Appendix B: Belt and Road and UNGA Voting

Codebook

Contents

Introduction **1**

Data sources . . . 1

Datasets . . . 1

Codebook **2**

dyad_id . . . 2

ctry1 . . . 2

ctry2 . . . 2

cown1 . . . 2

cown2 . . . 2

year . . . 2

ctry1_mou . . . 2

ctry2_mou . . . 2

ctry1_neg . . . 2

ctry2_neg . . . 3

ctry1_bri_start . . . 3

ctry2_bri_start . . . 3

ctry1_polity2 . . . 4

ctry2_polity2 . . . 5

polity2_dist . . . 6

ctry1_gdp . . . 7

ctry2_gdp . . . 8

gdp_dist . . . 9

ctry1_gdp_cap . . . 10

ctry2_gdp_cap . . . 11

gdp_cap_dist . . . 12
ctry1_gdp_change . . . 13
ctry2_gdp_change . . . 14
gdp_change_dist . . . 15
ctry1_fariss . . . 16
ctry2_fariss . . . 17
fariss_dist . . . 18
IdealPointDistance . . . 19

Identifying voting communities **20**

Distances between countries . . . 20
Networks . . . 21
List of communities . . . 22

Introduction

Data sources

The data collected for the paper: XYZ originates from four main sources.

1. BRI data
2. Polity4 Project
3. World Bank data
4. Fariss Human Rights Indicator

Datasets

We compile three datasets. As we are interested in the changes compared to China, the US, and Russia, we compile a data set for each of the countries. The following codebook displays the mean and standard deviation of each variable for each comparison country. These differ especially for those variables where the distance to the value for China, the US, or Russia is calculated. We also present histograms of each variable displaying the distribution of each variable.

Codebook

dyad_id

Numeric ID of country pairs. For example: Afghanistan - Albania is ID 1.

ctry1

First country in Dyad ID, country name.

ctry2

Second country in Dyad ID, country name.

cown1

First country in Dyad ID, correlates of war numeric identifier.

cown2

First country in Dyad ID, correlates of war numeric identifier.

year

Numeric year

ctry1_mou

Date of MoU signature for country 1 in Dyad

ctry2_mou

Date of MoU signature for country 2 in Dyad

ctry1_neg

Date of MoU-negotiation start for country 1 in Dyad

ctry2_neg

Date of MoU-negotiation start for country 2 in Dyad

ctry1_bri_start

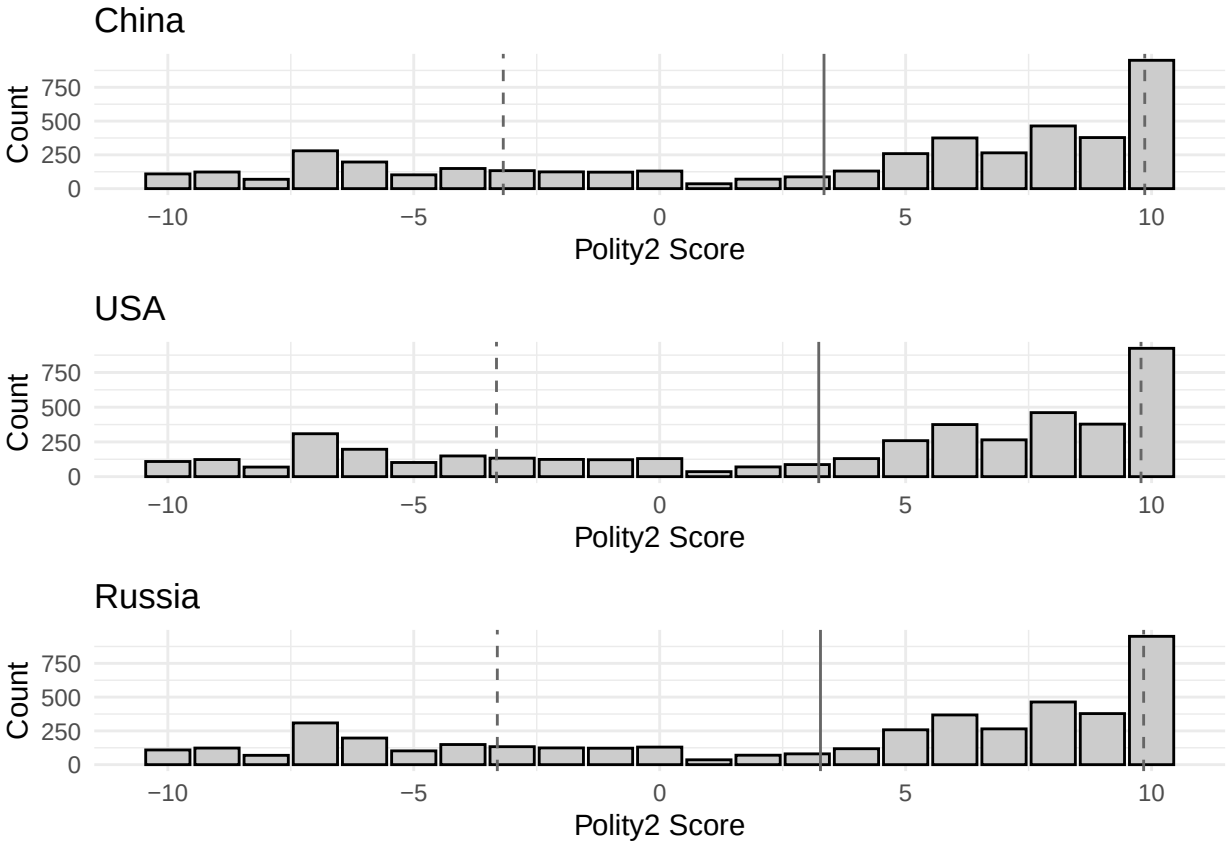
Date of construction start for country 1 in Dyad

ctry2_bri_start

Date of construction start for country 2 in Dyad

ctry1_polity2

Country 1 Polity2 Score. "Revised Combined Polity Score: This variable is a modified version of the POLITY variable added in order to facilitate the use of the POLITY regime measure in time-series analyses." (from Polity codebook)

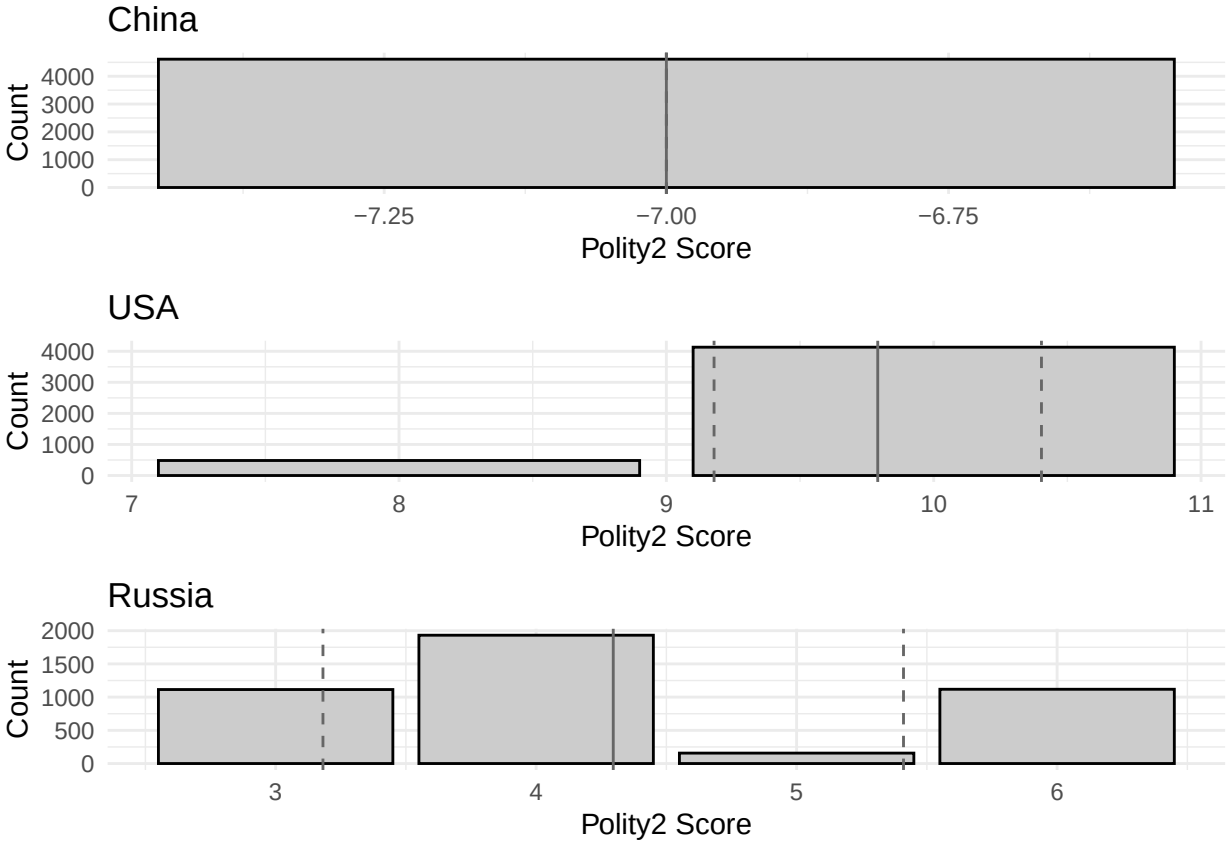


Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	-7.00	0.00
United States	9.79	0.61
Russia	4.30	1.11

ctry2_polity2

Country 2 Polity2 Score. "Revised Combined Polity Score: This variable is a modified version of the POLITY variable added in order to facilitate the use of the POLITY regime measure in time-series analyses." (from Polity codebook)

These are the polity scores of China, Russia, and the US respectively.

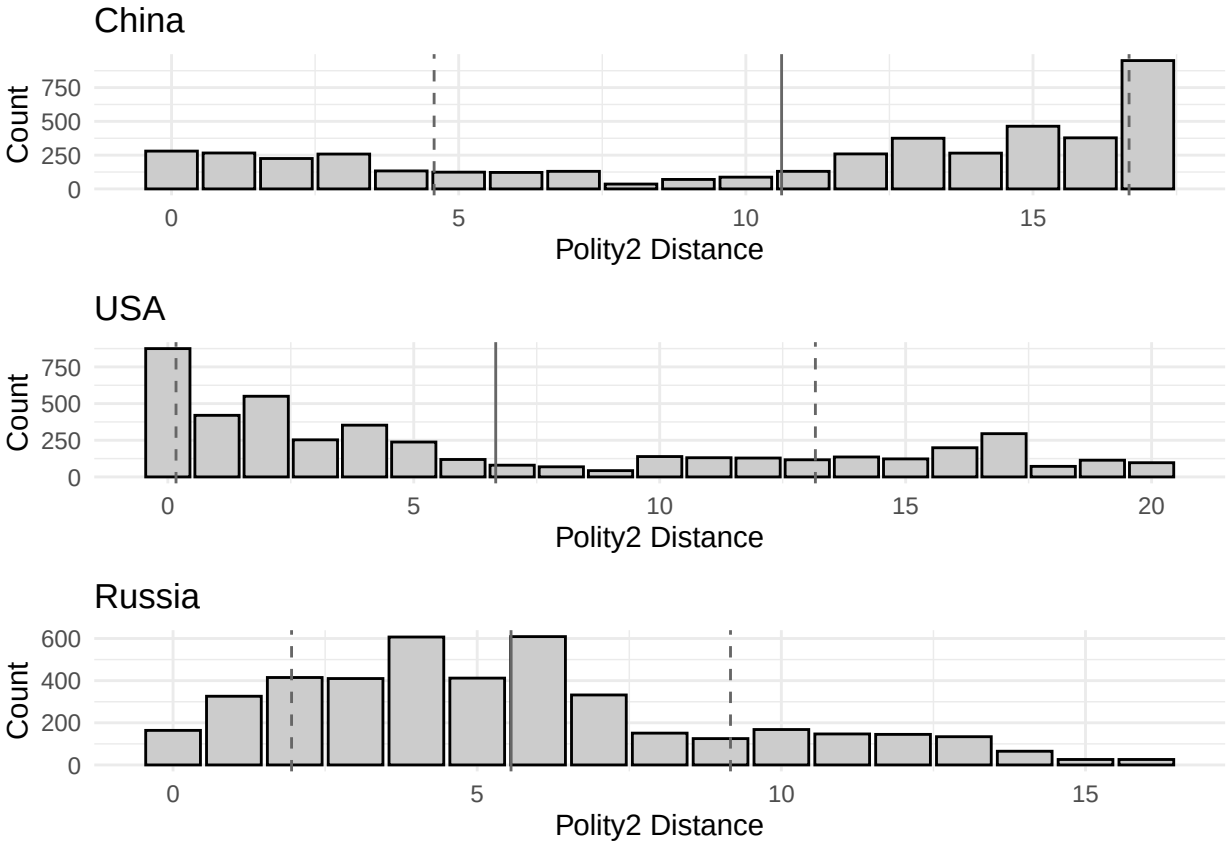


Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	3.34	6.52
United States	3.23	6.55
Russia	3.27	6.57

Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	-7.00	0.00
United States	9.79	0.61
Russia	4.30	1.11

polity2_dist

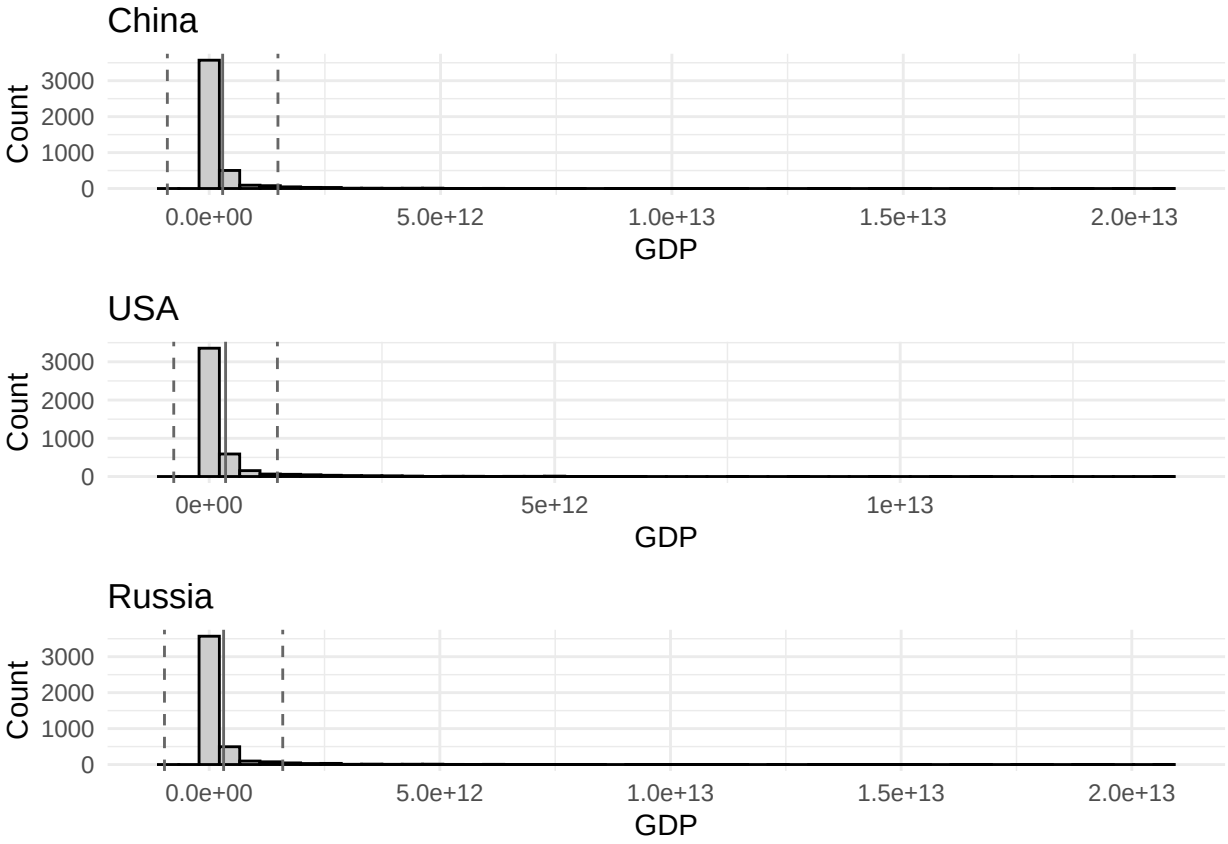
Absolute distance between the polity2 scores of country 1 and country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	10.62	6.05
United States	6.67	6.50
Russia	5.56	3.61

ctry1_gdp

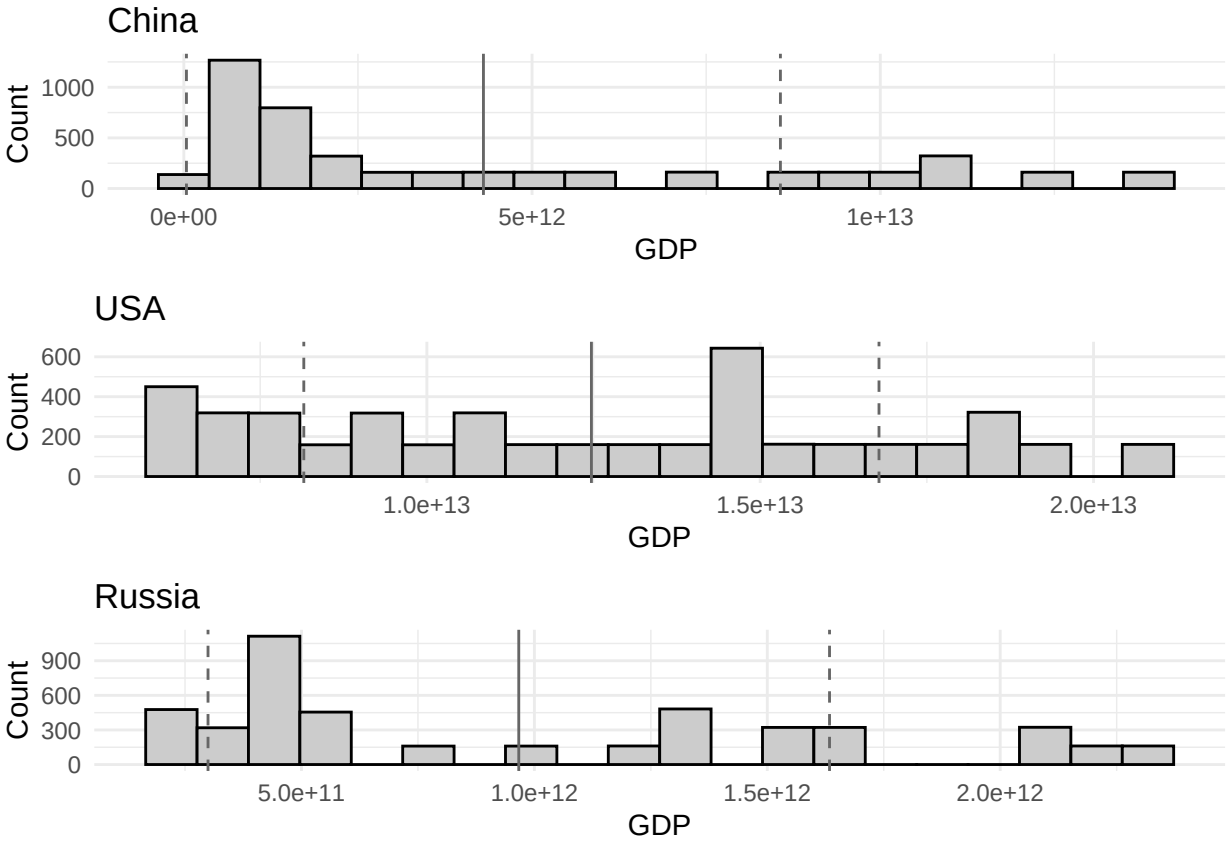
Gross Domestic Product in US Dollars (2015), taking from World Bank, for country 1.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	290295805807	1.195000e+12
United States	236929569621	7.499884e+11
Russia	311983578578	1.281712e+12

ctry2_gdp

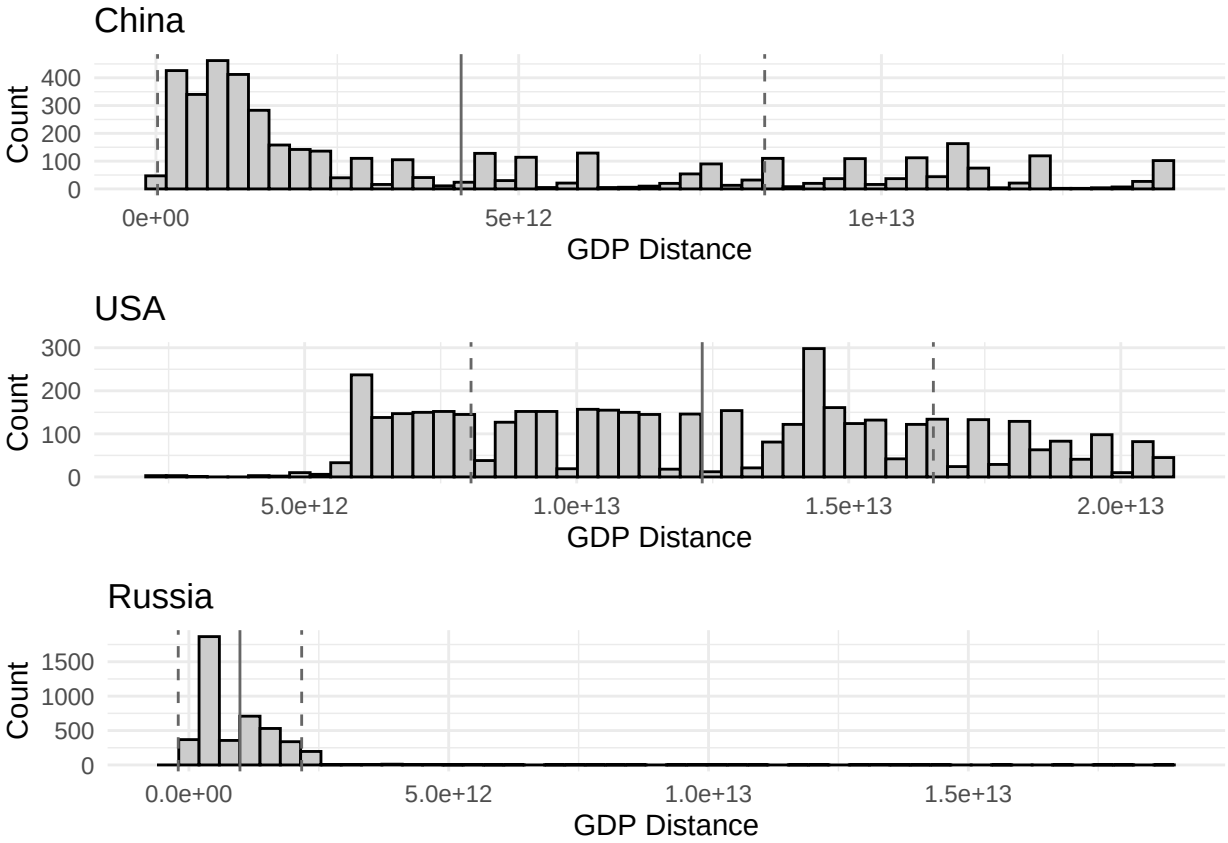
Gross Domestic Product in US Dollars (2015), taking from World Bank, for country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	4.301968e+12	4.264167e+12
United States	1.246813e+13	4.313788e+12
Russia	9.664562e+11	6.671212e+11

gdp_dist

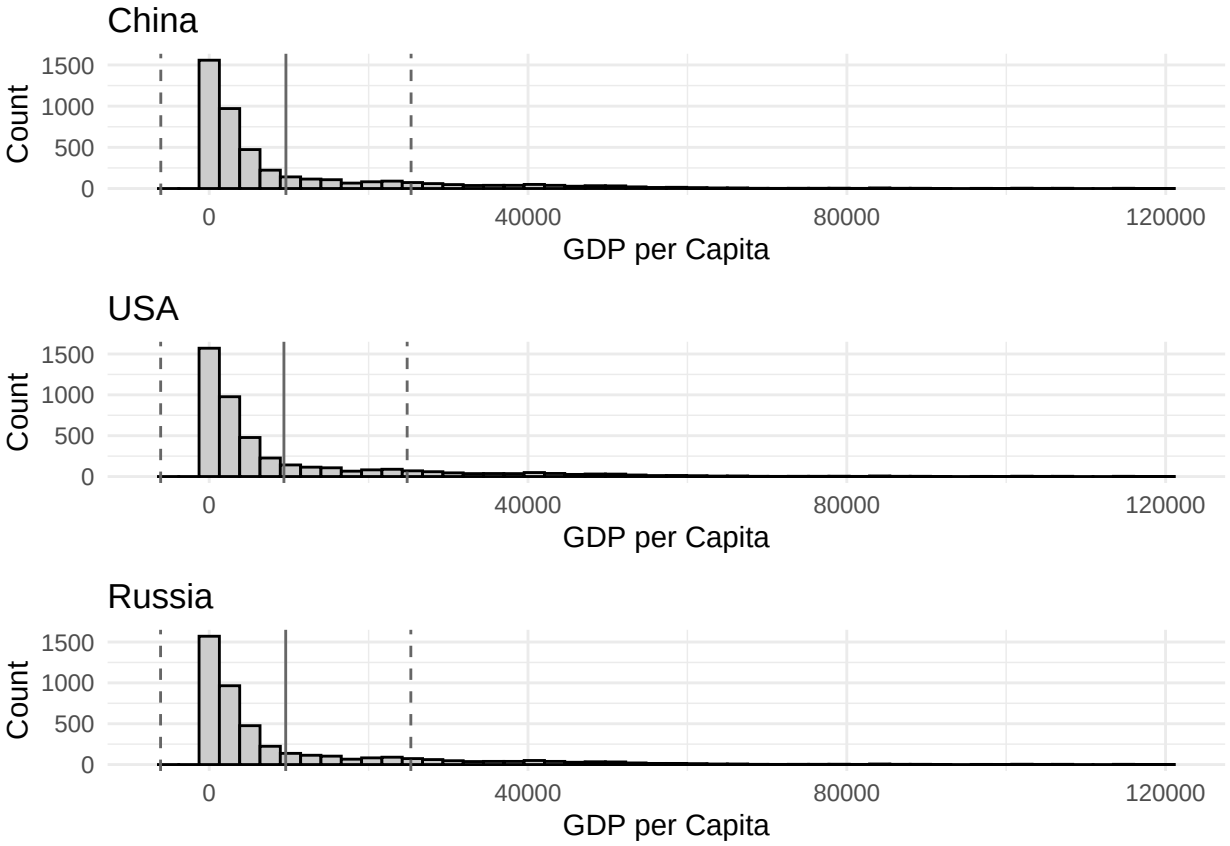
Absolute difference between gdp of country 1 and country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	4.206562e+12	4.184442e+12
United States	1.230668e+13	4.248736e+12
Russia	9.824891e+11	1.187697e+12

ctry1_gdp_cap

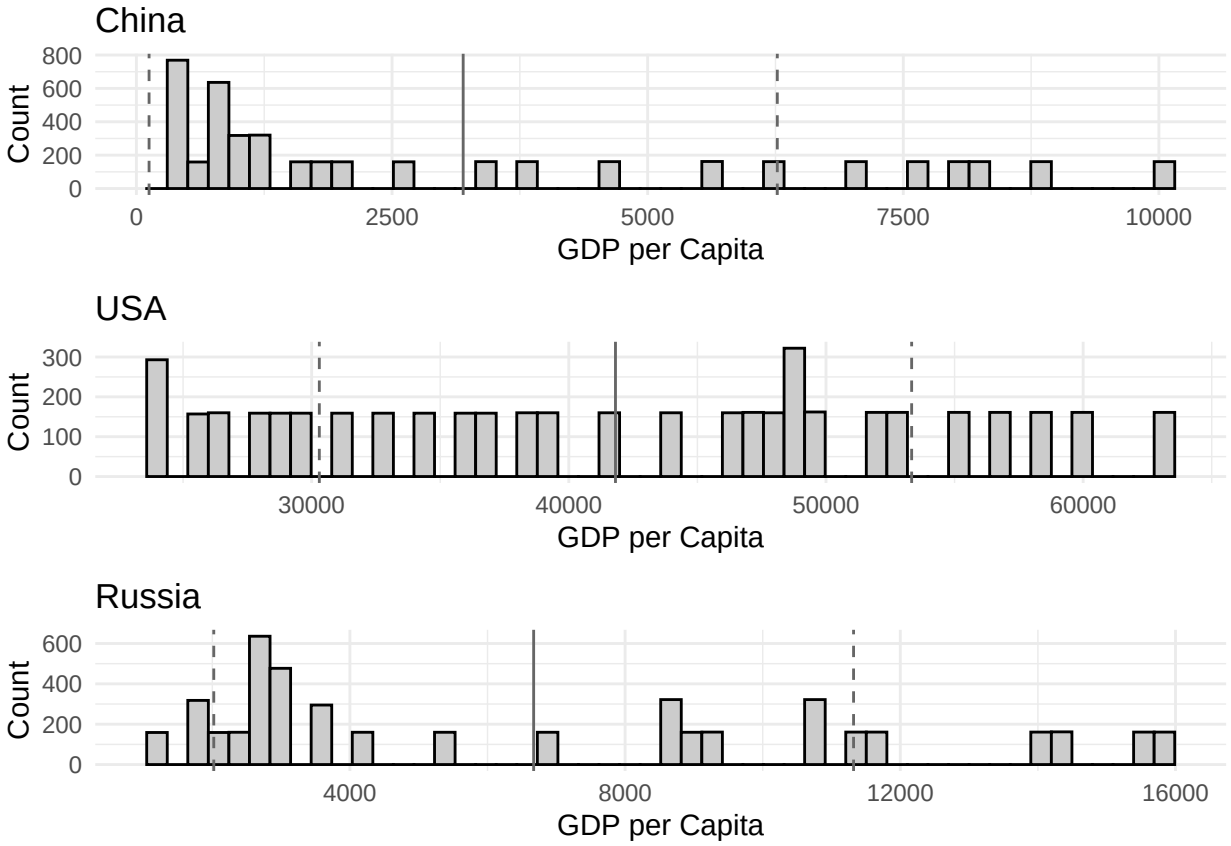
Gross Domestic Product per Capita in US Dollars (2015), taking from World Bank, for country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	9623.85	15699.96
United States	9371.66	15464.83
Russia	9598.39	15701.24

ctry2_gdp_cap

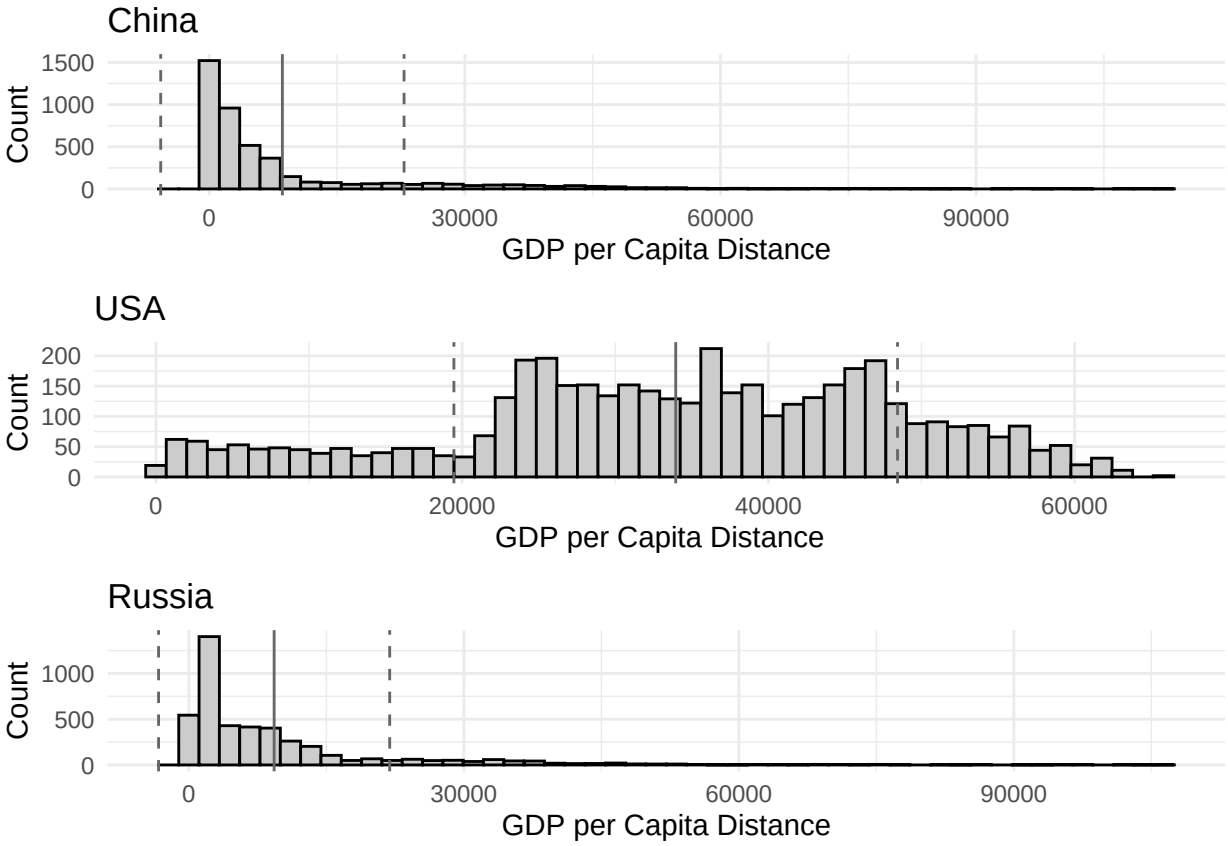
Gross Domestic Product per capita in US Dollars (2015), taking from World Bank, for country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	3195.73	3071.92
United States	41814.59	11516.37
Russia	6670.78	4649.70

gdp_cap_dist

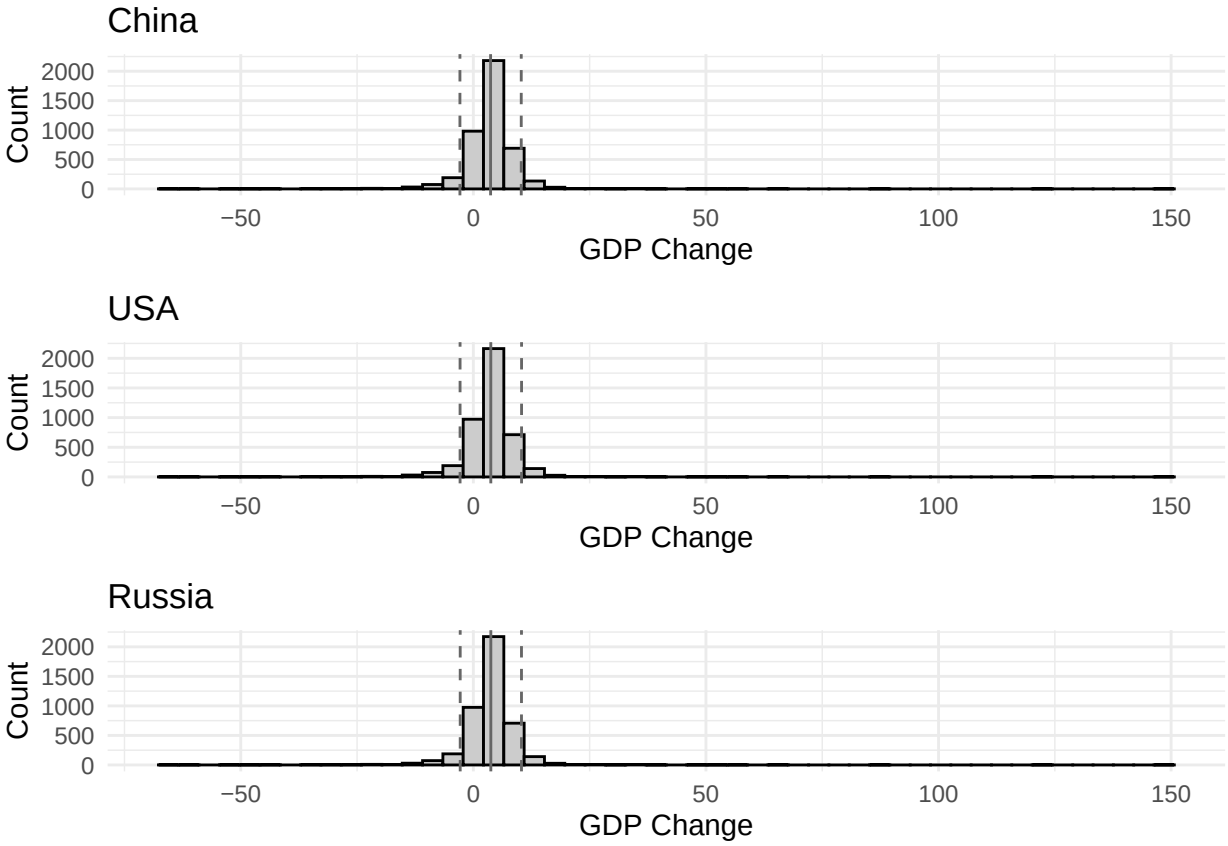
Absolute difference ind GDP per capita between country 1 and country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	8586.40	14277.94
United States	33947.77	14487.89
Russia	9299.51	12607.42

ctry1_gdp_change

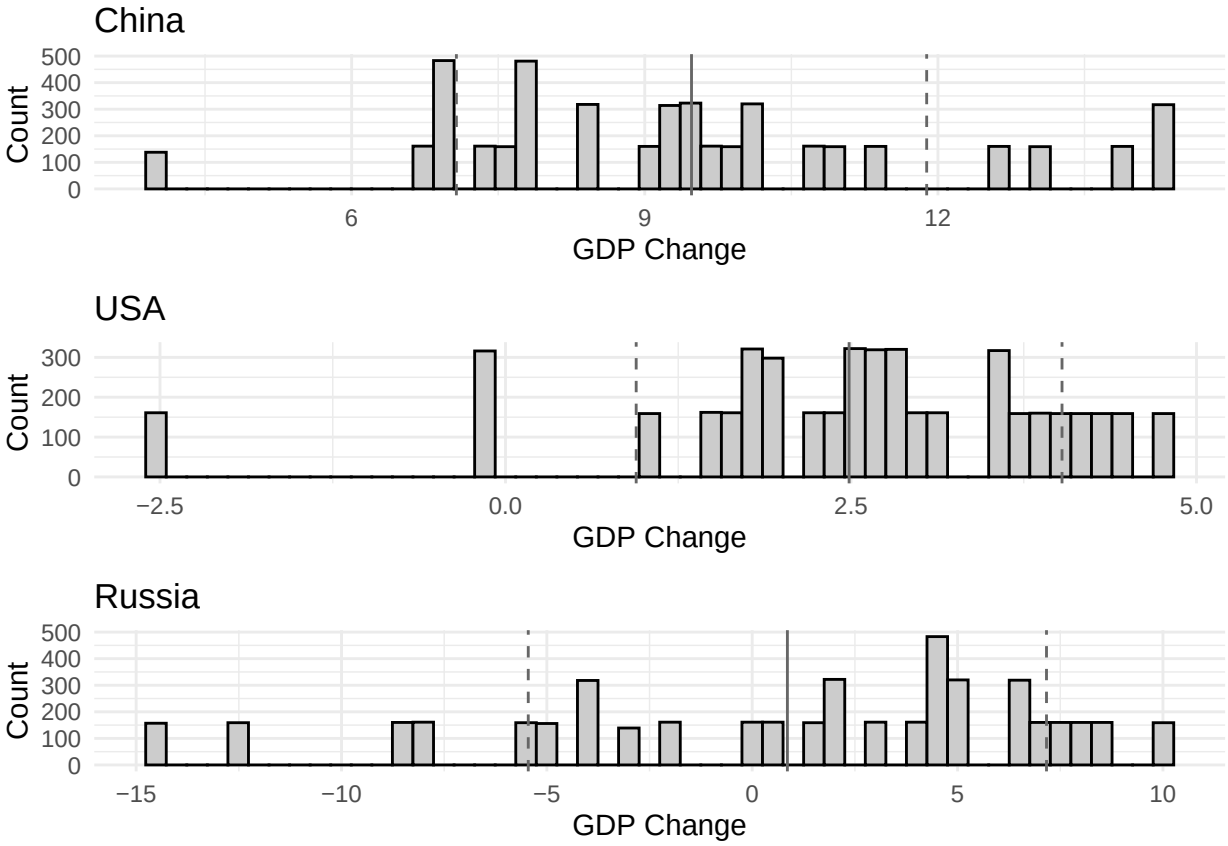
Percentage change in GDP for country 1.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	3.71	6.59
United States	3.75	6.61
Russia	3.76	6.59

ctry2_gdp_change

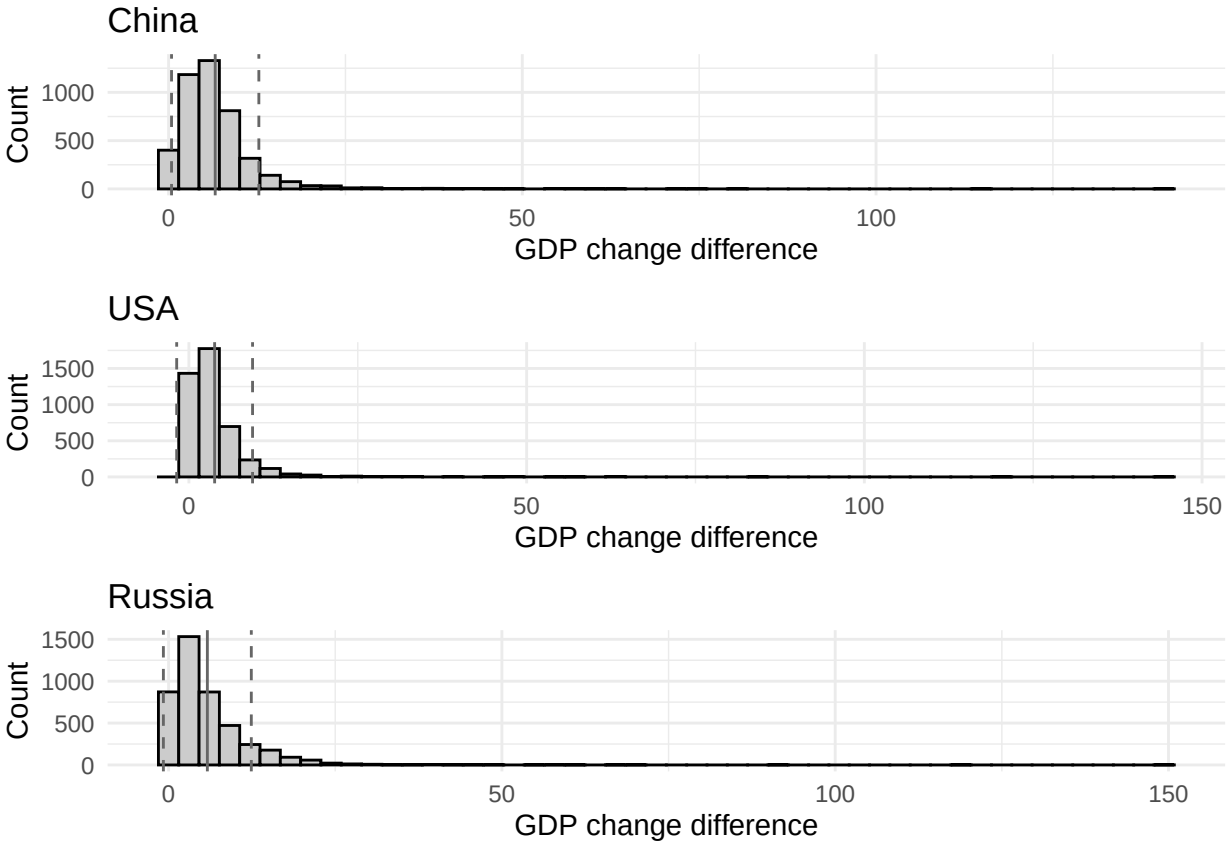
Percentage change in GDP for country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	9.48	2.41
United States	2.49	1.54
Russia	0.86	6.31

gdp_change_dist

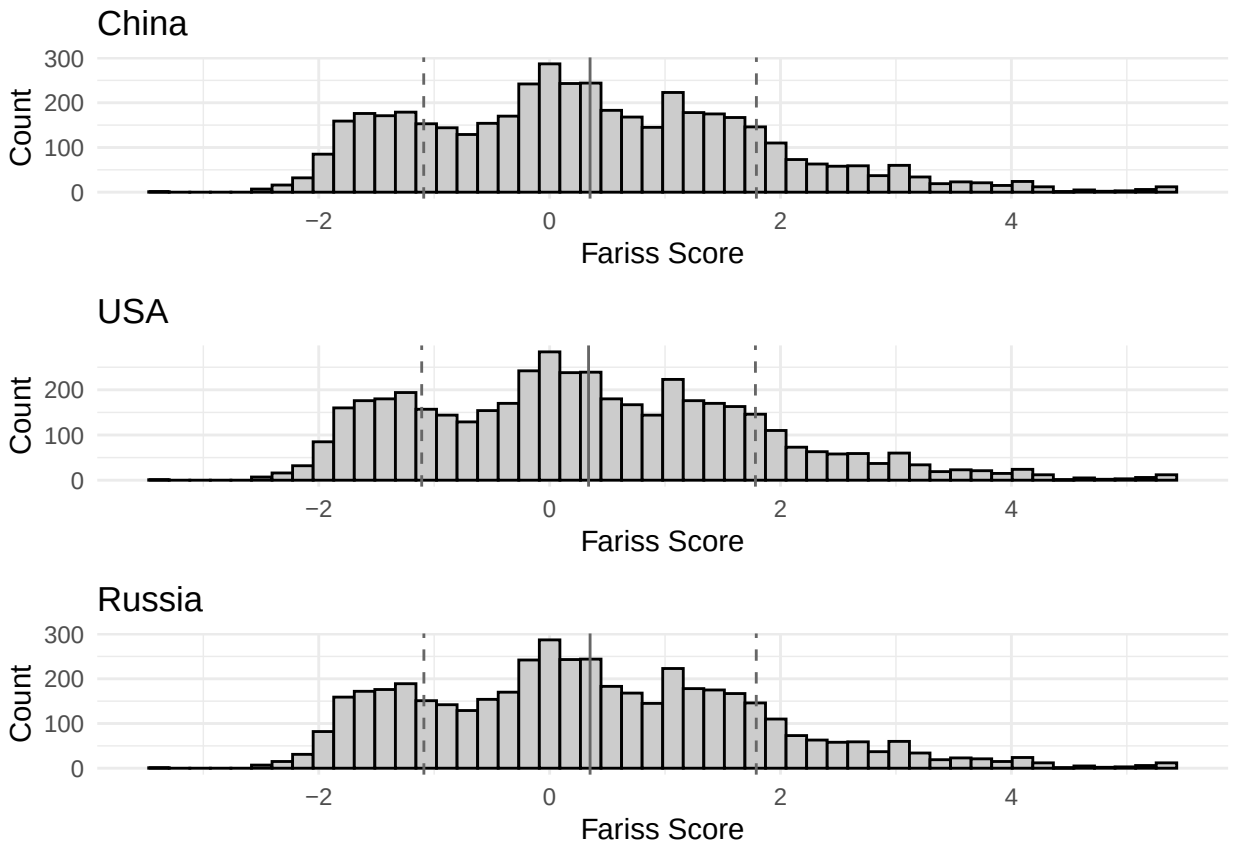
Absolute distance in percentage change in GDP between country 1 and country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	6.59	6.17
United States	3.81	5.62
Russia	5.81	6.59

ctry1_fariss

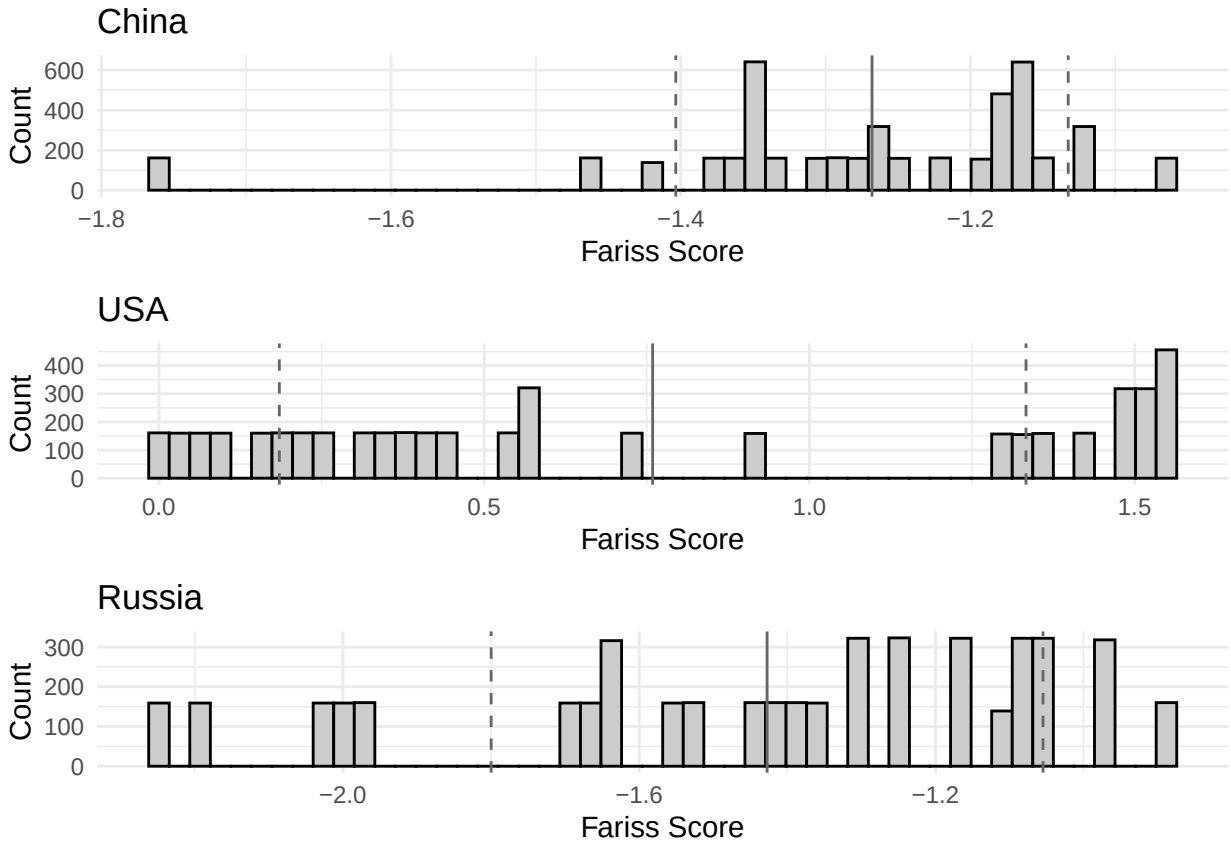
the posterior mean of the new latent variable for Country 1 described in "Fariss, Christopher; Michael Kenwick; Kevin Reuning, 2020,"Latent Human Rights Protection Scores Version 4", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/RQ85GK, Harvard Dataverse, V2, UNF:6:QPg88sybNJyuljPYph2OXQ== [fileUNF]"



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	0.35	1.44
United States	0.34	1.45
Russia	0.35	1.44

ctry2_fariss

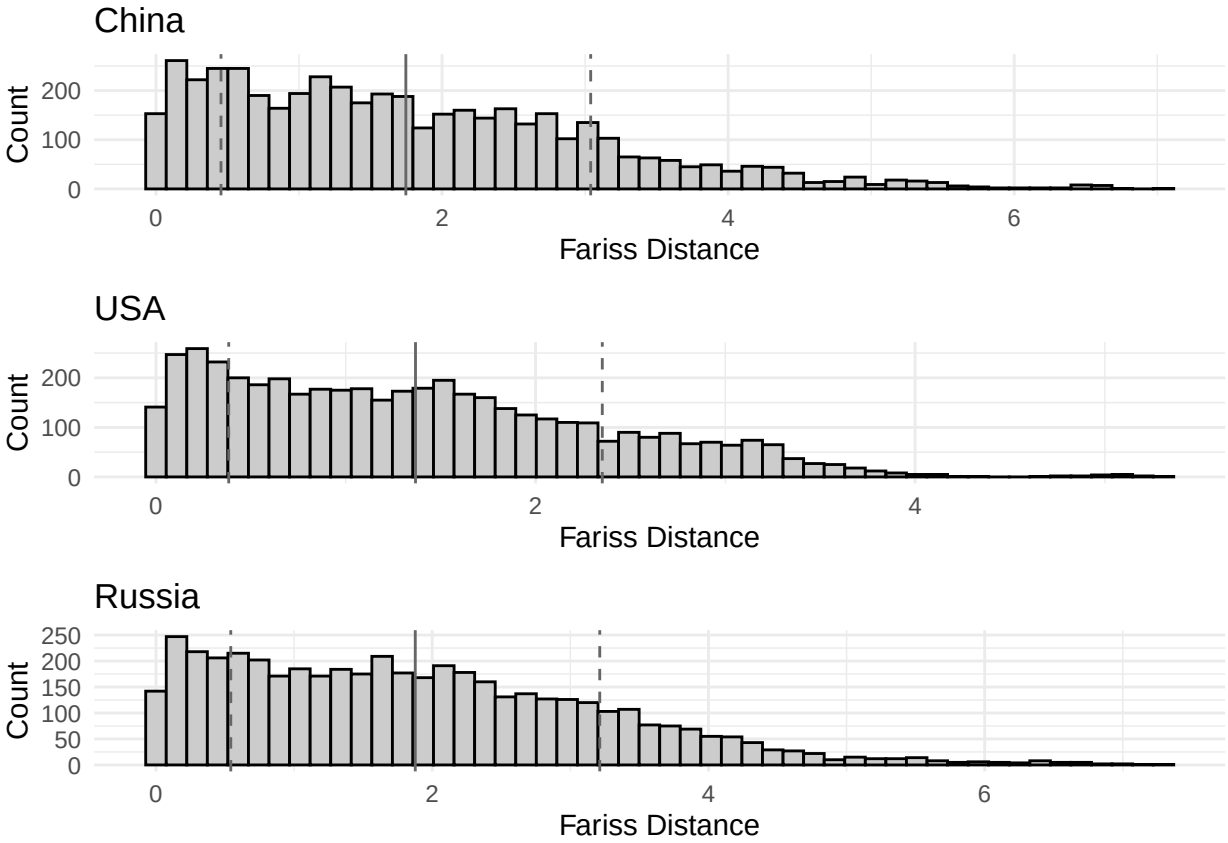
the posterior mean of the new latent variable for Country 2 described in "Fariss, Christopher; Michael Kenwick; Kevin Reuning, 2020,"Latent Human Rights Protection Scores Version 4", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/RQ85GK, Harvard Dataverse, V2, UNF:6:QPg88sybNJyuljPYph2OXQ== [fileUNF]"



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	-1.27	0.14
United States	0.76	0.57
Russia	-1.43	0.37

fariss_dist

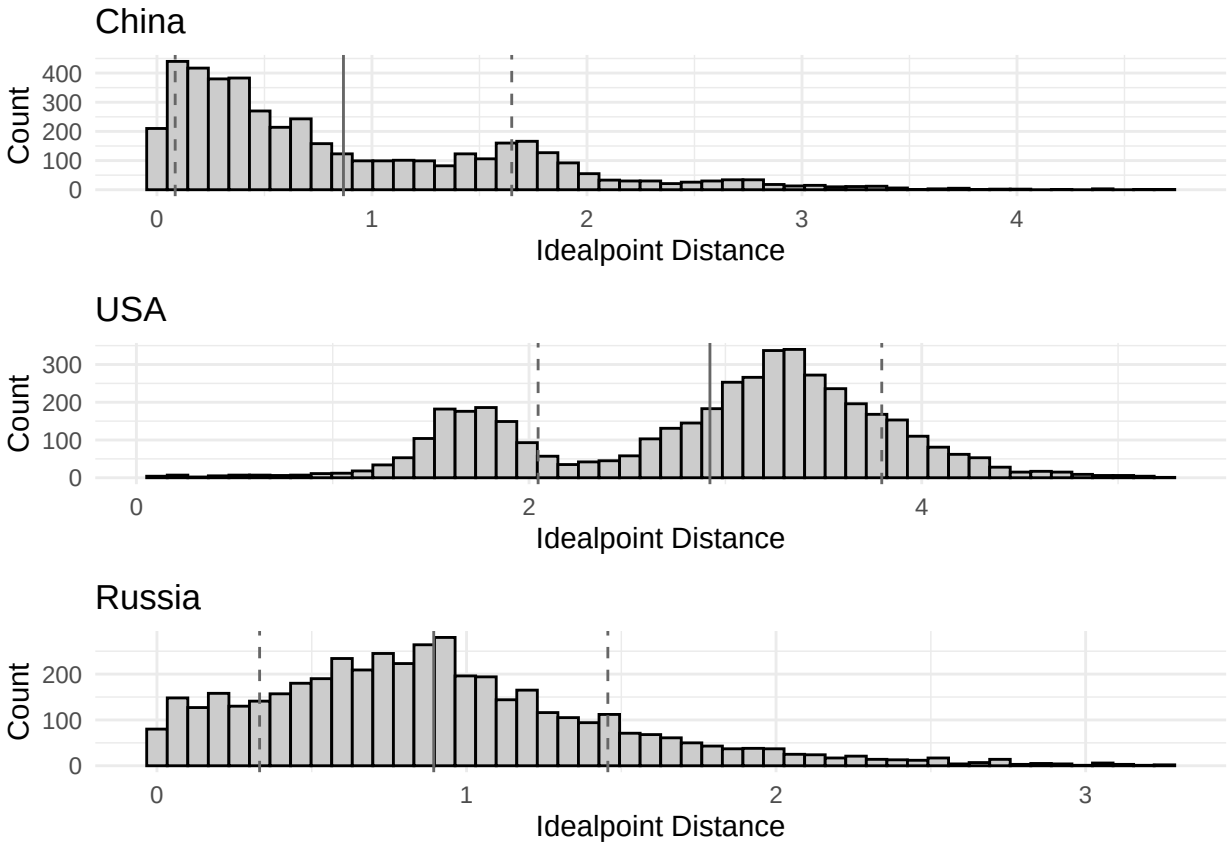
Distance in Fariss HR scores for country 1 and country 2.



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	1.75	1.29
United States	1.37	0.98
Russia	1.88	1.34

IdealPointDistance

Voting similarity index between ccode1 and ccode2 in a given sesson – computed using 3 category vote data (1 = "yes" or approval for an issue; 2 = abstain, 3 = "no" or disapproval for an issue.) - Abstention is counted as half-agreement with a yes or no vote. (from: Erik Voeten "Data and Analyses of Voting in the UN General Assembly" Routledge Handbook of International Organization, edited by Bob Reinalda (published May 27, 2013). Available at SSRN: http://ssrn.com/abstract=2111149)



Comparrison Country	Mean	Standard Deviation
China	0.87	0.78
United States	2.92	0.88
Russia	0.89	0.56

Table 1: Table 1: Most proximate countries to Hungary

Country 1	Country 2	Average Distance	Fifth percentile
Hungary	Bulgaria	0.1213880	0.1321953
Hungary	Denmark	0.0849741	0.1321953
Hungary	Finland	0.0712913	0.1321953
Hungary	Iceland	0.0914005	0.1321953
Hungary	Norway	0.0984189	0.1321953
Hungary	Poland	0.0861380	0.1321953
Hungary	Romania	0.1040041	0.1321953

Identifying voting communities

Distances between countries

We create a network based on the average distance between UNGA Idealponts over a ten year period, prior to the treatment, i.e. the accession to the BRI. The idea is, that we need to identify voting blocs to accurately identify the sensitive changes in ideal points. To do so, we calcualte the average distance and select those countries that are within the 5 most proximate percentile to the country under consideration.

To give an example, we calculate the average distance of each country to Hungary and select the countries that are within the top 5th percentile.

We repeat this process for each country in the data. The distances are distributed as follows:

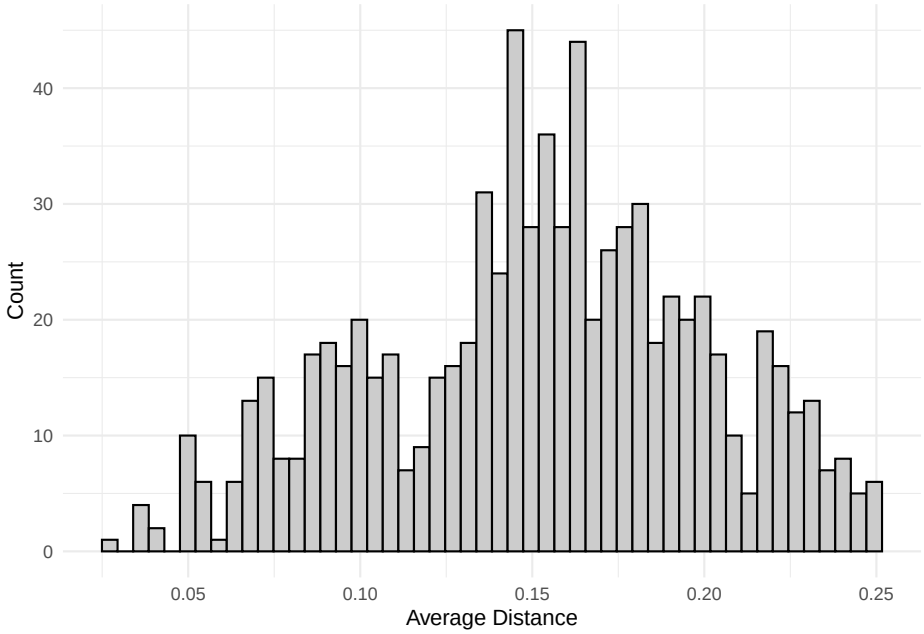


Figure B.1: Distibution of average distances (10 year period 2004-2013)

It should be noted, however, that we limit the average distance to < 0.25. Larger distances may

be included in the data, simply because there are countries that vote very dissimilarly to all other states. Distances within 1/4 of a point seem reasonable, ultimately though, this threshold ist arbitrary.

Networks

Based on the above-calcualted distances we create a network of voting blocs in the UNGA, based on their ideal point distances between 2004 and 2013.

```
FALSE pdf
FALSE   2
```

We first plot a full network, including all countries. It displays, however a large cluster in the middle. To further specify the voting blocs we subset this large cluster, re-create a network, a sub-network, and use again a community detection algorithm to identify clusters.

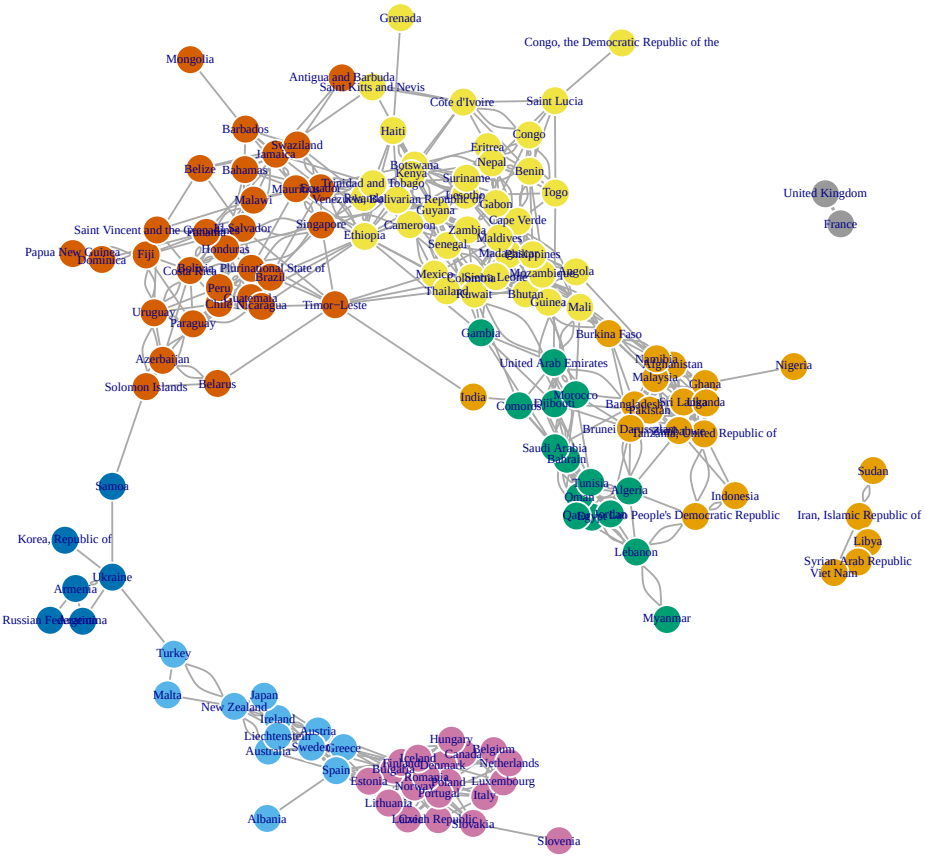


Figure B.2: Network of voting clusters (10 year period 2004-2013)

List of communities

Table 2: Comminuty Membership I

Country	Cluster	Ties	Country	Cluster	Ties
Afghanistan	1	10	Lebanon	3	10
Bangladesh	1	18	Morocco	3	10
Burkina Faso	1	12	Oman	3	16
Ghana	1	15	Qatar	3	15
Indonesia	1	4	Saudi Arabia	3	15
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1	7	Tunisia	3	17
Malaysia	1	11	United Arab Emirates	3	17
Namibia	1	16	Angola	4	7
Pakistan	1	12	Benin	4	14
Sri Lanka	1	16	Bhutan	4	17
Tanzania, United Republic of	1	14	Botswana	4	20
Uganda	1	13	Cameroon	4	10
Zimbabwe	1	12	Cape Verde	4	23
Brunei Darussalam	1	11	Colombia	4	12
Australia	2	9	Congo	4	11
Austria	2	15	Côte d'Ivoire	4	9
Greece	2	11	Eritrea	4	8
Ireland	2	12	Ethiopia	4	18
Japan	2	7	Gabon	4	12
New Zealand	2	11	Guinea	4	13
Spain	2	15	Guyana	4	22
Sweden	2	15	Haiti	4	8
Turkey	2	4	Kenya	4	14
Liechtenstein	2	6	Kuwait	4	13
Algeria	3	16	Lesotho	4	10
Bahrain	3	17	Madagascar	4	12
Comoros	3	6	Mali	4	17
Djibouti	3	13	Mexico	4	13
Egypt	3	15	Mozambique	4	22
Gambia	3	7	Nepal	4	17
Jordan	3	11			

Table 3: Comminuty Membership II

Country	Cluster	Ties	Country	Cluster	Ties
Philippines	4	16	Peru	6	14
Rwanda	4	8	Singapore	6	15
Senegal	4	15	Solomon Islands	6	6
Sierra Leone	4	14	Swaziland	6	9
Suriname	4	12	Timor-Leste	6	10
Thailand	4	11	Uruguay	6	12
Togo	4	8	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	6	5
Trinidad and Tobago	4	15	Bahamas	6	6
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	4	15	Barbados	6	6
Zambia	4	12	Belize	6	4
Maldives	4	16	Belgium	7	10
Saint Lucia	4	6	Bulgaria	7	17
Argentina	5	4	Canada	7	9
Armenia	5	4	Czech Republic	7	9
Ukraine	5	6	Denmark	7	21
Azerbaijan	6	5	Estonia	7	10
Belarus	6	4	Finland	7	22
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	6	17	Hungary	7	13
Brazil	6	14	Italy	7	12
Chile	6	16	Latvia	7	8
Costa Rica	6	16	Lithuania	7	10
Ecuador	6	15	Luxembourg	7	10
El Salvador	6	19	Netherlands	7	10
Fiji	6	10	Norway	7	23
Guatemala	6	12	Poland	7	22
Honduras	6	11	Portugal	7	22
Jamaica	6	13	Romania	7	17
Malawi	6	8	Slovakia	7	8
Mauritius	6	13	Iceland	7	15
Nicaragua	6	14	Iran, Islamic Republic of	9	7
Panama	6	10	Libya	9	5
Paraguay	6	14	Syrian Arab Republic	9	5