

# Unraveling the Central State

## The Rise of Regional Authority

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Causes and Consequences of Multilevel Governance

# A peek at research in progress

## Team

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	Regional Authority Index (2014)	Brancati (2006)	Arzaghi-Henderson (2005)	Treisman (2002)	Woldendorp et al. (2000)	Lijphart (1999)
<i>Case selection</i>	80 Western, postcommunist, Latin America, SE Asia & Pacific	64 countries with regional ethnic groups	48 countries with population > 10 million	76 OECD, LA, Asian countries	37 Balkan, OECD, EU democracies	36 pre-1990 Western democracies
<i># time points</i>	61	16	8	1	1	1
<i># dimensions</i>	10	3	6	3	4	4
<i># intervals</i>	42	6	14	3	8	5
<i>Local    regional</i>	yes	partial	partial	no	no	no
<i>Multiple tiers</i>	yes	no	no	no	no	no
<i>Years</i>	1950-2010	1985-2000	1960-95	mid-1990s	1945-88	1945-96

# Regional authority

- Intermediate level(s) with population > 150,000 or any region with special status
- General-purpose
- Formal authority
- Self-rule and shared rule

<b>Self-rule</b>	<b>The authority exercised by a regional government over those who live in the region</b>
Institutional depth	The extent to which a regional government is autonomous rather than deconcentrated.
Policy scope	The range of policies for which a regional government is responsible.
Fiscal autonomy	The extent to which a regional government can independently tax its population.
Borrowing autonomy	The extent to which a regional government can borrow
Representation	The extent to which a region is endowed with an independent legislature and executive
<b>Shared rule</b>	<b>The authority exercised by a regional government or its representatives in the country as a whole</b>
Law making	The extent to which regional representatives co-determine national legislation.
Executive control	The extent to which a regional government co-determines national policy in intergovernmental meetings.
Borrowing control	The extent to which a regional government co-determines subnational and national borrowing constraints.
Fiscal control	The extent to which regional representatives co-determine the distribution of national tax revenues.
Constitutional reform	The extent to which regional representatives co-determine constitutional change.

## Examples of operationalization in tangible institutional alternatives:

### **Fiscal Autonomy**

- 0:** the central government sets the base and rate of all regional taxes;
- 1:** the regional government sets the rate of minor taxes;
- 2:** the regional government sets the base and rate of minor taxes;
- 3:** the regional government sets the rate of at least one major tax: personal income, corporate, value added, sales tax;
- 4:** the regional government sets the base and rate of at least one major tax.

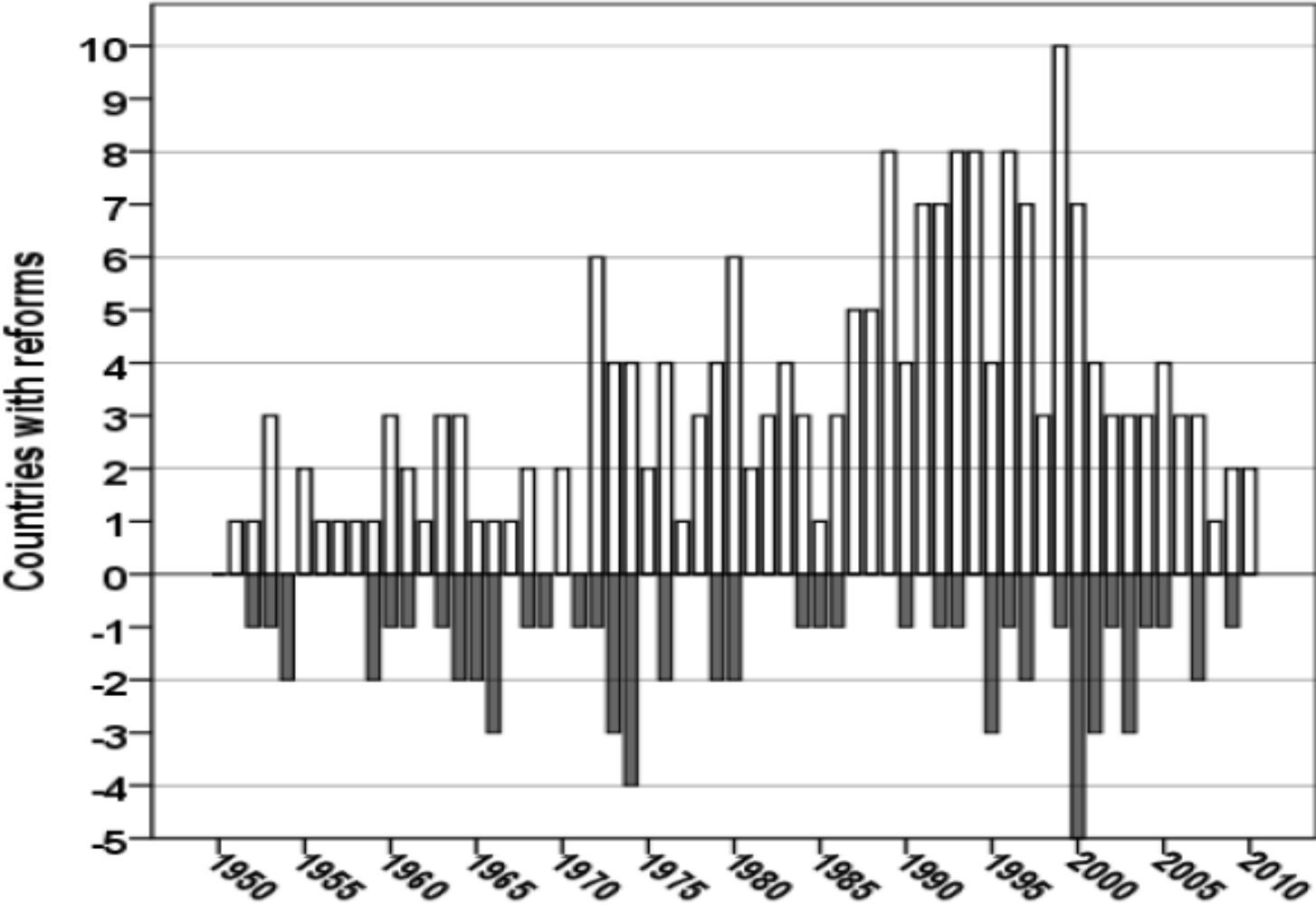
### **Representation: Assembly**

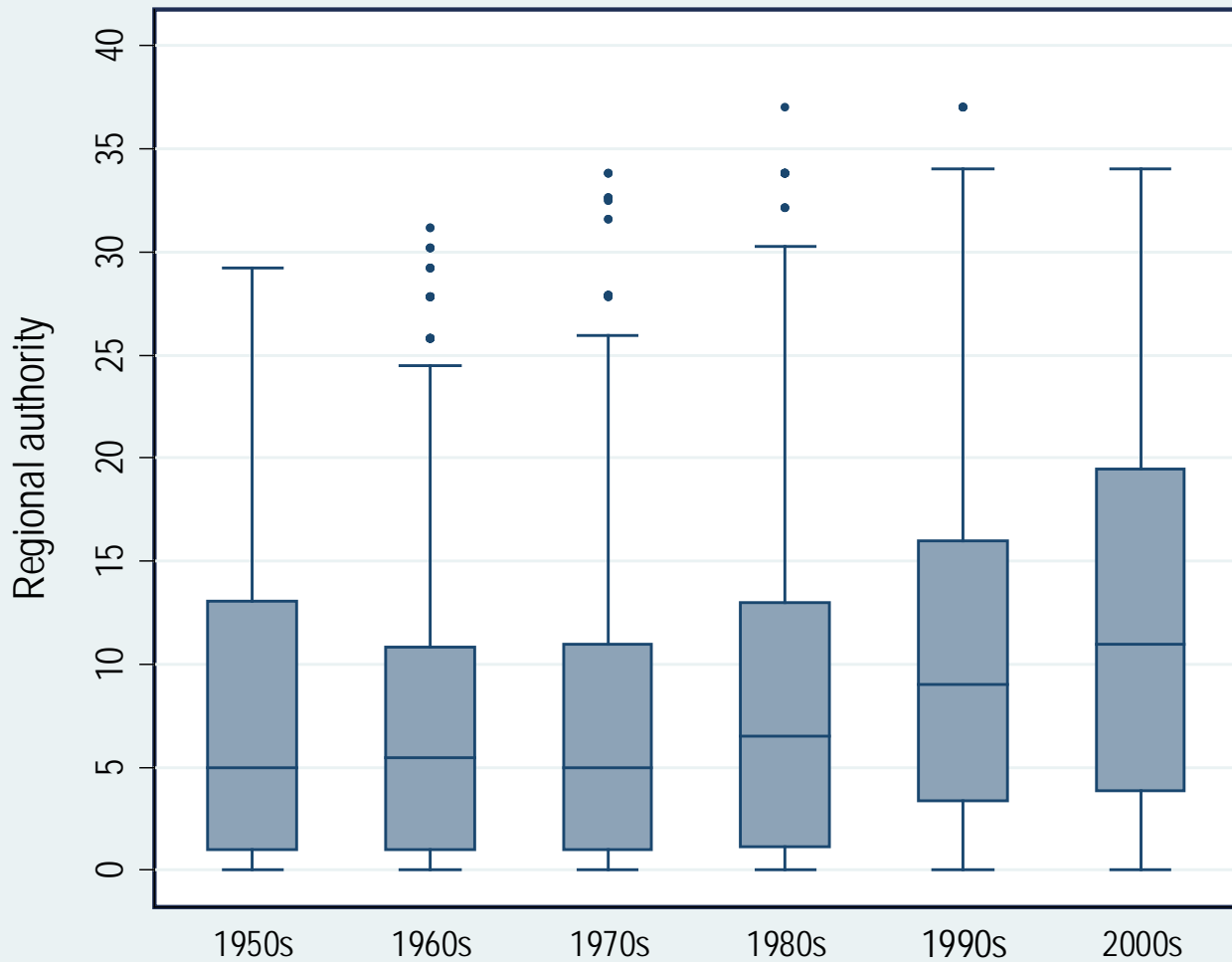
- 0:** the region has no regional assembly;
- 1:** the region has an indirectly elected regional assembly;
- 2:** the region has a directly elected assembly.

### **Representation: Executive**

- 0:** the regional executive is appointed by central government;
- 1:** dual executive appointed by central government and the regional assembly;
- 2:** the executive is appointed by a regional assembly or is directly elected.

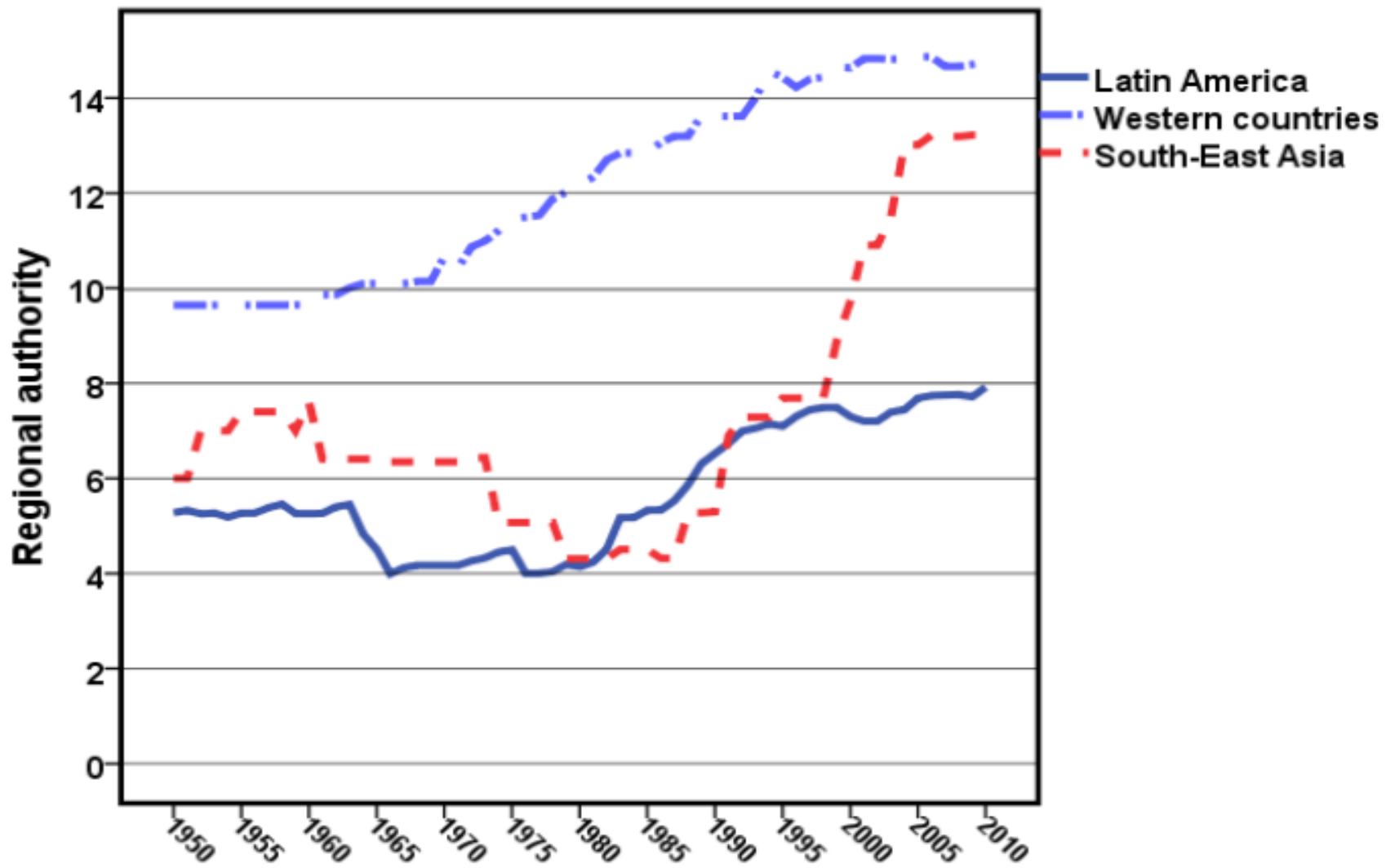
**Figure 2: Number of reforms on regional authority at the country level (1950-2010)**





	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
Median	5.00	5.50	5.00	6.50	9.00	11.00
St. Dev	8.42	8.22	8.54	9.23	9.52	9.51





# 1: Population

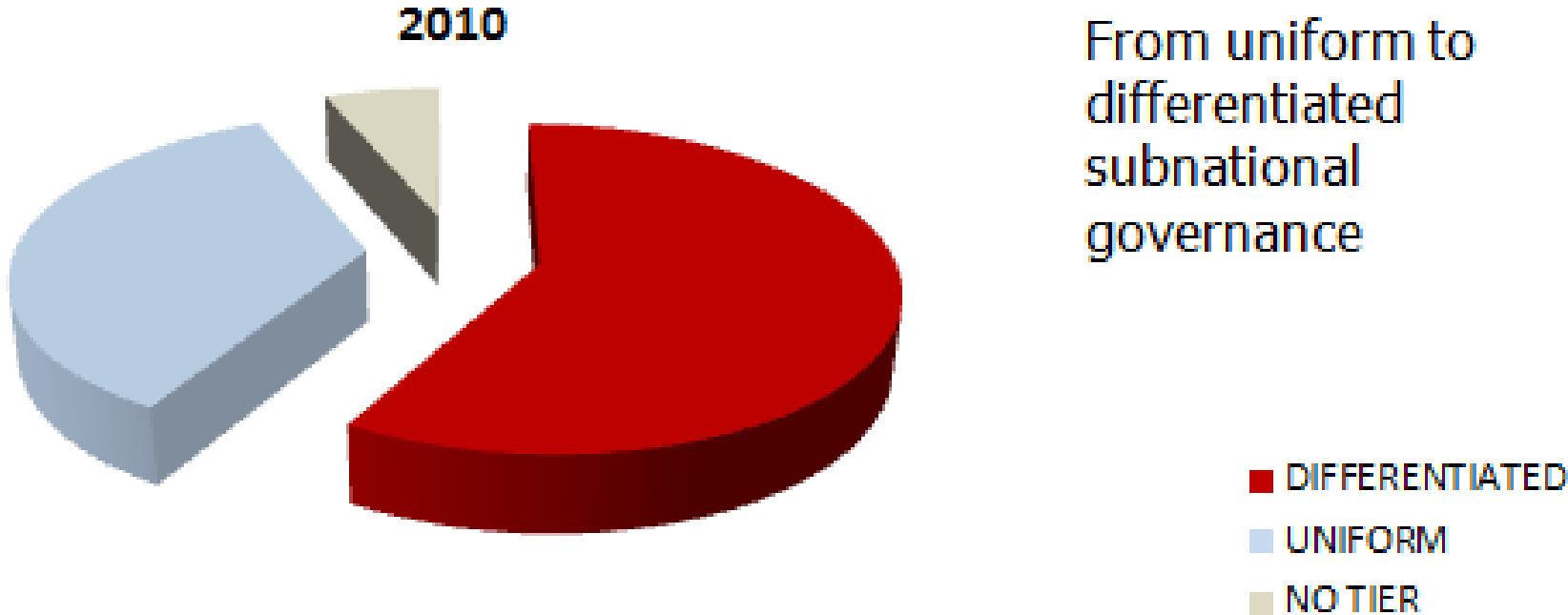
- a) The benefits of scale vary across public goods
- b) The benefits of decentralization vary across public goods
- c) The larger the population of a country, the greater the range of public goods most efficiently provided between the national and the local.

## 2: Community

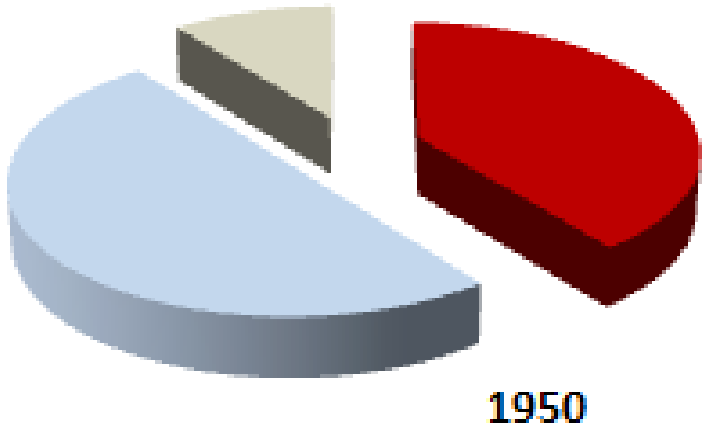
Bounded groups of densely interacting humans sharing distinctive norms wish to exercise self-rule.

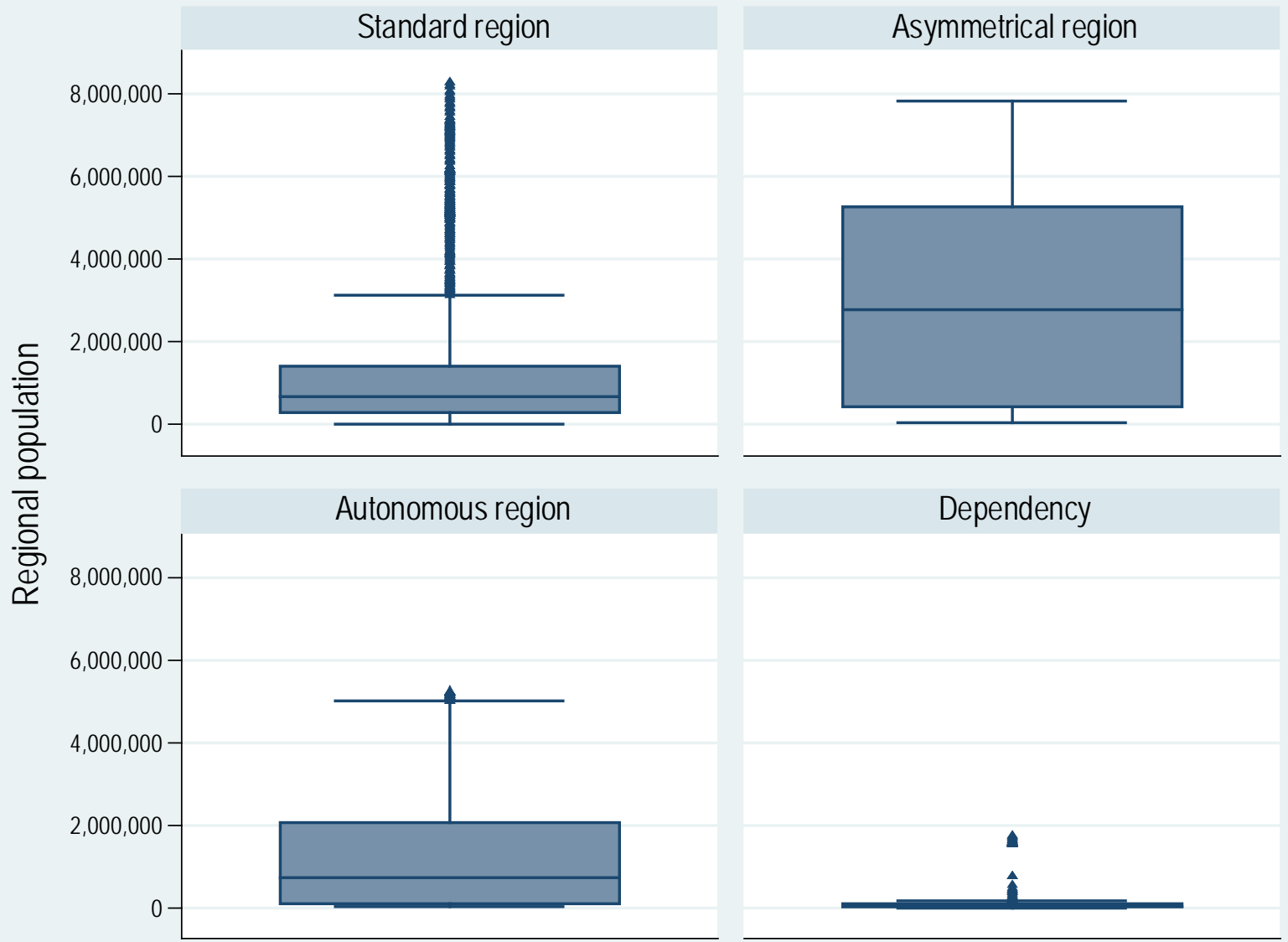
Increase in differentiated governance.

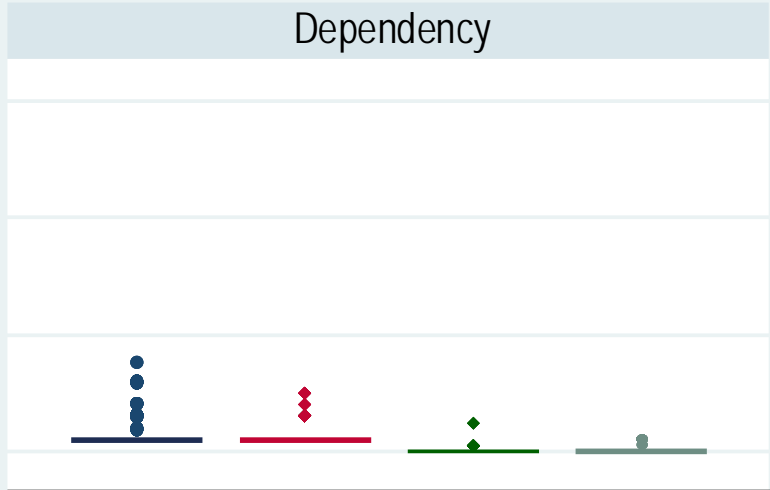
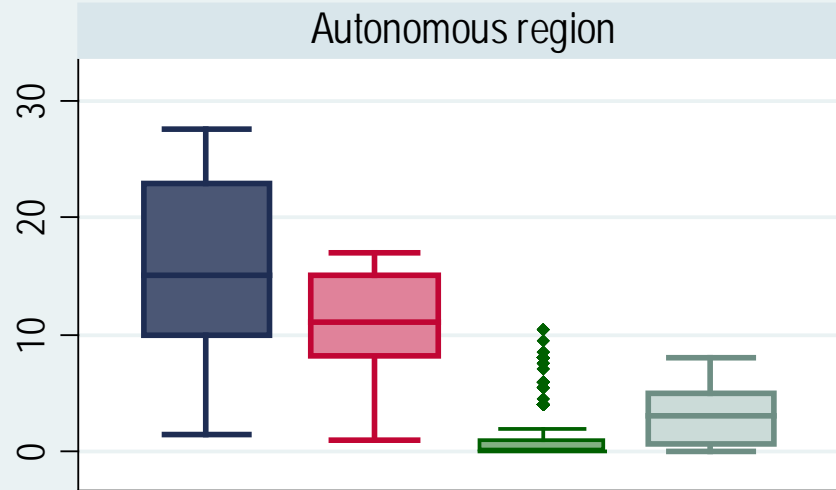
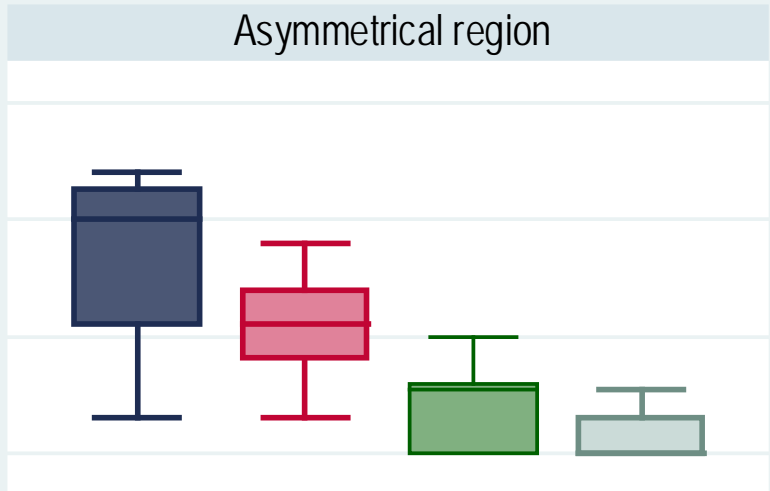
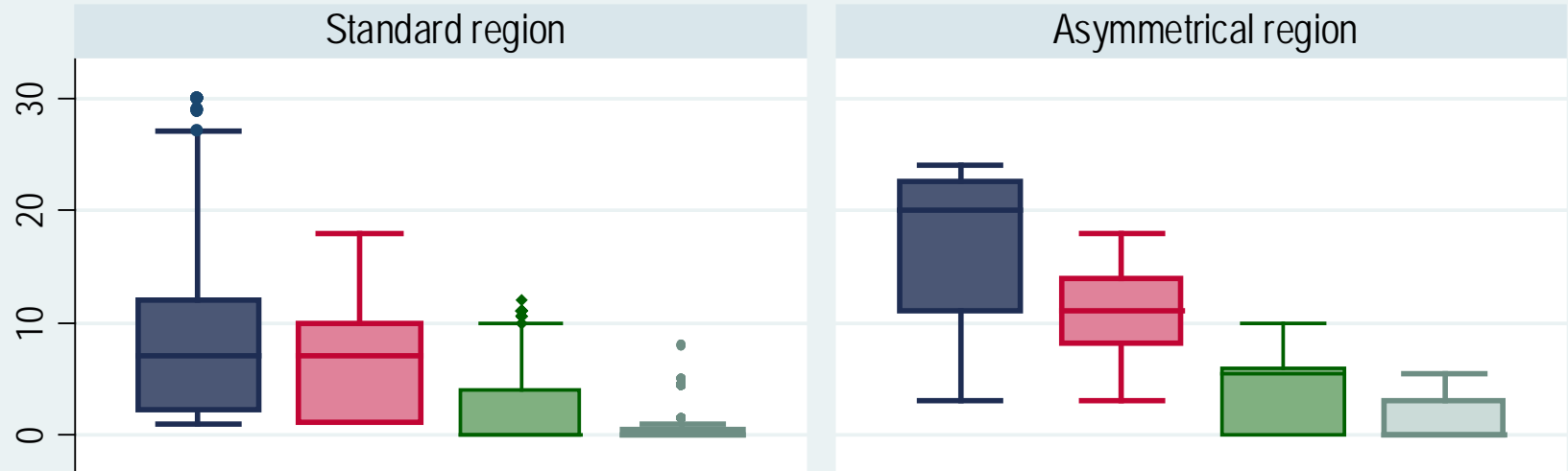
From uniform to differentiated subnational governance



	1950	2010
DIFFERENTIATED	18	29
UNIFORM	25	16
NO TIER	5	3







# Conclusions

- Scale and community shape regional authority
  - scale is a general force visible at national level
  - community is targeted and visible at regional level
- Future research?
  - Endogenous dynamics
  - Extending to the local level