

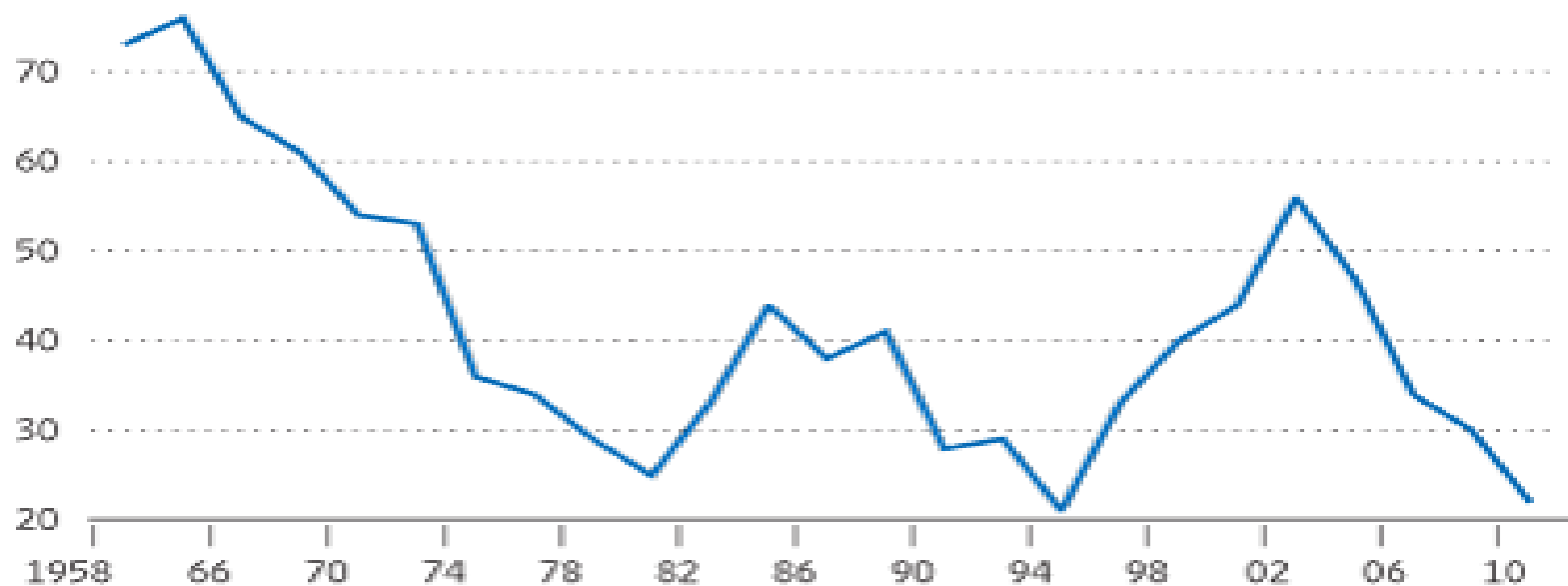
STRUCTURAL BASES OF PUBLIC TRUST

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Decrease in Public Trust

Public Trust in Government, 1958 to 2010

People who say they trust government just about always or most of the time

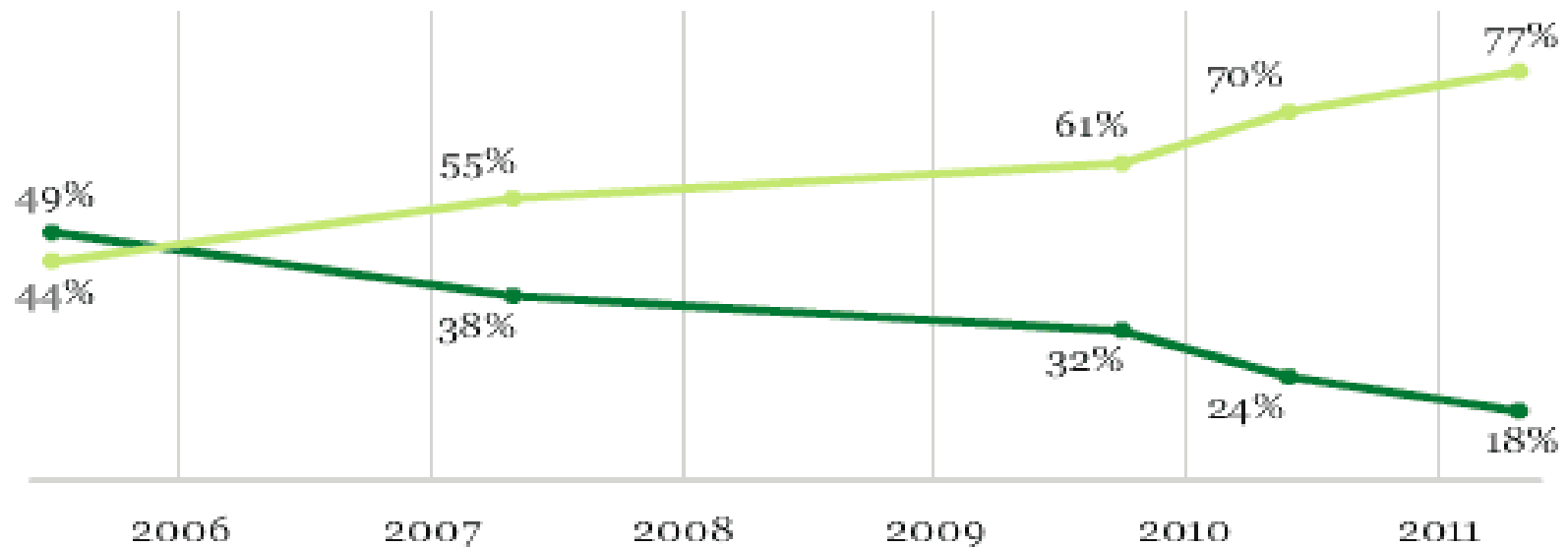


Source: Pew Research Center

Decrease in Public Trust

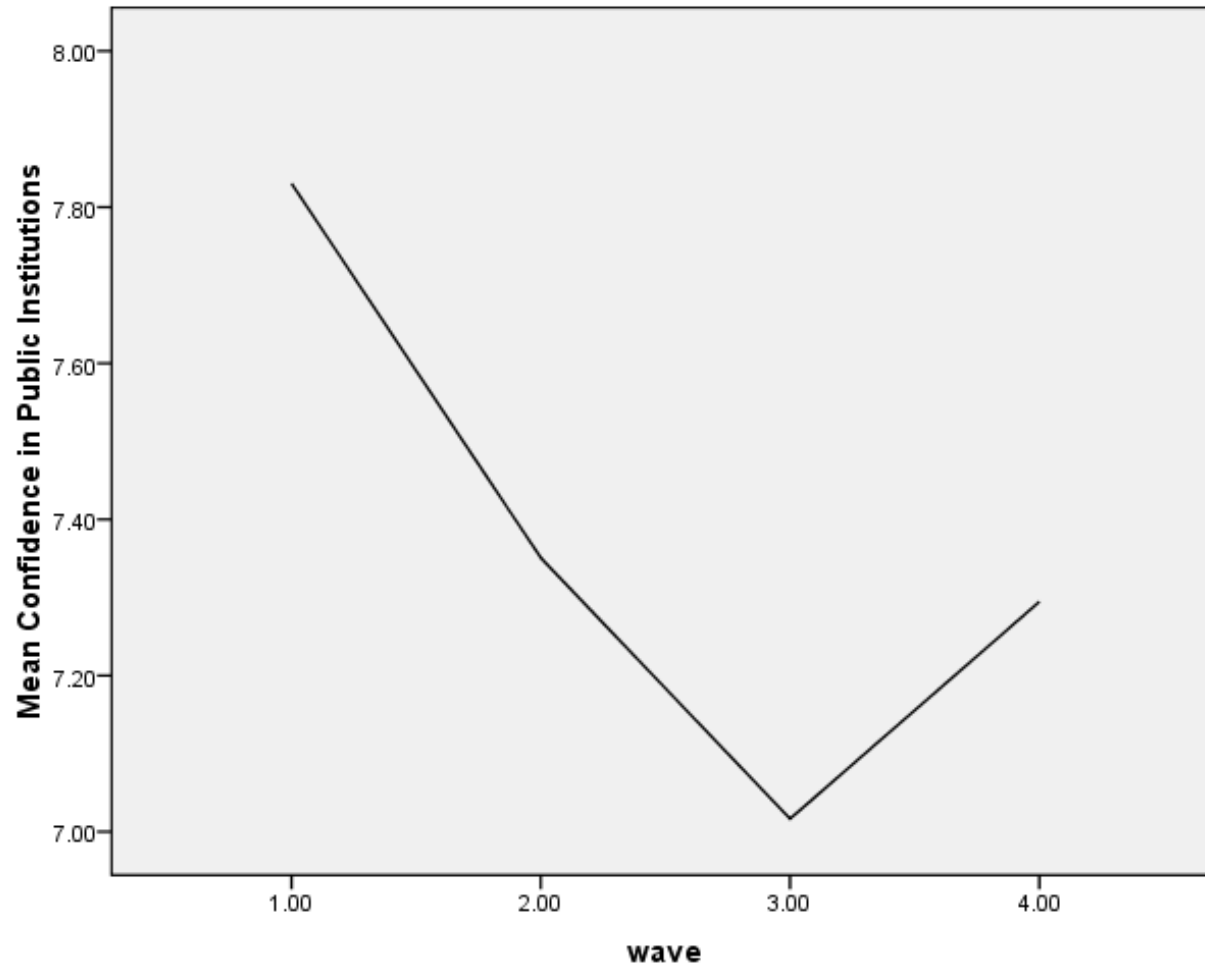
In Greece, do you have confidence in the national government, or not?

■ Yes, have confidence ■ No, do not have confidence



GALLUP®

Trend in Public Trust



Decrease in Public Trust



Public Trust

- Broadly defined as public confidence in public institutions
- A key site to understand issues of the modern state:
 - Legitimacy of the state, the relationship between the state and its citizen, quality of social life, social capital, and efficacy of governance
- A key to the success of public services of public institutions
- Public trust varies across countries and over-time
- What are sources of public trust?

Sources of Public Trust

- The effects of individual traits on trust accounting for much of the within-country variance in public trust (see, e.g., Catterberg and Moreno 2003)
- Governmental performance expanding sources of public trust into more institutional bases (Newton and Norris 2001)

Sources of Public Trust

- Existing literature tends to find sources of public trust within a country giving little attention to transnational contexts.
- A “World Polity” of transnational organizations and actors has become increasingly important in shaping many of state institutions and policies in the post-colonial, post-World War II era.
- Research within this tradition focuses on the spread of culturally normative provisions throughout the World Polity
 - The spread of constitutional provisions (Boli 1987), laws concerning same-sex sexual relations (Frank and McEneaney 1999), anti-FGC policies (Boyle 2002), or environmental policies (Frank, Hironaka, and Schofer 2000).
 - Global initiatives matter as much or even more than characteristics of countries or activities of individuals within those countries in shaping rationalization of governance (Drori, Jang, Meyer, 2007)
- This paper builds upon a world polity perspective and locate public trust in a much broader context: globalization.

Hypotheses

- Particular dimension of globalization
 - The growth of transnational organization and culture constituting a world polity in which nation states are embedded
 - Diffusion of Human rights
- IGOs and INGOs create, carry, and embody the world culture in the world polity
 - Diffusing policy scripts to states and models for national governance (Meyer 2000; Strang and Meyer 1993; Drori, Jang, Meyer 2007)
 - Encouraging the growth of domestic civil associations (Schofer and Longhofer 2012)

Hypotheses

- Mutually reinforcing relationship between strong civil society and public institutions
 - Takes a long time and involve conflicts between the state and civil society
- In the short term, it is more likely that citizens embedded in the world polity become **critical** of public institutions

Data

- Data: the 1990-1993, 1995-1997, and 1999-2001 waves of the World Values Surveys (WVS)
 - 89,799 individuals distributed over 55 countries and the three waves
- DV: a 12-point index of public trust based on confidence in parliament, the civil service, and the police
- Key IV: World Polity influence/linkage measured as the number of state IGO memberships each year

Methods

Hierarchical Linear Model

Level 1: Individuals

$$\text{Trust}_{ijk} = \pi_{0jk} + \pi_{1jk} \text{Men}_{ijk} + \pi_{2jk} \text{Age}_{ijk} + \pi_{3jk} \text{Low income}_{ijk} + \pi_{4jk} \text{High income}_{ijk} + \pi_{5jk} \text{Education}_{ijk} + \pi_{6jk} \text{Trust in others}_{ijk} + \pi_{7jk} \text{Postmaterilism}_{ijk} + e_{ijk}$$

Level 2: Country-wave

$$\pi_{0jk} = \beta_{00k} + \beta_{01k} \text{GDPpercapita}_{jk} + \beta_{02k} \text{Democracy}_{jk} + \beta_{03k} \text{FDI}_{jk} + \beta_{04k} \text{IGOs}_{jk} + \beta_{05k} \text{IGO} * \text{IGO}_{jk} + \beta_{06k} \text{W3}_{jk} + \beta_{07k} \text{W4}_{jk} + r_{0jk}$$

Level 3: Country

$$\beta_{00k} = \gamma_{000} + u_{00k}$$

Cross-level interaction term:

$$\pi_{5jk} = \beta_{50k} + \beta_{51k} \text{IGOs} + r_{05k}$$

Results

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6
Individual-Level Variables:						
Sex (male=1_)	-0.021	-.021	-.021	-.021	-.021	-.019
Age	.006***	.006***	.006***	.006***	.006***	.007***
Low income	.002	.002	.002	.002	.002	-.007
High income	-.024	-.024	-.024	-.024	-.024	-.017
Education	-.032**	-.032**	-.032**	-.032**	-.032**	-.046**
Trust in others	.380***	.380***	.380***	.380***	.380***	.364***
Materialism/postmaterialist index	-.213***	-.213***	-.213***	-.213***	-.213***	-.213***
Level-2 Variables:						
GDP/capita (logged)		.678	.620	.913	.876	.912
Democratic/authoritarian index		-.008	-.008	-.002	.007	.003
Foreign direct investment			.004	.004	-.002	-.002
IGO membership				-.015	-.087*	-.094*
IGO*IGO					.001*	.001*
Cross-level Interactions:						
IGO membership X Education						.006+

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Discussions

- Among country-level factors, embeddedness to world polity is the strong factor that explains public trust beyond individual characteristic.
- While public trust declined in most societies linked to the world polity, its effects change positively as societies are even more embedded in the world polity.
- Further empirical research should allow us to more concrete mechanisms underlying short-term and long-term influence of the world polity on public trust.
 - Measures of state responsiveness to the world polity, governmental performance, and domestic civil society
 - Most recent waves of WVS need

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