

Doom and gloom in Oxford

Developments on a global scale

Mag. Hanno Lorenz
Zurich, 21.01.2019

A presentation by



Refugee Crisis

European debt crisis

Trump Election

Brexit Poll

Lehman Brothers

Global Financial Crisis

Trade War

Syrian Civil War

Oxfam's annual report



Richest 1% will own more than all the rest by 2016

Published: 19 January 2015

62 people own the same as half the world, reveals Oxfam Davos report

Published: 18 January 2016

Just 8 men own same wealth as half the world

Published: 16 January 2017

Richest 1 percent bagged 82 percent of wealth created last year - poorest half of humanity got nothing

Published: 22 January 2018

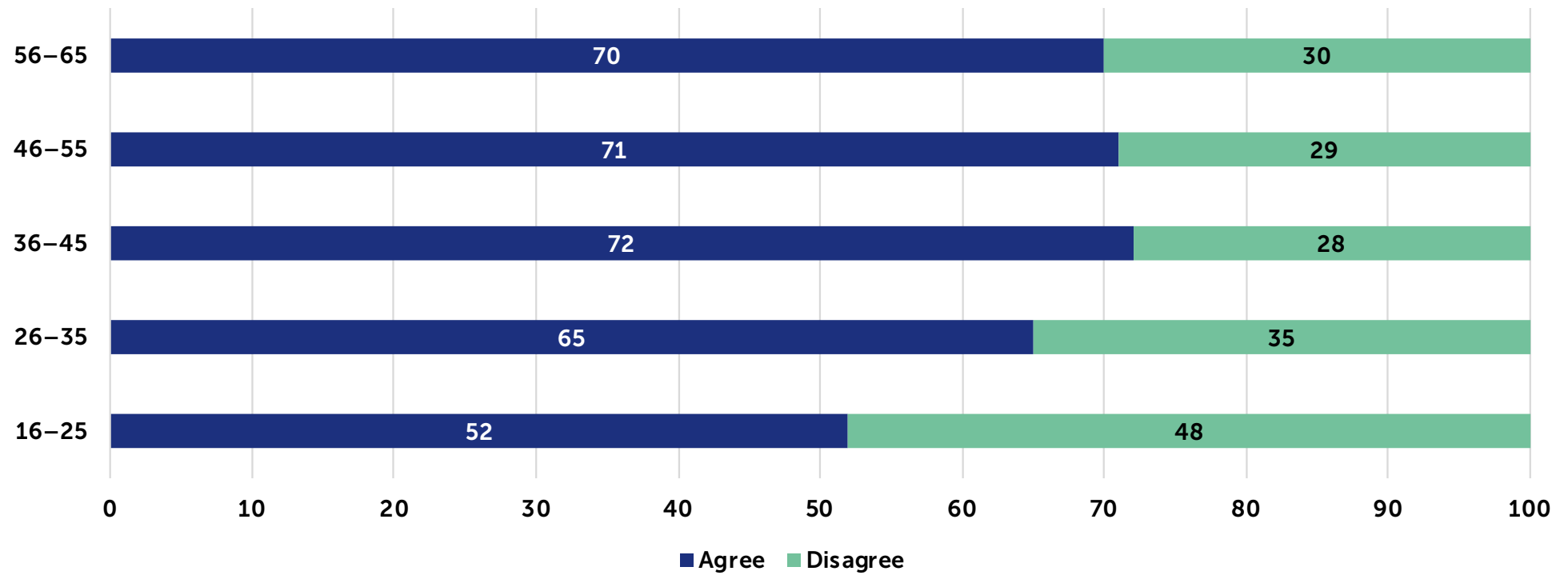
In 2019, 20+ men own the same as half the world?

“When things are getting better we often don’t hear about them. This gives us a systematically too-negative impression of the world around us, which is very stressful.”

Hans Rosling, Factfulness

The world used to be a much better place

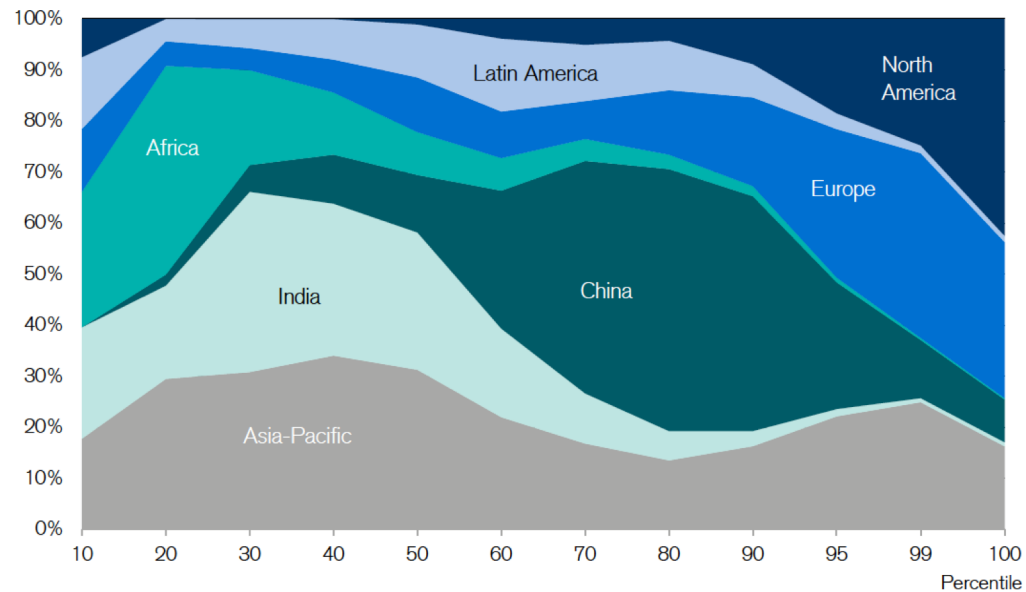
age groups in percent of EU28



Source: Bertelsmann Stiftung.

The Oxfam method

Regional composition of global wealth distribution in 2018



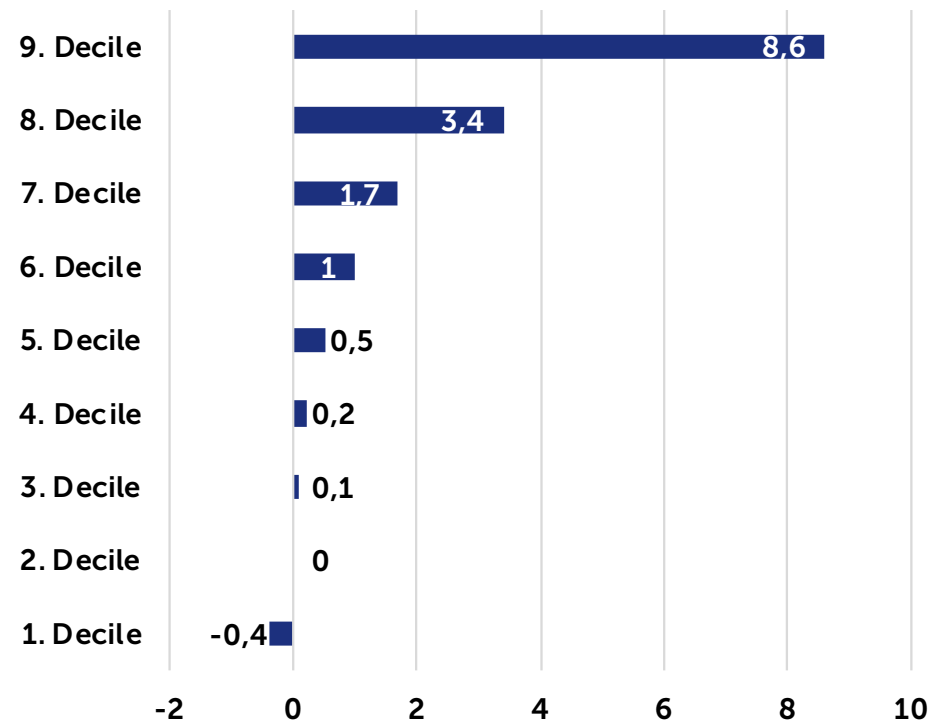
Source: James Davies, Rodrigo Lluberas and Anthony Shorrocks, Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook 2018.

The World's Billionaire's 2018

	#1	Jeff Bezos	\$112 B	54	Amazon
	#2	Bill Gates	\$90 B	63	Microsoft
	#3	Warren Buffett	\$84 B	88	Berkshire Hathaway
	#4	Bernard Arnault	\$72 B	69	LVMH
	#5	Mark Zuckerberg	\$71 B	34	Facebook

Source: Forbes.

Percent of global wealth by wealth decile



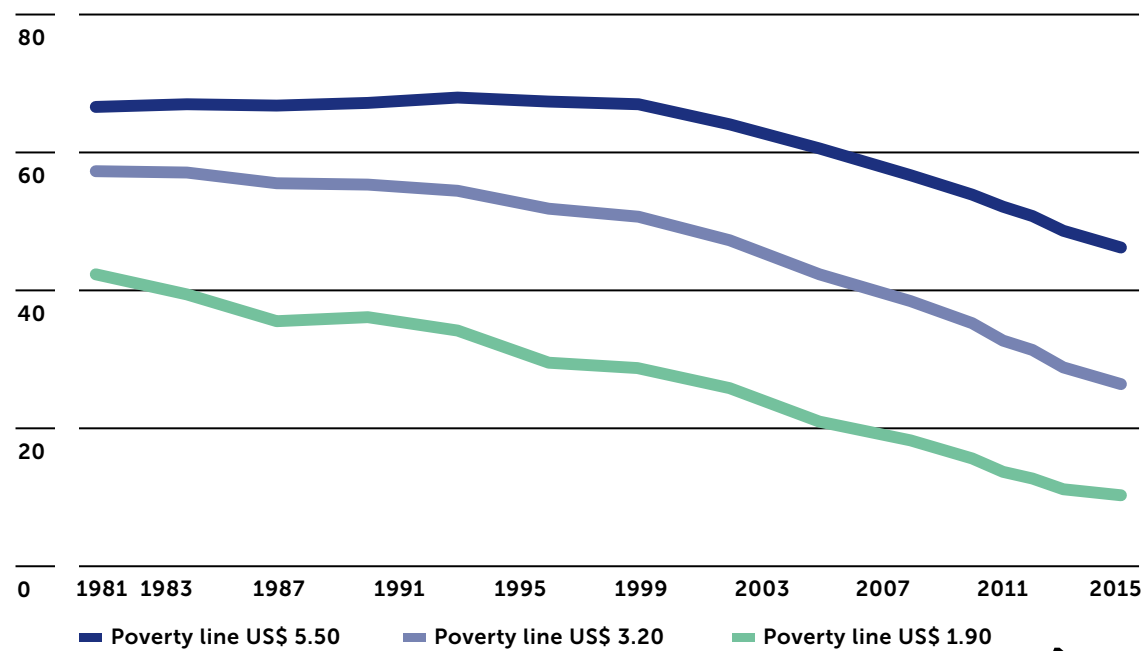
Source: Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook 2018.

Global wealth distribution

- 1. decile (500 million adults) debt > wealth by US\$ 1 trillion
- 1. – 4. decile debt > wealth by US\$ 3 billion
- Minimum wealth of US\$ 4,209 top 50 %
- Minimum wealth of US\$ 93,168 top 10 %
- Minimum wealth of US\$ 871,317 top 1 %



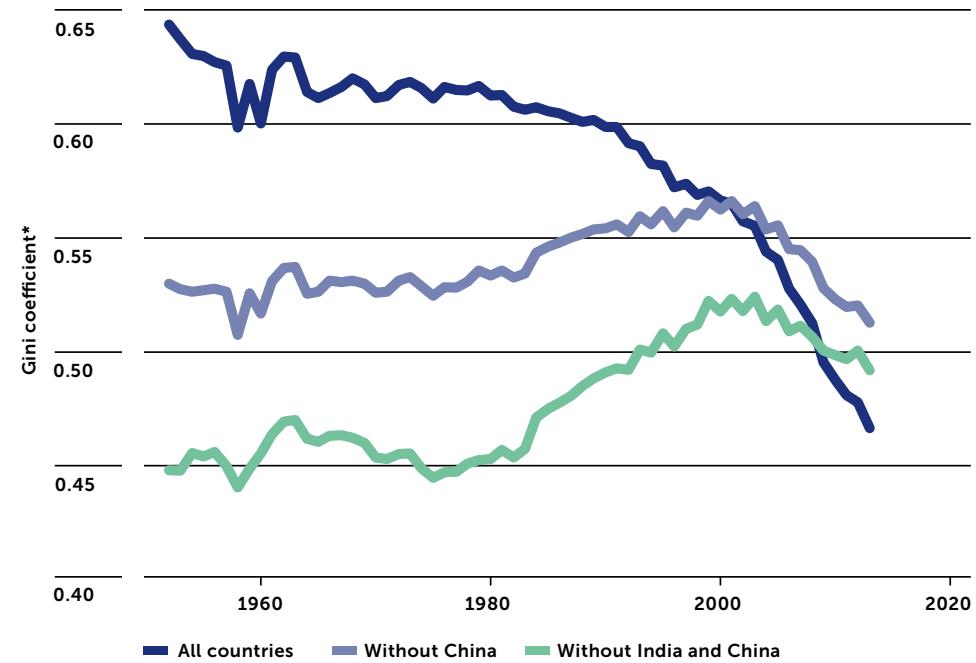
Global Poverty Rates – in percentage of world population



Source: Worldbank (2018), Development indicators.



Development of Global Inequality –purchasing power and exchange rate adjusted



Source: Branko Milanovic (2014). Trends in global income inequality and their political implications; *The Gini coefficient takes values between 0 (total equality) and 1 (total inequality).



“A child born today is more likely to reach retirement age than his forebears were to live to their fifth birthday.”

Johan Norberg, Progress

Within the last 15 years...

...extreme poverty declined by 67 percent

...infant mortality declined by 49 percent

...malnutrition declined by 29 percent

...illiteracy declined by 19 percent

...income inequality declined by 3 percent

...access to electricity, drinkable water, sanitation facilities increased by >10 percent

...average life expectancy increased by 8 percent

...wealth concentration of top 1 % increased by 13 percent

How to improve the situation?

(according to Oxfam)

Eradicate the use of tax havens and increase transparency

by adopting an objective blacklist of the worst tax havens and strong and automatic sanctions against the corporations and rich people that use them.

Use tax to reduce extreme wealth

Prioritize taxes that are disproportionately paid by the very rich, such as wealth, property, inheritance and capital gains taxes. Increase tax rates and collection on high incomes. Introduce a global wealth tax on billionaires, to help finance the SDGs.

End extreme wealth

Governments should use regulation and taxation to radically reduce levels of extreme wealth, as well as limit the influence of wealthy individuals and groups over policy making

Limit returns to shareholders

pay ratio for companies' top executives that is no more than 20 times their median employees' pay

Thank you!

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