

UNESCO
SCIENCE
REPORT
Towards 2030



Trends in business R&D

- China and India are capturing a much greater share of business research and development (R&D), to the detriment of Western Europe and North America.
- Latin America, the Middle East and Africa together account for just 4% of global business expenditure on research and development.

90.5%
↓
83.0%

World share of triadic patents held by the European Union, Japan and USA in 2002 and 2012

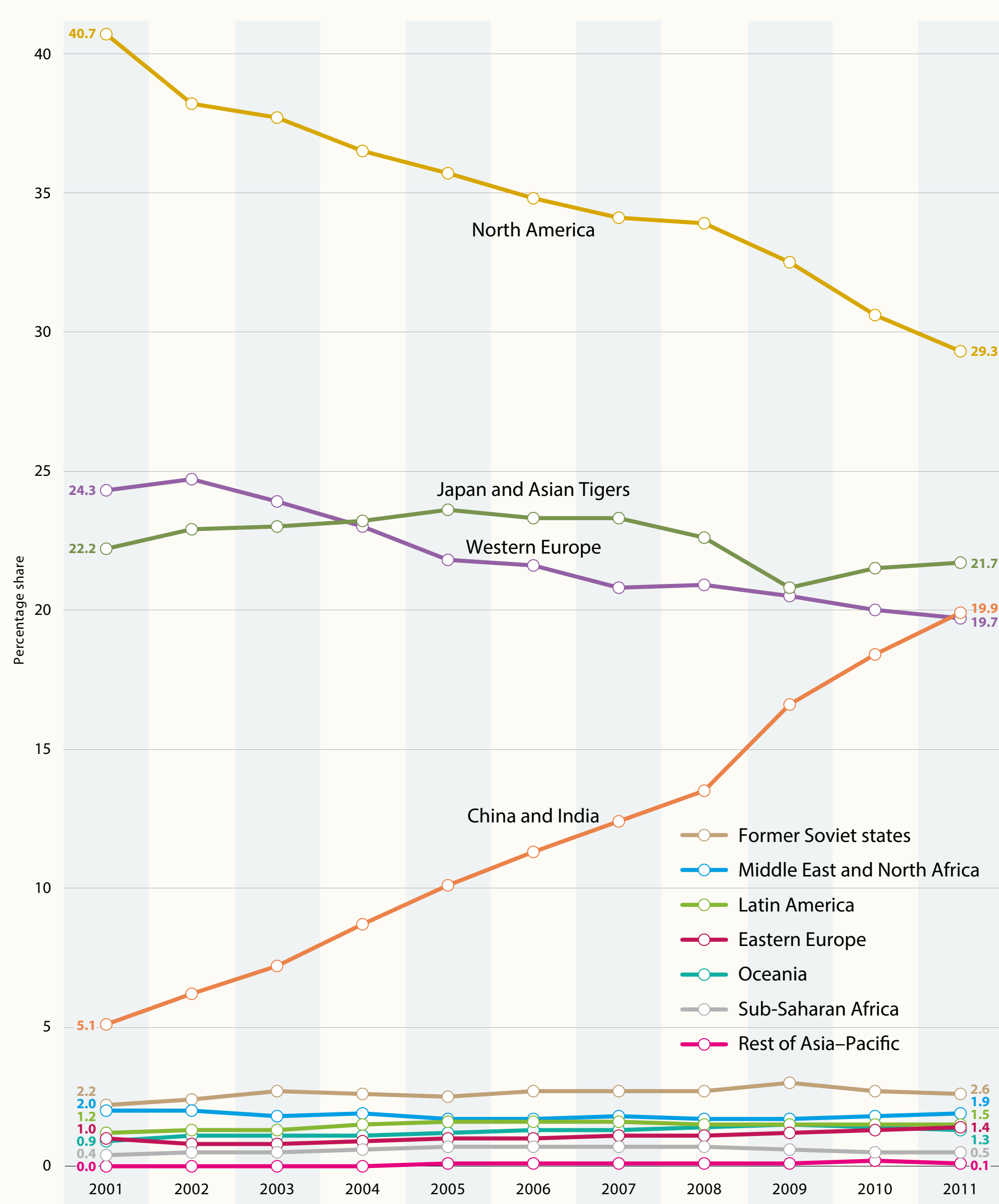
0.5%
↓
3.6%

China's world share of triadic patents in 2002 and 2012

2.8%
↓
5.5%

Republic of Korea's world share of triadic patents in 2002 and 2012

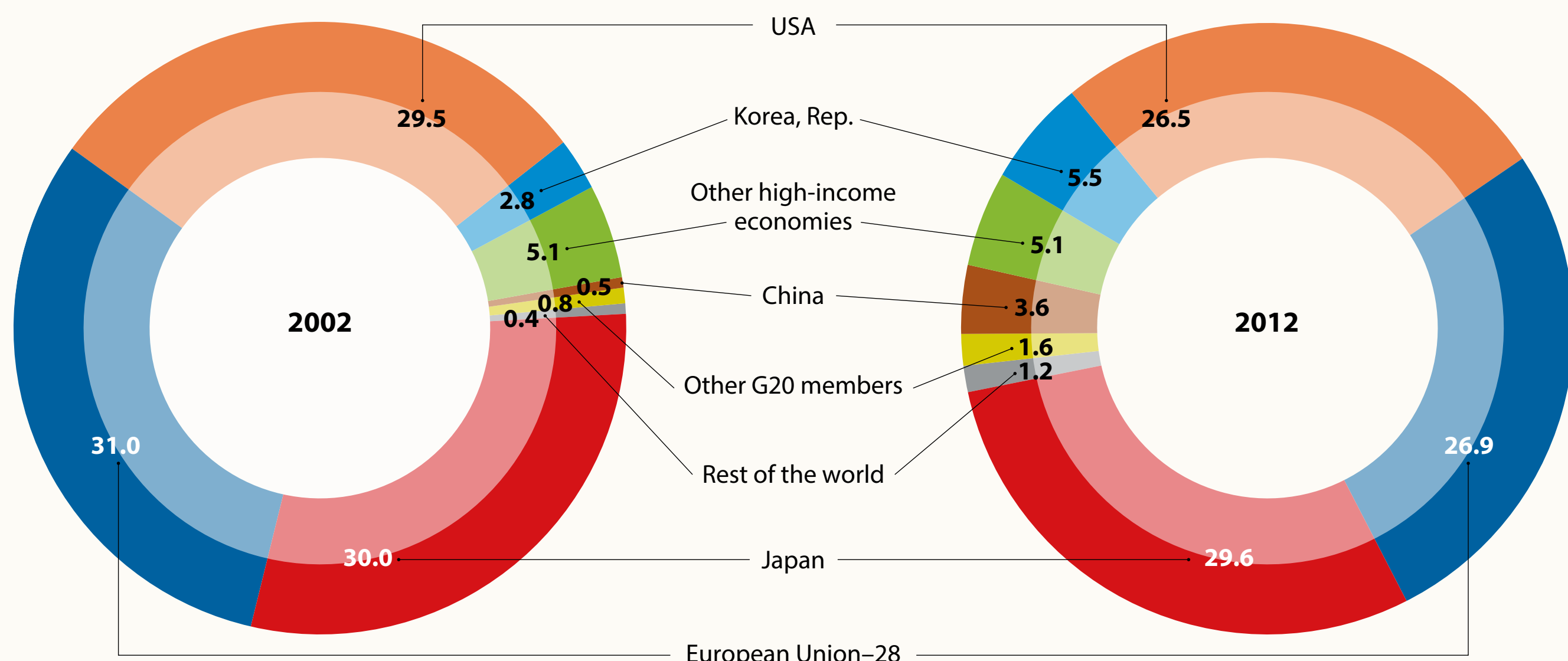
World shares of business R&D, 2001–2011 (%)



Source: Estimations by UNU-MERIT based on data from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics

- Taken together, the European Union, China, Japan, Republic of Korea and USA hold nine out of ten triadic patents in the world.

Global shares of triadic patents, 2002 and 2012 (%)



Note: Nowcasting triadic patents of countries in the USPTO database, 2002 and 2012. Triadic patents are a series of corresponding patents filed at the European Patent Office (EPO), the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) for the same invention, by the same applicant or inventor.

Source: UNESCO Science Report: towards 2030, published in 2015



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