

Policy Report 2017-01

International Comparison of Social Cohesion



Haesik Jung and Seonga Kim

International Comparison of Social Cohesion

Haesik Jung, Associate Research Fellow

© 2017

Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs

All rights reserved. No Part of this book may
be reproduced in any form without permission
in writing from the publisher

Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs
Building D, 370 Sicheong-daero, Sejong city
30147 KOREA

<http://www.kihasa.re.kr>

ISBN: 978-89-6827-424-4 93330

Contents

I. Introduction	1
1. Research Background	3
2. Research Purpose	5
II. Literature Review	7
1. Review of the Existing Indices	9
2. Review of Methodologies	13
III. Developing a System of Indicators of Social Cohesion	15
1. Overview	17
2. Defining the Dimensions of Social Cohesion	18
3. Identifying and Processing Indicators	22
4. Defining Weights	24
IV. Current Level of Social Cohesion in Korea	29
1. Measuring the Social Cohesion Index (SCI)	31
2. International Comparison of Social Cohesion	32
3. Social Cohesion in Korea	36



V. Conclusion41

Bibliography47

Appendices49

List of Tables

〈Table 2-1〉 Systems of Indicators of Social Cohesion Found in the Literature	11
〈Table 2-2〉 Standardization and Weights of Social Cohesion Indicators ...	14
〈Table 3-1〉 Survey Schedule	18
〈Table 3-2〉 Conceptual Modification of the Dimensions of Social Cohesion	20
〈Table 3-3〉 Final List of Indicators by Dimension	23
〈Table 3-4〉 Weights Assigned to Individual Indicators by Dimension (by 34 Experts)	27
〈Table 4-1〉 Standardization of Indicators	31
〈Table 4-2〉 Changes in Social Cohesion Index Scores for Selected Countries	34
〈Table 4-3〉 Countries with Fluctuations in SCI Scores from 1995 to 2015	36
〈Table 4-4〉 Korea's SCI Rankings and Scores	38

List of Figures

[Figure 3-1] Index Development Process	17
[Figure 3-2] Three Elements of Social Cohesion (OECD, 2011)	19
[Figure 4-1] Changes in the Level of Korea's Social Cohesion Over Time	39

I

Introduction

1. Research Background
2. Research Purpose

1. Research Background

- There is growing interest in social cohesion in South Korea, for a number of reasons.
 - The more predictable, but important, reasons include the rising socioeconomic polarization due to the deterioration of the income-distributing structure, the increasing chances of people becoming poor due to the growing instability of the employment structure, and the consequent increase in the objective and perceived threats to individuals' wellbeing (Kang et al., 2012, p. 31).
 - On the other hand, although Koreans have traditionally been more in support of equality of rights and opportunities than of equality of outcomes (Seok et al., 2005, p. 210), the rising social inequality is also increasingly changing Koreans' perspective on egalitarianism, raising the demand for greater social cohesion and justice.
- Accordingly, it has become necessary to assess the current state of social cohesion in Korea.

4 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

- Such assessment is essential to identifying policy measures that could promote social cohesion.
- The studies that have already been conducted on the development of social cohesion indices in Korea all confirm that Korea lags behind the majority of other member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in terms of social cohesion (Roh et al., 2009; Kang et al., 2012; Lee et al., 2014; and Cho et al., 2015).
- The very definition and conceptualization of social cohesion reflects the particular social and political circumstances of the given society (Jung, 2014, p. 7). In identifying indicators of social cohesion in Korea and determining their relative weights, researchers should therefore take into account the social circumstances facing Korea.
- Of the various dimensions of social cohesion, social mobility receives the most attention from Koreans, most likely because they fear that social mobility is already on the decline in Korea.
- Despite the necessity of recognizing the diverse dimensions and their relative weights of people's perception of social cohesion, most studies on social cohesion in Korea assign the equal weights to all

dimensions.

- By ignoring the particularities of Korean social conditions in identifying and deciding their indicators of social cohesion, the authors of these studies failed to produce widely accepted conclusions, notwithstanding the objectivity of their findings.
- The Korean public is interested in how Korean society fares against other comparable societies in terms of social cohesion. This suggests the existence of important subjective indicators that could be used to measure and understand social cohesion.
- Researchers thus tend to vacillate between objectivity and subjectivity in determining the indicators of social reality.
- It should be noted, however, that few researchers have questioned and challenged the neglect of subjectivity in studies that assess the reality of Korean society.

2. Research Purpose

- With social cohesion as a social value having been a major topic of interest among the Korean public for over a decade, it is now time to identify and develop a system of indicators that reflect people's perceptions and social

conditions, and use these indicators to assess the progress Korea has made in terms of social cohesion.

- The changing social conditions are also changing the relative weights of the different indicators or dimensions of social cohesion. In deciding the indicators and their respective weights, it is therefore necessary to develop a comprehensive index reflective of the changing social conditions. ¹⁾
- We sought to design a system of indicators that allows evaluators to decide, based on their subjective perceptions, the indicators and their relative weights.
- Such a system of indicators is expected to enable researchers to trace and observe the changes in social cohesion as they are now occurring in Korea from a diachronic perspective and thereby better identify the vulnerabilities of Korean society.

1) The lay public, however, has difficulty understanding the comprehensive system of indicators of social cohesion. We thus developed our system of indicators based on a survey of experts.

II

Literature Review

1. Review of the Existing Indices
2. Review of Methodologies

1. Review of the Existing Indices

- Existing studies on the development of indices of social cohesion develop their own systems of indicators after giving their own definitions of social cohesion.
- Roh et al. (2009) offer a system consisting of six dimensions or indicators, i.e., income, employment, finance, health, home ownership, and family.
- Kang et al. (2012) defines social cohesion as a state characterized by strong social bonds, and views social stability and equity as the two key conditions of such a state.
- Cho et al. (2015) posits three main dimensions of social cohesion, i.e., social inclusion, social capital, and institutional infrastructure. Social inclusion consists of equality of opportunities, equity, and safety; social capital, of tolerance, trust, and participation; and institutional infrastructure, of freedom, rule of law, government capabilities, social welfare, and global commitment.
- Lee et al. (2014) locate the sources of social conflicts in social polarization, economic polarization, and value

polarization, and holds that a society's capability to achieve cohesion depends on its systemic, lifeworld, and normative capabilities.

- Table 2-1 summarizes the dimensions and indicators used by these studies.
- None of these studies clearly defines the indicators' characteristics and roles in measuring social cohesion.
- The authors generally relates the states (ends) of social cohesion with the abundance of social capital, such as mutual trust and networks, to the conditions (means) of social cohesion with the lack of social stability and social inclusion (in terms of poverty, inequality, etc.).
 - The poverty rate represents livelihood security; the income distribution rate, equity; and the rate of participation in social insurances, social exclusion.
 - Roh et al. (2009) does not pay much attention to the actual state of social cohesion, but merely focuses on how policy measures could be used to reduce social exclusion and promote social stability and equity.
 - Kang et al. (2012), Cho et al. (2015), and Lee et al. (2014), on the other hand, explicitly address actual states of social cohesion, such as increases in social trust (or mistrust) and social participation.

- Even the studies that address the conditions or states of social cohesion do not fully explain the causal relationship involved in such conditions or states.
 - Instead, these studies view the state of social cohesion as consisting of individual members' perception and behavior, and the conditions of social cohesion as arising from the social and structural environment.

〈Table 2-1〉 Systems of Indicators of Social Cohesion Found in the Literature

Study	Dimension	Indicators
Roh et al. (2009)	Income	Poverty rate, income distribution rate, working poor rate
	Employment	Unemployment rate, proportion of non-regular workers, gender wage gap, labor strike rate
	Finance	Consumer price rate, savings rate, interest rate
	Health	Infant mortality rate, life expectancy (women and men), number of beds per 1,000 people, medical spending ratio
	Home ownership	Housing cost ratio, housing price index, ratio of housing price to income, ratio of housing price to rent
	Family	Average number of household members, women employment rate, suicide rate, divorce rate, marriage rate, birth rate, school enrollment rate

12 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

Study	Dimension		Indicators
Kang et al. (2012)	State	Social bonds	Sense of solidarity, trust in strangers and public organizations, satisfaction with quality of life, social participation
	Conditions	Social stability	GDP per capita, population increase rate, life expectancy, dependent population rate, suicide rate, subjective state of health, CO2 emissions
		Social equity	Poverty rate, income inequality, employment rate, unemployment rate, job security, public healthcare spending as a share of GDP, social spending as a share of GDP
Cho et al. (2014)	Social inclusion	Equality of opportunities	Gender employment gap, gender wage gap, public education spending ratio
Cho et al. (2015)	Social inclusion	Equity	Gini coefficient, secondary school enrollment rate, cost of supporting seniors, elderly care burden, Internet use rate, telecommunication service subscription rate
		Safety	Unemployment rate, proportion of non-regular workers, road traffic death rate, crime rate, suicide rate, subjective sense of safety
	Social capital	Tolerance	Tolerance of strangers and other cultures
		Trust	Trust in strangers, public organizations, and foreigners
		Participation	Social participation, political participation, charity
	Institutional infrastructure	Freedoms	Economic and political freedoms, freedom of the press
		Legal stability	Rule of law, corruption perception index
		Government competency	Government efficacy, quality of bureaucratic apparatus
		Social welfare	Proportion of spending on public pensions, proportion of spending on welfare
		Global presence	Contribution to global public goods, ODA ratio, rate of participation in international environmental treaties

Study	Dimension		Indicators
Lee et al. (2014)	Sources of conflict (polarization)	Economic	Gini coefficient
		Social	Mistrust rate
		Value	Non-mixed ratio (Englehart's materialism-vs.-post-materialism scale)
	Capabilities for social cohesion	Systemic	Spending on public education, higher education completion rate, public social spending
		Lifeworld	Freedom of the press, gender inequality index, voting rate, democracy
		Norms	Institutional transparency

2. Review of Methodologies

- As for normalization, authors of previous studies used either Z-score standardization or min-max normalization.
- The authors replaced missing values with observed values of adjacent years, means of other points of time, or estimates obtained from linear and step functions.
- Bertelsmann Stiftung's social cohesion index overcomes the missing value problem with the full information maximum likelihood (FIML) method.
- Latin America Quarterly's social cohesion index involves ranking the individual indicators based on scores (out of 100) and applying the equal weights to all indicators.

14 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

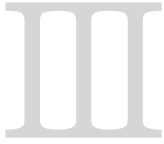
〈Table 2-2〉 Standardization and Weights of Social Cohesion Indicators

Study	Treatment of missing values	Standardization	Weights
Roh et al. (2009)	N/A	Z-score	Equal weights
Kang et al. (2012)	Observed values of adjacent years or means of other points in time	Min-max normalization	Equal weights
Cho et al. (2015)	Linear or step function estimates	Modified maximum-minimum value	Equal weights
Lee et al. (2014)	Missing values omitted	Min-max normalization	Modified equal weights
Bertelsmann Stiftung (2013)	FIML	N/A	Equal weights
Latin America Quarterly (2015)	N/A	Rankings converted into scores out of 100	Equal weights

III

Developing a System of Indicators of Social Cohesion

1. Overview
2. Defining the Dimensions of Social Cohesion
3. Identifying and Processing Indicators
4. Defining Weights



Developing a System of Indicators of Social Cohesion

1. Overview

- An index of social cohesion should consist of indicators that well represent the concept of social cohesion. Such an index should be developed based on a valid method in a transparent and objective manner.
- In this study, we adopt the index development process recommended by the OECD and the European Commission.

[Figure 3-1] Index Development Process

[Theoretical framework] → [Data Selection] → [Imputation of missing data]
→ [Multivariate analysis] → [Normalization] → [Weighting and aggregation]
→ [Robustness and sensitivity] → [Back to real data]
→ [Links to other variables] → [Presentation and Visualization]

Source: OECD and EU JRC (2008). pp. 15-16.

- In this study, we conducted Delphi surveys of experts to identify the dimensions and indicators of social cohesion in Korea and their relative importance or weights.
- A total of three surveys were conducted. The first asked experts to propose dimensions and indicators of social cohesion, while the second involved determining those dimensions and indicators. The third survey concerned

identifying the relative weights of the selected indicators.

- However, a number of experts left the study part way through. In total, 52 experts completed all three surveys.

〈Table 3-1〉 Survey Schedule

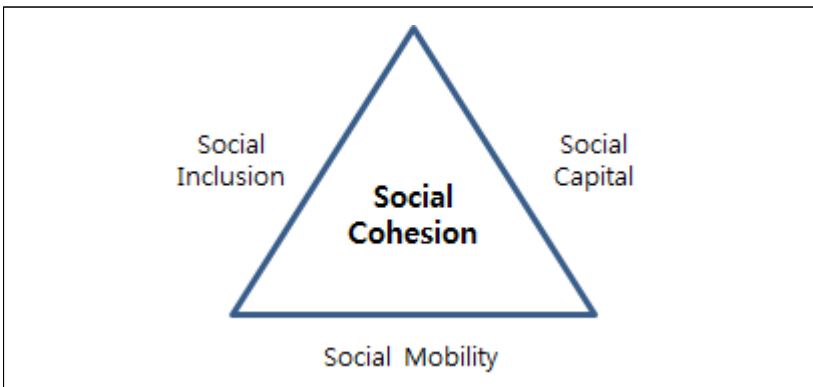
No.	Goal	Method	Date
1	Propose dimensions and indicators of social cohesion	Delphi survey	Mid-June
2	Determine dimensions and indicators	Delphi survey	Early July
3	Identify relative importance or weights of dimensions and indicators	AHP	Late July

2. Defining the Dimensions of Social Cohesion

- One main reason for the absence of a universal consensus on the definition of social cohesion is the fact that different nations and societies have dealt with different issues using different social systems (Jung, 2014, p. 7).
- By conducting a literature review, we identified the three main dimensions of social cohesion, as the concept is understood in Korea, i.e., social inclusion, social capital, and social mobility.
- Such factors of social exclusion as poverty and inequality are most often pointed out as obstacles to social cohesion in Korea.

- Social capital, a major pillar and precondition of social cohesion, also remains underdeveloped in Korea.
- Another dimension of social cohesion that is particularly emphasized in Korea is social mobility.
 - There is growing concern in Korea that social mobility is now declining, and it is gaining increasing policy attention as an essential part of social cohesion.
 - Considering social mobility in addition to social exclusion and social capital also fits the OECD (2011)'s perspective on international development.

[Figure 3-2] Three Elements of Social Cohesion (OECD, 2011)



Source: OECD (2011). p. 54.

- An additional dimension we might consider is how well the governance structure that coordinates social relations, in the Korean context, functions as a measure of institutional

infrastructure (Lee et al., 2014; Jung and Ko, 2014; Jung, 2014; and Cho et al., 2015).

- Social inclusion, social mobility, and governance can be understood as constituting the institutional infrastructure for social cohesion.
- We thus propose social inclusion, social capital, social mobility, and social conflict (governance) as the four dimensions of social cohesion in Korea.
- The dimensions and concept of social cohesion we proposed and those determined based on the Delphi expert surveys are summarized in Table 3-2.
- The initial dimensions we proposed were modified in consideration of the surveyed experts’ suggestions.

〈Table 3-2〉 Conceptual Modification of the Dimensions of Social Cohesion

Initial (proposed by the authors)	Modified	Final
Social inclusion		
The extents to which: members of society exercise their civil rights; individuals enjoy their rights on the job market and under diverse social institutions; and individuals enter into and sustain diverse social relations with one another (Jung et al., 2014, pp. 113-114).	The capability of institutions to allow members of society to realize and exercise their rights via diverse social institutions of politics, education, and the economy and share in the resources necessary to maintain and improve their quality of life.	The capability of institutions to allow members of society to realize their rights via social institutions and share in the resources necessary to improve their quality of life.

Initial (proposed by the authors)	Modified	Final
Social capital		
Includes not only trust and networks, which are commonly accepted as the basic elements of social capital, but also national and local identities and other cohesion-serving norms and values, such as altruism and tolerance (Jung et al., 2014, pp. 115-116).	The capability of citizenry that consists of subjective perceptions, such as trust in others and social institutions, understanding and tolerance, and a sense of belonging, as well as objective behavior, such as altruistic acts and participation in voting.	The capability of citizenry expressed as the trust that members of society have in one another and social institutions, the degrees of their understanding and tolerance for one another, and participation.
Social mobility		
The objective and or perceived degree to which individuals' stations may change within society, with the potential to mitigate economic inequality, promote social justice, and enhance the equity of resource allocation (Yeo and Jung et al., 2015, pp. 13-14).	The capability of institutions that can be measured in terms of the conditions under and ease with which individuals move across occupations and/or income quantiles.	
Social conflict	Social conflict and governance	Social conflict and governance
The establishment of a governance structure capable of responding to diverse opinions in society and resolving conflicts peacefully (Kim et al., 2014, p. 36). Also considered are the types and levels of social conflicts and the efficiency of conflict governance.	The level of conflicts that can be measured as differences in social conditions and perceptions, and the capabilities of citizenry and institutions to manage such conflicts.	The level of conflicts observed in social conditions and perceptions, and the capabilities of citizenry and institutions to manage such conflicts.

3. Identifying and Processing Indicators

- As with the defining of the dimensions of social cohesion, we again first proposed indicators that could be used to measure social cohesion.
- We proposed 39 indicators of social cohesion, based on major international sets of social cohesion indicators, to the experts participating in the first Delphi survey, and asked which of the indicators were appropriate as measures of social cohesion, and how these indicators should be assigned to the given dimensions.
- In the second Delphi survey, the indicators that the experts had identified as “necessary” with greater frequency and the indicators proposed by the experts themselves were assessed and prioritized with respect to each dimension.
 - The experts were asked to assign these indicators to proper dimensions.
- We finally selected five indicators for each dimension based on the frequencies of the indicators’ appearances in each dimension.

(Table 3-3) Final List of Indicators by Dimension

Dimension	Social inclusion	Social capital	Social mobility	Social conflict and governance
Final indicators	- Relative poverty rate - Gender gap - Job security for non-regular workers - Proportion of involuntary temporary workers - Social spending on seniors as a share of GDP	- Civil liberties - General trust - Tolerance - Civic participation - Trust in institutions	- Spending on public education - Active labor market policy (ALMP) spending as a share of GDP - Deciles distribution ratio - Educational attainment rate - School dropout rate	- Suicide rate - Frequency of labor-management disputes¹⁾ - Democracy index - Wage gap between regular and non-regular workers²⁾ - Wage share

Notes: 1) The frequency of labor-management disputes was omitted from the final index because it was perceived to be less than appropriate as an indicator of social cohesion.

2) The wage gap between regular and non-regular workers was replaced with the incidence of low pay during the data-gathering process.

- In developing an index of social cohesion, it is crucial to minimize missing values and ensure a continuous time-series over a relatively long span of time.
- Certain sources of income statistics and data may inevitably carry missing values concerning certain years, because the surveys conducted to gather such data were performed in modular forms.
- This study examines data from five specific years, i.e., 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, and 2015, which is the most recent year for which data are available.

- To estimate the missing values, however, we analyzed all data spanning the 21 years from 1995 to 2015.
- Any missing values that remained despite our efforts were replaced according to the following rules:
 - First, the observed values from adjacent years were used.
 - Second, possible values were estimated using either a step or linear function.
 - Third, if the missing values spanned a considerable and extended period of time, the means of the observed values in the subsequent years were used.

4. Defining Weights

- In an effort to determine the relative importance or weights of the dimensions and indicators making up social cohesion, we conducted an analytic hierarchy process (AHP) analysis.
 - Experts were again surveyed, this time online, with respect to the relative importance they accorded to the different dimensions and indicators of social cohesion. The experts were asked to compare and choose the most important indicator from each pair of indicators through a process that constituted an individual factor

evaluation.

- After the online survey, we sought to measure the logical consistency in the experts' selections of indicators in the form of a consistency index (CI). Indicators garnering CI scores of less than 0.1 were omitted from the list of indicators whose relative importance was to be measured.
- We determined the final priority of each factor or indicator by calculating the specific values of the entire matrix of the indicator pairs that were compared by 34 experts in total.
- The experts on social policy in Korea ranked the dimensions of social cohesion in descending order of importance as follows: social inclusion (0.338), social mobility (0.283), social conflict and governance (0.199), and social capital (0.181).
- The indicators were then ranked in descending order of importance as follows: relative poverty rate (0.289), job security for non-regular workers (0.244), and spending on public education (0.256).
- Table 3-4 compares the AHP-assigned weights and numerical weights of the dimensions and indicators of social cohesion.

- By comparing these two types of weights, we sought to identify the particular vulnerabilities of Korean society, as indicated by the experts.
- The numerical weights were calculated using a principal component analysis (PCA) based on the commonalities of the indicators in each dimension.
 - The base year used in our PCA was 2010, and the principal components for each dimension are those with Eigen values of one or greater.
- Although the numerical weight of the relative poverty rate, obtained in comparison with other countries as a representative measure of social inclusion, was 0.171, the Korean experts assigned a significantly larger weight of .289 to this particular indicator.
 - By contrast, the experts assigned a weight of 0.133 to social spending on seniors against the indicator's numerical weight of 0.227.

(Table 3-4) Weights Assigned to Individual Indicators by Dimension (by 34 Experts)

Dimension	Dimension weight	Indicator	Function	Numerical weight		AHP weight		AHP ranking
				Component 1	Component 2	AHP		
						Version 1	Version 2	
Social inclusion	.338	Relative poverty rate	-	.171		.289	.289	1
		Gender gap	-	.235		.164	.164	7
		Job security for non-regular workers	+		.253	.244	.244	2
		Proportion of involuntary temporary workers	-	.115		.170	.170	6
		Social spending on seniors as a share of GDP	+		.227	.133	.133	13
Social capital	.181	Civil liberties	+	.174		.250	.250	12
		General trust	+	.227		.202	.202	15
		Tolerance	+	.199		.206	.206	14
		Civic participation	+	.171		.180	.180	18
		Trust in institutions	+	.229		.162	.162	19
Social mobility	.283	Spending on public education	+	.176		.256	.256	3
		ALMP spending as a share of GDP	+	.228		.216	.216	5
		Deciles distribution ratio	-	.149		.239	.239	4
		Educational attainment rate	+		.230	.123	.123	17
		School dropout rate	-		.217	.166	.166	10
Social conflict and governance	.199	Suicide rate	-	.119		.180	.186	16
		Frequency of labor-management disputes	-			.111		20
		Democracy index	+	.207		.239	.270	8
		Wage gap between regular and non-regular workers	-	.253		.232	.269	11
		Wage share	+		.420	.237	.275	9

IV

Current Level of Social Cohesion in Korea

1. Measuring the Social Cohesion Index (SCI)
2. International Comparison of Social Cohesion
3. Social Cohesion in Korea

IV

Current Level of Social Cohesion in Korea

1. Measuring the Social Cohesion Index (SCI)

- The processes through which the social cohesion index (SCI), the overall index score, and the score of each dimension were obtained can be summarized as follows.
- First, all indicators were subjected to min-max normalization, and the meaning of each indicator in the given dimension—whether its effect is positive or negative—was also determined.

〈Table 4-1〉 Standardization of Indicators

Function	Formula
Positive	$\frac{X_i - \min(X_i)}{\max(X_i) - \min(X_i)}$
Negative	$\frac{\max(X_i) - X_i}{\max(X_i) - \min(X_i)}$
max(X _i): maximum value of the given indicator	
min(X _i): minimum value of the given indicator	

- Second, the index score of each dimension was calculated by multiplying the indicators of each dimension by their given weights, and then adding up the multiples. The sum of the weights amounts to a value of one for each dimension.

$$DI_i = \sum x_i * w$$

Dimensional index(DI_i): index score for each dimension
of social cohesion

x_i : standardized value of indicators

w : AHP weight assigned to each indicator

- Third, the SCI was measured by subjecting the four dimensional indices to min-max normalization, multiplying the result by the weight of each dimension, and adding up the multiples. As with each dimensional index, the SCI, too, is obtained by multiplying the dimensional indices by the given dimensional weights.

$$SCI_i = \sum Normalized DI_i * w'$$

SCI_i : final score on social cohesion

Normalized dimensional index($Normalized DI_i$)

: normalized score of the dimensional indices

w' : AHP weight of each dimension

2. International Comparison of Social Cohesion

- The SCI scores are designed to be proportional to the level of social cohesion in each given country. The higher the level of a country's social cohesion, the higher the

country's SCI score.

- The SCI scores, however, are not absolute values. A country with an SCI score of 0.5 does not necessarily have twice as high a level of social cohesion as a country with an SCI score of 0.25.
 - The SCI scores are relative values obtained by standardizing the maximum and minimum values of each indicator along a given scale. These scores allow us to compare the given countries in terms of the means, relative distances, and rankings.
- The table below presents and compares the SCI scores of several countries.
- As of 2015, the country with the highest SCI score was Denmark (0.93), while the country with the lowest SCI score was Israel (0.17).
 - South Korea ranked 29th among the 30 countries compared, with an SCI score of 0.21.

34 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

〈Table 4-2〉 Changes in Social Cohesion Index Scores for Selected Countries

Ranking (as of 2015)	Country	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015
1	Denmark	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.93
2	Norway	0.94	0.87	0.85	0.86	0.86
3	Finland	0.86	0.77	0.80	0.82	0.85
4	Sweden	0.93	0.90	0.87	0.76	0.80
5	Belgium	0.68	0.66	0.70	0.76	0.78
6	France	0.71	0.70	0.71	0.73	0.70
7	Luxembourg	0.68	0.65	0.68	0.70	0.66
8	Switzerland	0.66	0.67	0.69	0.67	0.66
9	Netherlands	0.76	0.75	0.71	0.72	0.65
10	Iceland	0.64	0.68	0.74	0.63	0.65
11	Austria	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.65	0.63
12	Germany	0.72	0.66	0.60	0.60	0.60
13	New Zealand	0.56	0.56	0.57	0.55	0.54
14	United Kingdom	0.51	0.47	0.51	0.52	0.50
15	Czech Republic	0.42	0.36	0.42	0.44	0.46
16	Italy	0.54	0.54	0.51	0.48	0.43
17	Ireland	0.44	0.40	0.46	0.49	0.43
18	Australia	0.58	0.53	0.48	0.46	0.42
19	Japan	0.45	0.39	0.35	0.40	0.41
20	Canada	0.51	0.47	0.42	0.46	0.40
21	Spain	0.51	0.49	0.49	0.51	0.37
22	Portugal	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.59	0.33
23	Poland	0.34	0.36	0.35	0.39	0.34
24	Estonia	0.26	0.24	0.26	0.39	0.32
25	Hungary	0.42	0.33	0.38	0.37	0.32
26	Greece	0.33	0.39	0.38	0.40	0.25
27	United States	0.38	0.39	0.33	0.31	0.25
28	Slovakia	0.29	0.30	0.26	0.27	0.23
29	South Korea	0.26	0.23	0.20	0.21	0.21
30	Israel	0.27	0.22	0.13	0.13	0.17
	Median	0.53	0.53	0.51	0.51	0.45
	Mean	0.56	0.54	0.53	0.54	0.50
	S.D.	0.199	0.197	0.204	0.192	0.212

- The SCI scores presented here are relative values obtained by comparing the given countries.
- Changes in the dimensional indices, the scores of individual indicators, and the rankings of the countries reflect changes not only in the levels of social cohesion in the given countries but also in the relative status of the countries with respect to one another.
- Significant fluctuations in the scores and rankings of certain countries indicate significant changes in the social cohesion of those countries, inviting us to inquire as to the possible causes.
- Table 4-3 lists the countries whose SCI scores fluctuated significantly during the analysis period, from 1995 to 2015.
- The table lists the countries that have shown consistent rises or declines in their overall SCI scores and four dimensional indices.

〈Table 4-3〉 Countries with Fluctuations in SCI Scores from 1995 to 2015

Dimension	Change	Countries
Overall scores	Up	Belgium and Estonia
	Down	Sweden, Germany, Italy, Australia, Spain, Portugal, Israel, and the United States
Social inclusion	Up	Denmark and Poland
	Down	Sweden and Germany
Social capital	Up	Sweden, Finland, Luxembourg, Belgium, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Estonia
	Down	Netherlands, Hungary, and Israel
Social mobility	Up	None
	Down	Norway, Netherlands, France, Spain, Ireland, Australia, the United States, and Slovakia
Social conflict and governance	Up	Finland, Belgium, and Estonia
	Down	Norway, Ireland, Portugal, Australia, and Poland

3. Social Cohesion in Korea

- From 1995 to 2015, Korea was consistently ranked in 29th place among the 30 countries compared.
- Korea’s SCI score dropped steadily from 0.257 in 1995 to 0.227 in 2000, and further to 0.198 in 2005, before rising slightly to 0.211 in 2010, only to fall again to 0.207 in 2015.
- Korea’s score in one sub dimension of social cohesion, i.e., social inclusion, has been rising consistently,

increasing from 0.198 in 1995 to 0.257 in 2005 and further to 0.266 in 2015. Nevertheless, Korea's social inclusion score is still one of the lowest of all 30 countries compared. The fact that Korea's social inclusion ranking remains the same but its score has risen, indicates that the gap between Korea and other countries has narrowed.

- Korea's social capital ranking and score are relatively higher than those of the other three subdimensions. Korea's social capital score increased steadily from 0.411 in 1995 to 0.517 in 2005, after which it dropped slightly to 0.499 in 2010 before rising again to 0.521 in 2015. In the meantime, Korea's social capital ranking rose from 23rd in 1995 to 22nd in 2005, and has remained there ever since.
- Korea's social mobility score was 0.393 in 1995, placing the country in 26th place. While the score took a drop to 0.387 in 2000, the country's ranking rose by four places to 22nd soon after. This suggests significant drops in the social mobility scores of the other countries rather than improvement in Korea's social mobility. Korea came in 27th and 26th place in terms of social mobility, with scores of 0.274 and 0.294, in 2005 and 2010, respectively. By 2015, Korea was ranked in 24th place, with a higher score of 0.344.
- Korea's ranking and score in terms of social conflict and

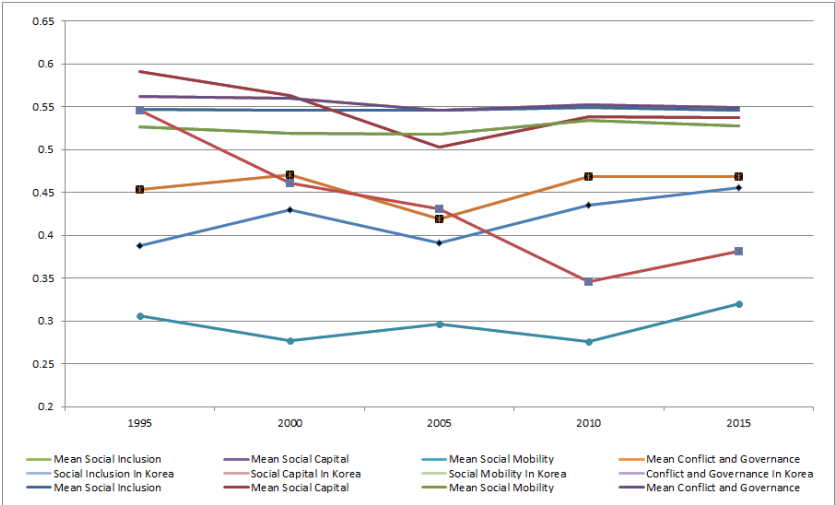
governance have been steadily worsening, falling from 21st place with a score of 0.537 in 1995 to 26th place with a score of 0.377 in 2015. Although the country's score in this regard rose slightly in 2015, it has been falling steadily in the rankings.

〈Table 4-4〉 Korea's SCI Rankings and Scores

Year	Overall		Soc. inclusion		Soc. capital		Soc. mobility		Soc. conflict and governance	
	Ranking	Score	Ranking	Score	Ranking	Score	Ranking	Score	Ranking	Score
1995	29	0.257	30	0.198	23	0.411	26	0.393	21	0.537
2000	29	0.228	30	0.150	23	0.469	22	0.387	25	0.482
2005	29	0.198	30	0.257	22	0.517	27	0.274	25	0.365
2010	29	0.211	30	0.253	22	0.499	26	0.294	25	0.353
2015	29	0.207	30	0.266	22	0.521	24	0.344	26	0.377

- In summary, Korea has shown some improvements in terms of its overall SCI and social inclusion scores, but it still remains near the bottom of the list of the countries compared.
- Korea's social capital and mobility indices have also shown slight improvements in terms of both scores and rankings, but the country has been faring steadily worse in terms of social conflict and governance.

[Figure 4-1] Changes in the Level of Korea's Social Cohesion Over Time



Note: The values of the indicators were subjected to min-max normalization not by year, but based on the minimum and maximum values observed throughout the given analysis period.

V

Conclusion

- This study develops a social cohesion index (SCI) with the specific purpose of assessing the state of social cohesion in South Korea.
- The SCI was developed with the intent to develop a system of indicators and their respective weights, reflecting the social fact in Korea.
- Based on a literature review and Delphi surveys of experts, we identified the four dimensions of social cohesion in Korea, the indicators that make up each dimension, and the relative weights of those dimensions and indicators.
- After developing the intended system of indicators, we applied it to a number of other countries in an effort to put the analysis of social cohesion in Korea into perspective.
- Due to limitations associated with the available data, only 30 of the 35 OECD member states (excluding Chile, Latvia, Mexico, Slovenia, and Turkey) were compared. South Korea came in 29th out of the 30 countries compared in terms of social cohesion in all five years compared, beginning in 1995.

- In particular, Korea ranked 30th in terms of social inclusion and maintained its 22nd and 23rd place rankings in terms of social capital in all five years compared.
 - Except for a brief jump to 22nd place in 2000, Korea maintained its 26th and 27th rankings in terms of social mobility.
 - Korea's ranking in terms of social conflict and governance declined from 21st to 26th place.
- Korea's SCI scores and rankings are based on indicators that were selected on the basis of the perception of various issues related to social cohesion in Korea, and are therefore more subjective than objective.
- Nevertheless, it is still important to pay attention to the urgent issues facing Korean society that emerged during the process of identifying the dimensions and indicators of social cohesion.
- It is crucial to gain a systematic understanding of the significance of these indicators and to manage their policy area.
- The specific policy measures required to improve social cohesion in Korea, using an SCI like the one developed here, are as follows.

- First, we need to manage and sort the indicators of social cohesion systematically in enacting policies for social cohesion.
 - This study defines the indicators that can be used in policy-making on social cohesion, explains their significance, and emphasizes the need to monitor changes in these indicators on an ongoing basis.
- Second, further studies intent on strengthening and improving social cohesion should focus on not only systematically managing related policy measures and their performances, but also gaining an understanding of the correlations among these indicators.
 - Systematic analyses are essential in determining the causal relations involved in the dimensions and indicators of social cohesion, and can therefore help policy-makers identify the policy measures required to enhance the social cohesion of Korean society.
- Third, policy-makers need to develop a system of indicators that can be used to assess social cohesion in Korea, and specify how those indicators are to be identified and managed.
 - Although numerous social surveys are conducted by diverse organizations in Korea, such as the Social Surveys (Statistics Korea), the Comprehensive Korean

Social Surveys (Sungkyunkwan University's Survey and Research Center), the Korea Social Integration Survey (Korea Institute of Public Administration), and the module-type surveys of the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs, there is still no system or database for assessing the correlations among the diverse dimensions of social cohesion. Therefore, policy-makers now need to take steps to systematize and standardize research on social cohesion in Korea.

- Fourth, policy-makers need to develop a policy response system capable of responding promptly to warning signals indicative of changes in social cohesion.
 - Policy-makers need to ascertain the correlations among indicators and prepare, in advance, the series of responses to be taken upon dangerous changes in these indicators. This will require the creation of a governmental body responsible for managing the monitoring of indicators.
- Fifth, policy-makers need to decide the target levels to which the indicators of social cohesion are to aspire.
 - These target levels should be decided in consideration of international comparisons and managed and monitored centrally, with efforts being made to predict how the state of social cohesion in Korea will have improved once these target levels are reached.

Bibliography <<

- Kang, S., Lee, H., Kim, S., Park, S. & Park, E. (2012). *Social cohesion index development*, Social Cohesion Commission and KIHASA.
- Seok, H., Cha, J., Lee, J., Park, J. & Kim, M. (2005). *Changing perceptions of inequality and fairness in Korean society*, Sunkyunkwan University Press.
- Roh, D., Lee, H., Kang, S., Kang, E., & Jeon, J. (2009). *Tasks and strategy for social cohesion*. National Research Council for Economics, Humanities, and Social Sciences-KIHASA.
- Lee, J., Cho, B., Jang, D., Yu, M., Woo, M. & Seo, H. (2014). "Social cohesion: conceptualization and measurement—an international comparison." *Korean Journal of Social Policy* 21(2).
- Jung, Y. & Ko, S. (2014). *Social cohesion index: international comparison and impact on economic growth*. KIHASA.
- Jung, H. (2014). "Concept and necessity of national cohesion." *Health & Welfare Forum* 218. 6-17.
- Cho, B., Lee, Y., Lee, G., Lee, S., Eo, S. & Park, M. (2015). *Development and application of an index of national cohesion*. NRC.
- Lee, D., Park, J., Kang, M., Chae, S. & Choi, H. (2009). "Policy Tasks for Enhancing Social Capital." *CEO Information*, 722. Samsung Economic Research Institute.
- Kim, T. (1999). "Discussions on the determination of weights in numerical evaluation models." *KIPA Proceedings* 33(4). 243-258.
- Nicoletti, G., Scarpetta, S. & Boylaud, O. (2000). *Summary indicators of product market regulation with an extension to employment*

protection legislation. Economics Department Working Papers
NO. 226.

OECD & EC JRC. (2008). *Handbook on Constructing Composite
Indicators: Methodology and User Guide*. OECD Publications.

OECD. (2011). *Perspectives on Global Development 2012: social
cohesion in a shifting world*. Paris: OECD Publishing.

Appendices <<

Appendix 1. Content of Social Cohesion 50

Appendix2. Social Cohesion Index National Rankings
(1995 to 2015) 53

Appendix 1. Content of the Social Cohesion Index

[Appendix Table 1] Summary

Indicator	Sources	Final data used
Proportion of population earning less than 50% of median-level disposable income	1. OECD Statistics 2. QOG	1. OECD (2016), "Income distribution", OECD Social and Welfare Statistics (database) 2. LIS (2016), LIS Key Figures Dataset
$\frac{(\text{Gender wage gap} + \text{gender employment rate gap})}{2}$	1. Gender Wage gap: OECD Gender Statistics 2. Gender Employment rate gap: World Bank data WDI/ILO, Key Indicators of the Labour Market database	1. Gender Wage gap: OECD (2016), "Earnings: Gross earnings: decile ratios", OECD Employment and Labour Market Statistics (database) 2. Gender Employment rate gap: ILO (2016), "Employment-to-population ratio by sex and age(%)", ILOSTAT Database
Public social spending for seniors as a share of GDP	OECD SOCX Statistics	OECD (2016), "Social Expenditure: Aggregated data", OECD Social Expenditure Statistics (database)
Incidence of involuntary part time workers	OECD Labour Statistics, Incidence of involuntary part time workers	OECD (2016), "Labour Market Statistics: Involuntary part time workers: incidence", OECD Employment and Labour Market Statistics (database)
Strictness of employment protection legislation: temporary employment	OECD, ELMS: Strictness of employment protection legislation: temporary employment	OECD (2016), "Employment Protection Legislation: Strictness of employment protection legislation: temporary employment", OECD Employment and Labour Market Statistics (database)

Indicator	Sources	Final data used
Freedom of expression, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, freedom of assembly and Association, and right to due process of law	QOG, civil liberties	Freedom House. (2016). Freedom in the world. (www.freedomhouse.org)
Sum of political activism (petitions, boycotts, demonstrations)	World Values Survey	ISD, Civic Activism (www.indsocdev.org)
Trust in other people	World Values Survey	ISD, Interpersonal safety and trust (www.indsocdev.org)
Sum of trust in institutions	World Values Survey	1) World Values Survey 2) European Values Survey
Sum of inclusion of minorities	World Values Survey	ISD, Inclusion of Minorities (www.indsocdev.org)
Ratio of population in the top 10 percentile of disposable income to population in the bottom 10 percentile of disposable income	1. OECD Statistics 2. QOG	OECD (2016), "Earnings: Gross earnings: decile ratios", OECD Employment and Labour Market Statistics (database)
Spending on public education as a share of GDP	UNESCO Government expenditure on education as % of GDP	UNESCO (2016), "Education: Expenditure on education as % of GDP" (from government sources)

52 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

Indicator	Sources	Final data used
Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) average scores	PISA / OECD Statistics	PISA annual report
ALMP spending as a share of GDP	OECD SOCX Statistics	OECD (2016), "Social Expenditure: Aggregated data", OECD Social Expenditure Statistics (database)
Proportion of population aged 15 to 29 not in education or training (NEET)	OECD, (NEET) indicators	1. OECD (2016), "Education at a glance: Graduation and entry rates", OECD Education Statistics (database) 2. ILO (2016), Share of youth not in employment and not in education by sex(%), ILOSTAT Database
Number of people who commit suicide out of every 100,000	OECD Health Statistics	OECD (2016), "Health status", OECD Health Statistics (database)
Number of industrial disputes	Comparative Political Data Set(CPDS)	ILO (2016), "Days not worked per 1000 workers due to strikes and lockouts by economic activity", ILOSTAT(database)
Quality of Democracy	SGI	The WorldBank (2016). "The Worldwide Governance Indicators". (www.govindicators.org).
Low pay incidence	OECD Statistics	OECD (2016), "Earnings: Gross earnings: decile ratios", OECD Employment and Labour Market Statistics (database)
Labour Income Share	OECD Statistics	OECD (2016), "Unit Labour Costs-Annual Indicators", OECD, Stat.

Appendix 2. SCI National Rankings (1995–2015)

[Appendix Table 2–1] SCI Rankings in 1996

Nation	Ranking	Overall	Ranking	Social inclusion	Ranking	Social capital	Ranking	Social mobility	Ranking	Social conflict and governance
Norway	1	0.943	3	0.735	2	0.848	3	0.847	2	0.758
Sweden	2	0.932	2	0.744	4	0.761	2	0.851	1	0.769
Denmark	3	0.917	7	0.684	3	0.796	1	0.904	5	0.731
Finland	4	0.862	8	0.674	5	0.736	4	0.817	3	0.741
Netherlands	5	0.762	9	0.607	7	0.706	5	0.699	4	0.734
Germany	6	0.718	4	0.704	14	0.588	13	0.566	6	0.690
France	7	0.705	5	0.699	17	0.548	6	0.640	14	0.585
Luxembourg	8	0.678	1	0.778	11	0.647	22	0.425	15	0.577
Belgium	9	0.676	6	0.686	18	0.539	14	0.555	9	0.644
Switzerland	10	0.659	18	0.514	6	0.729	7	0.630	8	0.656
Austria	11	0.649	14	0.551	10	0.676	12	0.574	7	0.674
Iceland	12	0.641	10	0.580	1	0.864	16	0.531	23	0.507
Australia	13	0.583	24	0.418	8	0.686	10	0.627	10	0.630
New Zealand	14	0.556	21	0.478	21	0.523	9	0.627	18	0.558
Italy	15	0.539	11	0.574	20	0.524	23	0.415	13	0.619
Portugal	16	0.531	12	0.568	22	0.517	24	0.405	11	0.626
United Kingdom	17	0.514	23	0.424	15	0.581	17	0.527	12	0.620
Spain	18	0.508	17	0.521	19	0.534	19	0.448	16	0.566
Canada	19	0.507	26	0.361	12	0.605	11	0.622	17	0.559
Japan	20	0.455	28	0.309	9	0.679	15	0.545	20	0.542
Ireland	21	0.438	29	0.253	16	0.575	8	0.628	19	0.557
Czech Republic	22	0.421	13	0.567	26	0.327	18	0.450	27	0.356
Hungary	23	0.415	16	0.548	24	0.392	21	0.434	28	0.346
United States	24	0.384	27	0.322	13	0.588	20	0.438	22	0.512
Poland	25	0.344	22	0.443	25	0.339	28	0.369	25	0.448
Greece	26	0.330	15	0.549	28	0.250	30	0.258	26	0.428
Slovak Republic	27	0.294	20	0.484	29	0.182	25	0.405	29	0.281
Israel	28	0.270	25	0.389	30	0.119	29	0.357	24	0.498
Korea	29	0.257	30	0.198	23	0.411	26	0.393	21	0.537
Estonia	30	0.257	19	0.488	27	0.257	27	0.381	30	0.127

54 International Comparison of Social Cohesion

[Appendix 2-2] SCI Rankings in 2000

Nation	Overall		Social inclusion		Social capital		Social mobility		Social conflict and governance	
	Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking	
Denmark	1	0.919	5	0.690	4	0.819	1	0.930	2	0.777
Sweden	2	0.903	4	0.702	3	0.848	2	0.823	1	0.821
Norway	3	0.871	1	0.775	1	0.905	3	0.706	6	0.699
Finland	4	0.771	7	0.625	5	0.812	4	0.689	4	0.736
Netherlands	5	0.752	10	0.592	7	0.786	5	0.677	3	0.768
France	6	0.700	3	0.748	19	0.568	8	0.606	16	0.597
Iceland	7	0.681	11	0.576	2	0.864	10	0.583	14	0.625
Switzerland	8	0.675	13	0.565	6	0.799	9	0.589	10	0.671
Austria	9	0.665	9	0.614	10	0.693	11	0.560	9	0.678
Belgium	10	0.664	8	0.616	20	0.552	6	0.639	8	0.681
Germany	11	0.657	6	0.642	16	0.604	13	0.537	5	0.704
Luxembourg	12	0.650	2	0.767	8	0.707	23	0.376	17	0.591
New Zealand	13	0.564	22	0.459	15	0.639	7	0.629	18	0.573
Italy	14	0.542	12	0.569	18	0.571	19	0.422	12	0.636
Portugal	15	0.534	16	0.543	17	0.583	20	0.411	11	0.663
Australia	16	0.531	24	0.413	11	0.682	12	0.537	13	0.632
Spain	17	0.494	20	0.486	21	0.550	18	0.442	15	0.617
United Kingdom	18	0.472	23	0.425	22	0.516	17	0.442	7	0.681
Canada	19	0.468	26	0.360	13	0.669	15	0.520	20	0.554
Ireland	20	0.400	29	0.235	9	0.703	14	0.536	23	0.502
Japan	21	0.393	28	0.247	12	0.679	16	0.507	22	0.519
United States	22	0.387	27	0.312	14	0.649	21	0.395	19	0.558
Greece	23	0.387	15	0.558	24	0.404	29	0.240	21	0.530
Poland	24	0.358	19	0.515	25	0.362	26	0.334	26	0.421
Czech Republic	25	0.356	14	0.563	28	0.320	24	0.363	27	0.325
Hungary	26	0.330	17	0.540	26	0.357	25	0.340	29	0.282
Slovak Republic	27	0.297	18	0.515	27	0.320	28	0.292	28	0.310
Estonia	28	0.241	21	0.483	29	0.299	27	0.314	30	0.174
Korea	29	0.228	30	0.150	23	0.469	22	0.387	25	0.482
Israel	30	0.220	25	0.374	30	0.183	30	0.235	24	0.497

[Appendix Table 2-3] SCI Rankings in 2005

Nation	Overall		Social inclusion		Social capital		Social mobility		Social conflict and governance	
	Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking	
Denmark	1	0.921	5	0.726	5	0.832	1	0.912	1	0.784
Sweden	2	0.871	4	0.749	3	0.852	2	0.747	2	0.764
Norway	3	0.855	2	0.804	2	0.869	3	0.723	8	0.633
Finland	4	0.803	7	0.682	6	0.831	4	0.716	3	0.729
Iceland	5	0.740	11	0.630	1	0.908	6	0.609	5	0.696
Netherlands	6	0.711	13	0.615	11	0.668	5	0.689	4	0.710
France	7	0.705	1	0.832	20	0.534	10	0.558	17	0.545
Belgium	8	0.697	6	0.692	10	0.669	9	0.592	7	0.639
Switzerland	9	0.690	14	0.608	4	0.846	8	0.592	6	0.647
Luxembourg	10	0.677	3	0.790	7	0.746	17	0.424	18	0.540
Austria	11	0.651	8	0.679	13	0.638	11	0.516	9	0.631
Germany	12	0.599	15	0.599	14	0.627	12	0.512	10	0.628
New Zealand	13	0.571	20	0.541	15	0.621	7	0.596	15	0.555
Portugal	14	0.544	10	0.637	18	0.565	21	0.389	14	0.571
Italy	15	0.513	16	0.598	24	0.495	18	0.412	13	0.572
United Kingdom	16	0.509	22	0.511	16	0.602	16	0.430	11	0.619
Spain	17	0.489	18	0.565	21	0.529	20	0.394	16	0.555
Australia	18	0.485	25	0.446	17	0.596	13	0.508	12	0.578
Ireland	19	0.464	24	0.474	8	0.681	14	0.455	22	0.468
Czech Republic	20	0.423	12	0.625	23	0.507	23	0.353	26	0.307
Canada	21	0.419	26	0.409	12	0.638	15	0.434	19	0.499
Hungary	22	0.384	9	0.665	28	0.376	24	0.337	28	0.226
Greece	23	0.382	19	0.556	25	0.422	29	0.256	21	0.476
Japan	24	0.352	29	0.355	9	0.675	19	0.407	24	0.396
Poland	25	0.346	17	0.593	26	0.393	22	0.376	29	0.183
United States	26	0.327	27	0.394	19	0.552	26	0.276	20	0.486
Estonia	27	0.263	21	0.522	27	0.385	28	0.270	30	0.182
Slovak Republic	28	0.261	23	0.478	29	0.368	25	0.281	27	0.256
Korea	29	0.198	30	0.257	22	0.517	27	0.274	25	0.365
Israel	30	0.134	28	0.362	30	0.106	30	0.152	23	0.402

[Appendix Table 2-4] SCI Rankings in 2010

Nation										
	Ranking	Overall	Ranking	Social inclusion	Ranking	Social capital	Ranking	Social mobility	Ranking	Social conflict and governance
Denmark	1	0.916	4	0.749	6	0.774	1	0.866	1	0.822
Norway	2	0.857	3	0.829	1	0.907	4	0.662	10	0.653
Finland	3	0.824	6	0.691	3	0.861	2	0.684	3	0.795
Sweden	4	0.764	17	0.575	2	0.899	3	0.668	2	0.810
Belgium	5	0.764	5	0.731	9	0.667	6	0.595	5	0.768
France	6	0.727	2	0.837	18	0.574	10	0.508	12	0.630
Netherlands	7	0.717	12	0.622	10	0.643	5	0.645	4	0.772
Luxembourg	8	0.704	1	0.850	7	0.745	19	0.388	15	0.566
Switzerland	9	0.665	15	0.584	5	0.810	9	0.538	6	0.694
Austria	10	0.646	7	0.679	15	0.604	13	0.487	9	0.659
Iceland	11	0.628	18	0.573	4	0.848	8	0.548	16	0.563
Germany	12	0.601	13	0.605	13	0.610	12	0.491	11	0.643
Portugal	13	0.588	11	0.632	20	0.559	16	0.409	8	0.681
New Zealand	14	0.549	21	0.524	17	0.585	7	0.562	17	0.558
United Kingdom	15	0.522	23	0.521	21	0.548	17	0.404	7	0.684
Spain	16	0.508	14	0.586	19	0.573	22	0.344	14	0.581
Ireland	17	0.488	22	0.523	11	0.637	18	0.389	19	0.537
Italy	18	0.481	19	0.561	24	0.423	21	0.364	13	0.614
Australia	19	0.462	25	0.424	14	0.609	11	0.492	21	0.529
Canada	20	0.456	26	0.419	8	0.696	15	0.429	20	0.535
Czech Republic	21	0.435	10	0.637	23	0.487	23	0.335	27	0.334
Japan	22	0.401	28	0.374	12	0.616	14	0.455	23	0.467
Greece	23	0.397	20	0.554	28	0.334	28	0.256	18	0.548
Poland	24	0.394	9	0.641	26	0.388	20	0.378	30	0.211
Estonia	25	0.385	16	0.583	25	0.395	24	0.319	26	0.351
Hungary	26	0.371	8	0.649	27	0.342	25	0.295	28	0.255
United States	27	0.315	27	0.381	16	0.594	29	0.223	22	0.469
Slovak Republic	28	0.269	24	0.518	29	0.319	27	0.258	29	0.225
Korea	29	0.211	30	0.253	22	0.499	26	0.294	25	0.353
Israel	30	0.125	29	0.353	30	0.032	30	0.110	24	0.423

[Appendix Table 2–5] SCI Rankings in 2015

Nation	Overall		Social inclusion		Social capital		Social mobility		Social conflict and governance	
	Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking		Ranking	
Denmark	1	0.935	4	0.732	6	0.814	1	0.859	4	0.787
Norway	2	0.858	1	0.786	1	0.907	4	0.662	9	0.656
Finland	3	0.854	6	0.667	4	0.861	3	0.722	1	0.819
Sweden	4	0.803	12	0.562	2	0.905	2	0.762	3	0.792
Belgium	5	0.784	5	0.707	10	0.656	5	0.616	2	0.801
France	6	0.701	3	0.769	20	0.562	10	0.522	12	0.615
Luxembourg	7	0.663	2	0.775	7	0.745	19	0.373	14	0.572
Switzerland	8	0.660	14	0.544	5	0.817	7	0.546	6	0.739
Netherlands	9	0.648	13	0.551	14	0.630	6	0.593	5	0.745
Iceland	10	0.648	9	0.597	3	0.866	9	0.531	13	0.591
Austria	11	0.634	7	0.642	15	0.609	11	0.518	10	0.638
Germany	12	0.601	10	0.582	13	0.631	12	0.503	8	0.660
New Zealand	13	0.544	15	0.539	16	0.596	8	0.542	15	0.547
United Kingdom	14	0.496	20	0.477	18	0.572	17	0.411	7	0.705
Czech Republic	15	0.459	8	0.636	23	0.494	18	0.377	25	0.385
Italy	16	0.431	17	0.500	24	0.457	22	0.349	11	0.622
Ireland	17	0.426	22	0.463	11	0.641	14	0.461	23	0.420
Australia	18	0.416	24	0.417	12	0.634	15	0.435	16	0.518
Japan	19	0.411	27	0.363	9	0.683	13	0.481	17	0.515
Canada	20	0.398	26	0.380	8	0.699	16	0.425	18	0.510
Spain	21	0.374	23	0.450	21	0.562	25	0.342	19	0.495
Poland	22	0.337	11	0.564	26	0.385	20	0.373	30	0.233
Portugal	23	0.326	25	0.390	19	0.563	26	0.328	21	0.485
Estonia	24	0.323	18	0.487	25	0.436	23	0.345	27	0.346
Hungary	25	0.319	16	0.536	29	0.293	21	0.372	28	0.290
Greece	26	0.250	21	0.474	28	0.325	30	0.213	24	0.393
United States	27	0.249	29	0.335	17	0.586	29	0.234	22	0.471
Slovak Republic	28	0.227	19	0.482	27	0.335	28	0.265	29	0.238
Korea	29	0.207	30	0.266	22	0.521	24	0.344	26	0.377
Israel	30	0.166	28	0.348	30	0.032	27	0.270	20	0.491