
AMERICA THROUGH THE
EYES OF
INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS STUDENTS
OF HO CHI MINH CITY –
VIETNAM

ThanhH - TAMUC



IS THERE AN AMERICAN EMPIRE?



DATA & METHODS

- ▶ **Subjects:** Students
- ▶ **Where:** International Relations
Department of Uni. of Social Sciences
and Humanities (USSH) – Ho Chi
Minh City – Vietnam
- ▶ **When:** November – December 2010



A SET OF QUESTIONS

- ▶ **Group 1: The general influence of America as perceived by foreigners**
- ▶ **Group 2: Comparative questions on some topics relating to empire**
- ▶ **Group 3: Open-ended questions**



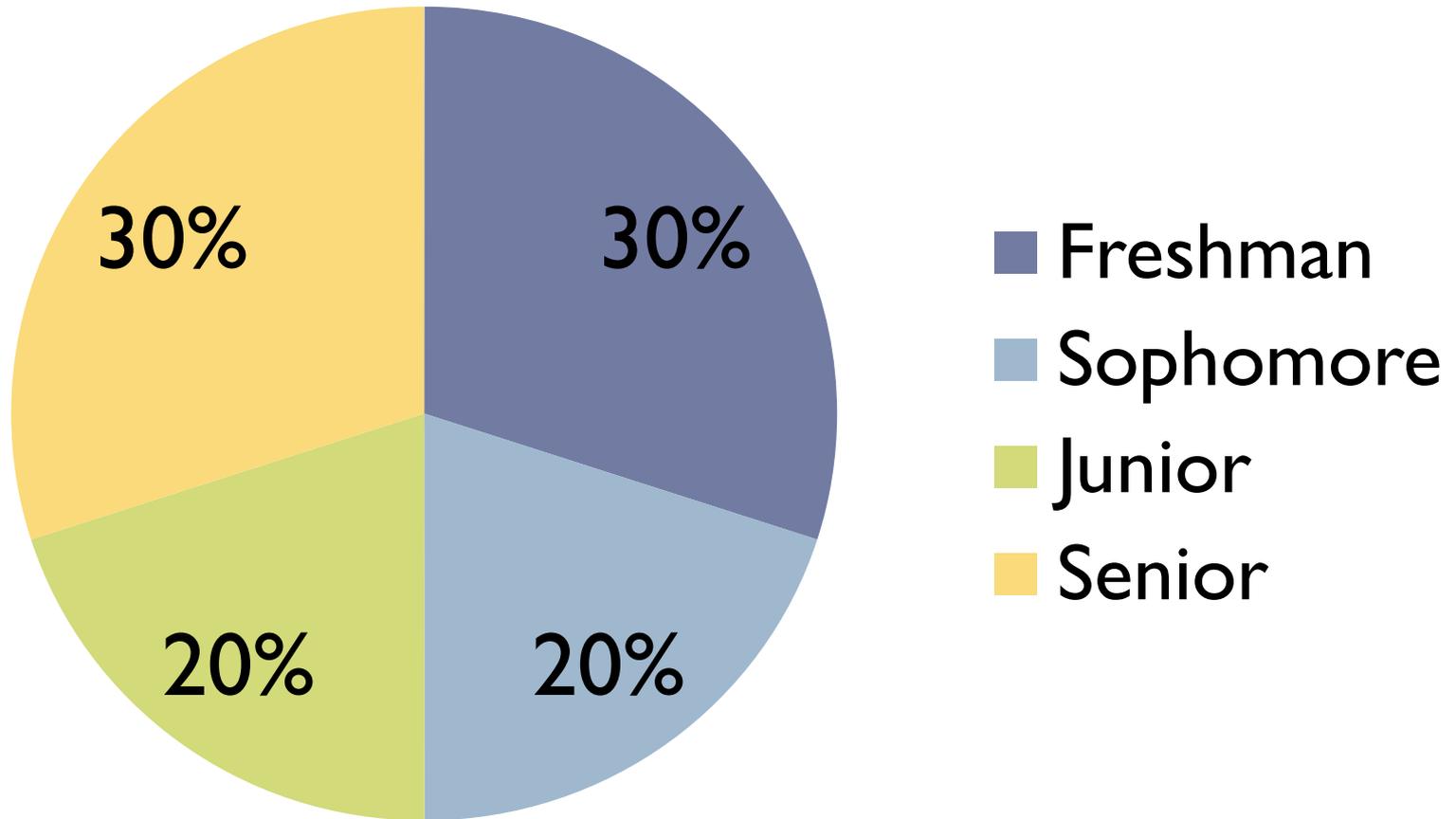
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- ▶ **Question 11:** Which country you assume to have characteristics of an empire? How come?
 - ▶ **Question 14:** On account of American power, should America take a role as a world policeman to get involved in international relations issues and why?
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- ▶

Hypotheses

America scores highest in all questions and...	Half of responses		Result
	Question 11	Question 14	
	The U.S	The U.S.	American Empire (1)
	The U.S.		Status Enjoyment (2)
		The U.S.	American superpower (3)
			Leadership only (4)

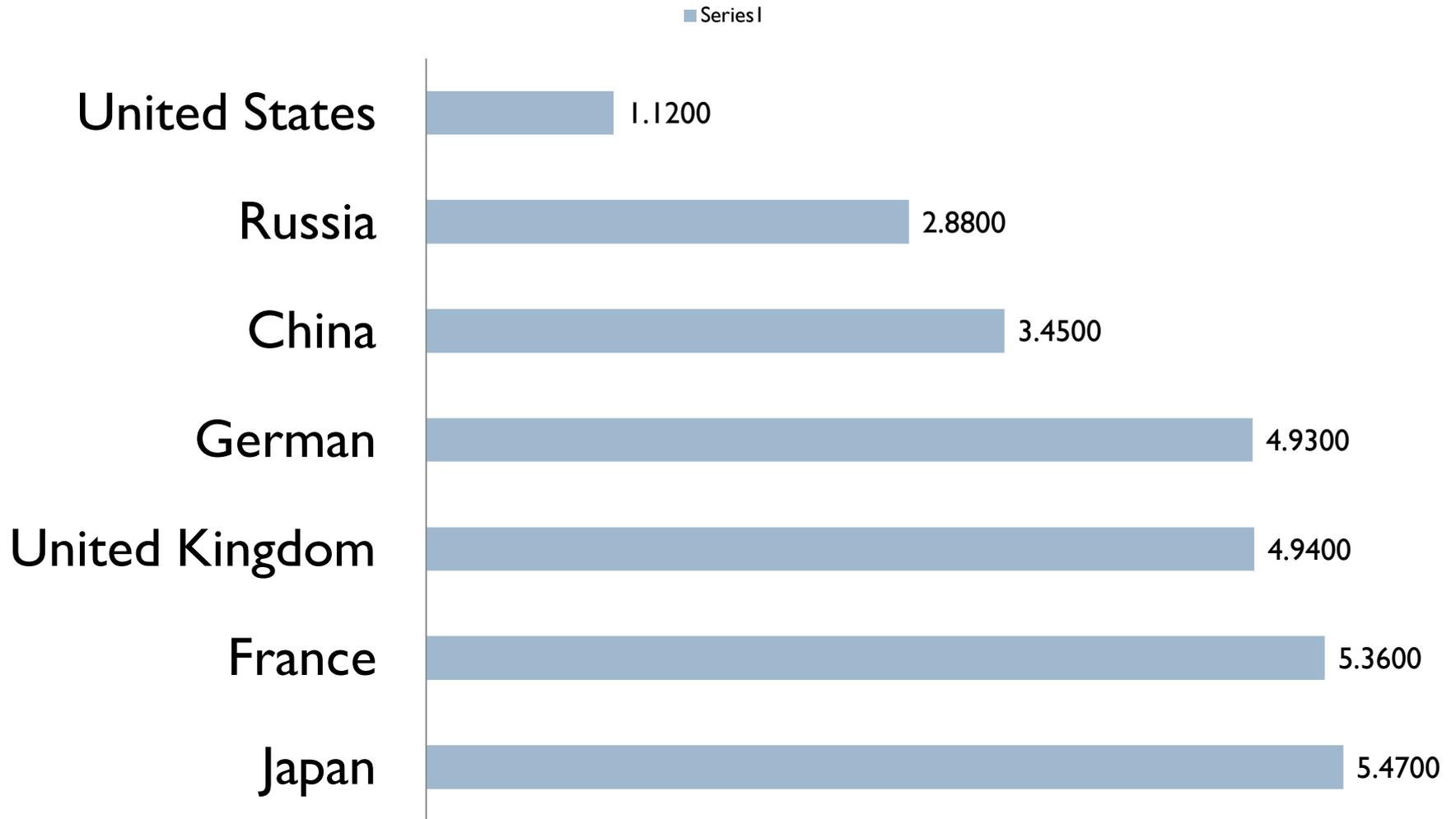
Student participation in the survey

STUDENTS



Military Capacity Raking

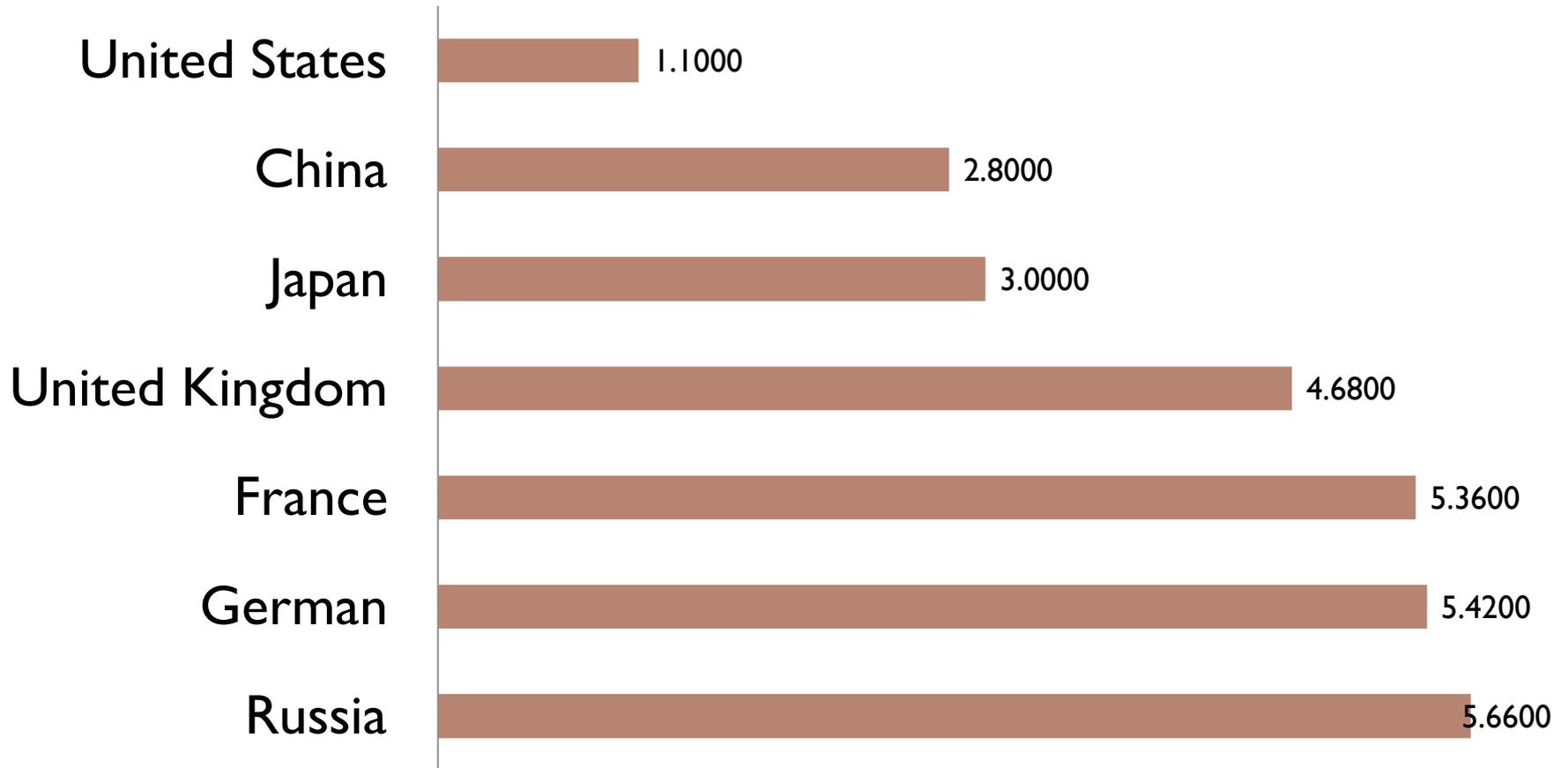
MILITARY CAPACITY (rank)



Strong economies ranking

ECONOMY (rank)

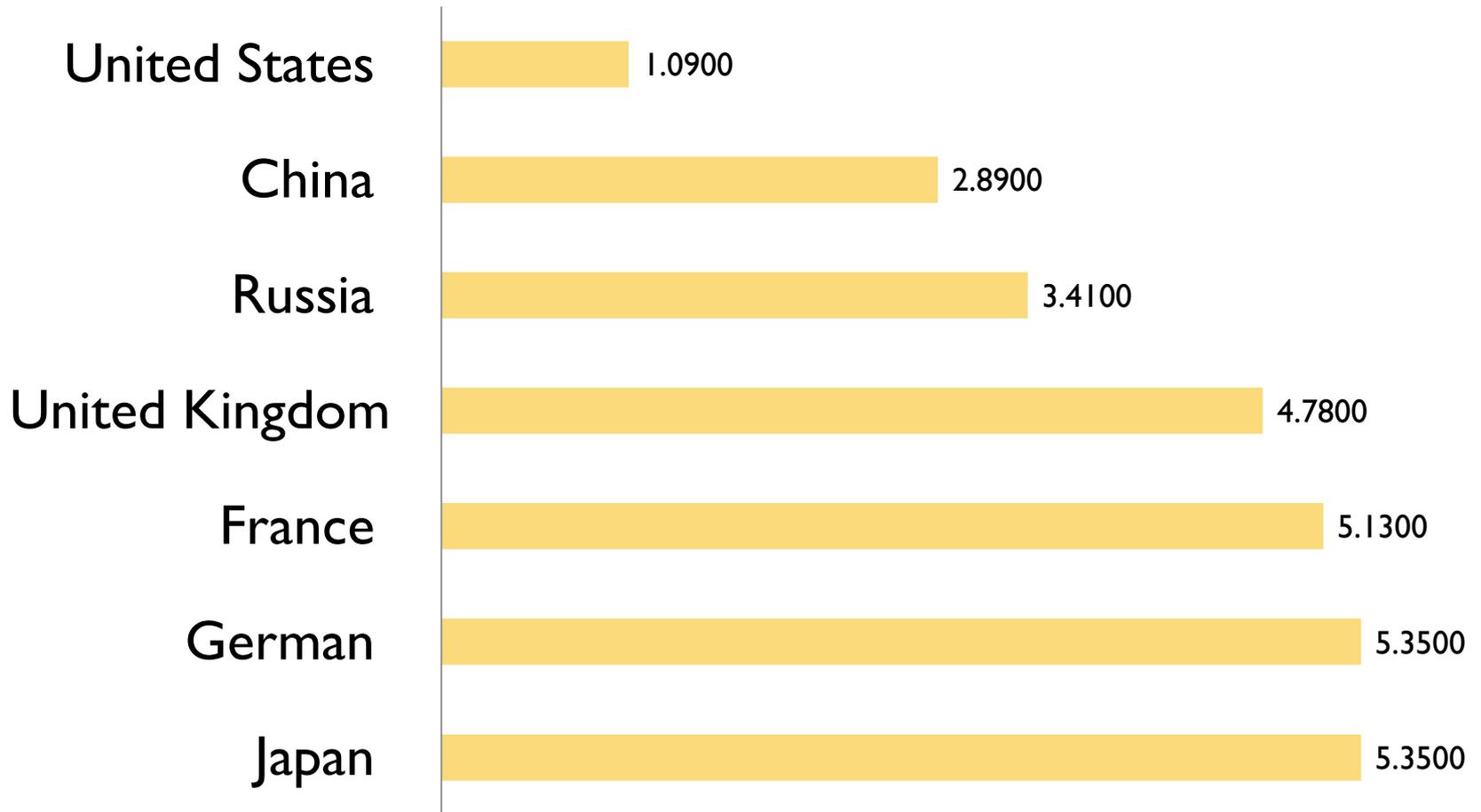
■ Series I



Political influence ranking

POLITICAL INFLUENCE (rank)

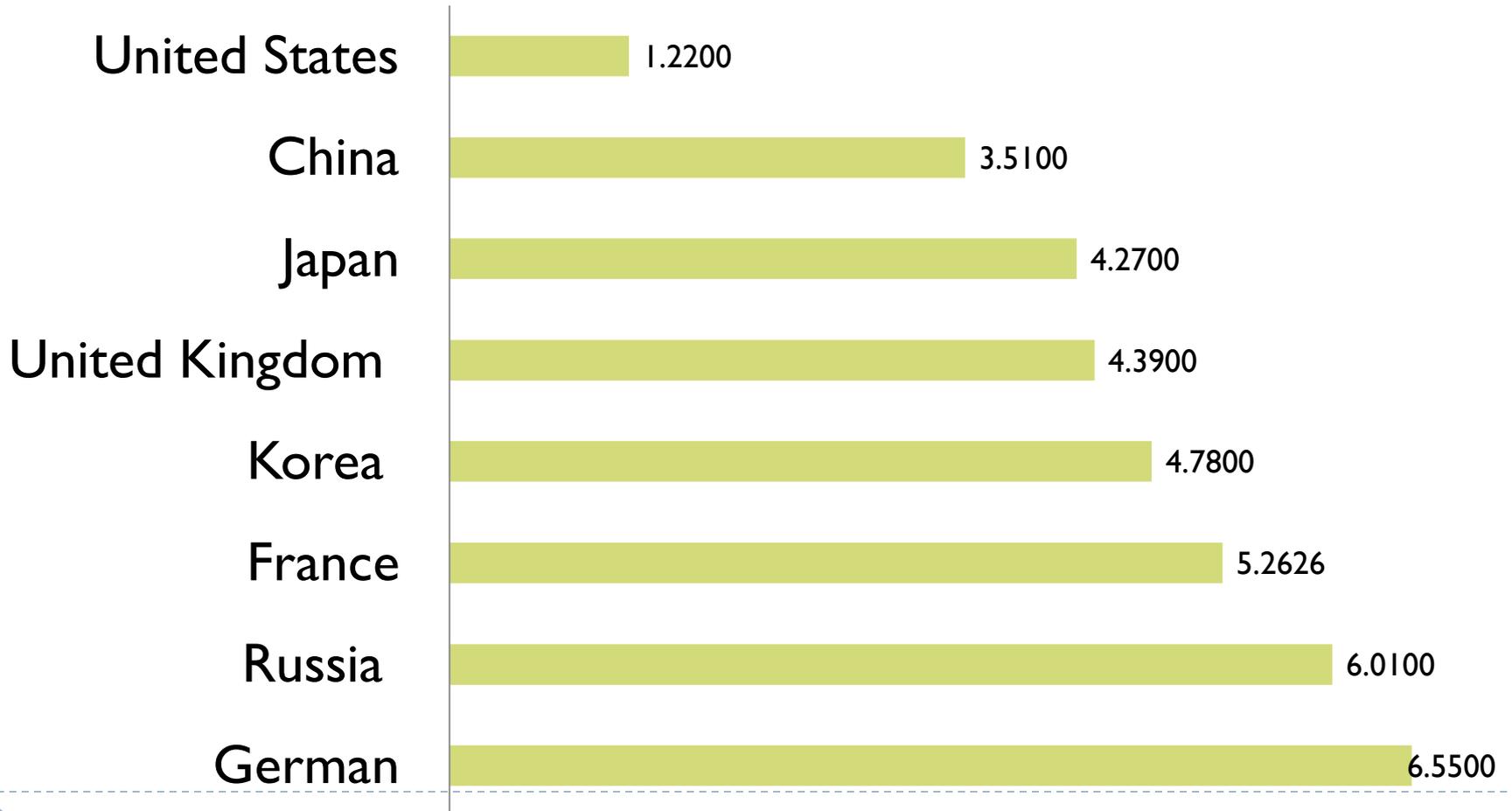
Series I



Media/ Communication influence ranking

MEDIA INFLUENCE (rank)

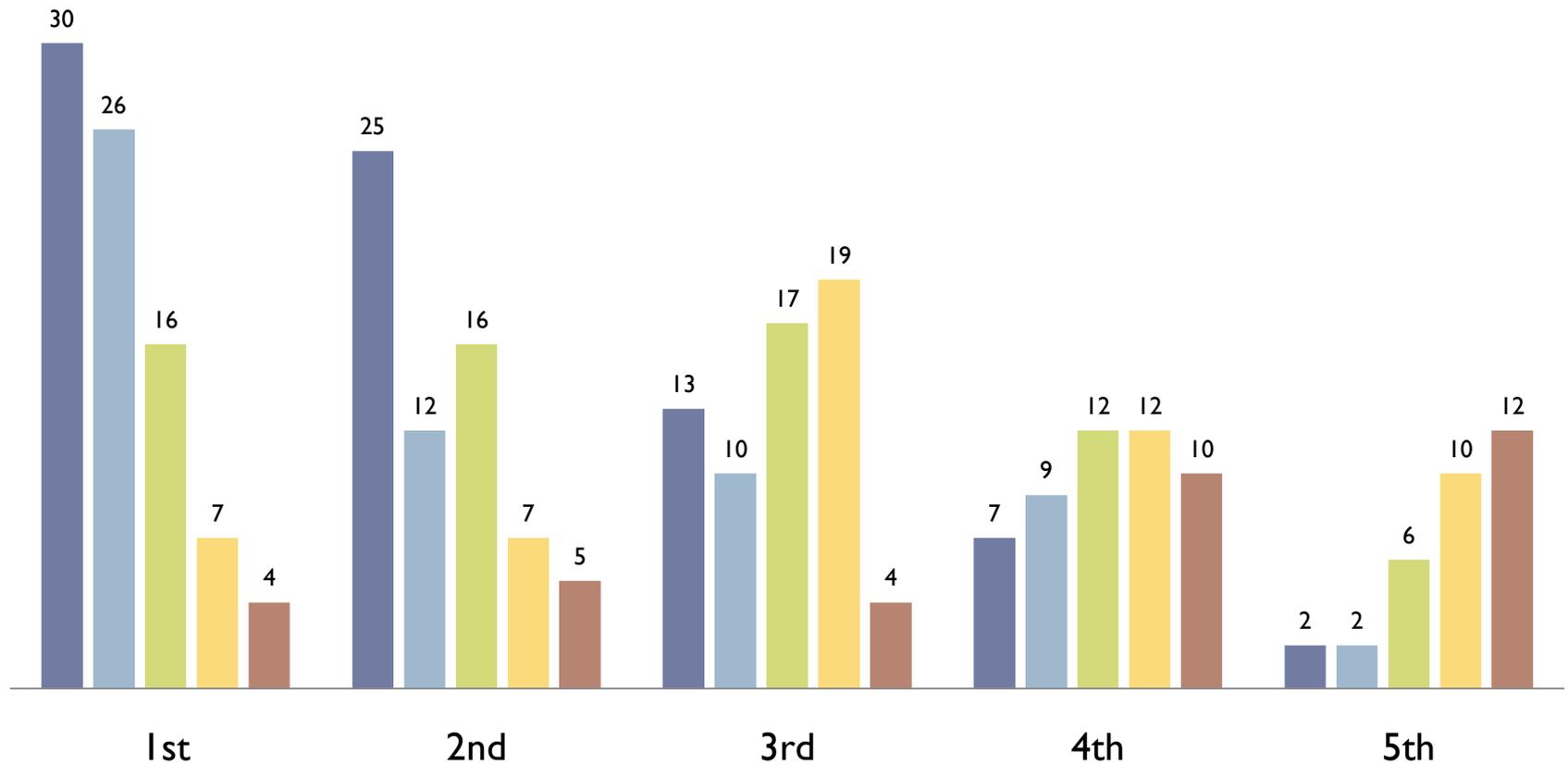
Series1



Cultural Attractiveness listing

CULTURAL ATTRACTIVENESS (point)

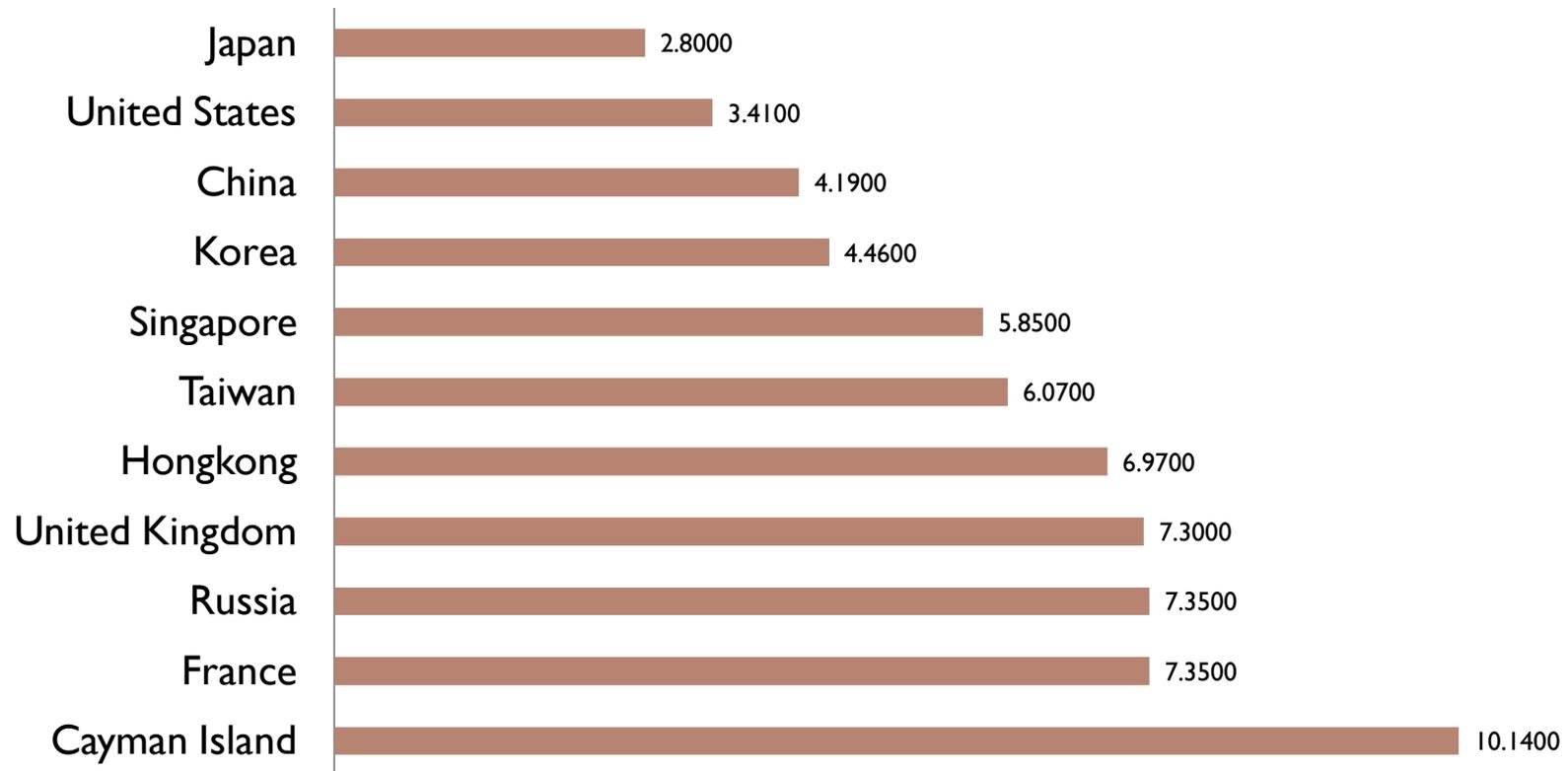
■ china ■ USA ■ Japan ■ Korea ■ France



Assumption on Top Investors into Vietnam

TOP INVESTORS INTO VIETNAM (rank)

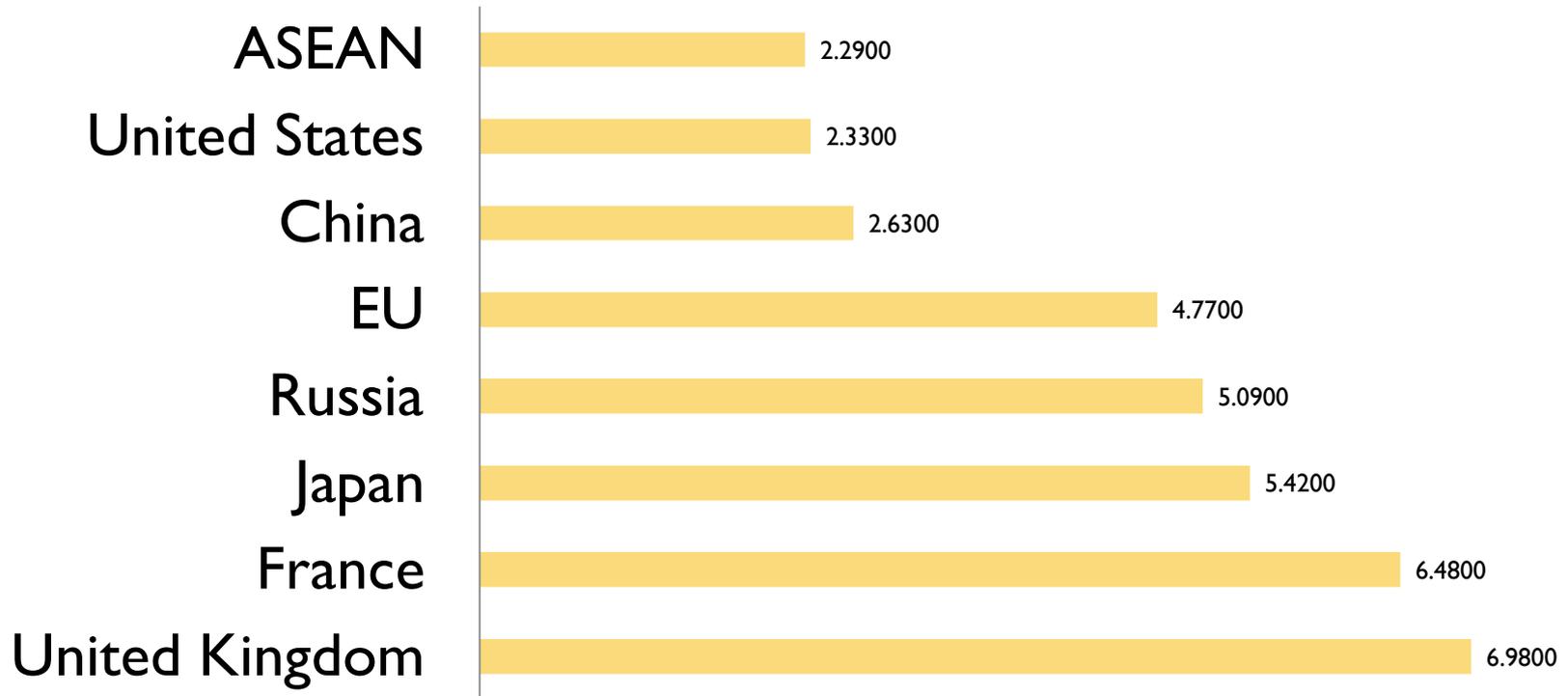
Series I



Political Influence on Vietnam's Government

POLITICAL INFLUENCE ON VIETNAM GOVERNMENT (rank)

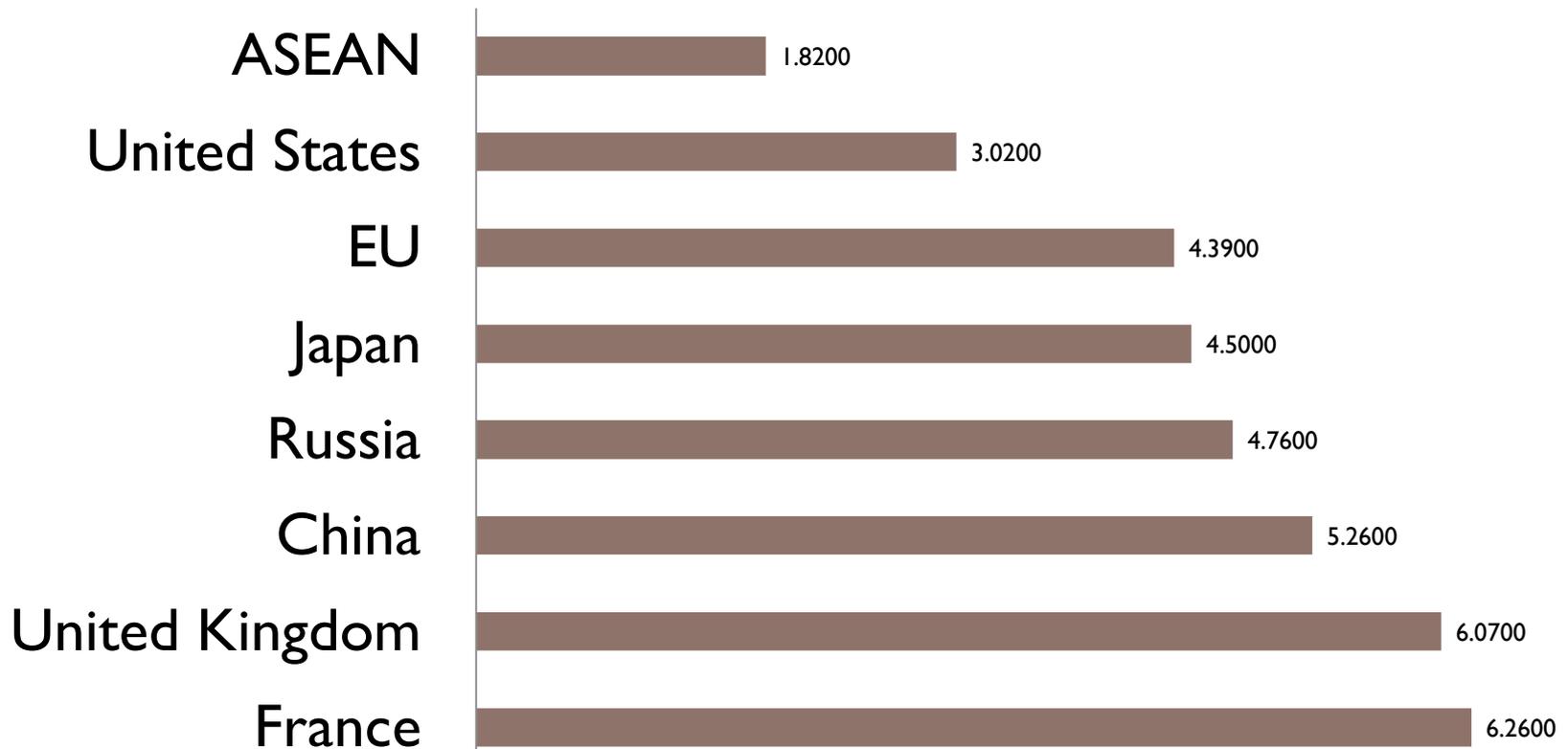
■ Series I



Assumption on Vietnam's best allies

COUNTRIES/ORGANIZATION Vietnam should be allied with (rank)

■ Series 1



Will America is a threat?

▶ Vietnam:

60% said “NO”

▶ The World

60% said “YES”



Question 11: Which country you assume to have characteristics of an empire? How come?

- ▶ 20% named America/The U.S. as a potential country having characteristics of an empire
- ▶ 7% assumed China having imperialist characteristics



Hypotheses

	Half of responses		Result
	Question 11	Question 14	
	America scores highest in all questions and...	The U.S	The U.S.
The U.S.			Status Enjoyment (2)
		The U.S.	American superpower
			Leadership only

Question 14: On account of American power, should America take a role as a world policeman to get involved in international relations issues and why?

- ▶ **Nearly half of respondents (43%) supposed the U.S. should occupy the position as a world policeman**



Hypotheses

America scores highest in all questions and...	Half of responses		Result
	Question 11	Question 14	
	The U.S	The U.S.	American Empire
The U.S.		Status Enjoyment	
	The U.S. (43%)	American superpower	
		Leadership only	

Conclusion

- ▶ The U.S. definitely confirms its leadership in every area of today's world.
- ▶ America is almost certainly a superpower as nearly half of respondents preferred an American world policeman.
- ▶ Appearance of China after the U.S. is considerably noteworthy.
- ▶ They do not refute a powerful America but they always compare it with China.



Conclusion (cont.)

- ▶ America will find it difficult on account of major competitors such as EU, China, India, Japan.
- ▶ America is not as strong enough as it used to be. China will soon defeat America to become the premier country. America will “share the world” with China.
- ▶ America possesses many advantages. They expect a benevolent America to cooperate with others using its strength to maintain a stable world in which Vietnam will be one of beneficiaries.



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 - ▶ Kelly, John Dunham. “U.S. Power, after 9/11 and before It: If Not an Empire, Then What?” *Public Culture* 15, no.2 (Spring 2003): 347-369.
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 - ▶ Schroeder, Paul. “Is the U.S. an empire?”. <http://hnn.us/articles/1237.html> (accessed October, 2010).
 - ▶ [Walzer](http://www.dissentmagazine.org/article/?article=455), Michael. “Is there an American empire?”. <http://www.dissentmagazine.org/article/?article=455> (accessed October 2010).
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THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

CẢM ƠN QUÝ VỊ ĐÃ THEO DÕI

