



Advocates of the Status Quo –

Right-Wing Populist Party Success Undermines Citizens' Democratic Political Support in Times of Progressive Policy Change

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Slides online available under: bit.ly/vierus-epsa

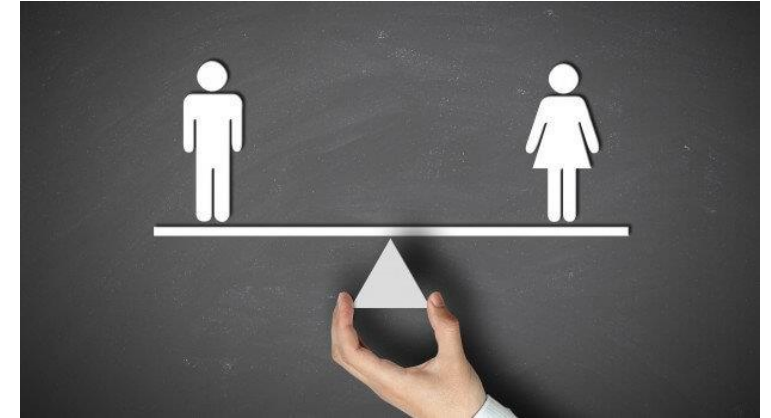
Multiple developments and crises demand policy change



Climate Change



Migration/Integration



Gender parity



High proximity



Used by right-wing populist parties to polarize & to blame the government for uncertainty

Interaction between policy progressiveness and right-wing populist party success



Deutschland.
Aber normal.



Green crap: Ministry examines solar roof obligation for cultural monuments.



Deutschland.
Aber normal.



AfD query reveals:
Almost €500,000,000 in health care costs due to asylum seekers in Hamburg



Deutschland.
Aber normal.

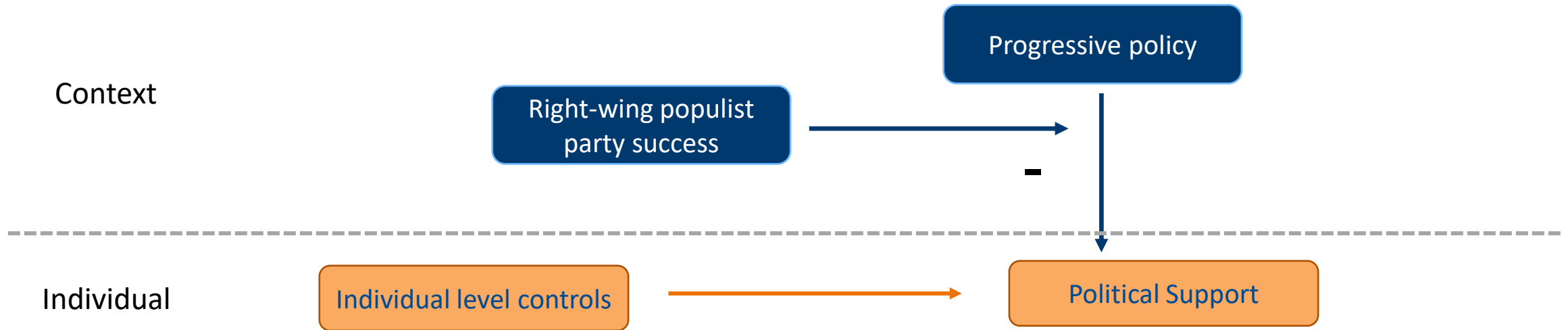


The Deutsche Bahn in the diversity trap: BahnCard supposed to discriminate third gender?!
Stop gender nonsense!

Interaction between policy progressiveness and right-wing populist party success



Interaction between policy progressiveness and right-wing populist party success



Operationalization

- **Dependent variable on individual level**
 - Satisfaction with the incumbent government
 - Satisfaction with the way democracy works
 - Political trust for politicians, parties, and parliament
- **Main independent variable on contextual level**
 - **Overall policy progressiveness**, consisting of:
 - **Gender Gap Index** for gender equity
 - **MIPEX** for immigrant integration policy
 - **CCPI** for climate change policy
 - *Cronbachs* – $\alpha = 0,75$
 - **Share of votes for right-wing populist parties** obtained from ParlGov dataset with PopuList

Data & Analyses Strategy

■ Individual level

- European Social Survey
 - Round 5 (2010), 7 (2014), and 9 (2018)

■ Country level:

- Only European countries with right-wing populists in **opposition**
- Included countries: BE, CZ, DE, DK, EE, FI , FR, GB, NL, NO, SE
- N = 11

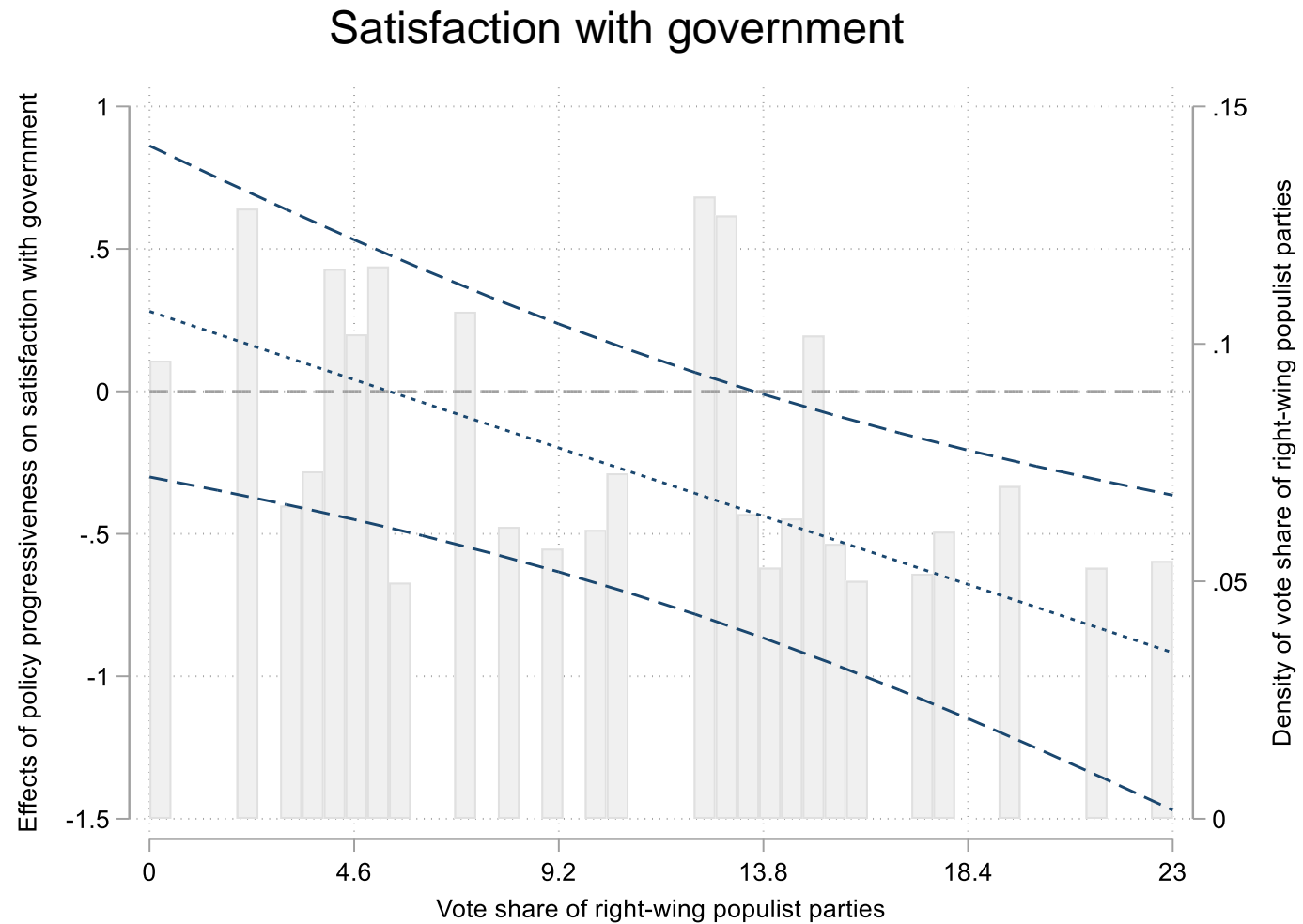
■ Method:

- Multilevel regression with 4 levels:
- Respondents, countries, years und country-years
- Fixed effects on country and year level

	Political Trust Index			Satisfaction with Government			Satisfaction with Democracy		
	(A1)	(A2)	(A3)	(B1)	(B2)	(B3)	(C1)	(C2)	(C3)
<i>Level 1 - Individual</i>									
Individual control variables included									
<i>Level 2 - Context</i>									
Vote share of right-wing populist parties	-0.000 (-0.02)	0.001 (0.16)	0.008 (1.10)	-0.030 (-1.73)	-0.025 (-1.43)	-0.010 (-0.60)	0.000 (0.01)	0.001 (0.16)	0.010 (1.75)
Overall policy progressiveness Index		-0.092 (-0.87)	0.175 (1.36)		-0.352 (-1.43)	0.281 (0.95)		-0.069 (-0.66)	0.305** (2.82)
<i>Cross-Level-Interaction</i>									
RW-Populist Vote share X Policy progressiveness			-0.022** (-3.04)			-0.052** (-3.12)			-0.031*** (-5.08)
Constant	1.115* (1.97)	1.214* (2.13)	1.363** (2.68)	-0.116 (-0.09)	0.265 (0.20)	0.615 (0.53)	1.436** (2.59)	1.511** (2.68)	1.711*** (3.96)
Variance: Country-Year	0.022*** (-14.21)	0.021*** (-14.26)	0.016*** (-14.87)	0.131*** (-8.10)	0.123*** (-8.34)	0.094*** (-9.34)	0.020*** (-14.05)	0.020*** (-14.07)	0.010*** (-15.06)
Variance: Residual	3.617*** (211.83)	3.617*** (211.83)	3.617*** (211.83)	4.363*** (242.72)	4.363*** (242.72)	4.363*** (242.72)	4.574*** (250.53)	4.574*** (250.53)	4.574*** (250.53)
Country fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
N (Country)	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
N (Country-Year)	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
N (Individual)	54333	54333	54333	54333	54333	54333	54333	54333	54333

Note: Unstandardized regression coefficients are shown. T-values appear in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ (two-sided test).

Marginal Effect Plot of Progressive Policy on Satisfaction with Government





Summary

- **Lower levels of political support** in contexts with high share of votes for right-wing populist parties **in combination** with progressive policies regarding climate change, gender parity, and immigration migration.
- Further steps:
 - Conducting a vignette study to further inspect the causal relationship on individual level and the specific mechanism



Thank you!

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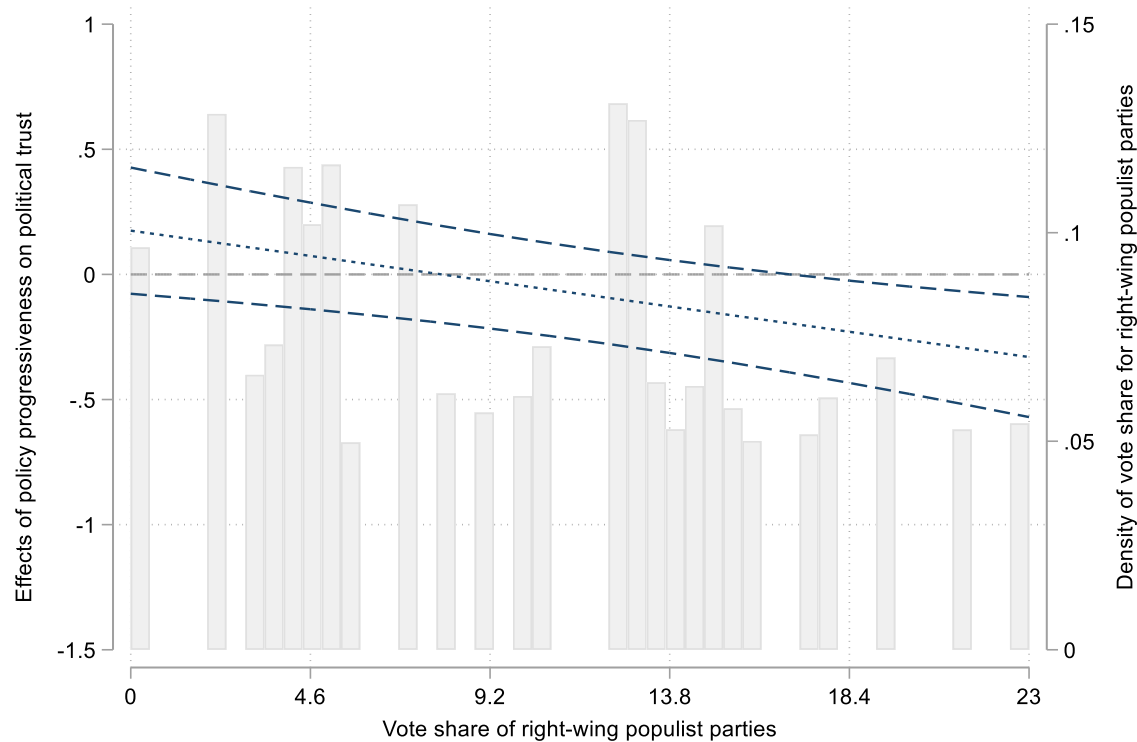
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Visualization II

Political trust



Satisfaction with democracy

