

The East Asian Developmental State Model

— Its Relevance in the Contemporary World ?—

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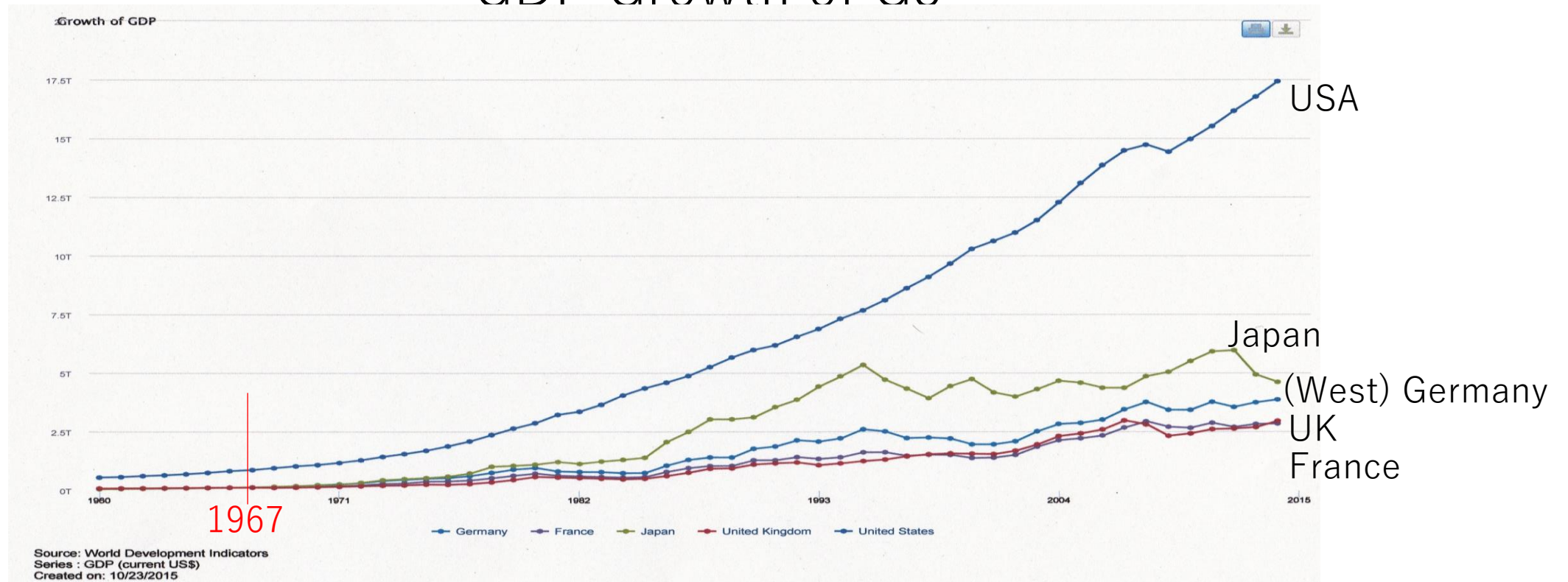
Outline of the Presentation

1. Concept of the Developmental State
 - 1-1. Origin of the concept
 - 1-2. Development of the model
2. Current Arguments: Durability and Applicability
3. Developmental States in the era of democratic backsliding

1. Concept of the Developmental State

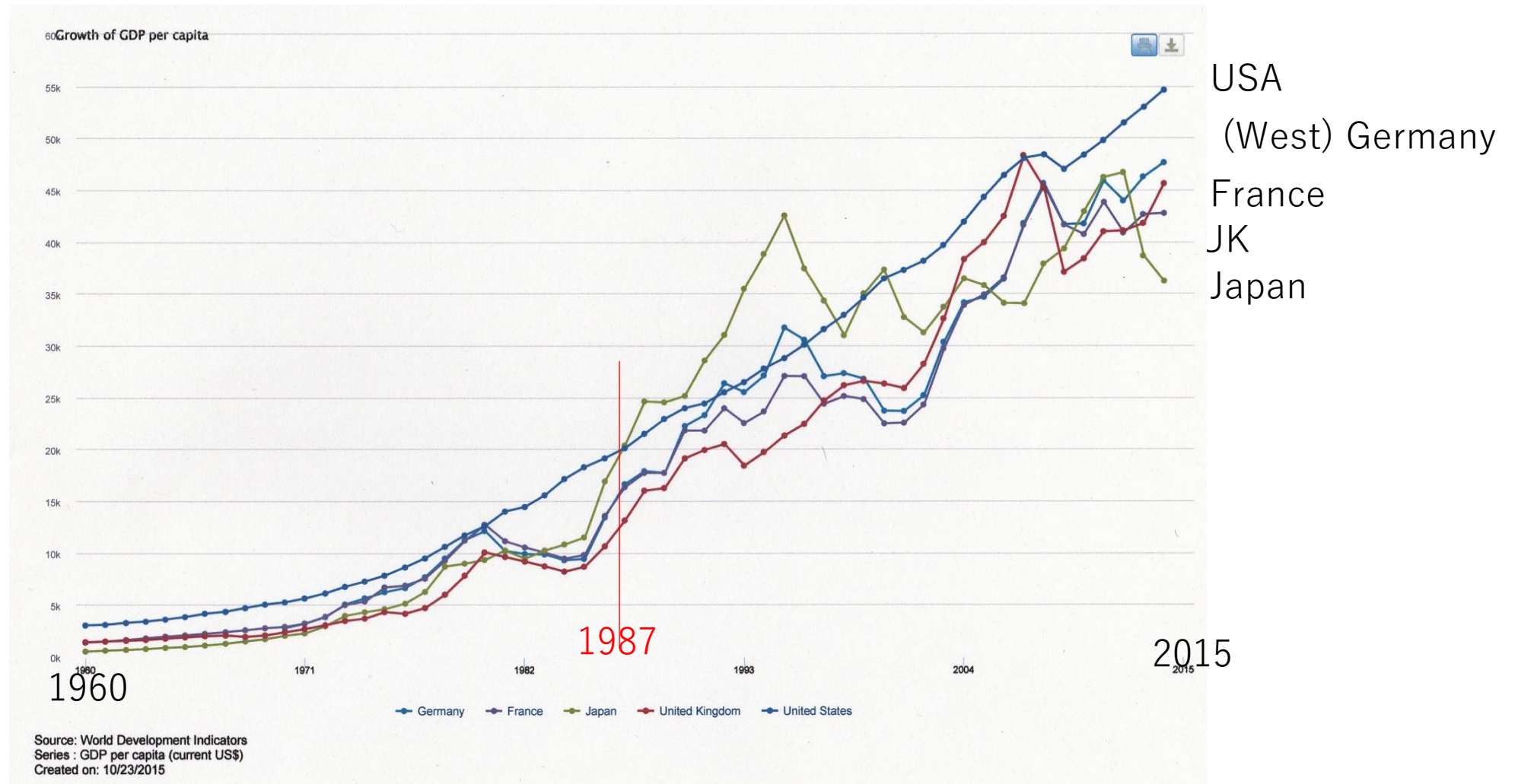
1-1. Origin: *The Japanese Miracle*

GDP Growth of G5



(drawn by Horikane based on Word Dev't Indicators 2015)

GDP per capita Growth of G5



(by Horikane based on WDI 2015)

Chalmers Johnson (1982), *MITI and the Japanese Miracle*

Role of the state was different: Regulatory vs Developmental

Japanese Model of **the Developmental State**

1. Existence of a small, inexpensive, but elite bureaucracy staffed by the best managerial talent available in the system
2. A political system in which the bureaucracy is given sufficient scope to take initiatives and operate effectively
3. Perfection of market-conforming methods of state intervention in the economy
4. A pilot organization like MITI

**No discussion about
authoritarianism**

⇒ ⇒ applied to Korea and Taiwan first, and then to others as well

1-2. Development of the model: *The East Asian Developmental States*

Major components of the Developmental State (DS) Model

- theorized mostly based on the East Asian experience in order to explain their state-led & sustained *high growth with equity*

1. A determined developmental elite
2. A powerful, competent and insulated econ. bureaucracy
3. Relative autonomy of the elite & the state institutions
4. **Strong states and weak/repressed civil society**
5. Effective management of non-state econ. interests
public-private connectedness/ *embedded autonomy*
6. **Repression and legitimacy by (good econ.) performance**
7. External threats

authoritarianism



Issue of democracy

(Leftwich 1995 and others)₆

DS and Democratization

Growth & Development!



Living standard ↑



Education ↑



**Desire for more
freedom & democracy**



**DS as its own grave
digger! (Evans 1992)**

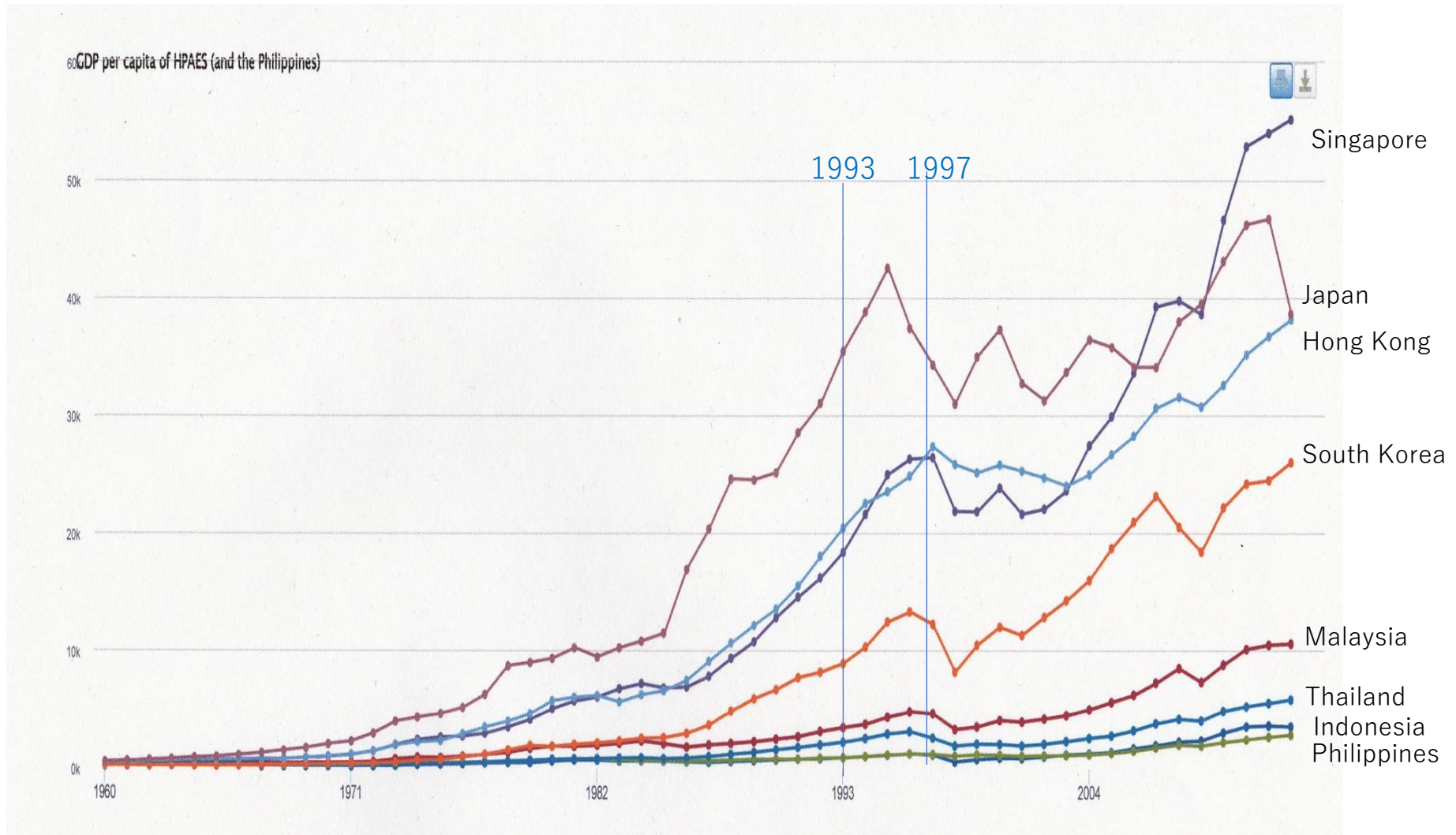
South Korea,
Taiwan . . .

regime legitimacy ↑



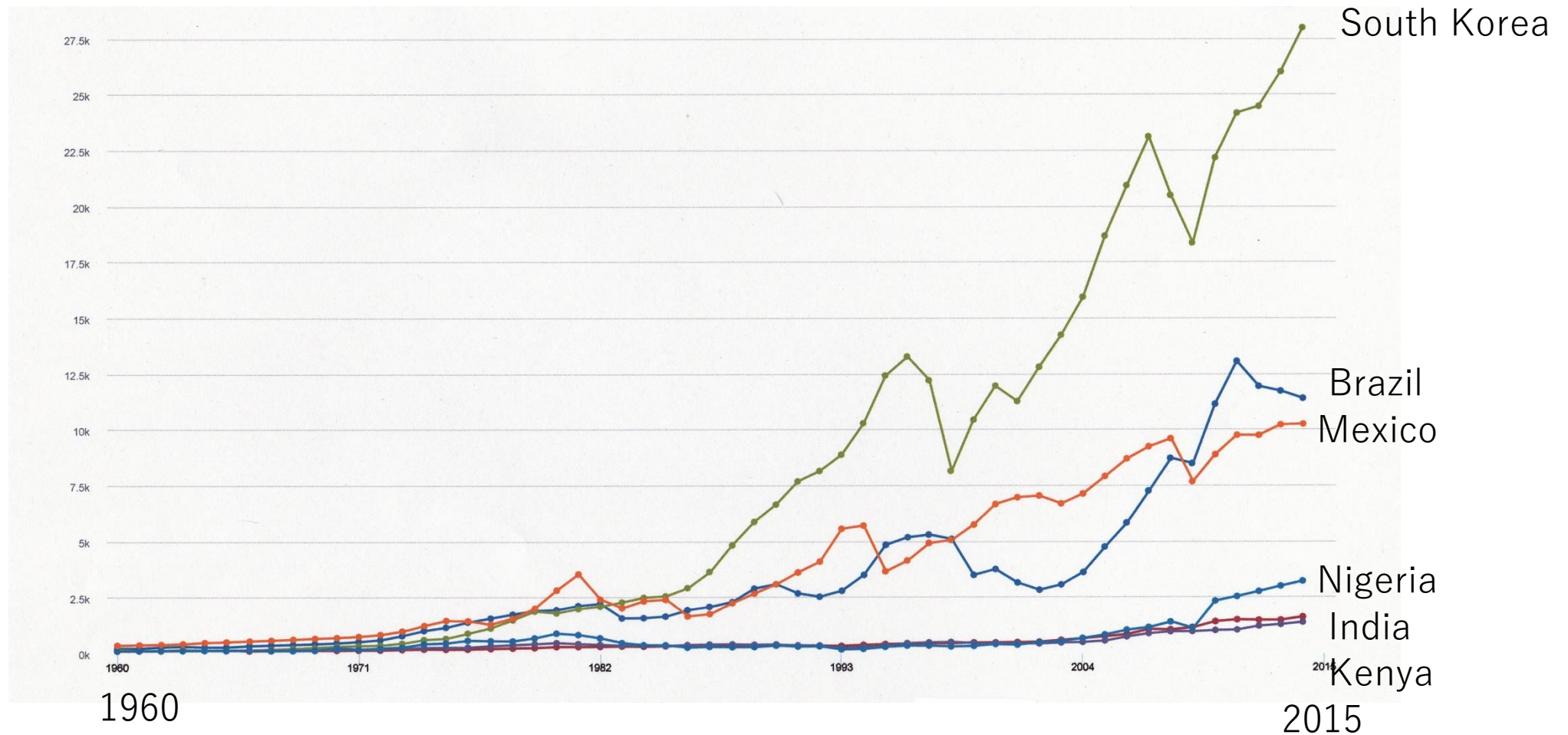
**Democrat-
ization**

GDP per Capita Growth in Asian Countries



(by Horikane based on WDI 2014)⁸

Growth of GDP per capita in 6 selected countries



(by Horikane based on WDI 2015)

2. Current arguments related to the DS

1. Durability of the model

- Some of them are now matured democracies, while others are still authoritarian.
- Are they, or can they be, still developmental?
- What about the role of the state in the economy, or policy orientation?

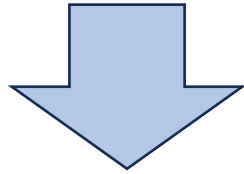
2. Issue of the applicability

- Is the model applicable in the contemporary world?

3. Issue of democracy vs. authoritarianism

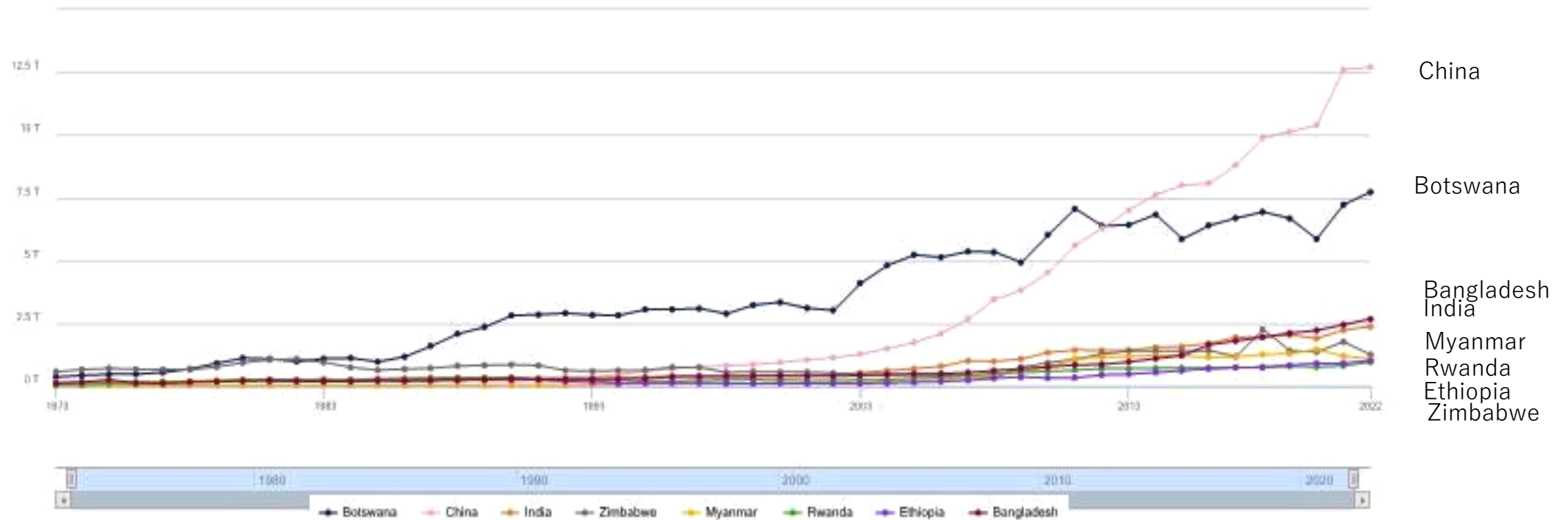
3. Developmental States in the era of democratic backsliding?

- In most of the successful DS in East Asia, the heydays of them were under some authoritarian regime(s) within the context of the Cold War.
- Some of them were *democratized afterwards* in the Third Wave of Democratization (Huntington 1991).



- Now in the days of democratic backsliding, or de-democratization, and revision of too much “free market,” is the environment good again for new DS?

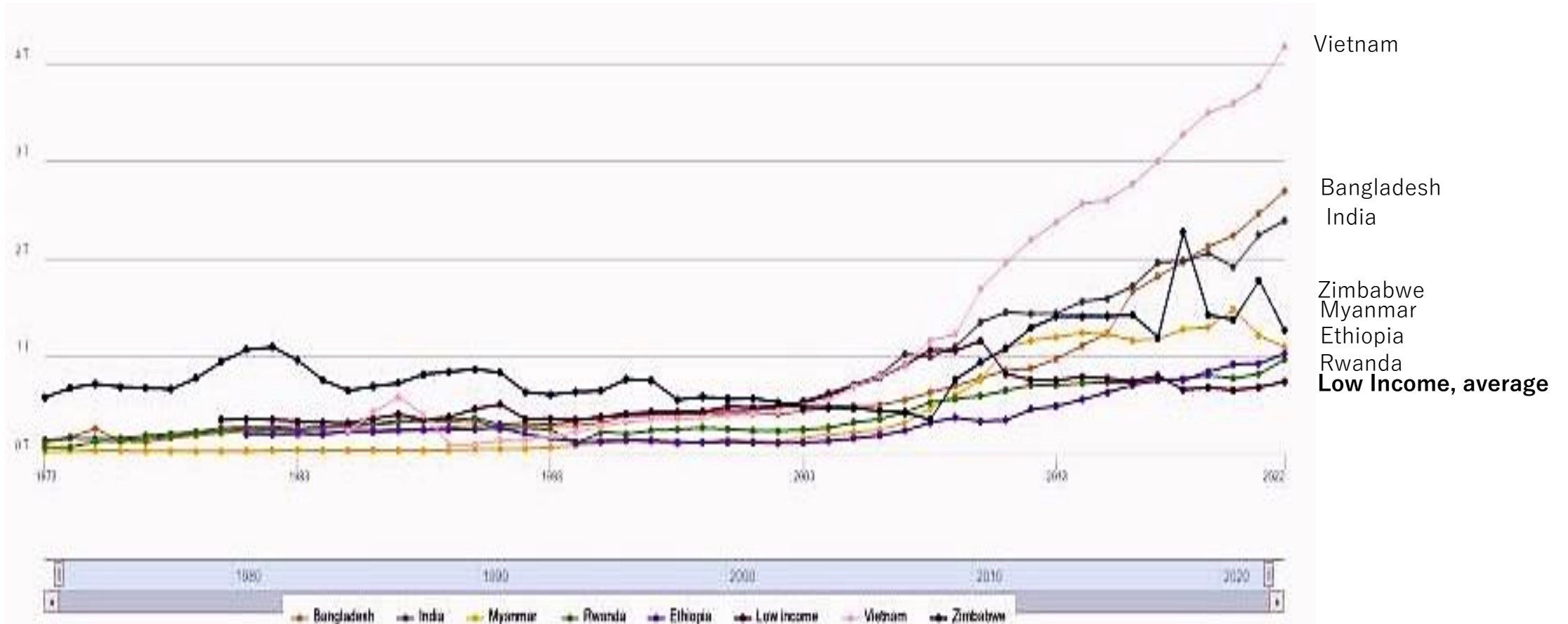
Growing GDP per capita in some Asian and African countries (1)



Series : GDP per capita (current US\$)
Source: World Development Indicators
Created on: 08/06/2023

(by Horikane based on WDI 2023)

Growing GDP per capita in some Asian and African countries (2)



(by Horikane based on WDI 2023)

Series : GDP per capita (current US\$)
Source: World Development Indicators
Created on: 08/06/2023

QUESTION:

What will happen to these global south countries in the coming years?

Thank you for listening!