

Predictors of euroscepticism on the individual level: cross- national comparative analysis

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5th LCSR summer school

2015

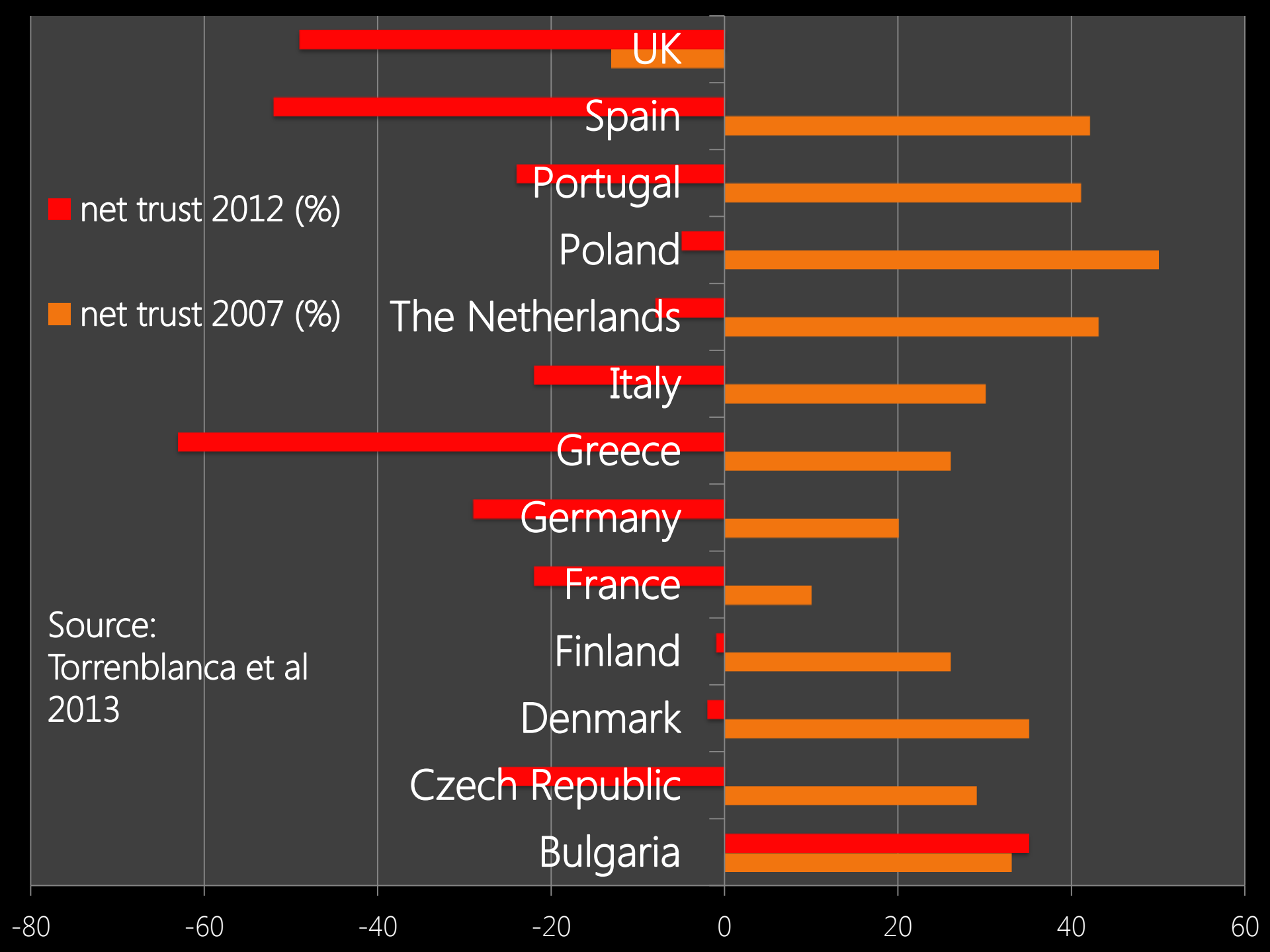
Why euroscepticism?

1. Growing debate on the substance of euroscepticism (Lubbers & Scheepers 2010, Boomgaarden et al 2011)
2. Largely non-systematic current research

■ net trust 2012 (%)

■ net trust 2007 (%)

Source:
Torrenblanca et al
2013



net trust 2014 (%)

net trust 2012 (%)

UK

Spain

Portugal

Poland

The Netherlands

Italy

Greece

Germany

France

Finland

Denmark

Czech Republic

Bulgaria

-80 -60 -40 -20 0 20 40

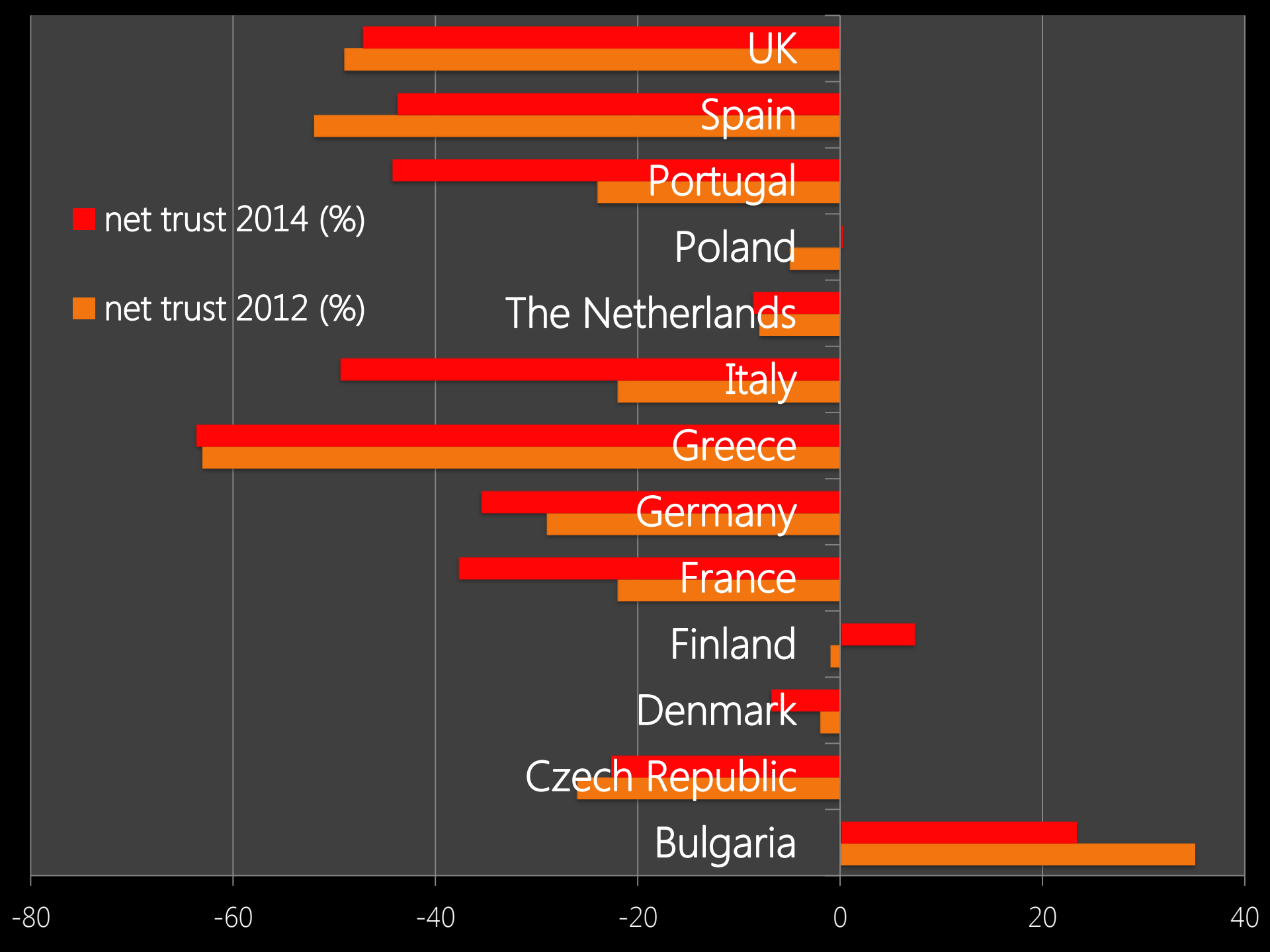


Table 2. Predicting five EU attitude dimensions (source: Boomgaarden et al 2011)

	Negative affection		Identity		Performance		Utilitarianism		Strengthening	
	B	SE	B	SE	B	SE	B	SE	B	SE
Intercept	.000	.023	.000	.025	.000	.024	.000	.024	.000	.025
Gender (female)	-.049*	.024	.049	.026	.028	.024	.056*	.025	.040	.025
Age	-.083**	.027	.116***	.029	-.043	.027	.084**	.028	.087**	.028
Education	-.154***	.027	.022	.030	-.033	.028	.154***	.028	.040	.029
Income	.007	.023	-.023	.026	.026	.024	.017	.024	.019	.025
Political interest	-.058*	.027	.088**	.030	-.132***	.028	.032	.028	-.001	.029
Government approval	-.175***	.026	.138***	.028	.253***	.026	.205***	.027	.137***	.028
Positive economic outlook	-.065**	.024	-.029	.027	.127***	.025	.065*	.025	.011	.026
Left ideology	-.012	.026	-.032	.029	-.009	.027	-.007	.027	-.057*	.028
Right ideology	.000	.026	-.043	.029	-.006	.027	.021	.028	-.060*	.028
Anti- immigration attitudes	.297***	.027	-.159***	.030	-.264***	.028	-.179***	.028	-.302***	.029
National identity	-.021	.026	.166***	.028	.065*	.026	.101***	.027	-.049	.028
Political knowledge	-.086**	.028	-.124***	.031	-.094**	.029	.078**	.029	-.026	.030
Adjusted R ²		.25		.11		.21		.19		.15
F		40.08		12.62		32.13		27.73		20.65
N		1390		1390		1390		1390		1390

Research question:

to what extent switching dependent variables may influence the results of the research?

Aim of the research:

comparative analysis of the eurosceptic attitudes in the European Union member states using different dependent variables in order to compare their effects

Theory

- approval of the local authorities (de Vries and Edwards 2009, Boomgaarden et al. 2011; for criticism see McLaren 2007)
- anti-migrant attitudes (Boomgaarden et al. 2011)
- informedness about politics (Karp et al. 2003, McLaren 2007)

Theory (1)

- left-wing and right-wing radicalism (Werts et al. 2012)
- exclusive national identity (van Klingeren, Boomgaarden and de Vreese 2013, McLaren 2007)
- perceived situation in the economy (Hobolt et al 2011, Boomgaarden and Freire 2009, Kuhn 2011)

Hypotheses

H1: different measures of euroscepticism (as part of "standard" model) do differ in their effect and explanatory power

H2: "identity" and affective variables (like feelings about the EU membership or are stronger associated with the corresponding predictors

Data and methods

Database: Eurobarometer 81.2

Methods: logistic, linear and multinomial regression, confirmatory factor analysis

Variables

DV: trust in institutions: EU, EU meaning, EU image – positive/negative, EU future – optimistic/pessimistic, European citizenship feeling, EU in terms of shared values

Predictors: anti-migration attitudes, left-wing and right-wing radicalism, exclusive national identity, approval of the local authorities, EU informedness, perceived situation in the economy

Variables (1)

Controls: gender, age, education, occupation, marital status, life satisfaction

I hope it was not that boring



And now it is the discussion time!

This report was presented at the 5th LCSR Summer School “Introduction to Factorial Design and Data Visualization with R”.

July 25 – August 3, 2015 – Higher School of Economics, Voronovo, Moscow region.

<http://lcsr.hse.ru/en/summer2015>

Настоящий доклад был представлен на V международной летней школе ЛССИ «Введение в факториальный дизайн исследования и визуализация данных с помощью R».

25 июля – 3 августа 2015 года – НИУ ВШЭ, Вороново, Московская область.

<http://lcsr.hse.ru/summer2015>