

Alienation and Group-Focused Enmity in European Context

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Why bother?

- **social inequality**
- **increasing social cleavages**
- **exclusion**
- **individualism**
- **increasing migration flows, ethnic and cultural diversity**



disintegration as a key problem of contemporary societies



Endangered social cohesion



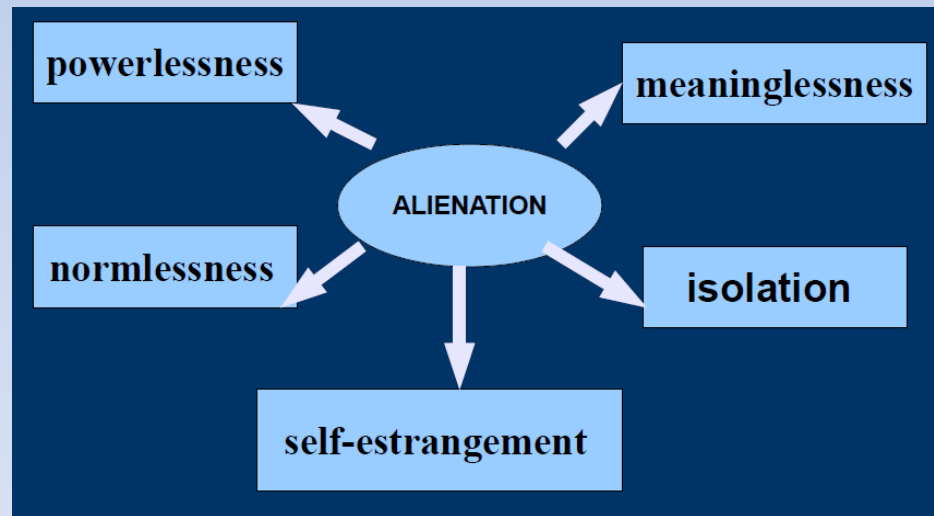
such attitudes may increase fears concerning different out-groups, which may be blamed for the perceived lack of integration in the society

Dragolov et al. 2013 p. 4

Zick et al, 2011: 141

A L I E N A T I O N

- “five basic ways in which the concept of alienation has been used [...to] make the traditional interest in alienation more amenable to sharp empirical statement” (Seeman, 1959, p. 783-784).



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1) structural crisis (decreased ability to influence politics and the state)

powerlessness

scapegoats for such problems that people can't influence

2) regulation crisis, meaning pluralization and varnishing of norms and values

meaninglessness

complicate the society they have to deal with and endanger its already eroding values and norms" [Zick et al, 2011: 141]

3) crisis of cohesion (individualization, loss of ability of ideals, social relations, classes, etc. to connect people

isolation

universalism (Parsons), instrumental approach (institutional anomie theory, Messner & Rosenfeld 1997, 2013)

alienation

"outsiders" are more likely to be viewed as a burden – they receive social benefits, they earn less money, they don't give birth to children

[Zick et al, 2011: 141]

GFE

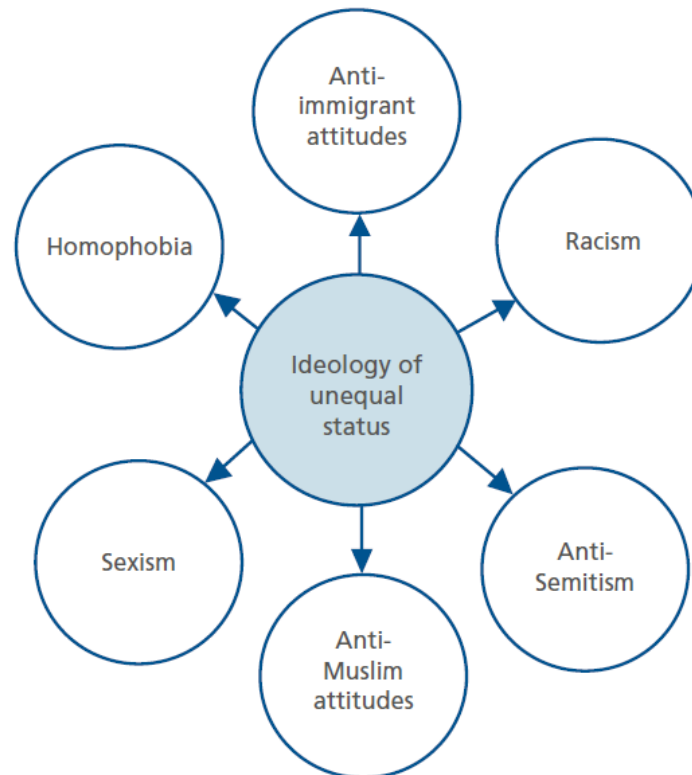
Attitudes towards outgroups

[Heitmeyer 1997]

- **prejudice** – when “individuals are looked down upon not on the basis of their personal characteristics but through nothing other than their categorization as a member of an outgroup” [Zick et al, 2011: 27-28]
- **Wilhelm Heitmeyer (2002) - Group-Focused Enmity**
- applied by a number of researchers (Huepping 2006, Zick et al. 2008, Zick et al. 2011)
- encloses a **group of prejudice** towards different groups and this describes a **generalized devaluation of out-groups**. These groups are apprehended as “unequal in value by “reasons”, for example, of economic uselessness, lower levels of civilization, or abnormal sexual practices” (Zick et al. 2008: 364)

- Zick at al. propose **nine components** for the of group-focused enmity syndrome: **racism, sexism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, devaluation of homosexual, disabled, and homeless persons, as well as newcomers (2008: 366)**
- GFE Europe: **six components**

Figure 1: The syndrome of group-focused enmity in the European study



Research Questions

- Can alienation predict Group-Focused Enmity in European countries?
- Will the effect (if there is any) be different in different countries?

Research Hypotheses

- Main hypothesis: The more alienated individuals are the more Group-focused Enmity they are likely to express
1. There are substantial differences in within-country heterogeneity in alienation across the European countries.
 2. In post-Socialist countries, the influence of alienation on group-focused enmity is higher than in other European countries.

Data

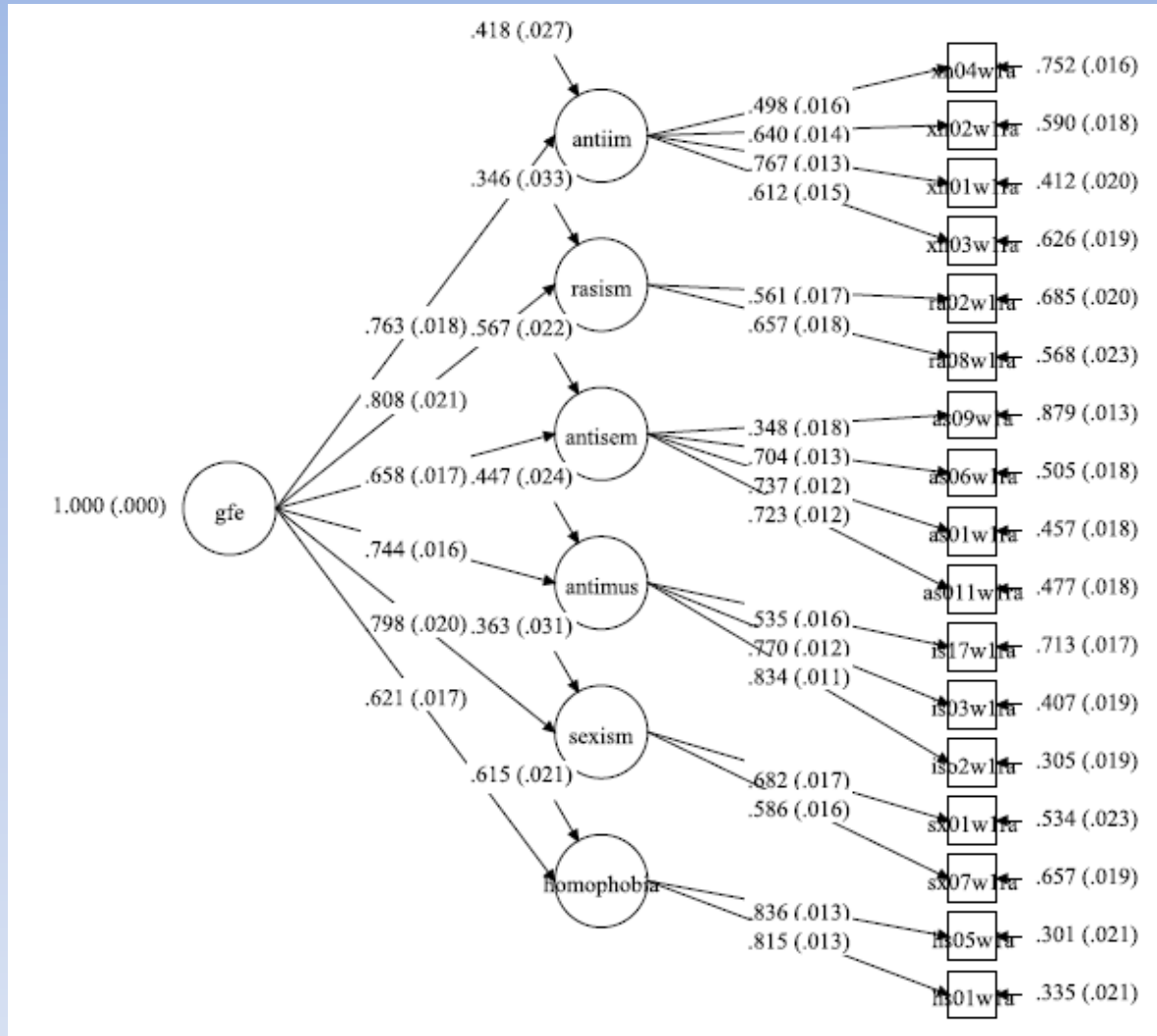
- **“Group-Focused Enmity”**
- 2008/2009 by the Institute of Conflict and Violence Research , Bielefeld University
- **Eight European countries:** Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Netherlands, Portugal, France
- **3500 respondent in seven countries** (In each country, about 500 respondents)

Alienation

No.	Item	D	GB	F	NL	I	PT	PL	HU	
powerlessness	6	Politicians do not care what people like me think.	66.6	64.2	71.0	34.6	76.5	80.5	87.3	82.4
	7	People like me do not have any say about what the government does.	64.6	64.4	59.7	39.3	81.1	33.5	80.4	50.2
meaninglessness	2	Nowadays things are so confusing that you sometimes do not know where you stand.	61.5	70.3	86.1	65.7	73.4	92.4	88.7	76.6
	3	Nowadays things are so complex that you sometimes do not know what is going on.	65.5	70.4	78.3	62.6	78.6	88.3	86.2	80.6
Social isolation	1	Finding real friends is becoming more and more difficult nowadays.	56.7	36.2	58.2	30.4	72.6	86.6	78.1	80.4
	2	Relationships are getting more and more unstable.	67.9	69.1	70.2	60.5	79.7	88.4	85.2	84.9

Concept	Indicators
Anti-immigrant statements	There are too many immigrants in [country].
	Because of the number of immigrants, I sometimes feel like a stranger in [country]
	When jobs are scarce, [country natives] should have more rights to a job than immigrants
	Immigrants enrich our culture (reversed coded).
Racist statements	There is a natural hierarchy between black and white people.
	Preferably blacks and whites should not get married.
Anti-Semitic statements	Jews have too much influence in [country].
	Jews try to take advantage of having been victims during the Nazi era.
	Jews in general do not care about anything or anyone but their own kind
	Jews enrich our culture (reversed coded)
Anti-Muslim statements	There are too many Muslims in [country].
	Muslims are too demanding.
	Islam is a religion of intolerance.
Sexism	Women should take their role as wives and mothers more seriously.
	When jobs are scarce, men should have more rights to a job than women.
Homophobia statements	It is a good thing to allow marriages between two men or two women (reversed coded).
	There is nothing immoral about homosexuality (reversed coded).

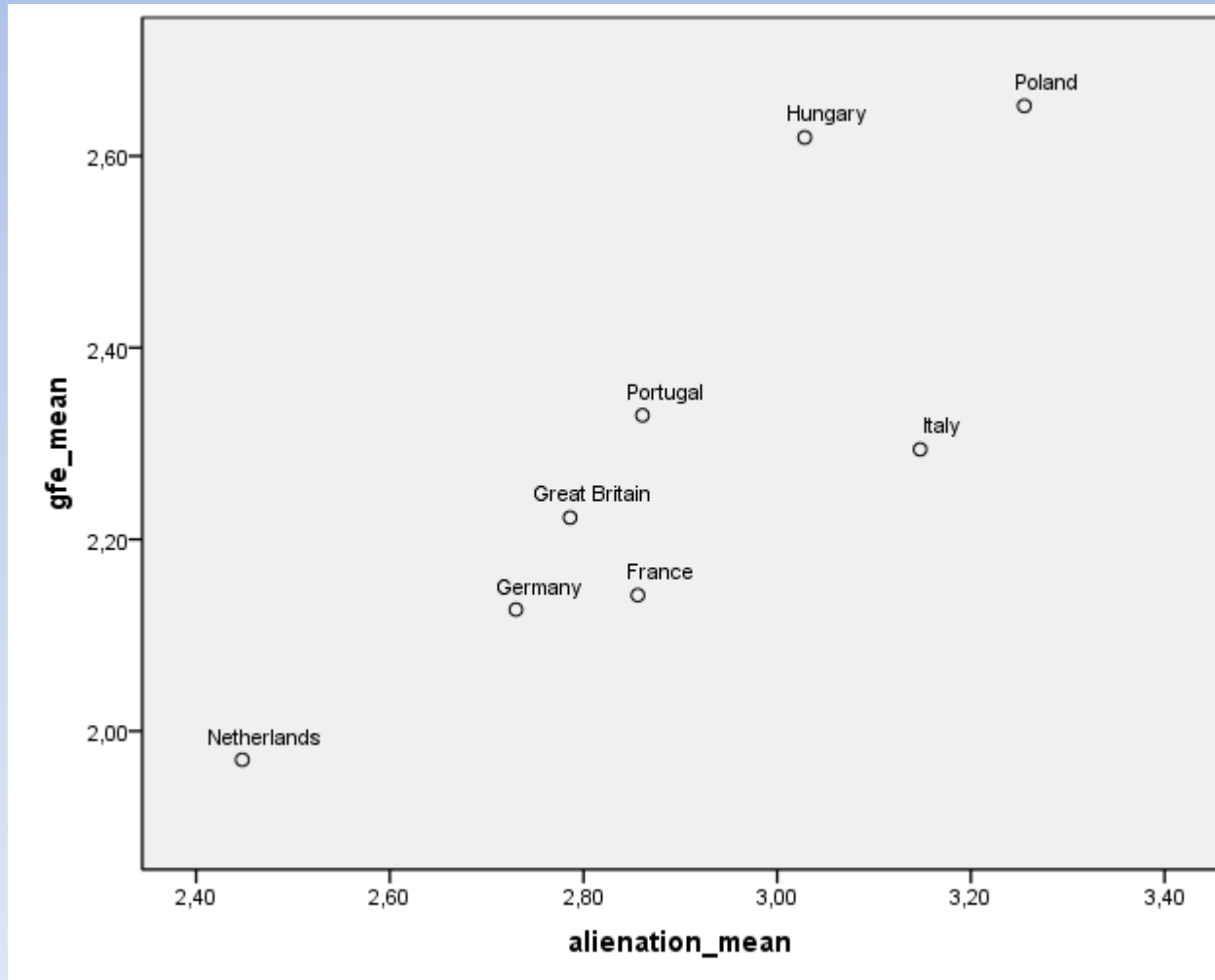
GFE



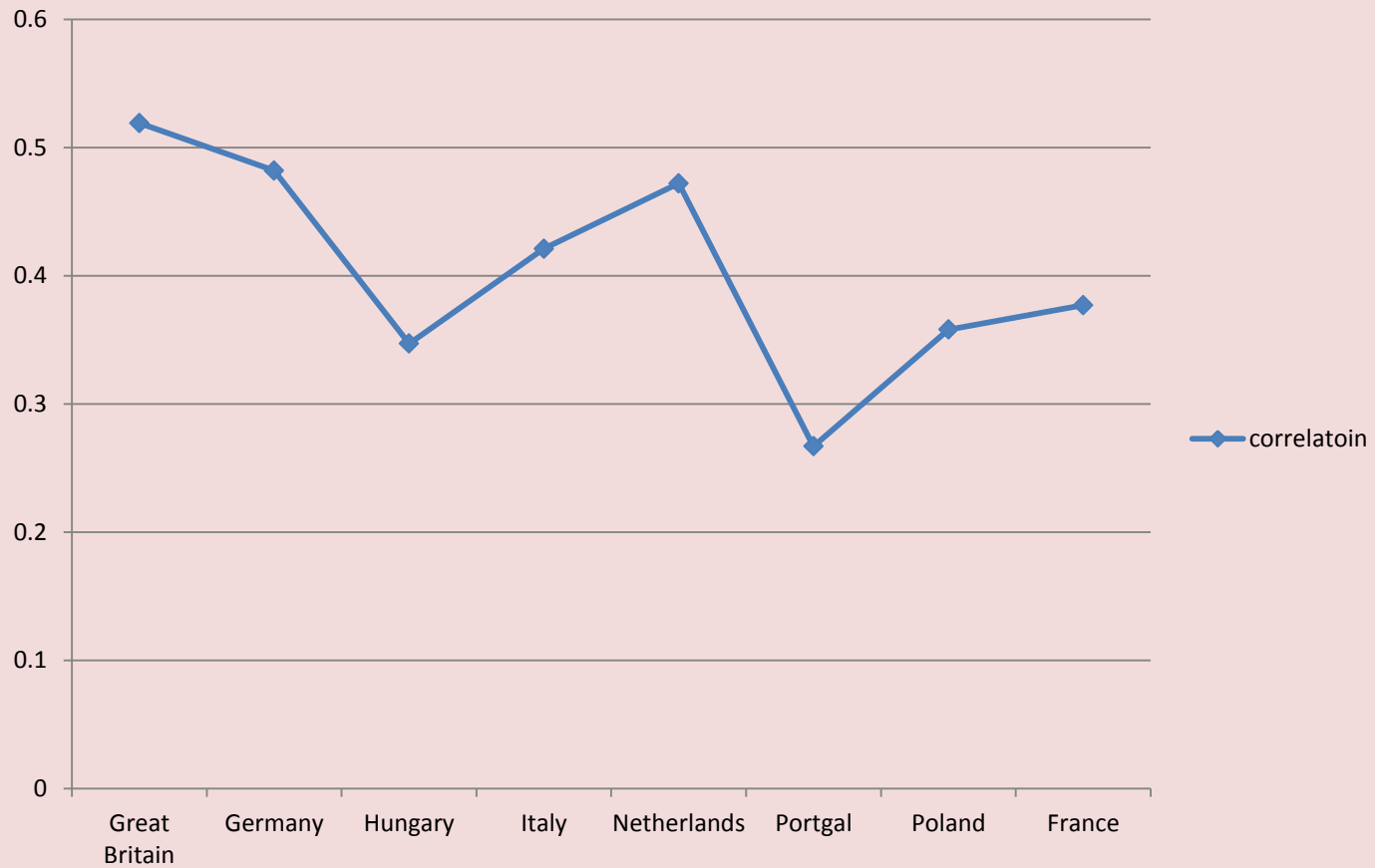
Model Fit:

Chi-Sq = 2240.100, df=113, P-Value = 0.0000, RMSEA = 0.073, CFI= 0.873, TLI= 0.847, SRMR =0.063

Group-Focused Enmity Index and Alienation Index

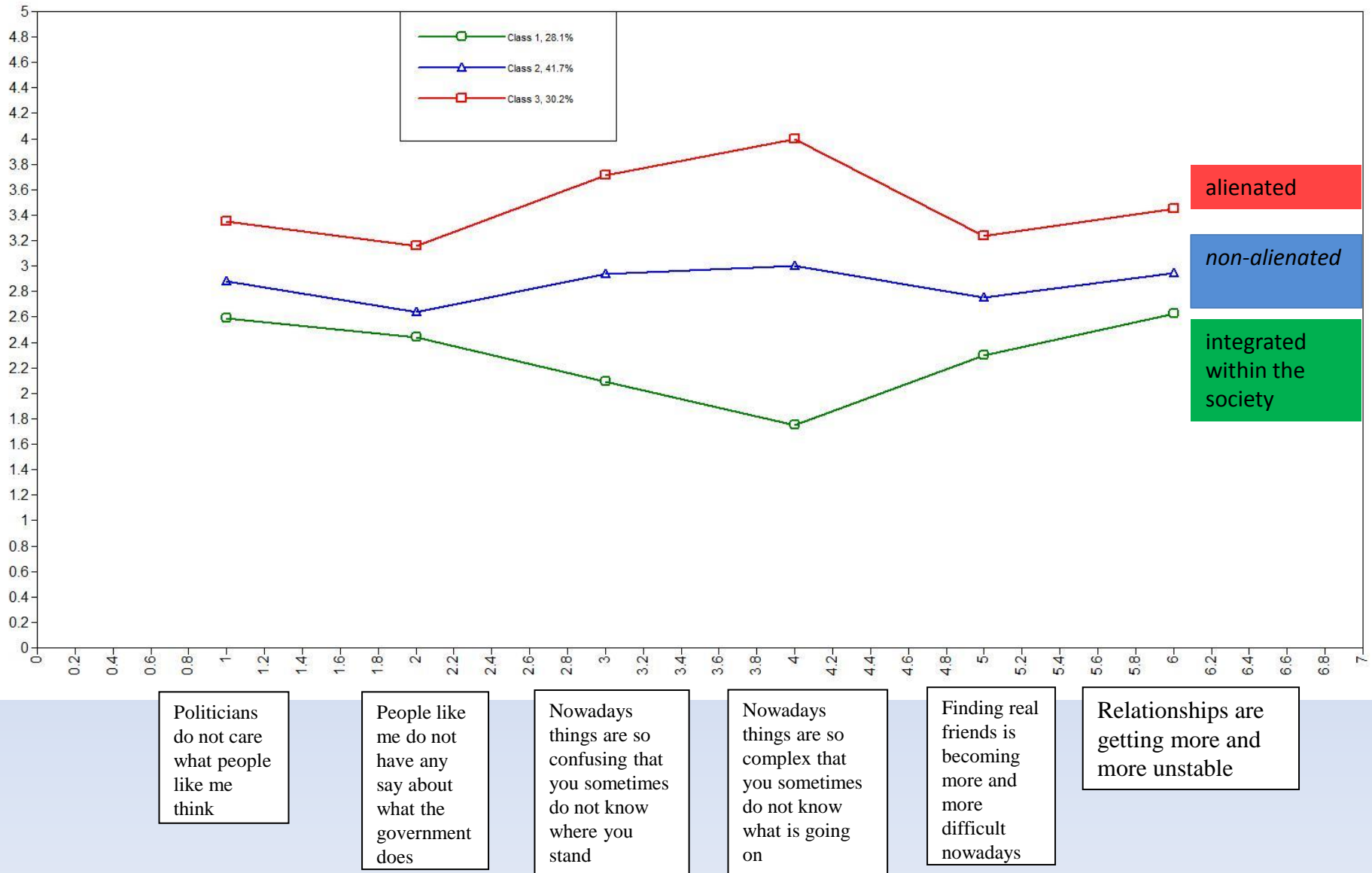


GFE and Alienation Indices Correlations

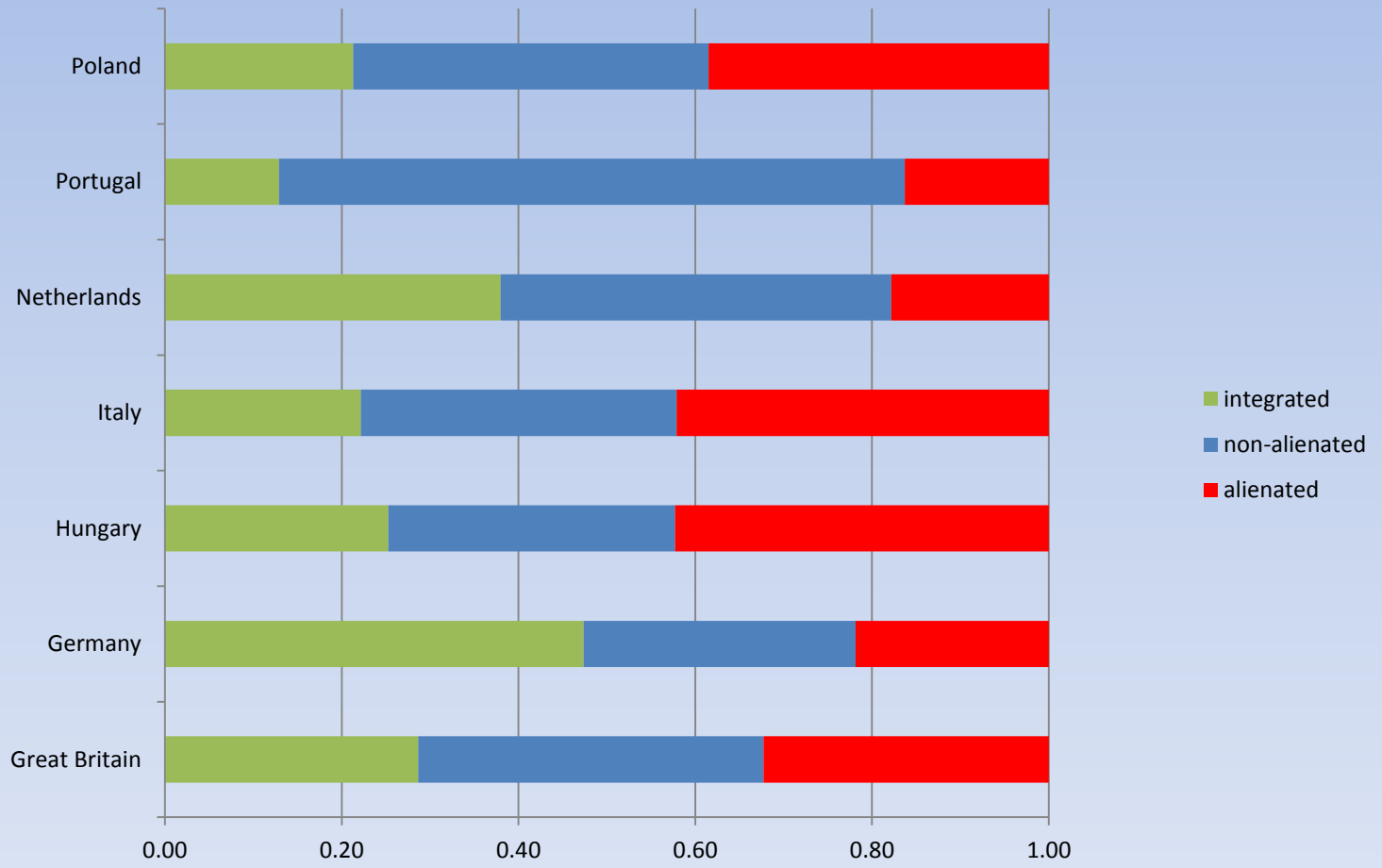


Latent classes or Confirmatory factor analysis?

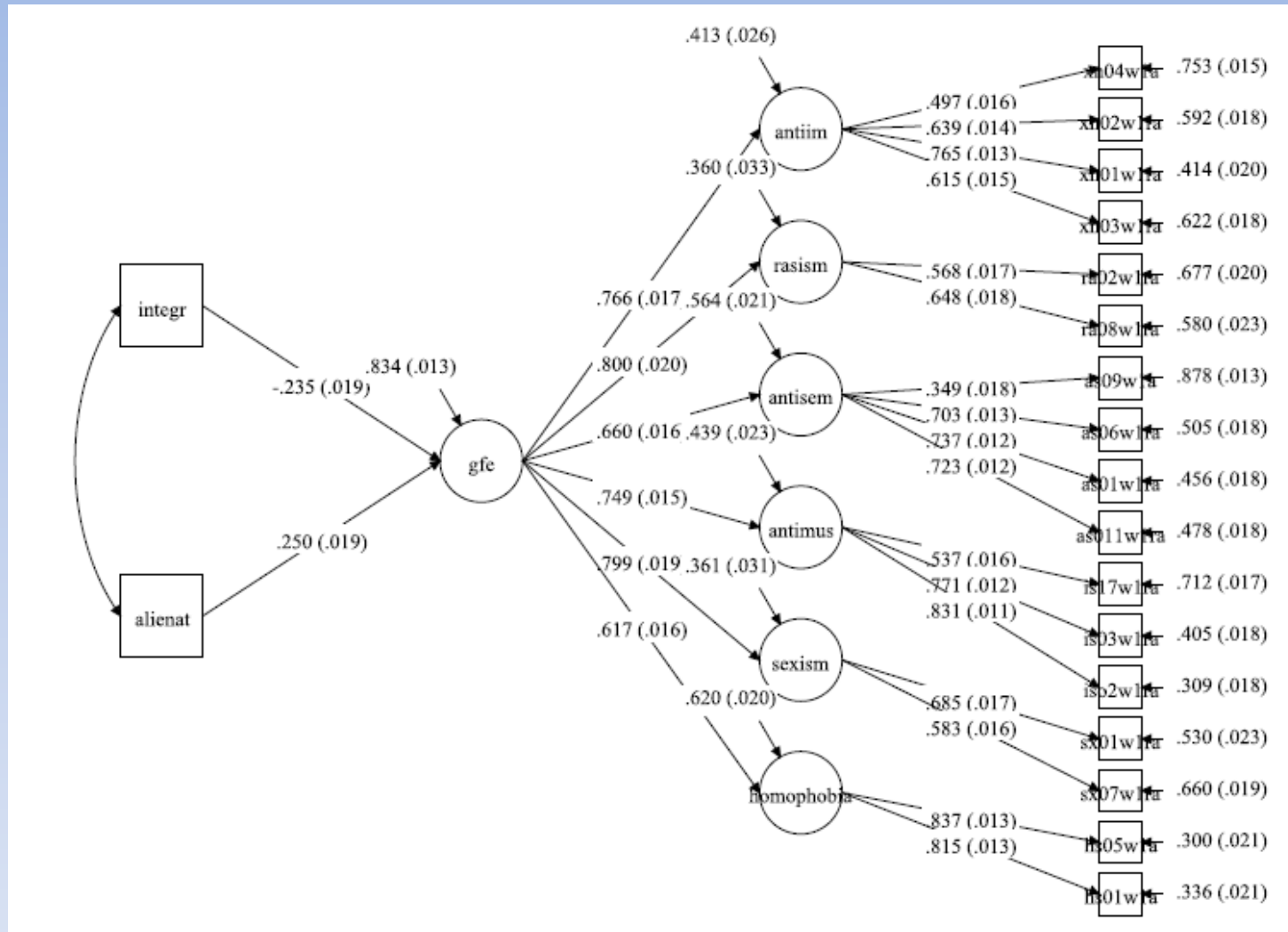
(1) Latent class analysis



7 countries

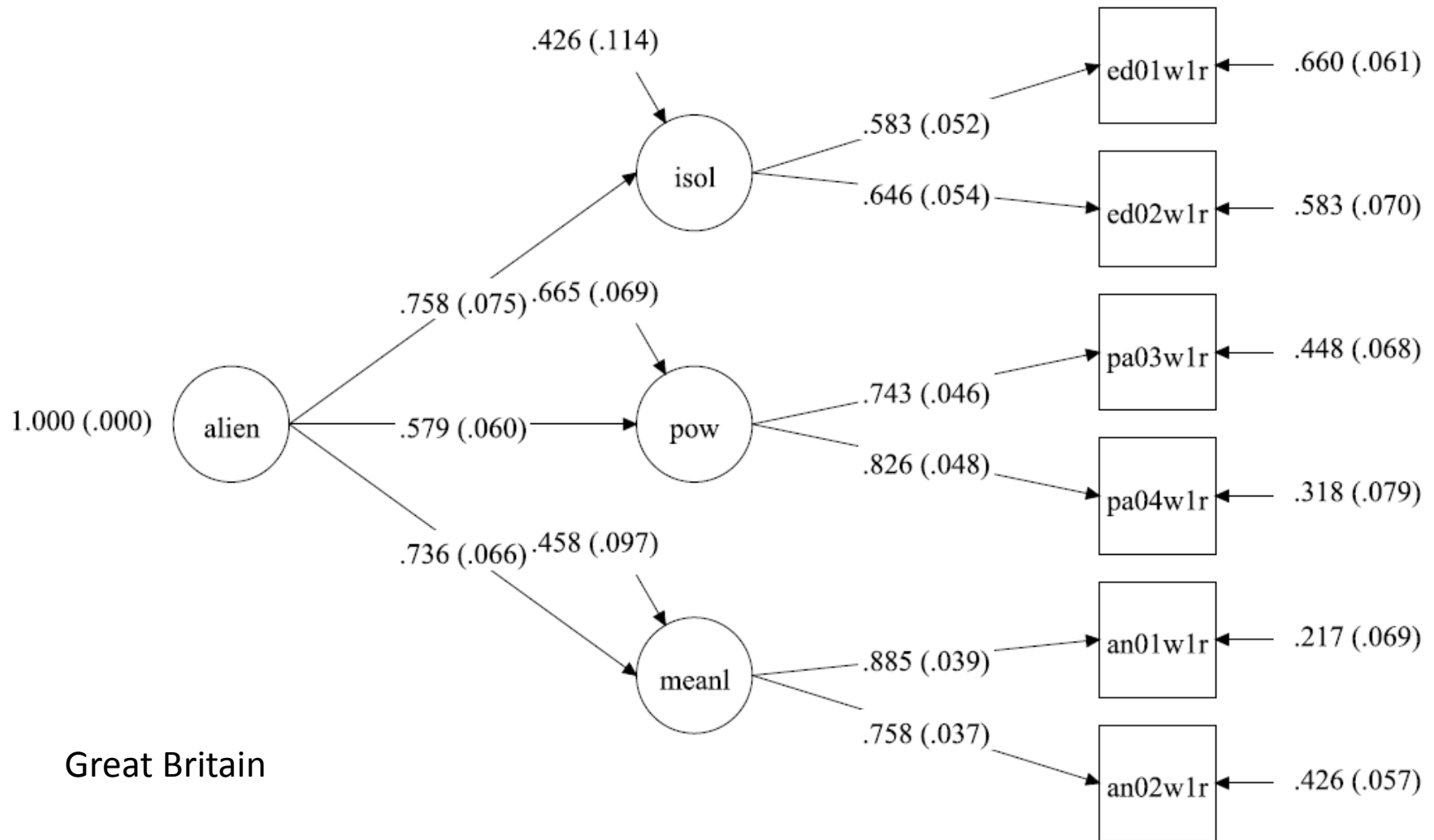


Overall model

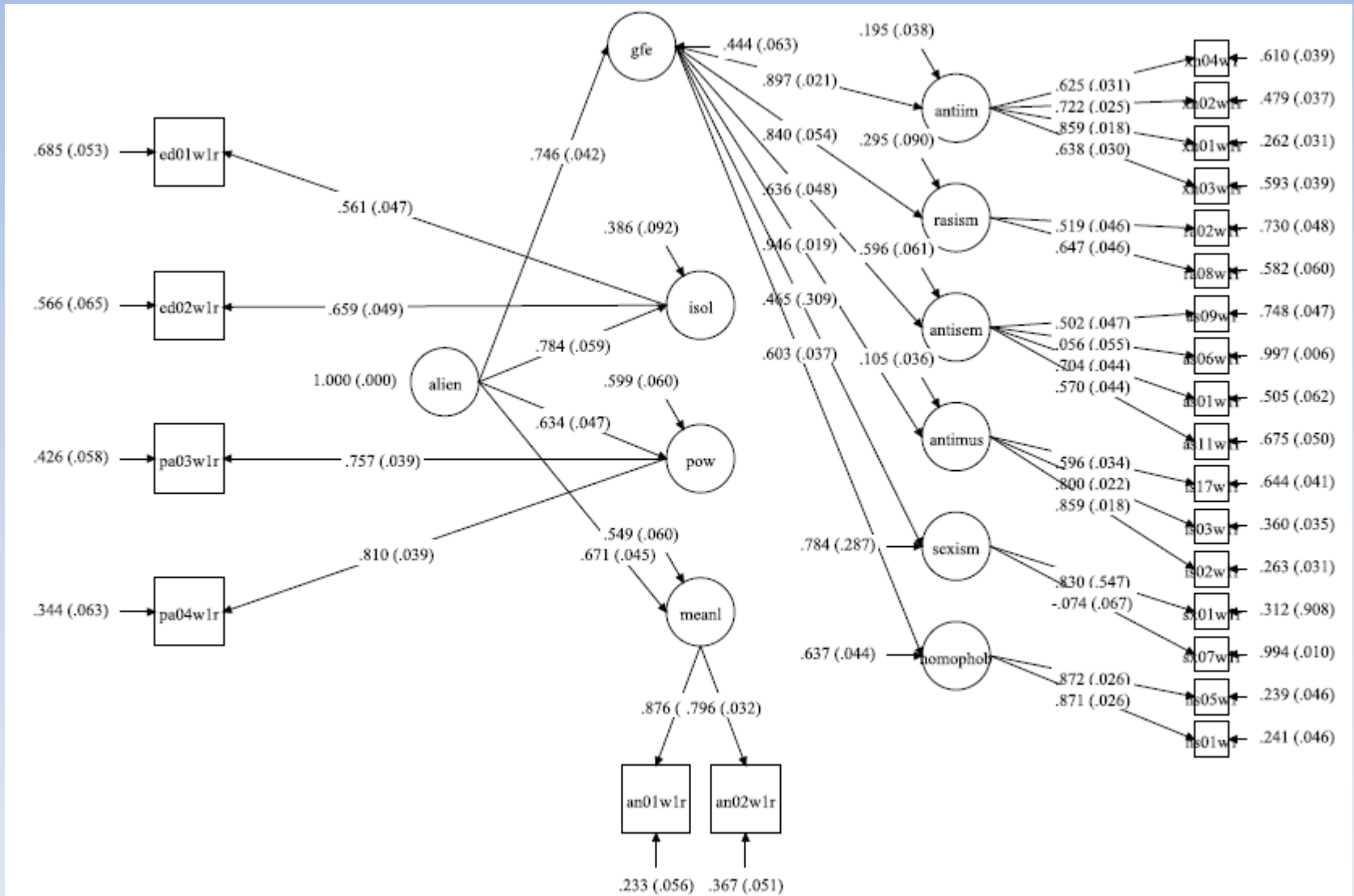


Model Fit: Chi-Square 2350.545, df = 145, P-Value = 0.0000, RMSEA = 0.066, CFI = 0.872, TLI = 0.850, SRMR = 0.058

(2) Confirmatory Factor models



Whole Model: Great Britain



Model fits

Indicator	GB
Chi-Sq	500.044
df	220
P-Value	0.0000
RMSEA	0.050
P-Close	0.445
CFI	0.925
TLI	0.914
SRMR	0.047
Numb. of obs.	508

Methodological Problems

Research Objectives

- We want to compare countries => measurement should be invariant
- With a small number of countries (N=8) – more meaningful to use MIMIC models instead of latent classes as predictors (group belongingness probabilities)?
- Alignment – a new approach to multiple-group factor analysis for many groups such as cross-cultural studies
- Goal is to study measurement invariance and also group differences in factor means and variances
- Standard approach is confirmatory factor analysis with equality constraints, followed by model modifications

Invariance problems

- Neither Multiple group comparisons nor alignment allow for a model check:
 - => no 2nd order countries
 - => no MIMIC models (ON = regressed on)
 - => no “with” statements (correlations)
- Have to check for the 1st order factors
- Checks for separate countries effects won't help as we can't compare the factor loadings and intercepts

Invariance

- Configural invariance - Invariance of factor structure
- Metric invariance : equal factor loadings in the groups - Prerequisite for comparing measurement & structural models
- Scalar invariance: equal intercepts of items in the groups, equal errors of indicators, equal covariances of errors of indicators - Prerequisite for comparing latent means

Alienation

Invariance	Configural	Metric	Scalar
Chi-Square	66.440	107.545	745.328
df	48	69	90
p	0.0401	0.0021	0.0000
RMSEA	0.028	0.033	0.121
Pclose RMSEA	0.994	0.991	0.000
CFI	0.997	0.994	0.897
TLI	0.993	0.989	0.863
SRMR	0.014	0.030	0.082

$$\Delta\chi^2 = 1.96$$

$$\Delta\chi^2 = 30$$

• APPROXIMATE MEASUREMENT INVARIANCE (NONINVARIANCE) FOR GROUPS

fixed

- Intercepts
 - PA03W1R 1 2 (3) 4 5 6 7 8
 - PA04W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - AN01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - AN02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - ED01W1R (1) 2 3 4 (5) (6) 7 8
 - ED02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
- Loadings for ISOL
 - ED01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - ED02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
- Loadings for POW
 - PA03W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - PA04W1R 1 2 3 4 5 (6) 7 8
- Loadings for MEANL
 - AN01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - AN02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

- 1=GB
- 2=GE
- 3=HU
- 4=IT
- 5=NE
- 6=PO
- 7=PL
- 8=FR

APPROXIMATE MEASUREMENT INVARIANCE (NONINVARIANCE) FOR GROUPS

- Intercepts
 - PA03W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - PA04W1R 1 2 (3) 4 5 (6) 7 (8)
 - AN01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 (6) (7) (8)
 - AN02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - ED01W1R (1) 2 3 4 (5) (6) 7 8
 - ED02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
- Loadings for ISOL
 - ED01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - ED02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
- Loadings for POW
 - PA03W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - PA04W1R 1 2 3 4 5 (6) 7 8
- Loadings for MEANL
 - AN01W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 - AN02W1R 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

• **FACTOR MEAN COMPARISON AT THE 5% SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL IN DESCENDING ORDER**

• Results for Factor ISOL

Ranking	Group	Value	Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean
1	7	0.354	4 6 1 8 2 5
2	3	0.080	6 1 8 2 5
3	4	-0.043	6 1 8 2 5
4	6	-0.265	8 2 5
5	1	-0.415	5
6	8	-0.616	
7	2	-0.710	
8	5	-0.896	

Can compare:
 - Poland and Italy
 (partially: Hungary and Italy, Hungary and Poland)
 - Portugal and Great Britain

- 1=GB
- 2=GE
- 3=HU
- 4=IT
- 5=NE
- 6=PO
- 7=PL
- 8=FR

• Results for Factor POW

Ranking	Group	Value	Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean
1	7	1.832	8 3 5
2	4	1.631	8 3 5
3	6	1.264	3 5
4	2	1.214	3 5
5	1	1.196	3 5
6	8	1.028	5
7	3	0.779	
8	5	0.566	

Results for Factor MEANL

Ranking	Group	Value	Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean
1	7	-0.315	6 1 2 5
2	8	-0.368	1 2 5
3	4	-0.389	1 2 5
4	3	-0.423	1 2 5
5	6	-0.479	1 2 5
6	1	-0.682	
7	2	-0.837	
8	5	-0.839	

- FACTOR MEAN COMPARISON AT THE 5% SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL IN DESCENDING ORDER

fixed

- Results for Factor ISOL

- Ranking Group Value Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean

- 1 7 0.822 3 4 6 1 2 8 5
- 2 3 0.426 6 1 2 8 5
- 3 4 0.365 1 2 8 5
- 4 6 0.180 2 8 5
- 5 1 0.000 8 5
- 6 2 -0.162 5
- 7 8 -0.229 5
- 8 5 -0.490

- Results for Factor POW

- Ranking Group Value Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean

- 1 7 0.698 4 6 8 2 1 5
- 2 3 0.570 6 8 2 1 5
- 3 4 0.463 6 8 2 1 5
- 4 6 0.077 5
- 5 8 0.077 5
- 6 2 0.022 5
- 7 1 0.000 5
- 8 5 -0.922

- 1=GB
- 2=GE
- 3=HU
- 4=IT
- 5=NE
- 6=PO
- 7=PL
- 8=FR

Results for Factor MEANL

Ranking Group Value
Groups With Significantly Smaller Factor Mean

- 1 4 0.217 6 1 5 2
- 2 7 0.188 6 1 5 2
- 3 3 0.152 1 5 2
- 4 8 0.136 1 5 2
- 5 6 0.082 5 2
- 6 1 0.000 5 2
- 7 5 -0.274
- 8 2 -0.328

Can compare: Hungary and Italy, Hungary and Poland, Portugal and Great Britain

Alienation

- => No scalar invariance for the whole sample
- => Schalar invariance for: Hungary and Italy, Hungary and Poland, Portugal and Great Britain
- ⇒ Results of fixed and free alignment are somewhat different

- ⇒ *The FIXED alignment optimization assumes that $\alpha_1 = 0$. The FREE alignment optimization estimates α_1 as an additional parameter (for groups ≥ 3).*
- ⇒ *FREE: The parameter is well identified if there is some noninvariance in the estimated model => not the case here (ASPAROUHOV AND MUTHÉN 2014: 8)*

Second order factor?

- What is there is scalar invariance for all countries? (in case of a 2nd order factor – it accounts for systematic response bias and latent factor means)

=> *“The manifest means in a comparison depend not only on the latent means but on the whole underlying measurement model (i.e., item intercepts and factor loadings)”*. (Steinmetz et al. 2009: 600)

Switch to another methodology?

OLS regression

	GB	GE	HU	IT	NE	PORT	POL	FR
Cons_	23.993	12.192	1.790	10.762	8.258	7.606	13.823	17.942
Alienation	.415***	.376***	.206***	..295	.364***	.160***	..214***	.244***
Financial situation	-	-	.079**	-	-	.062**	.062*	-
Gender (men)	-.10*	-	-	-	-	-.120***	-.098**	-.098*
Year of Birth	-.012***	-.006***	-	-.005***	-.004**	-.003**	-.006***	-.008***
Religiosity	.058**	-.052*	-	-.125***	-.107***	-.104***	-.158***	-.111***
Adj. R2	.413	.327	.125	.242	.302	.178	.263	.280

Thank you for your attention!

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http://lcsr.hse.ru/seminar_m2015