


FATIGUE – Research summary

The legacy of transition? Identifying the differences in populist attributes of Central and Eastern Europe

Paulina Lenik, UCL SSEES

 This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 under grant agreement No. 765224.

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Outline

- 1 Research objective**
- 2 Findings**
- 3 Policy recommendations**
- 4 Fellowship outcomes**
- 5 Future perspectives**

Research objective

... is to examine **supply and demand** factors leading to the recent surge of **populism** in the **selected countries** of Central and Eastern Europe.

Demand Side, August 2018

H1 Number of people voting for a populist party increases among voters who

- feel affected by economic insecurity
- have a low degree of political trust
- have a low degree of education

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Demand Side March 2022

Research also includes:

- Exposure to media
- Political participation

Supply side August 2018

- H2** A new party entrant determines its left or right orientation on where mobilisation of its electorate is more effective
- H3** Likelihood of a populist entry is increasing with voters growing disappointment

Supply side August 2018

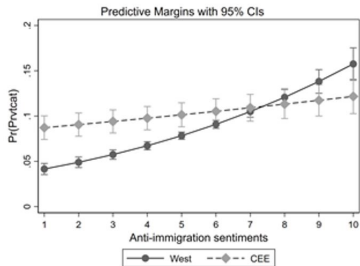
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Supply Side March 2022

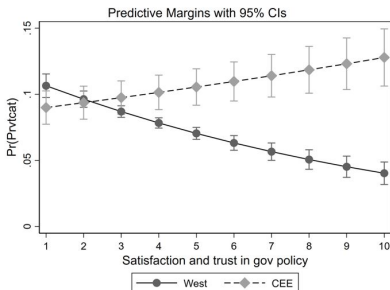
- Economic, cultural & anti-political dimensions
- Centrist and Radical supply theory of populism in the CEE (B.Stanley)

Demand side: predictive margins preliminary do not quote

Anti-immigration & Political trust

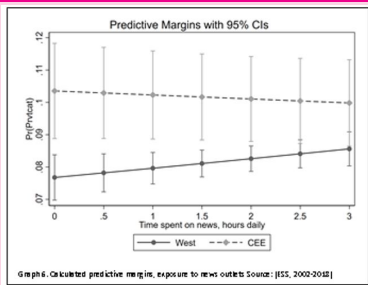
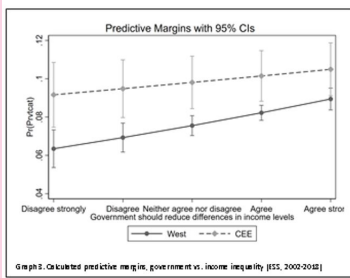


Graph 4. Calculated predictive margins, anti-immigration scale Source: [ISS, 2002-2012]



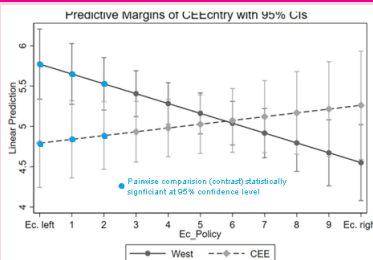
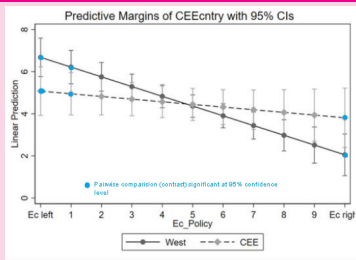
Demand side: predictive margins, preliminary do not quote

Government policy on income inequality and exposure to political news



Supply side: predictive margins, preliminary do not quote

Centrist & Radical Theory of populism



CEE differs as:

Demand side

- Political trust has a positive effect on the populist vote
- Economic dimension
- Political participation
- Media exposure

Supply side

- Populist parties are not new entrants
- No statistically significant difference on cultural dimension (main model)
- Economic dimension: RS parties more right, CS parties left

Summary of findings

- 1 Populist voters in the West are disenchanting and abstentionist, voters in the CEE are 'protest activated'
- 2 Economic populism - preliminary evidence on the supply-side for radical populist theory
- 3 The identified differences are justified by the legacies of transition, however, transition in itself is not measured

Recommendations

- 1 Direct participatory democracy is a ledger-based solution to provide citizens with an ability to directly shape policy decisions
- 2 DPD is a way to offset certain repercussions of the low degree of trust towards political representatives of non-populist voters

Research progress

Research & Training

- 1 Two empirical chapters submitted
- 2 One accepted peer-reviewed publication forthcoming end-2022
- 3 Presenting at numerous international conferences & workshops
- 4 Taking part numerous training sessions including three summer schools in research methods

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Outreach & Teaching

- 1 Press releases
- 2 Blog posts, some collaborated with other ESRs
- 3 Teaching four courses in the SSEES
Department of Economics

Future perspectives

Short-term

- 1 Submitting third empirical chapter, finalising the PhD
- 2 Finalising the book chapter for the UCL press

Long-term

- 1 Publication of the empirical chapters
- 2 Post-doc perspectives

Q & A

Thank you

Email : p.lenik@ucl.ac.uk

Twitter : @pw_l