Introduction to Eurovision:

* Fun and game but it might also give us deeper insight into the political and cultural makeup of modern-day Europe.
* Explain the methodological choices.

What countries?

In 2023, x countries will be participating in the Eurovision.

Although the contest is called Eurovision, countries from four continents have taken part throughout the years. Aside from the European countries, Morocco participated in 1980, Israel has been competing for decades, and in 2015, Australia joined the contest.

[graphic]

The Eurovision began as …

Gradually more countries joined – first other Western European countries.

The expansion of Eurovision:

* In 1970, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Austria, Sweden, and Denmark boycotted the show in protest of the 1969 result and the voting system.
* <https://eurovisionworld.com/eurovision/1970>

Looking at the things after 2000

Cyprus and Greece:

* How much have they voted for each other?
* What is the relationship between Cyprus and Greece?

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0176268007000547> : Although the inclusion and exclusion of countries might mimic larger geopolitical trends, the voting patterns are not. Xx study found that the votes express a mix of the quality of the songs and the linguistic and cultural proximity between the singer and the voting country.

* How many of the Cypriote songs were in Greek?

Sometimes – like with Cyprus and Greece – the ties are close in both directions. Other times, they go in only one direction.

* France and Turkey
* And to some extent Germany/Netherlands and Turkey.
* <https://www.jasss.org/9/2/1.html> : They found that collusive voting (they use the American term "logrolling" following Stratmann [1992](https://www.jasss.org/9/2/1.html#stratmann1992) and Crombez [2000](https://www.jasss.org/9/2/1.html#crombez2000)) exists but that once the correction for linguistic and cultural distance is applied, it disappears. This appears to confirm that bloc voting is occurring along pre-existing cultural/linguistic lines, rather than being an *ad hoc*process of alliance formation. They also draw attention to the émigré vote, in particular the large vote for Turkey from countries where there is a sizeable Turkish minority, such as Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, France and Austria.