



# National identity: is Russia different?

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# Theoretical background

## National Identity

Patriotism - positive evaluation of one's belonging to the country, regardless of its comparison with other countries

Kosterman & Feshbach, 1989; Blank & Schmidt, 1993; Bar-Tal & Staub, 1999

Nationalism - positive in-group evaluation based on comparison of one's country with other countries and on the belief that the home country excels and consequently has the right to dominate other countries

Heyder & Schmidt, 2002; Blank & Schmidt, 2003

Cohrs et al., 2004; Wagner et al., 2010

Citrin, Wong & Daff, 2001; Karasawa, 2002

**Attitudes toward others**

Adorno et al., 1950; Blank & Schmidt, 1993, 1997, 2003; De Figueiredo & Elkins, 2003; Maddens & Beerten, 2003; Weiss, 2003; Wagner et al., 2010

# Research questions

- What is the structure of national identity of Russians?
- Does national identity in Russia predict attitudes toward immigrants and in which way?

# Sample

Survey was conducted in four Russian regions: Central (N = 321), North Caucasus (N = 129), Volga (N = 183), and Far East (N = 223) in 2011. Sample includes the representatives of the Russian host population of these districts (ethnic self-identification – “Russian”).

Sample size	Gender		Age		
	Male number (%)	Female number (%)	Min	Max	Median
856	417 (48.7%)	439 (51.3%)	16	71	36

# Method

“Patriotism” and “Nationalism” scales from ISSP-2003

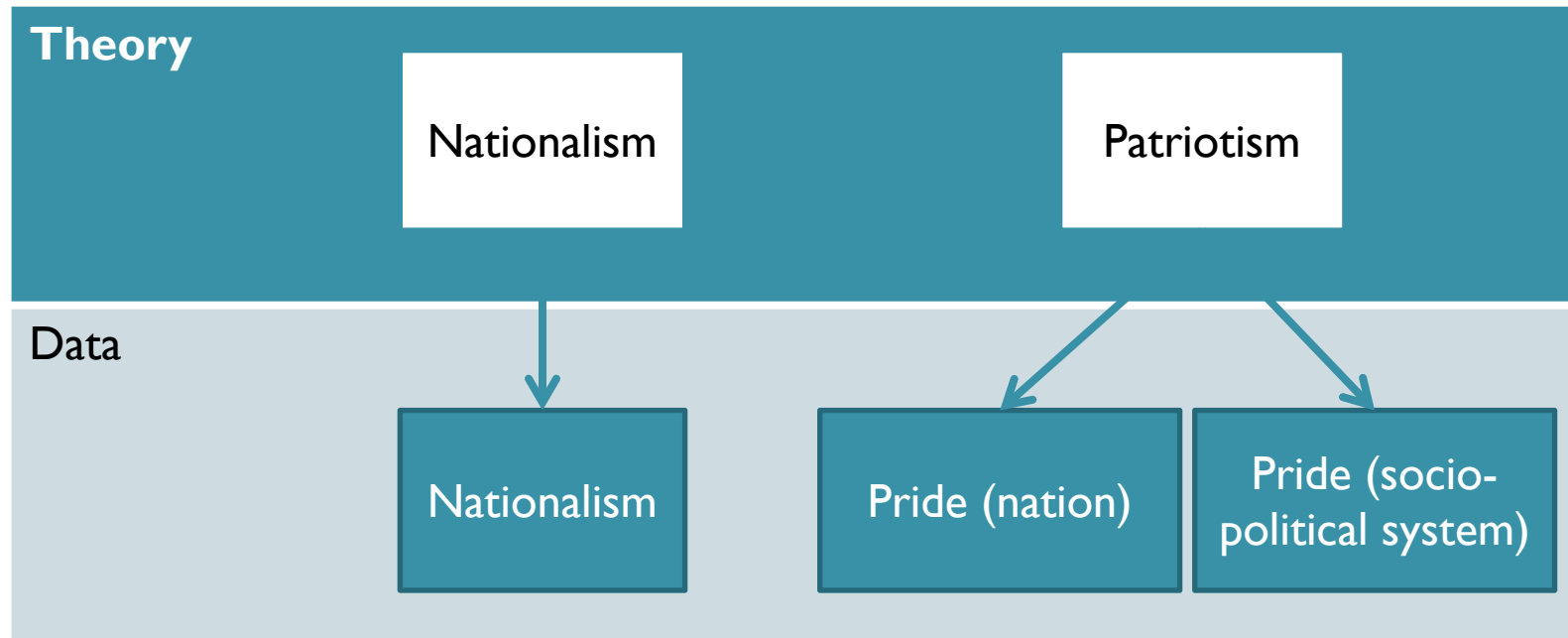
<b>PATRIOTISM</b> (How proud are you of Russia in each of the following?) From “Very proud” (4) to “Not proud at all” (1)	<b>NATIONALISM</b> (How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?) From “Agree strongly” (5) to “Disagree strongly” (1)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Proud of the way democracy in Russia works</li><li>2. Proud of Russian political influence in the world</li><li>3. Proud of Russian economic achievements</li><li>4. Proud of Russian social security system</li><li>5. Proud of Russian scientific and technological achievements</li><li>6. Proud of Russian achievements in sports</li><li>7. Proud of Russian achievements in the arts and literature</li><li>8. Proud of Russian armed forces</li><li>9. Proud of Russian history</li><li>10. Proud of Russian fair and equal treatment of all groups in society</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. I would rather be a citizen of Russia than of any other country in the world</li><li>2. There are some things about Russia today that make me feel ashamed of Russia</li><li>3. The world would be a better place if people from other countries were more like the Russians</li><li>4. Generally speaking, Russia is a better country than most other countries</li><li>5. People should support their country even if the country is in the wrong</li><li>6. When my country does well in international sports, it makes me proud to be Russian</li><li>7. I am often less proud of Russia than I would like to be</li></ol>

# Results

(EFA for national identity items)

	Factor		
	1	2	3
I would rather be a citizen of Russia than of any other country in the world			.658
There are some things about Russia today that make me feel ashamed of Russia		.443	
The world would be a better place if people from other countries were more like the Russians			.503
Generally speaking, Russia is a better country than most other countries			.723
People should support their country even if the country is in the wrong			.499
When my country does well in international sports, it makes me proud to be Russian			.477
Proud of the way democracy in Russia works		-.720	
Proud of Russian political influence in the world		-.453	
Proud of Russian economic achievements		-.613	
Proud of Russian social security system		-.634	
Proud of Russian scientific and technological achievements	.603		
Proud of Russian achievements in sports	.637		
Proud of Russian achievements in the arts and literature	.750		
Proud of Russian armed forces			
Proud of Russian history			
Proud of Russian fair and equal treatment of all groups in society		-.653	

# Structure of the national identity of Russians




# Results

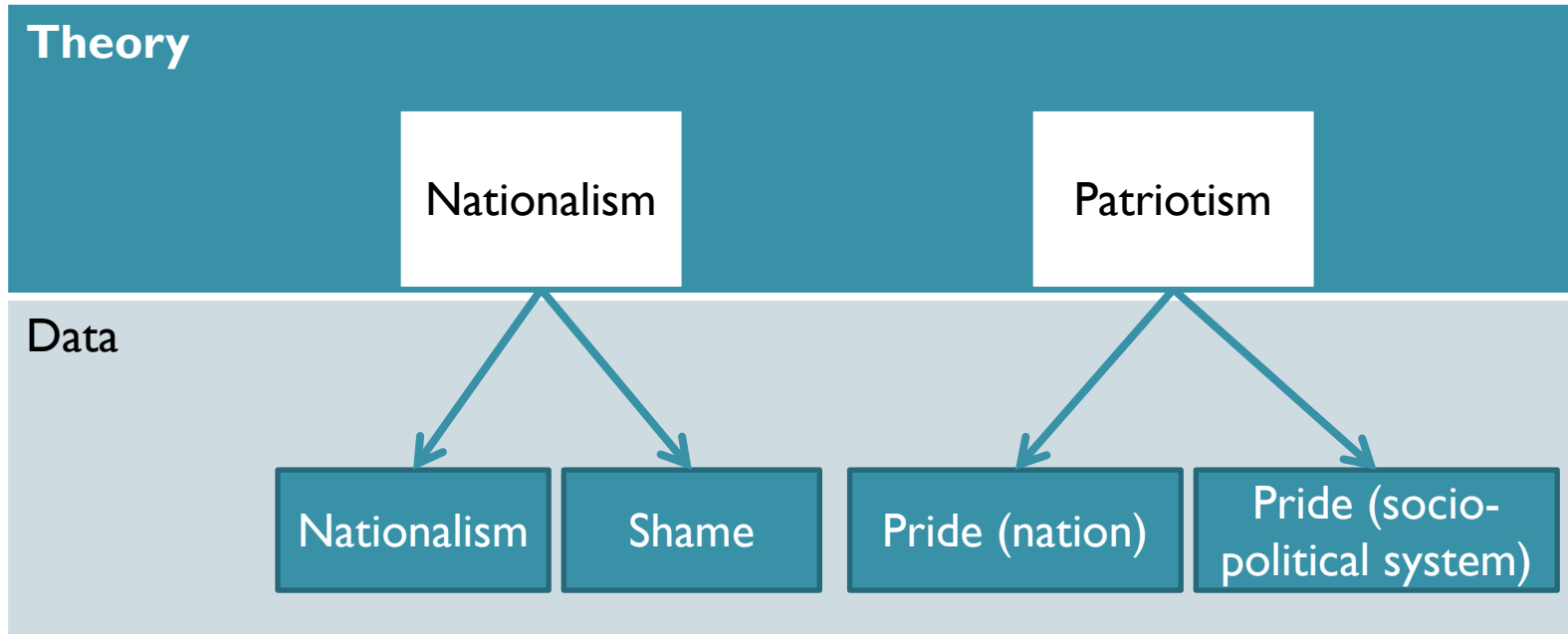
(Scales for national identity in Russia)

<b>Patriotism (nation)</b>	<b>Patriotism (socio-political system)</b>	<b>Nationalism</b>
Proud of Russian scientific and technological achievements	Proud of the way democracy in Russia works	I would rather be a citizen of Russia than of any other country in the world
Proud of Russian achievements in sports	Proud of Russian political influence in the world	The world would be a better place if people from other countries were more like the Russians
Proud of Russian achievements in the arts and literature	Proud of Russian economic achievements	Generally speaking, Russia is a better country than most other countries
	Proud of Russian social security system	People should support their country even if the country is in the wrong
	Proud of Russian fair and equal treatment of all groups in society	



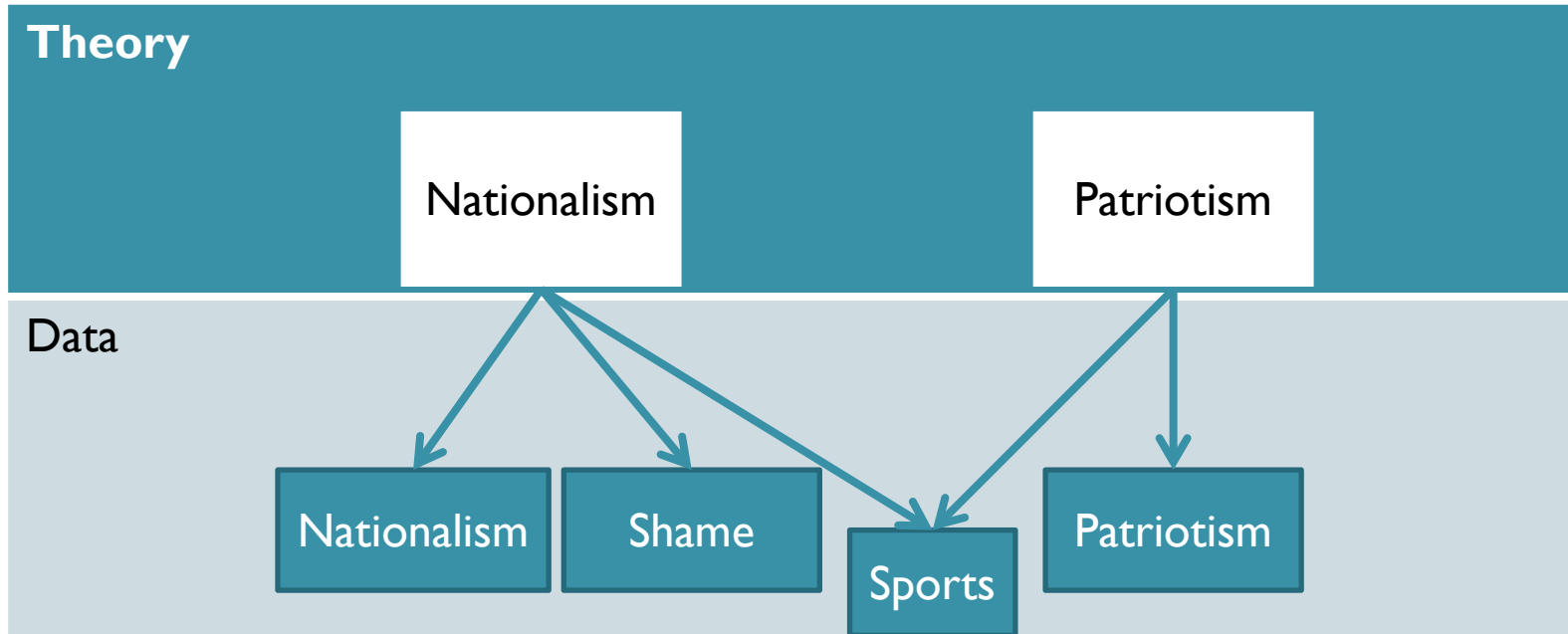
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- **Is this structure specific for Russia?**
  - Data from ISSP-2003 was used to test the factorial structure of the same questionnaire in 12 European countries: Great Britain, Austria, Netherlands, Ireland, Sweden, Check Republic, Slovenia, Russia, Spain, Slovakia, France, Denmark

# Results




This factorial structure was found in 8 countries:  
GB, Ireland, Sweden, Check Republic, Slovenia, Russia,  
Slovakia, Denmark

# Results



This factorial structure was found in 4 countries:  
Austria, Netherlands, Spain, France

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- **Does national identity in Russia predict attitudes toward immigrants and in which way?**

# Method

Attitudes toward immigrants (from ISSP-2003)

1. Immigrants increase crime rates (From “Disagree strongly” (1) to “Agree strongly” (5));
2. Immigrants are generally good for Russian economy;
3. Immigrants take jobs away from people who were born in Russia;
4. The number of immigrants to Russia nowadays should be... (From “increased a lot” (1) to “reduced a lot” (5))

# Results

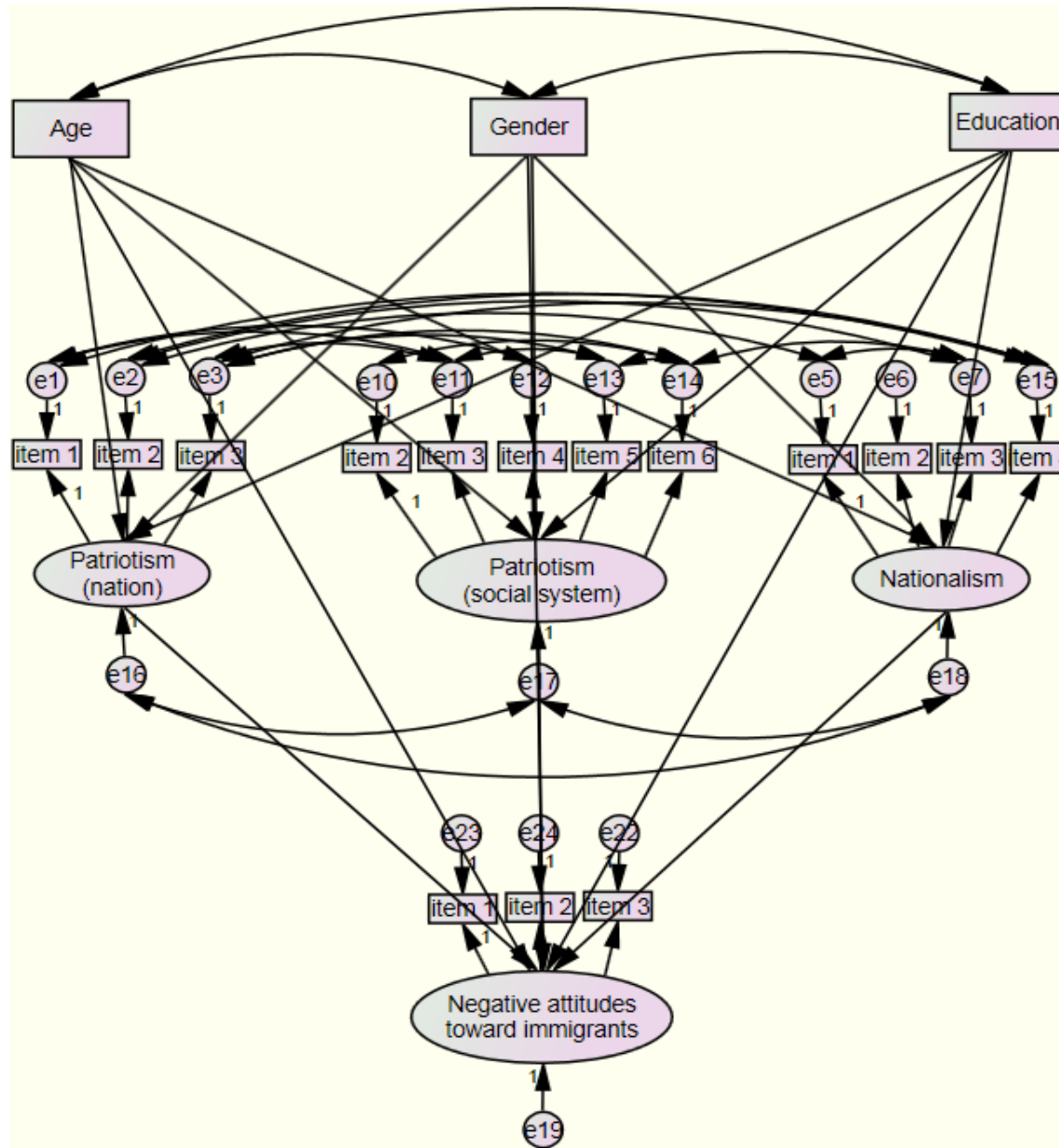
(EFA for attitudes toward immigrants)

	Factor
	1
Immigrants increase crime rates	,601
Immigrants are generally good for Russian economy	,419
Immigrants take jobs away from people who were born in Russia	,624
The number of immigrants to Russia nowadays should be...	,700
<b>Cronbach's alpha = .672</b>	

	Factor
	1
Immigrants increase crime rates	,601
Immigrants take jobs away from people who were born in Russia	,624
The number of immigrants to Russia nowadays should be...	,700
<b>Cronbach's alpha = .685</b>	

# Results

(testing the model using SEM)



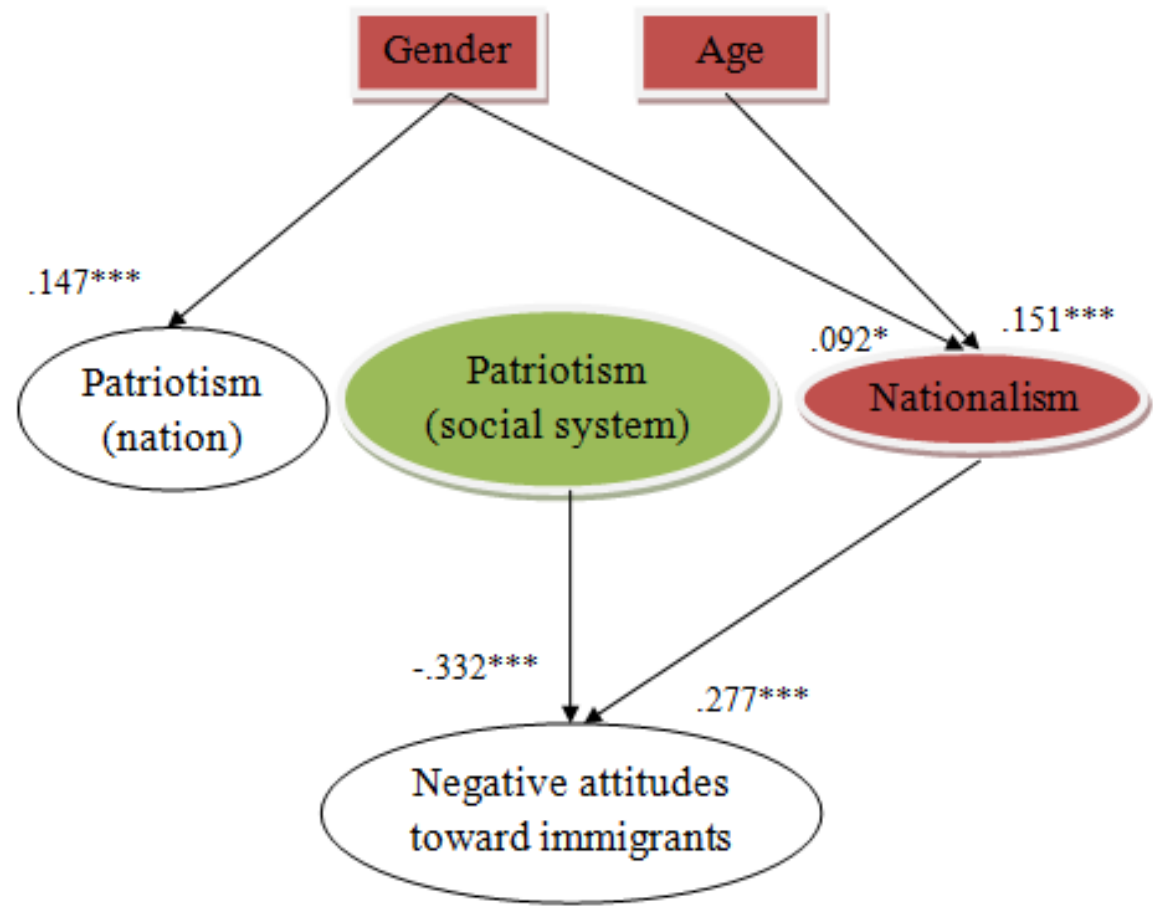
## Descriptive measures:

- CFI = .948;
- GFI = .966;
- $\text{Chi}^2/\text{df} = 2.653$ .

## Measurement of approximate fit:

- RMSEA = .044,
- PCLOSE = .939.

# Results





# Limitations

- The sample from 2011 is not representative (convenient sample).
- Some items from ISSP-2003 questionnaire were not included in 2011 survey.
- Structure of national identity can differ depending on the questionnaire used; to draw conclusions about the structure of national identity, qualitative study might be needed.

# Future directions

- To test the effect of national identity components on anti-immigrant attitudes, in Russia and other European countries using ISSP-2003 data;
- To test moderation effect of age cohort on relation between education and anti-immigrant attitudes;
- Compare results from 2003 with the results from new 2013 ISSP survey on national identity.



Thank you for your attention!

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