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Headline: The Force Shaping Western Politics

Article

Link: https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/12/briefing/immigration-european-us-elections.html

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Tweet: .@DLeonhardt suggests the rapid rise of the foreign-born share of national populations since 1990 is driving the recent electoral success of the 2016 Brexit campaign, Trump, and EU parliamentary results for Le Pen in France and the AfD in Germany.

Summary: The first thing to understand is how unusual the modern migration boom has been. In nearly every large Western country, the foreign-born share of the population has risen sharply since 1990. It's not clear whether immigration has ever previously risen so quickly in so many different countries. If anything, the chart understates the trend because it ends in 2020, the last year with available data. For years, mainstream Western politicians, from the center-right to the center-left to the left, have dismissed voters' concerns about immigration. Many voters responded by drifting to the only parties that promised to reduce immigration — parties on the extreme right.

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Primary Topic: Immigration

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