

The UN Parliamentary Assembly

Mag. Dr. Dr. Peter Gowin

Director

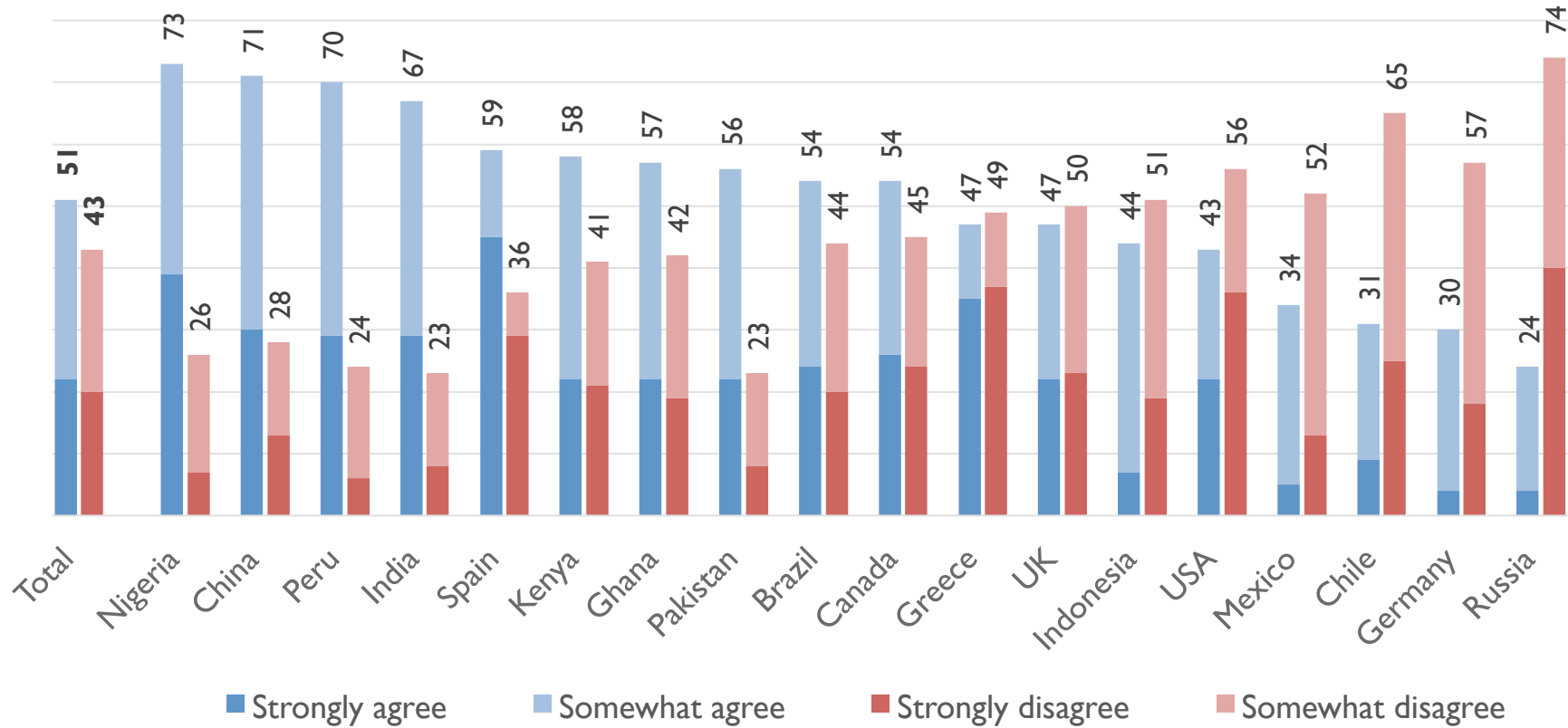
Human and Global Development Research Institute

Global citizens

- **Our starting point: social cohesion challenge**
 - Humans see - and define - themselves as part of very different "groups"
 - Family, tribe, nation, state, world
 - How can we achieve cohesion?
 - How can we address global challenges and Sustainable Development Goals?

Global citizens

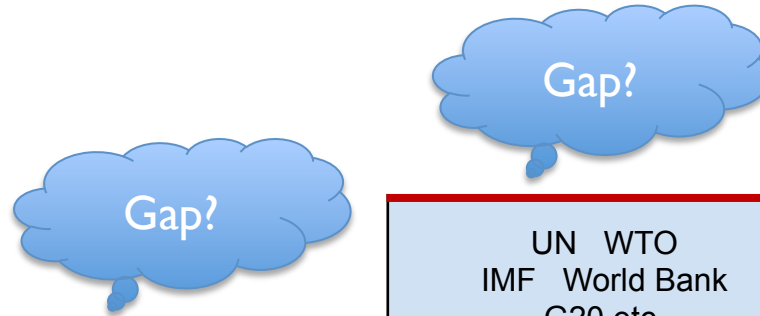
I see myself **more as a global citizen** than a citizen of my country.
Agree or disagree?



Source: BBC/GlobeScan, 2016

Democracy and governance gaps

Global			Climate Change Financial stability
International		UN WTO IMF World Bank G20 etc.	International cooperation
Regional	EP PAP EALA Parl. del Mercosur etc.	EU AU NAFTA Mercosur etc.	Regional cooperation etc.
National	122 of 195 states: "electoral democracy"	National governments	All issues of national concern
Levels	Parliaments	International Organizations	Issues

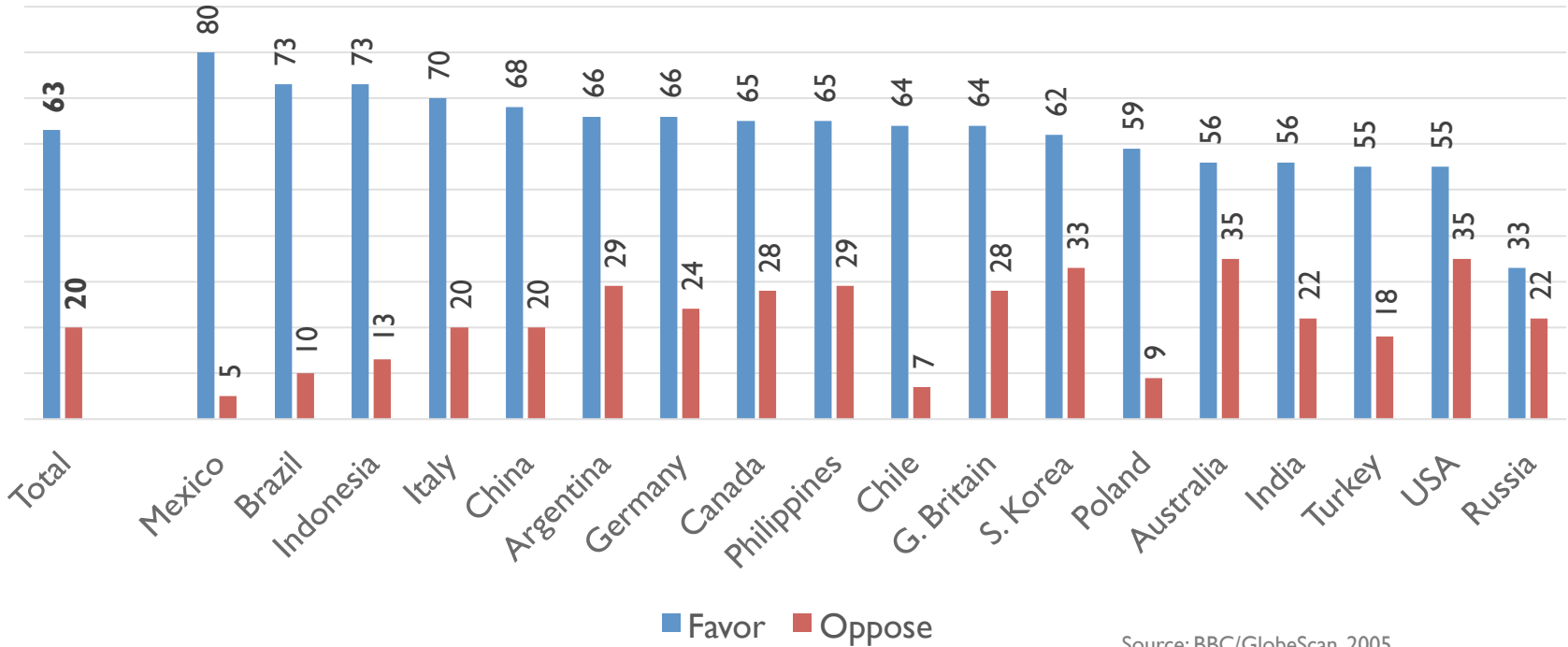


UNPA means progress

- **UNPA would close a gap in **political** history**
 - Democratic representation exists on most levels (community, nation, region), but not yet globally
- **UNPA would be the next step in **cultural** history**
 - Term: psycho-socio-cultural development
 - UNPA would only make sense if people experience themselves as part of a global community

UN Parliamentary Assembly

Consider the proposal: Creating a new **UN Parliament**, made up of representatives directly elected by citizens, having powers equal to the current UN General Assembly that is controlled by national governments.



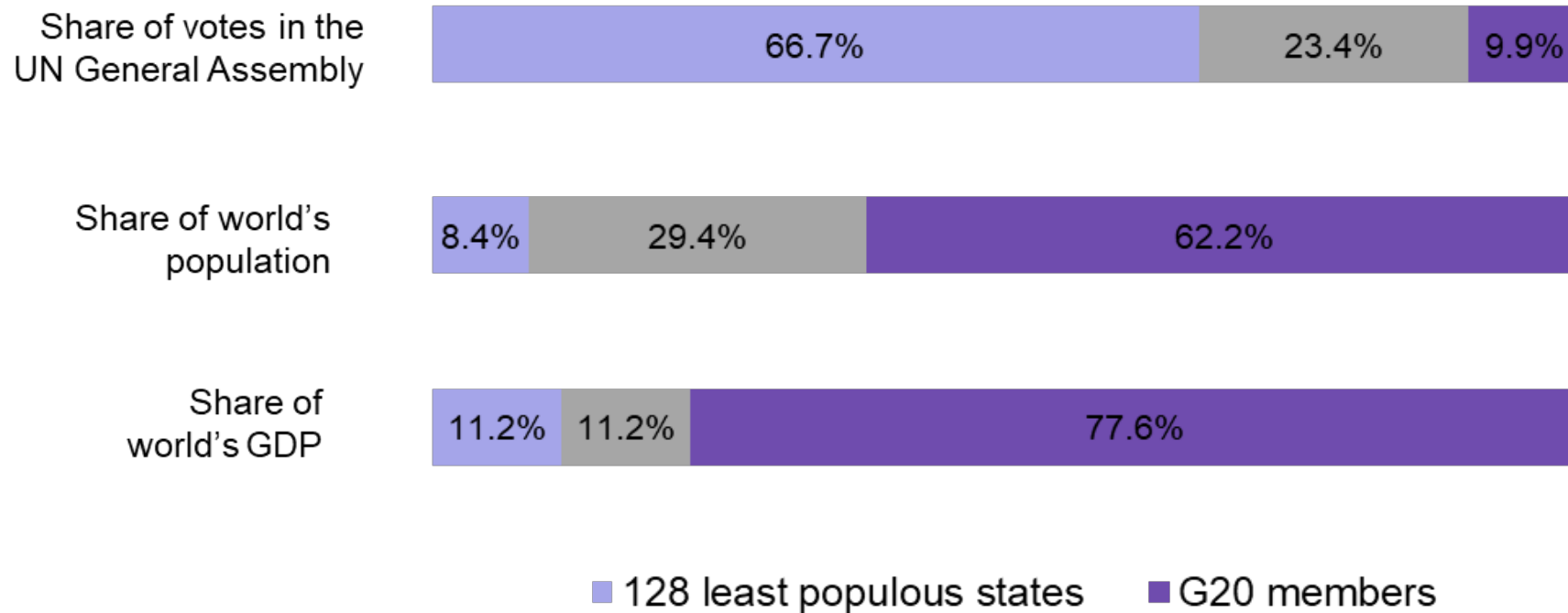
Source: BBC/GlobeScan, 2005

UN Parliamentary Assembly

- **Objective**
 - To represent citizens in global governance
- **Features**
 - Obligation to citizens, not to governments
 - Long-term concept with phases of development
 - Initially it could be consultative, later more rights
 - Initially it could be composed of national MPs
 - Later it could be partly or completely directly elected
 - Establishment without Charter reform
- **Represents the common interest of humanity**

One country, one vote

How representative is the UN?



UN Parliamentary Assembly

- **Advantages**

- A UNPA would be the first body in human history to directly represent all of the world's citizens
- A UNPA is expected to facilitate comprehensive reforms of the system of international institutions
- Even in the first step, significant symbolic and moral power
- A UNPA would foster and stabilize the development of a world community and world law
- Represents the idea of global political integration

UN Parliamentary Assembly

- **Transition scenarios**
 - Revolution from the top
 - The Gorbachev moment
 - Revolution from below
 - The Tahrir Square / Occupy moment
 - Gradual revolution
 - The European example
 - The Shock Moment
 - Preferably to be avoided

Thank you...

...for your attention, patience and interest!

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