asia
Western Asia
Southern Asia
Eastern Asia
Australia and New Zealand
Southeastern Asia
Pacific Oceania (Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia)
WORLD MAPPER
www.worldmapper.org

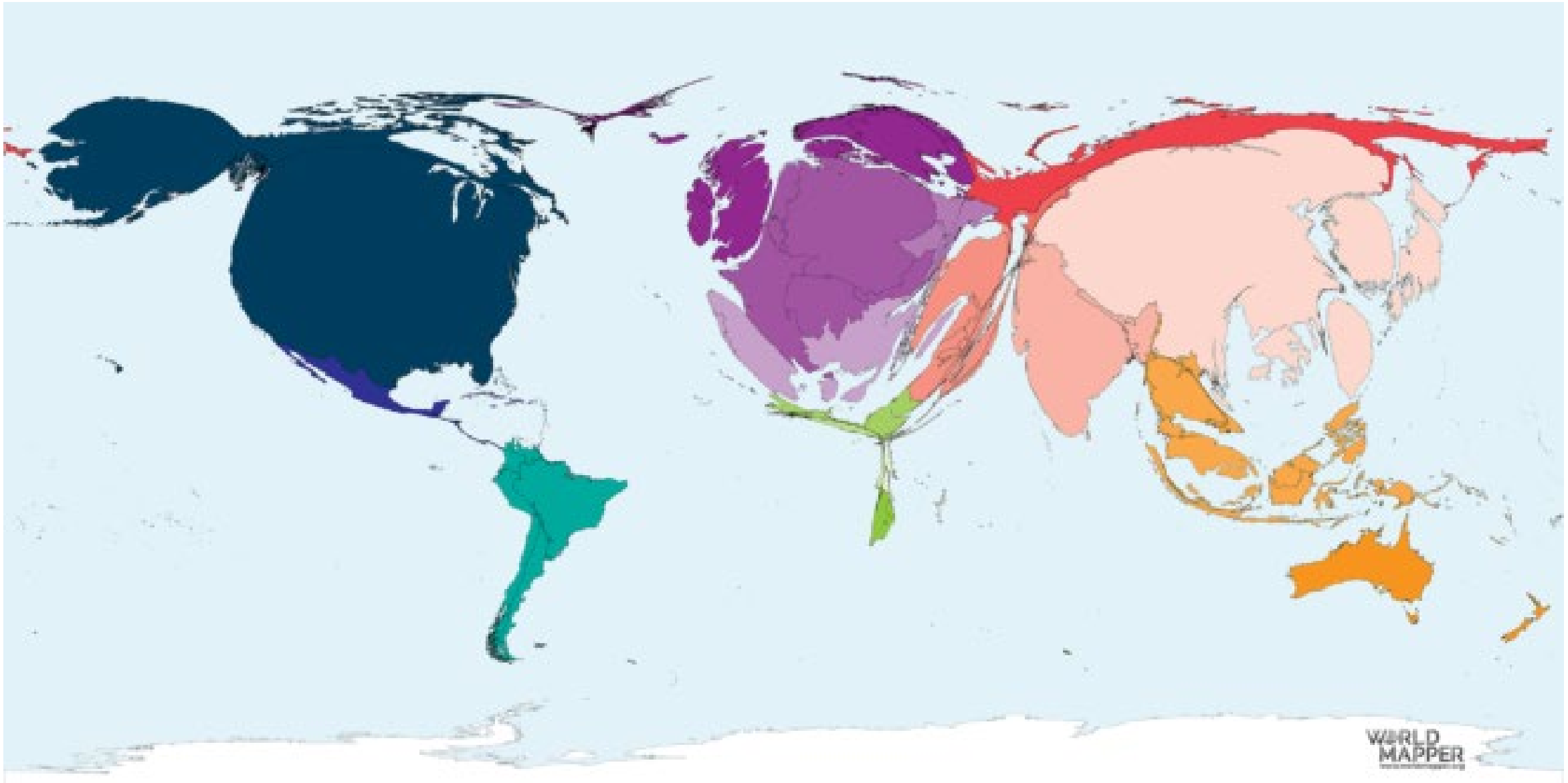
% PIB global



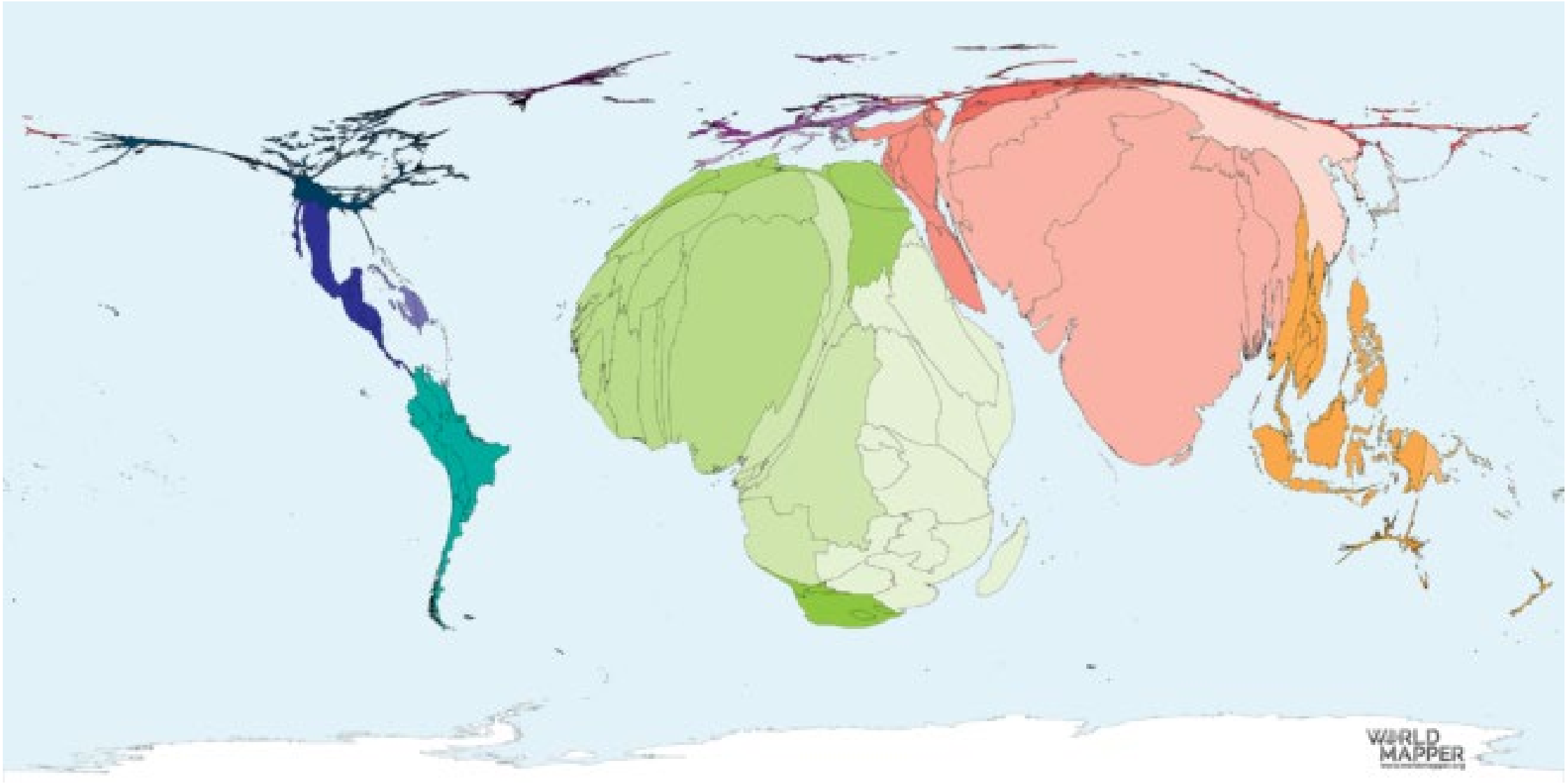
Pobreza absoluta



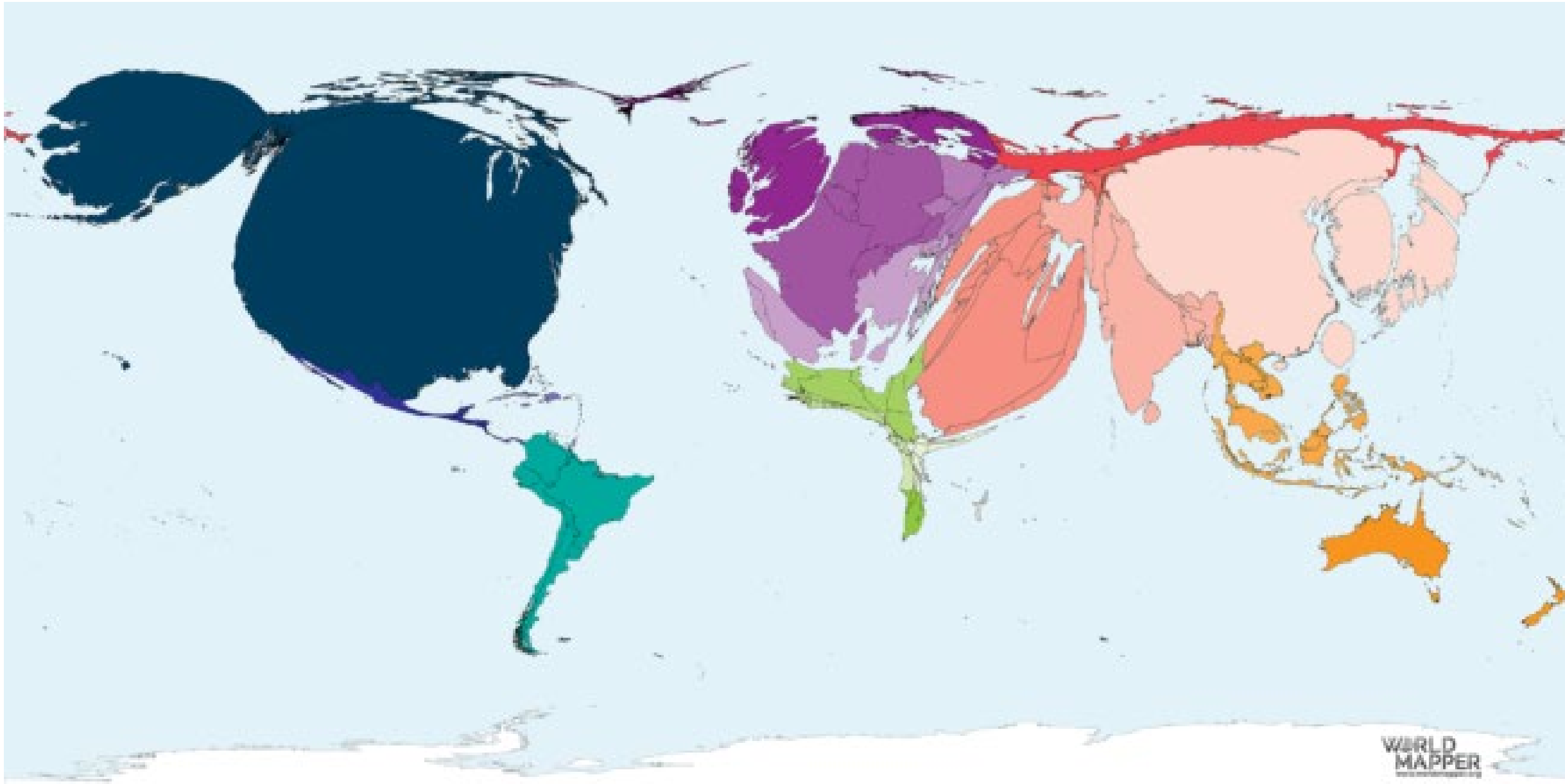
Billonarios



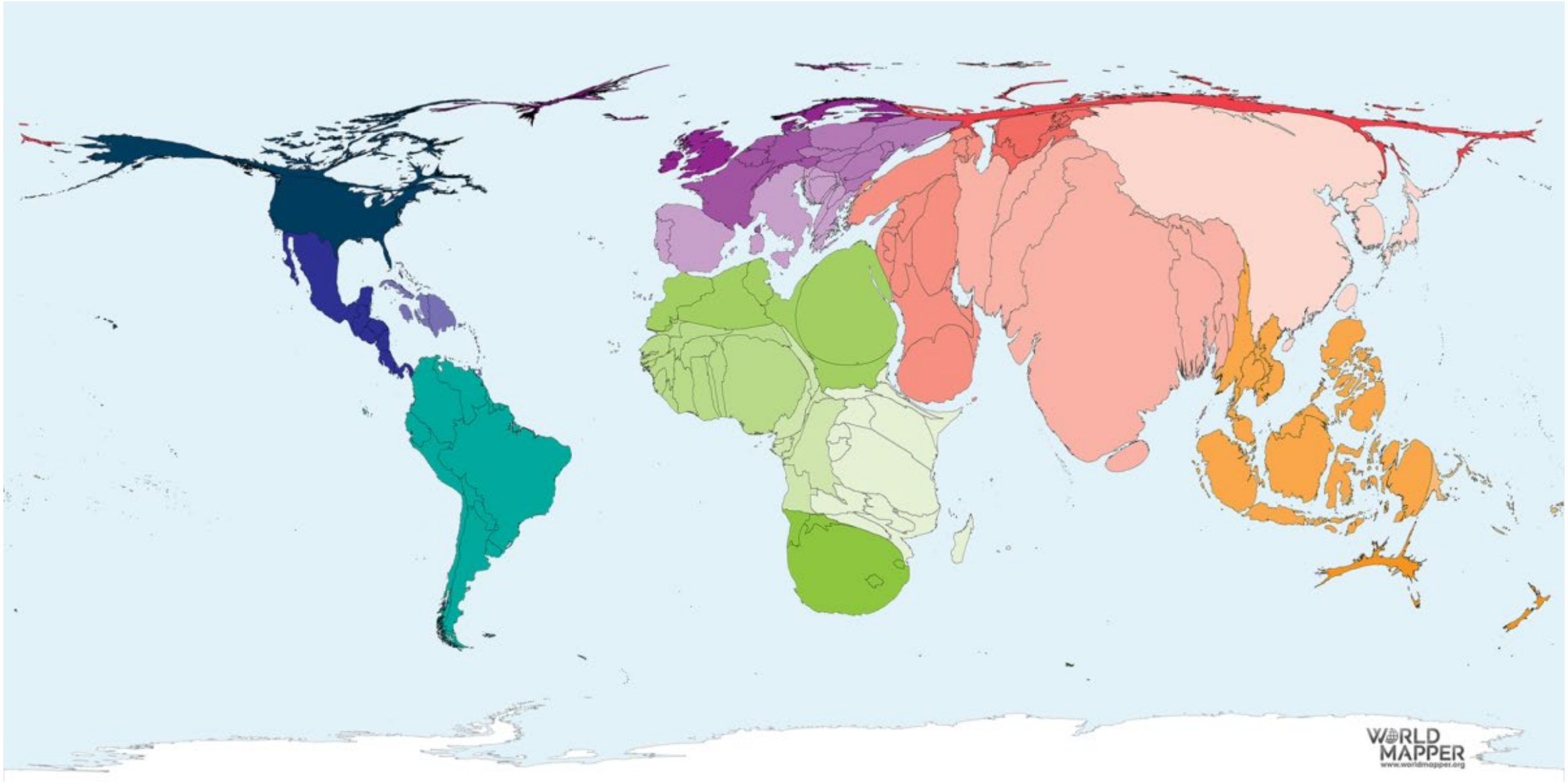
Mortalidad infantil



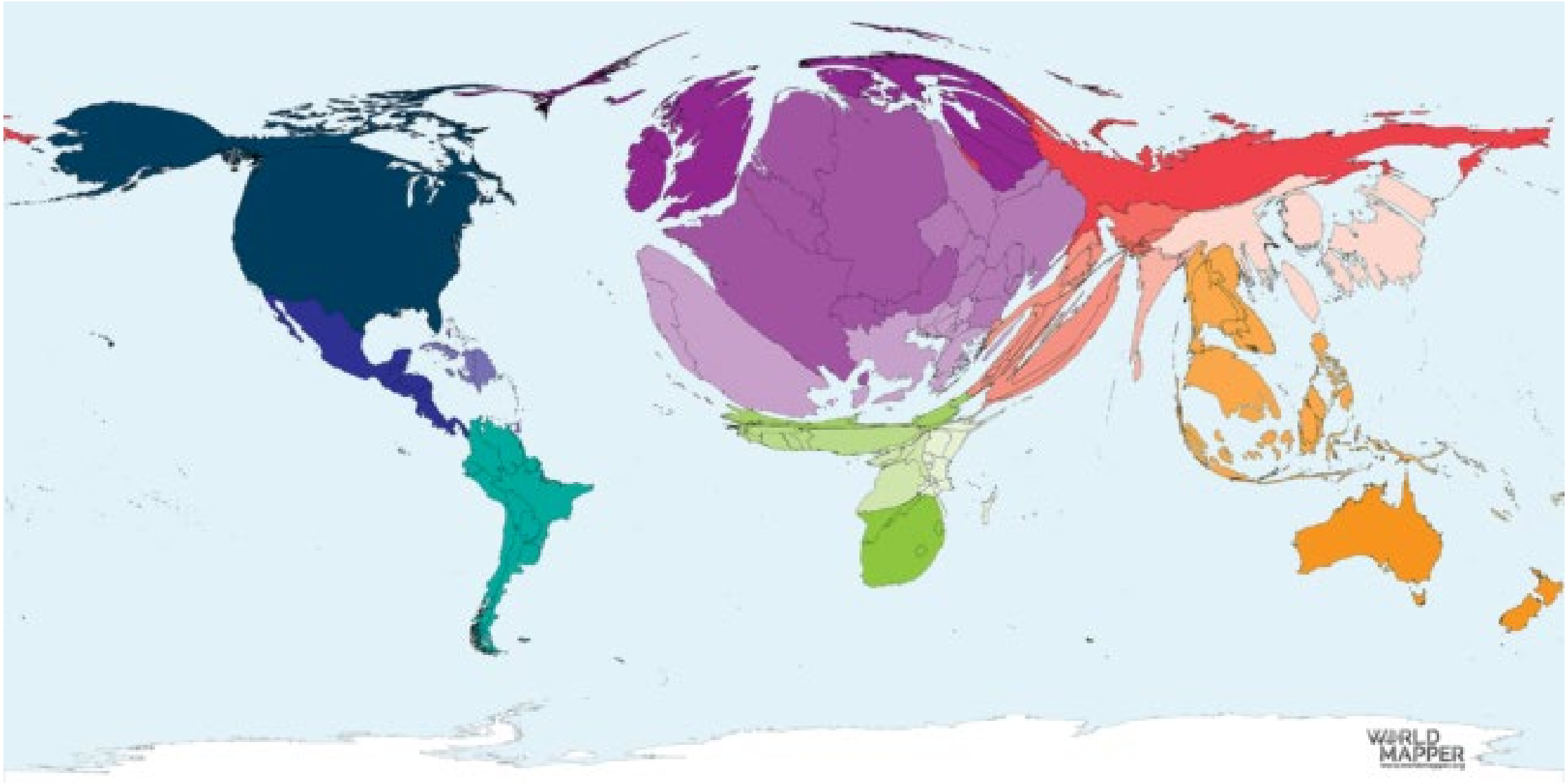
Gasto en armamento



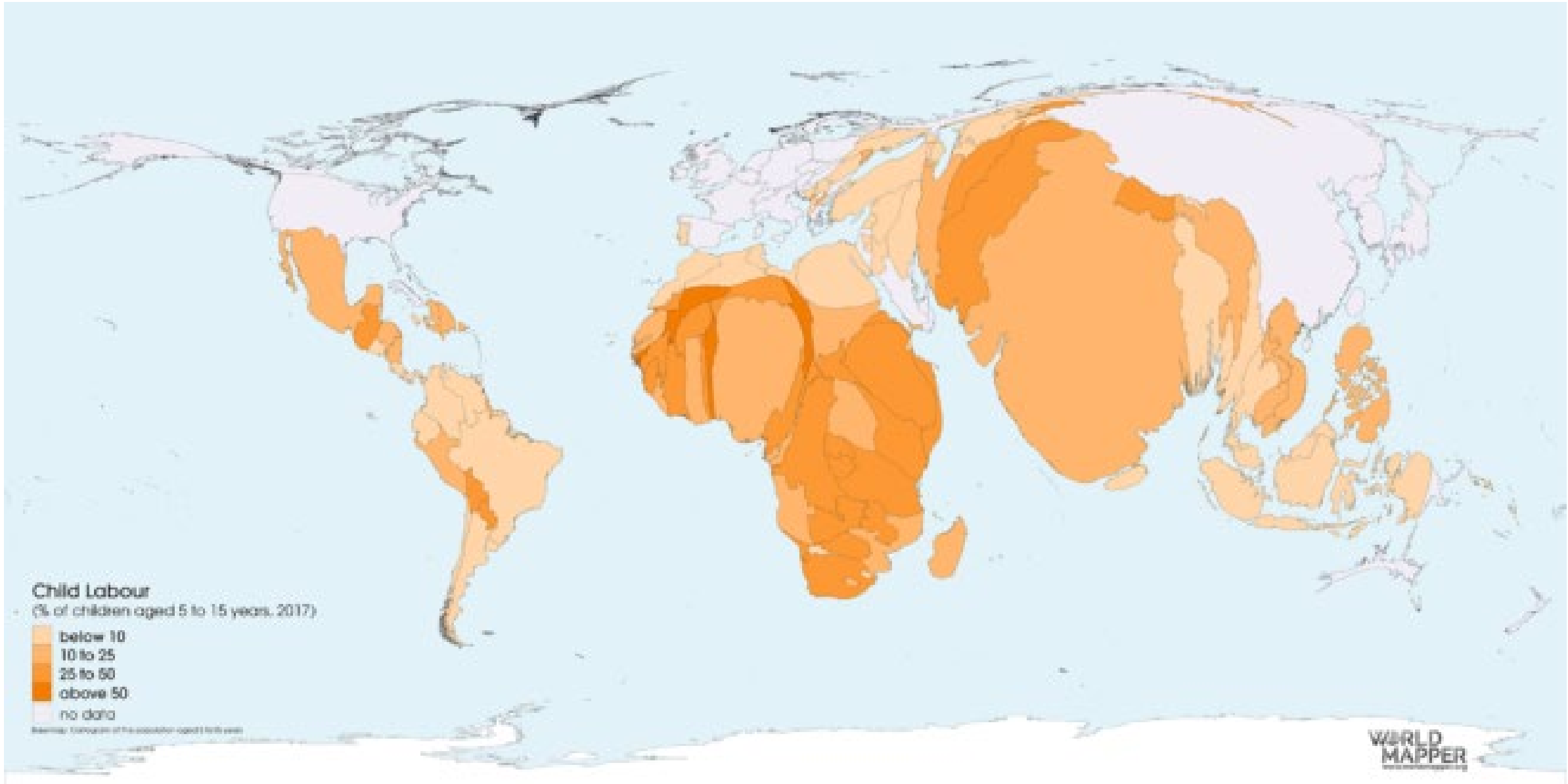
Desempleo juvenil 2015



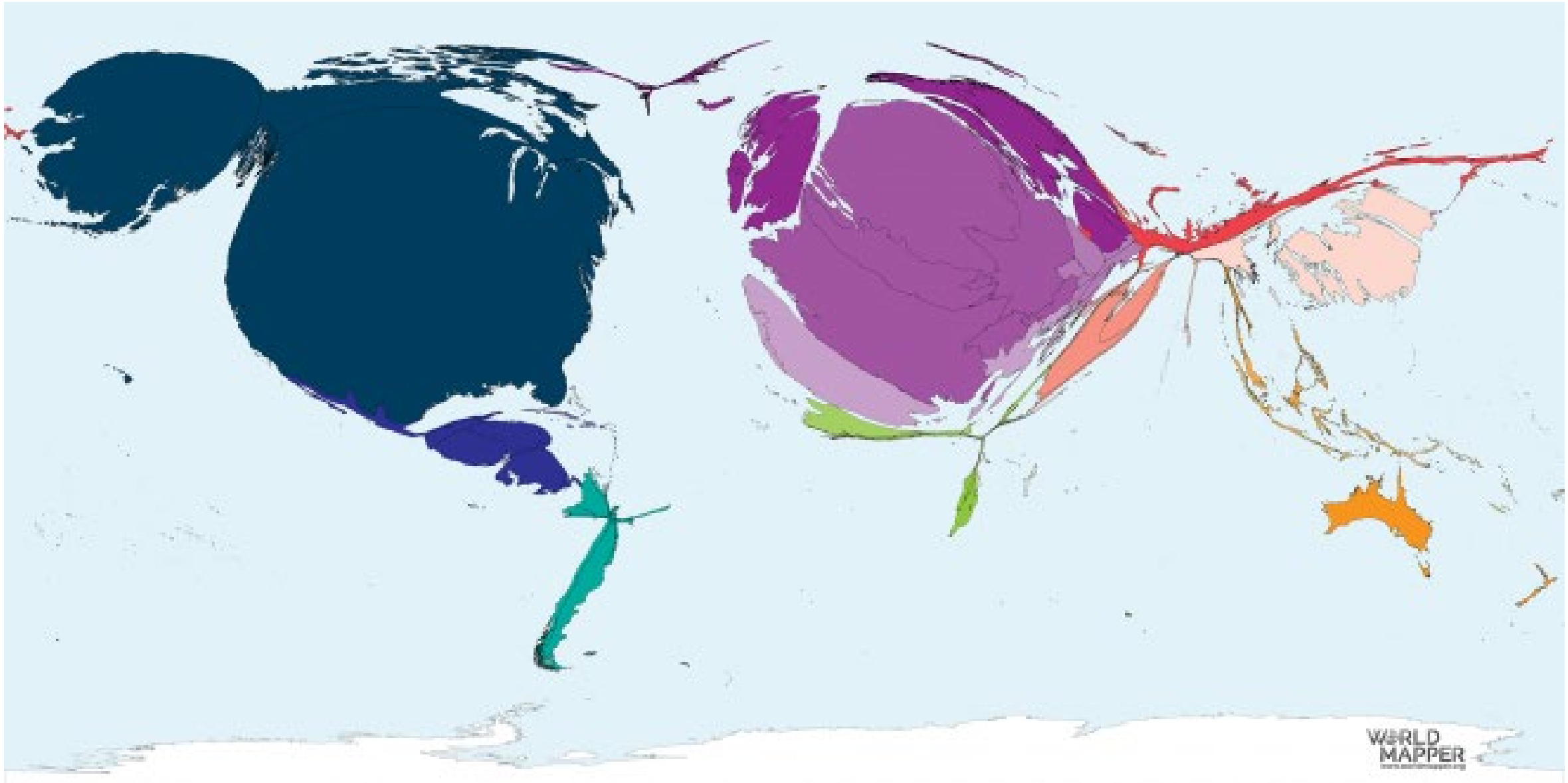
Importación de bebidas alcohólicas



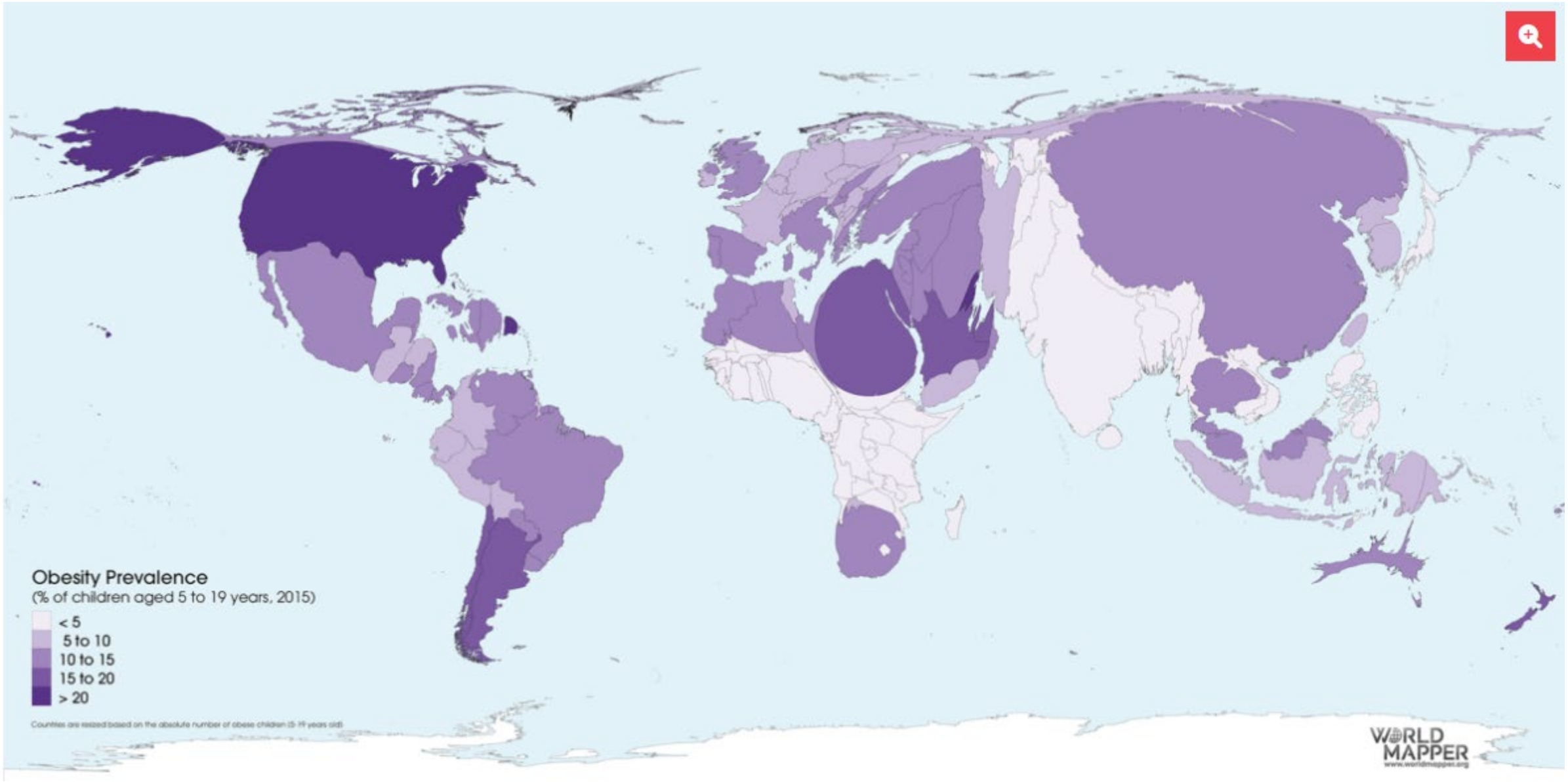
Trabajo infantil



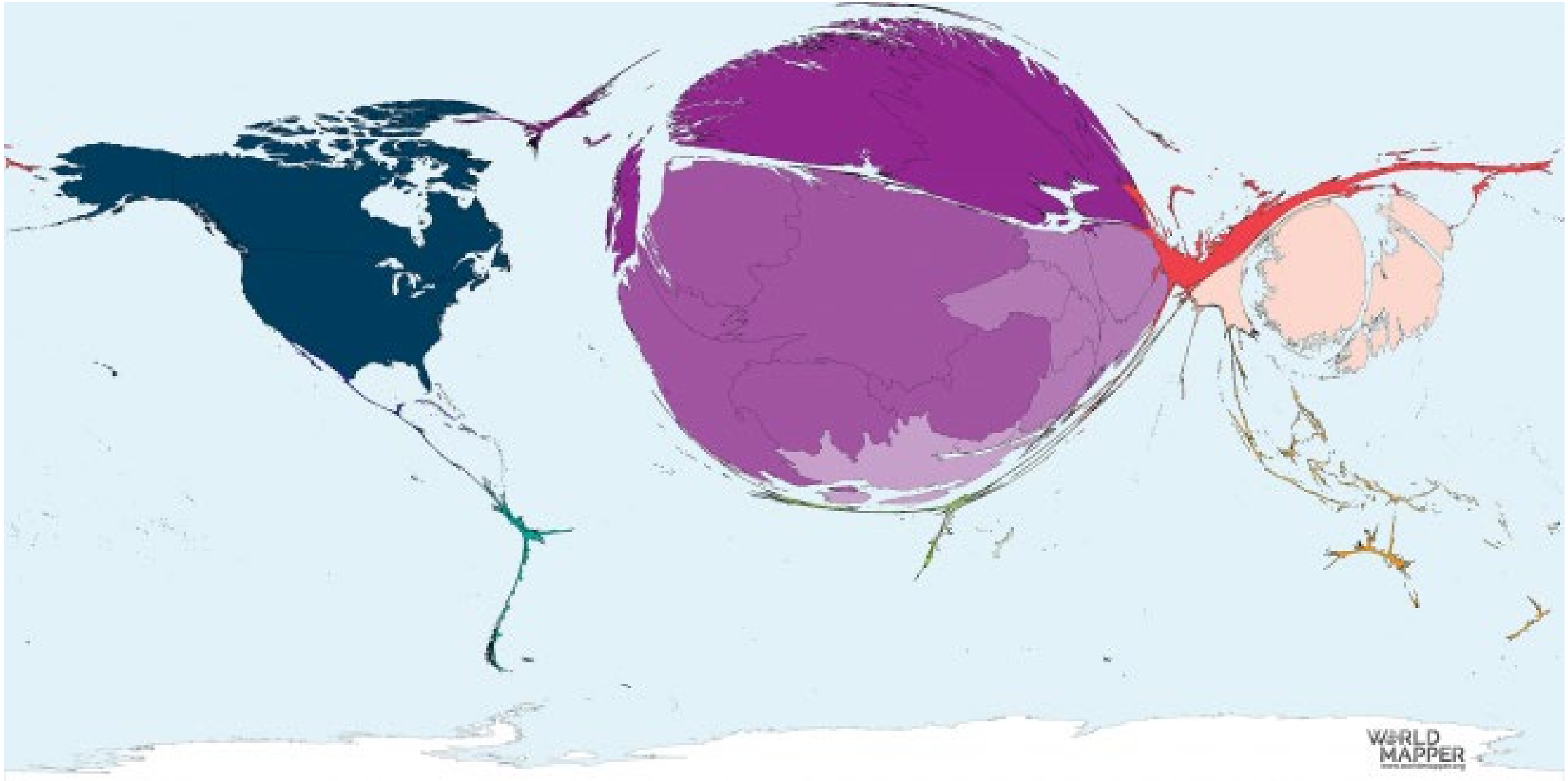
Importaciones de aguacate



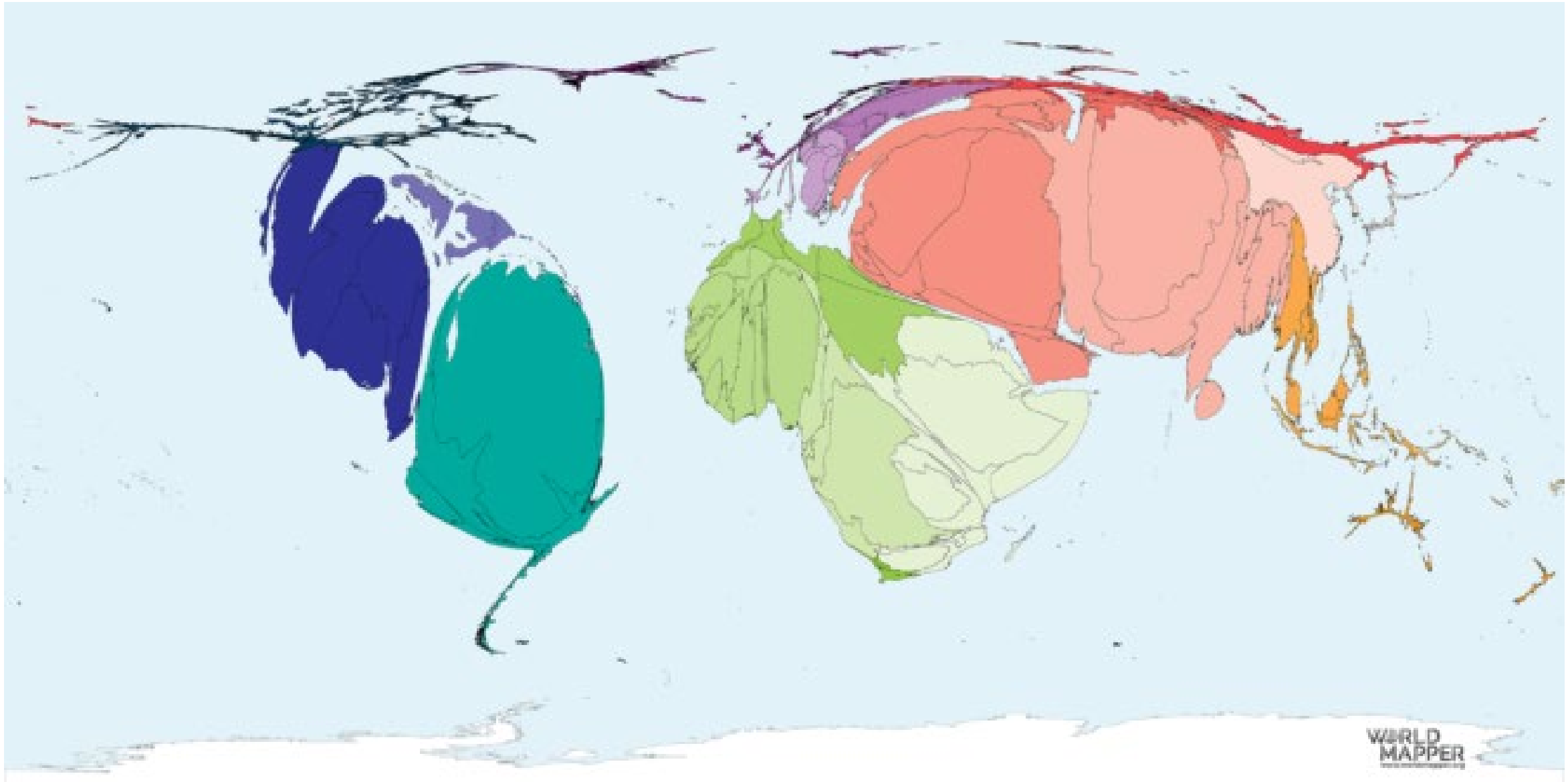
Obesidad infantil



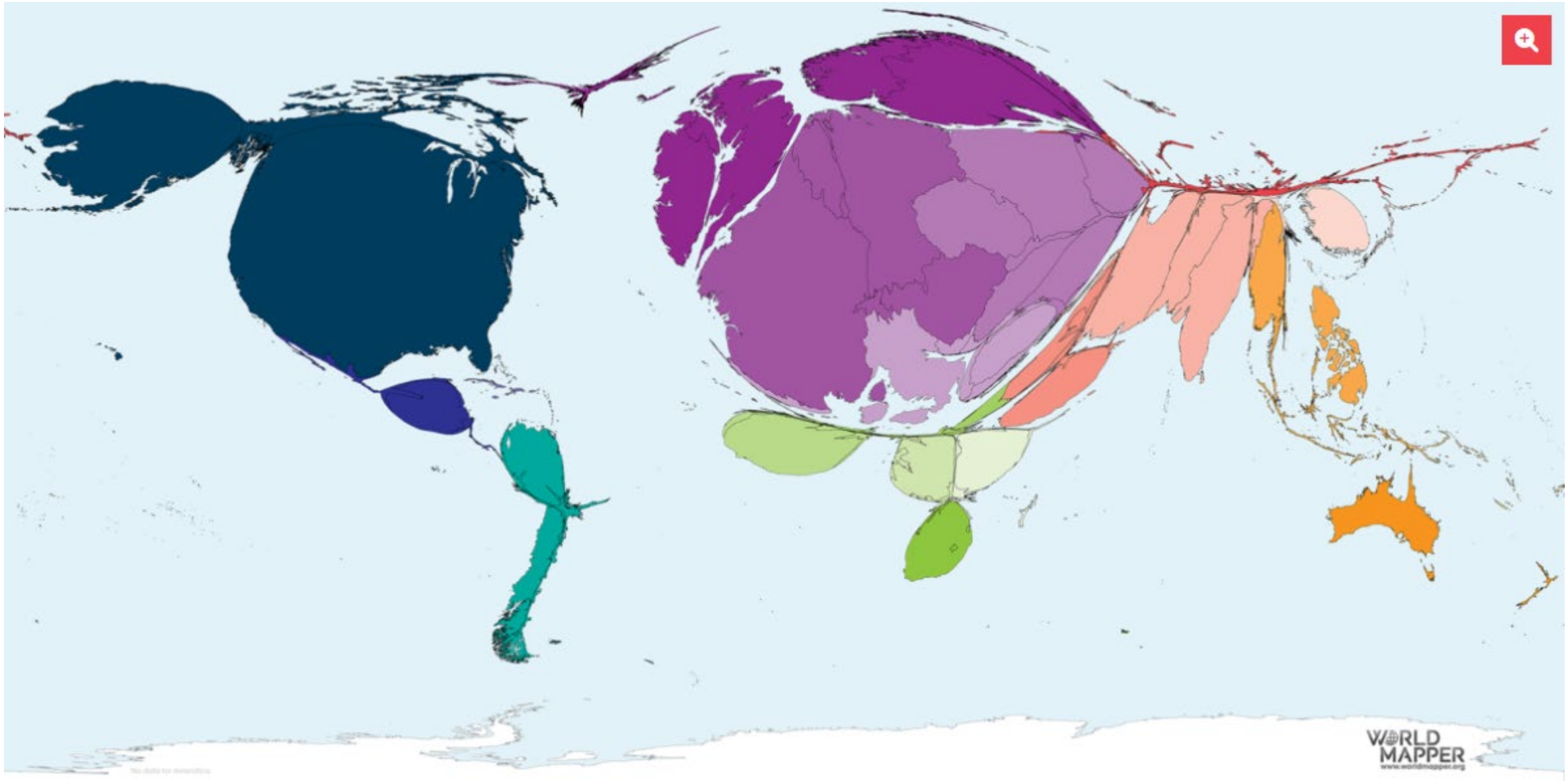
Medallas de oro 2018



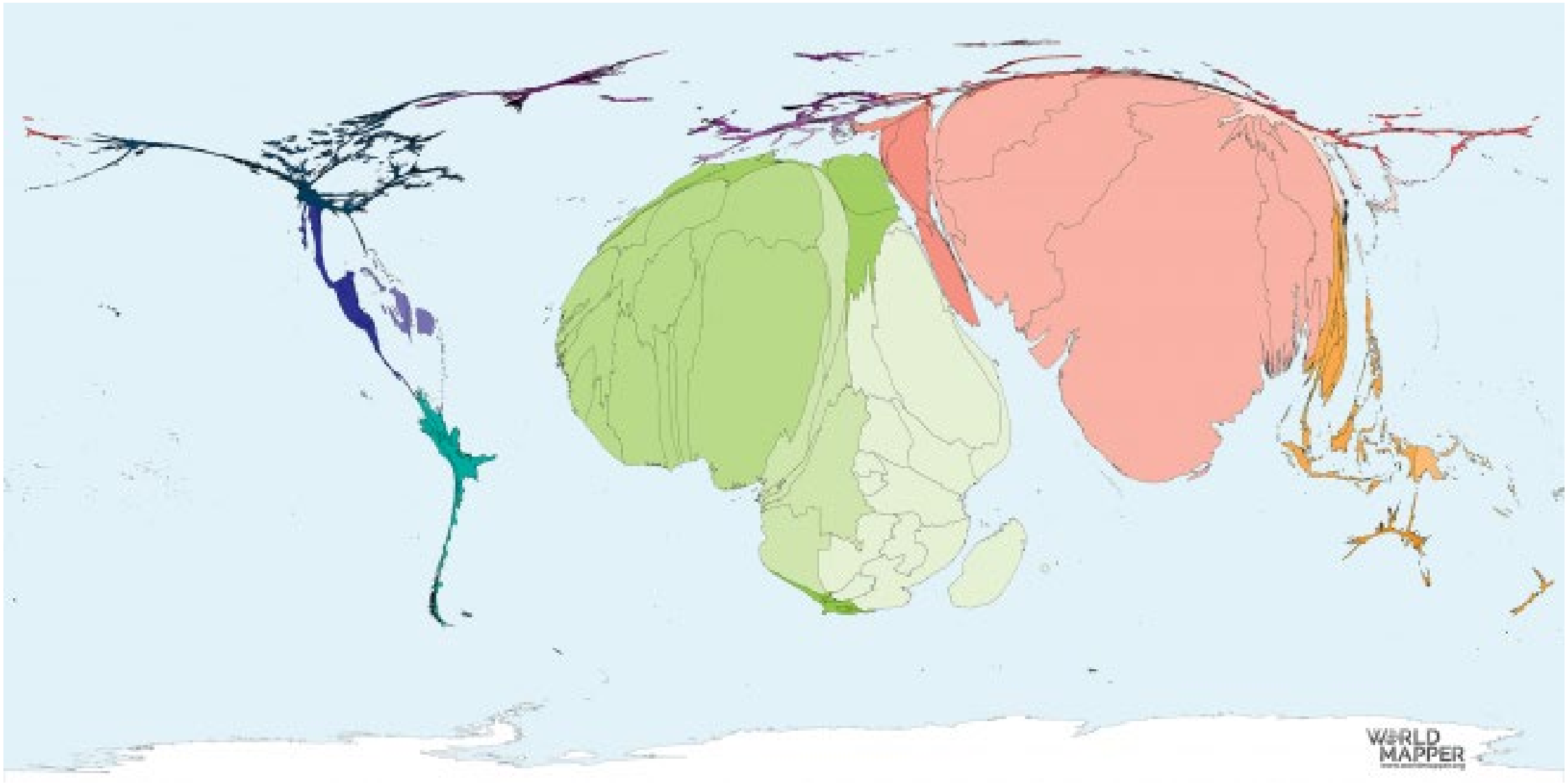
Origen de la población refugiada



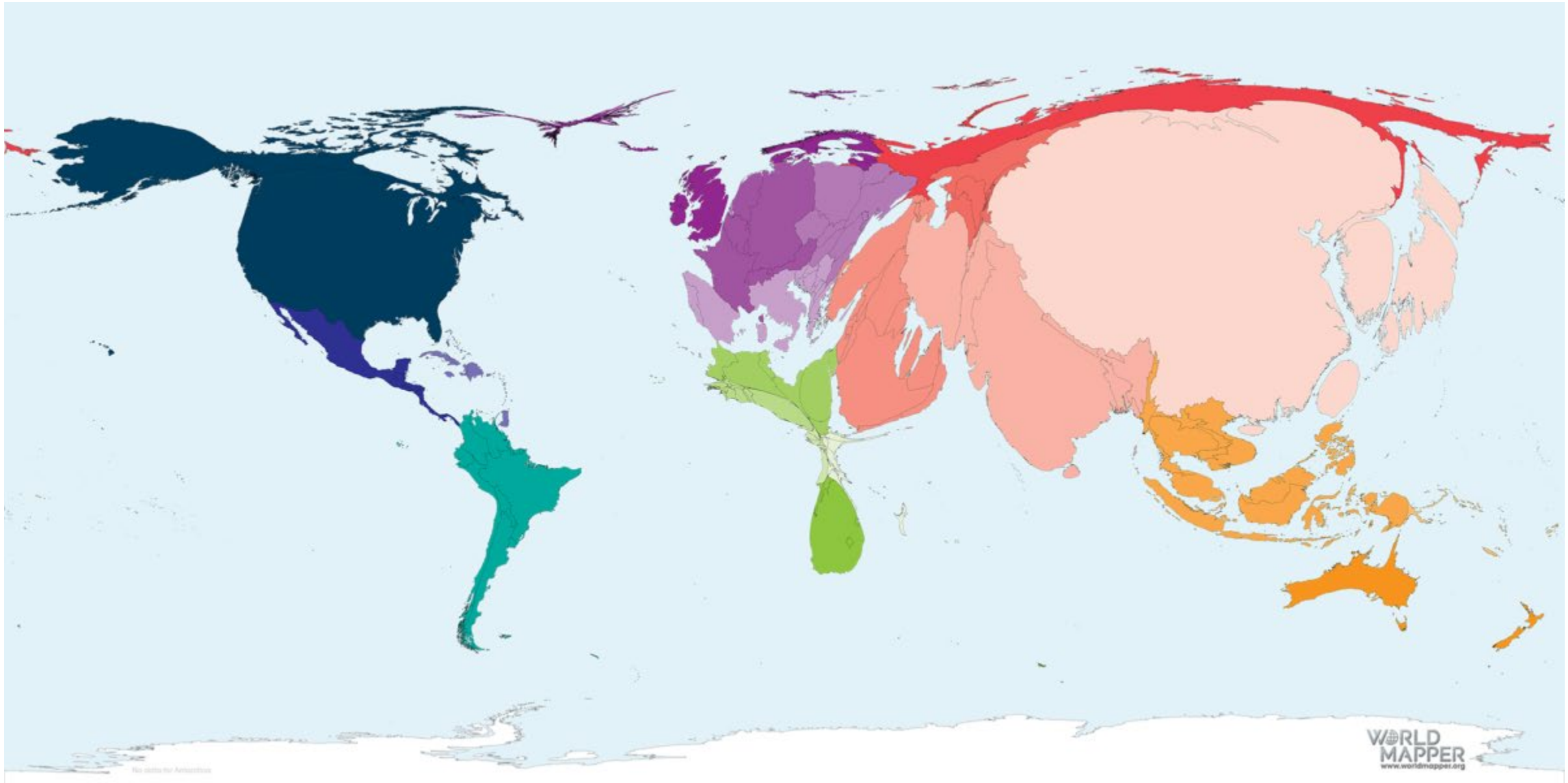
Premios nobel (mujeres) 1901-2015



Mujeres analfabetas



Emisiones de CO2 2020



¿Es la desigualdad más alta en el presente que hace 200 años?

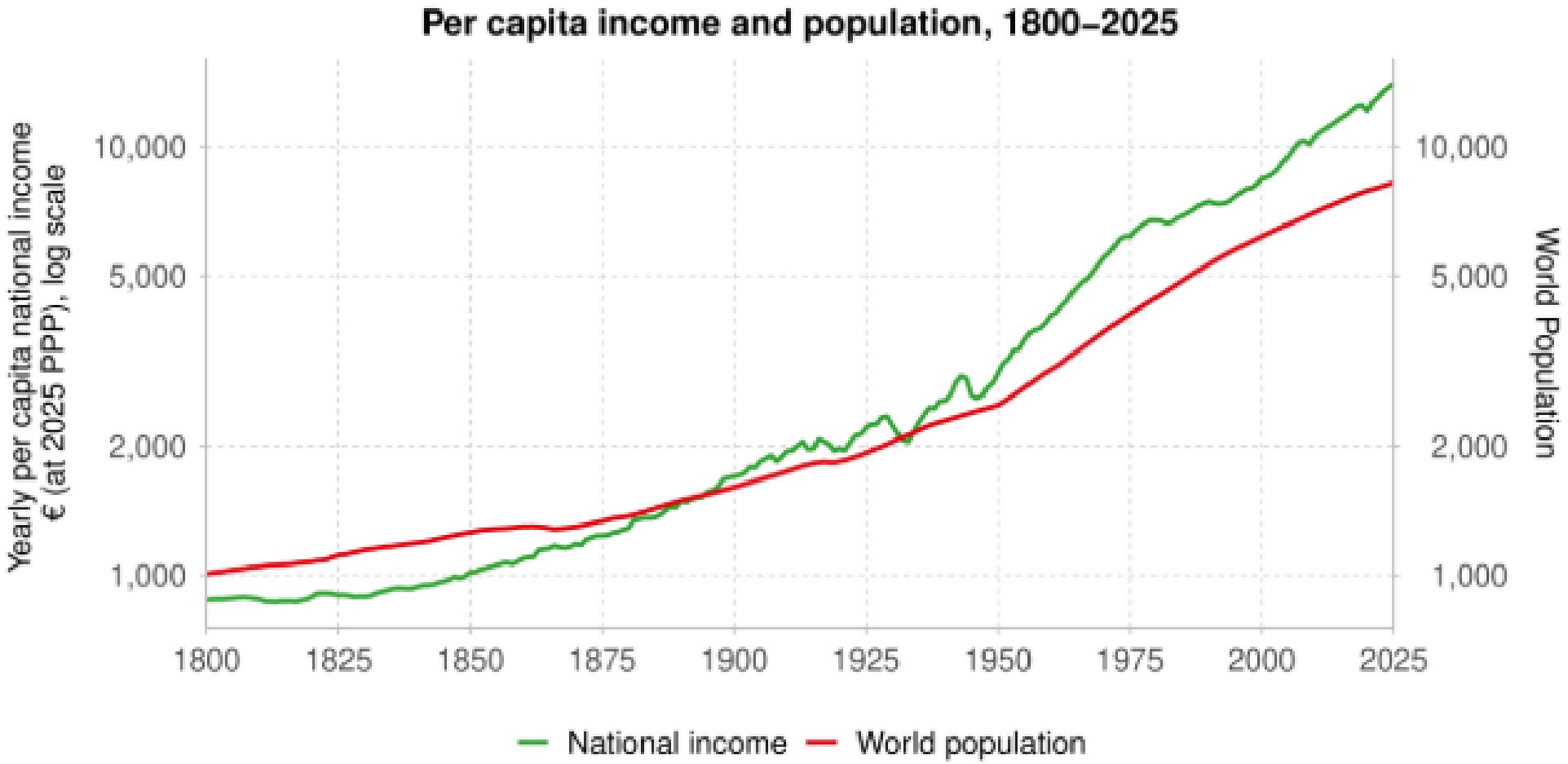
¿Es la desigualdad en el presente más alta que hace 20 años?

¿Es el comportamiento de la desigualdad el mismo entre países?

World Inequality Report 2026

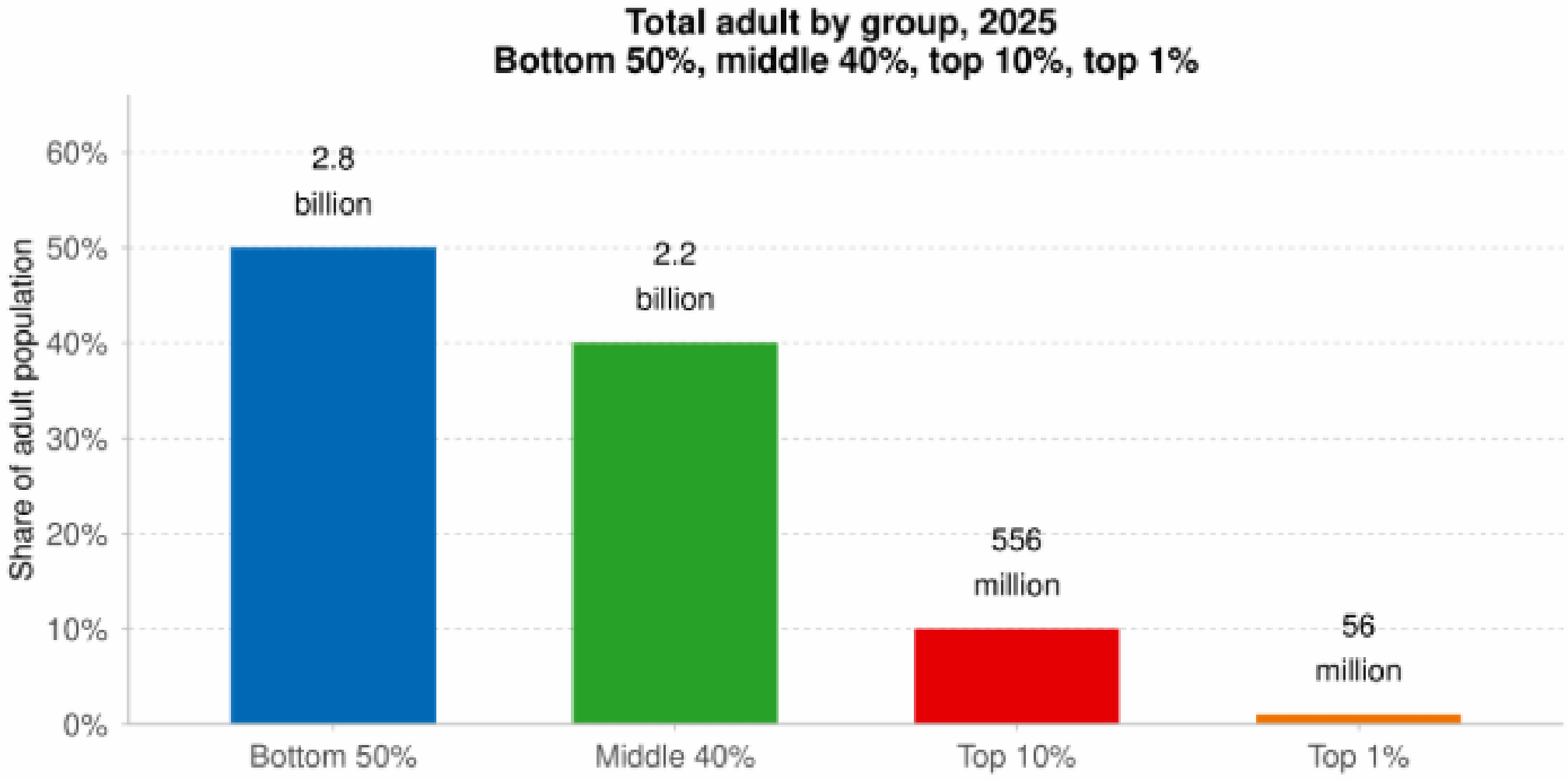
https://wir2026.wid.world/

Figure 1.1. The world is becoming richer



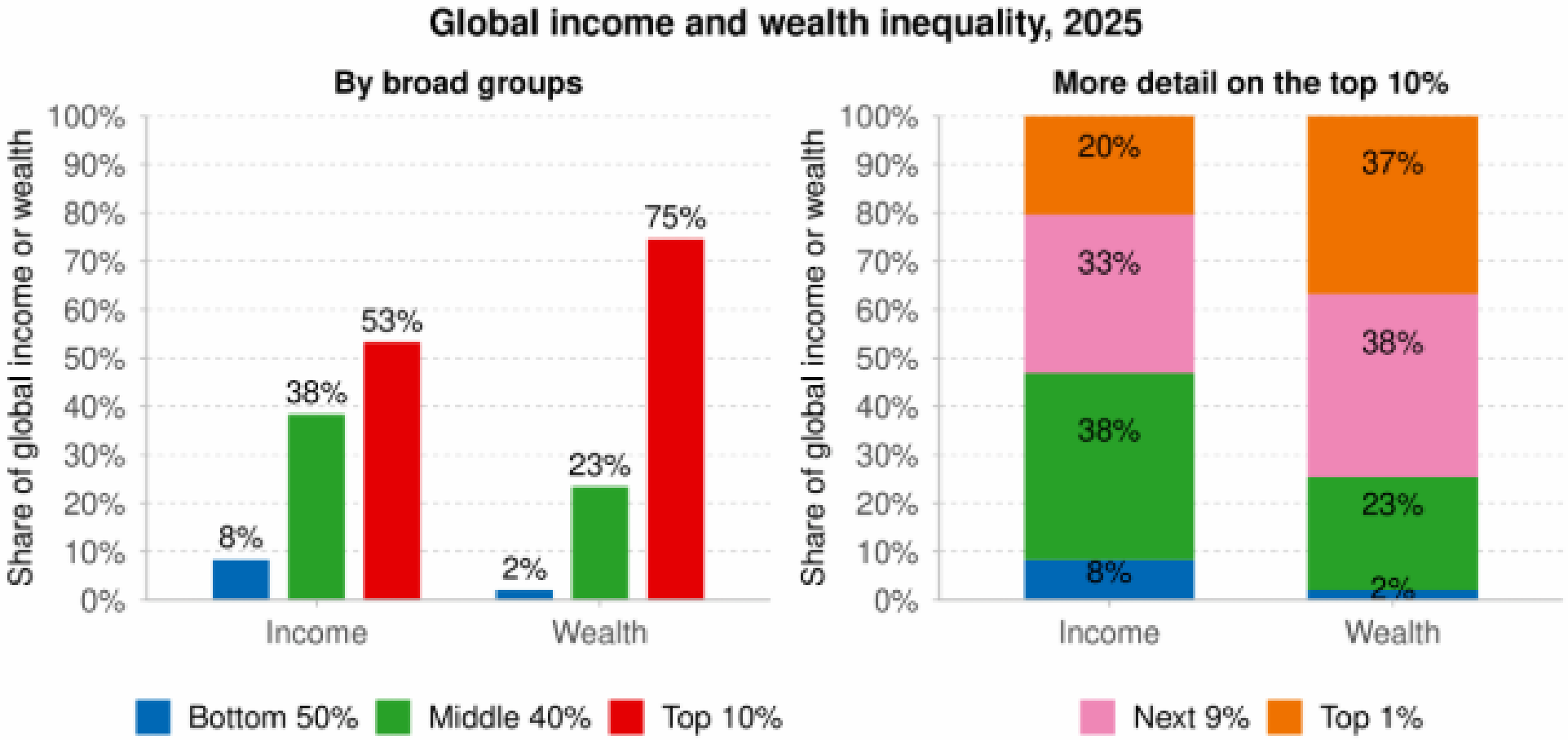
Interpretation. World population increased from 1 billion in 1800 to 8 billion in 2025, corresponding to an average annual growth rate of about 0.9% per year. Yearly income per person increased from about €900 in 1800 to about €14,000 in 2025, a multiplication by about 16 (corresponding to average annual growth rate of about 1.2% per year). **Sources and series:** Gómez–Carrera et al. (2025), Nievas and Piketty (2025), and wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Figure 1.2. Poorest half of the world population: 2.8 billion adults



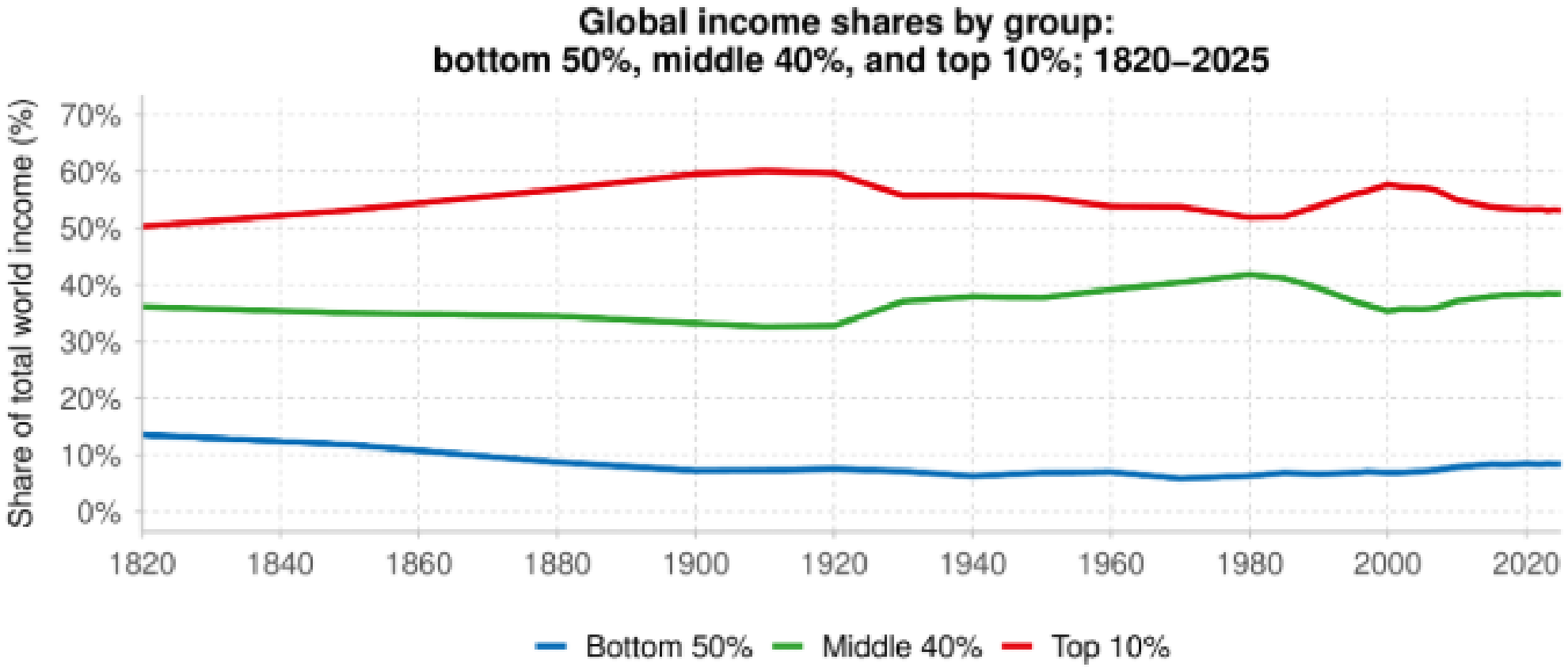
Interpretation. The global bottom 50% among the adult population is composed of 2.8 billion individuals in 2025, and the global top 10% among the adult population is composed of 556 million individuals. **Sources and series:** wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Figure 1.3. Income and wealth shares are distributed very unequally



Interpretation. The global bottom 50% captures 8% of total income and owns 2% of global wealth (2025 PPP). The top 10% capture 53% of income and own 75% of wealth, while the P90–99 capture 33% of income and own 38% of wealth. Moreover, the Top 1% capture 20% of income and hold 37% of wealth. Income is measured after pensions and unemployment benefits are received by individuals and before taxes and transfers. **Sources and series:** Arias–Osorio et al. (2025) and wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

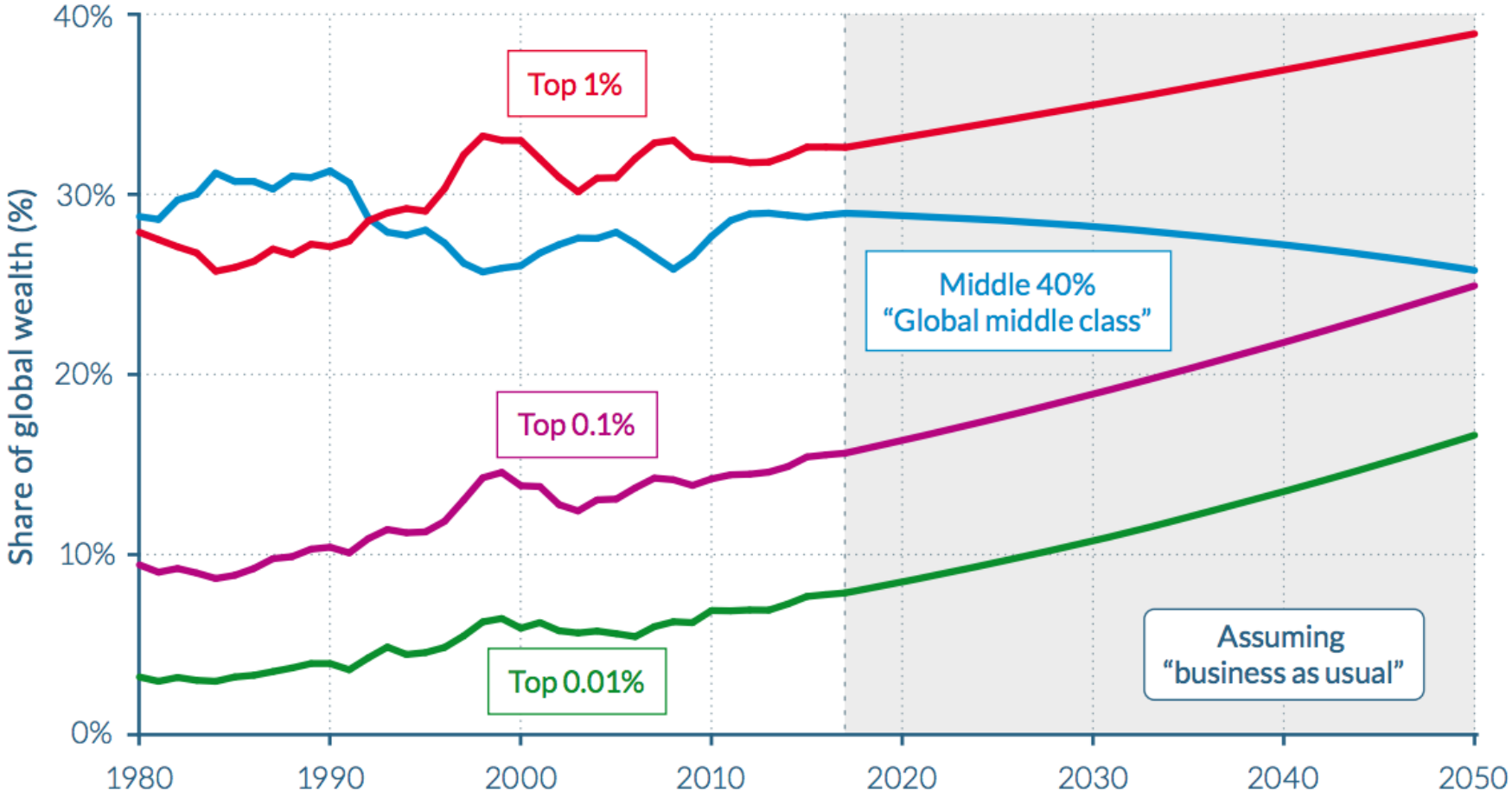
Figure 1.9. Income inequality has persisted for centuries



Interpretation. The share of global income going to the top 10% highest incomes at the world level has fluctuated around 50%–60% between 1820 and 2025 (50% in 1820, 60% in 1910, 52% in 1980, 58% in 2000, 53% in 2025). The share of global income going to the bottom 50% lowest incomes at the world level has fluctuated around 6%–14% between 1820 and 2025 (14% in 1820, 7% in 1910, 6% in 1980, 7% in 2000, 8% in 2025). Global inequality has always been very large. It rose between 1820 and 1910 and shows little change over the long term between 1910 and 2025. Income is measured per capita after pension and unemployment insurance transfers and before income and wealth taxes. **Sources and series:** wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Tendencias de la desigualdad global

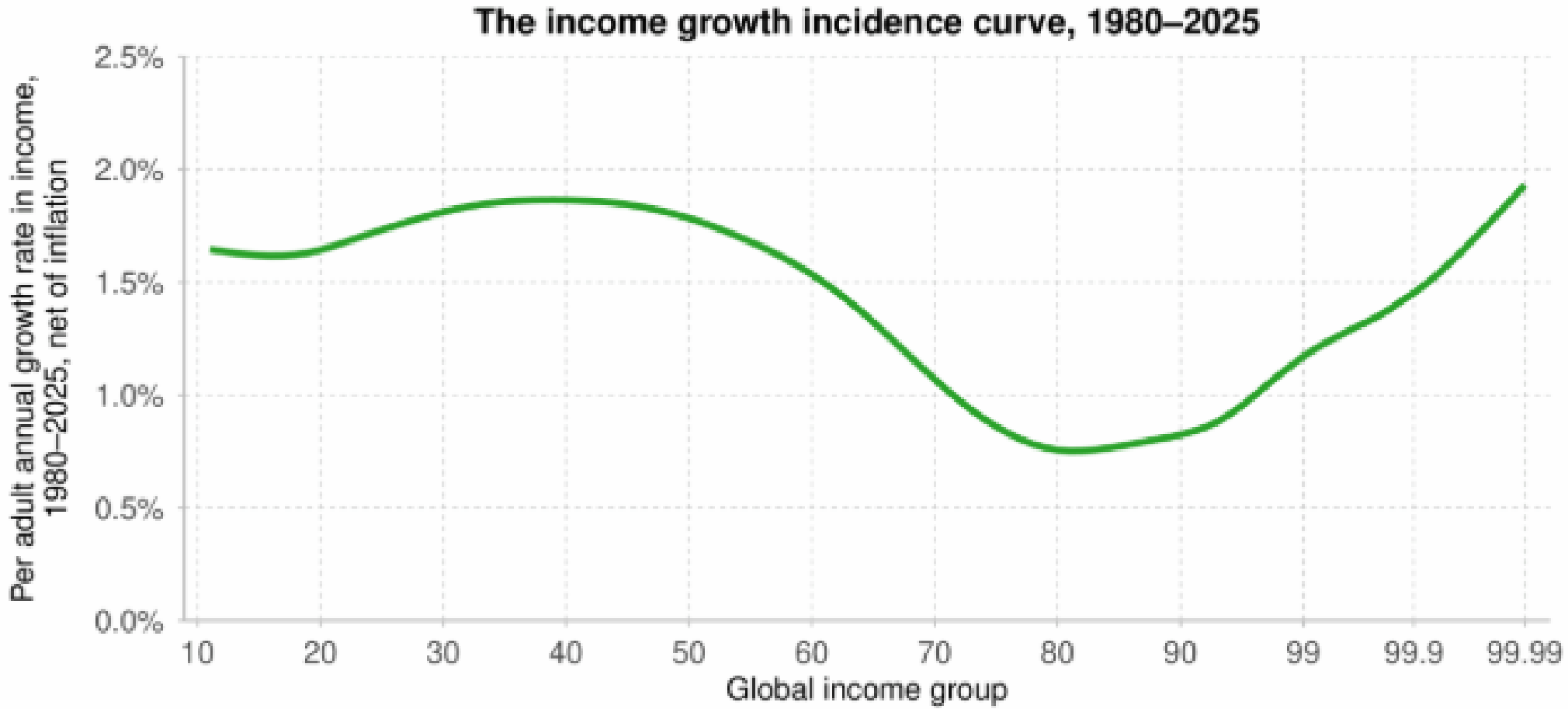
The squeezed global wealth middle class, 1980–2050



Source: WID.world (2017). See wir2018.wid.world for data series and notes.

In 2016, in a world represented by China, Europe and the US, the global wealth share of the Top 1% was 33%. Under "Business as usual", the Top 1% global wealth share would reach 39% by 2050, while the Top 0.1% wealth owners would own nearly as much wealth (26%) as the middle class (27%). The evolution of global wealth groups from 1987 to 2017 is represented by China, Europe and the US. Values are net of inflation.

Figure 1.5. Income is growing the least for the global middle class



Interpretation. Growth rates among the poorest half of the population were between 1.6% and 1.9% per year, between 1980 and 2025. Since this group started from very low income levels, its absolute levels of growth remained very low. The poorest half of the world population has captured only 5% of overall income growth since 1980. The top 1% benefited from high growth rates (1.2% to 2.4% per year). This group captured 22% of total income growth between 1980 and 2025. **Notes.** The curve is smoothed using a centered moving average. **Sources and series:** wir2026.wid.world/methodology and Chancel et al. (2022).

Figure 1.7. Wealth grows faster among the very wealthy

Interpretation. Growth rates in net personal wealth varied sharply across the global distribution between 1995 and 2025. While the bottom 50% experienced positive growth of around 2–4% per year, their low initial wealth meant that they captured only 1.1% of total global wealth growth. In contrast, the top 1% experienced significantly higher growth rates, ranging from 2 to 9% annually, and captured 36.7% of global wealth growth during the same period. The very top of the distribution, including the wealthiest 50 individuals, had the steepest increases. Net personal wealth is defined as the sum of financial (e.g. equity, bonds) and non–financial assets (e.g. housing, land) owned by individuals, net of their debts. **Notes.** The curve is smoothed using a centered moving average. **Sources and series:** Arias–Osorio et al. (2025), Chancel et al. (2022) and wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

La desigualdad global ha crecido pero el comportamiento entre países es heterogéneo

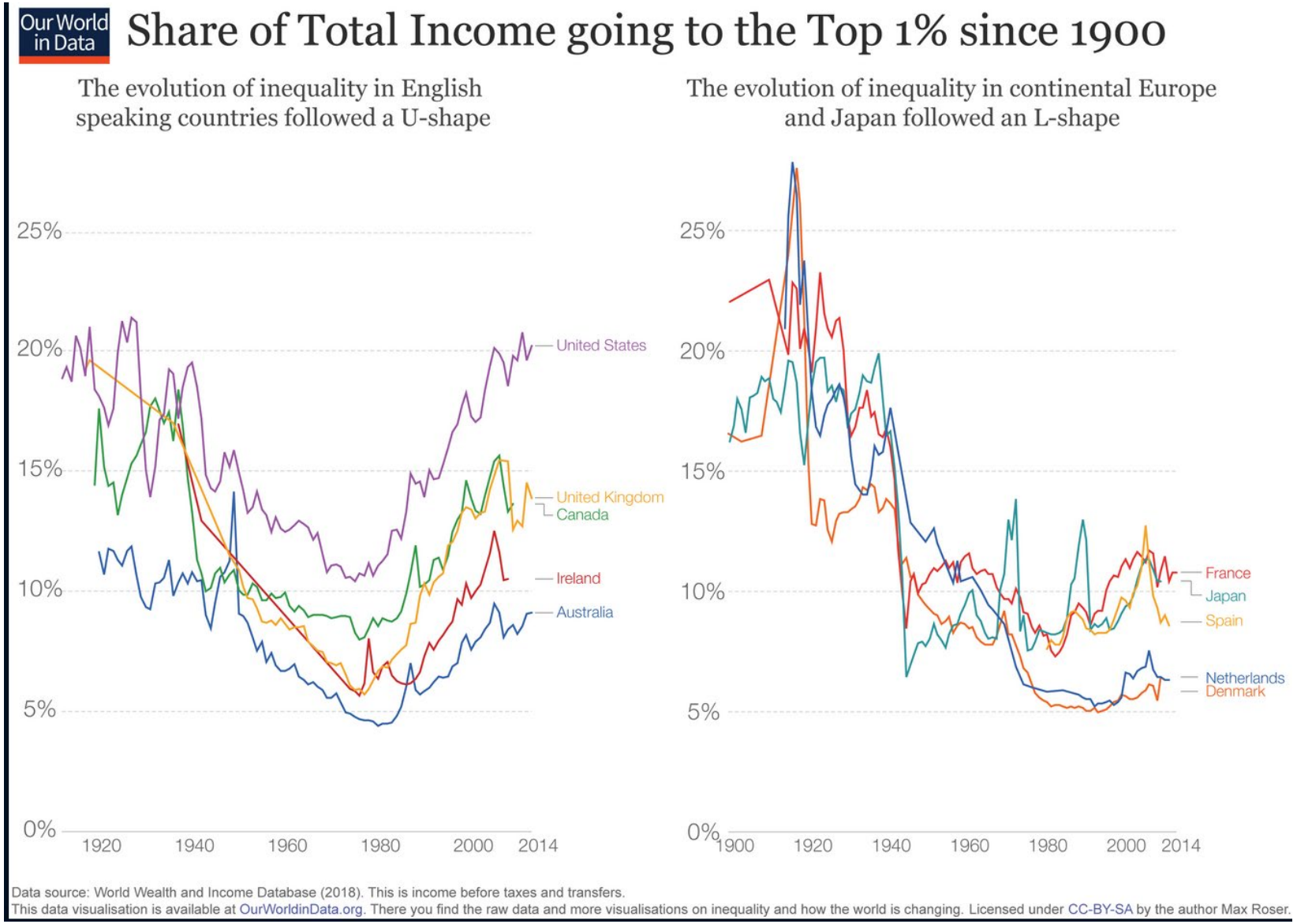
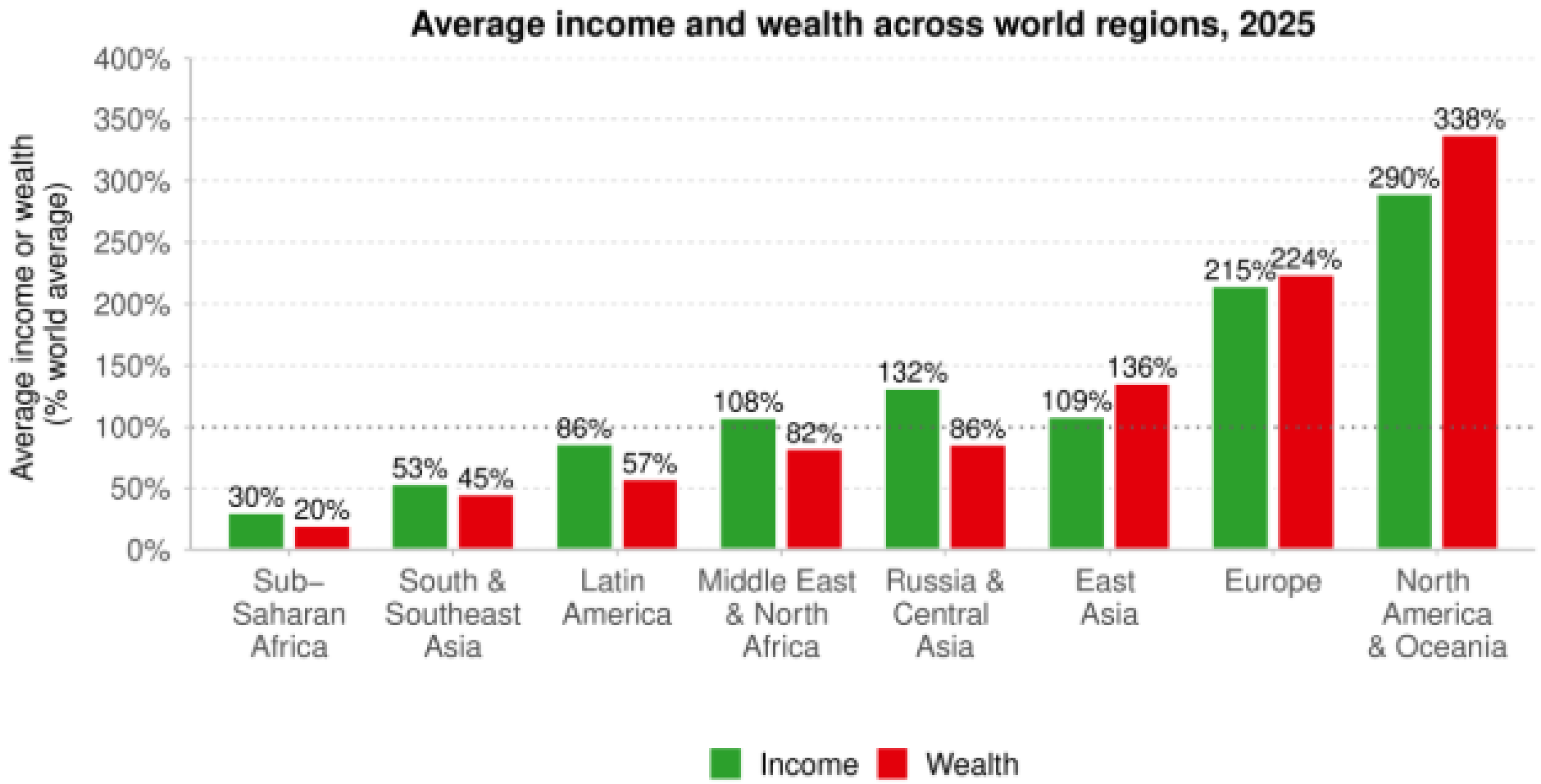
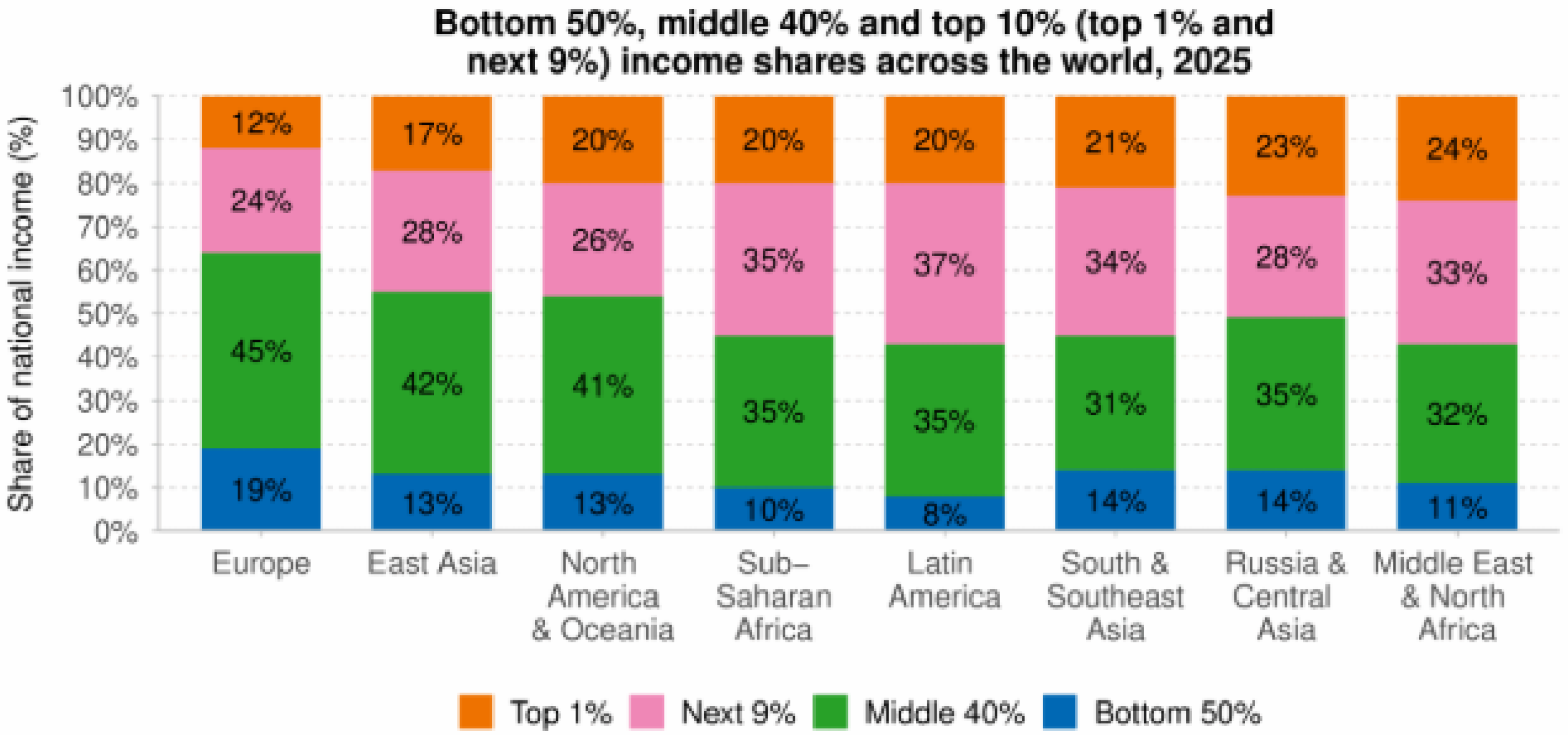


Figure 1.12. There is very large inequality across regions



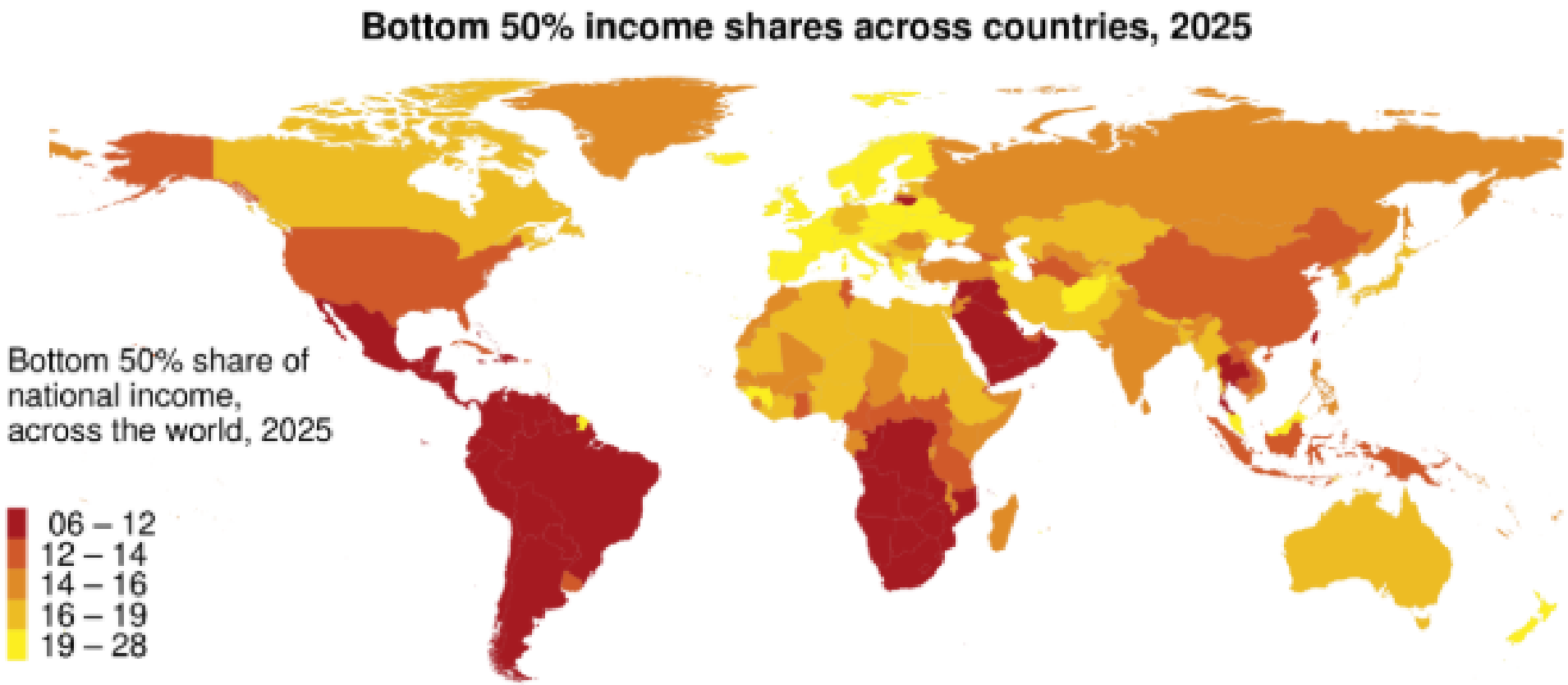
Interpretation. In 2025, the average income of North America & Oceania is 290% of the world average income (at 2025 PPP) and the average wealth of North America & Oceania is 338% of the world average wealth (at 2025 PPP). **Sources and series:** Bauluz et al. (2025) and wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Figure 2.6. Extreme concentration of income at the very top is a defining feature of the global economy



Interpretation. In Latin America, the top 1% captures 20% of national income, and the next 9% an additional 37%. Together, the top 10% earns 57%, compared to 36% in Europe. Income is measured after pension and unemployment benefits are received by individuals, but before income taxes and other transfers. **Sources and series:** wir2026.wid.world/methodology, Andreescu and Sodano (2024), Bharti and Mo (2024), El Hariri (2024), Flores and Zúñiga–Cordero (2024), Forward and Fisher–Post (2024), and Loubes and Robilliard (2024).

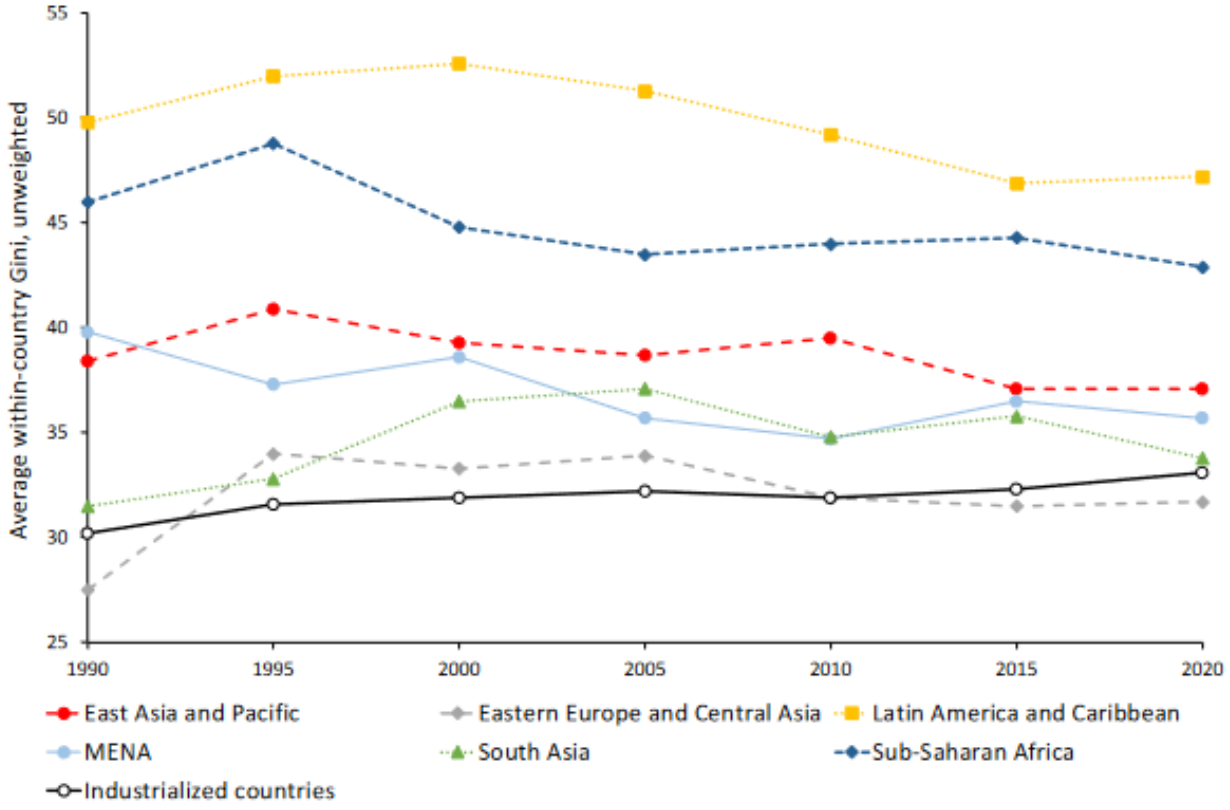
Figure 2.8. Bottom 50% income shares are very low everywhere



Interpretation. This map shows the share of national income received by the bottom 50% of the population in each country in 2025. Income is measured after pension and unemployment benefits are received, but before other taxes and transfers. **Sources and series:** wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Desigualdad regional

Figure 1. Levels and dynamics of income/consumption inequality in the world 1990-2020



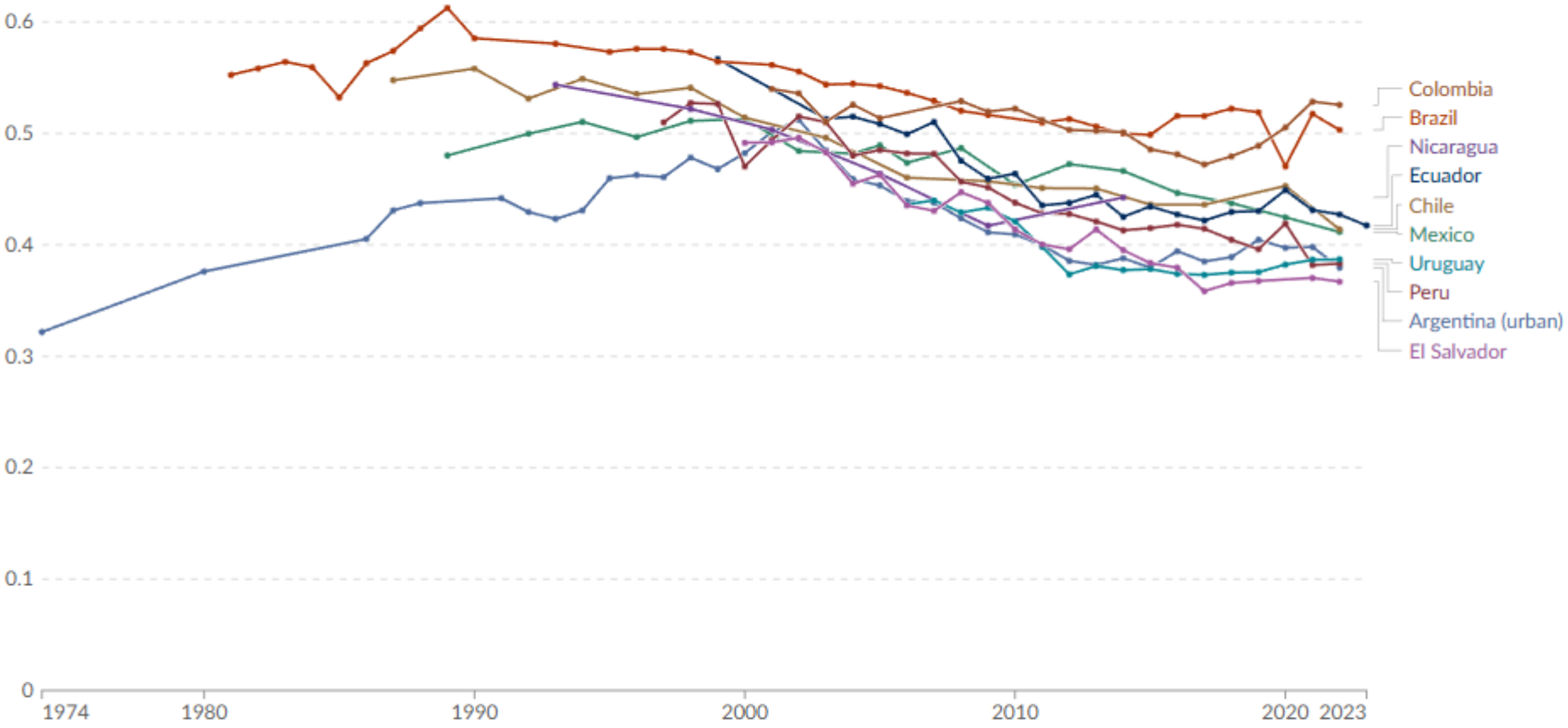
Source: PovcalNet/PIP. Calculations by Ferreira, Lakner and Silwal (unpublished). Note: The series for Latin American and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and Industrialized countries are based mostly on Gini coefficients of household per capita income. The series for East Asia and Pacific, Central Asia, MENA, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Asia are based mostly on Gini coefficient of household per capita consumption.

Income inequality: Gini coefficient in Latin America, 1974 to 2023

The Gini coefficient measures inequality on a scale from 0 to 1. Higher values indicate higher inequality.

Our World in Data

Table | Map | Line | Bar



1974 2023

Data source: SEDLAC (CEDLAS and The World Bank) (2024) – Learn more about this data

OurWorldinData.org/economic-inequality | CC BY

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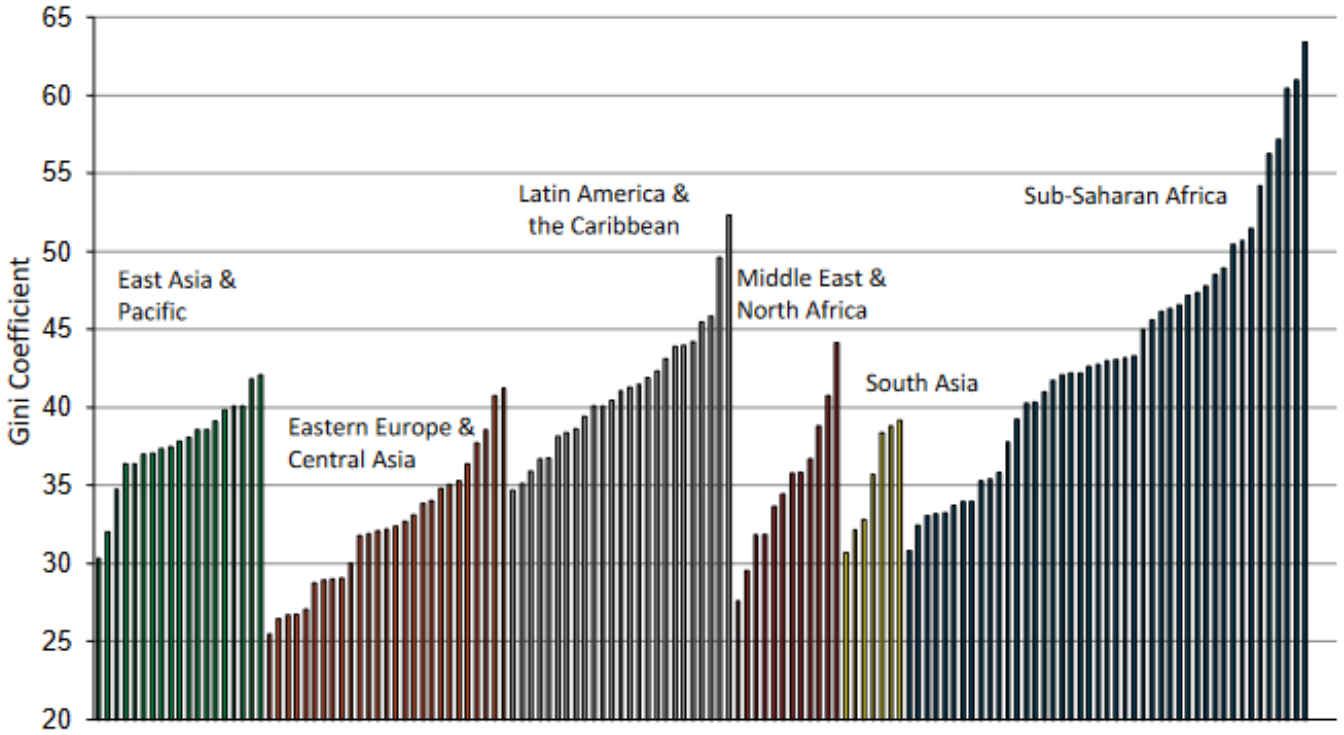
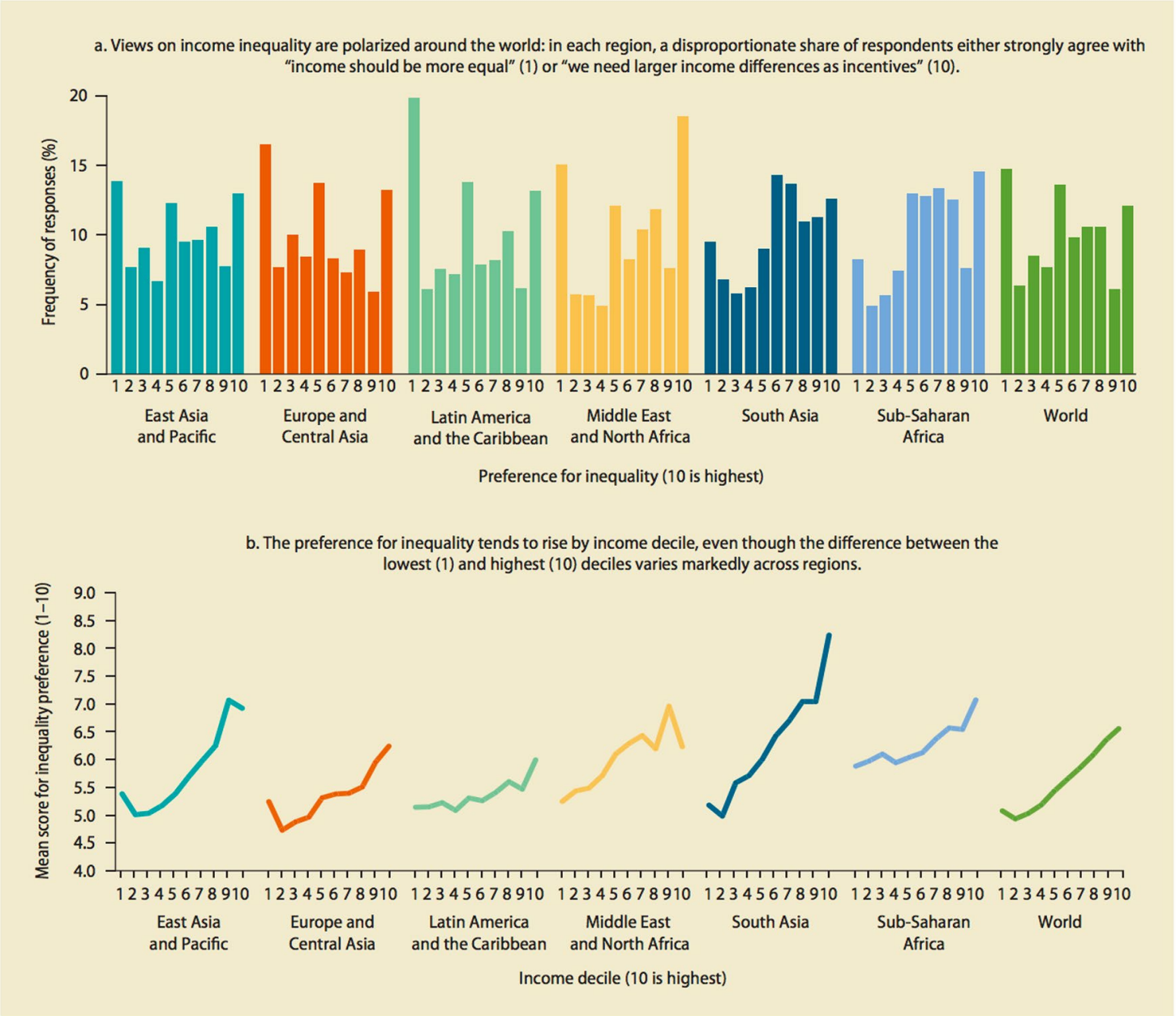
¿Qué ha pasado en AL? 2

Figure 2. Inequality in the developing world around 2020: Gini coefficients of the distribution of household consumption per capita by region



Source: Update of Alvaredo and Gasparini (2015), Gasparini et al. (2018) and Bracco et al. (2021) based on PovcalNet/PIP.

Views of income inequality vary across world regions and income deciles



Source: World Bank calculations, based on World Value Survey.
Note: Calculations are based on data for the 2010–14 "wave." Preference for inequality ranges from agreement with (1), "Income should be more equal," to agreement with (10), "We need larger income differences as incentives." The survey question, "whether income should be made more equal or we need larger income differences as incentives for individual effort," was asked to surveyors from 60 countries.

La preferencia por sociedades más o menos desiguales varía bastante entre regiones: LA se distingue por tener la mayor frecuencia de "el ingreso debería ser más similar"

La preferencia por la desigualdad varía dependiendo de dónde estés parado. Los más ricos tienden a preferir mayor desigualdad.

¿Por qué?

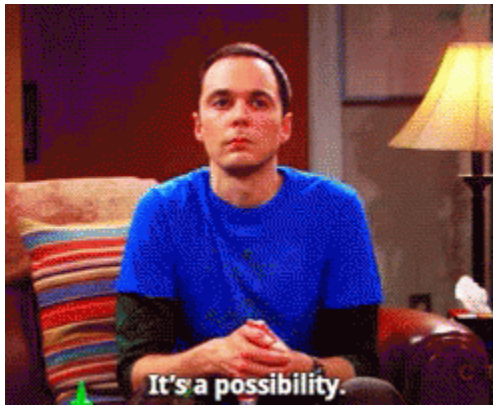
La desigualdad en México

Cuadro 4

Participación porcentual de los deciles de ingreso total per cápita: México 1984 a 2014

Deciles	1984	1989	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012
I	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7
II	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.9
III	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.0	3.8
IV	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.8
V	5.8	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.0	5.8
VI	7.3	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.3	7.1
VII	9.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	9.0	8.7
VIII	12.1	10.8	11.0	10.9	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.2	11.0	11.0	11.2	11.5	11.1
IX	16.8	15.4	15.9	15.7	15.7	16.0	15.7	16.0	15.8	15.7	15.8	15.9	15.6
X	36.1	41.7	41.6	42.5	41.2	41.3	41.9	39.3	39.3	39.3	39.1	37.0	38.5

Fuente: ENIGH levantadas por el INEGI en 1984, 1989, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2006, 2008,2010, 2012 y 2014.



Fuente: Cortés y Vargas (2017) http://www.economia.unam.mx/assets/pdfs/econmex/02/02CortesVargas.pdf

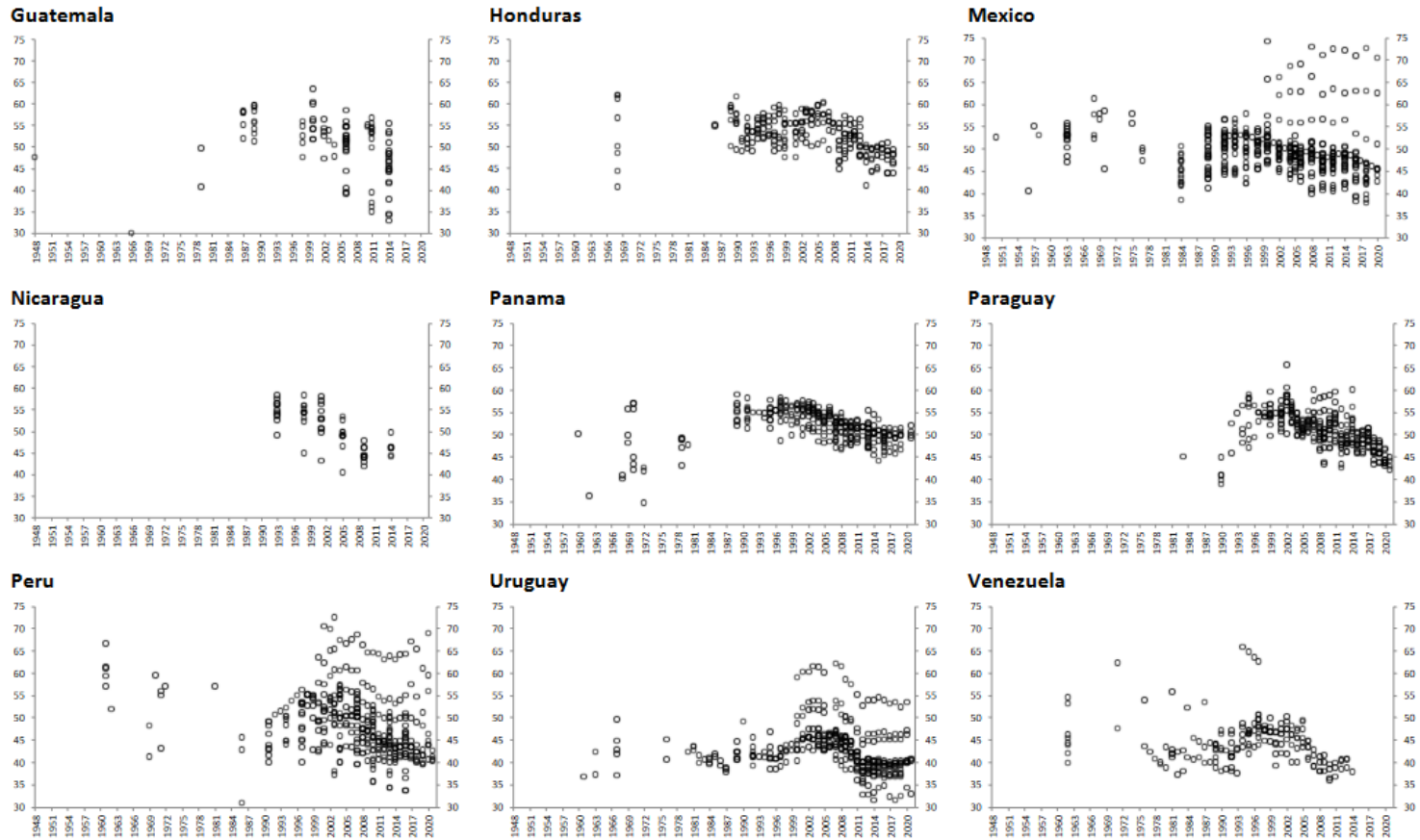
Cuadro 7

Coeficientes de Gini y Palma. Distribución de la subdeclaración proporcional al cuadrado del ingreso. México 2008-2014.

Escenarios (%)		2008		2010		2012		2014	
Sub[a/]	Tru[a/]	Palma	Gini	Palma	Gini	Palma	Gini	Palma	Gini
100	0	9.9	0.698	8.9	0.674	9.1	0.675	11.7	0.723
95	5	10.1	0.701	9.1	0.679	9.3	0.681	11.9	0.728
90	10	10.3	0.704	9.3	0.684	9.6	0.686	12.1	0.732
85	15	10.4	0.706	9.5	0.689	9.8	0.692	12.4	0.737
80	20	10.5	0.709	9.7	0.694	10.1	0.698	12.6	0.741
75	25	10.6	0.712	9.9	0.699	10.3	0.703	12.9	0.746
70	30	10.7	0.714	10.1	0.703	10.6	0.709	13.1	0.75
65	35	10.8	0.717	10.3	0.708	10.8	0.715	13.4	0.755
60	40	11.0	0.720	10.5	0.713	11.1	0.721	13.7	0.760
55	45	11.1	0.722	10.7	0.718	11.4	0.726	14.0	0.764
50	50	11.2	0.725	11.0	0.723	11.7	0.732	14.3	0.769
45	55	11.3	0.728	11.2	0.728	12.0	0.738	14.6	0.774
40	60	11.5	0.731	11.5	0.733	12.4	0.744	14.9	0.778
35	65	11.6	0.733	11.7	0.738	12.7	0.75	15.2	0.783
30	70	11.7	0.736	12.0	0.743	13.0	0.756	15.6	0.788
25	75	11.9	0.739	12.3	0.748	13.4	0.762	15.9	0.793
20	80	12.0	0.742	12.5	0.753	13.8	0.768	16.3	0.797
15	85	12.2	0.745	12.8	0.759	14.2	0.774	16.7	0.802
10	90	12.3	0.748	13.2	0.764	14.7	0.78	17.1	0.807
5	95	12.5	0.751	13.5	0.769	15.1	0.786	17.6	0.812
0	100	12.7	0.754	13.9	0.775	15.6	0.793	18.1	0.818

a/ Sub= subdeclaración, Tru=truncamiento. Fuente: estimaciones propias con base en la ENIGH 2008-2014. Nueva construcción.

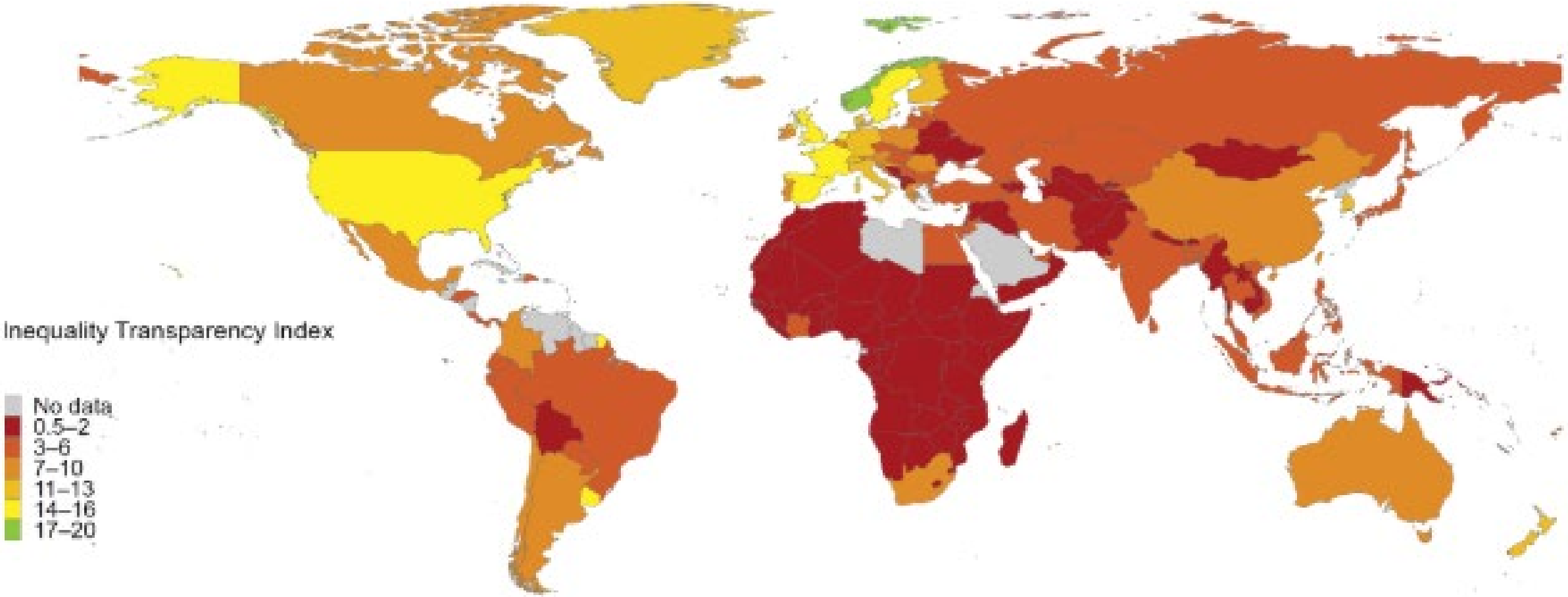
Figure 3. Gini coefficients in Latin America and the Caribbean, 1948-2021 (continued)



Note: The figure shows all the Gini coefficients from WIID, from De Rosa, Flores, and Morgan (2022), and from additional historical series and studies collected by the authors. The plots for the remaining countries in Latin America and the Caribbean can be found in Appendix Figure A1.

Fuente: Cortés y Vargas (2017) http://www.economia.unam.mx/assets/pdfs/econmex/02/02CortesVargas.pdf

Figure B1.2. Inequality Transparency Index



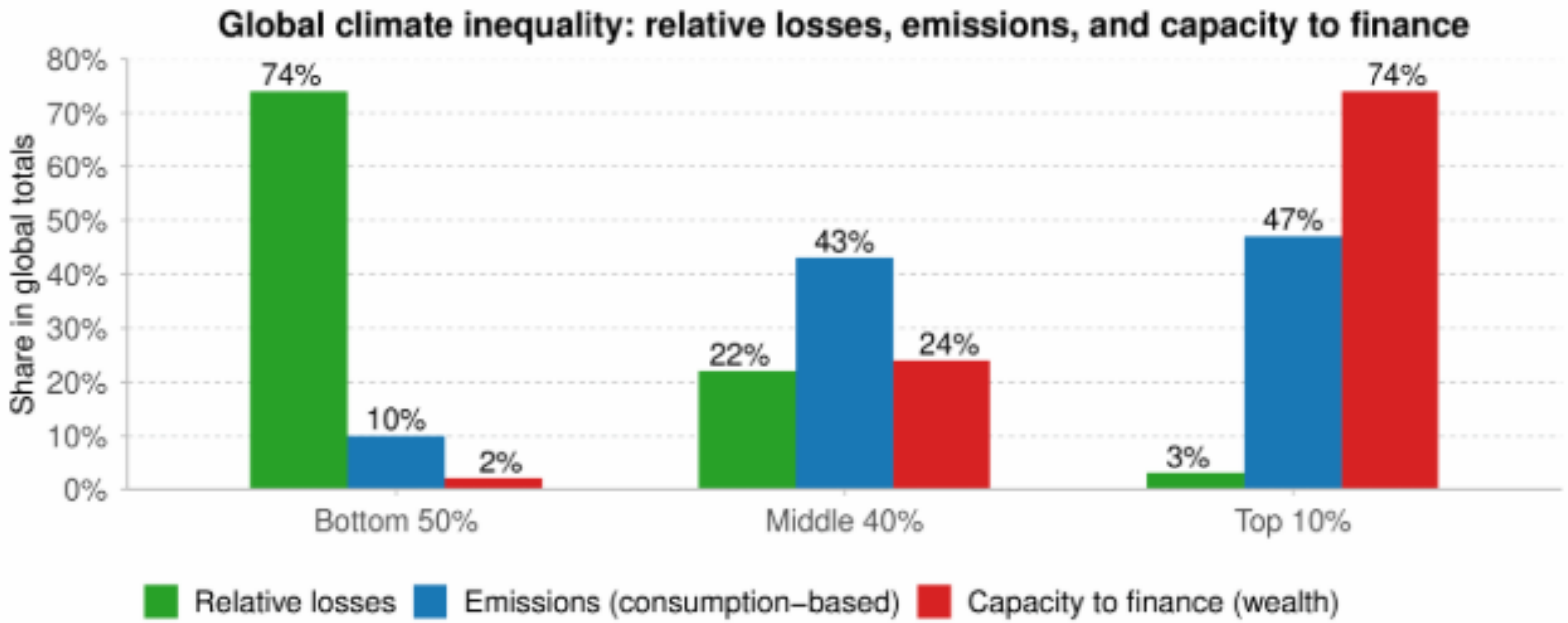
Sources and series: wir2026.wid.world/methodology.

Figure 9. Top 10% income share 2000-2020: household surveys and the effects of adjustments with administrative data and national accounts

Source: Series from De Rosa, Flores, and Morgan (2022)

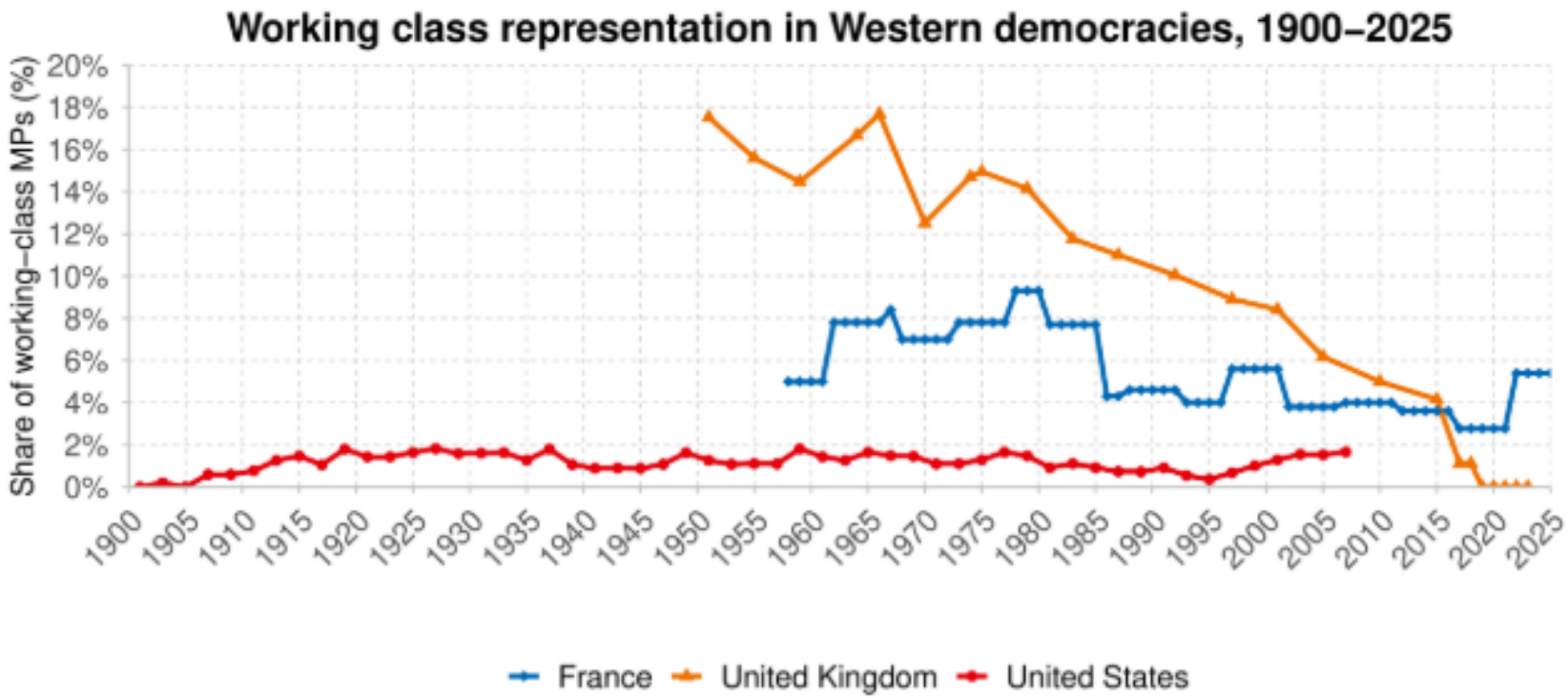
¿Deben preocuparnos las tendencias de la desigualdad del ingreso?

Figure 6.1. Triple climate inequality: the poorest lose the most, contribute the least, and lack the means to act



Interpretation. The figure illustrates three dimensions of global climate inequality. Projected relative income losses from climate change in 2025 are taken from Bothe et al. (2025) and represent percentage reductions in income compared with a business–as–usual scenario. The distribution of emissions is based on Bruckner et al. (2022). The distribution of wealth shares comes from WID (2025). Groups are defined by income for losses, by emitters for emissions, and by wealth for the wealth distribution, but all three distributions are highly correlated. For another paper on emissions inequalities by income groups, see Kartha et al. (2020), who find similar concentration levels.
Sources and series: Bothe et al. (2025), Bruckner et al. (2022), and WID (2025).

Figure 8.1. Working class representation has always been low and has further deteriorated in recent decades



Interpretation. The long–run decline in the share of working–class members of parliament (MPs): evidence from France, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The figure plots the evolution of the share of working–class MPs—measured as the number of MPs whose former occupation just before the elections was a "manual" occupation (United Kingdom), a "blue–collar" occupation (United States), or an occupation as "employés et ouvriers" (France)—over the total number of MPs in each country. The share of working–class occupations in the total labor force is usually around 50%–60% or more. **Sources and series:** Cagé (2024).

Figure 8.5. The fragmentation of political cleavage structures in Weste democracies

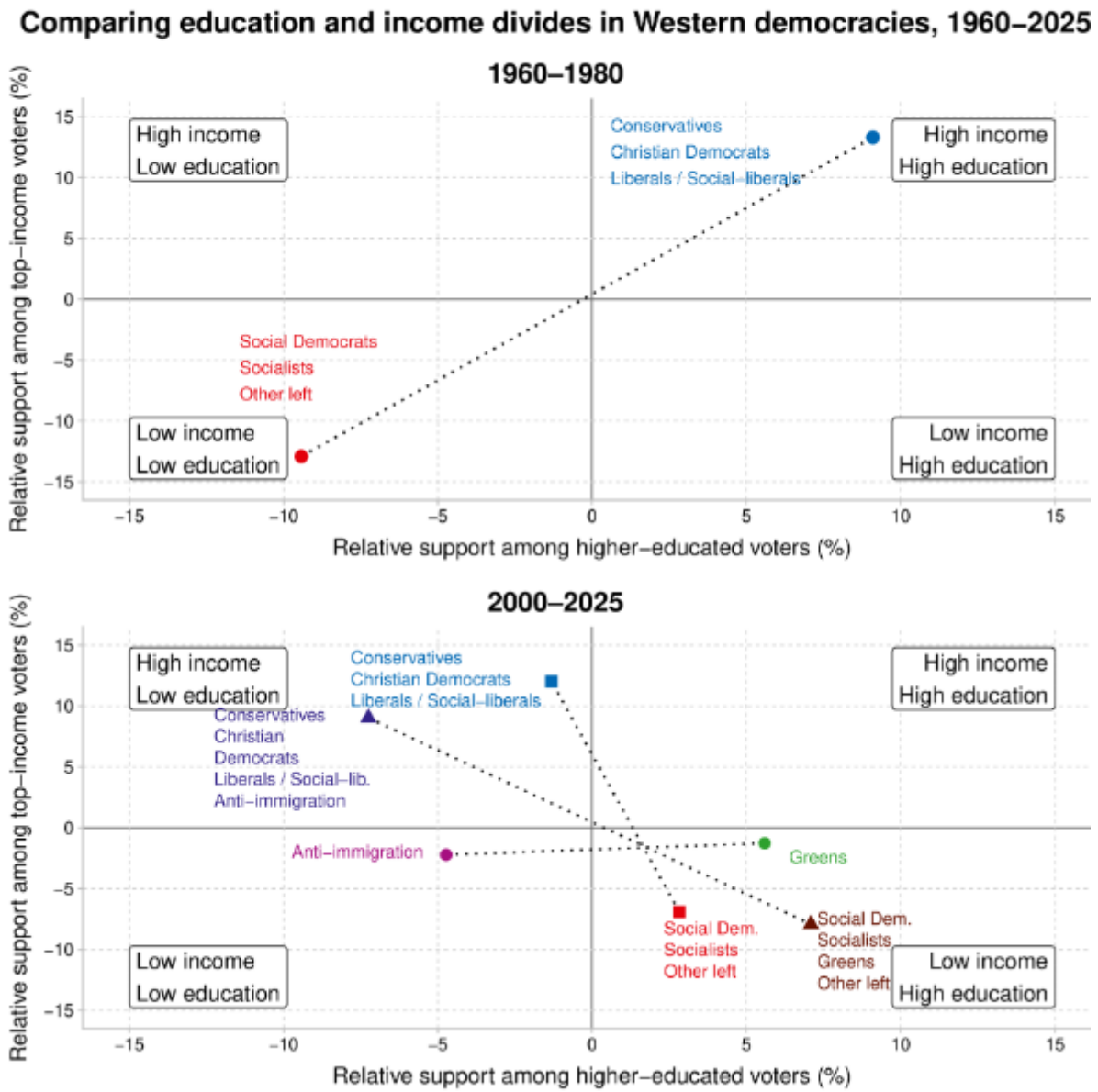
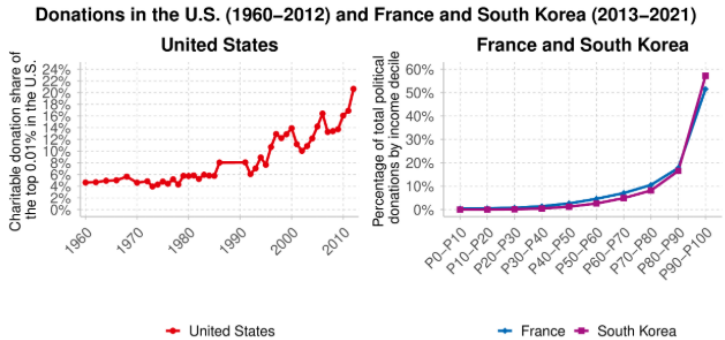


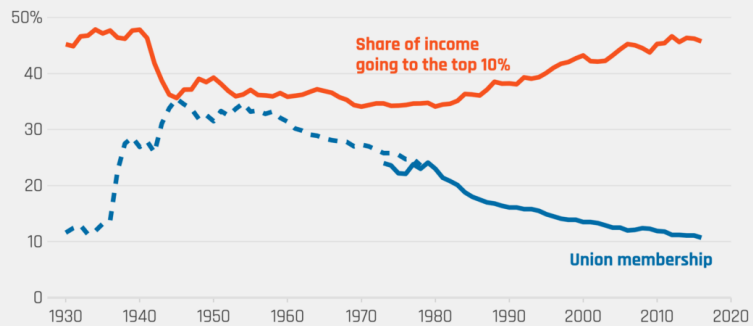
Figure 7.1. A more progressive tax system is needed in order to reduce political capture by the very rich



Interpretation. Private giving is increasingly concentrated at the top. In the U.S., the top 0.01% have starkly increased their share of charitable contributions since 1960, reaching more than 20% in 2012. In France and South Korea (2013–2021), political donations are dominated by the richest 10% who donate much more than any other income group. These patterns suggest rising top–end inequality translates into unequal influence over philanthropy and politics. **Sources and series:** Cagé (2024).

Historically, there has been an inverse relationship between union density and income inequality in the United States

U.S. union density and share of national income going to the top 10 percent of earners, 1930–2016

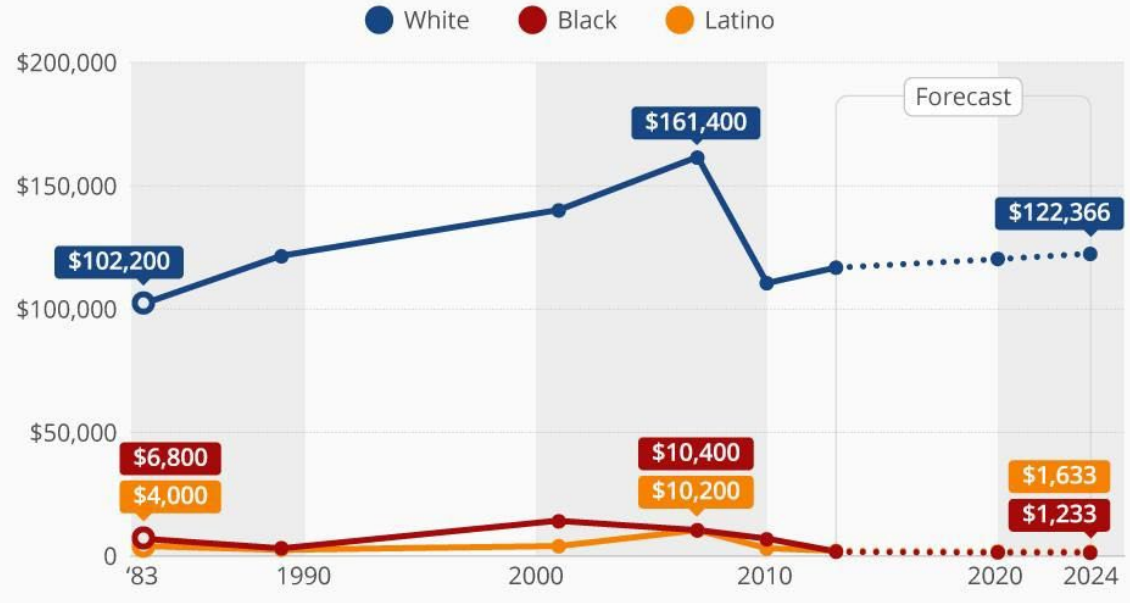


Source: For union density series from 1930–1978, see U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Handbook of Labor Statistics: Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, No. 2017" (1980); for union density series from 1973–2016, see Barry Hirsch and David Macpherson, "Union Membership and Coverage Database from the Current Population Survey: Note," Industrial and Labor Relations Review 56 (2) (2003) (updated annually at unionstats.com); for share of income going to top 10 percent, see Gabriel Zucman, "Distributional National Accounts," appendix table II: distributional series.

Equitable Growth

Racial Wealth Inequality Is Rampant In The U.S.

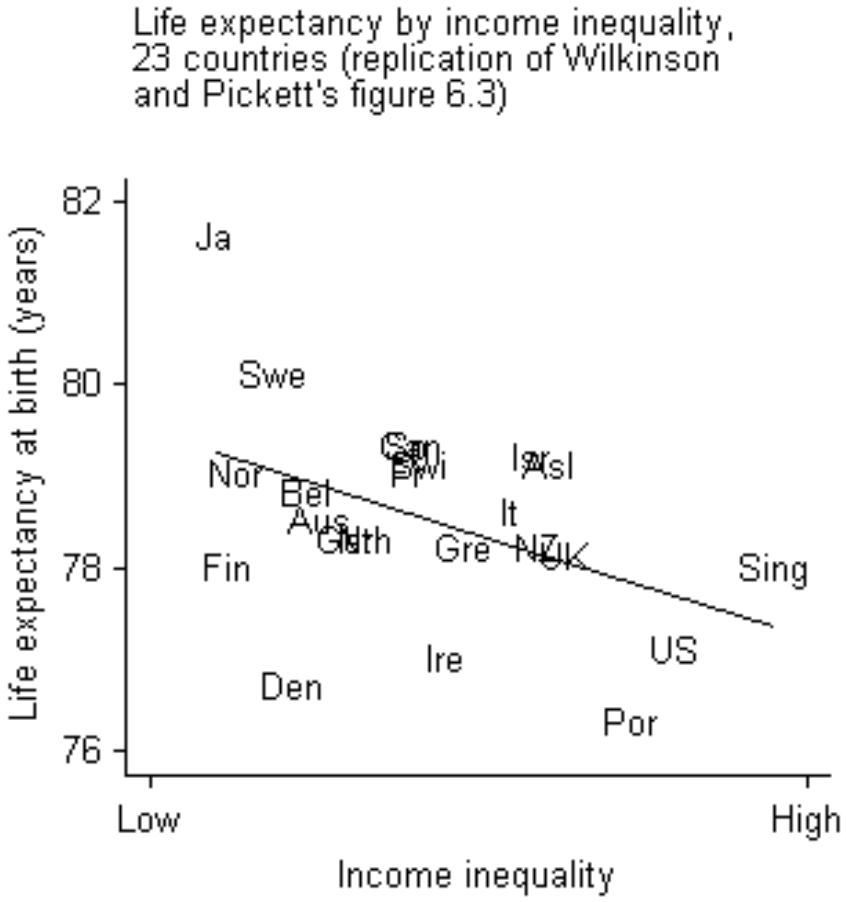
Median household wealth by race/ethnicity in the United States (1983–2024)



@StatistaCharts Source: Prosperity Now & Institute For Policy Studies

Forbes statista

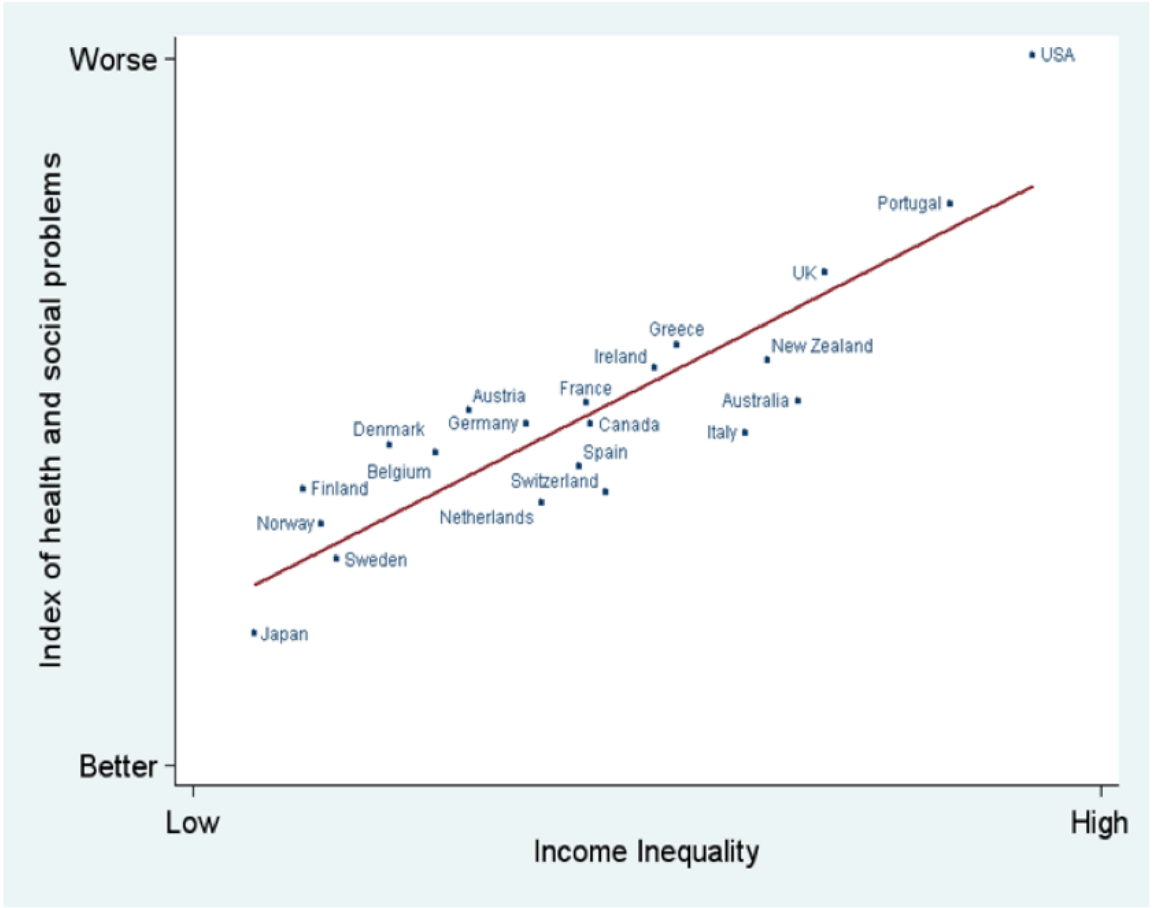
Desigualdad y problemas sociales



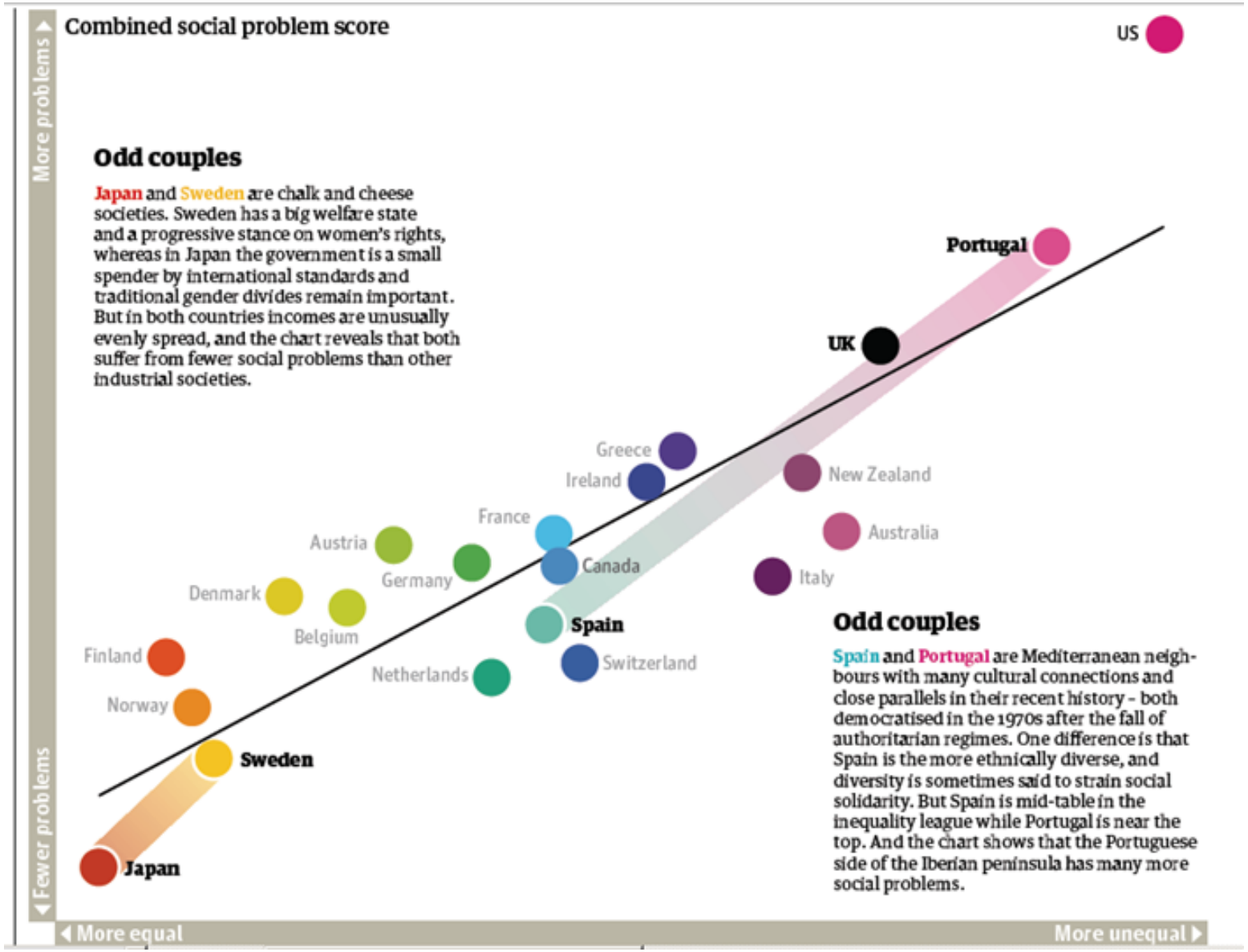
Health and Social Problems are Worse in More Unequal Countries

Index of:

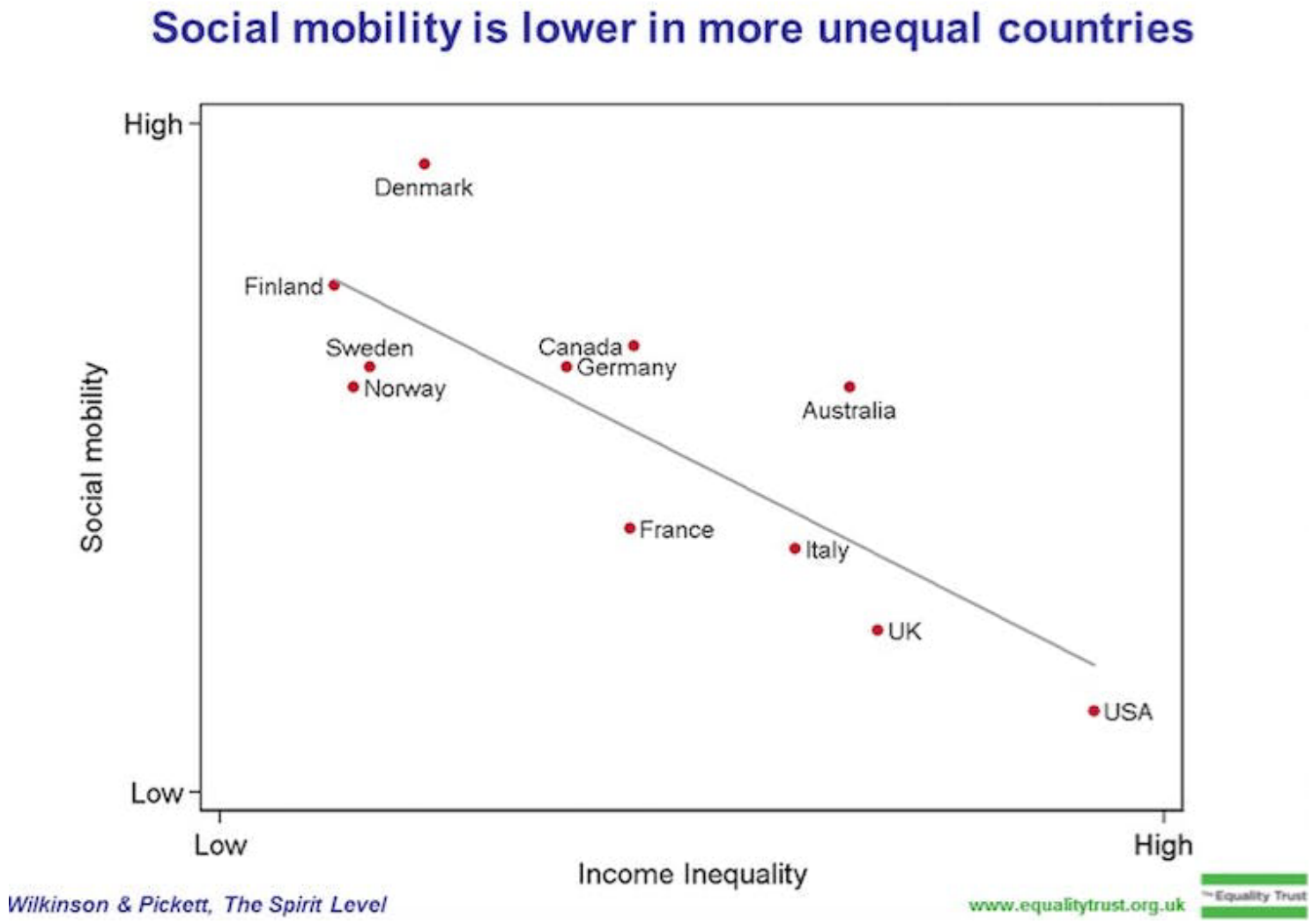
- Life expectancy
- Math & Literacy
- Infant mortality
- Homicides
- Imprisonment
- Teenage births
- Trust
- Obesity
- Mental illness – incl. drug & alcohol addiction
- Social mobility



Source: Wilkinson & Pickett, The Spirit Level (2009)


Combined social problem score
US
More problems
Fewer problems
More equal
More unequal
Odd couples
Japan and Sweden are chalk and cheese societies. Sweden has a big welfare state and a progressive stance on women's rights, whereas in Japan the government is a small spender by international standards and traditional gender divides remain important. But in both countries incomes are unusually evenly spread, and the chart reveals that both suffer from fewer social problems than other industrial societies.
Portugal
UK
Greece
Ireland
New Zealand
France
Australia
Austria
Canada
Germany
Italy
Denmark
Spain
Belgium
Finland
Switzerland
Netherlands
Norway
Sweden
Japan
Odd couples
Spain and Portugal are Mediterranean neighbours with many cultural connections and close parallels in their recent history – both democratised in the 1970s after the fall of authoritarian regimes. One difference is that Spain is the more ethnically diverse, and diversity is sometimes said to strain social solidarity. But Spain is mid-table in the inequality league while Portugal is near the top. And the chart shows that the Portuguese side of the Iberian peninsula has many more social problems.

Desigualdad y movilidad social



Próxima clase

- Capítulo 1: Callinicos, A. 2003. *Igualdad*. Temas Para El Siglo XXI. Siglo XXI de España Editores, S.A. https://books.google.com.mx/books?id=RSvkiRa7Ju8C.
- Capítulo 1: In it together: Why less inequality benefits all https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/employment/in-it-together-why-less-inequality-benefits-all_9789264235120-en#page7

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