

Global Remote Work Index Insights Report

2022



The Top 5

Germany tops the Global Remote Work Index ranking, followed by Denmark, the USA, Spain, and Lithuania.

Germany takes the top position in the GRWI due to solid performance in cybersecurity (3rd) and economic and social conditions (5th). However, it still lags behind in digital and physical infrastructure (17th).

Meanwhile, **Denmark** (4th in the infrastructure category) used its supreme infrastructure to solidify itself in the Top 5. **Spain** made it into the Top 5 by ranking consistently high on almost all dimensions except digital and physical infrastructure (19th).

The Baltic country **Lithuania** climbed to a Top 5 list as it was made possible by its 2nd place in the cybersecurity ranking category. Finally, the **USA** could have climbed even higher on the overall ranking, but a poor cybersecurity score (19th) held them back.

General ranking

1



Germany

2



Denmark

3



USA

4



Spain

5



Lithuania

Category-based insights

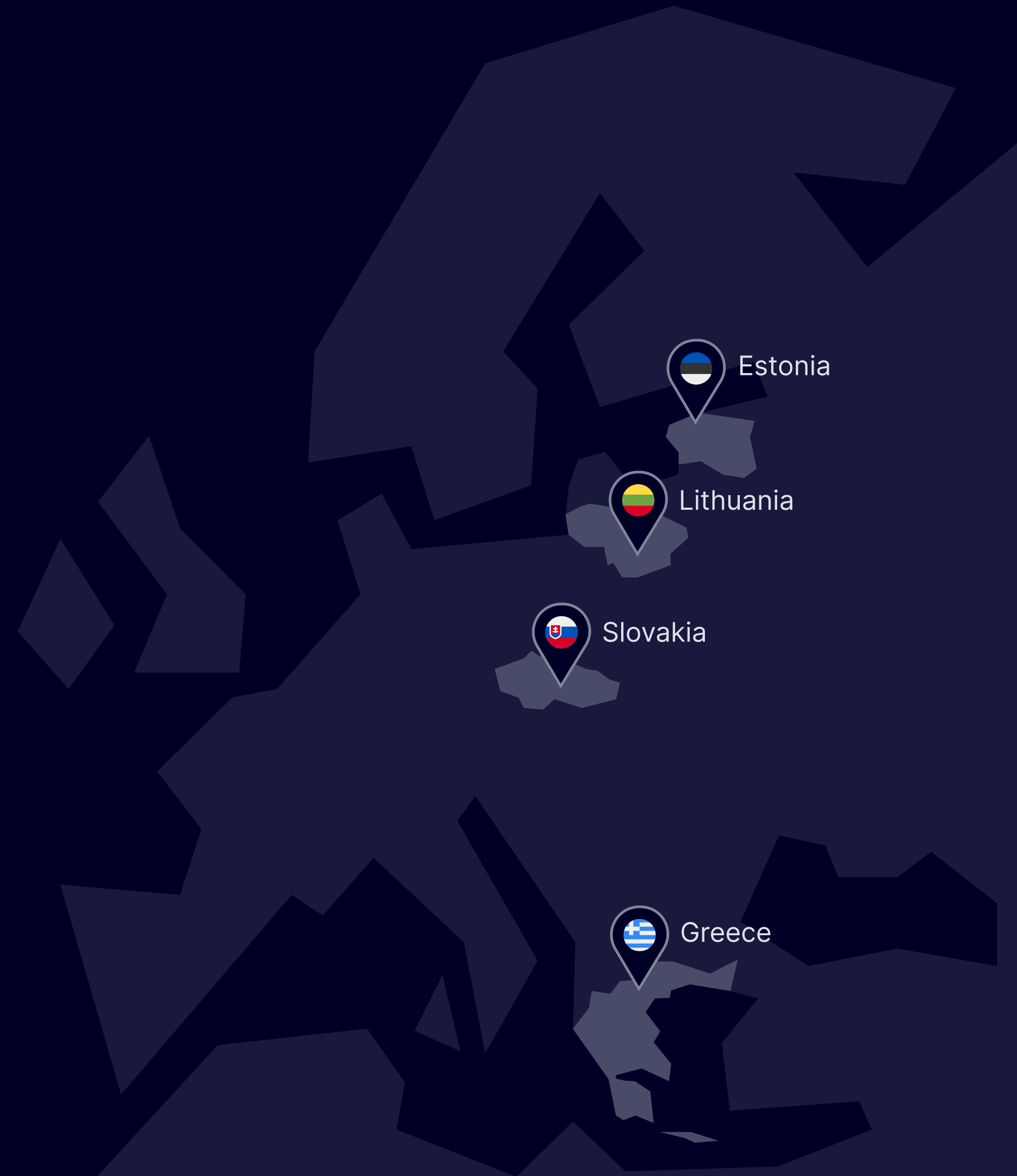
Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is dominated by smaller European Union countries such as Slovakia, Lithuania, Estonia, and Greece.

The existence of an outstanding cybersecurity infrastructure does not guarantee a top rank in the overall cybersecurity index for wealthy countries such as the UK, USA, and Singapore.






Countries that assure response capacity to cyber threats and provide proper legal measures manage to secure a place among the Top 5.

Countries from the EU occupy the first 18 places on the cybersecurity ranking. This may be partially explained by the legal guidelines for data protection set out in the GDPR framework.



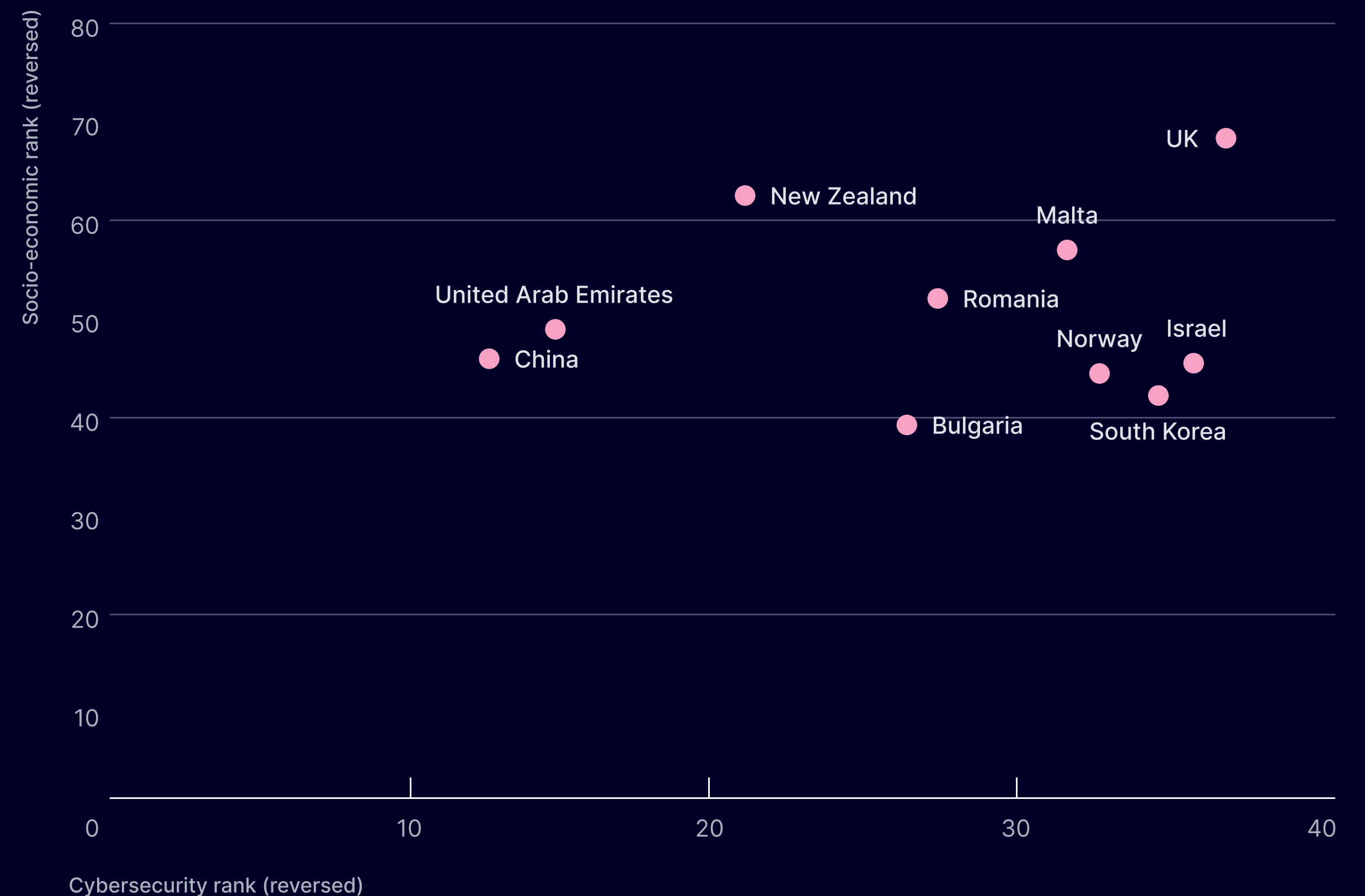
Economic and Social Conditions

Economic and social conditions for remote work are most favorable in Canada, the UK, Portugal, the USA, and Germany. 3 of the Top 5 countries are native English-speaking countries.

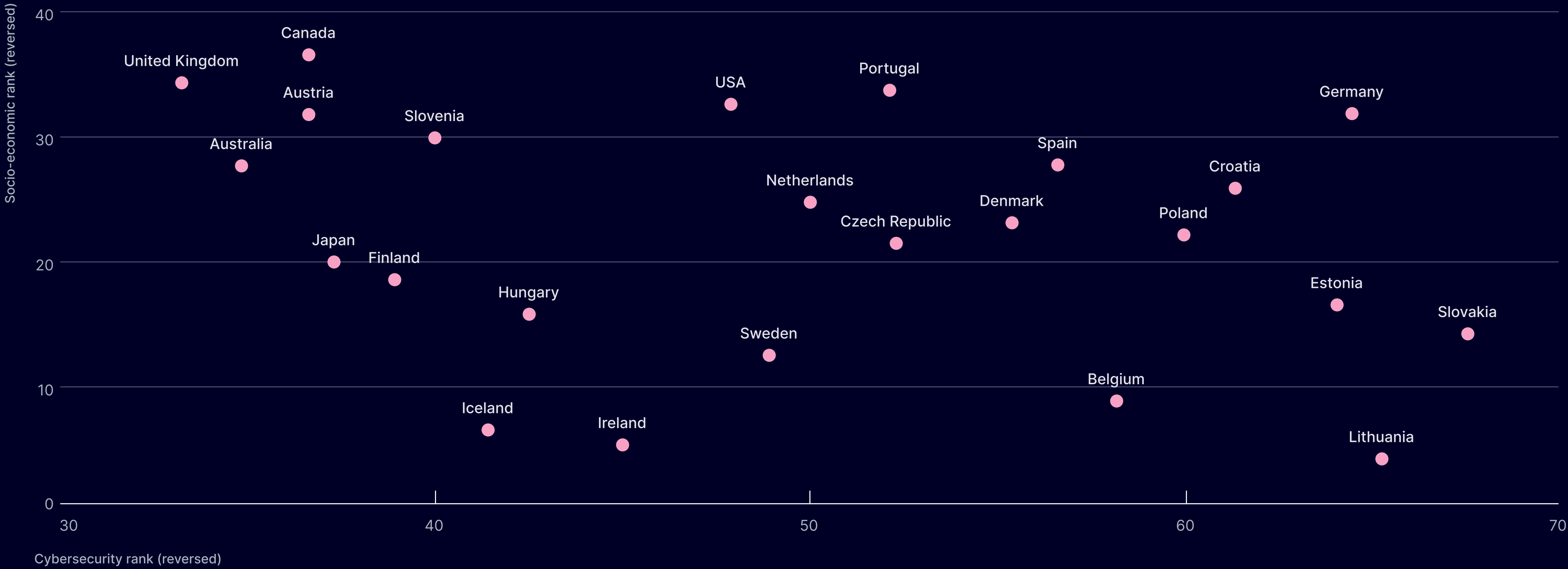
1		Canada
2		UK
3		Portugal
4		USA
5		Germany

Although economic and social conditions are favorable for remote work in Malta, New Zealand, or United Arab Emirates (and other countries in the graph), remote workers would be facing more cybersecurity risks in those countries than elsewhere with similar economic and social conditions.

[See graph on the right](#) >>



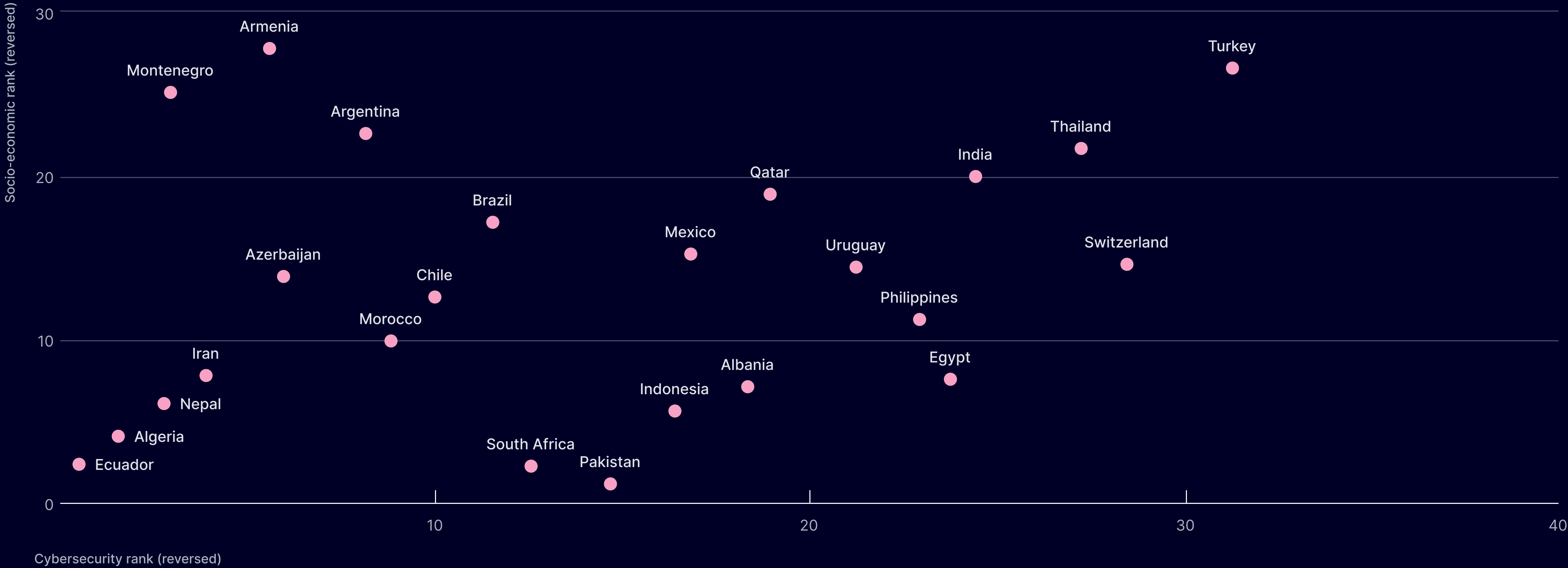
Comparing country performance in Economic and Social Conditions and Cybersecurity, the following countries range at the top in both dimensions:



You win some, you lose some. The first top 10 countries in the overall index are proof of that. Most of the countries that are safe from crime and attractive for tourists are highly proficient in English but are expensive to live in – like Germany or The Netherlands.

Vacation destinations usually chosen for their warmer weather tend to fare worse in cybersecurity and economic and social conditions, making them less suitable as destinations for remote work.

See graph below



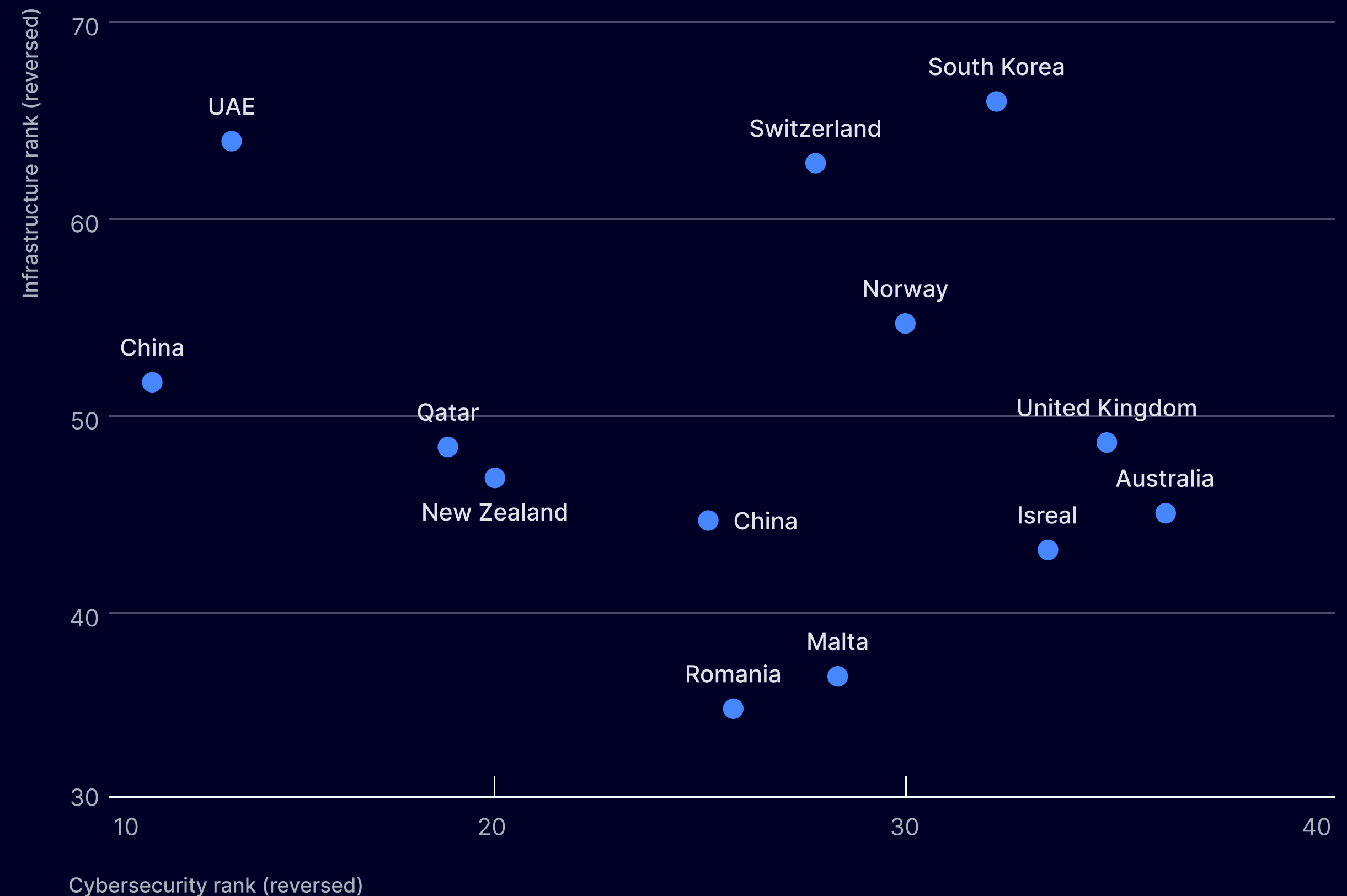
⇄ Digital and Physical Infrastructure

Digital and Physical Infrastructure features two Asian countries at the top – South Korea and Singapore. They are followed by the United Arab Emirates, Denmark, and Switzerland.






Surprisingly, the presence of a good Digital and Physical Infrastructure does not mean that a country also does well in cybersecurity. Take Germany: despite its Top 5 position in cybersecurity, it only ranks 17th in Digital and Physical Infrastructure.

Countries with high-quality Digital and Physical Infrastructure, e.g., South Korea, Singapore, and the UAE, tend to rank lower on the cybersecurity dimension.

[See graph on the right](#) >>



COVID Response and Handling

- 1  USA
- 2  Thailand
- 3  Australia
- 4  Finland
- 5  South Korea

The Top 5 for COVID Response and Handling consists of the USA, Thailand, Australia, Finland, and South Korea, which – except for two Asian countries – does not reveal any major regional trends.



Additional quick take-aways



Qatar is the
safest country



South Korea has
the fastest internet



Israel has the most
affordable internet



Despite its reputation for excellent infrastructure, **Germany only ranks 17th on Digital and Physical Infrastructure.** That is primarily due to sub-par internet quality (27th) and low-ranked e-infrastructure (25th).



Europe as a whole is particularly attractive for remote work, claiming 8 of the Top 10 spots in the overall GRWI ranking. Strong competitors from Asia and the Americas are the USA (3rd), Singapore (9th), South Korea (11th), Canada (12th), and Japan (20th). Australia comes in 19th. African and Middle Eastern countries did not make it into the upper half of the ranking, i.e., 34th or better.



Countries with high tourism attractiveness (ranks 1-5; note that multiple countries have the same ranking for this attribute) **are not the safest countries.** Japan is the lone exception, ranking 1st in tourism attractiveness and 4th in safety.



Lithuania



Slovakia



Estonia

Smaller European countries seem to fare exceptionally well in cybersecurity. Lithuania and Estonia rank high on all sub-dimensions, possessing not only a good response capacity and legal measures but also a strong infrastructure. Slovakia and Lithuania lead the overall cybersecurity ranking.



Would you like to know more?

If you have any questions, please don't
hesitate to contact us at:

press@nordlayer.com

nordlayer.com/global-remote-work-index

