Populist Parties and Quality of Democracy

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Consequences of Populist Parties for the Quality of Democracy?

- ▶ On the one hand: Broadening of the electorate through inclusion of the "left behind"
- ▶ On the other hand: Declining Quality of Democracy due to Authoritarian Populist Rule
- ▶ *Any References?*

# What is a "Populist" Party? How can we measure it?

- ▶ three defining elements:
    1. anti-elite rhetoric
    2. thin ideology
    3. anti-pluralistic
- ▶ Indicators of Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2014:
    1. "salience of anti-establishment and anti-elite rhetoric" (0: not important; 10: important)
    2. "position of the party in2014in terms of its overall ideological stance" (0: left; 10: right)

Distribution of these two variables
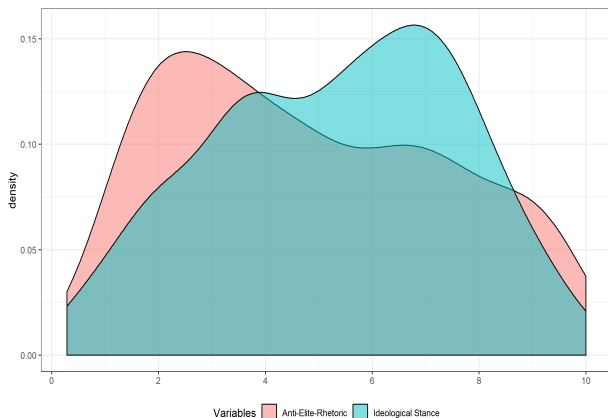
- ▶ anti-elite-salience is right-skewed (more parties without anti-elite rhetoric)
- ▶ ideological stance is slightly left-skewed (slightly more right-wing parties)

Classification I

bootstraped mean with 95% confidence interval
each point represents a party
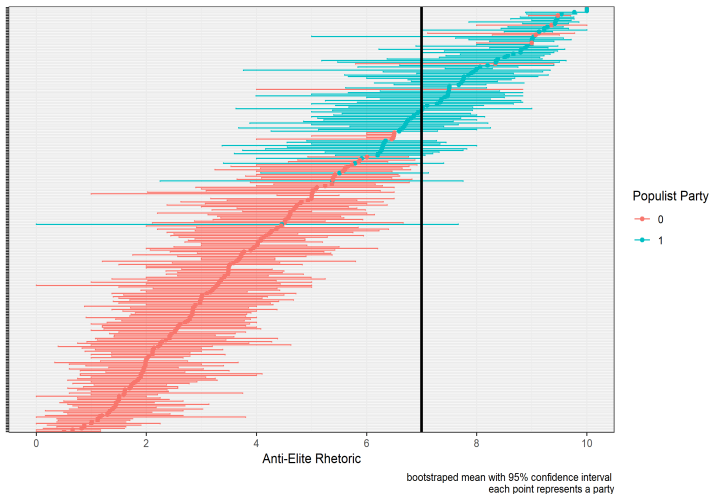
► vertical line represents threshold
► *change 95% confidence intervals? change threshold placement?*

Classification II

bootstraped mean with 95% confidence interval
each point represents a party
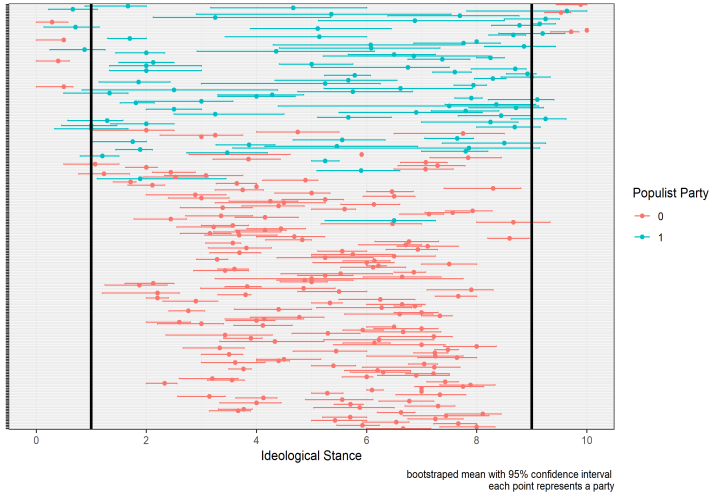
► vertical lines represents threshold: extremist left parties;
extremist right parties

► *change 95% confidence intervals? change thresholds
placement?*
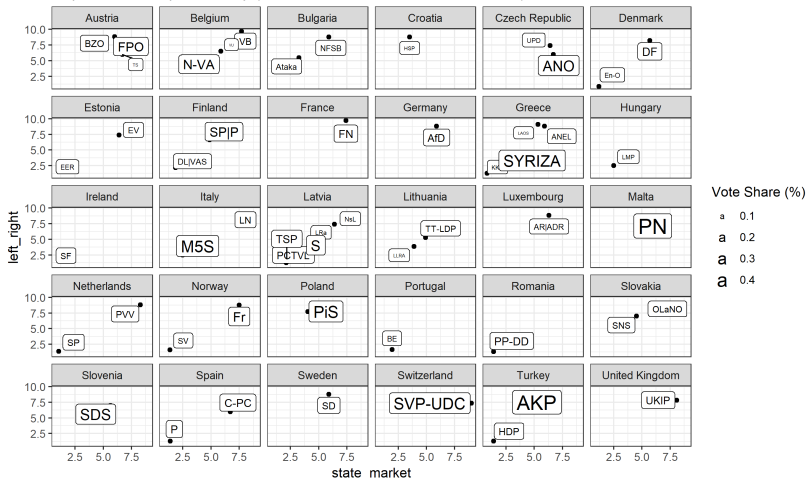
Populist Parties per Country

Populist Parties per country (Whole Dataset)
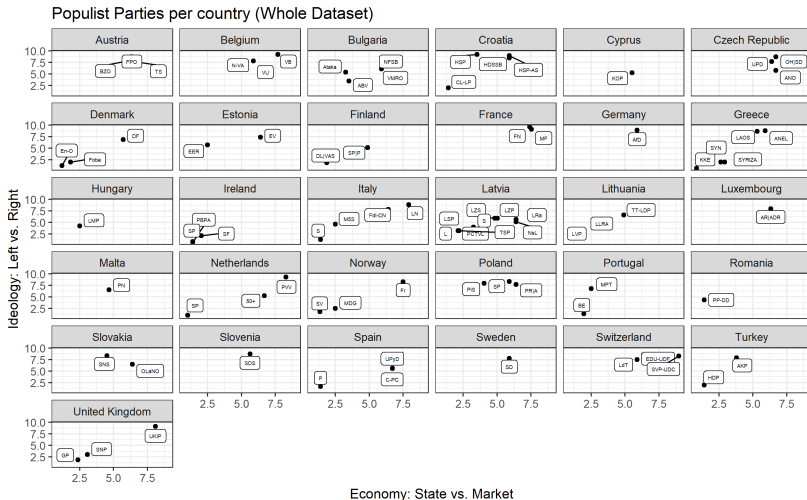
▶ there are a lot of populist parties…

Populist Parties per Country: Vote Share

Populist Parties per country (Since 2000; Vote Share in Elections)

▶ . . . but most of them are not relevant

Populist Parties: Votes and Seats

Vote Share for Populist Parties

Number of Seats for Populist Parties
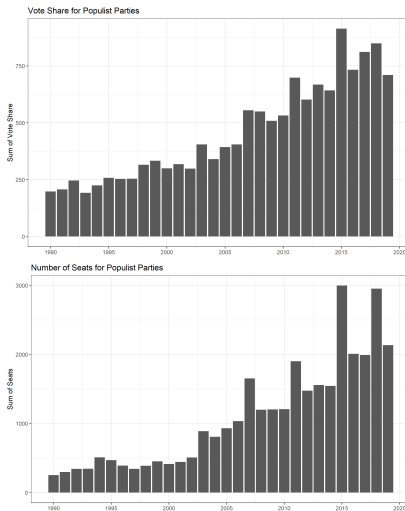
▶ number of seats and votes for populist parties across european
  countries is increasing since 1990

Populist Parties: Cabinets

Number of Populist Parties in Cabinets
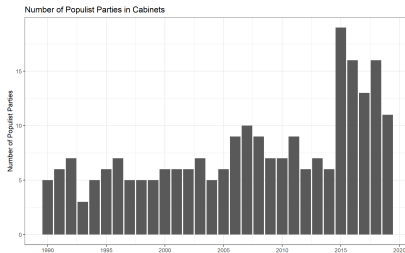
▶ populists caputre more cabinet positions (with a spike in 2015)

Populist Parties and Quality of Democracy

Quality of Democracy and Populist Parties
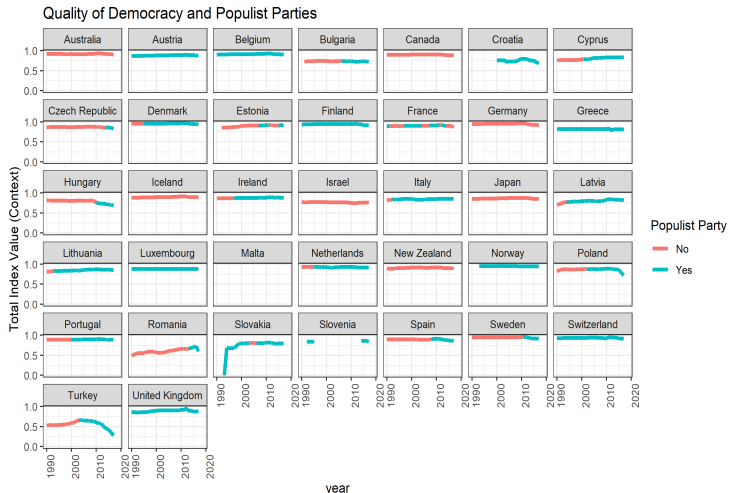
▶ we examine a mostly slight regression of DQ for some countries since 2010 (Turkey; Hungary; Poland; but also for Croatia, Germany, Romania, Sweden, Spain, UK)

TSCS: Basics

- Violations of the OLS assumptions by combining cross-sectional and time-series data:
    - Unit Root
    - Serial Correlation
    - Unit Heterogeneity
    - Panel Heteroskedasticity and Contemporaneous Errors

TSCS Regression: Total Value Index

Table 1: Table of TSCS Results (within-Model; PCSEs)

	Total Value Index (Context)
total_index_context_lag	1.055^{***} (0.038)
	p = 0.000
populist_in_cabinet	0.002 (0.003)
	p = 0.604
populist_percent_seats	-0.010 (0.007)
	p = 0.155
populist_is_prime_minister	-0.013^{*} (0.007)
	p = 0.073
populist_party_exists	-0.006^{**} (0.003)
	p = 0.024

*p < .1; **p < .05; ***p < .01

TSCS Regression: Freedom Value Index

Table 2: Table of TSCS Results (within-Model; PCSEs)

	Freedom Value Index (Context)
freedom_dim_index_context_lag	0.982*** (0.036)
	p = 0.000
populist_in_cabinet	0.001 (0.003)
	p = 0.729
populist_percent_seats	−0.009 (0.007)
	p = 0.222
populist_is_prime_minister	−0.011** (0.006)
	p = 0.050
populist_party_exists	−0.006** (0.003)
	p = 0.037

$^*p < .1$; $^{**}p < .05$; $^{***}p < .01$

TSCS Regression: Equality Value Index

Table 3: Table of TSCS Results (within-Model; PCSEs)

	Equality Value Index (Context)
equality_dim_index_context_lag	0.968*** (0.030)
	p = 0.000
populist_in_cabinet	0.001 (0.003)
	p = 0.684
populist_percent_seats	−0.014* (0.008)
	p = 0.066
populist_is_prime_minister	−0.003 (0.005)
	p = 0.640
populist_party_exists	−0.006** (0.002)
	p = 0.024

*p < .1; **p < .05; ***p < .01

TSCS Regression: Control Value Index

Table 4: Table of TSCS Results (within-Model; PCSEs)

	Control Value Index (Context)
control_dim_index_context_lag	1.108*** (0.047)
	p = 0.000
populist_in_cabinet	0.003 (0.004)
	p = 0.479
populist_percent_seats	−0.014* (0.008)
	p = 0.083
populist_is_prime_minister	0.0002 (0.010)
	p = 0.985
populist_party_exists	−0.006** (0.003)
	p = 0.035

*p < .1; **p < .05; ***p < .01

References