

# The Demographic Timing of Global Political & Socioeconomic Change

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Aug. 13, 2019



**GLOBAL TRENDS 2025:**  
A TRANSFORMED WORLD



**GLOBAL TRENDS 2030:**

**ALTERNATIVE  
WORLDS**

*a publication of the National Intelligence Council*



Global Trends  
Series,

NIC



**GLOBAL TRENDS  
PARADOX OF  
PROGRESS**

*A publication of the National Intelligence Council*

Age-structural Time

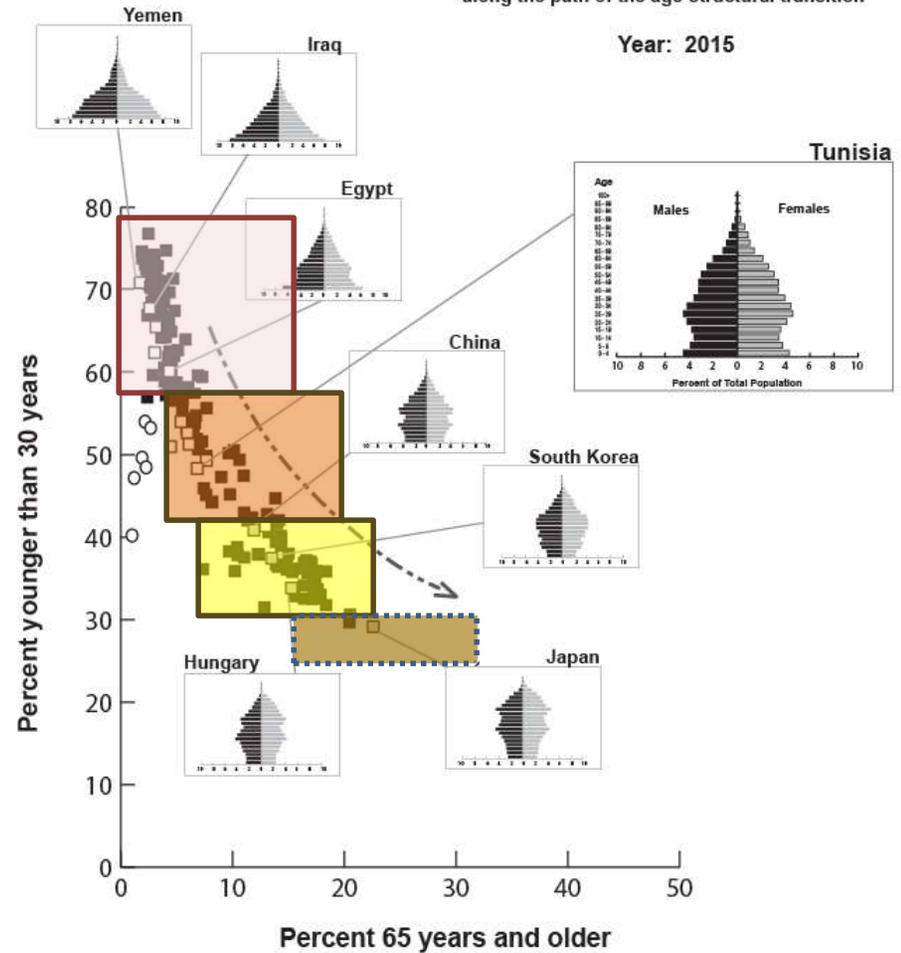
# The Age-structural Transition

## 2015

Data: UN Population Division, 2017 Rev.

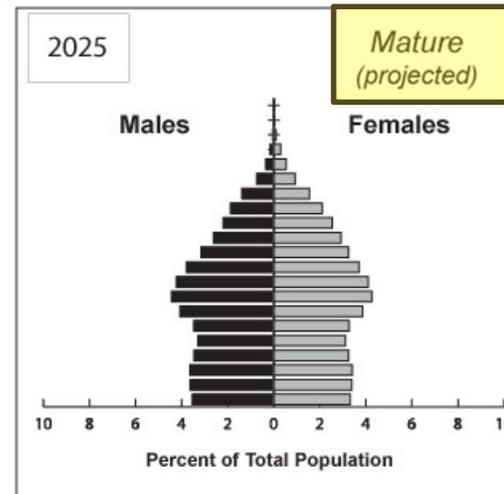
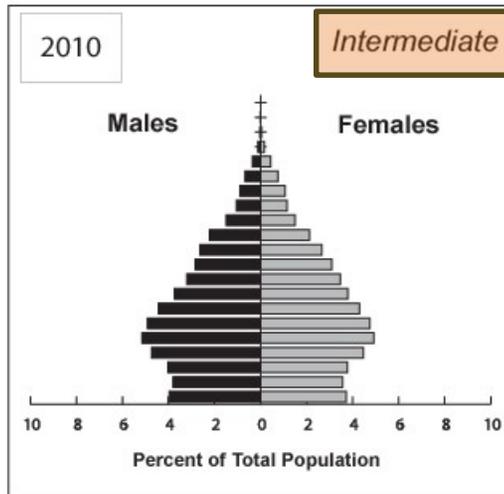
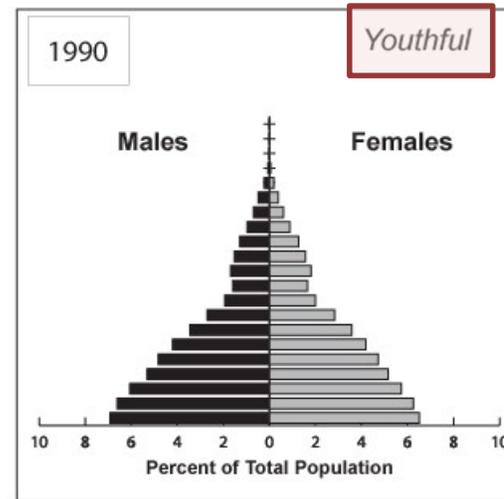
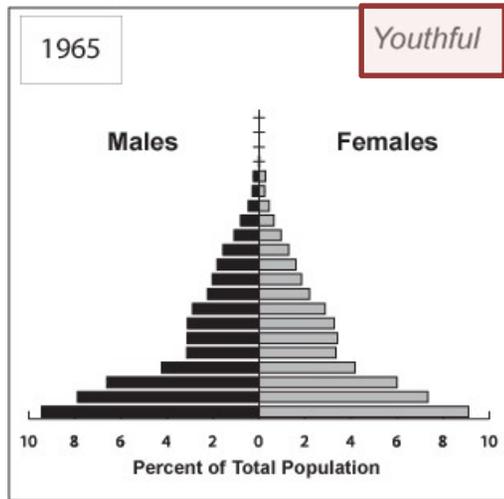
### Country-level Age Structures along the path of the age-structural transition

Year: 2015



Updated from Cincotta, 2012

# Tunisia



Age

100+  
95 - 99  
90 - 94  
85 - 89  
80 - 84  
75 - 79  
70 - 74  
65 - 69  
60 - 64  
55 - 59  
50 - 54  
45 - 49  
40 - 44  
35 - 39  
30 - 34  
25 - 29  
20 - 24  
15 - 19  
10 - 14  
5 - 9  
0 - 4

Age

100+  
95 - 99  
90 - 94  
85 - 89  
80 - 84  
75 - 79  
70 - 74  
65 - 69  
60 - 64  
55 - 59  
50 - 54  
45 - 49  
40 - 44  
35 - 39  
30 - 34  
25 - 29  
20 - 24  
15 - 19  
10 - 14  
5 - 9  
0 - 4

Median age, 17.1

Pop: 4.5 million

Median age, 20.9

Pop.: 8.2 million

Median age, 29.0

Pop.: 10.6 million

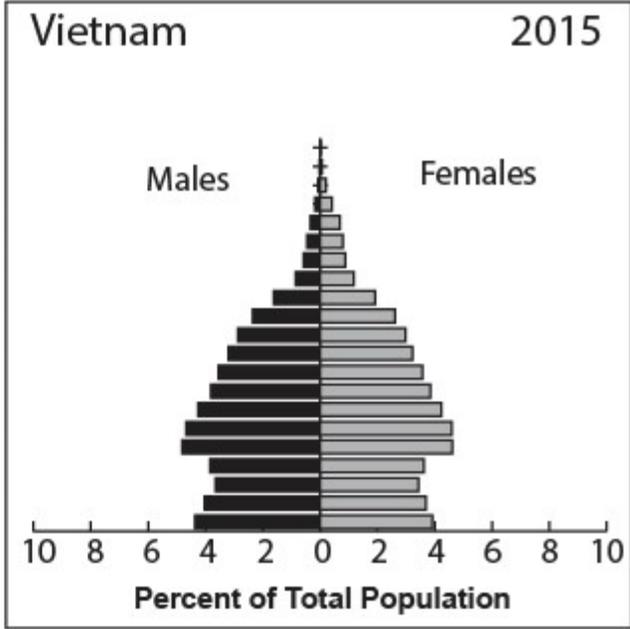
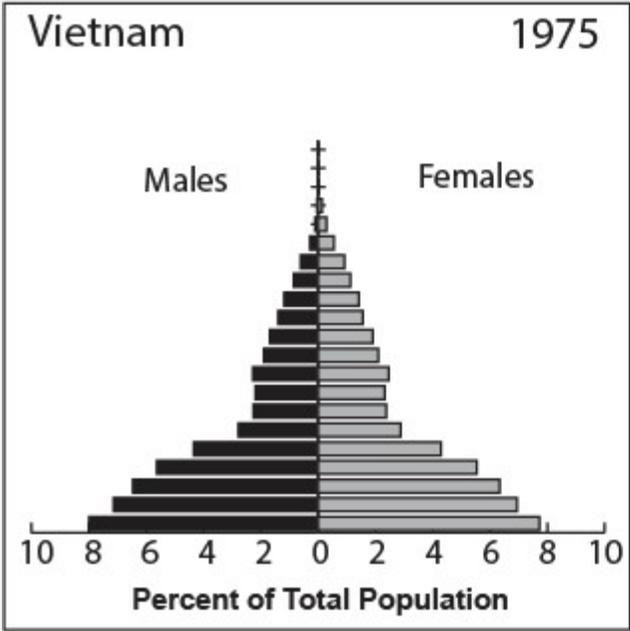
Median age, 35.6

Pop.: 12.3 million

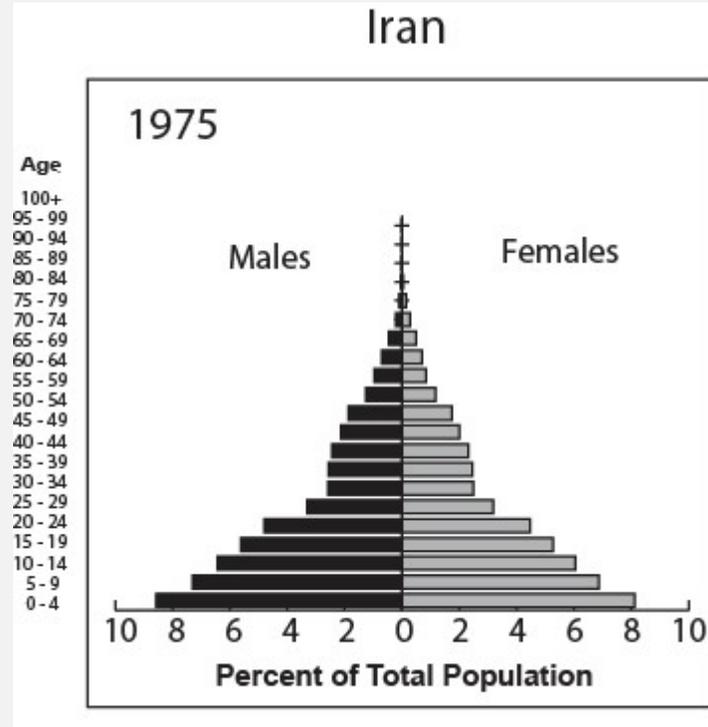
# Vietnam: Then and Now

YTH

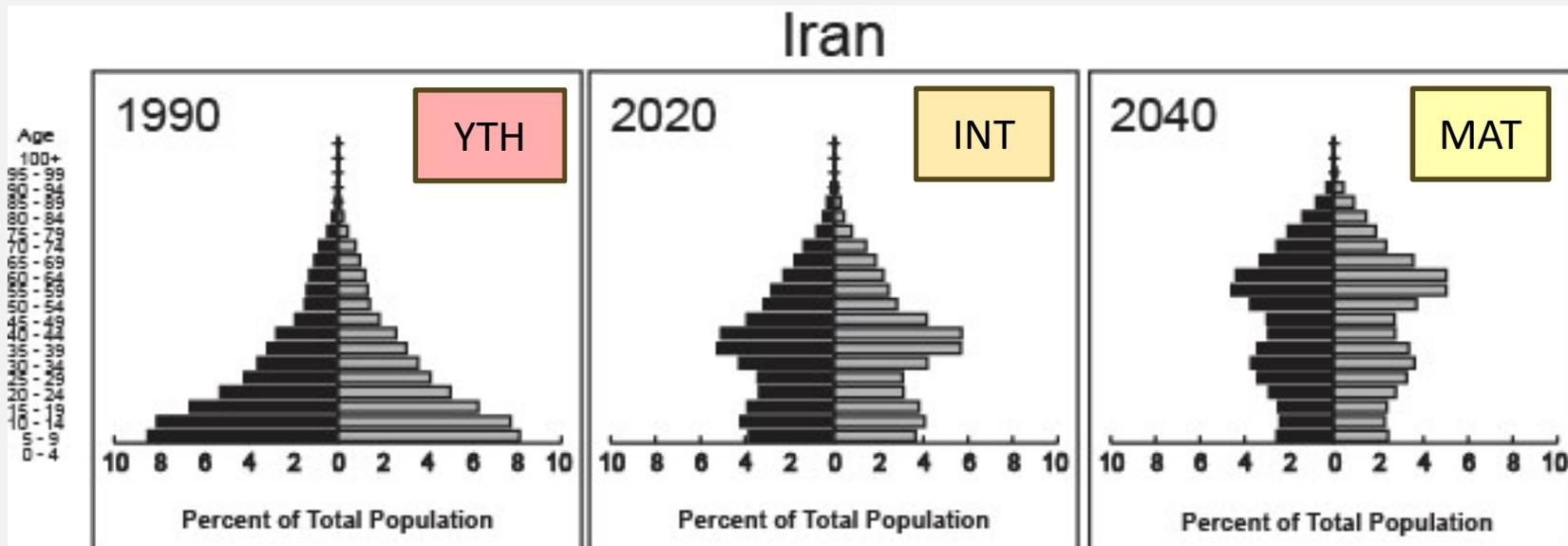
MAT



Example: Iran



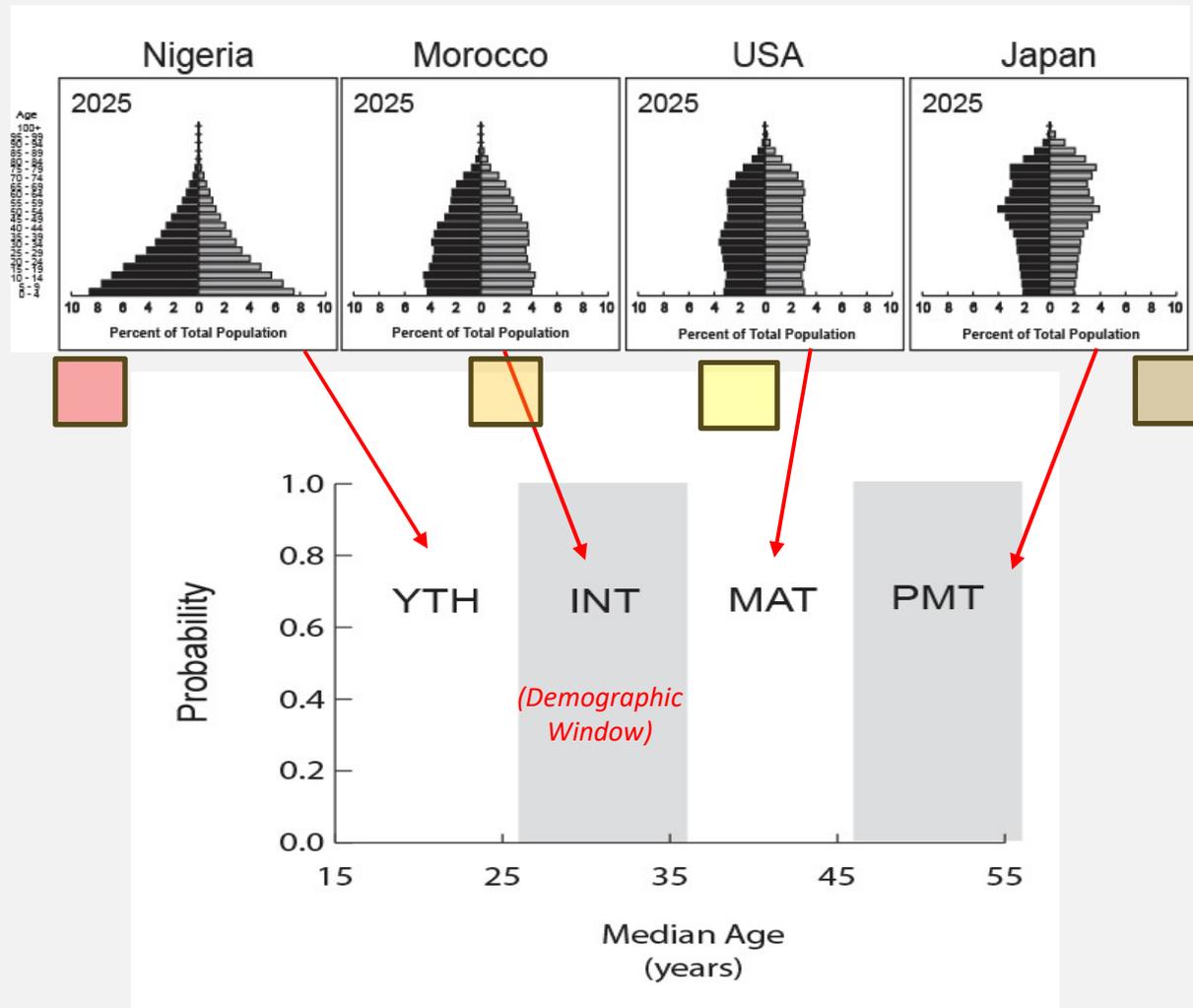
YTH



The Demographic  
*End of History?*

## Global Trends:

### Four Phases of the Age-structural Transition



Age-structural Timeline

Age-structural Transition 

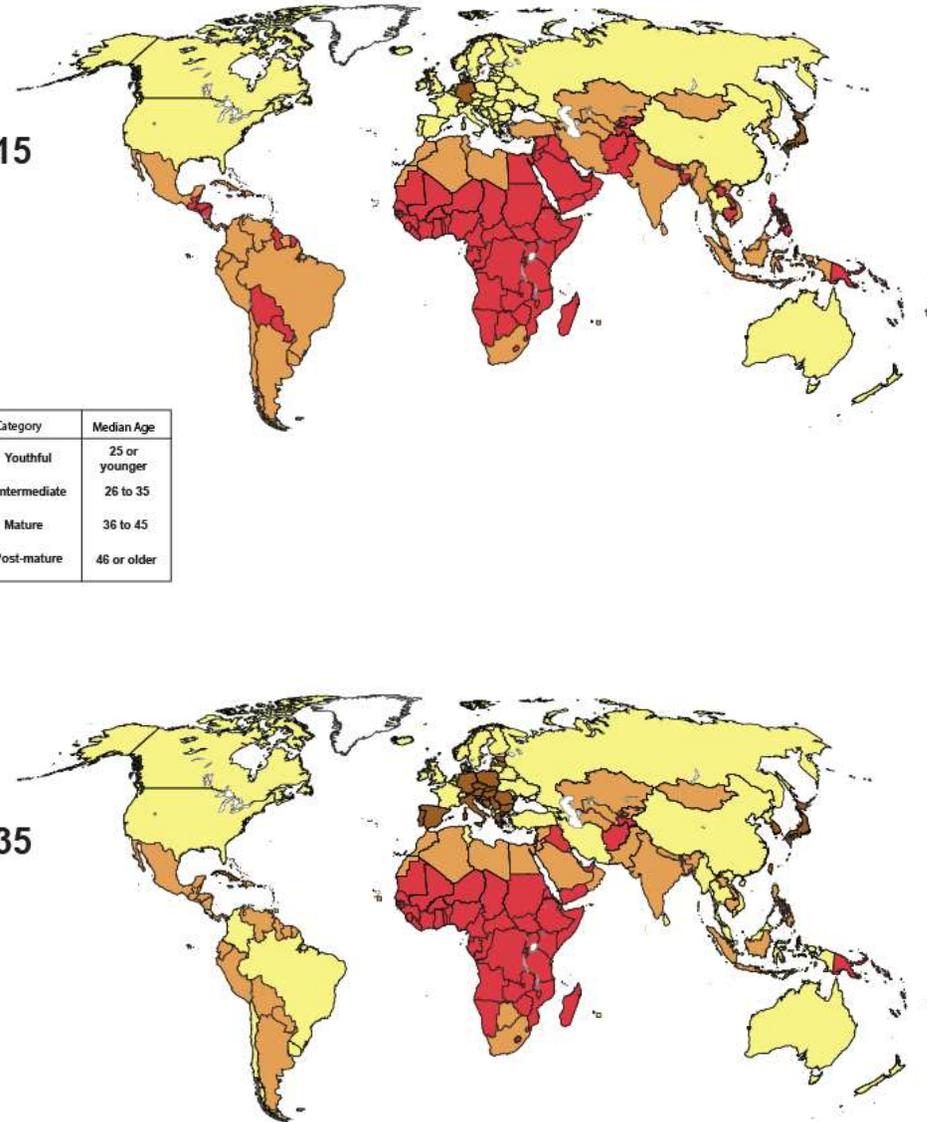
# Age-structural Change 2015 to 2035

UN Population Division  
estimates and projections

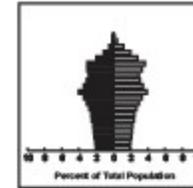
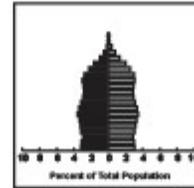
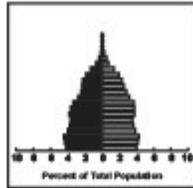
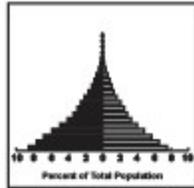
2015

Category	Median Age
■ Youthful	25 or younger
■ Intermediate	26 to 35
■ Mature	36 to 45
■ Post-mature	46 or older

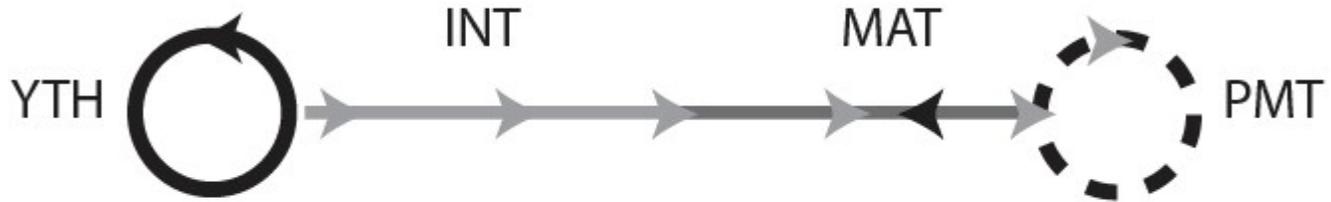
2035



Data: UN Population Div., 2017



*Demographic Window*



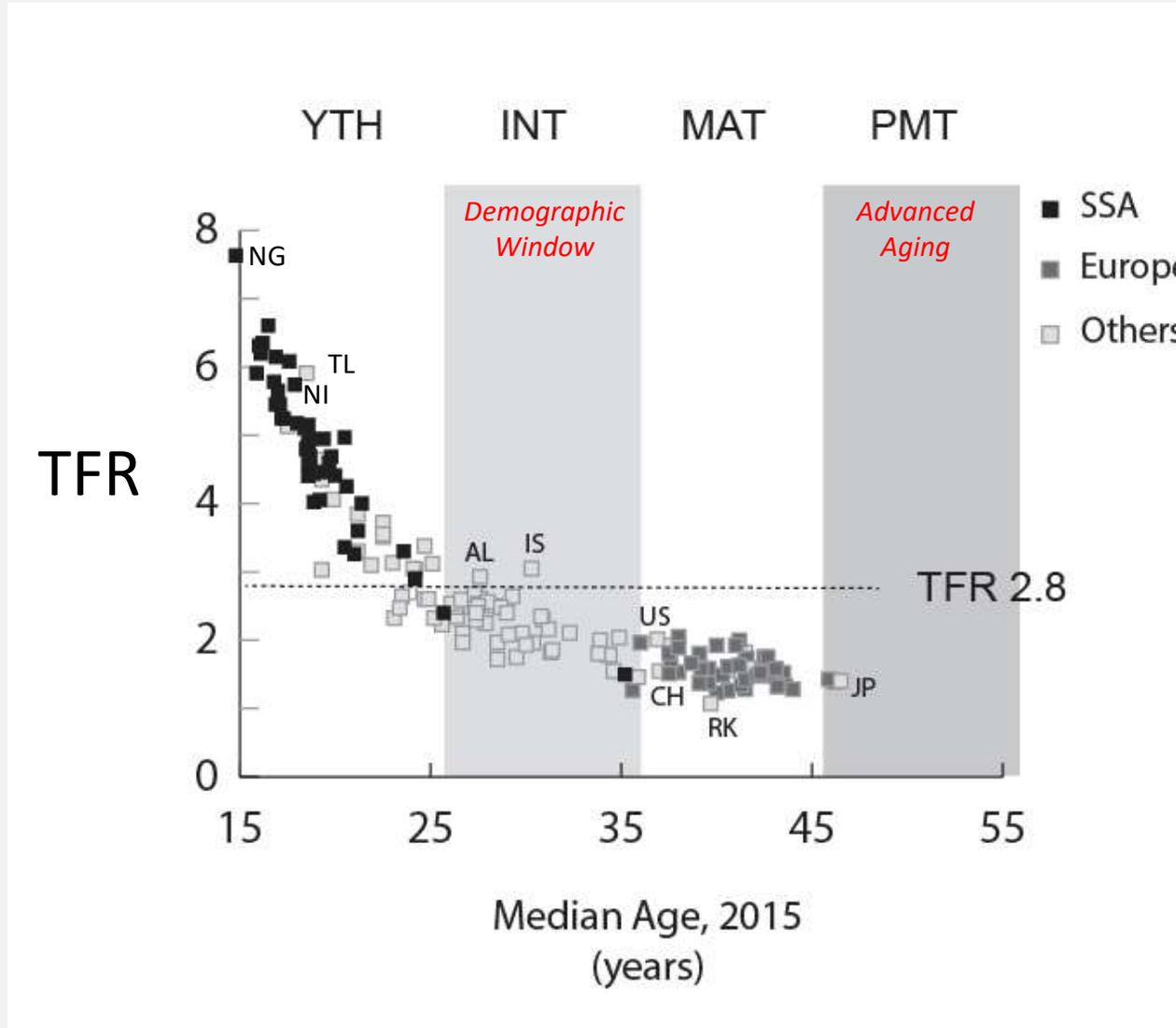
Negative

Positive

- ◀
- Infant mortality decline
- Positive age-structural momentum
- Labor migration (to MAT & PMT)
- Fertility increase \*\*
- Mid-age & senior mortality increase \*\*

- ▶
- Fertility decline
- Adult mortality decrease
- Negative age-structural momentum
- Labor migration (to YTH & INT) \*
- infant mortality increase \*\*

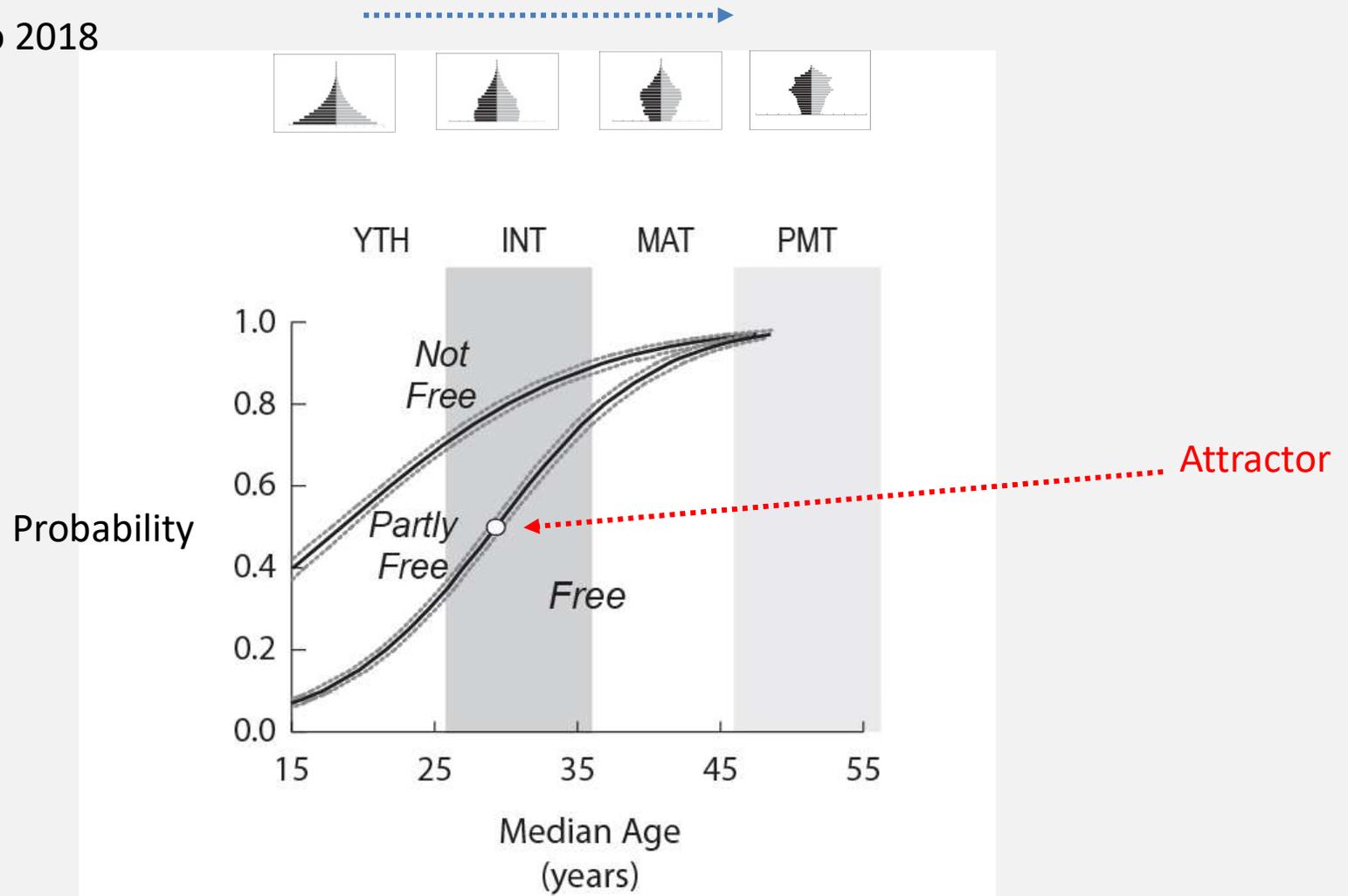
# Europe's movement toward post-maturity



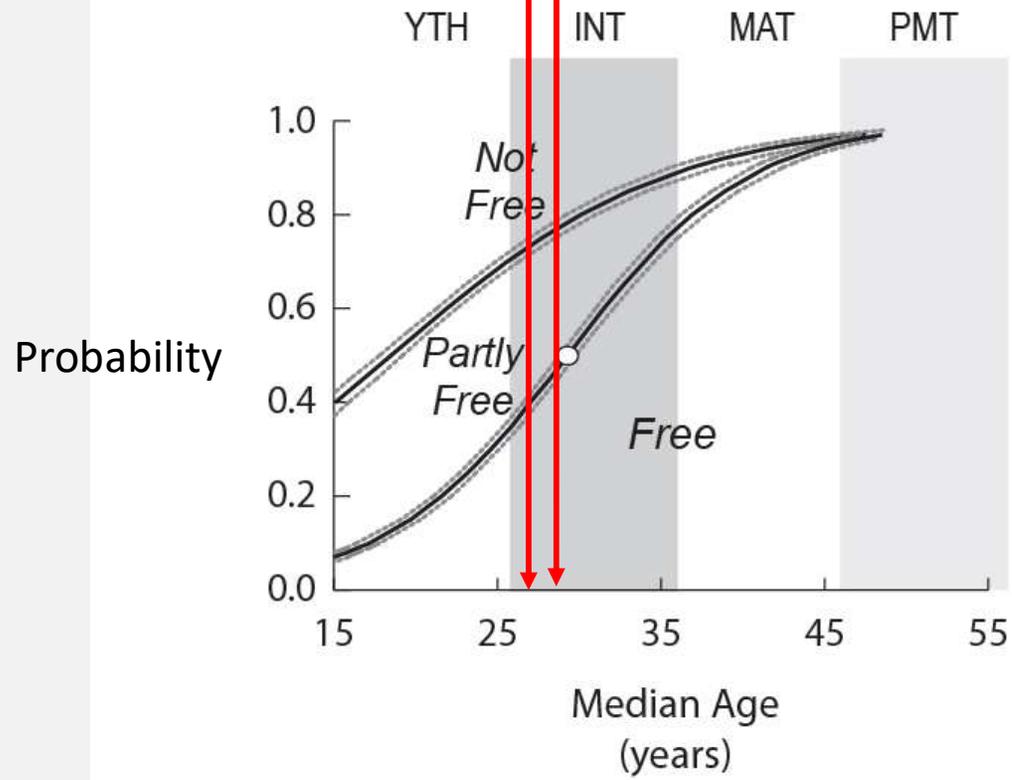
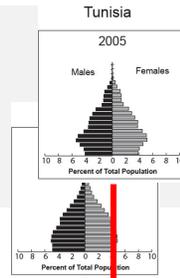
Development in  
Age-structural Time

# Political Liberalism in age-structural time

Data: 1975 to 2018

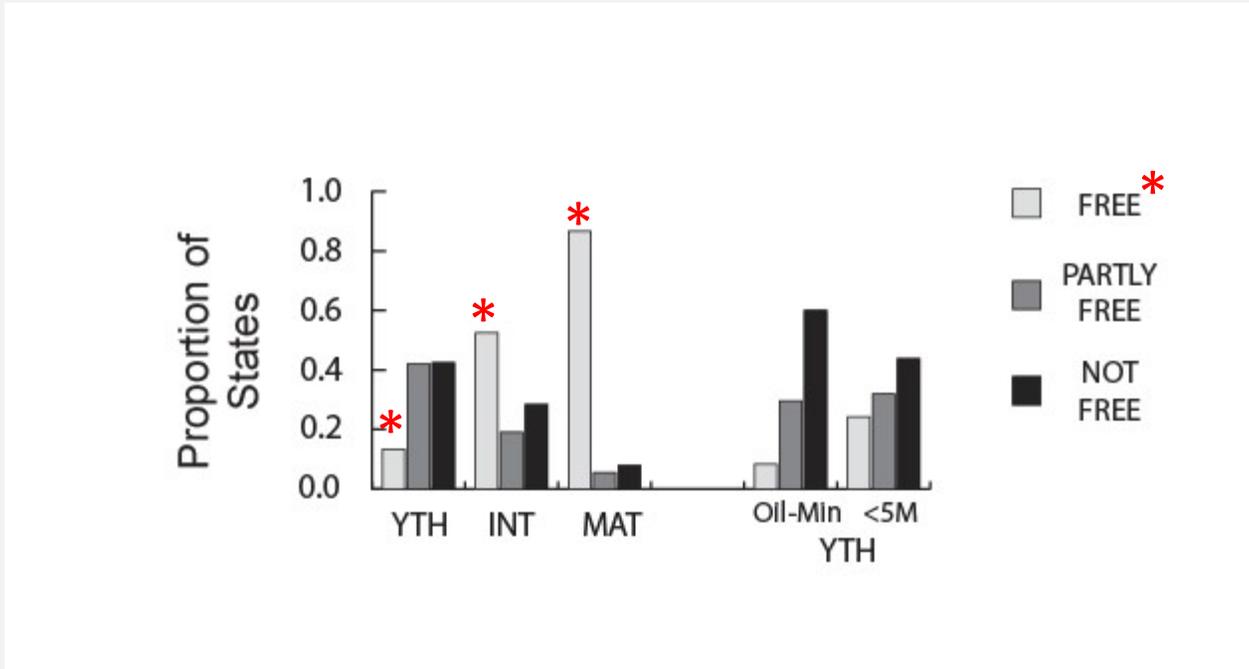


2005



# Trends in Political Liberalism

1975 to 2018

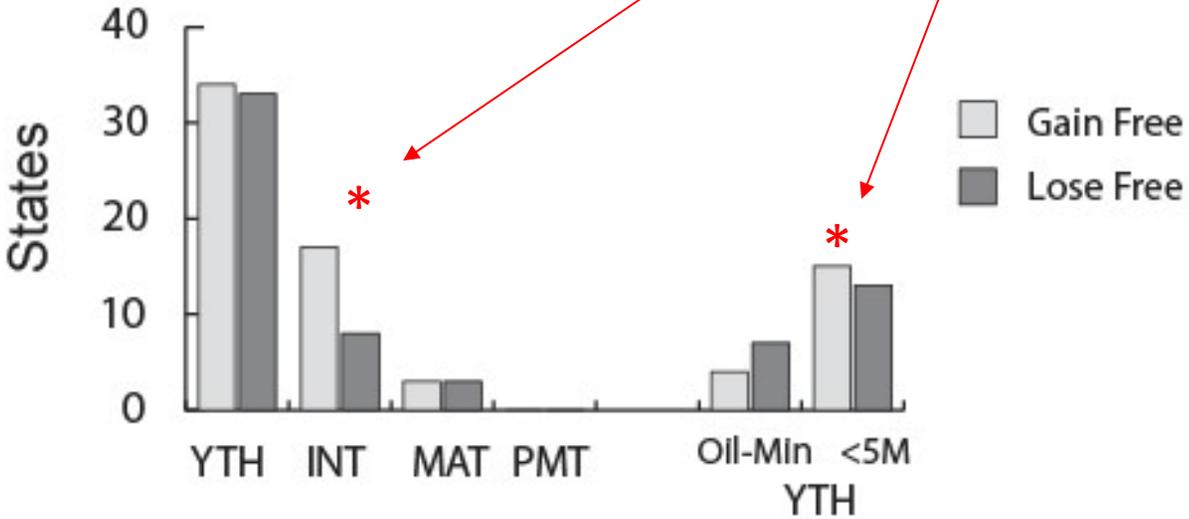


Data: Freedom House, 2019;  
UN Population Div., 2019

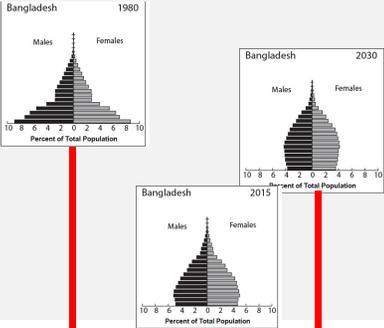
# Gains & Losses in Liberal Democracy (by age-structure)

1973 to 2018

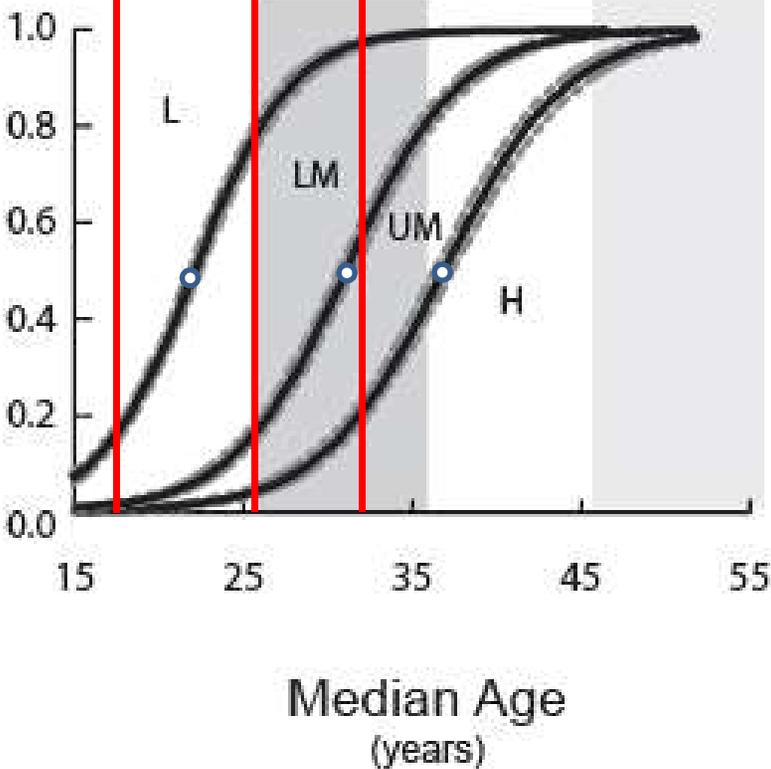
Gains exceed losses



# The Income Transition



Probability



## Beyond expectations:

### Account for the usual:

- States with small populations (<5 million)
- Oil & mineral rich states (rents >15% of GDP)

### Beware of those factors that defy expectations:

- • **Exclusive ideologies** (able to sustain a political monopoly);
- **Prolonged domestic conflict** or ethnic unrest;
- **Intrusive neighbors**;
- • **Disparate majority-minority rates** of demographic change.

Back to the  
Chronological Future

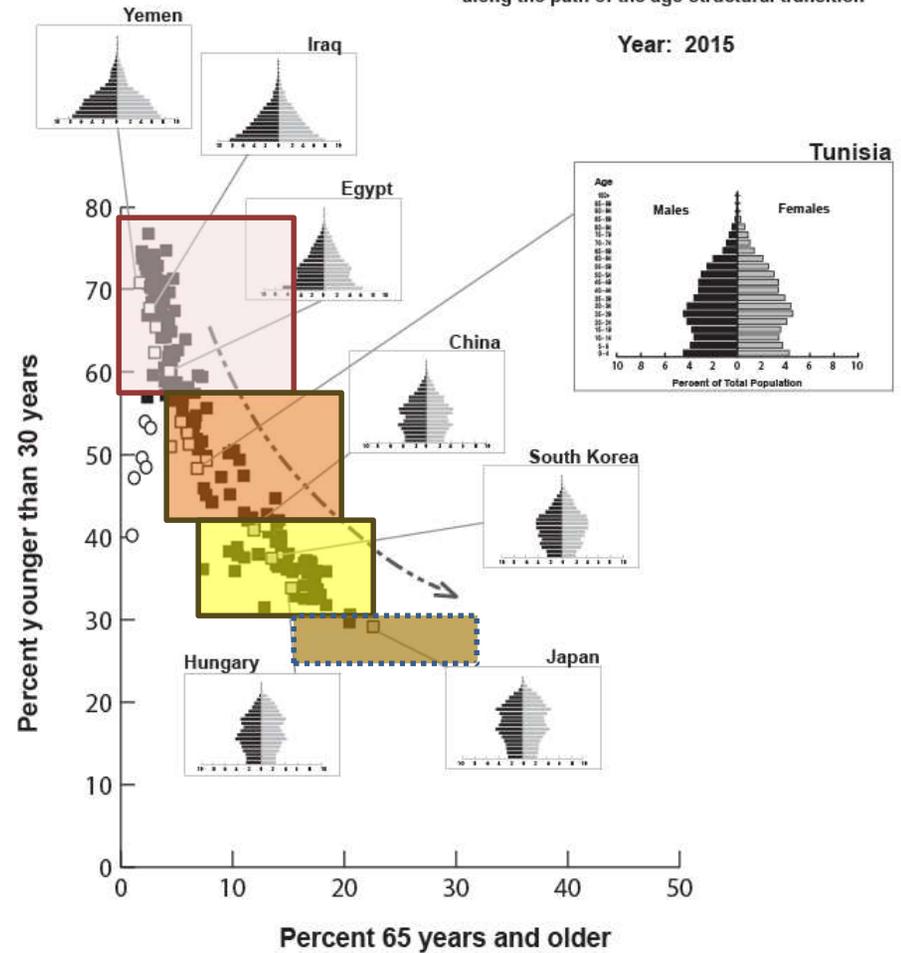
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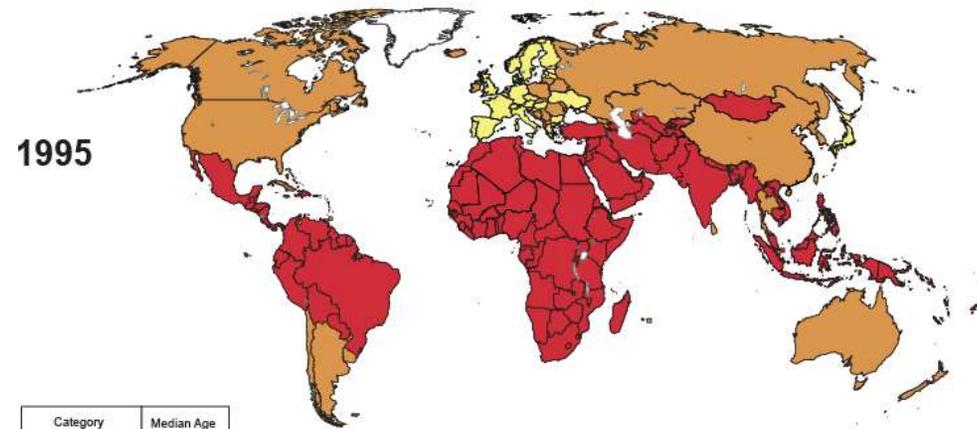
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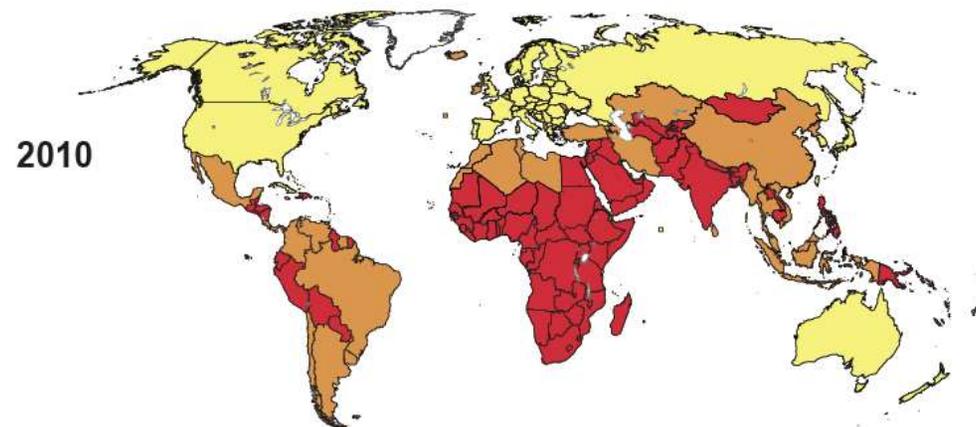


Updated from Cincotta, 2012

# Age-structural Change 1995 to 2010

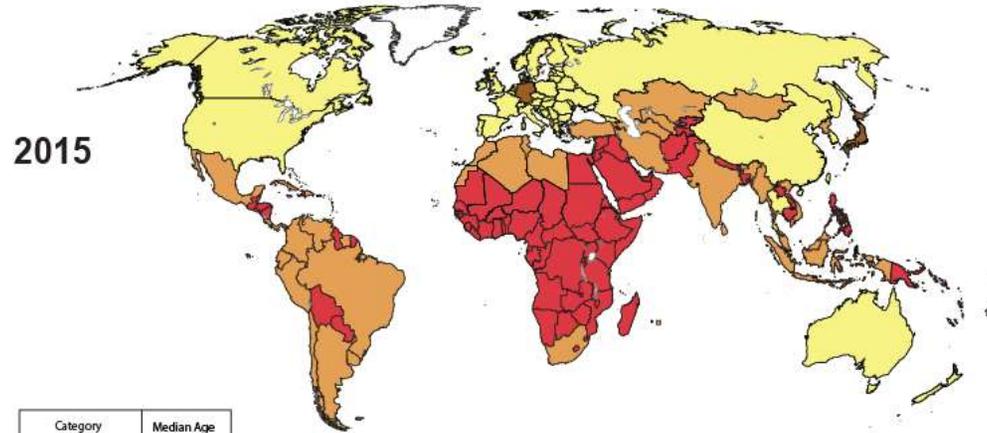


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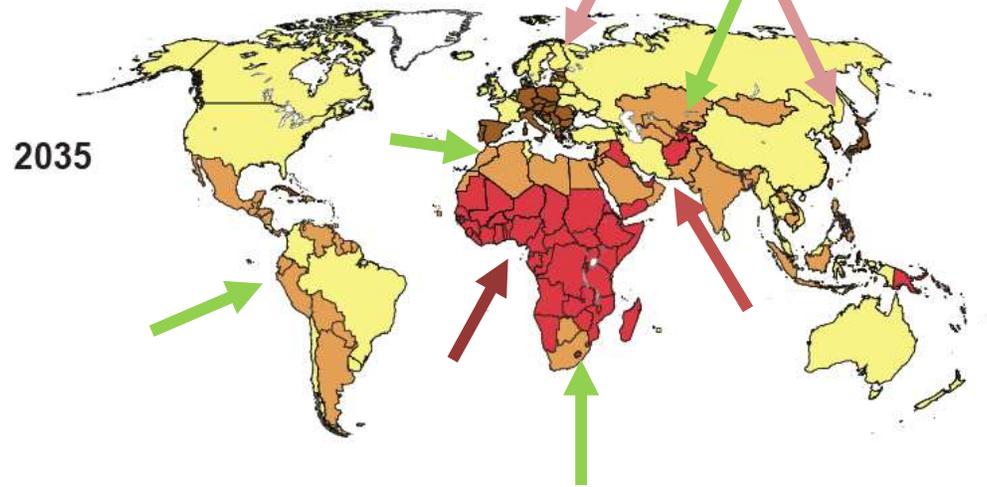


Data: UN Population Div., 2017

# Age-structural Change 2015 to 2035



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Data: UN Population Div., 2017

**END**

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