



INFORMAL ELDERCARE AND VALUE ORIENTATIONS UNDER DIFFERENT WELFARE AND MODERNISATION CONDITIONS

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Descriptive Analysis of Primary Data
from a bilateral Russian-German project
between
Samara State University
and University of Freiburg



Research Aim

- To study how informal eldercare is anchored in the Russian and German social structure and is changing under modernisation processes.
- To replicate findings of German care-studies (Blinkert/ Klie 2004) in Russia

Conceptual and Theoretical Frame

A link between “value change” and “solidarity shift” was originally postulated by Dürkheim, Tönnies and empirically proven by (Blinkert/ Klie 2004) for Germany should be tested under different macro-social conditions

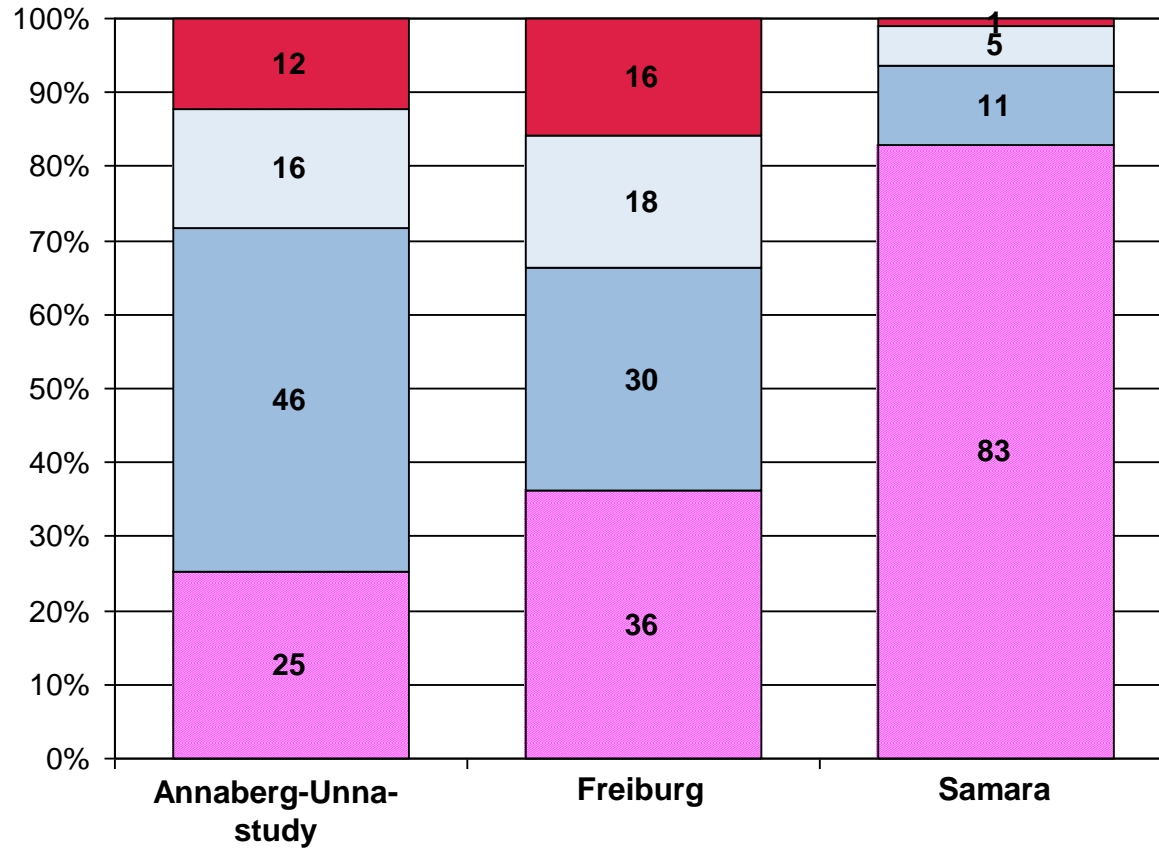
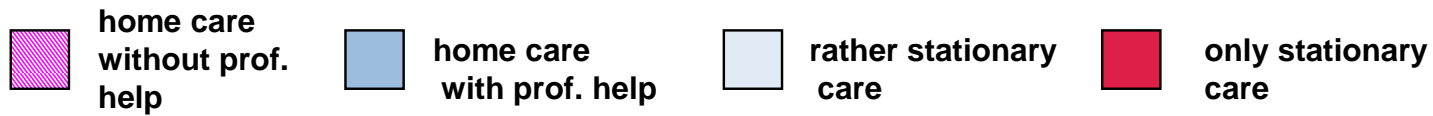
At the **individual level**, we analyse how intergenerational solidarity varies by persons with traditional vs. post-modern value orientations and different structural resources in both countries.

At the **macro-level**, comparative analyses of the level and the distribution of societal affluence, dominating cultural values and development of the welfare regulations in the sphere of long-term care as indicators of the society’s context help to understand how transformation in socio-economic, -cultural and -political spheres effect filial readiness to provide long-term care

Methods and Data

- Primary data collection through academic cooperation between the Institute of Sociology University of Freiburg with the Faculty of Sociology at the Samara State University
- Standardised interviews with open questions on motivations in „favor“ / „against“ care decision
- Elaborated measurement instrument of „primary solidarity“ = disposition to elder care
- Random sample of 242 F2F interviews with 40-65 old residents in Freiburg and a quota sample of 200 interviews in Samara
- Data is not representative of Germany or Russia but allows descriptive cross-cultural comparisons and hypotheses testing using samples

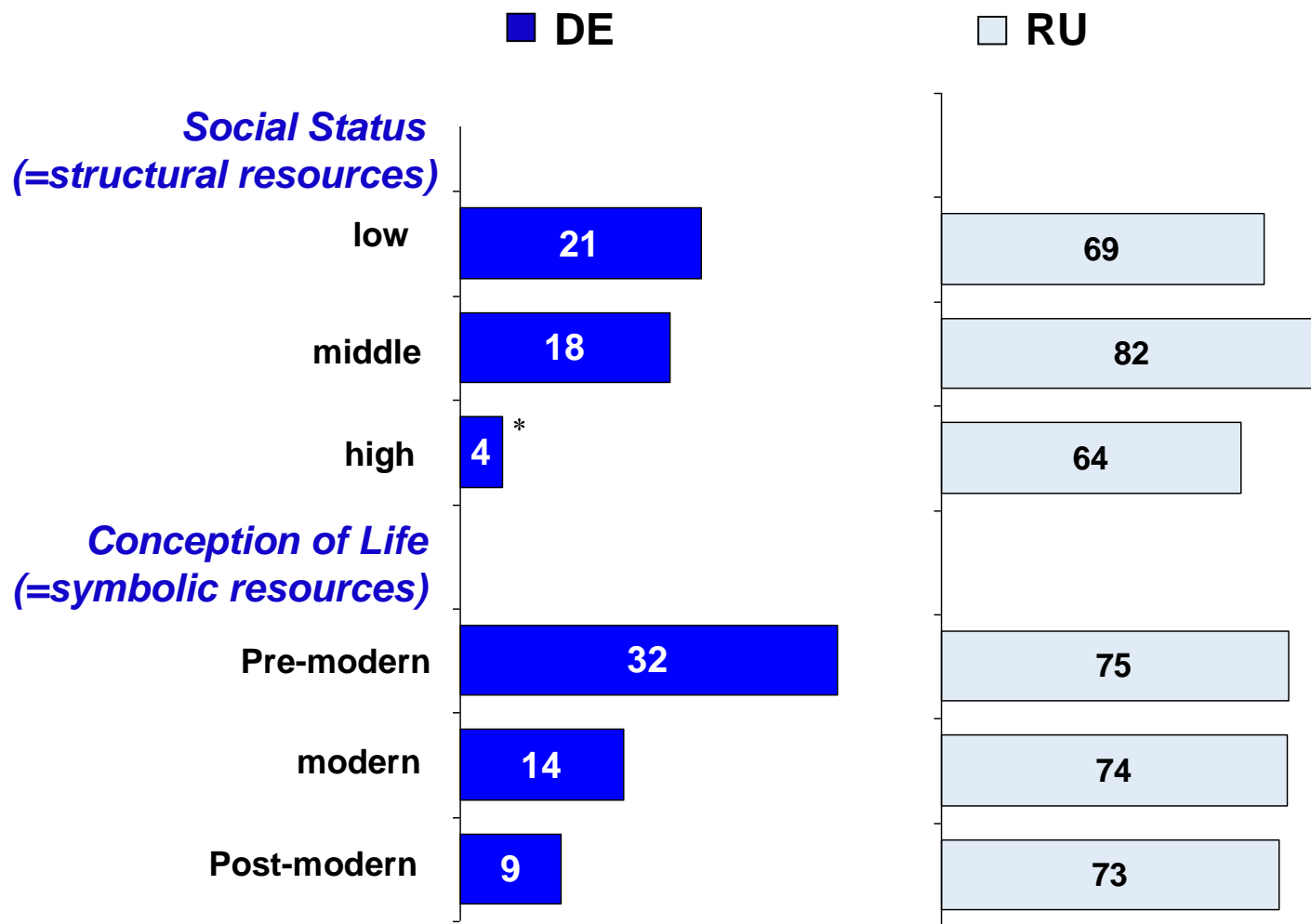
Care-cultural orientations: Preferences for a specific type of care arrangements



N (DE) = 241
N (RU) = 189
N (Annaberg-Unna) = 1385

Primary Solidarity according to Structural and Symbolic Resources

% of respondents with strong Disposition to Primary Solidarity



*less than 10 cases in the cell

Regression Analysis with the Data of Samara-Freiburg Sample for the Group of 40-65 y.o.

Determinants of Care-cultural orientations a scale, where high scores mean strong readiness to care	RU	DE
	Standardized B-coefficients and significance levels	
Social Status Index (general, vocational Education and equavalised Household Income), high index scores mean higher social status	-.119 (.15)	-.133 (.08)
Conceptions of Life Scale (via Attitudes to Gender roles) high scale scores mean “post-modern” values	-.006 (n.s.)	-.326 (.000)
Country (0= Germany, 1=Russia)	--	--
R²	.014	.164

Key Findings

- The hypothesis – ***readiness to intergenerational solidarity varies with social status and value orientations of potential caregivers*** - is supported only for the German sample, where value orientations is a particularly strong predictor.
- “Modern subjects” in Germany, those with high social status and post-modern life conceptions, are less ready for providing care to elderly parents
- In the Russian sample preparedness to caregiving is independent of individual structural and symbolic resources and equally and highly predominant among different social strata.
- Large cross-cultural differences in informal care potential (very high in Russia as compared to Germany) and its specific social distribution within each country’s social structure is mainly the **consequence of the societal conditions**.

Limitations and Further Steps

- Small / non-representative database → results limited in its generalisations
- Impossible to quantify the macro-level effects, if comparing only two countries
- To validate results of the pilot-project with the representative data of the EVS 2008
- the hypothesized relationship is dependent on the context. → a macro-micro-interaction
- To use multi-level modelling that accounts also for interaction of the effects of individual- and country-level variables



Cross-Cultural Analysis with EVS 2008

Data Base

- EVS 2008, Respondents in 29 countries
- The choice of countries: Northern, Western, Central and Eastern Europe (including splits for West and East Germany) → representing different welfare conditions and levels of cultural modernisation
- Respondents aged 18+
 1. Austria
 2. Belgium
 3. Bulgaria
 4. Belarus
 5. Croatia
 6. Czech Republic
 7. Denmark
 8. Estonia
 9. Finland
 10. France
 11. Georgia
 12. Germany West
 13. Germany East
 14. Greece
 15. Hungary
 16. Italy
 17. Latvia
 18. Lithuania
 19. Moldova
 20. Netherlands
 21. Norway
 22. Poland
 23. Romania
 24. Russian Federation
 25. Slovak Republic
 26. Slovenia
 27. Spain
 28. Sweden
 29. Ukraine

Core Variables and Hypotheses

Micro-Level Variables

- **Independent: Value Orientations**, Scale [0- pre-modern to 3 – post-modern]

Indicators: Attitudes to Gender Roles:

“pre-school child suffers with working mother”

“women really want home and children”

“being housewife as fulfilling as paid job”

- **Dependent: Affinity to Filial Responsibilities**,
Scale 0 "no sense of filial obligation at all" to 4 "very strong filial obligation"
 - *It is child's duty to take care of ill parent*
 - *love and respect parents always vs. parents have to earn respect*
 - *children responsibilities to their parents in need at expense of own well-being vs. not sacrifice own well-being*

Macro-Level Impact Factors

1. **Level of General Welfare** (= selected parameters of living conditions and welfare)

Factoranalytical scale from the following World Development Indicators:

- Health expenditure per capita, PPP (constant 2005 international \$) average 2005-2010
 - GDP growth (annual %)
 - Life expectancy at birth, total (years)
 - Mortality rate, infant (per 1,000 live births)
 - Inflation, consumer prices (annual %) average 2005-2010
- +
- Equivalised household disposal income, corrected for ppp (own calculation with EVS 2008)

2. **Degree of Modernisation** (= spread of post-modern value orientations)

Indicator: country's averages of traditional values

Research Questions

- What role does the familial eldercare play in societies finding itself at different modernisation stage? Is family solidarity at risk and what does it have to do with the societal transformation processes?
- What is the scope of primary solidarity in different European countries?
- Do care-cultural dispositions/ sense of filial obligations vary between persons with different structural resources and value orientations cross-culturally?
- What is the impact of socio-cultural context?

Research Tasks

- 1) To compare each country's **current potential of informal care**, exemplarary for Russia and Germany
- 2) To analyse the **relationship between value orientations and filial obligations cross-culturally** at the **individual-level**
- 3) To assess **the role of social context** (i.e economic conditions, and dominating values) on the readiness to filial responsibilities, **as compared to individual characteristics**
- 4) To analyse cross-cultural differences in...
 - economic conditions,
 - dominating values
 - and social care regimes

Central Hypotheses

At the individual level, according to Blinkert/ Klie (2004), preferences of "modern subjects", those with high social status and post-modern "conceptions of life", are of little compatibility with the demands of long-term-care.

→ *the strong emancipative value orientations are negatively correlated with the sense of filial responsibilities*

At the macro-level, socio-cultural context shapes intergenerational solidarity, i.e.

- *the higher the standard of living and general welfare,*
- *the higher the dominance of post-modern values among the population*

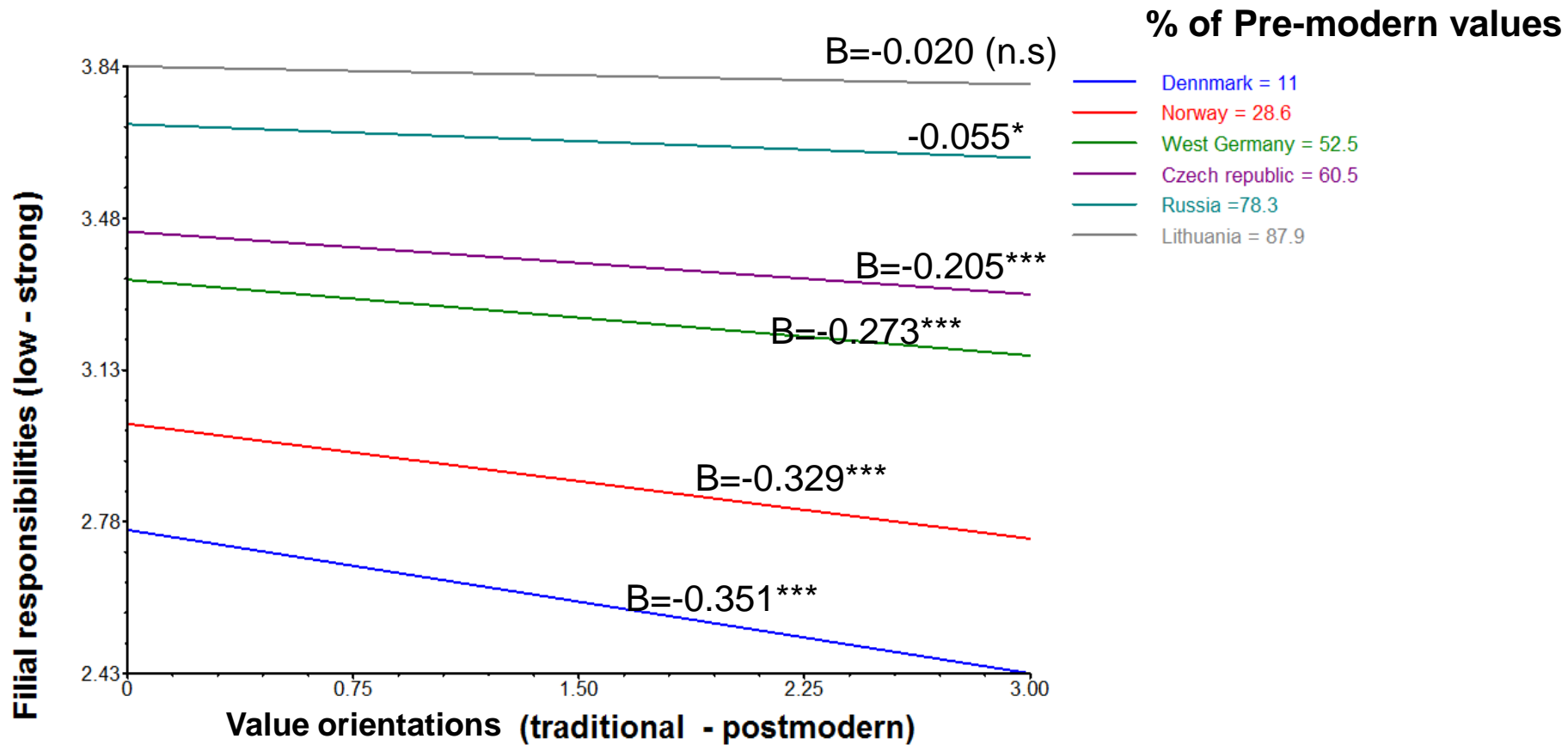
→ *the lower the country's potential of informal elder care*

First Results

Conditional Effects for Selected Countries



Relationship between Filial Responsibilities and Value Orientations - Cross-level Interaction



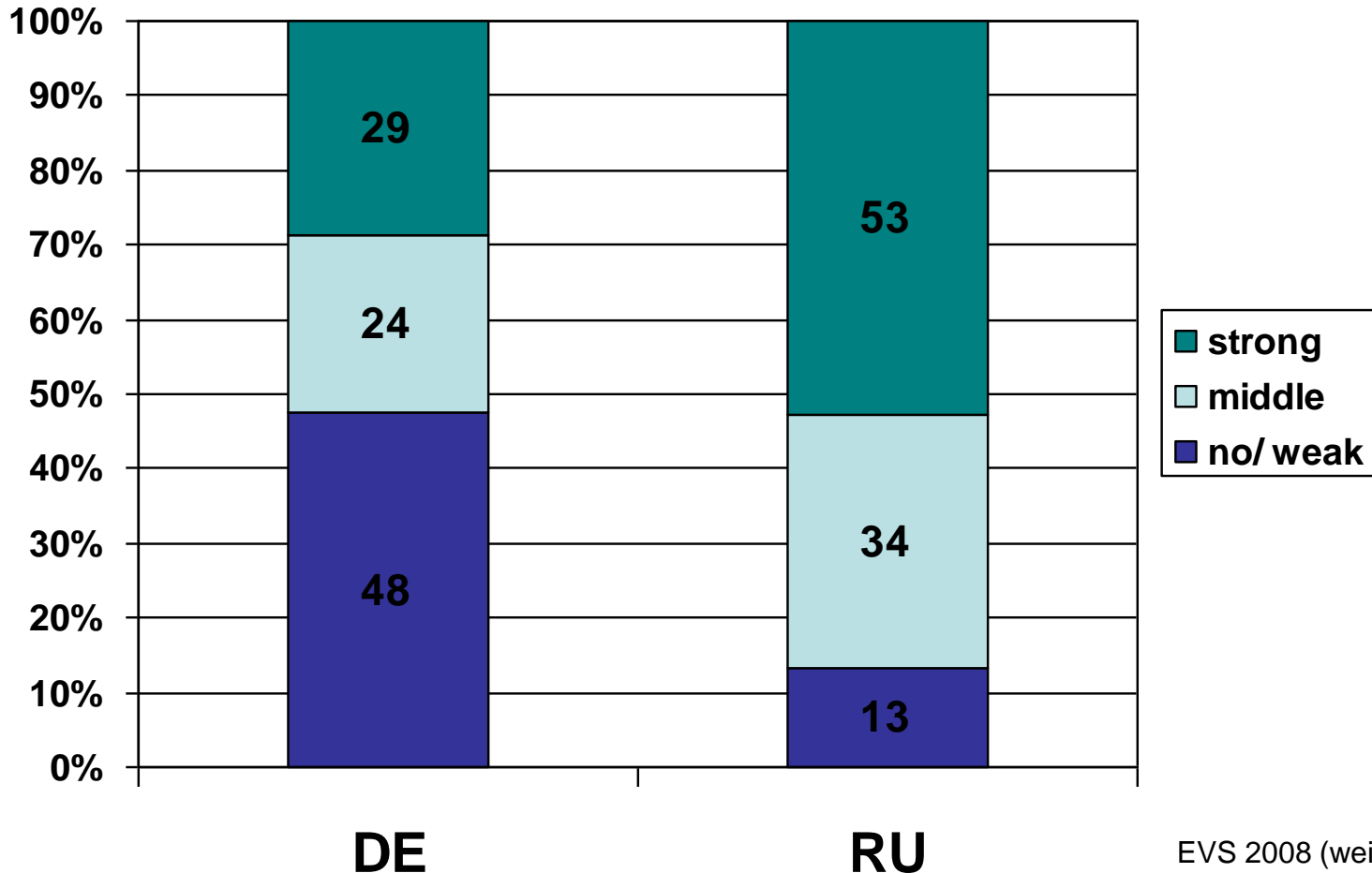
Summary of Results

negative effect of emancipated value orientations on filial obligations is stronger in countries with advanced postmodernism and favourable social conditions and low or non-existent in countries with lagged socio-cultural and -economic development.

Further Steps

- Add more explanatory variables at the individual/ macro-level
- Present further results

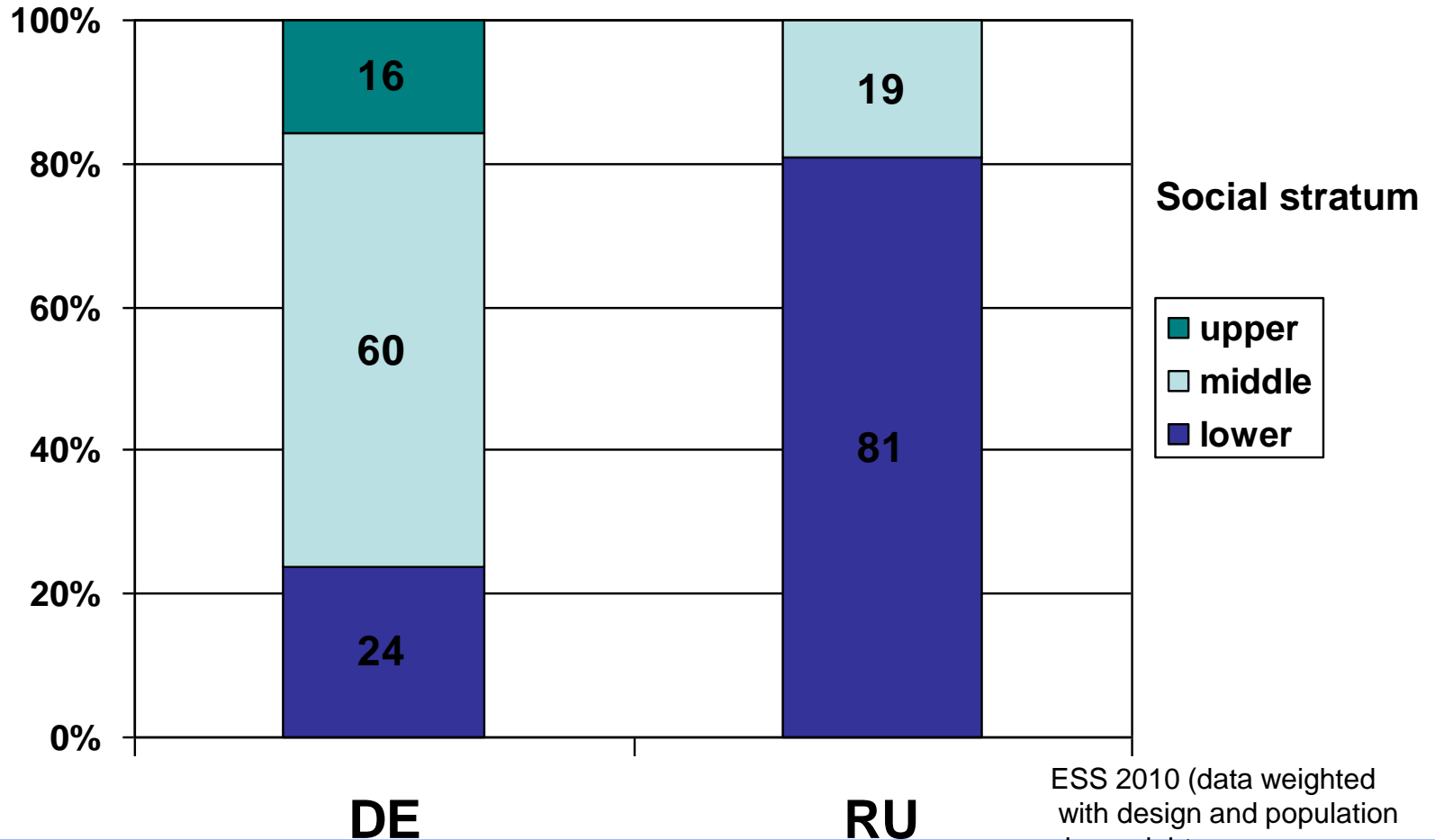
Attitudes to Filial Responsibility in Russia and Germany



EVS 2008 (weighted data)
N (DE - West) = 942
N (RU) = 1394

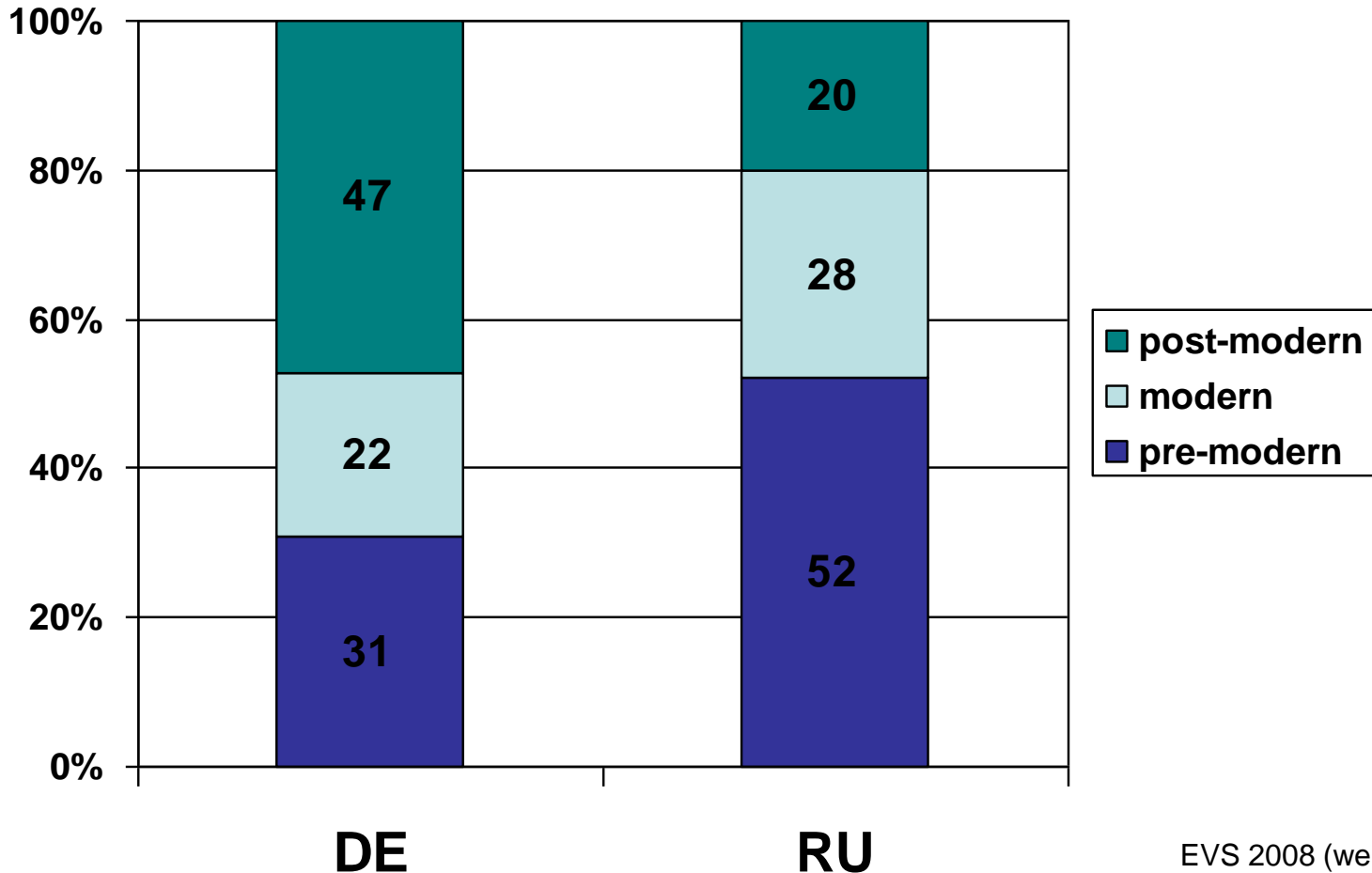
Social Stratification of the Russian and German Population Based on Socio-Economic Resources

Standardisation of the relations in the Russian social structure to the German macro-conditions



ESS 2010 (data weighted with design and population size weights)
 N (DE) = 5509
 N (RU) = 9619

Distribution of „Value Orientations“ in West Germany and Russia



EVS 2008 (weighted data)
N (DE - West) = 931
N (RU) = 1286