



What drives populism?

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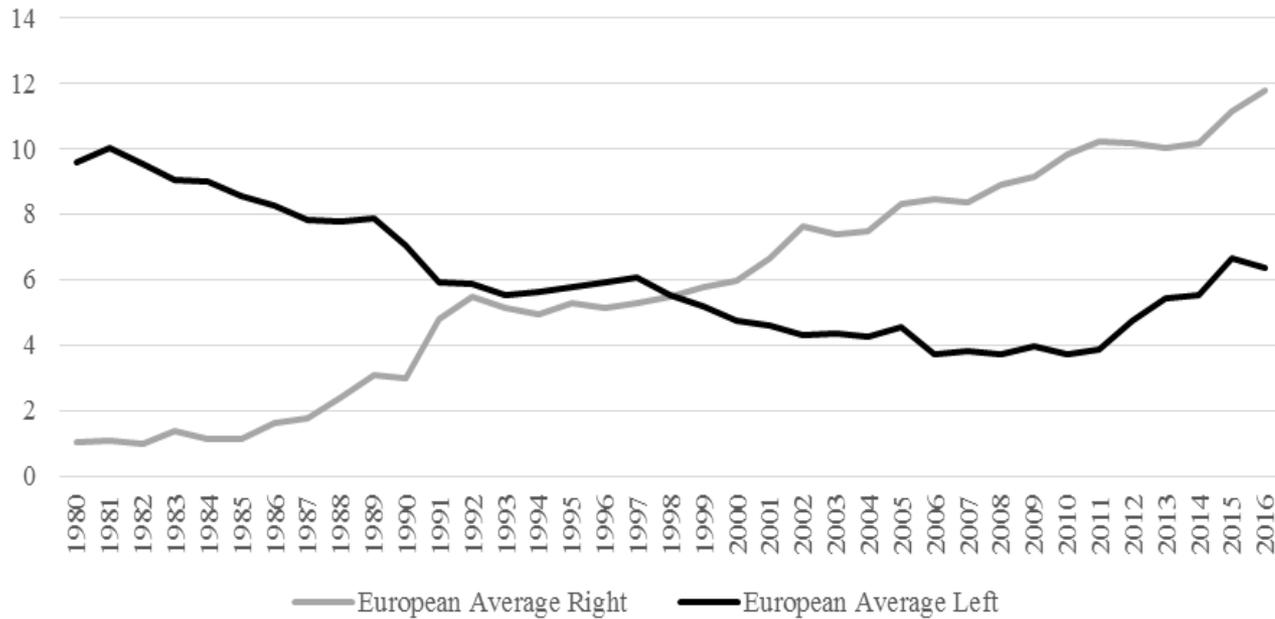


Motivation

- Lot of research, but not always difference made between left- and right-wing populism, while there are differences
- In ongoing work, we use data of Heino (2016)
- The dataset used for this research covers 184 elections in 29 European countries for the time span from 1986 to 2014.



Populist support in Europe





Support for left-wing populists

VARIABLES	Base	Unem. x Asylum	Unem. x Glob.
GDP growth _(sum t-1 to t-3)	-0.351*** (0.0122)	-0.319*** (0.0123)	-0.370*** (0.0121)
GDP growth ² _(sum t-1 to t-3)	0.0131*** (0.000670)	0.0122*** (0.000683)	0.0142*** (0.000663)
Unemployment _(t-1)	0.179*** (0.0182)	0.360*** (0.0183)	0.936*** (0.0198)
Asylum _(log, t-1)	-0.524*** (0.0556)	-1.185*** (0.0614)	-0.542*** (0.0554)
Globalization _(t-1)	0.0122*** (0.00221)	0.00476** (0.00219)	0.0933*** (0.00229)
Unemployment x Asylum		0.0948*** (0.00616)	
Unemp. x Globalization			-0.0100*** (0.000253)



Support for right-wing populists

VARIABLES	Base	Unem. x Asylum	Unem. x Glob.
GDP growth _(sum t-1 to t-3)	-0.199** (0.101)	-0.195* (0.0995)	-0.199* (0.101)
GDP growth ² _(sum t-1 to t-3)	0.0106** (0.00432)	0.0100** (0.00432)	0.0109** (0.00483)
Unemployment _(t-1)	-0.157 (0.197)	-0.0904 (0.228)	0.157 (1.784)
Asylum _(log, t-1)	0.894* (0.517)	0.395 (0.680)	0.905* (0.508)
Globalization _(t-1)	0.148*** (0.0537)	0.149*** (0.0539)	0.177 (0.171)
Unemployment x Asylum		0.0597 (0.0736)	
Unem. x Globalization			-0.00401 (0.0230)



Main findings (1)

- › More growth leads to a lower vote share for populist parties (on both ends of the political spectrum).
- › A nonlinear relationship between growth and populist support, especially for left-wing parties.
- › An increase in unemployment seems to raise the vote share for left-wing populist parties (at 5% significance level), but is not significant in the model for support of right-wing parties.



Main findings (2)

- › Asylum seekers have different impact on populist support (negative for left, positive for right).
- › A higher level of unemployment and asylum seekers increases the vote share of left-wing populist parties.
- › Increase on the index for globalization raises the populist vote share slightly.



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Thank you for your attention

