Cross-National Equivalence of Political Participation in Early Adolescence across 24 Countries.

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Outline

Introduction and framework: What is political participation?

Data and Methods

Results

Brief discussion

Introduction and Framework: What is Political Participation?
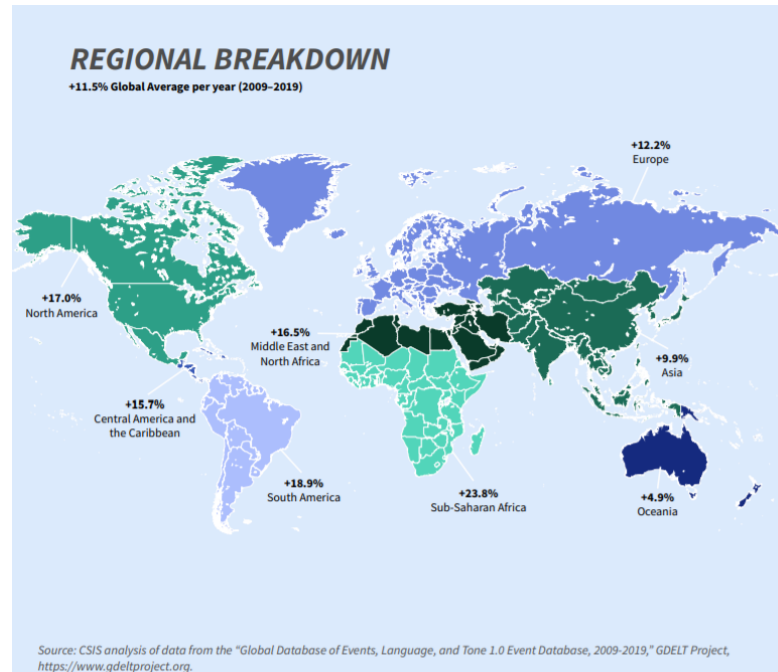
What is Political Participation?

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Relevant changes in patterns of youth involvent

Note: Brannen, Haig & Schmidt (2020).

Some considerations for youth

- The age: is different to study participation at 10, 14, 16, 18 or 20 years?

- Oportunities and allowance to participate

  - Formal age of voting vary across countries: 16, 18 or 21

  - Where participate: close to home or in the city

  - Experiences of coummunity involvement or marching

- Comparability across years or across contexts

What is Political Participation?

Scholars point to a lack of a comprehensive framework that integrates old and newly emerging forms of political participation, and is both 'conceptually meaningful' and 'allows for a consistent measurement of the phenomenon' (Theocharis & Van Deth, 2018)

The proposed model is described by four distinct dimensions, each measured by intended behaviour (considering theoretical models and limitations of available data).

Proposed model

The first two dimensions are both considered institutionalized political participation – that is, they refer to conventional activities that are organized by political actors and institutions, and correspond to the minimalist definition of political participation (van Deth, 2014).

- Electoral participation, focuses exclusively on voting behaviour (e.g. voting in national elections).

- Non-electoral participation, focusses on non-electoral activities (e.g. campaign work).

The next two dimensions are considered non-institutionalized political participation, describing unconventional activities that try to circumvent the core institutional context but are still targeted at (i.e. trying to influence) the political domain.

- Legal participation (e.g. protesting)

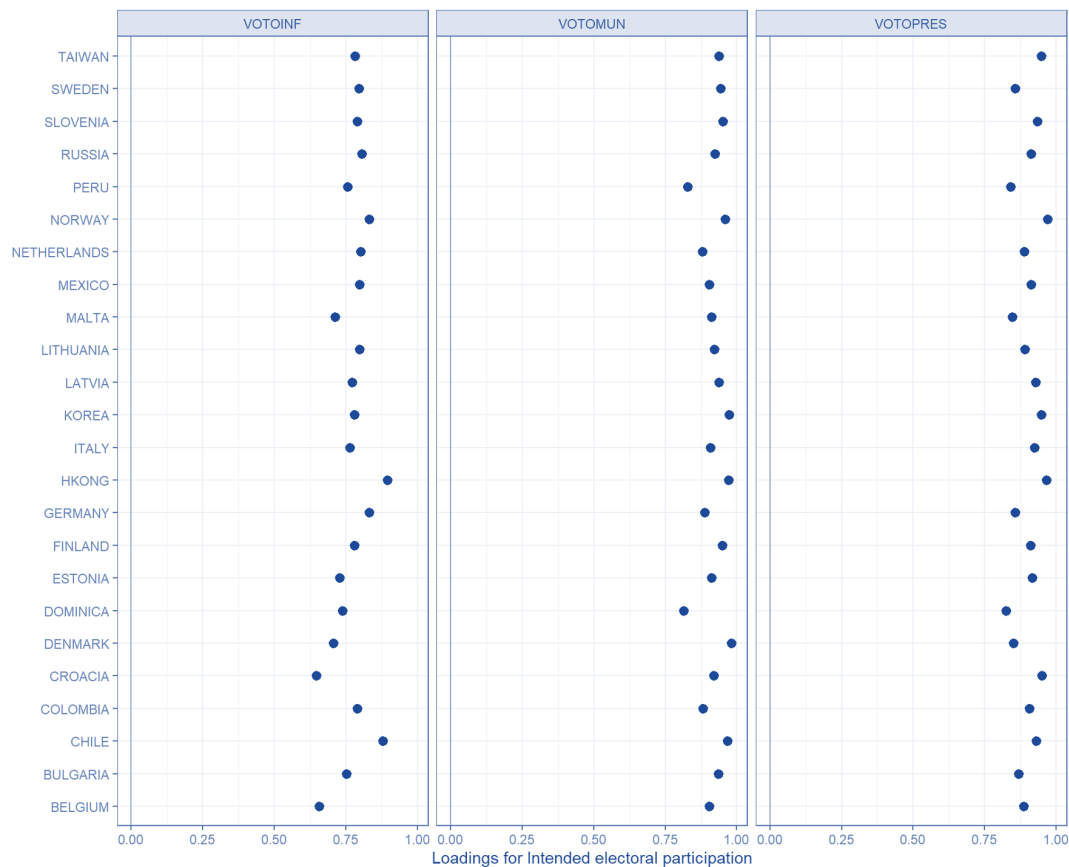- Illegal participation (e.g. stage a protest by blocking traffic).

Data and Methods
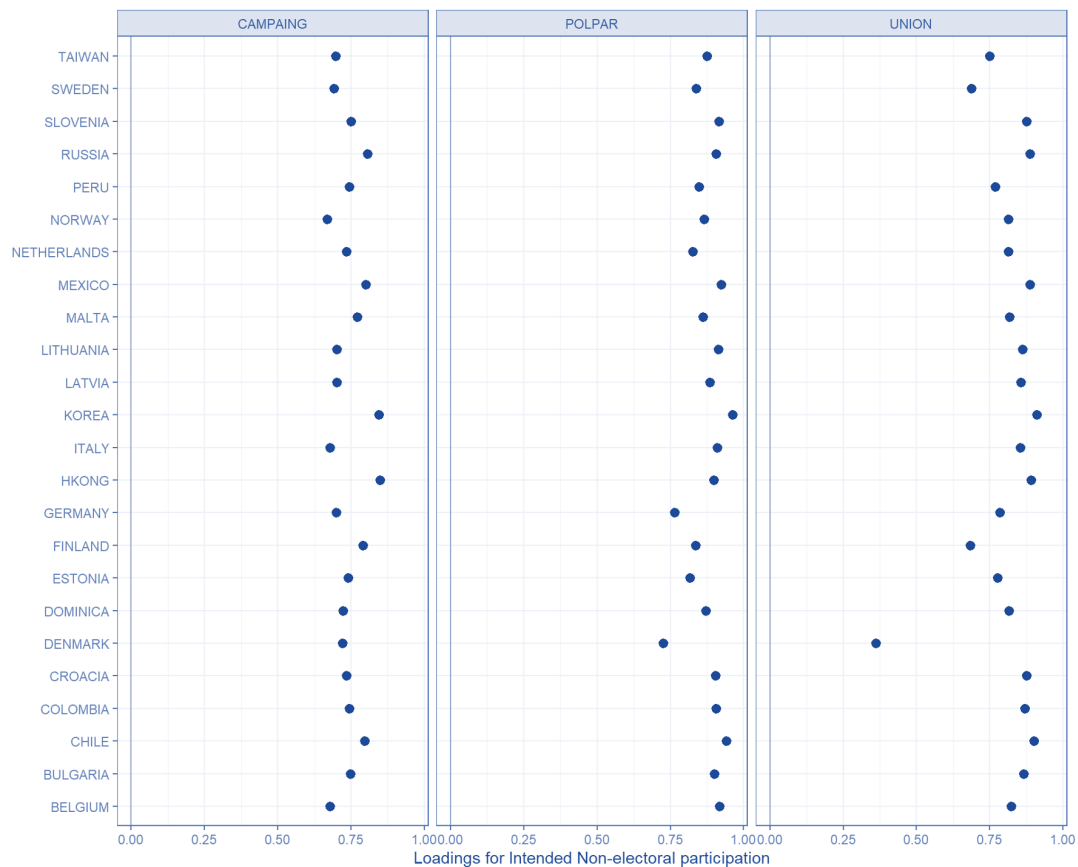
Data, variables and methods

- The data analyzed is obtained from the International Civic and Citizenship Study (ICCS).

- The ICCS study was undertaken in 2016, with a sample of more than 90,000 grade 8 students from 24 countries (W. Schulz et al., 2010).

- Set indicators which measure each type of participation (see in results).

- Multi-group Confirmatory Factor Analyses MG-CFA (with complex design and categorical specification).
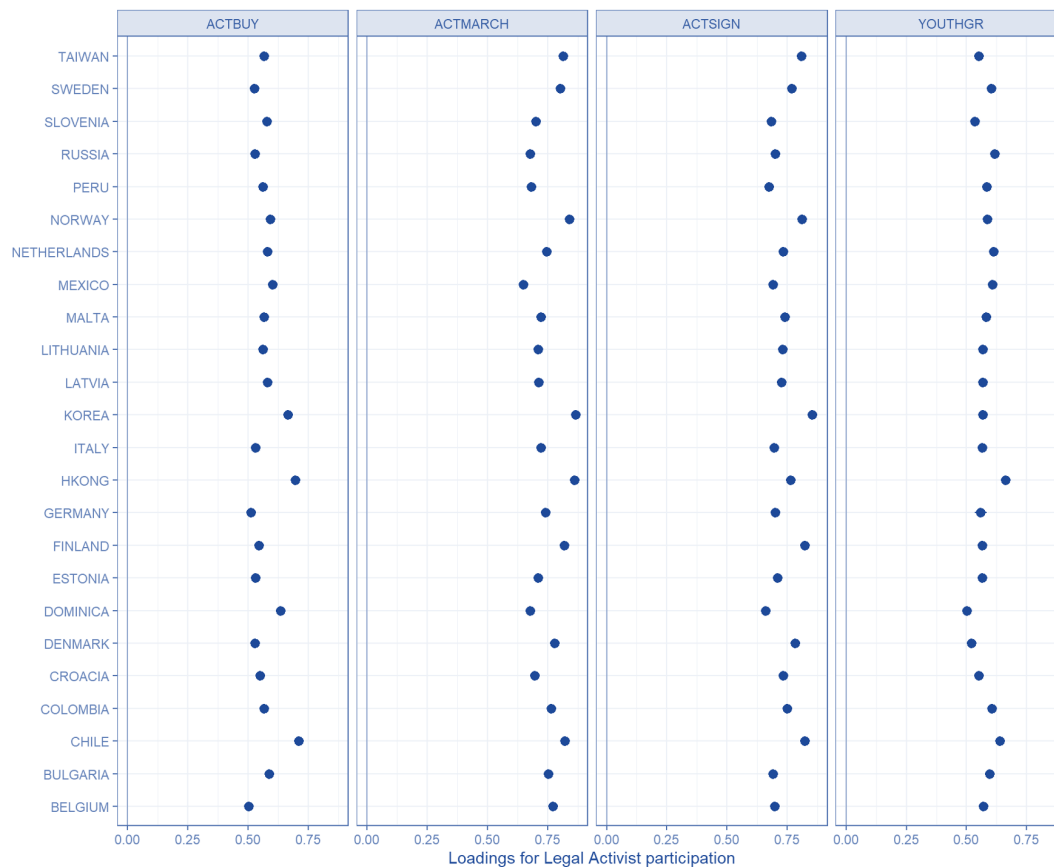
Results

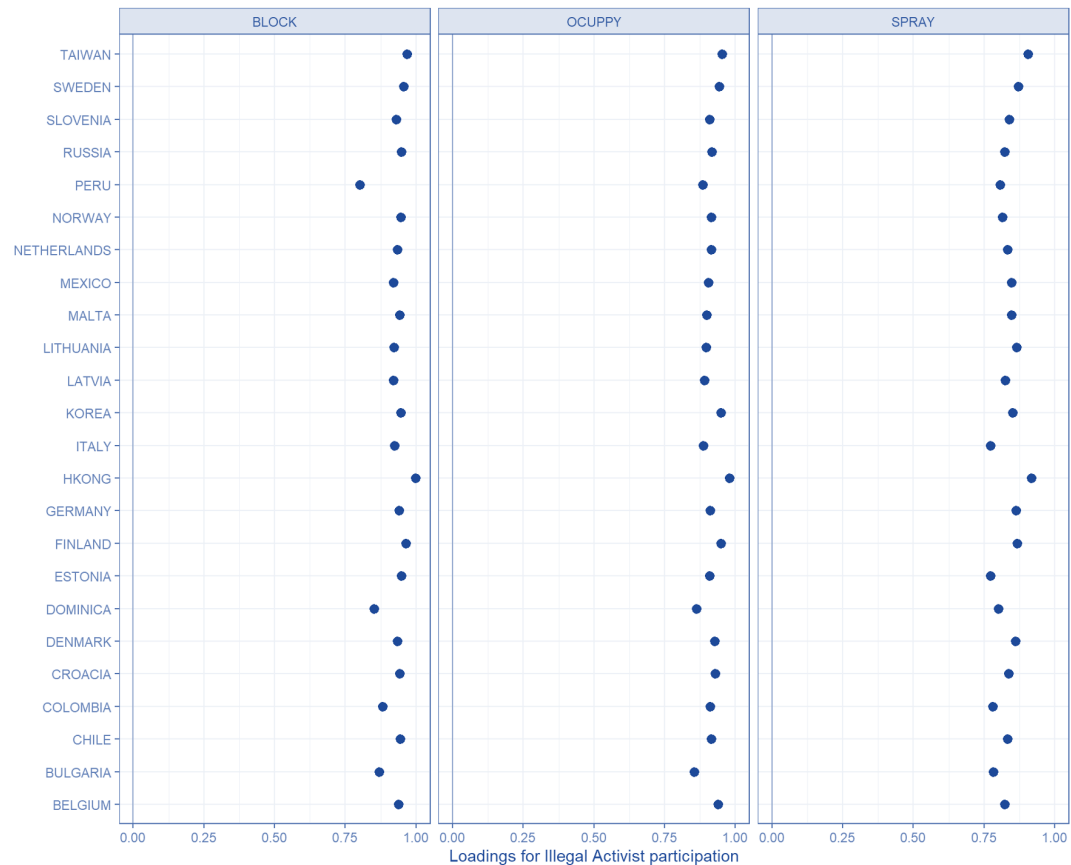# Results: loading for electoral participation

Results: loading for non-electoral participation

Results: loading for legal activist participation

Loadings for Legal Activist participation

Results: loading for illegal activist participation

Loadings for Illegal Activist participation

Results: invariance testing

	TLI	CFI	RMSEA	ΔCFI	ΔTLI	ΔRMSEA
Configural model	0,971	0,978	0,071			
Metric Model	0,973	0,976	0,069	0,002	-0,002	0,002
Scalar model	0,973	0,970	0,068	0,000	-0,006	0,001

- Rutkowsky and Svetina (2016) RMSEA of 0,05 or less for absolut fit, and...

- Relative change of for Metric model $\partial CFI = -0.004$

- Relative change of for Scalar model $\partial CFI = -0.004$

Brief discussion

Briefs discussion

- Comparable measure to four dimensions of political participation in youth population.

- Given this level of invariance, mean comparison and relational analysis comparison with the construct are allowed.

- The used fit criterias were simulated for unidimesional scales with 6 items. Rutkowsky and Svetina (2016) mention that "*further research may be desirable to examine the performance of the chi-square and fit indices for multidimensional scales*".

- Given that, our model with four dimensions and 13 items could be considered as a good result in terms of measurement invariance.

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