

Understanding Environmental Policies in the World: *The Role of Citizens and Governments*

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RESEARCH QUESTION

What types of governments have higher environmental accountability?



BACKGROUND

- Understanding Government types is crucial to understanding the type of governance people are under
- The amount of power citizens hold over government is equal to the how much the government must do the will of the people
- Environmental concerns affect people in a myriad of ways



MOTIVATION FOR RESEARCH

- Environmental impacts can have a serious impact on human quality of life
- Environmental impacts occur across national borders
- No single nation can make a significant impact on world-wide environmental pollution
- Understanding governmental types may help understand environmental policies of other nations



METHODOLOGY

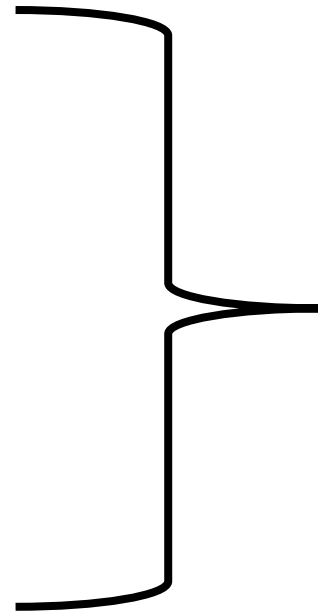
- Type: Quantitative, Empirical Analysis
- Source: MicroCase (2013) Global File
- Type of Data: Aggregate Data
- No. of Cases: 172
- Period: 2004 – 2008
- Stat. Sig: $p < 0.05$
- M.O.A: η^2 and Pearson's Correlation Coefficient (r)



INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

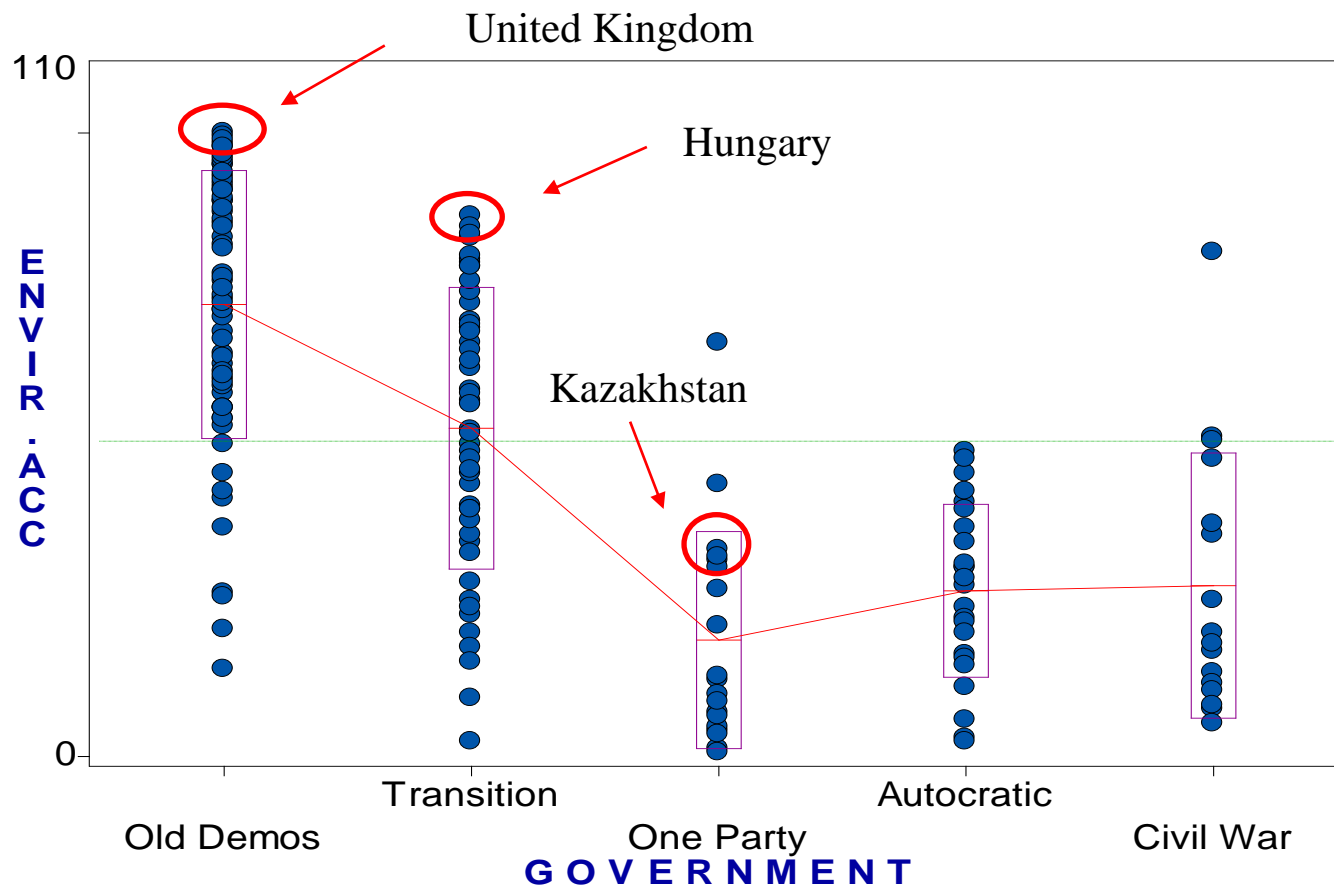
DEPENDENT VARIABLE

Government
Economic Freedom
Region
Political Rights
Rule of Law
Effective Government



Environmental
Accountability

Hypothesis 1: Established democracies will have a higher level of environmental accountability than other governments.

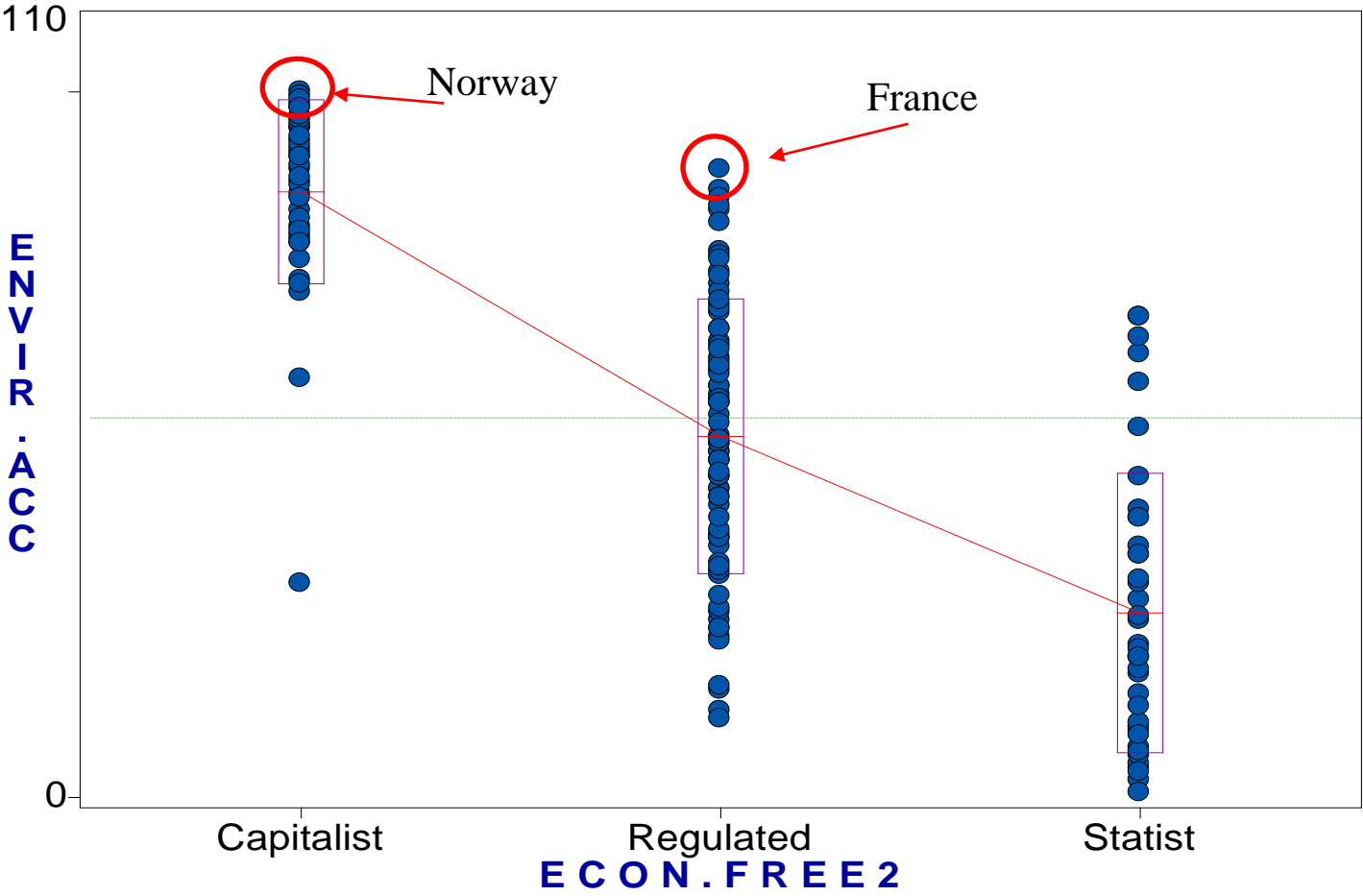


- Prob: 0.000
- Eta squared: .510
- Hypothesis supported

Overall
Mean
50.432



Hypothesis 2: Higher economic freedom leads to higher environmental accountability.

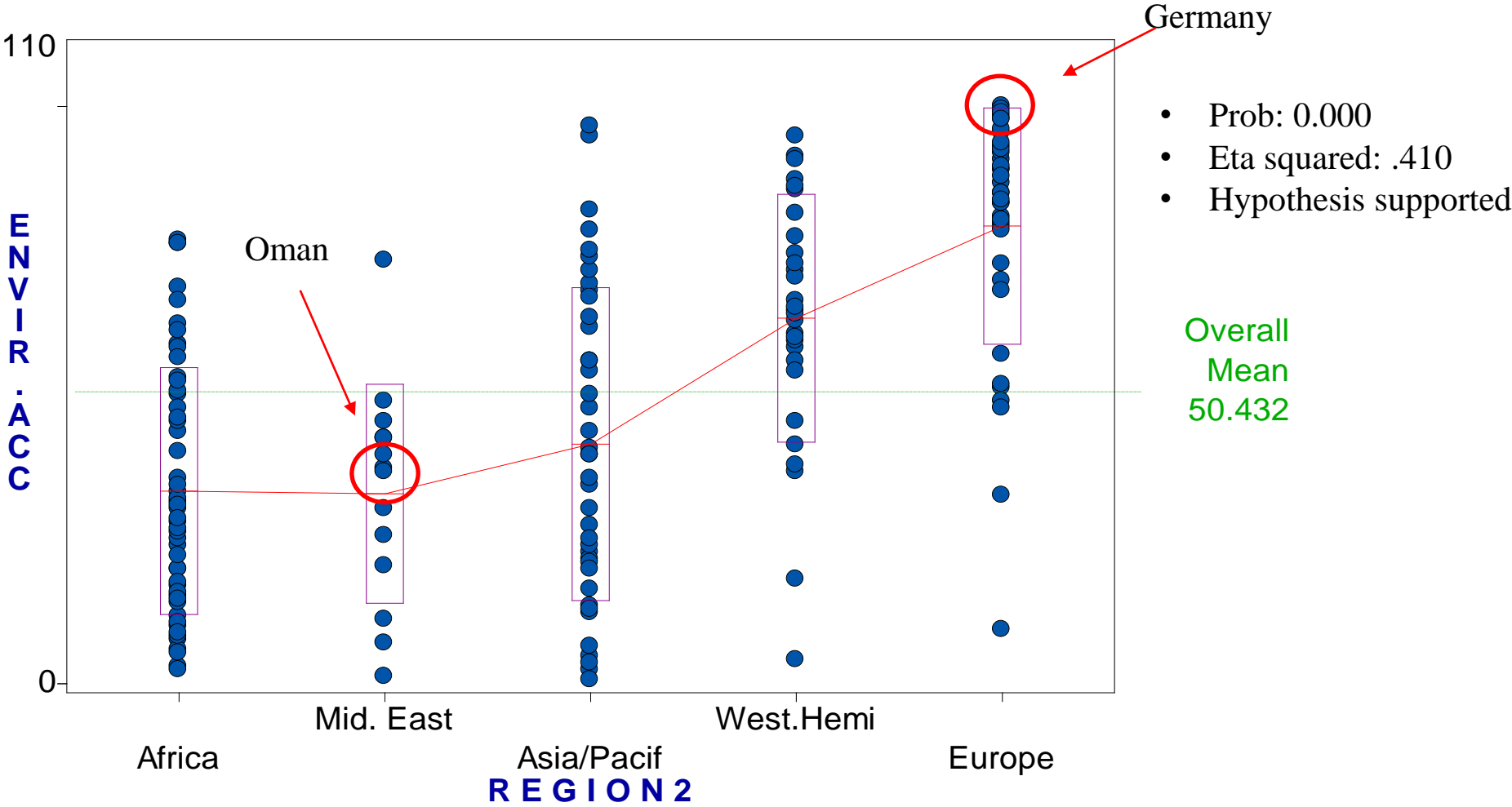


- Prob: 0.000
- Eta squared: .587
- Hypothesis supported

Overall
Mean
53.655

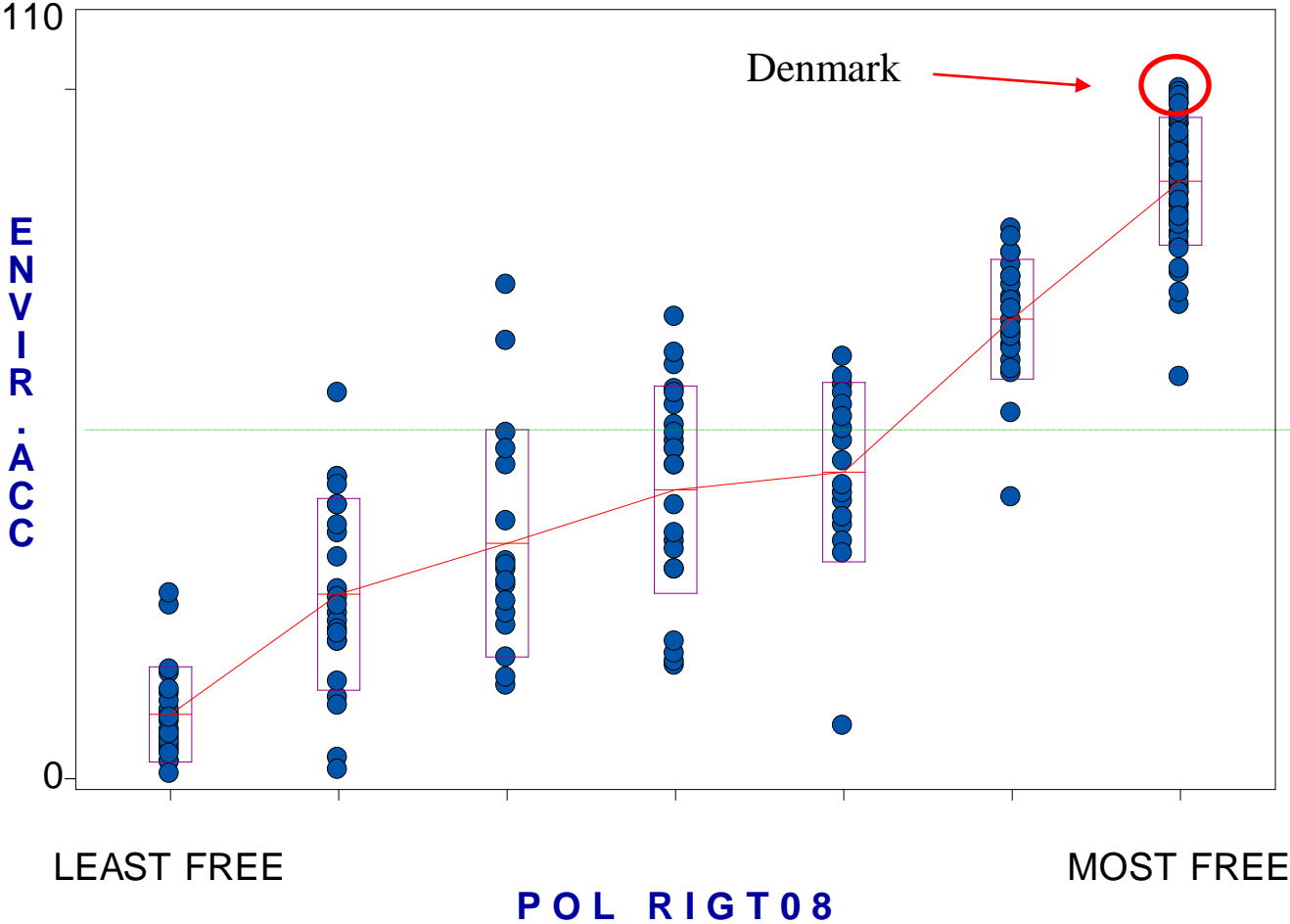


Hypothesis 3: Europe will have a higher level of environmental accountability than other regions.





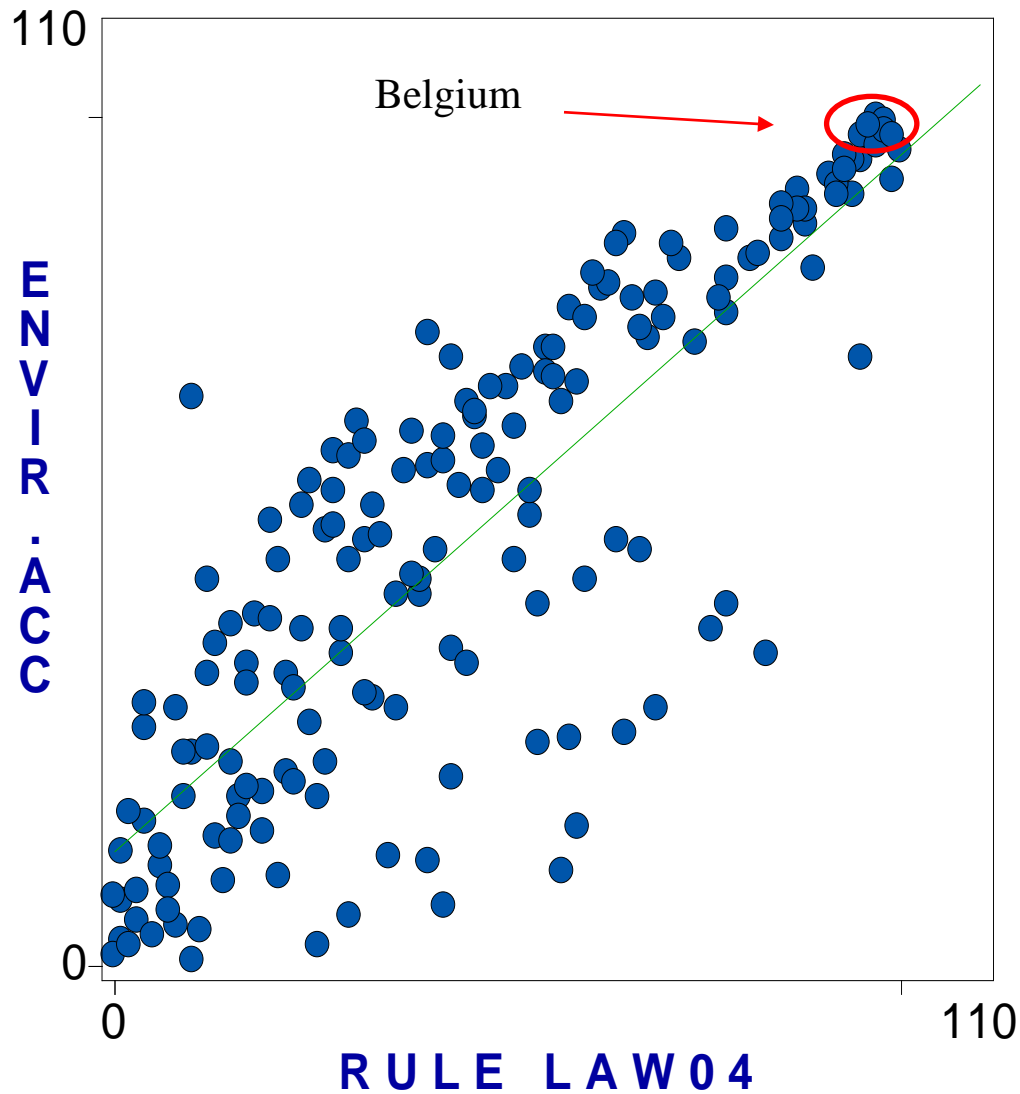
Hypothesis 4: Governments which allow the citizenry a high level of political rights also have a high level of environmental accountability.



- Prob: 0.000
- Eta squared: .804
- Hypothesis supported

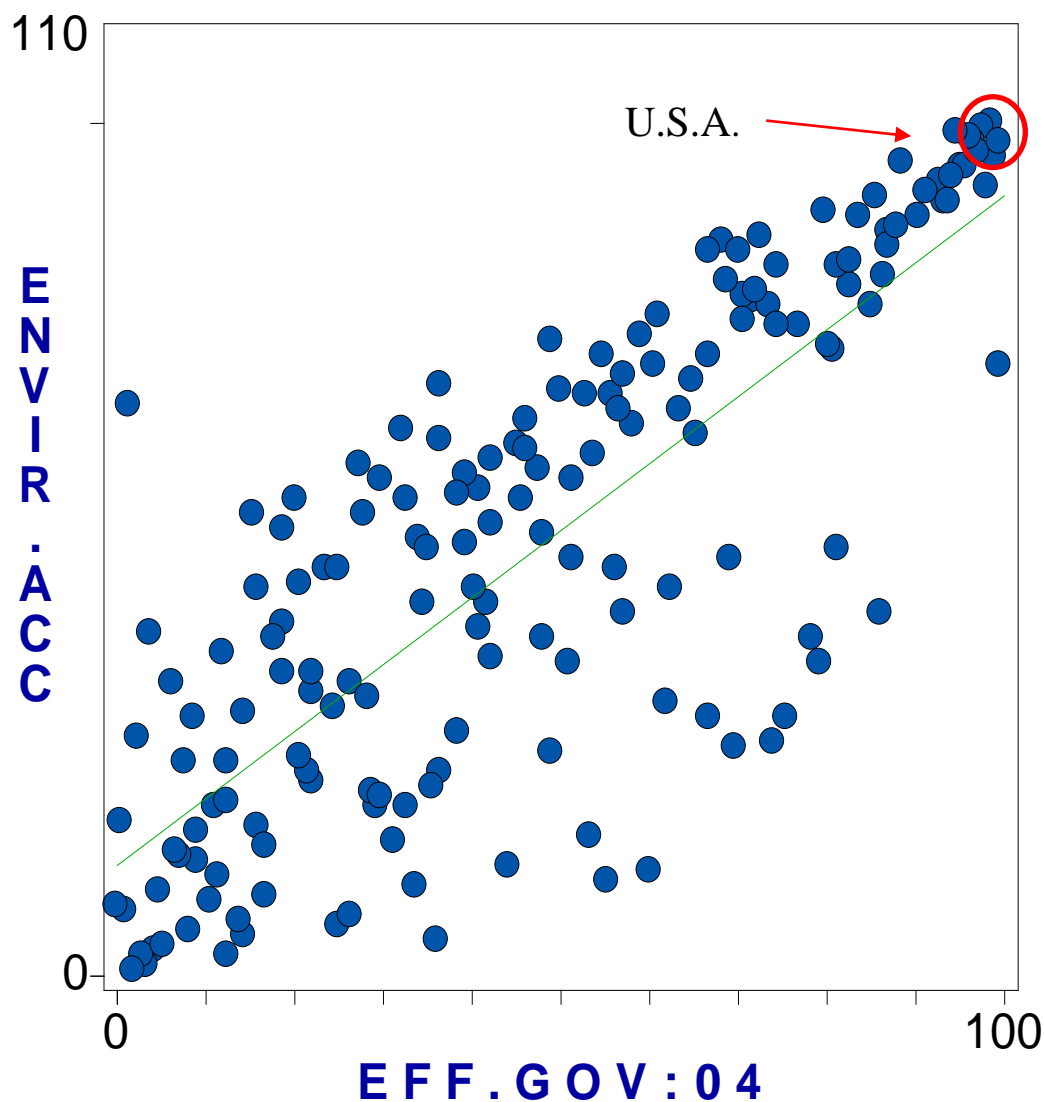
Overall Mean
50.457

Hypothesis 5: There is a positive relationship between rule of law and environmental accountability.



- Prob: 0.000
- r: 0.832
- Hypothesis supported

Hypothesis 6: There is a positive relationship between governments which are effective at delivering basic services and environmental accountability.



- Prob: 0.000
- r: 0.802
- Hypothesis supported

Findings and Analysis

Variables	Method of Analysis	Relationship	Hypothesis
Government	Eta Squared=0.510	Strong	Supported
Economic Freedom	Eta Squared=0.587	Strong	Supported
Region	Eta Squared=0.410	Strong	Supported
Political Rights	Eta Squared=0.804	Strong	Supported
Rule of Law	r=0.832	Strong	Supported
Effective Government	r=0.802	Strong	Supported



Conclusions

- The type of government a nation has can directly influence environmental accountability.
- Higher levels of freedom across the board yield higher levels of environmental accountability
- Central planning results in lower levels of political freedom and economic freedom which leads to lower levels of environmental accountability
- Governments which can deliver basic services tend to have higher environmental accountability



Questions?